



ROUND HILL REPORTER

Issue 24
June 2006

ROUND HILL IN BLOOM

Remember **Sunday 4th June** is our Open Gardens event. After the success of last year's event, we have decided to open 10 gardens, 3 of which did not take part last year.

The gardens will be open at 2pm and close at 6pm, so you'll get an extra hour this time. With three fewer gardens to see, you should have plenty of time to spend in each garden. I understand some people were jogging round at the end last year in order to get to see them all.

As last year, please bring this edition of the Round Hill Reporter as your ticket for entry and your guide to the addresses, which are as follows:

- 1 Belton Close
- 85 Prince's Crescent
- 9 Prince's Road
- 22 Prince's Road
- 14 Wakefield Road
- 25 Richmond Road
- 50 Richmond Road
- 58 Richmond Road
- 8 D'Aubigny Road
- Victoria Pub

Please visit the gardens at random to avoid congestion.

Don't forget 'the tenth garden' - if you have worked up a thirst visiting all of the lovely gardens, there is a cool drink waiting for you at the neighbourhood pub. The Victoria will be offering specially priced beer and



© Stefan Holmstrom

a barbecue in the garden. There will also be free face painting as well as cocktail jugs (plus goodies).

Children are very welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult. Please recognise that gardens can be dangerous and that you enter at your own risk.

For added interest and to encourage children to take an interest in the Round Hill area, we've arranged a Treasure Hunt type competition. We're going to hide a wooden spoon with a flower sticker on it in every garden for the children to find. Entry forms for the

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And much more!

It's **NATIONAL INSECT WEEK** from 19th to 25th June. For more information, log onto www.nationalinsectweek.co.uk



competition will be available at every participating garden. A small prize will be given for each successful entry. Good luck.

The Round Hill Society committee would like to thank everyone who has volunteered to open their gardens. Let's hope the weather's fine after all the hard work they've put in.

Terry Tidman



PLANS FOR GREEN RIBBON DEVELOPMENT

An application has now been submitted to the Council for residential development in the heart of Round Hill. The application, submitted by Amanda Lloyd at 10 Richmond Road, is to build 3 x 3-bedroom houses and 2 x 1-bedroom flats (in effect, 4 detached houses) on land to the rear of 2 to 10 Richmond Road, the land you can see to the left as you go down the steps of the 'Cats Creep' from Richmond Road to Round Hill Crescent. This land forms part of the beautiful 'green ribbon' mentioned in our character statement which is a defining feature of the Round Hill conservation area. It is one of the most precious open spaces we have. Proposed access for new homeowners would be via the Cats Creep,

which would have to close during the construction period.

Development on this site will affect the amenity of everybody who uses the steps and could soon lead to the loss of one of Round Hill's main defining features as more developers follow suit. The position of this land just a stone's throw from Jan Curry's prize-winning wildlife garden in part of the same 'green ribbon' is worrying, to say the least.

The application form and supporting documents can be viewed on the Council's website at www.brighton-hove.gov.uk or via the campaign website at www.catscreep.org.uk. The applicant states that the land is 'brown field' when in fact it has a separate freehold that has never

maintains is "excellent".

Both the Application Form and the Supporting Documents have been worded to suggest that the proposal affects mainly the applicant's own home. In fact, the development would have a direct impact on the residents living in Nos. 2, 4, 6 and 8 Richmond Road, as well as 17, 19 and 21 Round Hill Crescent, with a line of four detached dwellings running behind all these houses.

Planning is not just about buildings. There would be people living in those dwellings, who may own cars (can they really be expected to carry bicycles up and down those steps?). They would create additional noise and rubbish - would the dustmen have to haul the rubbish up and down the steps too?

been built on and should therefore be classified as a 'green field' site and should need separate permission for change of use before a planning application be submitted.

The applicant has not been able to finalise a proposal for foul-water drainage from the site. Pumping the waste up to the existing sewer in Richmond Road hardly helps this proposal's environmental performance, which the applicant

How many hoops have Round Hill residents got to jump through each month to preserve the area's amenity-value (e.g. hillside views, presence of wildlife) and to protect the surroundings where they have chosen to live from intolerable pressures on infrastructure?

Isn't it time that Brighton and Hove City Council gave us a Supplementary Planning Document to avoid the constant threats to our Conservation Area? Are we expected to spend our lives submitting letters of comment?

