

March 2026



Regency Squares Community Newsletter

Happy New Year to you all. We at Regency Squares Community are excited to see what 2026 will bring. So far we have our very own pied blackbird, a new artist space in the arches, a pub quiz, food waste composting and a glance of life in Clarence Square

Our very own Pied Blackbird

Strolling through the square - on my way to the shops I spied a strange bird bobbing in and out of the shrubbery. Weirdly behaving like a blackbird but with pure white smudges and markings on its plumage I stood and watched it for a while and have since been back to the spot to see if I can see it again.

The British Trust for Ornithology reports that blackbirds are the most common species to display what is termed Leucism which is caused by a deficiency in the dark pigment melanin but other species can also display variations in their normal plumage. I do hope I can spot it again while gardening in the square and would be very glad to hear from anyone else who has seen it.

Meanwhile I am reminded that although our green space suffers from problems with establishing grand planting plans it does provide a habitat for all kinds of local wildlife.
Sue



A lovely patch of wild violets in
Regency Square garden



Pied blackbird

March 2026



Love Your Living Soil 2026

We recently attended a meeting with BHCC (Brighton & Hove City Council) regarding the latest waste disposal/recycling initiative to compost our food waste.

Click here to see the [presentation](#)

The presentation was accompanied by these videos showing all three waste facilities that Veolia Brighton & Hove City Council's disposal contractor operate:

- [Hollingdean MRF](#) - Materials Recovery Facility - sorts dry mixed recycling. Glass also goes here in a separate area.
- [Woodlands IVCF](#) - In-Vessel Composing Facility - garden waste goes here and food waste will too when it starts later in the year.
- [Newhaven ERF](#) - Energy Recovery Facility - household waste is burnt to create energy. Around 0.5% of our waste goes to landfill each year the rest goes here. It's not the perfect solution by any means making it all the more important to reduce, reuse and recycle as much as possible...

One point to note, which is not clear from the information leaflet accompanying the caddys, is that we must NOT add paper or cardboard to the caddys.

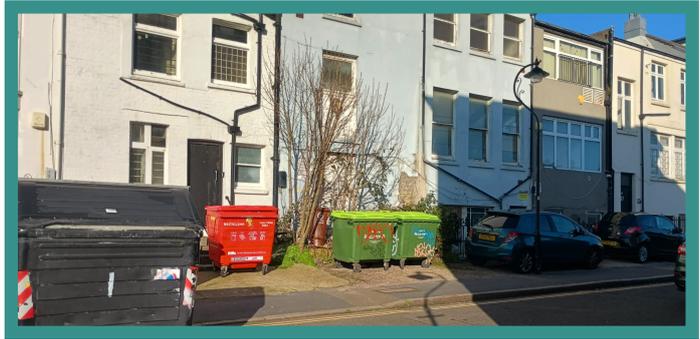
Juliet Evans, BHCC Waste Minimisation Officer can be contacted at juliet.evans@brighton-hove.gov.uk





Clarence Square

Planning permission is still awaited for 31-34 Clarence Square involving the demolition and rebuilding of these properties which are also the rear parts of the Cancer Research and Card Factory shops. Enquiries with Planning elicit that they are still in negotiations around the Clarence Square side. It would be a good outcome if the new development was built up to the pavement and got rid of the scrappy land occupied by bins and fly tipping. Two doors down 36-37 Clarence Square is also down for demolition and rebuild and planning permission has been granted. This will leave the smaller hearing aid shop and its rear part sandwiched between the new buildings - not an ideal outcome.

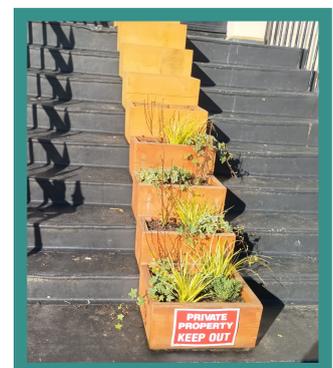


Driving on Pavements

The Committee have been in contact with the Council about the disabled parking on the yellow lines in the area of 33-38 Clarence Square as cars and especially taxis are driving on the pavement so they can pass the parked cars more speedily putting pedestrians at risk. The Council have agreed to mark the curbstones on both sides with yellow paint to signify "No Loading" which will remove the right of Blue Badge holders to park on this small strip of road.

Anti Social Behaviour

Residents on the north side who have been plagued in the warmer months by teenagers sitting on their steps, under age drinking, smoking and generally being loud and anti social have installed planters and a "Private Property" sign. Hopefully this will reduce the problem as we move into the summer and give the police an excuse to ask them to move on.





A small panic in Clarence Square the other week



The lamp posts surrounding The Square are painted black and look very good and in keeping with all the black ironwork surrounding the garden and houses but one morning this nearly all changed. A council employee was spotted painting the black lamp posts a sort of light green !! It wasn't even a good 'green' it looked like it might have been an undercoat or something to do with trolls !

