



Regency Square Area Society

NEWSLETTER 62

OCTOBER 1989

NO TOW

Those people who pay for the privilege of a resident's parking permit will be pleased to know that they can no longer expect any support from the towaway squad.

Why ?

Because the Police have received complaints from people who think that "a £75 tow away fee for parking where other vehicles would be allowed to park is excessive." So now vehicles are not towed away from resident's spaces but only from places where they are "causing an obstruction to the thoroughfare."

We wonder just who it is that has complained of this excessive fee ? Could it be the people who previously were being towed away for parking illegally in resident's spaces. Or maybe it's just ordinary members of the public outraged at the thought that someone should have to pay £75 for taking for free what others have paid for.

One thing is clear ! The Police are responsive to letters of complaint. So if you think they should tow away from resident's spaces, get out your pen and paper.

A VIEW OF THE PAST

Members who came to the AGM two years ago will remember the entertaining talk on market gardens in central Brighton, given by local historian Geof Mead.

So we have invited him to come and talk to the Society again. His talk this time will be called "The Trade of the Blacklands". Based on his recent research into the history of the area on the Brighton / Hove border, it will describe the different trades and industries that have flourished here.

Geof will again make use of his extensive slide collection to illustrate the talk.

The meeting will be at 7-30 pm on Thursday 12 October in the York Room at the Metropole Hotel.

Drinks and a light buffet will be served. Please come, and bring your friends and neighbours.

FIREWORK NIGHT IS COMING

November the 5th is getting near and we are starting to plan our annual firework party.

So make a note in your diary and see the next Newsletter for full details.

SOCIETY CONTACTS

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

COMING SOON

The developers of Regency Mews have submitted a revised planning application for an office block and town houses.

When the original application for an office block was made in 1985 the Society objected on the grounds that the building would be visible from the seafront above the houses at the top of Regency Square.

The Planning Committee accepted our arguments and imposed a condition that the building not be visible from the seafront. We are pressing for this, and several other conditions to re-imposed if these new plans are accepted.

Residents of Castle Street and Clarence Gardens have sent petitions to the Planning Committee objecting to the increased size of the building where it fronts Castle Street. We are supporting them in this objection.

According to Lovell Construction, the contractors for the building, work is due to start this month and will take 77 weeks. Because there are so many houses, flats and hotels in the area we have asked the Council to impose strict limits on the hours during which work can take place.

WATCH OUT

If you are planning to try any housebreaking or other illegal activities in this area, take care !

Two men removed one of the Society benches from the top of Regency Square. Within minutes Society chairman Roger Hinton was contacted by three members who had seen it go.

In fact, one of the men in question was Society member Terry Wing who was helping in the production of a video film. Scenes were being shot in Russell Square and required somewhere for people to sit. So they had borrowed the padlock key and when they had finished they padlocked the bench safely back in its place.

THE SQUARE HOUSE

Number 32 Regency Square is the house with the word SQUARE at the top of it. Unlike its neighbour which says REGENCY, it is in real need of re-decoration.

The owners recently applied for planning permission to convert it to self-contained flats. They were refused by the Council on the grounds that there is a shortage of the type of single room accommodation that it provides at present.

The owners appealed and were again turned down.

There are good arguments on both sides. The owners would probably argue that the house is not generating enough income at present to enable them to spend money on the decoration work needed. Conversion to flats would mean that the house would look better, thus improving the whole appearance of the Square.

On the other hand there is a shortage of single room accommodation. What is more, some of the present residents are elderly and have been in the house for many many years; it does seem unfair that they should have to be turned out of their homes.



The Trades of the Blacklands A history of trade and industry In West Brighton and Hove

A talk with slides
by
Goef Mead

7-30 pm Thursday 12 October
York Room, Metropole Hotel

FOOLED YOU

In the last issue of the Newsletter we told you that the bin collection day for this area would change from Thursday to Friday after the August bank holiday. In fact it is still on Thursday.

So why did we give you the wrong information? Could it be because the Council took an expensive advertisement in the Argus saying the same thing? Or perhaps because the Council wrote to the Society telling us that collections would "slip" by one day after bank holidays.

Or maybe we just wanted to catch you out and increase the amount of rubbish in the streets.

We leave it to you to guess the answer. But one extra clue is provided by the fact that one of our members phoned the Council both before and after the bank holiday to ask just when the collection day would be. She got no reply.

IS THIS POLICY ?

Silence appears to be the basis of the new Council approach to cleansing.

As reported in the last Newsletter, the Society committee has asked for a meeting with Councillor Ian Duncan who is chair of the Environmental Services Committee. We want to discuss with him the results of our litter survey. In spite of a follow up phone call, we have had no reply.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING

So what will happen when we come to the next bank holiday at Christmas ?

Will the town centre be full of rotting refuse for over a week as it was last year ?

One thing you can be certain of: this newsletter will not be telling you again when to put out your rubbish. Whatever the Council says, we won't believe it.

ET MAINTENANT POUR QUELQUE CHOSE DE COMPLETEMENT DIFFERENT

Le Cercle francais de Brighton et Hove invites vous to come and parlez un peu en francais. At le Cercle vous pouvez listen to talks on toutes sortes de things ranging from la vie d'Edit Piaf to the bagpipes francaise; from le service francais de la BBC to les BDs. Venez if you dare. For information please telephone to Suzanne Hinton (0273) 21794.