Unfortunately, we still have to make our comments, so please do write to the Mr Steve Lewis, Planning Officer, Brighton & Hove City Council, Hove Town Hall, Hove BN3 3BQ, quoting application No. BH2006/01501 or you can submit your comments online. Every letter counts. You have until 9 June. If you want to join the campaign against this development, email catscreep@hotmail.co.uk



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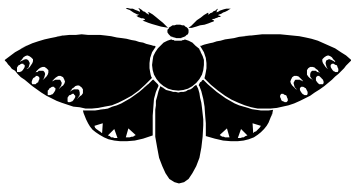
Email: Tom@fretless.co.uk





JAN'S WILDLIFE GARDEN FLUTTERBY, BUTTERFLY

It's the same old story: many butterflies' and moths' feeding and breeding grounds have been lost to housing and shopping centres and the indiscriminate use of garden sprays.



Butterflies and moths are important as plant pollinators and as food for other animals, birds and insects. Kill a caterpillar and the 'knock-on effect' can be disastrous.

I thought moths only flew at night, but have since learnt that many flutter around the garden during the day, adding to the confetti effect.

I used to want to name them all and as soon as I saw one, I would collect my identification book (ugh, even the word looks sinister) and anxiously rustle through the pages - trying to

match colours and wing patterns (get a life, Jan!). Now I just stand or kneel around and marvel at them. How do those tissue paper wings survive for even a day? No lips, no teeth, just a rolled up tongue, that unfurls to gather nectar. Huge eyes to see with and an antenna to feel with. Not a squeak or a squeal, not a sound, no noise at all.

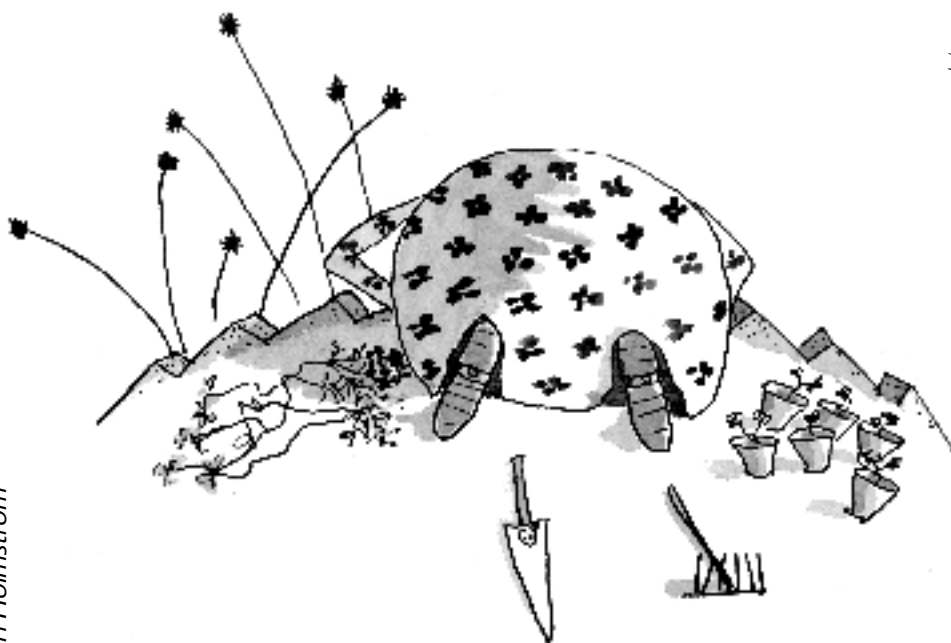
Are they content as they flutter through our garden? Who knows - but at least some are there and they are wonderful.

Butterflies and moths need nettles and thistles in a quiet, sunny corner to tempt a few to lay their eggs (they are very fussy), ivy, holly or a tree to roost in. They are attracted to daisy-like or flat-topped flowers with red, yellow, orange, pink or purple blossoms and they adore Buddleia racemes. Clump such flowers around the garden - you know how flutterbies (as my granddaughter called them) like to

do just that - they are not grazers or browsers, so space those marigolds, thymes, lavender, golden rods etc out at intervals, so they can dance from one to another. If you only have a window box or an empty ledge, a saucer of glucose water tempts them too.

Right now, I await a Red Admiral (I always fancied sailors). This butterfly will hopefully arrive in this garden after crossing the English Channel. It will then make its way along the green corridor that stretches from the Pavilion, through Victoria Gardens, The Level, Park Crescent, Wakefield and Richmond Road and then on to the Cemetery - the best place in Brighton to see butterflies.

It's crossed the Channel to get here, for goodness sake - dig in a nectar plant quick, he must be famished!



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Working in the garden (or watching the caterpillars?)



