



The Regency Society  
of Brighton & Hove

ANNUAL REPORT 2007

[www.regencysociety.org](http://www.regencysociety.org)

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Carolyn Oxenbury

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Rupert Radcliffe-Genge

Elaine Evans (*Hove Civic Society representative*)

# The Regency Society of Brighton and Hove

## ANNUAL REPORT 2007

The year has been dominated by the aftermath of the decision made on the contentious King Alfred development shortly before the local election in March 2007. Following the vote at last year's AGM, we took legal advice and we were able to advise the new administration of the City Council that the decision was not a final one. The new Council had the opportunity to look at the planning application again and come to a different conclusion. We were heartened when the Planning Sub-Committee was asked to reconsider the application but our hopes were dashed when the original view that the scheme should be approved, after a secret session, was confirmed. We took further legal advice but, in the end, decided that the financial risks of going for a Judicial Review of the decision without the certainty that the new Council would refuse the application, if it was referred back, were too great. We have continued to pursue the Council on the way in which it dealt with the application. We have sought information under the Freedom of Information Act and asked for the matter to go before the Council's Scrutiny Committee.

These actions have cost the Society a significant amount of money in legal fees but, with a welcome contribution from Hove Civic Society, we were within the £5,000 budget for legal advice, agreed at the last AGM. We remain convinced that it was right to have challenged such a monstrous decision.

The Committee has also recorded its grateful thanks for the hard work of Carolyn Oxenbury and, in respect of Hazel McKay's planning advice and instructing our lawyers, the Committee has paid her an ex gratia payment of £2,000 for her work and expenses.

As the year turned, we have been faced by the proposals for the Asda and Inner Harbour site at the Marina. We are alarmed by the amount of development and its likely impact on the Kemp Town estate and the highway system. An objection has been lodged. We have also objected to the complete demolition of the Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital, believing that some of this well-loved building should be conserved.

On a brighter note, we have been heartened by the new administration's actions to save the seafront Bandstand and the commemorative plaques scheme has begun again after a lull of ten years. We were pleased to make a grant towards the restoration of the interior of St Nicholas, Brighton's old parish church, but we are alarmed about the future of St Peter's church and many other fine City churches threatened with redundancy by the diocesan authorities.

At last, we have been able to review our constitution in the light of the new Charity Act. The hard work on the review has been done by Carolyn Oxenbury, Rupert Radcliffe-Genge and Nigel Robinson. The revised version, as agreed by the Committee, will be put to the AGM for approval.

The year's lecture series organised by David Robson and John McKean has been very successful and we were particularly grateful to Rupert Toovey for sponsoring the Lars Tharp Christmas lecture.

The staff members at our venue, The Old Market, have been unfailingly helpful to us.

Another very pleasurable Summer study tour, this time to Salisbury, was mounted and the 2008 event will be based at Buxton in Derbyshire. We are indebted to Stella and Tony Mercer for all their hard work in arranging these. We are hoping to arrange an Easter trip to Chichester to see the new Pallant Gallery and to hear the St John Passion in the cathedral. Once again we are very grateful to Yvonne Dale for allowing us to use the Secret Garden for another successful Summer party and our thanks are due to Stephen Neiman and Jackie FitzGerald for making all the arrangements.

Like an Oscar winner, I have a whole cast of people to thank. Firstly the unsung heroes and heroines: Natasha Fielden for her superb minutes and Jackie FitzGerald for her calm and cheerful efficiency over the membership list and admission to the lectures. Lavender Jones and Duncan McNeill have now captioned and photographed 16 of the 39 volumes of our James Gray Collection of photographs. These are now on our web site. They provide a wealth of information including many surprises about the past of the City and have been accessed more than 150,000 times by the public.

We owe all the sponsors listed below our grateful thanks.

