

The Regency Society of Brighton & Hove

ANNUAL REPORT 2004

www.regencysociety.org

President

The Duke of Grafton KG FSA

Vice Presidents

Rt. Hon. Lord Briggs FBA Sir John Kingman FRS

Chairman

Gavin Henderson CBE

Vice Chairmen

Derek Granger Peter Rose FSA Dr. Ian Dunlop MBE John Wells-Thorpe OBE Dr. Michael Ray

Honorary Secretary

John Small FRIBA FRSA

Honorary Treasurer

Stephen Neiman

Committee Secretary

Dinah Staples

Executive Committee

Elaine Evans (Hove Civic Society representative) Rupert Radcliffe-Genge/Sarah Gibbings

Nick Tyson

David Beevers

Peter Bareham

Selma Montford

Audrey Simpson

Duncan McNeill

Jackie FitzGerald

Eileen Hollingdale

Dr. Elizabeth Darling

The Regency Society of Brighton and Hove

ANNUAL REPORT 2004

hese are challenging, and potentially exciting, times for the new City of Brighton and Hove – especially in terms of the built environment. For a small, essentially voluntary, organisation such as the Regency Society – charged with representing particular interests of the community in matters of planning and conservation – the reality is demanding in the extreme. Our very title is confusing; we came into being, nigh on sixty years ago, to protect the great Regency heritage of the two towns of Brighton and Hove, with an especial quest to support the restoration of the Royal Pavilion. There have been some tragic losses 'en route' – the Central Schools in Church Street must never be forgotten, but by and large we can claim to have succeeded, and today our 'Regency' tag attaches to matters of detail. I do not mean to trivialise such responsibilities, for as they say, the 'devil is in the detail', and there have been many examples in which attention to detail has been of crucial concern (notably Marlborough House, which is at last being restored – even if its future use gives rise for continued anxiety).

As the years have rolled on, the Society has embraced a much wider remit, as indeed the general movement as far as conservation is concerned has broadened. Brighton is especially rich in Victorian architecture, notably in a range of fine churches which compare in their own way with the circuit of churches one might trail in cities like Florence and Venice, for instance. No-one would doubt the importance of the great renaissance churches of such Italian cities, which aside from their sacred function play an immeasurable role in the enhancement of tourist interest on aesthetic grounds. The Victorian churches of Brighton and Hove might well, in time, stimulate similar interest. But time is not on our side; we have been expecting the diocesan report on the future of the city's Anglican churches imminently. Whatever is contained therein, we know that the future of many of these churches is uncertain; this will in all probability become a major issue for the Society.

In more recent times, the Regency Society has adopted a vital role in advising on planning issues concerning new build. Some may hold that this is not our business, others believe that this is perhaps the most important function that we now face; we intend to hold an E.G.M. in the autumn, so that members can join in discussing our mission and constitution. The City is burgeoning with many new schemes for dynamic development. Much of it is controversial, as indeed so much of what we now regard as significant aspects of our heritage was the stuff of vigorous dispute when first proposed. Our City is defined within a relatively narrow coastal strip; quite rightly, the downland to our rear is protected against development. As with cities such as Hong Kong and Bombay, and to a certain extent New York, we can only go up, or reclaim land from the sea (as with the Marina). All such proposals will be contentious, bitterly so, and unanimity of opinion – even within the committee and membership of a Society such as ours – will be difficult, if not impossible to achieve. We are, however, determined to play our part in seeking to establish the best possible contemporary architecture to take forward the tradition of originality established with the Royal Pavilion, and upheld at various stages since.

The year past has seen some real cause for celebration – most recently with the new Jubilee Library, at long last a reality. The City Council (and the Borough Council before it) are to be congratulated on sticking firmly to a brief that has brought about a fine new building. The saga of the Jubilee Street site has triggered so much anxiety over so many years, and the absence of a purpose built library has been an invidious shuttlecock between town and county over years of local government exchange. Compromise might well have brought us an anonymous utility structure; but compromise has been resisted. Let this be

an example for future policy of public building in the city – with the schools for instance (no idle remark this – for great opportunity exists, and the reports are worrying – as the headmaster would say '...could try harder'). Like it or loathe it, and feelings run in equal measure, we have some distinguished architects working on plans for high-rise blocks at either end of the City. High-rise is inevitable, but we do need to have a coherent plan and policy as to how it should be focused – someone once said that we should think of clusters of tall buildings like a 'vase of tulips'. We are still some way from agreeing such a happy notion.

