



## NEWSLETTER 132 January 1998

### Ssh ... tell everyone

about the Society's silent auction which will be held at 7:30 pm on Thursday 19 February at the West Pier Club, 5 Regency Square. The idea is simple. You donate something you don't need, large or small - an unwanted Christmas gift perhaps.

Each item has a card attached. Potential buyers mark bids on the card. If someone bids higher than you, you can bid again, just like at a noisy auction. When the bidding closes each item goes to the highest bidder, and the proceeds go to Society funds.

And although the bids are silent, there will plenty of chance to chat with your neighbours. Snacks will be provided and there will be a cash bar.

If you can donate an item, contact Pat McCulloch (773275 - Middle Cottage, Queensbury Mews).

### Thanks ...

... to everyone who helped make the 1997 prize draw a success. We have raised another £2,900 towards the Regency Square Improvement Fund which now stands at £7,556.

Special thanks to Harry Zurich for providing a room at the Beach Hotel, Joyce Chester for designing the poster and Eva Petulengro for drawing the prize tickets. Also to all those who donated prizes.

And last but not least, to Society committee member, Traude Tappin for her endless enthusiasm and hard work, without which the Improvement Fund would not exist at all.

### and Congratulations ...

... to the winner of the first prize. It was won on a ticket bought for a friend by a member living in Regency Square.

We are sad to report the death of Martin Boggon. Martin was a councillor for the Regency Ward until the recent local government re-organisation.

He worked hard for local people and was a good friend to the Society. The quiz that he ran for us at the Regency Hotel helped to raise funds for the Regency Square Improvement Fund.

He will be sadly missed by his many friends in the area.

### More About the Milkmaid

We reported in the last issue that a planning application for development of the Milkmaid Pavilion. Society member Giuseppe Colasurdo of the Mamma Mia Restaurant in Preston Street has written to provide some more information:

"The Pavilion has been under our ownership for the past two years. In that time we have done our utmost to renovate the building which has resulted in a considerable improvement to the area.

No longer do drunks or drug addicts sleep under the arches behind the building. Incidents of vandalism seem to have improved, almost certainly as a result of the surveillance cameras on either side of the building.

Our plans are to improve the building more by making elaborate changes to the interior and raising the level of the roof to make it accessible from Kings Road.

We appreciate that the building is in a conservation area and are sensitive to the requirements of everyone in that area. Our architect has liaised extensively with the Conservation Society to ensure that the improvements are in keeping.

This is not going to be a huge monstrosity of a building since we are anxious to keep the essential character of the Pavilion."

The Planning Committee has not yet made a decision about the plans but the Conservation Areas Advisory Group has generally welcomed them, while querying a few details.

### The Heights Get Higher

Permission has been granted for a 15 metre radio mast to be installed on top of Sussex Heights, making Brighton's tallest building even taller. It will be used by a radio station called Surf FM.

### The Court Gets Associated

Meanwhile, on top of the Metropole Hotel, residents of Metropole Court have got together to form a residents association.

### We Have Rubbish Too

Member Enid Darby has asked us to clarify the rubbish position - "does the daily collection apply to Castle St / Stone St in addition to Clarence Square? If not, why not: the same problems exist here as elsewhere in the Regency Square Area" We will ask the Council.

### SOCIETY CONTACTS

CHAIRMAN Brian Smith ☎ 325175  
SECRETARY Pat McCulloch ☎ 773275  
TREASURER & NEWSLETTER Roger Hinton  
☎ 321794 email [hinton@clara.net](mailto:hinton@clara.net)



## BUPA Gets Deliveries

Deliveries to BUPA in Russell Mews have been disturbing neighbours. All BUPA's suppliers have been asked to avoid delivering via the Mews but often the message does not get through to drivers who may change from one week to the next.

BUPA plans to move the delivery point to Castle Street. A video link from the Castle Street door to the security desk has been installed and will be operational in the next few weeks.

Residents of Castle Street are concerned that this will just move the problem to their area. However, BUPA have said that the number of deliveries is likely to drop significantly. There have been a lot recently because they have been fitting out the third floor of the building.

Once things get back to normal there should not be more than about 6 deliveries a day, all during normal office hours. If this still proves to be a problem, they will review the situation again.

## Streets Paved with ?\* &!

Was it Dick Whittington who went to London hoping to find the streets paved with gold?

It is ironic that Dick Whittington is the pantomime at the Theatre Royal this year. The pantomime comes to Brighton and what will visitors to the town centre find? Not streets paved with gold but streets paved with piles of rubbish and dog excrement.

Members frequently complain about the problem and ask "Can't you do anything?" - the answer seems to be "no" - the more we complain the worse things get.

It is quite clear that the problem won't go away until the Council takes drastic steps to stop people dumping rubbish on the streets in the first place. Perhaps we need the pantomime fairy to cast an "Action spell" over the Council because at present, despite assurances to the contrary, there seems to be very little action being taken to resolve the filthy streets problem (unless the Labour Party happens to be in town).

We have been told that Ecovert's contract includes clearing rubbish from the squares seven days a week. So why is it that rubbish frequently lies on the pavements for 4 or 5 days? It seems that Ecovert are in breach of their contract and that they are being paid taxpayers' money for a service they are not providing. A scandalous situation.

The Council tell people that rubbish will be collected off the streets daily so people dump rubbish around the clock, seven days a week. We believe that it remains illegal to dump rubbish on the streets or let dogs foul them - surely it is time for the Council to take a tough stance to try to stop these problems once and for all.

If they don't act positively now let's hope that next year's pantomime is the Pied Piper as we might need to rid the town of rats....but then again perhaps we have a year round pantomime:

"Look at the rubbish"  
"Where?"  
"It's behind you"  
"Oh no it isn't"  
"Oh yes it is"  
"Oh no it isn't".....

## A Fine Tree ... but only just

Many thanks to those member who donated money to help with the cost of this year's tree. Also to the Strictly Background Quartet for playing carols. And special thanks to committee member Clive Buxton who braved the December winds to go up a ladder and install the lights.

The tree itself was supplied by the Council as in previous years. However, it seems we were lucky to get it. The Council had intended not to give us one this year, in order to cut costs.

But they forgot to tell us. So when we told them that we had organised carol singing round the tree they relented, for which we are very grateful.

## A Date for Your Diary

The Society's 19th Annual General Meeting will be at 7:30 pm on Thursday 26 March at the Metropole Hotel.

## Silent Auction

Thursday 19 February at 7:30 pm

at the West Pier Club,  
5, Regency Square

Members and guests welcome

## Time to Renew Your Membership

Unless you are a new member, your membership subscription for 1998/9 is due next month.

Members' subscriptions meet less than half the cost of running the Society. We are only able to cover costs because of the generosity of those members who make donations in addition to the basic subscription. If you can add a donation, however small, it will help the Society to maintain its current level of activities.

To Roger Hinton, 39 Regency Square, Brighton.

I would like to renew my membership of the Regency Square Area Society for the year 1998/99 in the category ticked below:

	£
Ordinary member	4.00
Family	4.50
Senior Citizen	3.50
Junior	2.00
Associate (non-resident)	3.50
Business (non-resident)	6.50

Basic subscription \_\_\_\_\_  
Optional donation \_\_\_\_\_  
Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Cheques payable to the Regency Square Area Society please.