*Ulla Dunlop*

*Ian Farrell*

*Gavin Henderson*

*Lavender Jones*

*Friends of Irene Mary Laney*

*Frances and Martin Lindsay-Hills*

*Duncan McNeill*

*Anne Moncrieff*

*Phillip Quick*

*Yvonne and Michael Ray*

*The Brighton Society*

*The Regency Society*

*Brighton Books Publishing*

*The Preston and Old Patcham Society*

*The Friends of West Blatchington Mill*

*Anon.*

We are now almost half way there so may I make another appeal to members to help us finish this magnificent project. Duncan's work on the overall design and content of the web site has been exemplary and won much praise.

As well as thanking all the other committee members, I end, as usual, with the officers. Despite continuing poor health, Peter Rose has been very supportive. Stephen Neiman has not only kept our finances in order but he has managed many other tasks for us.

But it is to John Small that I, and we, owe the most. I marvel at his continued enthusiasm and the amount of work that he does for us. All citizens of the City should be grateful for his dedication and commitment.

#### IAN DUNLOP PhD MBE 1925 – 2007 CHAIRMAN 1988 – 1997

Ian Dunlop died on 27 May 2007. He was a past chairman and friend of a large number of our members., many of whom attended his funeral at St John the Baptist church, Hove on 7th June. Ian became chairman at Antony Dale's request in 1988 following the sudden death of Rex Binning and he remained chairman until 1997. Under his chairmanship the fine carpets owned by the society and formerly in the Royal Pavilion were sold and the proceeds invested. The Antony Dale memorial lectures were established in 1993 and he started the negotiations to purchase the James Gray collection of photographs. He personally led all the arrangements of the very successful dinner at the Royal Pavilion to celebrate the society's fiftieth anniversary. The society prospered under his chairmanship and he conducted all its meetings with wit and good humour. Ian particularly enjoyed taking part in the society's study tours – but only provided that they did not clash with the Lord's Test Match – his attendance at which was obligatory. (A fuller appreciation of Ian Dunlop appeared in Regency Review Issue 18, September 2007)

**Michael Ray, Chairman March 2008**

Many of the recent or current planning issues have been reported in the Regency Review and in the chairman's report. One which is about to be decided as this report goes to the printers is the redevelopment of the former Queen Alexandra Hospital for sick children site between Dyke Road and Clifton Hill which has emerged as a planning application during the past year (once temporarily withdrawn, amended and recently re-submitted.) As I am drafting this the planning officer's report on the application has been published and the recommendation to the committee is that planning permission should be refused. This echoes the submissions from English Heritage, the Victorian Society, the Georgian Group, the CAG, the Brighton Society and ourselves that the monstrous demolition of the entire hospital buildings (to create a wholly cleared site) is uncalled for and inappropriate. The overbearing development of flats proposed is insufficiently respectful of the site's dominant position on high ground in the Montpelier and Clifton Hill conservation area. Indeed, such wholesale demolition, as proposed by the major developer/contractor is quite contrary to both national and local conservation planning policies. It is unsurprising that the many amenity societies local to the site are firmly against both the ethos of this domineering development as well as its detailed design.

However, the decision of the current planning applications sub-committee cannot be predicted with any certainty, even though it would seem to be a foregone conclusion. Its record since the local election in May 2007 has been somewhat erratic. The strong and experienced advice which the committee received from the former Development Control manager (lost to the City's planning team with two other competent planning officers in the outfall of the dreadful decision to approve the King Alfred redevelopment proposals in May last year) has not yet been replaced, as the new officer gains experience in guiding the committee.

Concurrently, the city council is about to move into uncharted waters as its new constitution emerges from the dense fog of its previously confidential reports (now being rushed into the public domain. No doubt the council has been placed in an impossible position by the government's determination to abolish the committee structure which it has hitherto operated (almost alone amongst major local planning authorities) but the worst thing to do in an impossible position is to behave impossibly! The committee structure will be replaced next May by the new system of an elected leader, who chooses a cabinet of up to nine members (expected to be from the leader's political group) which then takes all decisions, either singly or collectively. The leader may change the membership of his or her cabinet at any time. This arrangement seems likely to be both less democratic and less appealing to the rump of councillors (some 44 of them) outside the inner circle of leader and cabinet members. Only the Green Party and Liberal Democrats have made any attempt to inform electors about this new structure, which is strongly supported by an unholy alliance of the Conservative and Labour groups in the council. (Those who still retain any faith in local government decision making should cross your fingers now!)

