



ANNUAL REPORT 2010

www.regencysociety.org

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Charlotte Parsons *(resigned June 10th 2010)*

David Robson *(resigned September 9th 2010)*

Dr Helen Walker

The Regency Society of Brighton and Hove

ANNUAL REPORT 2010

I have really enjoyed my year as chairman, although I have found it challenging at times. Your committee has worked tirelessly this year examining the society governance and operations and I believe have successfully negotiated a new constitution that was, I am delighted to report, adopted by the membership on March 2, 2010.

When Antony Dale formed the society in 1945 none of the current sixteen city-wide local amenity societies existed; the Regency Society was vital however, not only in preservation terms but also as a means for the planners to engage, and consult.

The Regency Society, during its sixty six years, has fought many battles and has had many successes; however, with the growth of more localised conservation groups, the society's rôle in city planning needs to be redefined.

Perhaps, by taking responsibility for major planning applications and those that impact city wide rather than being involved in more local and less strategic planning matters, the society's expertise could be more correctly channelled.

Could the society hold an annual conference of all amenity societies, conservation groups and planners, to discuss, disseminate information and debate the issues that provide the common bond between us all?

Antony Dale's desire to protect the squares and crescents in our city is still as important today as it was when the society was conceived. However, we now have to consider the progression of modern design and the impact of that design on our city, our work pattern and the emerging local economy. Throughout my time on the committee I have been struck by the number of people that believe that the Regency Society's rôle is to say *no* to change and that all modern design is bad. Well I am delighted to tell you that this is not the case and that I have chaired a number of society meetings where good modern design has been heralded by your committee, as not only general improvement, but enhancement of the existing architecture.

There are of course schemes that we simply could not support and have actively campaigned against, but on the whole, buildings, however old and rich in heritage, need to have a life and work. A building that cannot be utilised in the twenty-first century is likely to become a drain upon our city and will eventually fall into disrepair. Not every old building, or conservation area is capable of change, but in the vast number of cases, modern intervention can sit very comfortably with our traditional buildings and add to the cityscape.

This year there has only been one major planning issue, the proposed redevelopment of the Royal Sussex County Hospital. Your committee recognises the great benefits that the redeveloped hospital would bring to the city but it is concerned that the scale and massing of the proposed design would be overbearing and over dominant relative to surrounding development, that the current proposals are not sympathetic to the surrounding townscape and that, when viewed up Paston Place, the new buildings would be a poor replacement for the Barry Building.

The committee has also given support to the campaign to retain the main Lainson Building of the Royal Alexandra Hospital and I'm delighted that the Council has recently resolved to grant planning permission for a redevelopment incorporating the retention and conversion of that building.

I am pleased to report that the James Gray Collection, now administered by The Royal Pavilion and Museums, Brighton, continues to gain appreciative accolades from users, as well as sales of images to individuals as well as to corporate bodies, appearing recently on *Great British Railway Journeys* on national television. The income from these sales is shared with the Royal Pavilion and as such is an indication of our mutually held goals; it also has the added advantage of providing a 'one stop shop' to those interested with local history.

Page views of the Collection are close to 2.5 million since March 2007.

One of the highlights for me this year was the society's tour to Berlin, led by David Robson. David's manner, in which he informed, lectured, and explained, how new and old could engage successfully is uppermost in my mind. The thirty people that went on this trip could only have benefitted from his enthusiasm and knowledge; we are indeed indebted to him for his inspirational leadership.

Vice Chairman Audrey Simpson has led the highly successful lecture series, the city college dinner and, of course, the annual garden party. Audrey has always been on hand to advise, and assist. Her unstinting support of your chairman this year is much appreciated.

I am grateful to for the support of all committee members and especially to your Honorary Secretary, Hazel McKay, who has worked tirelessly throughout the year on your behalf. In particular, Hazel has worked with Roger Hinton (not a committee member) to produce a new constitution and associated rules for membership and elections; between them they have spent many hours preparing the new documentation; it was a thankless task, but one that was so vital to refreshing the organisation's governance. The new constitution will provide a robust backbone for the future, enabling the society to relaunch, with confidence.

