

Regency Square Area Society

**NEWSLETTER 94
December 1993**

Adverts on the Pier ?

The West Pier Trust has put in a planning application for 7 advertising billboards to be attached to the railings at the landward end of the pier.

The aim is to generate some much needed income for the Trust's running costs.

The Society has registered concern about the application, particularly since some of the billboards will face directly into the Square.

The Conservation Areas Advisory Group, on which we are represented, has recommended that the application should be refused. The Planning Committee will make a decision early next year.

Thanks ...

... to everyone who helped at the firework party and to those who contributed the fireworks and the food.

SOCIETY CONTACTS

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TREASURER Brian Smith tel 325175
NEWSLETTER EDITOR Roger Hinton tel 321794

It's Back !

The Christmas tree is back in Regency Square this year. But this year it has white lights instead of the usual coloured ones.

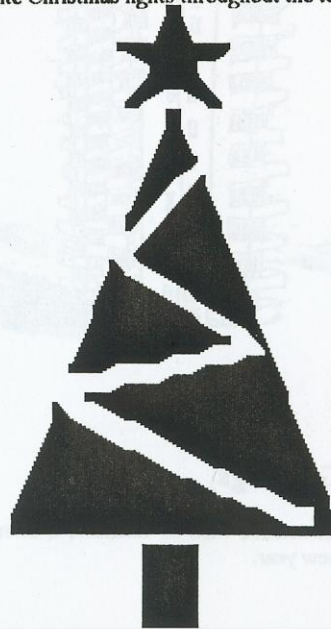
Last year, after much debate, we decided not to put a Christmas tree in the Square because of the cost. So what has changed ? Quite a lot...

This year the Council offered to provide the tree provided the Society would have to pay for the lights. We were happy to agree since we already had a set from previous years.

Then we discovered that safety regulations have changed since we last used our lights. Any lights which are accessible to the public must now have low voltage bulbs with a transformer. The new lighting system, plus insurance and electricity would have cost the Society several hundred pounds, which is a lot more than we could afford.

So we took our problem back to the Council who have now contributed £400 towards the cost. Two hotels in the Square have topped this up with £50 each. As a result, the Society will probably end up only having to pay for the electricity.

The new lights are white because the Council has a policy of using white Christmas lights throughout the town this year.



HAPPY CHRISTMAS



Membership Application

If you have not re-newed your membership for the current year please use the form below:

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.

Re-cycling Again

In our last issue we asked your opinion about the Council's wish to locate a re-cycling centre in or near Regency Square.

One member who replied said that she was very keen on re-cycling. However, she did not think a centre should be located in a residential area because of the noise and litter it would cause.

She suggests doorstep collections as an alternative and points out that this is already in operation by Adur District Council.

Members living in Queensbury Mews have also voiced opposition to the Council's idea, because the Mews was one suggested location for the re-cycling centre.

So the Society committee has responded to the Council by repeating the view we expressed last time this idea was discussed: we do not think it would be appropriate to locate a re-cycling centre in a residential area. The facilities available in Churchill Square and outside Waitrose are close enough to meet the needs of people living in this area.

Competition - what Competition ?

Our competition to say something witty or perceptive about Sussex Heights produced an underwhelming response. The only entry received so far came in the form of a press release from the Sussex Heights Residents Association which quoted an unknown wit who said

The best thing about living in Sussex Heights is that then you can't see it.

In the optimistic belief that there must be more where that came from, we have decided to extend the competition until the end of the year. So get your thinking caps on and lets see some more wit and wisdom.

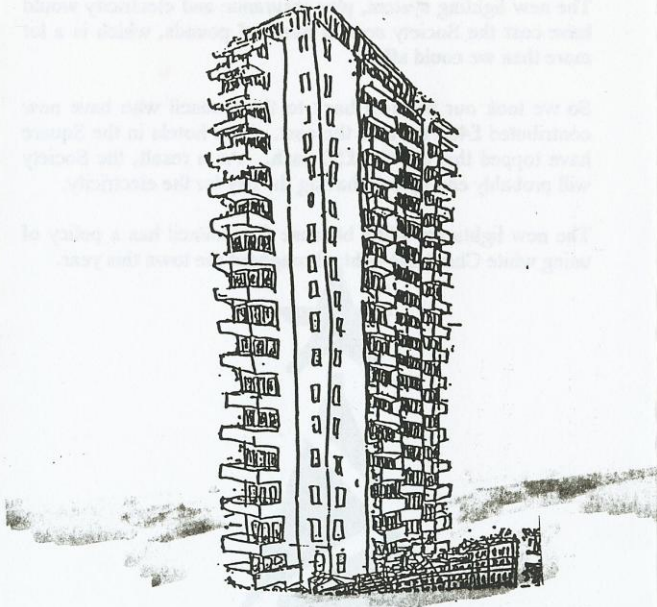
Entries should be sent to Roger Hinton, 39 Regency Square. And Remember, the prize is a visit to a flat on the 23rd floor to see the view.

Through the Eye of an Artist

The Sussex Heights Residents issued their press release to announce their decision to commission a picture of the building to hang in the foyer.

Given the nature of the building, it would be very difficult to take a photograph that made it look interesting. So instead they decided to find an artist who could apply some imagination to the project.

The person chosen is Caroline Bilson, already well known in Brighton for her drawings of the West Pier. Her first sketch for the painting is reproduced below.



Seasons Greetings

The Society committee wish all members a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Preston Street Looks Up

Christmas lights have appeared in the upper part of Preston Street, for the first time in many years.

This is the first tangible sign of the activities of the newly formed Preston Street Traders Association.

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.

More Rubbish

A member in Clarence has written to the Society about the rubbish which is piled up regularly on the pavement on the north side of the Square. She tells how she has been phoning the freephone number repeatedly but nothing ever seems to happen.

This is a problem that the Society has been grappling with for many months and years, so far with no positive results apart from a collection of photographs of rubbish, including that in Clarence Square

We have sent some of the photographs to the Council in yet another attempt to get some action.

The response is that they say things will improve around the middle of next year. Exactly how we don't yet know. But we do know why we have to wait for next year: that is when the new contracts for refuse collection and street cleaning will come into force.

The Council is hoping to build more stringent requirements into the contracts, thus improving the service.