The planning committee, as one of the statutory regulatory committees, remains outside the cabinet decision making process. But, as mentioned above, the committee is relatively inexperienced and is guided by some less experienced officers than were hitherto in place, so it may not be best placed to succeed in its important roles of adopting emerging planning policies and making critical decisions on both major and minor planning applications. (So, keep your fingers crossed!)

On a personal note, I plan to retire as your honorary secretary during the coming year, after almost ten years in post. There are other committee members with greater administrative skills than mine and I trust that before you read our next annual report a new secretary will emerge to assist the chairman in leading the society forward.

## Membership

*As at 1 March 2008, there were 269 ordinary members of the Society, 145 life members and 4 corporate members. Please notify any omissions or corrections to the membership secretary.*

*Members in good standing are listed below.*

## Ordinary Members

### A

Dr. A. Afifi  
Mrs. G. Afifi  
The Hon Mrs. B. Allenby  
Mr. M. Antram  
Mrs. M. Antram  
Mr. E. Atkinson  
Ms. C. Attwood  
Ms. L. Atwell  
Mrs. D. Ayles

### B

Mr A. Baker MBE  
Mr. R. Baker OBE  
Mrs. E.R. Banfield  
Mrs. P. Barber  
Mr. P. Bareham  
Mrs. P. Bareham  
Mr. Bennett  
Mrs. L. Bennett  
Dr. S. Berry  
Mr. P. Berry  
Ms. B. Biedermann  
Dr. C. Black  
Mrs. D. Black  
Mr. K. Bodfish  
Ms. S. Bond  
Mr. A. Bongarzoni  
Mr. R. Booth  
Mrs. J. Booth  
Mr. D. Botibol  
Mrs. S. Botibol  
Mrs. R. Boulden  
Mrs. S. Bradshaw  
Ms. M. Brand  
Mrs. C. Briggs

Mr. D. Brogan  
Mr. B. Brooks  
Ms. J. Brough  
Mrs. G. Bryson  
Dr. M. Budleigh

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Ms. A. Campbell  
Ms. J. Carver  
Mr. G. Chaaney  
Mr. B. Chibnall  
Mrs. J. Chibnall  
Mrs. L. Clarke  
Mrs. V. Clutterbuck  
Dr. S. Coldham  
Ms. Y. Cole  
Mr. R. Coleman  
Ms. J. Collins  
Mr. J. Cooper  
Mr. A. Cornelius  
Mrs. B. Cornelius  
Mrs. J. Coryton  
Mr. E. Coskry  
Ms. C. Cowley  
Ms. S. Craig  
Mr. I. Crammond  
Mr. B. Crosby  
Mr. I. Crossman  
Mrs. C. Crossman  
Mr. K. Cummings

### D

Mrs. A. Daltrop  
Dr. E. Darling  
Mrs. S. de Coverly Veale  
Mrs. B. de Clare Richards  
Ms. S. Dench  
Mr. S. Derwent  
Mrs. J. Derwent  
Mr. H. Doyne-Ditmas CBE  
Mrs. J. Doyne-Ditmas  
Mr. J. Drummond  
Mr. C. Dunman

### E

Mrs. D. Eaton  
Mr. R. Edwards  
Mrs. S. Ellerton  
Mr. V. Ellis  
Mr. I. Entwistle

### F

Mr. S. Fanshawe  
Mr. I. Farrell  
Mr. A. Felton  
Mr. J. Fielden  
Mrs. N. Fielden  
Mr. M. Fisher  
Mrs. J. Fitzgerald  
Mrs. D. Flint  
Mrs. J. Foley  
Ms. D. Forester  
Mr. K. Francis  
Mrs. P. Francis  
Mrs. H. M. Frost  
Ms. J. Fuller

