

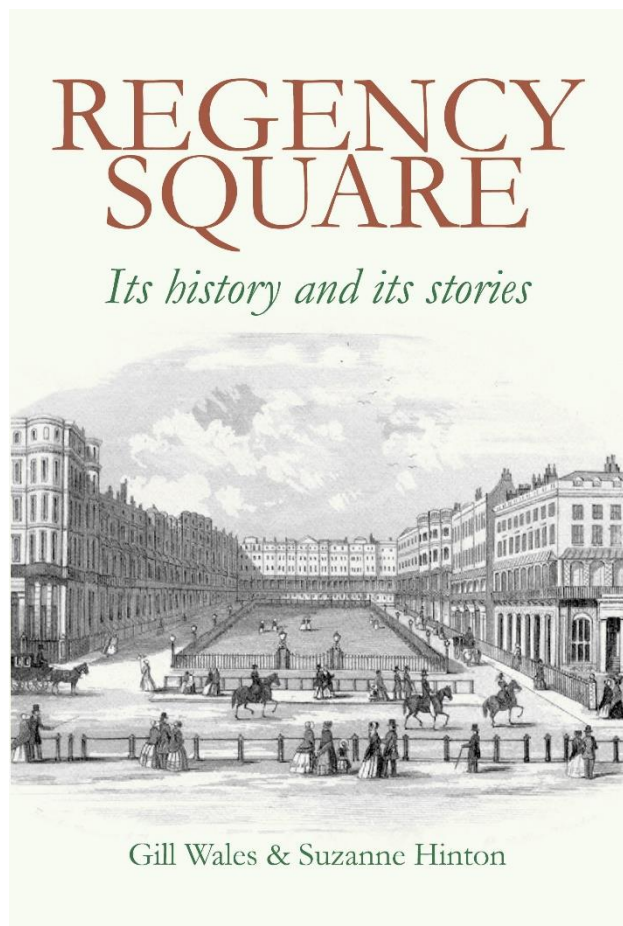
## NEWSLETTER 323 August 2018

### What's made the Bicentenary Book

Many thanks to all the following whose voluntary contributions have made the book possible. The book has arrived and is safely stored in a garage locally.

- Gill Wales and Suzanne Hinton: over a year of almost full-time research and writing
- Subscribers raised £800, one subscription being £100
- Staff at The Keep (East Sussex Archive): Andrew Bennett, Kate Elms, Shona Milton many others
- Royal Pavilion & Museums: prints and maps
- Mr Kevin Bacon of Royal Pavilion & Museums: technical advice on images
- Mr Tracy Wadey: help in preparing images
- Mr Chris Horlock: photographs and other material
- Regency Society: photographs
- Mr Steve Myall: advice on prints
- Prof David Robson: architectural advice
- Dr Geoffrey Mead: general historical advice
- Mr Phil Jenkins of Industrial Wales: images and other historical information
- Members of the Society Committee: marketing
- Belle Vue Books: donation of an ISBN number

The authors would also like to thank Ms Lucy Frontani of Carnegie Publishing in Lancaster for her superb and efficient work on layout and design.



500 copies of the book have been printed at a cost of £3,200. This money has been paid for by funds raised by the Society. All proceeds from the book will be returned directly to the Society. There should be a small surplus when all the books have been sold.

The book will be on sale at £12.95 at the Nigel Rose Gallery, 100/102 Kings Road Arches (near i360), as well as City Books, 23 Western Road, Hove

Buy your first copy (or extra copies for your friends) at the special price of £10.00 on September 22. Look out for posters advertising the event nearer the time.

### A warm welcome to Julie Wright

Hardly had Julie arrived in Brighton in Brighton with her family than she generously agreed to join the Committee of the Society. Here's what she says about herself:

“Having sold my Dental Practice in Manchester – well Cheshire actually. I retired from my beloved root canals and as treasurer of the Manchester University Dental Alumni, I was free to move anywhere in the country. My husband did a lot of work with Ford in Essex and he claimed it was always sunnier down south so that was where we should live. We looked at a few places along the south coast but within minutes of arriving in Brighton we knew it was the place for us.

To facilitate our house search we rented in Shoreham for 6 months – nice but quiet! We were lucky enough to find 14 Stone Street. A newly converted Regency Fly stables which but for local heritage groups getting it Grade 2 listed was to be demolished and turned into student flats.

I was soon co-opted onto RSAS. I am happy to work with them to develop a strong community here in the centre of the city and to make sure we preserve our fantastic Regency heritage.

If you see me say Hello or ring the bell of our white gates”.



## Planning

### Regeneration of Regency Square

In the on-going saga of the Society's attempts to receive the funding set aside for the regeneration of Regency Square, Max Woodford of the City Council has come back to the committee of the Society with more or less the same message as in his email to the Society reported in Newsletter 321 (May2018). The two key extracts from the message are:

1. *We are unable [as yet] to allocate resources and will only do this once there is a budget set aside for any project works. Once a sum is secured we can arrange allocating officer time for putting together a project plan.*
2. *In conclusion the council will be in position to more fully (conclusively) advise following receipt of that first payment in September [2018], so please bear with us a little while longer until September when we will be in receipt of that contribution. We are nearly there on that date but in the interim the RSAS should continue formulating their proposals.*

All members of the Society will know that the Committee has already spent many hours consulting local residents and businesses on how they would like the gardens to look. Landscape Architect Robyn Butcher of Terra Firma Consultancy Ltd has also given many hours of her time on a voluntary basis to help the committee formulate the plans and draw up a formal document.

If you would like a copy of the regeneration document drawn up by the Society's committee, please contact Suzanne Hinton, contact details in next column.

### The Marmite Attraction

In the words of Steve Bax, Executive Director of the i360, the pod and the tower are Marmite to many of us: love it or hate it, we are now getting used to it.

Before it was built, this is what Julie Burchill and Daniel Raven had to say about it ... and us:

*The sheer boldness of the design, coupled with the fact that they were proposing to build it right where the entrance to the West Pier used to be, made a bitter and protracted debate seem almost inevitable. This failed to materialise, though; we heard the odd muffled bleat from residents of Regency Square, but the Brighton Society et al. had very little to say about it. Even the West Pier Trust was on side, with Professor Fred Gray (a director of the Trust and an expert on seaside architecture to boot) declaring, 'I think it's fantastic. I'd love to go up there.' Me too.*

'MADE IN BRIGHTON: FROM THE GRAND TO THE GUTTER'

Not surprising that the West Pier Trust supported the venture, since it provided a solution to the problem of what to do with their long-derelict land. It was also going to supply them with a rental income. Marmite sandwiches all round for the directors of the West Pier Trust.

**Russell House, Russell Mews:** Application for removal of conditions 5 and 6 of application BH2016/05662. Refused on the grounds that this alteration *would result in significant overlooking and loss of privacy from the south elevation balcony towards occupiers of the neighbouring windows and gardens of neighbouring properties on Regency Square to the south of the site. The proposal is therefore contrary to Policy QD27 of the Brighton and Hove Local Plan.*

**20 Regency Square:** A revised application to alter the internal layout of the flats and to re-instate a side door. The Society had no comment to make on the original plans for the internal layout of the property, but supported the reinstatement of the side door.

**61-62 Western Road (former HMV store):** Planning permission to convert this building into nine flats in 2016. At long last it looks as if work has started. The squatters have gone. The falling masonry will be stabilised.



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