Another major challenge for the society is adapting its image and means of communication to the 21st century. This is no mean feat but Sarah Gibbings has brought energy and enthusiasm to an in-depth re-branding exercise, creating new documentation with a simple modern style based on the vibrant colours and clean lines of the Regency period. She will also be launching prior to the AGM a new more informative and easier to use website, which will function as an effective communication hub for the Society in the future.

I want to record my grateful thanks to Robert Edwards, the editor of the *Regency Review* and to Lesley Clark our membership secretary; both of them deliver their tasks on your behalf in a truly professional and supportive manner.

I took on the task of Chairman at the last AGM, for one year only, to enable the society to spend time on refreshing the governing document. That task has been completed and hence my role has finished.

I will be stepping down at the AGM and wish my successor well, as I do the society as a whole.

Stephen Neiman

February 2011

Yvonne Chevallier Dale

Antony Dale's unchallenged authority as a founding father of the Regency Society would not have been possible without the constant but unassuming support of his devoted wife Yvonne, whose death at the age of 96 was announced in October.

She was born in London in 1914, one of two daughters to Mrs Clare Macfie and, following school, entered Art School. Later she had hoped to join Wedgwood, but circumstances intervened and she enlisted with the Red Cross where she met Antony.

Yvonne came from an age when it was naturally assumed that the wifely rôle was to provide understanding support for all that a husband undertook. She was a familiar and gracious figure at Regency Society events and not only expertly prepared and hosted luncheon parties for their many friends, but undertook many of the less glamorous tasks, including indexing Antony's many books.

In her own right, she was an extremely well-read and quiet authority on botanical matters, sharing lightly-borne knowledge with countless Regency Society guests at each year's gathering at her Secret Garden. She was an enthusiastic and informed traveller, taking a particular interest in the Byzantine period. She also took many photographs for her own unique soirées.

In the 17 years since Antony's death, she was especially grateful to her good friend Dorothea Berwick whose engaging support and understanding was so essential to Yvonne's ongoing participation in Regency Society events. They also travelled together frequently.

We offer Madeleine, her daughter, our deepest sympathy at her sad loss and the Committee will shortly discuss in what form we should permanently mark Yvonne's life.

The funeral took place on Friday, 22 October, on a bright and sunny morning at St George's Church, Kemp Town, Brighton with many Regency Society members and friends present.

John Wells-Thorpe, Vice President

Membership

As at 1 February 2011 there were 268 ordinary members of the Society, 139 life members and 1 corporate member. Please notify any omissions or corrections to the membership secretary.

Members in good standing are listed below.

Ordinary Members

A

Mrs. M.Adam
The Hon Mrs. B.Allenby
Mr. J.Amell
Mrs. L.Amell
Mr. J.Arkell
Dr. E.Atkinson
Ms. C.Attwood
Mr M.Auton-Lloyd

B

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Mr. R.Baker OBE
Mrs. E.R.Banfield
Mrs. P.Barber
Mr. P.Bareham
Mrs. P.Bareham
Mr. Bennett
Mrs. L.Bennett
Ms. B.Biedermann
Dr. C.Black
Mrs. D.Black
Ms. M.Blyth
Ms. S.Bond
Mr. D.Botibol
Mrs. S.Botibol
Mrs. R.Boulden
Ms. P.Brickman
Mrs. C.Briggs
Mr. P.Brittain
Mrs. P.Brittain
Mr. B.Brooks
Mrs. L.Brown
Mr. M.Brown
Mrs. M.Brown
Mrs. G.Bryson
Dr. M.Budleigh

C

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Mrs. J.Carver
Mr. B.Chibnall
Mrs. J.Chibnall
Mr. J.Clapp
Mrs. L.Clarke
Mr. P.Clarke
Mrs. V.Clutterbuck
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Mr. J.Drummond
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Mr. D.Dufour
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Mr. N.England
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Mr. I.Entwistle
Ms. S.Evans