### G

Ms. L. George  
Ms. S. Gibbings  
Mr. W. Gillet  
Mr. H. Gould OBE  
Mr. D. Granger  
Mrs. M. Grimsdell

### H

Dr. G. Hatcher  
Mr. R. Hayler  
Mrs. H. Hayler  
Mr. J. Hazelgrove  
Mr. R. Hedger  
Mr. S. Hedger-Cooper  
Mr. G. Hedger-Cooper  
Mr. J. Helmer  
Mrs. S. Henderson  
Mr. J. Henman  
Mrs. A. Henman  
Mr. T. Hicklin  
Mr. S. Hicks

Ms. A.Hinkley  
Ms. J.Hoffman  
Ms. N.Holmes  
Mr. C.Horlock  
Ms. S. Horlock  
Ms. G.Hosack  
Ms. R.B.Houghton  
Mrs. L.Houghton  
Mr. H.Hughes  
Mr. J.Hunt  
Ms. J.Hunting  
Ms. S.Hutchinson

## I

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

## J

Ms. H.James  
Mr. M.Jamieson  
Ms. L.Jarrett  
Dr. C.Jerwood  
Mr. D.Jewell  
Mrs. H.Jewell  
Ms. D.Joll  
Ms L. K. Jones  
Ms. Z. Jordan

## K

Mrs. E.Kaye  
Mr. L.Keen  
Mrs. W.I.King  
Ms. V.Kippax  
Ms. R.Kolesar

## L

Mrs. H.Lambrick  
Dr. D.Laney  
Ms. A.Leach  
Mr. S.Lee  
Mr. B.Leigh  
Mr T Livingstone  
Mrs S Livingstone  
Mrs. H.Lixenberg  
Mr. L.Lobo  
Mrs. S.Lobo  
Ms. A.Lobo  
Mr. N.Lomax  
Mrs. R.Lomax  
Ms. J.Lovesy  
Mr. R.Lynch-White  
Mrs. R.Lynch-White  
Mr. D.Lyon  
Mr. T.Lyttelton

## M

Ms. J.M.Malcolm  
Mr. J.Marsh  
Mrs. S.Marsh  
Mrs. J.Marsh-Hobbs  
Mrs S. McCrickard  
Mr. W. McIlroy  
Ms. H.McKay  
Mr. J.McKean  
Mr. D.McNeill  
Mrs. D.McNeill  
Mrs. P.Meek  
Mr. A.Mercer  
Mrs. S.Mercer  
Mr. R.Mercer  
Mrs. F.Mercer  
Revd. A.Millyard  
Ms. V.Minos  
Mr. R.Minton  
Ms. C.Miskin  
Mrs. G.Mitchell  
Dr. R.Moffat  
Mrs. B.G.Moffat  
Mr. A.Montford  
Mrs. S.Montford MBE  
Mr. C.Morley  
Mrs. B.Morris  
Ms. A.Moss  
Mr. A.Mower

## N

Mr. S.Neiman  
Mrs M Nixon  
Mr. I.Noonan  
Mr. C.Noonan  
Dr. M.Norman

## O

Ms. C.Oxenbury

## P

Mrs. B.Parish  
Mr. W.Parker  
Mr. R.Parsons  
Mrs. M.Pearson  
Ms. J.Peckham  
Ms. S.Peckham  
Mr. S.Perry  
Mrs. R.Perry  
Ms. M.Pickerill  
Mr. N.Porter  
Mrs. N.Porter

