

## Essential Dates

Wednesday 4th April	Social evening at the Round Hill. From 8.00pm.
Saturday 7th April	Come & help add the finishing touch to a planter or five (see page 4) at 60 Richmond Road.
Wednesday 2nd May	Social evening at the Round Hill. From 8.00pm.
Saturday 5th May - Sunday 27th May	Brighton Festival. Amongst the many events throughout the city there are two 'open houses' in the Round Hill area: 57 and 66 Richmond Road.
Wednesday 6th June	Social evening at the Round Hill. From 8.00pm

Here is your **membership card**. You can cut it out, but it is better to keep it on the newsletter where you won't lose it - unless you forget to put it on your fridge or noticeboard.

You may need to show this card at any RHS event.

**The Round Hill Society**



# Round Hill Reporter

March 2001

No 5



*One of the many beautiful lanterns made for the Round Hill Winter Solstice candlelit procession.*

Round Hill in Bloom - planters for £2 \* History Group Update \*  
Traffic Latest \* Carol Procession Report \* Urban Wildlife project \*  
Dora Grinter \* Community Noticeboard \* Your Membership Card

## Spring is Sprung - or not

Hello and welcome to the March newsletter. Spring has sprung, the daffodils are out and cute little baby lambs are gambolling in the fields...

Well, somewhere in the world, anyway - here in beautiful Britain, as we go to press, it's *still* raining (is somebody building that Ark, or what?), the temperature is just above zero and the less said about lambs (or cows, or pigs) during the 'Great Foot & Mouth Crisis of 2001' the better...

Still, we don't want to worry about any of that, do we? Here in our own small

(but perfectly formed) Round Hill universe, everything is lovely (except for the traffic) and we're already busy planning our summer garden party (see facing page) in the firm belief that the rain *will* stop well before June 23rd (pretty please).

What's more, out there in the (very slightly) wider world, Brighton has, since the last newsletter, become a city, which most people seem to think is a Very Good Thing. If you have a view (good/bad/don't give a monkey's) on this, or on any other local(ish) issue, why don't you drop us a line...

### You want to speak to the committee?

Chair	Rob Stephenson	51 Upper Lewes Road	673511
Treasurer	Marian Gerrett	77 Princes Crescent	688009
Secretary	Vivien Powell	66 Richmond Road	276386
Vice-chair	David Hodd	17 Round Hill Crescent	601019
Membership Secretary	Jan Curry	58 Richmond Road	601320
Minutes Secretary	Colette Blackett	8 Round Hill Crescent	694811
Newsletter Editor	Amanda Evans	8 Belton Road	278646
Member without Portfolio	Denise Elliott	60 Richmond Road	888216
Member without Responsibility	Ray Knight	93 Princes Crescent	681965
Member without Portfolio	Suzie Sharp	67 Princes Road	882240

## Come to the Round Hill Garden Party

Following the huge success of the two open-to-all events last year (the street party and the winter solstice procession) we thought it would be nice to plan a slightly more exclusive shindig - for Round Hill Society members only - this summer.

### Saturday June 23rd

So keep your fingers (and everything else) crossed for good weather on Saturday June 23rd, as the shindig in question is an afternoon garden party.

### Free entrance, free bubbly

The party will run from 2pm-6pm in the gardens of 60/62 Richmond Road (there will be balloons on the

gate to mark the entrance). Entry is free to all Round Hill Society members (and family), as is the bubbly (more likely to be cava than real champagne on our budgets, but can anyone tell the difference blindfold? Or after the first glass? We certainly can't...) - although any donations are, as ever, welcome.

### Photographs

There will be a raffle, and Vivien Powell's fantastic photographs from last year's street party will be on display as well. It should be a great day, so make a note in your diary - we'll put a reminder in the next newsletter as well, which will be out just before the event.

Vivien Powell MTI, ITEC, MICT

HOLISTIC MASSAGE  
& AROMATHERAPY



The Albion Acupuncture & Chiropractic Clinic  
1 Albion Street, Brighton BN2 2NE  
e-mail: v.powell@bigfoot.com  
Tel: 01273 628221 or 07801 784240

---

## Get Flowered Up - for only £2

---

*Rob Stephenson reports on the Round Hill in Bloom scheme*

**D**uring National Peat-free Compost Week (16th to 23rd March 2001 – what do you mean, you've never heard of it) we shall be converting a lot of old floorboards into plant holders.

### Peat-free compost

They will come with a peat-free compost filling and a basic planting, ready for you to personalise with your own plants. All this for just £2. The compost is made from garden waste taken by local gardeners to the two Household Waste Sites in Brighton and Hove, and then composted for the Council by KPS Composting Services.

### Better Britain grant

We have enough money from a Shell Better Britain Campaign grant to make 100 planters, but we'd like advance orders from as many households as possible. Just phone or e-mail Rob Stephenson with your details and what sort of planter(s) you require. There will be a trough style, roughly 6" deep and wide by 2 feet long, and a box style 14" high and a foot square.

