

**NEWSLETTER 268**  
**February 2012**

**A Newsletter for everyone**

This month's newsletter is rather special. We are printing more copies than usual and delivering them to as many people as possible in our area. If you are not a member, we hope you will find the newsletter interesting and will consider joining our society. We try to protect and improve the area and foster a sense of community.

**Regency Square Scramble**

We had an invasion of emergency vehicles on the morning of February 7<sup>th</sup>, including a helicopter. Thanks to member Brian Foster for this splendid photograph.



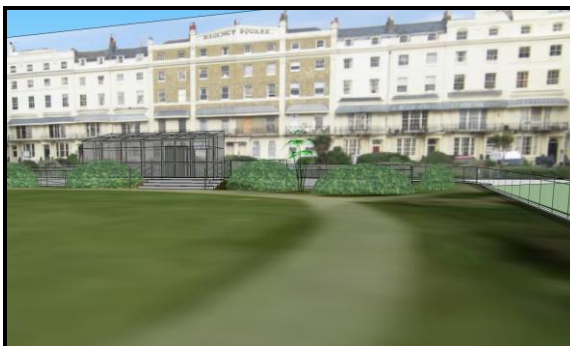
A workman had fallen off scaffolding at the back of number 63 Regency Square. Fortunately he was not seriously injured and the helicopter was not needed.

**Say "No!" to the Glass Box**

The Council wants to improve the Regency Square car park. The Society supports the idea. It will make the car park more secure and attractive to users. New traffic lights will reduce the traffic in the square.

However, we object strongly to the large glass enclosure at the top of the square. It is entirely out of keeping with the architecture of the area. As the Council's own picture shows, it will obscure views of the fine listed buildings. It is also likely to attract fly posting.

We believe that the Council can find another solution.



If you agree, please tell the Council, ideally by 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Quote BH2012/00124. You can comment at [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/planning](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/planning) or write to Planning Department, Hove Town Hall, Norton Road, Hove East Sussex BN3 3BQ. You don't need to write much, just a sentence or two saying why you object.

**Please Support the Society!**

If you are already a member then subscriptions are now due. Please renew today using the form below.

If you're not a member, we hope you will want to join. More members mean more influence. Members receive a newsletter about once a month. We have outings and social events.

Our AGM will be on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March at the Hilton Metropole Hotel, preceded by an illustrated talk on the Royal Pavilion at 7:30pm. Guests are most welcome.

**Membership Form**

To: Trix Webber, Treasurer, Regency Square Area Society, 42 Regency Square, Brighton BN1 2FJ

I would like to join the Regency Square Area Society for the period up to February 2013, in the category of membership ticked below:

	£	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ordinary member	5.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family (up to 2 adults plus any children)	6.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senior Citizen	4.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Associate (non-resident)	4.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Business	8.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

Basic subscription \_\_\_\_\_

Optional donation \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed £

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like newsletters by email (pdf attachment) rather than on paper, please put your email address below. (Please give your street address to confirm your membership category, even if you want emailed newsletters.)

Cash or a cheque payable to the Regency Square Area Society, please. Members' details are kept on computer for Society administration only.



## Why join the Society?

- Members receive a Society newsletter about once a month.
- We take up issues with the Council, the Police etc, such as street lighting, refuse collection and parking.
- We try to paint out graffiti from local buildings.
- Our gardening club is open to all and spends a few hours each week maintaining the squares.
- The more members we have the more likely it is that the Council and other authorities will take notice of us.
- We organise outings for members, such as a recent tour of Embassy Court and a visit to a local mosque.
- We try to protect the historic character of our area and we are represented on the Conservation Areas Advisory Group.
- We have social events such as visits to the Little Theatre and a new year breakfast.

### Society Contacts:

Chairman: Roger Hinton,

✉ hinton@clara.net, ☎ 01273 321794

Treasurer: Trix Webber,

✉ tew100@hotmail.co.uk ☎ 01273 321858

[www.regencybrighton.com](http://www.regencybrighton.com)

## Car park queues

We have had a further meeting with Councillor Ian Davey about the problems of tailbacks at the entrances to local car parks.

Our proposal to remove some parking spaces from the western side of Regency Square has been put into abeyance. The hope is that congestion near the car park entrance will be solved by the improvements the Council is planning for the car park. Our proposal will be re-considered if the problem persists after the improvements are complete.

Council officers are investigating the feasibility of allowing local residents to access Russell and Clarence Squares and nearby streets via Western Road. This would avoid the problem of local drivers being caught in car park queues in Cannon Place.

## Thank you Waitrose!

Our Society is to be included in the green token, fund raising scheme at the Waitrose store in Western Road. Funds raised will be used to pay for a new bench in Regency Square to commemorate the Queen's diamond jubilee.

We don't know yet when our box will appear, but keep your eyes open and please give us your tokens!

## Improvements in Preston Street

The Council will be making improvements in Preston Street to try to attract more visitors. There will be a "de-cluttering" exercise to rationalise signs etc. The cycle lane will be re-painted.

Street lighting may be changed from yellow to white. There is also talk of putting ornamental arches at each end of the street.

The proposed changes to traffic flows in the street described in recent newsletters are currently on hold, as are plans to level the sloping pavements.

Meanwhile, traders are asking for permission to close the street for a Diamond Jubilee party in June.

## Better lighting for safer spaces

An additional street light is to be provided in the twitten between Regency and Russell Squares. The Society asked for this improvement following a late night attack in the twitten.

We are also talking to the Council about improvements to lighting in Russell Square and changes in all three local squares so that existing street lights also illuminate garden areas.

## Muck raking in the square

By the time you read this, members of the gardening club will have taken delivery of a load of compost and dug it into the new bed in Regency Square.

A membrane will then be placed over the bed to protect it until planting starts around mid-March.

We are hoping to get some plants from the Council to fill gaps in the existing beds around the top garden.

## New flats approved for Stone Street

We objected to the plan for new flats at 19 Stone Street because we thought the design was not in keeping with the rest of the street and that they were too high.

Permission has now been granted but the top floor has been set back to reduce the effect of the building's height. The shop front at 68 Western Road is also part of the scheme and will be fully restored to a high standard.

### Members and guests welcome at The Annual General Meeting

7:30 pm, Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2012

Hilton Metropole Hotel

- Illustrated talk on the Royal Pavilion

- Discussion on local issues

- Refreshments

- Raffle