## R

Mr. R.Radcliffe-Genge  
Mrs. E.Ray  
Mr. J.Ray  
Ms. V.Raynar-Smith  
Dr. J.Rees  
Mrs. R.Rees  
Mrs. K.Reeves  
Dr. P.Rennie Peyton  
Mrs. E.Renton  
Ms. P.Rick  
Mr. P.Ridler  
Mrs. M.Ridler  
Mr. D.Rignell  
Mrs. B.Rignell  
Mr D. Roberts  
Mrs. A.Robinson  
Mr. N.Robinson  
Mr. R.Robinson  
Mrs. U.Robson  
Ms S.Rockall  
Mr. P.D.Rose

**S**

Ms. B.Saddler  
 Mrs. P.Salmon  
 Ms. E.Sampson  
 Mr. D.Sankey  
 Ms. C.Sansbury  
 Ms. R.Schulman  
 Mr. I.Scott  
 Mrs. L.Scott  
 Mr. D.Sears  
 Mrs. C.Sears  
 Mrs. J.Seddon  
 Mr. P.Seddon  
 Mr. G.Shanley  
 Mr. K.Shaw  
 Mrs. R.Shaw  
 Mr. J.Small  
 Mr. G. Smedley-Stevenson  
 Mr. J.S.Smith  
 Mr. J.Spink  
 Ms. D.Staples  
 Mr. H.Steinhardt  
 Mrs. V.Steinhardt  
 Dr. J.Stewart  
 Mr. R.Stiles  
 Mrs. R.Stiles  
 Ms. A.Still  
 Mr. P.Stone  
 Mrs. M.Stone

**T**

Mr. I. Thorburn  
 Ms. I. Tinker  
 Ms. Z.Tinker  
 Mr. N.Tyson

**U**

Mrs. J.Upfill-Brown

**V**

Ms. G.Villermet

**W**

Dr. H.Walker  
 Mr A. Warwood  
 Mrs J.Watson  
 Dr. S.Weir  
 Mrs. M.Wells-Thorpe  
 Mr. R.Williams  
 Mr. I.Williamson  
 Mrs. H.Williamson  
 Mrs. J.Wrennall

**Life members****A**

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 Mr. A.Adams  
 Professor S.Adutt  
 Mr. R.Amerena  
 Mrs. M.Anderson  
 Mr. M.Angus  
 Mr. D.Arnold  
 Mr. A.Ashwell  
 Mrs. G.Askew  
 Mr. I.Askew  
 Ms. J.Averill

**B**

Mr. N.Badshah  
 Mrs. M.Bailey  
 Mrs. J.Baker  
 Mrs. N.Bath  
 Ms. A.Beckett  
 Mr. D.Beevers  
 Ms. D.Berwick  
 Mr. R.Betts  
 Mrs. G.Binning  
 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 CBE  
 Mrs. J.Chamberlain  
 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. C. Dawes OBE  
 Mr. D.Day  
 Mrs. M. de Wergifosse  
 Mr. N.Dennis  
 Mrs. U.Dunlop

**E**

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**

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 Mrs. C.Gee MBE  
 Ms. N.Geraghty  
 Mr. R.E.Gillett  
 Ms. M.Gledhill  
 Mr. J.Gowans  
 The Duke of Grafton  
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**H**

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 Ms. G.Hariri  
 Ms. M.Hartman  
 Mr. G.Henderson CBE  
 Ms. J. Heppard  
 Mr. R. Hinton  
 Mrs. S.Hinton  
 Mr. J.Hird  
 Ms. E.Hollingdale  
 Ms. D.Hudson  
 Ms. R.Hughman



**I**

Mr. M. Inglethorpe  
Mrs. P. Inglethorpe

**J**

Mr. J. Jefferson  
Mr. Jones  
Mrs. Jones

**K**

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Lady Kingman  
Mr. Kirwan  
Mrs. Kirwan

**L**

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Mr. M. Lindsay-Hills  
Mrs. F. Lindsay-Hills  
Mrs. J. Loraine  
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Ms. P. Mayne  
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Mrs. A. Moncrieff  
Mrs. A. Money  
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Ms. G. Nepple  
Mrs. P. Nixon

**O**

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

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Mr M Page  
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Mr. L. Pullum  
Mr. R. Power MBE

