



## Regency Square Area Society

**NEWSLETTER 44**  
**SEPTEMBER 1986**

### THE WEST PIER PAST AND FUTURE

Make a note in your diary for Thursday 16th October. We have organised a social evening to be held at the Granville Hotel on the sea front.

Don Phillips, Chief Executive of the West Pier Trust will give a talk about the West Pier, Past and Future. He will illustrate it with slides.

There will be wine and a light buffet. The charge will be £1, payable at the door.

We will start to assemble from 7-30 pm and Mr Phillips will speak at 8 pm.

Members and their guests will all be welcome. Why not bring a neighbour who may not know about the Society?

### SUCCESS IN CASTLE STREET

The snooker club in Castle Street applied for planning permission to extend their hours of operation to 2am on weekdays and midnight on Saturdays and Sundays.

The Society collected a petition signed by residents of Castle Street and Stone Street who were opposed to the change.

The Planning Committee has now decided to turn down the application and residents have been protected against the menace of late night noise.

### REGENCY MEWS

The Society also opposed an application by Hargreaves Construction to reduce the conditions imposed on their planned office block in Regency Mews.

We had less success here. The Planning Committee has said that vehicles can have access to the office carpark via Preston Street 24 hours a day. Access via Russell Square is still restricted to the hours 7am to 10 pm.

But is this really relevant any longer? The Mews is now being used as a storage area for wrecked cars. It has been let on a short lease to a local garage.

What are Hargreaves Construction up to? Having got their planning permission for offices and housing, why are they not building them?

Only time will tell!

### FIREWORKS

Now that the Grand Hotel is open again, someone has suggested that we replace Guy Fawkes night with a Grand Hotel night. After all it would commemorate a much more recent attempt to blow up the Government.

However, our plans are to continue with the old tradition.

So make a note in your diary to be in Regency Square at 7pm on Wednesday 5 November for our annual firework party.

### SUMMER FESTIVAL

Many many thanks to all the people who helped with the Summer Festival. There are far too many to mention by name but the Society Committee was very grateful for the support shown by local residents and businesses.

Sadly the weather was not so co-operative; the morning was dull and the afternoon became duller and wet. The sun did shine on those who helped clear up at the end.

Even so there were plenty of people who came out to try their luck at the bottle stall, throw wet sponges at our chairman and listen to the music.

The festival just about covered its costs but did not make any profit. However, the committee has decided to donate £20 from Society funds to the Royal Alexandra Childrens' Hospital appeal.

### SOCIETY CONTACTS:

Chairman: Roger Hinton (Tel 21794)  
Secretary: Richard Pau (Tel 26711)  
Treasurer: Harold Lawson (Tel 28203)

## KEEP OUT THE DRAUGHTS

If you are a pensioner, a one parent family or unemployed you may be able to get your home draught proofed free of charge. The scheme is designed to help people who are on supplementary benefit and have less than £500 in savings.

Telephone the Brighton Insulation Project on 609373 for more details.

## PORTLAND HOUSE HOTEL

Those who care about the conservation of the fine old buildings in this area have been very concerned about what is happening to the Portland House Hotel.

The capitols at the top of the entrance pillars have been knocked off. The ground floor of the hotel has been painted in a non-standard colour, in spite of the uniform painting scheme which covers the Square.

The Planning Enforcement Officer has been in contact with the new proprietors of the hotel who say that the capitols are to be replaced and the paintwork is only temporary.

**DON'T FORGET THE SOCIAL  
EVENING WITH A TALK  
ABOUT THE WEST PIER  
(DETAILS OVERLEAF)**

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

A number of local people have expressed interest about forming neighbourhood watch groups in the area.

The idea is that a group of neighbours appoint a co-ordinator who then acts as contact person with the police. Any suspicious activities are reported via the co-ordinator.

The police provide warning notices advising potential criminals that they are in a crime watch area. Some insurance companies may also offer lower premiums for properties in such an area.

Schemes like this work well in suburban residential areas. Would it work here? What do you think. We are hoping to organise a public meeting to discuss the idea.

Meanwhile, if you see anything suspicious, phone the police. For non-emergencies the number is 606744.

## NEW IMAGE

You may have noticed that after many years we have changed the design of our letter heading at the top of the newsletter.

The old drawing of Regency Square has been replaced by a new design prepared by Arnold McCulloch, whose wife Pat is a member of the committee. Many thanks to him for his work.

## BT'S GRAVEYARD

It's hard to find a phone box when you need one.

Not any more. There are 20 or 30 of them in Regency Mews. The trouble is they have no phones in them.

They are the good old fashioned red ones which have, presumably, been moved to make way for more modern designs.

But why are they being left there? And for how long? A Call to BT's office at Preston Park revealed that they didn't seem to know.

They promised to find out and call back but that was two weeks ago. Perhaps they couldn't find a phone box!

## HAVE YOU PAID?

Some members have still not renewed their subscriptions for the current year. If there is a red cross in the box then your subscription is still due.

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.