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Ms. D.Forester
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Mrs. S.Fox
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Ms. G.Furness

G

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Mr. W.Gillett
Mr. P.Glaisher
Ms. P.Glover
Mr. D.Granger
Mrs. M.Grimsdell

H

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Mr. A.Harvey
Dr. G.Hatcher
Mr. R.Hayler
Mr. J.Hazelgrove
Mr. J. Helmer
Mrs. S.Henderson
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Mrs. L.Houghton
Mr. T.Hudson
Mrs. T.Hudson
Mr. H.Hughes
Mr. A.Hunter Woollard
Mr. B.Hunter Woollard
Ms. J.Hunting
Ms. S.Hutchinson

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Mr. M.Jamieson
Mr. T.Jones
Ms. L.Jarrett
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Mrs. H.Jewell
Ms. D.Joll

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Mr. C.Kift
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Ms. C.Knowles

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Ms. P. Lawson
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Mr. A. Legg
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Mr. D.Lyon
Mr. T.Lyttelton

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Mr. J.McKean
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Mrs. G.Murray
Mr. N. Muston

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Mr. S.Neiman
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Ms. C.Oxenbury

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Mrs. R.Pugh

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Ms. E.Raynar-Smith
Ms. V.Raynar-Smith
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Mrs. R.Rees
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Mrs. M.Ridler
Mr. D.Rignell
Mrs. B.Rignell
Mrs. J.Ritson
Mr. D.Roberts
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Mr. N.Robinson
Mrs. U.Robson
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Mr. P.D.Rose
Mrs. S.Royce

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 Mrs. P.Sankey
 Ms. C.Sansbury
 Mr. D.Scrutton
 Mr. D.Sears
 Mrs. C.Sears
 Mrs. J.Sewell
 Mr. G.Shanley
 Mrs. D.Sharpe
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 Mrs. R.Shaw
 Ms. S.Silver
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 Mr. J.S.Smith
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 Mrs. E.Stack
 Ms. A.Still
 Mr. H.Steinhardt
 Mrs. V.Steinhardt
 Ms. C.Stephens
 Dr. J.Stewart
 Mr. A.Stiles
 Mrs. P.Stiles
 Mr. R.Stiles
 Mrs. P.Stiles
 Mrs. L.Stiles
 Mr. A.Stratford
 Ms. G.Sutcliffe Armstrong

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 Mr. A.Tompsett
 Mr. M.Trevillion
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 Mrs. G.Wheatcroft
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 Mr. S.Whittington
 Mr. I.L.Wooten
 Mr. J.Wright

Y

Dr. R.Young

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Mr. J.C.Small

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

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 Mrs. M.Bailey
 Ms. A.Beckett
 Mr. D.Beevers
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 Mr. R.Betts
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 Mrs. S.Hinton
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 Ms. R.Hughman

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Mrs. P.Inglethorpe

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Mr. Jones
Mrs. Jones

K

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Lady Kingman
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Mr. Kirwan
Mrs. Kirwan

L

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Mrs. F.Lindsay-Hills
Mrs. W.Lydall

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Mr. R.Webb
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Mrs. M. de Wergifosse
Mrs. D.Weston
Ms. N.Willcock
Mr. B.Wilsher
Mr. N.Worth
Dr. E.Wren

Corporate members

Mike Griffiths Associates Ltd.

Subscriptions

Members are notified that subscriptions are due for renewal on the anniversary of the date of joining.

