



NEWSLETTER 271 JUNE 2012

67 PRESTON STREET IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION?

The buildings at the corner of Preston Street and Regency Square have been derelict for years - but everything is in place for a big improvement! There are plans for restoring the exterior to something like its original state, and to convert the ground floor and basement into a bar and restaurant.

But the developer also wants to convert the rest of the building into six bed sits with 2 bathrooms!

We have a concern that bedsitters in old buildings can lead to long term structural damage - and the risk of fire and other damage is much greater. Please look at the planning application - BH2012/00329-330.

If you would like to comment, email guy.everest@brighton-hove.gov.uk. Your comment needs to be received in the next week and must include your name and full address to be lodged.

WEST LAINE WHAT IS IN A NAME?

As you may have read in the Argus Jason Kitkat (leader of Brighton and Hove Council) is keen to regenerate our area. In order to identify the area he has suggested naming it. One of the proposed names is the West Laine (historically this area was known by this name Laine meaning "arable land at the foot of a hill"), this area includes Churchill Square, North up to Upper North Street, West along past Montpelier Road to Norfolk Road then South down to the sea front. The committee met with Jason to discuss the council's plans for the city and our area in particular. The city plans are on view for us all to look at at the Town Hall. Jason is confident that the i360 will go ahead and will take 16 months to complete along with the regeneration of that area, with the arches being opened for small businesses.

NO TO ACCESS

The proposal to access Clarence Square from Western Road has been turned down. The proposal to prevent Russell Square and Clarence Square residents from getting caught in the tail back s from visitors to the car park in Cannon Place has been turned down because the camera located at the entrance to Clarence Square from Western Road does not have number recognition and as this access is prohibited to cars this would be impossible to manage.

Society Contacts:

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✉ ☎

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REFURBISHMENTS

As is evident from the noise and portakabins on Regency square, the refurbishment has started. One of our members was very concerned about the damage the portakabins may do to the square. The Society has contacted the contractors and have been assured that they are not sitting on the grass so will not do damage. They have also said they will be painting the railings around the square (not the hooped railings around the top garden, the committee are still talking to the council about this!) once they have finished the refurbishments.

The gates to the North East end of Regency square and the other gates to the top garden are being replaced and repaired imminently.

You may have noticed that the damaged railings to Russell Square have now been repaired.

MEMBERS REMEMBERED

Andrew Walker

We are sad to report the death last month of Andrew Walker.

Andrew lived in Chartwell Court and was a member of the Society for many years. In his younger years he worked as a journalist with the BBC World Service. He joined the Society committee in 1998 as

Secretary. In 2002 he moved to the job of Treasurer which he did until 2008.

Those who worked with him on the committee will remember his calm and competent dedication to the job in hand, whatever it might be.

He will also be remembered for his part in the Society's Millennium local history project. He researched the history of the immediate area in which he lived. He discovered that what is now a modern

Shopping centre had previously been a closely knit local community.

The results of his research were published in a beautifully illustrated book called "Churchill Square revisited, a lost Brighton community". Andrew made no secret of his own views about the changes in the area when he wrote: "The North Laine has shown M what can be achieved when streets are rescued from the developers. What is now Churchill Square might, with a little modernisation, have become an equally interesting area."

Our thoughts are with Andrew's family at this time of loss.

KEN KENNAR

Ken's family and friends held a remembrance event in Russell Square where a bench is being erected in Ken's memory.



The committee has become increasingly concerned by the anti social behaviour of some dog owners. A few are spoiling it for the many. Large dogs being let off leashes worrying both people and other dogs, dog mess not being picked up and disposed of properly. The committee have invited the Dog Warden to attend the committee's next meeting to discuss these issues and to ask what they can do to help us with this problem



THE BIG DAMP LUNCH!

Bank Holiday Tuesday's picnic was rained off after just a short period. About 20 people saw the Round Table choir belting out some patriotic songs in Regency Square's top garden, before the rain came down and sent us all scurrying for shelter. The committee had also arranged for a fabulous guitarist to play for us which was cancelled. It was felt that should we have better weather this summer we will try and arrange another musical meet-up in our wonderful top garden.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



GENTLE WALK AND AFTERNOON TEA AT Stanmer House Sunday 24th June at 2pm.

Contact Julie White if you would like to come so we can book afternoon tea. Julie is on 01273 710906.

This is a great opportunity to see the refurbishments of Stanmer House.

The Patient by Agatha Christie at Brighton Little Theatre July 26th. If you would like tickets please phone Julie White on 01273 710906 before Thursday July 12th

M AND M TOURS 2012

16TH June GADS HILL PLACE AND HISTORIC ROCHESTER £32

5th July STOWE HOUSE AND GARDENS £33(NT) £41 (NON NT)

12TH August PETWORTH HOUSE AND UPPARK £33(NT) £51(NON NT)

16th September ANNE OF CLEAVES HOUSE AND IGHTHAM MOTE £prices between £24 - £35

21st October CROSSNESS PUMPING STATION AND THE CUTTY SARK £42

For information and booking call Martin Foster on 01273 729998 or mobile 077751 659066

cmpfestival6 july 6–22 2012

The sixth Clifton Montpelier Powis Festival is a community arts festival that began in 2007 as a celebration of the literary and cultural heritage of the Montpelier and Clifton Hill Conservation area. It is run by the community organisation for the area, the Clifton Montpelier Powis Clifton Montpelier Powis Alliance and takes place in two city centre churches - St Nicholas' and St Michael's and All Angels. The festival taps into an extraordinary wealth of local talent, as well as attracting writers and performers with national reputations from further afield.

www.cmpcaonline.org.uk for full event details