

**NEWSLETTER 313  
June 2017**

**Date for your diary**

**11 September Boat Trip 12.45pm**

Join Society members and friends for a 45-minute trip along the wonderful Brighton coastline. See the city from a different perspective. Everyone welcome.



Cost £8.50 (children aged 12 months - 15 years, £6.50)

Meet at noon at the west (city) end of the Marina Boardwalk (between *The Master Mariner* pub and the gangway down to Ross Boat Trips).

Pay on the day - but please contact Suzanne Hinton (details overleaf) if you are interested.

Newsletter sponsored and printed by

**MBE MAIL BOXES ETC.**

- Print & Copy
- Office Services
- Stationery
- Packing & Shipping
- Packing Materials
- Post & Parcels

Tel: 01273 70 60 20 • www.mbebrighton.co.uk  
Email: print@mbbrighton.co.uk • 91 Western Road, Brighton, BN1 2NW

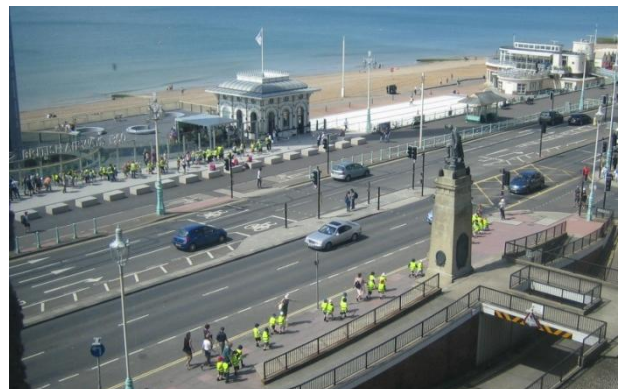
**Everyone loves Regency Square**

It was fun to see a huge party of overseas students tucking into their boxes of fish and chips. It was hilarious to see how terrified they all were of the marauding seagulls who had scented the chips from yards away. How girls can scream ... in any language!



Even better. They left not a scrap of litter behind them.

And here was a crocodile that anyone could smile at as excited local schoolchildren made their way to their end-of-term free ride on the i360.



**Everyone loves Regency Square?**

Motorcyclist do. Skateboarders do. The free runners do. It is probably one or more of the above groups who have been causing considerable damage to an element of the hard landscaping in the Square.



**Planning applications**

**9 Clarence Gardens (The Little Theatre):** The Society supported the Theatre's application to extend their facilities. The only minor objection was to a "light box" at roof level which would dominate tiny Clarence Gardens.



A resident of the Gardens gave a presentation along these lines to the Planning Committee. Despite that, the whole scheme was approved with no restrictions on hours during which the "light box" could be illuminated.



**i360 Security Canopy:** Tucked away in a huge list of amendments to the original planning permission granted to the i360 was the small item of the 'security canopy' next to the ticket office.

The City's Planning Committee approved the whole application, but applied 61 conditions.

Of those 61 conditions, only one relates to the security canopy. It merely states that no illuminated signs may be attached to the canopy.

The Society's view is that the security shelter destroys the elegant symmetry of the upper deck of the i360.

The Society is also concerned that the green screen at the back of the shelter obscures an iconic view of the West Pier. This screen does not even blend in with the sponsor's, British Airways, colour scheme.



*West Pier - now you see it, now you don't*

The Committee has therefore written to Mr Marks and Ms Barfield, the architects, to point out the damage caused to their original design.

**22 Regency Square:** The danger that the balcony of this property might collapse into the street has gone. We are now left with hideous scaffolding - can the City Council really do nothing to protect a heritage square?

**20 Regency Square:** On the other side of the road, the owner of No. 20 has already improved the appearance

of his property greatly. He has now applied to open up the side door of the property with a sympathetic "heritage-style" door.

The application is also to replace rather scruffy basement windows with timber sashes and includes the conversion of two bedsits into a one-bedroom flat. The Society wholeheartedly supports this application.

**2 Clarence Square:** Application to convert part of the ground floor shop area into a one bedroom flat.

The Society supports this application. Clarence Square suffers from anti-social behaviour. This is partly because the properties on the north side have, for many years, been uncared-for dumping grounds for shops in Western Road.

However, things are looking up with, for example, the development of flats at 23 Clarence Square. More residential property in the north of the square should lead to a general improvement of the area.

### **Anti-social behaviour in Clarence Square**

Residents of Clarence Square, with the support of the City Council, have been very active in locking the gates to the garden at dusk. Despite some after-hours intrusion into the garden, on the whole this has worked well to reduce anti-social behaviour.

### **Anti-social behaviour in St Margaret's Place**

It's not only youngsters that can be a nuisance to others. Anti-social parking is a growing problem, as is the use of small streets by increasingly large vehicles.

In the 1970s, delivery vehicles serving the Metropole Hotel were considerably smaller than those accessing the Metropole via St Margaret's Place today.



*Large vehicle accessing Metropole Exhibition Halls June 2017*

Today, vehicles are bigger. For that reason and (possibly) for health and safety reasons, very few delivery vehicles enter the loading bay. They tend to park and unload in the street. Loading bays have been moved and general chaos has ensued to the disadvantage of local residents.

If you spot anti-social parking anywhere in the city, it is easy to report it to the City Council.. Take the vehicle's number and where it is, then phone **0345 603 5469** or fill in the form on the Council's website: <https://tinurl.com/va9xev4r>

### **Society Contacts**

Acting Chair: Diana Dunn

✉ [dianafdunn@googlemail.com](mailto:dianafdunn@googlemail.com)

Treasurer: Nicola Floyd ☎ 078 3352 7270

✉ [nicola.floyd@yahoo.com](mailto:nicola.floyd@yahoo.com)

Secretary: Suzanne Hinton ☎ 01273 321794

✉ [s@hinton.clara.net](mailto:s@hinton.clara.net)