Current subscriptions are:

Student membership:

£5.00 for under 18s or with valid student card.
Annual membership, single£ 15.00
Annual membership, joint£ 25.00
Life Membership, under age 60..... £500.00
Life Membership, over age 60.....£200.00
Joint Life Membership, under age 60..... £875.00
Joint Life Membership, one over age 60..£350.00
Annual Corporate Membership £100.00

Cheques should be made payable to
The Regency Society and sent to:

The Membership Secretary, The Regency Society,
4, Oak Lodge, 49, Palmeira Avenue,
Hove, East Sussex. BN3 3GE

The Regency Society of Brighton & Hove

Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st December 2010

	2010	2009	
Fixed Assets (at cost)			
Furniture on loan to the Royal Pavilion ²	1,715.00	1,715.00	
James Gray Photographic Collection	10,000.00	10,000.00	
	11,715.00		11,715.00
Current Assets			
Investments:			
CAF UK Equity Stock	50,328.83	19,589.84	
7▣ Treasury Stock 2012-2015	19,110.00	19,110.20	
6▣ Treasury Stock 2010	0.00	1,935.00	
	69,438.83		40,634.84
Bank Accounts			
Petty Cash	0.00	45.00	
CAF Current Account	1,000.00	750.00	
CAF Deposit Account	69.61	38,570.20	
Lloyds Bank Current Account	895.90	1,075.46	
	1,965.51		40,440.66
Less Current Liabilities	0.00	455.00	
	83,119.34		92,335.50
Funds			
Brought forward	92,335.50	94,171.84	
Prior year adjustment ³	0.00	455.00	
Deficit for the year	9,216.16	2,291.34	
	83,119.34		92,335.50

Note 1 Gift Aid Rebate of £7,150 not received at year end, and will be accounted for on the date of receipt.

Note 2 The assets lent by the society to the Royal Pavilion are accounted for at cost: valuations have been obtained and are reported as follows: 1. Candlestick's £5,000 (2009:£4,000); 2. Circular Table in elm £25,000(2009:£40,000); 3. State Armchair £45,000 (2009: £30,000); 4. Bust of George IV £10,000 (2009:£27,000)..

Note 3 A provision of £455 was incorrectly provided for at the year end in December 2009 and has been reversed.

Note 4 *Forward Funding*
The Society's Trustees resolved at their meeting on the 8th November 2010 to authorise future expenditure of £4,750 for the development of new branding, web site, templates for stationery, newsletter, fact sheets and educational resources.

The Regency Society of Brighton & Hove

Income and Expenditure Account as at 31st December 2010

	2010	2009	
Income			
Subscriptions	3,500.50	3,523.50	
Lecture Series	228.00	1,334.00	
Garden Party	1,369.00	1,682.00	
Annual Dinner	1,580.00	0.00	
James Gray Collection	656.20	7,100.00	
Dividend Income	3,553.93	3,431.94	
Revaluation of CAF Investments	1,286.90	4,371.54	
Interest Received	22.78	57.66	
	12,197.31		21,500.64
Expenditure			
<i>Direct Expenditure</i>			
Lecture Series	1,163.80	3,850.96	
Garden Party	1,349.55	1,578.73	
Annual Dinner	1,470.00	0.00	
James Gray Collection	4,605.76	13,588.00	
	8,589.11		19,018.13
Administration Costs			
Subscriptions	140.00	165.00	
Membership Secretary Honorarium	0.00	0.00	
Minute Secretary	1,162.00	519.25	
Committee, AGM and SGM Meeting Costs	2,300.45	1,388.48	
Internet and Web Site Costs	861.50	356.50	
Insurance	551.37	524.04	
Printing and Postage and Regency Review	2,014.37	1,820.58	
Bank Charges	0.00	0.00	
Legal Costs	5,794.67	0.00	
	12,824.36		4,773.85
Excess of Expenditure over Income	-9,216.16		-2,291.34

These Accounts were approved by the Trustees at their meeting on 14th February, 2011.

I report on the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31 December 2010, which are set out on pages 8 and 9. The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act, and to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission, under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act, and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention. My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters in the statement below. In connection with my examination no matter has come to my attention (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with the 1993 Act, and to prepare accounts accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met; or (2) to which in my, opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a fuller understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Carol Lewis (ACA) Chartered Accountant

13 Kingsway House, Church Road, Hove. BN3 2DL

15th February 2011