



NEWSLETTER 157
September 2000

Rubbish Banned !

Your newsletter editor has decided to ban any discussion of rubbish in the streets from this issue.

Except to say that the Society has complained to the Council each time a collection day has been missed in the past couple of months, and that the committee is hoping to meet with local councillors later this month to tell them what we think about the current situation and ask them what they plan to do about it.

Rubbish will no doubt have its usual share of column inches next month. We know you love it!

128 Gets Worse and Worse

Residents of Abbots and other properties near 128 Kings Road are getting increasingly frustrated.

The building is in a shocking state. The back area is full of rubbish and even sewage. Rats have been seen. Recently there was a fire in a toilet.

The Council accepts that the building needs major improvements. However, they seem to be unable to force the owner to take the necessary action. The

time has come when the Council itself should act in the interest of public health and safety.

The Society is supporting a plan to leaflet Labour party members at the forthcoming conference to complain about the apparent powerlessness of local authorities in situations of this kind.

Music to your ears?

The Prince of Wales pub has started playing fairly loud music for the benefit of customers at its outside tables. Let us know if you find it a nuisance.

Can they Carry on Camping ?

Residents of Russell Square were not amused last month when visitors set up camp in the garden. There are no toilets or running water nearby and the area is not designed for camping.

The police seemed to be unwilling to take action because they did not know whether there was a bye law banning camping in this area. We are trying to find out, in case the visitors come back.

Web Success

In the month of July the Society's web site received 1,440 visits, that's an average of 48 per day. The most popular day for viewing was Sunday. Most pages were viewed between 10PM and 11PM.

Feedback has come from as far away as California. Here is a message received from West Hove Junior School (Brian Smith replied):

We have seen the pictures of the peregrine falcons.. We are fascinated by them. We love your site. How long will it be until the falcons fly? Who looks after the falcons? What will happen when they are old enough to fly and care for themselves?

from Patrick and Tony 6ip

One Man's Ceiling ...

...is another man's regeneration project.

The ceiling of the car park under Regency Square is in need of urgent repair. The original plan had been to do this from inside the car park. Now it seems that some excavation from above will be needed.

As a result there will be some delay and possible changes to the regeneration plans for the square. Plans for Clarence & Russell Squares are not affected.

The funding for work in Regency Square is secure according to Catherine Gray who is leading the project. She says that the regeneration work will be done this financial year (which ends in March 2001).

She also says that, because of the excavations, improvements in Regency Square may be on a larger scale than originally thought. There will be a separate public consultation once the full extent of the excavations is known.

Does Labour make you livid?

This is not a political question. It's about the party conference which will be with us very soon.

Last time it caused serious disturbance to residents, so much so that we had a personal apology from the Council's chief executive. Let's hope that lessons have been learnt and promises will be kept.

If the conference causes you any problems you can call the neighbours' hotline (office hours during the build up and break down and 24 hours from noon on Friday 22nd to noon of Thursday 28th).



Two Way Taxis?

The taxi ranks in Cannon Place are never used (except by illegal parkers). The reason given is that taxis cannot get legally from them into Western Road. Taxi drivers want permission for taxis (only) to enter Western Road from Clarence Square.

The Society has opposed this proposal for several reasons:

- Two way traffic would be dangerous at the blind corner opposite the betting office in Clarence Square, and for pedestrians in Western Road.
- Regeneration plans for Clarence Square include wheelchair access into the one-way road which taxi drivers want to use as two-way.
- Motorists already drive illegally into Western Road and this would increase if taxis were allowed to do it.
- The exit is over a hump in Western Road and next to a bus stop where buses queue.
- Disabled parkers use the double yellow lines in the area and this would be more dangerous with two way traffic.

Cannon Place Remarkd

Following a suggestion from the Society, Cannon Place now has new road markings. Their aim is to improve the traffic flow northwards while traffic is queuing to get into the car park. Let us know if you have noticed any improvement.

Society Contacts:

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Thoroughly Investigated

Our Society is obviously very important, judging by the number of people who want to know about it. This month we have had questionnaires from East Sussex County Council and the Home Office about our activities.

We have also had a meeting with two researchers from the Brighton and Hove Regeneration Partnership. They have been commissioned by the Council to "consult with a wide range of people and organisations to gather up views and opinions on regeneration concerns and potentials."

In other words, the Council is planning to bid for more "regeneration" money and needs to show that it has consulted widely about the possible uses of it.

The researchers asked us what our Society's concerns were. We said ru***sh, ru***sh and ru***sh. We did mention some other things, but our main point was that ambitious schemes to improve the town are rather pointless while it is such a mess. The researchers said they had heard the same views from most of the other groups they had talked to.

Memories Wanted!

Brian Smith, who is responsible for much of our web site content, is still looking for contributions for inclusion on the site.

You may have interesting memories that could be shared. Brian was chatting to a member recently who told him about a relative who remembered how Russell Square was occupied in the 1930s. If we can get reminiscences like this written down they could make fascinating areas on the web site.

They don't have to be long or in great detail; in fact it might be best if they were written in a conversational style. We know some of our members

have seen considerable change in the area over the years so let's have those memories.

If you have any ideas contact Brian (☎ 325175).

Visit the Society web site!
www.regencybrighton.com

A few subs still due

If there is a cross in the box below, your annual subscription is overdue. Please help the Society by sending your subscription today.

To Paul Stanford, 50 Regency Square, Brighton BN1 2FJ

I would like to renew my membership of the Regency Square Area Society for the year 2000/2001 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 _____
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Total enclosed _____

Name _____

Address _____

Cheques payable to the Regency Square Area Society please
Members' details are stored on computer for administrative purposes only.

A cross in the box
means your sub is
due.



Rubbish

Contact number for refuse and
street cleaning problems: call SITA



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