

## NEWSLETTER 129 September 1997

## Regency Square Improvement Fund

Over the past couple of years the Society has been raising money for improvements to Regency Square. As a result of much hard work by Society members the fund now stands at £4,637.

Most of this has been raised through prize draws which have been generously supported by local businesses, and by individuals who have donated prizes.

The fund is tangible evidence of the desire by people in the area to improve it. This is important because Government funds are also available to improve local areas through the Single Regeneration Budget (SRB).

Brighton and Hove Council has SRB money and is planning to allocate some of it for improvements to Regency, Russell and Clarence Squares. The Society's own fund

will not only add to the Council's allocation, but will also strengthen our case when the size of the allocation is decided.

### The Final Effort

The allocation will be finalised next year so the draw which the Society is running at present is the last chance to give a significant boost to our fund.

Once again local businesses and members have been more than generous in their offer of prizes. The first prize is a weekend for two in Paris by train through the Channel Tunnel.

All we need to do now is to sell the tickets!

Please help if you can. With this newsletter you will find some tickets. If you can sell them please put the names and telephone number and/or address of the purchasers on the stubs. Send the stubs and the money to the society treasurer, Roger Hinton, 39 Regency Square, Brighton, BN1 2FJ. An envelope is included.

The tickets are only 50p each. If you can sell more please telephone Traude Tappin (735167) who will be pleased to let you have a supply.

Tickets can also be bought at the following locations:

Daisy Fresh Cleaners, Imperial Arcade The Newsagents in Preston Street West Pier News on the seafront The Regency Tavern in Russell Square

### Preston Street Consultation:-The Result

Preston Street is another area which is hoping to receive SRB funds for improvement.

The scheme supported by our Society has now been agreed by the Council (scheme C). This involves making the street one way northbound. Pavements will be widened to allow restaurants to put out tables and chairs.

The next step is for traffic orders to be issued so that the scheme can be formally approved.

Amongst the traders in Preston Street there have been strong differences of opinion about the scheme. The well established Preston Street Traders Association supported it. A new group called the Business Ratepayers Association was formed to oppose it during the second public consultation period which ended on 3 September.

The result of the consultation was that 125 people responded in support and 70 against. This showed a majority in favour of scheme C. It also showed a strong local interest and support for improving the street which will be important when its share of SRB money is decided.

#### SOCIETY CONTACTS

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#### Labour Pains - minor relief

As we brace ourselves for the disruption which will be caused by the Labour Party Conference, it is good to be able to report a small success.

The houses at the top of Queensbury Mews have garages and the residents had been told that they would not be allowed to get their vehicles in and out. As a result of a campaign of objection they have now been told that access will be permitted. Congratulations to those who organised the campaign.

Residents with parking permits will be allowed to use the Regency Square car park

## Do we have to put up with this every few years?

If the party in power comes to Brighton regularly for its conference, does that mean we have to face this sort of disruption every time?

Surely not! As reported in the last newsletter, the main problem is caused by the fact that the Labour Party has chosen the Metropole rather than the Grand as its conference HQ.

This has made the security operation much larger and hence more of a problem, not only for local people but also for the police.

Surely we need to put pressure on the Labour party to encourage them to use the Grand in future years. Do you agree? Please let the chairman know your views.

## Rubbish collection every day - it's official

We reported in our last edition that rubbish seems to be collected every day. We wrote to the Council's environmental services department to ask them to clarify the position.

The official answer is that there is "an everyday collection service" in Regency, Bedford and Russell squares. "All collections in these areas are in the afternoon between 3pm and 5pm".

What about Clarence Square? It suffers just as much as the others from dumped rubbish?

These daily collections are for rubbish left in the street. "Basement refuse store areas are cleared on a Wednesday."

This all sounds great, but a bag of rubbish outside number 40 Regency Square at 8 am on 12 September was still there 24 hours later. And the previous week basements were cleared in Regency Square on Tuesday and Thursday!

## When are things from a house not "household"?

Answer: if they are carpets, furniture, wood or paint cans! At least that is the official answer from the Council who say that such items will not be removed by the refuse collectors.

So if they are dumped in the street, who does remove them?

# **Early Morning Calls in Castle Street**

People who live near the Ecovert street cleaning depot in Castle Street are fed up with the noise they make early in the morning. We believe that they are starting work earlier than they should and we have written to the Council to try to resolve the problem.

#### ... and in Russell Mews

A similar problem is worrying residents of Russell Mews and Russell Square. Deliveries for Russell House, the large office building in the mews, are supposed to come from the Preston Street direction. Many are using Russell Square, often at unreasonably early hours.

Residents have been in touch with BUPA, the building's owner who are aware of the problem. Delivery vehicles often have a problem approaching the building from Preston Street because Regency Mews is an unadopted road and is used by a number of small workshops.

We are contacting BUPA to find out the hours during which they accept deliveries and to see if they can be restricted to Regency Mews.

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### Prize Draw

11 December 1997 Beach Hotel, Regency Square GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!