### Local publicity

The council wants to highlight Peat-

free Compost Week, as part of its public environmental education programme, and have agreed to help by bringing the compost to us. It is likely that we will obtain some local publicity for the event, which may attract new members, and even a few more orders. I hope you will order one or two planters, and I hope that the resulting display will help identify Round Hill as a distinct place in Brighton.

### Any volunteers?

To ensure the planters last for a few years and are as weatherproof as possible (not to mention look even more beautiful) we will be painting the first couple of batches on Saturday April 7th in the garden of Denise Elliott's house at 60 Richmond Road. Any assistance would be appreciated, so if you want to volunteer to help add the finishing touches to a few planters, please feel free to turn up for an hour or two any time between 10am and 4pm.

Rob Stephenson

*You can contact Rob to order planters by phone on 673511 or by email: [robs@pavillon.co.uk](mailto:robs@pavillon.co.uk)*

---

## History Group Update

---

The Round Hill Society's history group took a break over Christmas; the new season's activities are about to start.

### Memories

Top of the list will be publishing a selection of memories of life in Round Hill, starting in the next edition of this magazine. If there is enough interest we aim to publish a collection of these memories later.

### Local links

We have a chance to apply for a grant from Brighton & Hove Council, and we will soon be agreeing what would best help us take our work forward. The grant, if we are successful, will be for the new financial year. Links are being made with

other local historians, both through the local archives and through other local residents groups and societies (more about this next time).

### Can you help?

We still need help transcribing and cataloging our documents. These include some fascinating records and sketch maps of the area from when the first building plots were staked out for sale. We know from these, for example, that Ashdown Road was a late addition to the estate.

For more details, or if you would like to join the group, contact Andrew Partington, 6 Richmond Road, tel 671011 or email [partington@appleonline.net](mailto:partington@appleonline.net)

---

## Traffic - the saga continues

---

The traffic consultation process promised last summer by the Traffic management Department at Brighton & Hove Council has still not begun. After many frustrating attempts to communicate on our part, they have finally admitted that we can't expect the process to begin until 'early in the new financial year'. Their excuse is that there has been considerable reorganisation and restructuring in the traffic department - our original contact

has left and his successor has been trying to do two jobs at once. Added to that is the fact that St Peter's Ward, within which the Round Hill area falls, has been moved into the East Area as opposed to the Central Area and this means that someone else has had our papers passed to him! We've been assured that it's being dealt with as a matter of urgency. Watch this space!

*Vivien Powell*

---

## Round Hill Residents Sing in the Street!

---

*Vivien Powell reports on the winter solstice carol procession*

It was a cold, misty night on Thursday 21 December 2000. The sort of night you want to stay in and curl up in front of the telly, not venture out on the longest, darkest night of the year. So I didn't expect hordes of Round Hill residents to be in revelling mood for our Winter Solstice Carols and Candles procession. Maybe, just maybe, the thought of a glass of mulled wine to warm the hands and the cockles might bring them out...

### Drunken activity

So, suitably muffled and gloved, I went to meet up with Marian at her house - a hive of promisingly drunken activity, with our Chairman, Rob at the helm in the kitchen, brewing up for the night's festivities. We left him to it and wandered down to d'Aubigny Road with carol sheets and lanterns and were surprised to find quite a number of people already waiting, including the musicians - the celebrated Nick Pynn on fiddle, Ray Knight on harmonica/penny whistle and Andrew Partington on melodion. We waited while more people arrived, then the trio struck up the first chords of 'O Little Town of Bethlehem' and away we went, strolling up Richmond Road, stopping now and again to regale the local residents with our vocal and musical offerings.

### Wine and mince pies

By the time we reached Princes Crescent, the ranks had swelled considerably, we'd got through the list of 5 carols twice, with a final rousing rendition of 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing' with everyone standing in the middle of the road, and looking forward to their wine and mince pies, served from the steps of Marian's house. Lots of people brought mince pies to share and there was lemonade for the children. Donations were made to cover the cost of the drinks - thanks to Denise and her trip to France!

### To be repeated

It was good to see so many faces on such a cold, dark night, with children, babies and a dog or two, out celebrating not only the time of year, but also our community. Many people asked that it be repeated next year and I can assure them that it will, and hopefully it will be even better.

### Lantern making

Thanks must go to Sue Partington for organising and hosting the lantern-making workshop two weeks before the event and Sarah and Naomi Partington for so beautifully making many of the lanterns.

---

## roundhill.org.uk

---

*The Round Hill website moves a step closer*

Yes, the Round Hill Society finally has it's own registered domain name on the world wide web. The address of the website, as you can see in the title above, is roundhill.org.uk - and all we have to do now is decide what should actually go on it!

two, so if you have any strong opinions on what sort of image the Society should be trying to project via the web, brilliant ideas for design or content, or technical expertise that you think might be useful, then please feel free to get involved.