There has, of course, been much cause for dismay. Whatever one's views about the issue of 'enabling development' – the series of catastrophes that have brought about the tragic destruction of the West Pier is frankly unbelievable. The attitude of both English Heritage and of the Heritage Lottery Fund is pusillanimous. To revert to Venice is an example – the glorious Fenice Theatre was destroyed by fire; nothing at all was left. This year saw that fine opera house reopened after fastidious rebuilding. It had been a similar saga of intrigue, of accusations (and indeed prosecutions) for arson. The mafia were implicated, funds donated were purloined for other purposes, and contractors were engaged and dismissed. Many said that what was needed was as a totally new opera house of the 21st century. Dogged affection, love and determination brought the Fenice back to life. But everyone knew what it was for: opera. The problem with the West Pier, in my view just as important an architectural gem as the Fenice theatre, is that no one was able to give clear views of its future use. Let us not forget that what we lost to storms and fires in recent years, was originally a theatre and concert hall, and truly a 'peoples' palace'.

The Society has enjoyed a series of excellent talks and discussions over the winter season, and our thanks must go to David Beevers who has helped in arranging this series and we have been pleased to have use of the Old Market for many of these occasions. We do hope to make these events more of a social occasion, which the bar at the Old Market has assisted!

Our website is now a very active means of updated communication, for which our thanks are due to Duncan McNeill, and from which he is able to distil news and features for the Regency Review. Michael Ray works assiduously as chair of our Planning Sub-committee, and our various committees are recorded in the fastidious minutes of Dinah Staples. We are gradually bringing together a more accurate record of membership, and better communication with members, thanks to the work of Jackie Fitzgerald as Membership Secretary. This year was the first for Stephen Neiman as Treasurer, who is now working on a more structured plan for future budgeting. We will soon have our records and archives collected from various sources, to be housed in premises very generously donated by Alan Baker, to which we will be able to add the stirling research which Eileen Hollindale has undertaken vis-à-vis the commemorative plaques. Another summer study tour, sold out well in advance, will soon depart for the Bath area, thanks to the meticulous planning of Stella Mercer. Soon we will be able to gather once again for our summer party in the 'Secret Garden' thanks to the generosity of Yvonne Dale (Saturday 18 June 2005). I am indebted to both Peter Rose and Michael Ray for acting as Vice-Chairmen, and regret that my own professional commitments force me to be away more than I would wish. The Committee members all give freely of their time, and they are to be thanked for their devoted service to the Society.

Finally, as ever, our deepest gratitude must go to John Small – our Secretary – without whom we would be at a total loss. His commitment, wisdom, and good humour is the backbone of the Regency Society.

Gavin Henderson, Chairman, March 2005.

Derek Sherborn

Derek Sherborn, a former vice-chairman of the Society, died in July 2004 and his obituary appeared in Regency Review Issue 10.

Committee Changes

Selma Montford and David Beevers joined the committee in May, having been elected at the AGM in 2004. Stephen Neiman joined the Committee as Treasurer soon after the 2004 AGM.

Commemorative Plaques

Our first publication resulting from Eileen Hollingdale's extensive research consists of illustrated colour brochures providing short descriptions of the people commemorated on plaques which can be seen on three central city trails. This was launched at a meeting in St. Andrew's church, Waterloo Street, followed a few days later by the first guided walks which were led by Michael Ray, Rupert Radcliffe-Genge and Sarah Gibbings.

Free copies of the brochures have been donated by the Society for distribution from libraries and tourist advice centres. Meetings with Councillor Sue John, Deputy Leader of the City Council, and Adam Bates, Head of Tourism, are being held to discuss the future programme.

Storage Space for the Society's Archives

During the year negotiations were concluded to take over some basement storage space in Regency Square, which was given to us by Alan Baker, a former committee member. The space is located in a building in Regency Square and the associated legal negotiations with the freeholder were protracted. However, there should not be any further costs and some additional shelving has already been donated by another member. Both Ian Dunlop's and John Wells-Thorpe's society papers have already been installed. The Committee has appointed Eileen Hollingdale to act as voluntary archivist and she is poised to start cataloguing the papers.

