

Regency Square Area Society

NEWSLETTER 91
July 1993

Council Claims Psychic Powers for Dustmen

Society Treasurer Bryan Smith decided to try out the rubbish clearance number that we publish in each newsletter.

Someone had dumped some old furniture outside his house and when the dustmen came they did not clear it away. Someone else then dumped some bags of rubbish on top of it.

He called the freephone number to get it cleared and asked why the dustmen had not collected the furniture. The reply was that it would be taken the following week; it was also suggested that had it been dumped outside the house from which it came, it would have been taken first time round. Presumably the dustmen have psychic powers!

He also suggested that a Council official should perhaps look through the rubbish bags to find out who had dumped them. The reply to this was that it sounded more like a job for the police. And yet at past meetings with Council officers we have been assured that this is how Council officers will deal with illegal dumping.

After several abortive phone calls and some fairly firm talking Bryan managed to get the rubbish cleared. Given that the Council has a statutory duty to clear rubbish in this area within a few hours of it being reported, the response in this case was hardly acceptable.

Tin Pan Alley

The twitten linking Regency and Russell Squares is a characteristic bit of old Brighton and is famous as the first shot in the film of Graham Greene's Brighton Rock.

It now has another place in local history following the events of a recent Sunday afternoon when a local resident decided to make her personal protest against the music coming out of the Regency Tavern.

The musician who was playing had already attracted the attention of traffic wardens by parking on the pavement. His music was loud and could be heard all around the area, not least because the pub doors were open.

One resident living in Regency Square decided that she had had enough of it so she took a cooking pot and metal spoon and stood outside the pub making an equally loud noise.

The result was that the pub doors were closed. Meanwhile some other residents complained that while they didn't mind the music, they couldn't bear the sound of the pan and spoon.

You can't please everyone!

Face-lift at the Tavern

The Regency Tavern is expected to close for a few days and then re-open with a new manager and new decor.

There is also talk that it will become a meeting place for gays.

SOCIETY CONTACTS

CHAIRMAN Harold Lawson tel 328203
SECRETARY Richard Pau: tel 326711
TREASURER Brian Smith tel 325175

Have You Paid Yet ???

Some members have not yet paid their subscriptions for the current year. If there is a cross in the box below, your subscription is still due.

To Brian Smith, 45 Regency Square, Brighton.

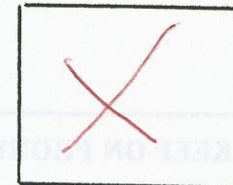
I would like to renew my membership of the Regency Square Area Society for the year 1993/94 in the category ticked below:

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

Name

Address

Cheques payable to the Regency Square Area Society please.



Castle Street: Development . . .

A planning application has been made for the demolition of a 40-41 Castle Street and the erection of a new block of 12 flats.

The building to be demolished has been used in the past as a motor cycle showroom and a music shop but is now empty.

The Society has always taken the view that the residential nature of Castle Street should be preserved and for that reason we welcome the proposed conversion from commercial to residential use.

On the other hand we are concerned at the potential impact on the small houses in Clarence Gardens which back onto the site. We are consulting members affected and will put forward comments taking account of their views.

. . . and Dereliction

Apart from numbers 40-41, several other properties in Castle Street are boarded up.

Number 37 has been derelict since it was squatted. Numbers 4 and 9 and a house nearby in Stone Street are also boarded up.

This is very depressing for people living in the street. It is also unacceptable in one of the town's major conservation areas.

We have asked the Council if anything can be done.

KEEP ON PHONING

Don't forget to phone the Council if you find rubbish dumped in the street. The free number to call is

0800 525573.

Cables and Boxes

Clarence and Russell Squares will soon be dug up to lay cables for cable TV.

Distribution boxes will also need to be installed on the pavement, one for every 60 households.

Nynex, the company laying the cable proposed three locations:

By the railing at the eastern end of Russell Square

By the side door of 28 Russell Square

In the road linking the two squares

Society committee members had a meeting with Nynex to discuss these locations. We persuaded them to move the first which could spoil the view of the garden: it will now be further up Cannon Place by the side wall of the sandpiper guesthouse.

We suggested that the one in the link road might be better on the north side of Clarence Square which is already rather a mess and where the pavements are not quite so narrow. This is not technically possible.

There is already some sort of distribution box in the third location near to the entrance to Russell Mews. No one seems to know what it is and it looks fairly old and unused. We are trying to find out if it can be removed.

Nynex have promised to consult us when they are planning the cabling of Regency Square. No date has been set yet which means it will not be until 1994 at the earliest.

Thanks to the Bench Cleaners

Thanks to the two members who gave up time on two Sunday mornings to rub down and oil the Society's two benches at the top of Regency Square.

If you compare the condition of our benches with the larger ones belonging to the Council you can see that the work is worth doing. One year we had so many volunteers that we were actually able to clean the Council ones as well.



St John Ambulance in Regency Square

Society member Terry Wing is divisional superintendent for the new Regency Division of St John Ambulance which has been established to provide community care.

All those involved are volunteers. Their work includes transporting the ill or dis-abled, caring for those who wish to die at home and assisting others to live life to the full by helping them to go night clubbing or shopping. The division also works closely with the various HIV and AIDS organisations.

Unlike the conventional uniforms of St John first aiders, Regency Division volunteers wear white sweatshirts and black jeans: they prefer individuality rather than uniformity.

St John Ambulance is funded entirely by public donations. The Regency Division urgently needs

an ambulance (£30,000 new)

a car to transport patients to hospital or hospice

an HQ building for meetings, training etc

a garage for vehicles (at least 10 ft high).

more volunteers, especially those who might be available during the day - qualified nurses or people with no training are equally welcome.

If you would like more information, or can help raise funds by selling raffle tickets, please contact Terry at 48 Regency Square (tel 748748).