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Mrs. M. Ray  
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Mrs. S. Roberts  
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Mrs. L. Seabrook  
Ms. V. Shirtliffe  
Mr. D. Simpson  
Mrs. A. Simpson  
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Mr. P. Somerville  
Mr A. Spence

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Mr. B. Underwood  
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**W**

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

**Corporate members**

Friends of Lewes  
Lloyds TSB Bank plc

Mike Griffiths Associates Ltd.  
Woolley, Bevis & Diplock

**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 2007

			2006	
<b>Fixed Assets (at cost)</b>				
Furniture on loan to the Royal Pavilion	1,715.00		1,715.00	
James Gray Photographic Collection	10,000.00	<b>11,715.00</b>	10,000.00	11,715.00
<b>Current Assets:</b>				
Investments:				
Portman Building Society	0.00		40,483.04	
CAF UK Equity Stock	35,345.81		0.00	
Gilt Edge Stock	66,076.10		68,180.00	
Less Provision for the refurbishment of Storage Office	0.00	<b>101,421.91</b>	-1,500.00	107,163.04
<b>Bank Accounts</b>				
	3,769.20	<b>3,769.20</b>	10,847.17	10,847.17
Less Current Liabilities:	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Assets less Current Liabilities:	0.00	116,906.11		129,725.21
Long Term Liabilities:	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Assets less Total Liabilities		<b>116,906.11</b>		129,725.21
<b>Capital and Reserves</b>				
Bank and Society Accounts				0.00
Reserves	129,725.21			128,458.00
<b>Deficit carried forward</b>	-12,819.10	<b>116,906.11</b>	1,267.21	129,725.21

Approved by Management Committee on 10 March 2008

Stephen E. Neiman  
Hon.Treasurer

John Small  
Hon. Secretary

# The Regency Society of Brighton & Hove

## Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31st December 2007

		2006	
<b>Income</b>			
Subscriptions	3,173.00	4,465.94	
Lecture Income	315.00		
Study Tour	9,600.00	9,723.35	
Garden Party	1,125.00	1,230.00	
James Gray Collection	8,925.00		
Dividend Income	4,733.23	5,075.63	
Interest Received	289.74	1,773.32	22,268.24
	<b>28,160.97</b>		
<b>Less Direct Expenditure:</b>			
Study Tour	9,592.00	9,245.00	
Lecture Fees, Expenses and Venue Hire	5,466.53	2,919.78	
Garden Party	1,050.00	1,072.50	
Digitisation of the James Gray Collection	11,342.50	0.00	13,237.28
	<b>27,451.03</b>		
<b>Grants and Donations:</b>			
Royal Pavilion	0.00	1,083.33	
Friends of St Nicholas Church	1,500.00	0.00	1,083.33
Professional Fees and expenses incurred re King Alfred Action			
	5,876.00		0.00
	<b>5,876.00</b>		
		0.00	0.00
<b>Administration Costs</b>			
Subscriptions	353.00	333.00	
Membership Secretary Honorarium	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Minute Secretary's Expenses	0.00	141.49	
Committee Meeting Costs	575.00	350.00	
Internet Registration and Service Costs	50.46	223.25	
Refurbishment Costs of Storage Venue	725.00	1,500.00	
Insurance	489.47	441.00	
Printing and Postage	2,954.91	1,791.68	
Bank Charges	5.20	15.00	
Depreciation of computer	0.00	885.00	6,680.42
	<b>6,153.04</b>		
Total Expenses	<b>40,980.07</b>	21,001.03	
<b>Excess of Expenditure over Income</b>	<b>12,819.10</b>	1,267.21	

### Notes:

1. Gift Aid Relief of £2,224 is awaited on James Gray Income (not included in income above)
2. Professional fees relating to King Alfred is net of contribution from Hove Civic Society
3. Lecture Series Costs include fees paid to LJA Associates for Marketing and Publicity and costs of hiring projectors and screens required by lecturers.