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REQUEST FOR SAFE CROSSING REFUSED

Walk down Ditchling Road on the Round Hill side and you will have to negotiate the busy junction with Upper Lewes Road at your own risk. The one-way system - installed some years ago - made no provision for people on foot. As you leave the pavement, there will be traffic coming through a green light at you from one of three directions at any time.

A year ago I met Dean Spears, the Council's newly appointed Cycling and Walking Officer, and Bruce Smith of Living Streets (the Pedestrians' Association) at the site and discussed re-phasing the lights to allow a safe

crossing by 'taking' time from the left-hand lane only of Viaduct Road traffic. No delays to the mighty A23, or to buses using Ditchling Road.

Roger French of Brighton and Hove Buses considered the plan and had no objection - delays to buses were being used by the Council as a 'reason' for inaction. Everyone agreed that the junction was dangerous and the plan feasible. Finally, Andrew Westwood at the Council's Transport Department agreed to look at it - it "had not been thought of when the junction was designed". A survey was promised for September 2005 when schools would have re-started.

Almost a year later, I have lost count of the number of calls not returned and letters unanswered as I have tried to get that survey carried out. September became February, then "by the end of March" became April. Finally this month I was sent not a report, but a vaguely worded refusal - the accident rate was too low (although data is "unavailable"), traffic queues would lengthen and buses be delayed. All of this had apparently been revealed by a computer model of my request, although what had been proposed would not have the claimed effects - this is confirmed by common sense.

I have no confidence that the Council have considered this request seriously. More and, hopefully, better news later.

Peter Meakins

[Of course, if someone is seriously injured trying to cross the road then the statistics will change in favour of a crossing. Anyone fancy getting run over for the common good? Ed]



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85 Round Hill Crescent

Rob Stephenson - 673511



QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

The number of responses to our questionnaire in the March issue of the Reporter was somewhat disappointing - only 51 responses from about 960 households. In view of the lack of interest, therefore, I'll be as brief as possible with the information on the results. You can view all the details on the website at www.roundhill.org.uk.

1. Trees

34 people were in favour of tree planting, 12 against and 4 had no opinion, with 22 willing to make a financial contribution.

2. Wakefield Road Traffic

Given the three choices, 13 people favoured one-way up, 3 wanted one-way down, 4 said one-way in either direction, 9 wanted traffic calming, 11

wanted none of the options put forward and 9 had no opinion.

3. Parking

The question was 'Do you see any benefit in introducing a controlled parking scheme in Round Hill?' The majority - 34 - were against parking controls, 11 respondents were in favour and 6 were not sure. The general feeling was that all the problems finding a space were in the evenings and a controlled parking zone scheme would not solve them. However, if neighbouring areas were to adopt a CPZ then 17 respondents said their views would change, but 27 said their views would remain the same.

3c - parking in Wakefield Road

You were asked if you'd like the footpath

removed by the flint wall to make spaces for parking. 21 respondents agreed parking bays would be a good idea, 15 preferred to retain the footpath for pedestrians and 7 had no opinion.

3d - parking in Upper Lewes Road. An overwhelming majority - 38

respondents - thought the idea of extra parking places in Upper Lewes Road should be explored with only 2 against the idea. Eight were not sure and 3 had no opinion.

Other issues. The following is a selection of comments on things you'd like to see in the Round Hill area:

- More litter bins.
- A cycle lock-up.
- Shorter yellow lines in Ashdown/d'Aubigny Roads.
- Pedestrian crossing in Upper Lewes Road.
- Lower speed restriction on Upper Lewes Road.
- Graffiti to be dealt with more efficiently.
- Resist any further building developments in the area.
- Get people to take more pride in their street, so they don't fly tip/litter the streets.
- Create a Home Zone here (this gives precedence to pedestrians and allows space for play).
- Turn the Prince's Road land into a playground.

Some of you expressed your thanks to the Round Hill Society for the work they do and others were less complimentary. Whatever your views, please keep them coming. If we don't know what you think, we can't represent you properly.

With thanks to Dave Guest for trawling through all the answers and producing a professional analysis.

The Victoria

Richmond Road

Tel: 675906

Open Gardens Event 4 June 2006

Face Painting

Carling £2 a pint, Harveys £2 a pint

Jugs of Cocktails, Barbeque

Every week

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- Hot & cold food served 7 days a week
- 50" TV now, so come and watch the World Cup. Drink & food promotions whilst all England games are on
- Pub Quiz Tuesdays 9pm - cash prizes
- Music Quiz Thursdays 9pm - cash prizes
- Pool table and dart board
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CELEBRATING AGE

At last! Recognition for the more senior members of the artistic fraternity. During July there will be a series of events including a national conference and arts festival taking place in Brighton and Hove, celebrating artists in the over-50 age bracket.

