



## Regency Square Area Society

**NEWSLETTER 119**  
**September 1996**

### Parking Problems

If you own a car then you will probably be well aware of the problems of trying to park in this area. Even if you have a resident's permit it is often difficult if not impossible to find a space.

This is partly because non residents park in resident spaces. This is illegal between 9 am and 6 pm except on Sundays but many people get away with it. For example, a car from one of our European neighbours was parked on a resident space from Friday evening until 7 pm on the following Saturday recently. It did not receive a ticket although at least one warden was seen to walk past.

Illegal parking is not the only problem. The restricted hours themselves are wrong. Why should residents only have reserved spaces between 9 am and 6 pm and not on Sundays? This is a busy area all the time - often more so on Sunday or in the evenings than on a weekday.

Resident restrictions should apply at all times.

### What is to be done ?

The committee recently had a meeting with local councillor, Nimrod Ping, who himself lives in Regency Square.

He told us that the Council has increased the number of resident spaces, without increasing the total number of on-street spaces. There is currently a 3 month waiting list for permits with 8 people on the list.

### Fiercer wardens ?

He was sympathetic to our complaints about the lack of action by parking wardens. In London boroughs wardens are now controlled by the local authority rather than the police; this appears to have led to more rigorous enforcement. This is not possible at present in Brighton but perhaps the law will change after the new unitary authority of Brighton and Hove comes into force next year.

Meanwhile the Society has written to the police (again) to ask for more rigorous enforcement of resident restrictions.

### Cheaper car parks ?

Standard life, who are re-developing Churchill Square have suggested that they will make the car parks much more attractive and cheaper. This would reduce the demand for on street parking.

Councillor Ping welcomed the idea of more attractive and safer car parks. However, the Council is opposed to cheaper parking because they want to prevent more cars being attracted into the town centre.

Pollution levels are already extremely high. Council policy is to encourage visitors to use park and ride or to travel by train. The scheme to improve the area in Queens Road near the station is part of this policy. In the longer term it may even be possible to develop a tramway linking the station to the shopping area and the seafront.

### Longer resident restrictions ?

Another possible way of improving things for residents would be to increase the hours during which restrictions applied. Councillor Ping was supportive of this idea.

The Society has written to the local authority to propose an increase to 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

### Fund-raising News

The final total amount raised for the Regency Square Improvement Fund at our recent quiz night was £140.

Plans are now in hand for a prize draw. Full details in the next issue.

### What will Churchill Square Look Like ?

We reported in the last issue that we had expressed concern to the Council about the new enlarged buildings proposed for the top of Cannon Place opposite the Prince of Wales pub.

Ours was one of a number of objections and as a result the developers have agreed to revert to the previously approved scheme.

## Would you like a pint in the Pull and Pump ?

The Compass pub in Clarence Gardens has been the source of some problems for nearby residents in the recent past.

Plans are now being made to improve the appearance of the pub and to tidy up the outdoor seating area.

It will become a more traditional English pub called the Pull and Pump.

## 33% interest

No - it's not bad news for mortgage borrowers - it's the percentage of people who were interested enough to reply to the Council's questionnaire asking for ideas about how to improve our local squares.

300 questionnaires were distributed and 100 replies were received. By normal opinion poll standards this is a very good response.

Council officers are now analysing the results. There will then be a meeting at which we will be represented to consider proposals.

## Scratched heads in Russell Square

Big things are happening in Cannon Place. The new traffic scheme involves a small roundabout at the end of Russell Square.

As a result the pavement has been re-built and a rather odd looking gap has appeared between the pavement and the railings. In fact it is potentially quite dangerous since someone could slip off the pavement and injure their ankle.

We raised the problem with the Council who have agreed that the present arrangement is not acceptable. They have assured us that the contractors responsible are "formulating a solution".

No solution has yet appeared but men in hard hats have been seen nearby scratching their heads.

## Tesco or not Tesco ?

We wrote recently to Standard Life to encourage them to reach agreement with Tesco for a store in the new Churchill Square shopping mall.

In their reply they say that they have not been able to reach agreement because Tesco want access to Western Road and that part of the site is already fully let.

However, they do describe the situation as "fluid" and emphasise that they are still open to discussion with Tesco or other food retailers. They also point out that Tesco may well find a suitable property in Western Road itself during the re-development period.

### SOCIETY CONTACTS

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## Have You Paid Your Sub ?

If there is a cross in the box below it means your subscription for the current year is outstanding.

The Society needs to maintain its membership numbers if it is to be able to influence the local authority. Please support us by keeping your subscription up to date.

## Membership Renewal Form

The subscription rates shown below are the minimum payable for membership. If you are able to give more, please do. You can give a donation for general Society funds or for the Regency Square Improvement Fund which is reserved specifically for environmental improvements.

To Gail Simons, 28 Regency Square, Brighton.

I would like to renew my membership of the Regency Square Area Society for the year 1996/97 in the category ticked below:

	£
Ordinary member	3.00
Family	3.50
Senior Citizen	2.50
Junior	1.00
Associate (non-resident)	2.50
Business (non-resident)	5.50

Optional donation: £ \_\_\_\_\_ for Society funds OR Regency Sq Improvement Fund (delete one)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Cheques payable to the Regency Square Area Society please.

A cross in the box means your sub is due !

