



**Regency Square Area Society**

**NEWSLETTER 133  
February 1998**

### **What's New in Churchill Square ?**

The re-development of Churchill Square by Standard Life is now well under way. Mike Hannigan is the development manager and he will be our guest at the AGM next month.

He will give us the latest news on the project and answer our questions. Like, what stores have booked space in the mall; what is the big hole for outside the Prince of Wales; when will it all be over ?

If you have any other questions you would like to ask or comments you want to make please come to the meeting. This is your chance to speak directly to the developers.

The meeting will be held at the Metropole Hotel on Thursday 26 March 1998.

### **Membership Gets IT**

"IT" being information technology. When the first Society newsletter was published it was typed on a manual typewriter and then cut up and pasted together.

For several years now the newsletter has all been created directly on a computer screen. But the addresses for delivery have, until recently, been written by hand for each distribution.

Our membership records are now on a computer so the addresses can be printed automatically, and even in the order they have to be delivered.

You may have seen the rather fearsome looking numbers below your address on the envelope. Here is what they mean:

The first is your number in the membership list.

The second is the position of your address in the delivery sequence - some of these are quite big numbers but it doesn't mean we've got thousands of members. There are big gaps to allow new members to be slotted in at the right place.

The third is the most recent year for which you have paid a subscription. So if it says 97/98 your subscription runs out at the end of this month - why not renew it now?

Finally there is the number of copies of the newsletter you get. For most people this is 1 but one or two members have more for various reasons.

### **Parking on a double yellow can seriously damage your car !**

It was like the good old towaway days in Regency Square one evening last week .

A huge articulated lorry from Portugal tried to turn into the top end of Queensbury Mews. When he couldn't do it the driver started to reverse erratically back towards the main square.

He damaged a car which was illegally parked on double yellow lines. Worried residents hurried out to get their (legally parked) vehicles out of the way. Eventually he gave up, leaving his lorry blocking the road outside the Regency Tavern. The police then arrived and arrested the driver when he refused to take a breath test.

A competent HGV driver arrived after several hours delay. But two more illegally parked cars had to be towed away before he could finally get the articulated monster out of the square.

Very frustrating for those whose cars were trapped for several hours behind the stranded vehicle. And what would have happened if an ambulance or fire engine had needed to get by ?

The incident illustrates the sort of problems caused by the increasing amount of illegal parking in this area and the relatively poor level of enforcement by the police and wardens.

But the really frightening thought is that someone might have been driving a lorry that size while under the influence !

# **Is Silence Golden ?**

Find out at the Society's silent auction - 7:30 pm on Thursday 19 February at the West Pier Club, 5 Regency Square - admission free - snacks - cash bar

## Red Tape Gets Longer

Remember the grand plans to improve the squares? We were promised work in Clarence and Russell Squares during 1997. The railings at the top of Clarence Square have been removed because they were unsafe and beyond repair. But otherwise nothing.

The reason is that the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), which has been asked to provide part of the money, has requested more historical information before a decision is made.

The Council has appointed Chris Blandford Associates, experts in historic landscapes, to carry out surveys and analysis of the squares. Their report will be completed this month and the Council hope to have a new bid with HLF by Easter.

There will be public consultation on the new proposals before then.

## Join the Silence

Many thanks to those members who have contributed items for the silent auction. If you can contribute something please contact Traude Tappin (735167) or Pat McCulloch (773275). Collection can be arranged.

And don't forget to be at the West Pier Club at 7:30 pm on Thursday 19 February to make your silent bids. All proceeds from the auction will go to Society funds. Admission is free. Snacks will be provided and there will be a cash bar.

## Pavement Cleared at Last !

The Council has finally removed the abandoned bicycles which were locked to a lamppost in Castle Street near the junction with Preston Street.

Combined with the usual bags of rubbish and builders' waste they made it very difficult to get by on the pavement, especially if you had a pushchair or shopping trolley.

## Sign Off

The road name sign in Clarence Square near the Bradford and Bingley Building Society has disappeared. We have informed the Council.

## Rubbish:- the problem that doesn't go away

Member, Ken Kennar from Russell Square writes:

"I am surprised that the Council do not point out to people that rubbish placed on pavements constitutes a possible hazard and that in the event of an accident, they could be held responsible.

"I certainly will not put out rubbish for collection because of this. The dustmen collect mine from the cellar under the pavement which all houses in the area are provided with."

## Would You Like to Join the Committee ?

We need new members to help run the Society. If you would like to find out more about the job, please contact one of the current members (see Contacts box).

### Regency Square Area Society

## Annual General Meeting

7:30 pm, Thursday 26 March 1998  
Metropole Hotel

Followed by a talk on the re-development  
of Churchill Square  
by Mike Hannigan of Standard Life

### SOCIETY CONTACTS

CHAIRMAN Brian Smith ☎ 325175  
SECRETARY Pat McCulloch ☎ 773275  
TREASURER & NEWSLETTER Roger Hinton  
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## Time to Renew Your Membership

Many thanks to those members who have paid their subscription in the past few weeks.

The Society's influence with the Council depends on having a strong membership. Please renew your subscription now for 1998/9 if you haven't already done so.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Members' details are stored on computer for administrative purposes only.

Cheques payable to the Regency Square Area Society please.