



REGENCY SQUARE AREA SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER 43 MAY 1986

SUMMER FESTIVAL

The occasional glimpses of sunshine recently have started us thinking about summer.

So we have decided to organise a festival in Regency Square to celebrate the wedding of Prince Andrew. It will be on the afternoon of Sunday 20 July.

We hope to have some entertainment, some amusements, some fun for the children and plenty of cups of tea and cakes.

Lots of help will be needed so if you'd like to join in you'd be most welcome. Full details will be published later but in the meantime if you've any suggestions for making the afternoon a success, contact Roger Hinton (38 Regency Square Tel 21794).



REGENCY MEWS

The office block and housing planned for Regency Mews will be the biggest development around Regency Square since Sussex Heights was built.

When planning permission was given a number of conditions were imposed in order to protect nearby residents. The developers are now asking for two of these to be altered.

The first is the requirement that the housing must be completed before the offices can be occupied. They now want to be able to occupy the offices once the housing is completed to first floor level.

The Society is opposing this change on the grounds that we want to be sure that the whole site will be completed at one go. It would be terrible if we had half finished housing on the site.

The second change is more serious. The present conditions say that the carpark under the office block cannot be used between 10 pm and 7 am. The developers now want this restriction only to apply to the Russell Square entrance.

This would mean cars could enter from Preston Street. We are opposed to any use of the carpark late at night because of the large number of bedrooms overlooking Regency Mews. We are also concerned about the possibility of restaurant customers using the carpark if it is open late; after a pleasant evening's entertainment, people do not always give thought to those sleeping nearby.

If you agree with these objections, please tell the Planning Committee. You should write to The Planning Officer, 83 North Street, Brighton.

You only have until 23 May to comment, so please do it now.

YOUR NEW COMMITTEE

Following the Annual General Meeting, we are pleased to welcome three new committee members. Your committee is now made up as follows:

CHAIRMAN: Roger Hinton
38 Regency Square (Tel 21794)

SECRETARY: Richard Pau
40 Regency Square (Tel 26711)

TREASURER: Harold Lawson
7 Chartwell Court, Russell Square
(Tel 28203)

ORDINARY MEMBERS:
Ros Boulden, Queensbury Mews
Freddie Brasemere-Davis, Cannon Place
* Clive Buxton, Adelaide Hotel
* Joyce Evans, Regents Court
John Henderson, Sussex Heights
* Pat McCulloch, Queensbury Mews
Trudy Tappin, Imperial Arcade

* New member

Mary Lewin of Sussex Heights has resigned from the committee because of family commitments. Many thanks to her for the work she has done for the Society.

Please contact any member of the committee if you have a problem you think we can help with, or if you have any ideas for improving the area.

ACCOUNTS AUDITED

The accounts we published in the last newsletter have now been audited by Mr C S Willmott. His verdict is that everything is in order. Many thanks to him for his help.

SQUATTERS ?

There are rumours of squatters now that the weather is getting warmer. The only confirmed incident that we know of is that some people have been seen in the old Dutton Foreshaw premises in Russell Square.

The police were called and they do now seem to have gone. However, the building is probably still accessible, posing a security risk for properties which back onto the empty garage site.

We telephoned the owners of the site but were told that they were not prepared to do anything about it; they said it was a matter for the police. The police say that strictly speaking they can do nothing about people on private property; it is a matter for the owner.

Not very helpful. The site is owned by Hargreaves Construction Co Ltd of Brookside Avenue, Rustington (Tel 961 782599). We have written to them to ask if they can make sure the site is secure.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR SUBSCRIPTION YET ?

Send your subscription to Harold Lawson, 7 Chartwell Court, Russell Square, Brighton.

	£
Ordinary members	2.50
Family	3.00
Senior Citizens	2.00
Junior (8-18 years)	0.50
Associate (non-resident)	2.00
Business (non-resident)	5.00

Cheques payable to the Regency Square Area Society, please.

THE WEST PIER

The Brighton West Pier Trust now has some money to start work on repairs. It is only a very small part of the estimated £8 million that they expect to have to spend eventually.

However, it is enough to do some essential maintenance work at the sea end and to start developing the shore end.

So any day now you can expect to see work starting. They expect to have part of the shore end open to the public by Christmas. There are no firm plans as to what will be located there but one suggestion being considered is for a "mini Covent Garden" with craft stalls, a cafe and a space for buskers.

At one time there were plans for a giant ferris wheel and other amusements on the shore end. At a recent meeting we were assured that this was now very unlikely.

NEIGHBOURS

There are good neighbours and there are bad neighbours. And there are people who are positively anti-social.

If you live near people in the last category you are likely to suffer from one or more of the following symptoms:

loud music played through open windows especially late at night

household rubbish dumped in the street at any time of the week

unsilenced motor bikes revving in the street

parks and gardens trampled under thoughtless feet.

What can you do ?

Well obviously the first thing is to make a reasonable approach to the neighbours and point out politely how their actions are creating a nuisance.

Unfortunately this does not always work. In fact it can lead to a fifth symptom:

offensive language and abuse.

After that the only recourse is to complain

and keep on complaining.

Complain to the police and the environmental health officer at the Town Hall about noise.

Complain to the Borough cleansing department and the environmental health officer about rubbish.

Complain to the parks warden and the police about abuse of the gardens.

Keep phoning. And encourage your neighbours - the good ones that is - to do the same.

HOTEL GEORGE IV

This building is still standing empty at the top of Regency Square. During the bad weather earlier in the year pieces started to fall off the front.

Two members of the committee recently met the Borough Planning Officer, Peter Robottom to express our concern. It has been the Council's policy to refuse planning permission for conversion of hotels to flats.

He assured us that while the Council would like to see the George IV retained as a hotel, the Planning Committee would probably give permission for conversion to flats if a good plan were submitted.

We passed this information on to the agents, Clifford Dunn and Ptns, who, until now seem to have been concentrating on selling it as a hotel.