Summer Study Tour

An illustrated report of the visit to East Anglia based at Norwich was included in Regency Review Issue 10.

Summer Visits

Visits in June to Saint Hugh's Monastery and to London were devised and led by Professor David Robson and were reported in Regency Review Issue 10. (Having regard for the mixed reception locally to proposals for new tall buildings in Brighton & Hove it was a pity that only very few members attended the visit to London, which was specifically arranged to see tall buildings in various contexts and also a number of buildings designed by Piers Gough)

Summer Party

Once again the summer party in Yvonne Dale's secret Kemptown garden was a huge success with over a hundred members and friends attending. A quartet from the Brighton Youth Orchestra provided music in the evening sunshine. A very enjoyable interlude – thanks once more to Yvonne Dale's generosity.

John Small, Secretary. March 2005

Membership

As at 31 March 2005, there were 315 ordinary members of the Society, 130 life members and 4 corporate/group members.

Members in good standing are listed below.

Ordinary Members

Α

Ms. S.Adams
Mr. R.Addison
Ms. P.Allen
The Hon Mrs. B.Allenby
Mr. P.Amos
Mr. M.Antram
Mrs. M.Antram
Ms. J.Assinder
Mr. J.M.Ayles
Mrs. D.Ayles
Mr. J.Ayles
Mrs. D.Ayles
Mrs. D.Ayles

В

Mr. N.Badshah Mr. R.Baker Mr. W.Baker MBE Ms. P.Barber Mr. P.Bareham Mrs. P.Bareham Mrs. J.Barrington Mr. Bennett Mrs. L.D.Bennett Mr. K.Bergin Ms. B.Biedermann Ms. M.Black Dr. C.Black Mrs. D.Black Ms. S.Bond Mr. A.Bongarzoni Mrs. V.Booker Mr. C.I.L.Booker Mrs. E.B.Booker Mr. R.Booth

Mrs. J.Booth

Mr. F.Boulden
Mrs. R.Boulden
Mrs. S.Bradshaw
Ms. M.Brand
Mrs. C.Briggs
Mr. D.Brogan
Mr. B.Brooks
Mr. B.Brooks
Mrs. G.Brooks-Herrington
Ms. J.Brough
Mr. W.Brown
Mrs. W.Brown
Mrs. E.Brunt
Mr. P.Bryant
Mr. M.Buckley

C

Dr. M.Budleigh

Mr. R.Capstick

Mr. R.Carr
Mr. B.Chibnall
Mrs. J.Chibnall
Mrs. L.Clarke
Mrs. V.Clutterbuck
Mr. R.Coleman
Ms. J.Collins
Mr. A.Cornelius
Mrs. B.Cornelius
Mrs. J.Coryton
Mr. E.Coskry
Ms. S.Craig
Mr. I.Crossman
Mrs. C.Crossman
Mrs. C.T.Cummings

D

Mrs. A.Daltrop
Dr. E.Darling
Mr. C. N.G.Dawes
Mr. A.Dawson
Mrs. S.de Coverly Veale
Mrs. A.Dean
Ms. D.Dear
Ms. S.Dench
Mr. H.Doyne-Ditmas
Mrs. J.Doyne-Ditmas
Mrs. J.Drummond
Mr. C.Dunman
Ms. S.Dunsmure

E

Ms. H.Easton-Street Mrs. D.Eaton Mr. R.Edwards Mr. V.Ellis Mrs. M.Ellis Mr. R.Eveleigh

F

Mr. S.Fanshawe Mr. I.Farrell The Revd.R.Fayers Mr. A.Felton Mr. S.V.Finn Mr. M.Fisher Mrs. J.Fitzgerald Ms. D.Forester Mr. K.Francis Mrs. P.Francis Mrs. C.Franklin Ms. I.Fuller

G

Mr. H.Gardam Mr. M. LeGarst Mr. R.Gasson Mrs. C.Gee Ms. S.Gibbings Mr. K.Gilbert Lady Rosula Glyn Mr. D.Granger Mrs.G.Greenwood Mr. J.D.Gwyn