### Creating the site

Work on actually creating the site will be starting in the next week or

### Contact

Contact Rob Stephenson by email at [robs@pavillion.co.uk](mailto:robs@pavillion.co.uk)

For a tapwasher or a new boiler, call

## Floline Trading Ltd

Brighton's first Independent  
Heating and Plumbing Trade  
Supplier

36a Princes Road Brighton BN2 3RH

Telephone: 601475/6

Open Monday to Friday 7.45am to 6pm. Saturday 8am to 4pm.

---

## Births, Marriages & Deaths

---



### A new Round Hill resident

This gorgeous young man is the first-born son and heir of esteemed former Round Hill Reporter editor David Hodd and wife Libby.

### Thomas Owain Hodd

His full name is Thomas Owain Hodd and he was born at the Royal Sussex County hospital, weighing in at a petite 5lbs 13oz slightly earlier than expected at 3.37am on December 11th 2000.

### Thriving

He may have taken his mum and Dad a little bit by surprise, but as you can see he's put on a few pounds since then and is now thriving at three months.

### Any more Round Hill rugrats?

If the stork has visited you recently and you want your little darling to be featured in the next issue of the Reporter, just follow the instructions on the facing page.

---

## Births, Marriages & Deaths

---

### Dora Grinter

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Dora Grinter of 68 Richmond Road, just before Christmas, leaving her husband George Grinter, aged 80.

### Anger and disbelief

And it is with anger and disbelief that we announce the burglary of 68 Richmond Road at 9pm on the night of Saturday 20 January. Mr Grinter innocently let someone in, who was followed in by 3 others. He was then held down on the

floor while they systematically searched his house, took £100 cash and all his pension and savings books. He is so confused and shaken up, he has put his house on the market and will go and live near his son.

### Witnesses urged to help

If anyone saw anything or has any information which may help the police to find these heartless criminals, we urge you to come forward.

## Announcements

*If you have an announcement you would like to see in the 'Births, marriages & deaths' section of the Reporter, please send the information - and any picture you'd like us to use - to Amanda Evans.*

*Pictures can be returned as long as they are clearly labelled with a return address on the back.*

*We reserve the right to refuse or edit announcements*

## Urban Wildlife Project

Rob Stephenson invites you - and your kids - to get involved...

At our AGM Phil Beldon spoke about urban wildlife and seemed to get many people enthused about the sightings they had made, in gardens and streets around here.

### Mapping

I wonder if there might be support for a Round Hill survey, model making, mapping, data gathering and practical improvement scheme off the ground during the summer holidays, involving members and their children.

### Richness of habitat

Perhaps we could make images/models of the area at a scale that allows anyone to see the richness of habitat in our backgardens and other open spaces (I favour a topographic model, but maps or photomontage on map base would also work).

### Back gardens

We would have to get our recorders (children and adults) into back gardens and good viewpoints overlooking back gardens by approaching members of the Society, friends and neighbours.

### Record information

We would need to record information about birds, reptiles, amphibians, mammals and insects seen around the area.

### Improvements

A group of young people and adults working together over the summer could distribute leaflets, gather information, complete models and maps, plus photos, and begin to plan improvements such as bird boxes, hedgehog hibernation boxes, new ponds, holes in fences and walls to make it easier for animals to get around, solitary bee dwellings and much more.

### Get in touch

If you and your children would like to help make this idea a reality please get in touch.

Rob Stephenson  
Chair  
Round Hill Society  
email [robs@pavillion.co.uk](mailto:robs@pavillion.co.uk)  
Tel 673511

## The Round Hill Noticeboard

### Dead cat

Early in January I noticed a bedraggled cat in my garden (between the Upper Lewes Road and Round Hill Crescent) which was clearly unwell, falling and failing to jump over low walls at first attempts. I discovered it dead in my backyard the following morning. It is now buried under a lilac bush in my garden, but I photographed it first. It is not a pretty picture, but if you lost a cat at the beginning of the year I can show you the photograph. Please call me, Rob Stephenson, on 673511.

### Dog Poo!

The amount of dog poo left on pavements and in gutters in the Round Hill area has reached truly epic proportions in recent months. If you have a dog, please clean up after it - leaving it lying around for other people's children to step in is a health hazard as well as extremely anti-social.

### Council's Round Hill Hotline

Too much litter? Rubbish not collected? Abandoned vehicles? Call 292300

To get messages put up on this noticeboard, contact Amanda Evans. If there is space we will endeavour to put it up. We reserve the right to refuse or edit any notices.

## Advertising Rates

The Round Hill Society welcome local companies interested in advertising in the Reporter. Here are the rates:

Quarter Page £5  
Half Page £10  
Full Page £20

To advertise  
contact Amanda Evans  
on 278646