When confronted by a concerned resident he said he was repainting all lamp posts in The Square in 'Brighton Green'. Brighton Green ?? Why was the Council changing the colour from black ? Was the Council intending to change the colour of all the ironwork in The Square ? As suddenly as he appeared he then disappeared and it was noticed that the lamp posts on the north side of The Square were still black. What is going on?

An email was sent to the Council asking why they had decided to change the colour of the existing black to green and a reply was almost immediate. Apparently this work should not have happened, it was an error and they would

be round again to correct the problem. Sure enough a week or so later, on a Saturday morning, another Council employee appeared with his paint brush and this time reinstated the black paint to the lamp posts and restored The Square to normality. Bizarre but true

A PUB QUIZ

Pull & Pump

Every other Sunday 5pm QUIZ - let's get a Regency Squares Community team together.

Email us at QUIZ@regencybrighton.com if you'd like to join in.

Next quiz will be **Sunday March 15th** at **5pm**. Let us know if you'd like to be part of our team.



March 2026



NEW ARTIST SPACE

The Arches Vault



42-43 Kings Road Arches

Click on the heading above or the image below and scroll to the end of the page online to learn more about this exciting new art space in the Arches.

The Vault is a bold, inclusive space for sustainable production, ethical sales, and community-rooted creative

practice, all led by artists. Backed by Brighton Dome, Sussex University, and Hove Council, this space is part of a 10-year lease to reshape how culture happens in Brighton, from the ground up.

As writing the sun is out and Christmas is well and truly fading from memory but our annual Christmas Tree light up, free flight and social at Drift was such a highlight of 2025. Many neighbours and friends stayed on for drinks, chats and snacks afterwards which was really encouraging as our efforts to grow a community proceed.

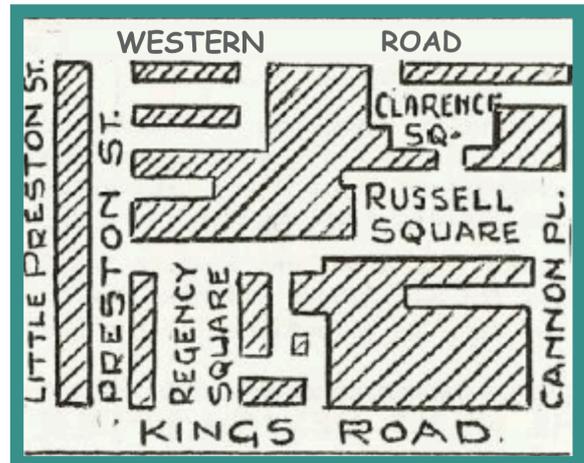
Sadly it may have been the last Christmas Tree we see in Regency Square. We have received no offers of sponsorship so RSC funds were used to pay for it for the second year running - not financially sustainable. The i360 very helpfully provided the lights and put it up for us but the lights were vandalised beyond repair and we would be unable to ask them to provide them again. We need 20 local businesses to contribute £30 before next Christmas to fund the Tree and even researching and finding those sponsors is a tough job for our small committee. We have appealed for help with the Committee and tree funding in past newsletters to no avail. Is there anybody out there?





Is there anybody out there?

Please let us know if there are any items of interest or issues to be discussed before the next newsletter. We would love a little more engagement from our members. Especially reports from other areas. Regency Squares Community covers the seafront arches either side of the i360 and all these other streets and squares in this map.



Come to our social at Drift

Fran, Sue, Ani and Nigel will be meeting regularly for a drink on the **second Thursday** of each month from **17:00 - 20:00** at Drift. Please join us to have a chat, laugh, moan and get to know your neighbours.

Drift

Next meet **Thursday April 9th 17:00.**



Join our Gardening Group?

Sue Dawes will regularly be gardening in Regency Square on **Tuesday and Saturday mornings from 11am**. We do need more help in the garden and would be happy to run more sessions. If you are interested please let us know so we can arrange days of the week/time of day which might suit you better. Email us RSC@regencybrighton.com

Your Input Matters!

What would you like to see happening within your local community? If you have ideas, questions, or feedback, please let us know. Together, we can make our squares and community spaces thrive. Thanks for your support.

WhatsApp group

Send your mobile number to RSC@regencybrighton.com and we will send you a link.

RSC Committee consists of:

- Fran Coates - Regency Square
- Sue Dawes - King's Road
- Ani Watson - Clarence Square
- Nigel Massey - Clarence Square

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• **NB!** [Please do not confuse us, Regency Squares Community, with “Friends
• of Regency Square”. This “Friends” offshoot group is not affiliated with
• Regency Squares Community and we do not endorse the views and ideas
• expressed in their newsletters.]
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