Н

Mr. M.Hague Mr. J.Halsall Ms. V.Hardy Mr. G.Hasanic Dr. G.Hatcher Mrs. R.Hatcher Mr. C.Hawtree Mr. R.J.Hayes Mrs. H.Hayler Mr. R.Hedger Mrs.S.Henderson Mr. W.Hendy Mrs. G.Hendy Mr. J.Henman Ms. I. Heppard Mr. S.Hicks Ms. A.Hinkley Mr. R.Hinton Mrs. S.Hinton Mr. J.Hird Ms. J. Hoffman Ms. H.Holford Ms. N.Holmes Ms. M.Hooper Mr. C.Horlock Ms. G.Hosack Ms. R.B.Houghton Mrs. L.Houghton Mr. K. Hughes Mr. I.Hunt Ms. J. Hunting Ms. S. Hutchinson

Revd. Preb.G.Irvine Ms. R.Irvine Ms. S.Isaacson Mr. S.Ives

J

Ms. H.James Mr. M.Jamieson Ms. C.Jamshidian Ms. C.M.Jarman Ms. L.Jarrett Mr. J.Jenkins Mrs. V.Jenkins

K

Mrs. E.Kaye Mr. L.Keen Mrs. W.I.King Mr. P.Kinna Ms. V.Kippaax Mrs. C.Knowles Ms. R.Kolesar

L

Mrs. R.Lapage Mr. J.Laslett Mr. K.Leeson Mr. B.Leigh Mrs. T.Lewis Mrs. H.Liwicki Mr. L.Lobo Mrs. S.Lobo Ms. A.Lobo Dr. R.C.Lucas Mr. R.Lynch-White Mrs. R.Lynch-White Mr. D.Lyon Mr. T.Lyttelton

M

Mr. I. Mackie

Dr. S.Macoun Mrs. S.Macoun Ms. I.M.Malcolm Mr. I.Marsh Mrs. S.Marsh Mrs. I.Marsh-Hobbs Mrs. F.Matthews Mrs. M.McCall Mr.K.McCall Mr. A.McGuffog Mr. W.McIlroy Ms. H.McKay Mr. I.McKean Mr. D.McNeill Mrs. D.McNeill Mr. A.Mercer Mrs. S.Mercer Mr. R.Mercer Mrs. F.Mercer Revd. A.Millyard Mr. R. Minton Mr. N.Mitchell Ms. S. Mockford Dr. R.Moffat Mrs. B.G. Moffat Mr. A.Montford Mrs. S.Montford Mr. R. Morfield Mrs. R.Morfield Mr. C.Morley Ms. A.Moss Dr. Vassilis Mr. M.Mouratoglou Mr. A.Mower

Ν

Dr. L.M.Nakajima Mr. S.Neiman Mr. R.Nemeth Mr. C.Noonan Dr. M.Norman

0

Mrs. A.Ore Mr. D.Orlans Ms. C.Oxenbury

P

Ms. C.Page Mr. M.Page Mrs. I.Page Mrs. G.Palmer Mr. W.Parker Mr. R.Parsons Ms. R.Payne Mrs. M.Pearson Mr. R.Pennington Mr. S.Perry Mrs. R.Perry Ms. M.Pickerill Mr. M.Pierson Mrs. M.Pierson Ms. E.Plumb Ms. I.V.Pollard Mr. N.Porter Mrs. N.Porter

R

Mr. R.Radcliffe-Genge Mrs. I.Ranger Mr. A.Raven Mrs. D.Raven Dr. M.Ray Mrs. M.Ray Mrs. E.Ray Ms. V.Raynar-Smith Dr. I.Rees Mrs. R.Rees Mrs. K.Reeves Mr. J.Remers Mrs. P.Remers Mrs. S.Rickards Mr. P.Ridler Mrs. M.Ridler Mr. D.Rignell Mrs. B.Rignell Mrs. A.Robinson Mr. N.Robinson Mrs. N.Robson Ms S.Rockall Mr. G.Rookledge Mrs. J.Rookledge Mr. P.Rose

