



Regency Square Area Society

NEWSLETTER 56

September 1988

MEETING

Don't forget our next meeting which will be on Friday 16 September in the Starlit Room at the top of the Metropole Hotel.

John Ford will give a talk called "Images of Brighton" illustrated with slides. He will describe the development of the town, and particularly this area, up to 1850.

Refreshments will be provided. We will meet at 7-30 pm and the talk will start at 8 pm.

Please come - and bring a guest !

THE WEST PIER

Things have started happening on the Pier.

In July there was a one day charity event with a loud pipe organ which played non-stop all day. The sound could be heard in houses in Regency Square, even with the windows shut. We have discussed this problem with the West Pier Trust and asked them to take noise problems into account when considering longer term plans for the pier.

During August the Trust let out the shore end of the pier for a daily market. The stalls were not exactly attractive; there are no plans to repeat this at present.

During September there will be a marquee on the shore end as part of the International Broadcasting Conference. Cabins will also be located under the pier during the conference.

The Trust has received a grant of £487,500 from English Heritage and is hoping to receive a further £225,000 from the National Heritage Memorial Fund. This money will be used over the next few months to strengthen some of the ironwork under the pier; the main supports are thought to be sound but the ties between them need repair.

Next February work will start on replacing the missing section, thus rejoining the main part of the pier to the shore. This should be complete by September.

The Trust also hope to replace the shop in the north west corner. This building matches the rock shop which is still there. It had to be taken down in 1978. Parts of it have been stored in the Council depot in Dyke Road and have now been sent to specialists for restoration.

If the Pier is restored, what will it be used for ? The Trust is talking to a company called Merlin which is interested in developing the pier commercially. Their plans would probably include some speciality shopping areas like those in London's Covent Garden.

But Merlin have still not decided whether they want to become involved. If they do then their plans would be considered first by the Trust who have a policy of trying to make the West Pier rather more "up market" than the Palace Pier. All members of the Trust would be consulted.

Planning permission and listed building consent would also be needed for any development. So there should be plenty of opportunity for local people to have their say.



SUBSCRIPTIONS PLEASE

A few members have still not renewed their membership for the current year. If there is a cross in the box below, your subscription is outstanding. Please renew today ! Future newsletters will be sent to paid up members only.

To Harold Lawson, Treasurer, Regency Square Area Society, 7 Chartwell Court, Russell Sq, Brighton.

Please renew my membership of the Society for the year ending 28 February 1989 in the category of membership shown below.

	£
Ordinary member	3.00
Family	3.50
Senior Citizen	2.50
Junior (8-18)	1.00
Associate (non-resident)	2.50
Business (non-resident)	5.50

Cheques payable to the Regency Square Area Society.

Name

Address

Are you a paid
up member ?

☐

If the box is empty
YES
If there is a cross
PLEASE RENEW TODAY!

Society Contacts

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

Action on Litter

The Society Officers had a useful meeting with our three local councillors last week. The aim was to discuss some of the litter problems in the area. The topics discussed were:

RUBBISH BAGS

We have all seen them: bags of rubbish dumped in the street or on front dorsteps by residents and traders.

The Council say that they are going to "get tough" and prosecute the dumpers. The councillors have promised to give us regular reports on how many prosecutions are brought and how many are successful.

Meanwhile we have started a regular survey of the area to count the number of bags dumped. If the Council's policy works, the survey, which we will continue for several months, should show a drop in the number of bags of rubbish dumped.

The results of the survey and figures on prosecutions will be published in future newsletters.

TAKE-AWAY FOOD CARTONS

Clarence Square suffers most from this problem because of the Wimpey in Western Road.

We have asked the councillors to try to get more litter bins in the Square. We have also suggested that it should be swept as often as Churchill Square.

One of the problems is that even Churchill Square and Western Road are only swept in the morning and by afternoon they need a second sweep.

Any suggestions for additional sweeping meet the predictable response from councillors that it would cost money and money is something of which they have less and less.

FLY POSTERS

Our picture, taken at the top of Preston Street, shows just one of the many empty premises which get covered in posters.

The amazing thing is that some of them advertise events in Council run venues like the Dome and the Pavillion Theatre. Others are for clearly identifiable places like the Zap Club and the Concorde Bar.

The Council are planning to prosecute organisations which use fly posters to advertise. We have suggested that the Council could employ contractors to clean the windows and then send the bill to the people whose posters have been removed. In the case of promoters who use council venues the cost could be deducted from their box office takings.

Which Way?

Do you ever park in the "echelon" parking spaces on the East side of Regency Square? One member, who does so has suggested that the lines should be re-painted so that the spaces point up the Square instead of down.

She gives three reasons for this:

easier to drive into a space instead of reversing;

less exhaust fumes pumped into basement areas as cars start up;

less wear on cars from sea winds if they face up the Square.

The main objection to the scheme is that parked cars would have to reverse into the flow of traffic when leaving.

The Society is considering whether to put this idea to the Council but we would like your views first.

What do you think?

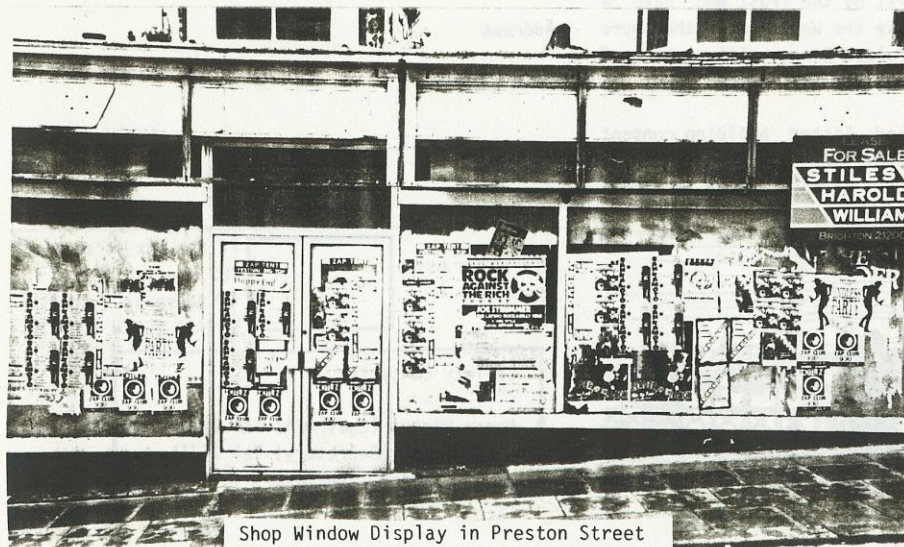
Aimez-vous la France

If you have answered "oui" to this question you might like to hear about the activities of the Brighton and Hove French Circle.

This group of enthusiasts are like you - they love to hear French spoken, to listen to talks in French about France and generally to keep in touch with what is happening on the other side of the Channel.

Some members like to speak French ten to the dozen whilst others are happier listening, so whatever your level of French you should feel at home within the group.

For more information phone Suzanne Hinton on 21794.



Shop Window Display in Preston Street