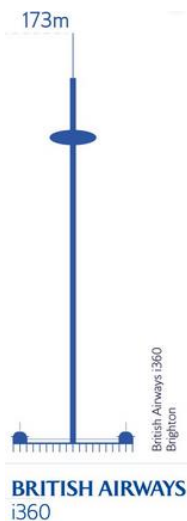


## NEWSLETTER 335 November 2019

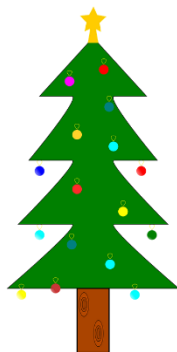
### Christmas aloft



The BAi360 company has once again generously offered the use of the pod to the Society. You, your family and friends can book a free flight on **Wednesday 4 December** at 4.30pm for the 5.00pm flight. And there's more ...

What will happen on the night? The lights on the tree will be turned on as if by magic (the magic of i360's wizards) as the pod pauses on the way up.

The Artists Residence Hotel in Regency Square has funded the Society's tallest ever Christmas tree. A whopping 16'. It will need all 12 lengths of the Society's lights to adorn it.



To reserve tickets for you, your family and/or friends, contact **Nicola Floyd** (see box on this page), giving the names of all those you wish to include in your party and indicating the ages of any who are children.

Bookings will close at midnight on 1 December, but last year was a sell-out, so best get booking now.

### ... and don't forget Halloween



Great to see that at least one resident family in Regency Square throws itself wholeheartedly into all sorts of celebrations. Be afraid, be (not) very afraid.

Let's see if anyone can better Julie and her decorations this Christmas. You'll have to work hard. Julie is an expert in the décor line!

### A lick of paint

The replica, aluminium, bollard in the twitten between Russell and Regency Squares was looking a little forlorn. That is, until Society Chair Diana Dunn got cracking on it. It is now back to its elegant matt black former self.



### The ideal Christmas Present

On Saturday 23 November, Gill Wales and Suzanne Hinton will be at the Book Fayre in the Unitarian Church, New Road. They will be selling copies of Society's Bicentenary book, *Regency Square, its history and its stories*. Books will be on sale at the specially reduced price of £10.00.

Pop in and say hello if you are nearby. Gill is our gardening expert and Suzanne is the Society Secretary, so come and have your say or ask your questions. Other members of the committee will be popping in as well.

### Parking in Regency Square

Following the comments submitted by the Society and by several members, the Council has decided not to remove the 15 shared-use parking spaces on the west side of Regency Square. There has been no response to the Society's request that hours for residents' permit spaces be extended.

### Your chance to comment on graffiti

The City Council has opened a Graffiti enforcement removal consultation. The questionnaire is open to all until 15 December. It can be completed on-line at <https://tinyurl.com/yyn7ezvn>. If you prefer to have a paper version, please contact one of the Society committee (see below).

#### Society Contacts

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## Workmen just hang about



The owners of the flat are to be congratulated. They have matched the design of the new windows with those in the two flats below. Sussex Heights was once an elegant modern building. It is understandable the residents would want to enclose their balconies.

Unfortunately, over the years there has been no standardisation of design. Thus, the basic clean lines of the building have been lost. Perhaps this is the start of a new era.

## Hotel Una offer

Hotel Una in Regency Square has generously offered, via the Society, a pre-Christmas gift of a 10% reduction in the Hotel Una bar. Hotel Una are staunch supporters of the Society, so do go and say hello to Daniel in the bar. Just mention the Society for your discount.

### October Quiz Answer

Following the “modernisation” of the Metropole in the late 1960s, name the room in the hotel which was the first in Britain to be used as a licenced casino?

**The Clarence Room**

## Thank you again, gardeners

Gill Wales and a small band of volunteer gardeners launched their first attack on weeds and undergrowth in Regency Square last week.

Setting up a gardening group is fraught with complications which Gill has been negotiating. For the protection of the volunteers, there are naturally, matters such as insurance and reports to the City Council – it’s their land, after all.

As Gill has not yet refreshed her First Aider certificate, Park Ranger Neil Doyle and his colleague turned out on a Sunday to ensure that volunteers were safe. Thanks to everyone.



### November Quiz

In which year did the Regency Square car park open?

### Planning

**Former HMV store, 60 Western Road BH2019/02505**  
Work is almost complete on the conversion of this property to a 20-bedroom House in Multiple Occupation. This work has no permission from the City Council.

The Society is fortunate in having the support of Cllr Tom Druitt who has objected directly to the Head of Planning, Liz

Hobden on the grounds that the developers are riding roughshod over the planning process.

**Former HSBC Bank:** Western Road BH2019/02497 and BH2019/02496: Refused. A new application has been submitted, without the additional storey.

**26-27 Clarence Square** BH201900989 and 00991: You may have noticed that the historic railings on this property has been “vandalised” by the developers.

This is not the fault of the developers, but of the City Council. The original application by the developers shows good, traditional railings across the front of the property.

The City Council is insisting that the Council Tax paying future residents will have to have rubbish and refuse bins on the property, immediately outside their windows. This is despite the fact that there are communal rubbish and recycling bins within a few feet of the property.

In order for these large rubbish bins to be moved to the street and emptied, gaps have had to be torn through the railings.

The Society will be objecting most strongly to the City Council that they have forced the developers to damage an important aspect of this conservation area.

**Why did the Society not object to this application?** The application was filed under the address of ‘48-50 Western Road’. It’s one the committee has to admit it missed seeing.

**How can you help?** If you are aware of any prospective development in the area and you are concerned about it, please let the committee know.

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