S

Mrs. M.Saitch Mrs. M.Saitch Mrs. P.Salmon Mr. M.Salusbury Mrs. H.Salusbury Mr. P.Salusbury Mrs. K.Salusbury Ms. E.Sampson Mrs. R.Samuel Mr. C.J.Sandland MBE Ms. R.Schulman Mr. LScott Mrs. L.Scott Mr. S.Scott Mr. D.Sears Mrs. C.Sears Mrs. J.Seddon Mr. G.Shanley Mr. K.Shaw Mrs. R.Shaw Mr. A. Shtasel Mrs. A.Shtasel Mrs. A.Sleigh Mr. J.Small Mr. J.S.Smith Mr. J.Spink Ms. D.Staples

Mr. G. Smedley-Stevenson
Mr. J.S.Smith
Mr. J.Spink
Ms. D.Staples
Mr. H.Steinhardt
Mrs. V.Steinhardt
Mrs. M.F.Stewart
Dr. |.Stewart

Mr. R.Stiles Mrs. R.Stiles Ms. A.Still

Т

Mrs. F.Tanous Ms. K.Terberger Ms.T.Thompson Mrs. R.Tiltman Mr. N.Tyson

U

Ms. K.Underhill

V

Ms. G.Villermet

W

Dr. H.Walker Mr. R.Watson Mrs. B.A.Watson Mr. I.RWatson Dr. S.Weir Mrs. I.Weir Mrs. M.Wells-Thorpe Ms. H.Weston Mrs. G.Wheatcroft Mr. P.Whiting Ms. N.Willcock Ms. M.Williams Mr. R.Williams Mr. I.Williamson Mrs. H.Williamson Mrs. J.Wrennall

Life members

Ms. M.Wright

A

Mrs. B.Abbott Mr. A.Adams Professor S.Adutt Ms. C.Allen Mrs. M.Anderson Mr. M.Angus Mr. D.Arnold Mr. A.Ashwell Mrs. G.Askew Mr. I.Askew Ms. J.Averill

В

Mrs. M.Bailey
Mrs. J.Baker
Lady E.Barbirolli
Mrs. N.Bath
Ms. A.Beckett
Mr. D.Beevers
Ms. D.Berwick
Mr. R.Betts
Mrs. J.Bodenham
Mrs. M.Broad
Mr. A Bruce
Mr. W.Budd
Mrs. F.Burke
Mr. A.Burrell
Mr. I.Burridge

C

Mrs. V.Cane
Ms. E.Chadwick
Professor D.Chamberlain
Mrs. J.Camberlain
Lady Aline Cholmondeley
His Hon.J.L.C.Clay
Mrs. J.Clay
Mrs. J.Coppack
Mr. S.Corson
Ms. D.Cox

D

Mrs. A.Dale Mr. D.D.Day Mrs. M. de Wergifosse Mr. N.Dennys Dr. I.Dunlop Mrs. U.Dunlop

E

Ms. G.Edwards Mr. D.Elleray Mrs. E.Evans

F

Ms. H.Faulkner Mr. B.Fearn Mrs. G.Fearn Mr. A.Fothergill Capt. E.Frances-Woodruff Mrs. V.French

G

Mr. G.E.Garland Ms. N.Geraghty Mrs. G.Binning Mr. R.E.Gillett Ms. M.Gledhill Mr. J.Gowans The Duke of.Grafton Mrs. E.Graves

Н

Mr. A.Hadley Ms. G.Hariri Ms. M.Hartman Mr. G.Henderson Ms. E.Hollingdale Ms. D.Hudson Ms. R.Hughman

ı

Mr. M.Inglethorpe Mrs. P.Inglethorpe

J

Mr. J.Jefferson Mr. Jones Mrs. Jones

K

Sir J.Kingman Lady Kingman Mr. Kirwan Mrs. Kirwan

L

Ms. E.Lee Mr. M.Lindsay-Hills Mrs. F.Lindsay-Hills Mrs. J.Loraine Mrs. W.Lydall

M

Mrs. J.Martin Mr. E.Mason Ms. P.Mayne Mr. M.Milliken Ms. P. Monahan Mrs. A.Moncrieff Mrs. A.Money Mrs. J.Morgan

Ν

Ms. G.Nepple Mrs. P.Nixon

0

Mr. P.O'Donnell Mrs. A.O'Donnell Lady Olivier Mrs. Orpen Mr. M.Osborne

P

Mrs. S.Perkins Mr. L.Pullum

Q

Mr. P.Quick

R

Mr. D.Radford Mr. J.Rank Mr. V.Rees Mrs. S.Roberts Mr. M.Robins Mr. V.Robinson Professor D.Robson Mrs. G.Rowlands

S

Mr. R.E.G.Sachs Dr. M.Salbstein Mr. L.Sammons Mrs. R.Sanders Mrs. L.Seabrook Ms. V.Shirtliffe Mr. D.Simpson Mrs. A.Simpson Mr. H.Smith Mrs. C.Smith Mr. P.Somerville

T

Mr. L.Thomas Ms. J.Timme Mrs. S.Tiplady Lady HelenTrafford

U

Mr. B.Underwood Mrs. B.Underwood

V

Mr. J.Vokins OBE

W

Mr. R.Webb Mr. J.Wells-Thorpe Mrs. D.Weston Mr. B.Wilsher Mr. N.Worth Dr. E.Wren

Corporate members

Friends of Lewes Lloyds TSB Bank plc Woolley, Bevis & Diplock

Group members

Goldsmid Ward Residents'Association

Subscriptions

Members are notified that subscriptions are due for renewal on the anniversary of the date of joining. Subscriptions are currently £12.50 for one individual; £20.00 for two people living at the same address; student £5.00; life £100.00 or £175 for two; corporate £100.00 per company.

Cheques should be made payable to
The Regency Society and sent to:
The Membership Secretary, The Regency Society,
19, BelleVue Gardens, Brighton BN2 0AA

Please would members who have not yet returned a Gift Aid certificate, which allows the Society to reclaim 28p. in the £1.00 tax, do so as soon as possible.

The Regency Society of Brighton & Hove

Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st December 2004

			2003	
Fixed Assets				
Office Computer	885.00		0.00	
Furniture on loan to the Royal Pavilion (at cost)	1,715.00		1,715.00	
James Gray Photographic Collection	10,000.00	12,600.00	10,000.00	11,715.00
Current Assets				
Investments				
Portman Building Society	37,365.00		35,945.00	
Gilt Edge Stock (net book value)	68,180.00		68,180.00	
National Savings	1,950.00	107,495.00	1,950.00	106,075.00
Bank Accounts		10,264.00	10,450.00	10,450.00
Less Current Liabilities:	Nil		0.00	0.00
Total Assets less Current Liabilities:		130,359.00		128,240.00
Long Term Liabilities:	Nil			
Total Assets less Total Liabilities		130,359.00		128,240.00
Capital and Reserves				
Bank and Society Accounts	12,214.00		10,450.00	
Reserves	116,027.00		115,489.00	
Surplus Carried Forward	2,118.00	130,359.00	2,301.00	128,240.00

Stephen E. Neiman Treasurer 10th. March 2005

Gavin Henderson Chairman 10th. March 2005

The Regency Society of Brighton & Hove

Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31st December 2004

			2003	
INCOME				
Subscriptions	2955.00		3258.00	
Annual Dinner	1842.00		0.00	
Study Tour	8591.00		8412.00	
Summer Trips	429.00		982.00	
Garden Party	684.00		485.00	
Dividend Income	6094.00		5211.00	
Interest Received	1510.00	22105.00	1167.00	19515.00
Less Direct Expenditure				
Annual Dinner	1680.00		0.00	
Study Tour	8544.00		8385.00	
Summer Trip	535.00		0.00	
Lecture Fees and Expenses	2139.00		2256.00	
Garden Party	537.00	13435.00	495.00	11136.00
Grants and Donations				
Royal Pavilion	1666.00		1667.00	
Salvation Army	150.00		0.00	
Dorset Gardens Methodist Church	150.00		0.00	
Norwich Cathedral	75.00		0.00	
Others	0.00	2041.00	1260.00	2927.00
Subscriptions	373.00		236.00	
Printing Plaque Trail Brochures	1325.00		0.00	
Committee Meeting Costs	248.00		222.00	
Storage Costs	840.00		0.00	
Insurance	420.00		420.00	
Printing and Postage	1340.00		2258.00	
Bank Charges	-35.00	4511.00	15.00	3151.00
Surplus		2118.00		2301.00