Jackie Jones and Rob Stephenson are opening their house during the period - rather brave, after a whole month of wet weekends during the May Festival Open Houses. Let's hope the weather's better this time. Their house at 51 Upper Lewes Road will be open on the last two weekends in July, 12 till 6. Phone 673511 for info.



THE EXPERT PATIENTS PROGRAMME

The Expert Patients Programme (EPP) is a series of self-management courses provided by the NHS under the EPP label.

The courses are based on improving the "self efficacy" of those living with long-term health conditions, physical or mental, to improve the way they manage their symptoms and increase confidence in their ability to manage their conditions in such a way as to reduce the impact on their everyday lives. The content of the courses includes:

- § Dealing with pain, fatigue and fear
- § Dealing with depression
- § Managing multiple medications
- § Relaxation and distraction techniques
- § Liaising with health professionals
- § Healthy eating and exercise
- § Planning for the future

As well as general courses ("Living Well") for people with long-term health conditions, Brighton and Hove is one of the only areas in the country at the moment to provide an EPP course "Looking After Me" for Carers with health problems.

Courses are delivered by volunteer tutors who themselves have long-term health conditions, or who are carers, and who are trained to national standards.

Courses last for six weeks, one 2½-hour session a week, in a variety of locations in Brighton and Hove, and are free! For more information, or to book a place, contact:

Natasha Faulder, EPP Administrator: 296590

Jane Bolding, EPP Manager, 296583

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DO WE WANT A 600FT SPIRE ON THE SEAFRONT?

The architects for the proposed tower, called the i360 (because the viewing platform turns through 360°) have sent to The Round Hill Society a colour brochure and other information in order to fulfil their obligation to consult as widely as possible. They are Marks Barfield, the same people responsible for the London Eye.

The i360 would include a West Pier Heritage Centre and revenue from the admittance fee would be used to demolish the sea wreck of the West Pier.

Although they have projected for around 550,000 visitors to the i360 in the opening year, of which 110,000 are estimated to be new

visitors attracted by the spire, a transport assessment "has concluded that the additional visitors to the city can be accommodated without any adverse impact".

With a timed ticketing system, a dedicated queuing area and different levels for dis/embarkation, the architects feel there will not be any queuing or congestion problems.

Noise from construction work will be monitored, local residents will be kept informed of particularly noisy periods during construction and there will be a complaints procedure in place. It is anticipated that it will take about 12 months to build and it is hoped to open in 2008. However, once it is built, it is felt "there will be no adverse noise

impacts from the operation of the i360 itself."

The i360 will not be operated in high winds and will be equipped with a damping system "to ensure the comfort and safety of passengers during operation."

Wind turbines will be incorporated to provide 20% of the energy needed to operate the i360.

The developers claim, among other things, the i360 will have a favourable economic impact on the city, provide a 21st century landmark, improve the city's tourism, and end uncertainty over the future of the West Pier.

What do you think? To see the full proposal, log onto www.westpier.co.uk or if you don't have the



POSTBOX

Hi, I live at 60 Roundhill Crescent and am writing re. proposed residents' parking idea. The spring 2006 newsletter from the Green Councillors mentioned that there was pressure from residents in and around our area to do something about parking problems. Charles Field, Senior Traffic Engineer at B & H City Council, Norton Road, Hove, is dealing with it. And there will be Councillor-organised public meetings on the matter.

I want to give you my personal experiences of residents' parking. I have lived in 2 areas before Round Hill that began as free parking for all and ended up as residents' parking. At first everyone is hopeful that residents'



parking will mean they will always find a place to park near their house. However, the reality is this: in the daytime it is easy to find a

place to park, just as it is now. At night it is just as crowded with everyone coming back from work and non-residents parking after 8pm anyway. Also, whenever you have any guests, whether for 10 minutes or 2 days, you will have to issue them with a visitor's permit which will cost you £1 per permit. You will also have to pay for your resident's permit for the year. Also, because they paint lines on the road for you to park in, it further reduces the number of spaces small cars can squeeze into.

Please note that where space is limited, letters may be edited. If you would like your letter included in the Newsletter, but would prefer your name and address to be withheld, please give your details but ask for them not to be printed. Letters sent anonymously will not be printed. Please send your letters to the Editor at the address on the back page.

In conclusion I appeal to Round Hill residents not to be too tempted into thinking our parking situation will improve with controlled parking zones. We will have to pay for ourselves and our visitors, will still be able to park fairly easily in the day and evening parking will be just as impossible!

Thanks, Juliana
(by email)

DO YOU FEEL SAFE IN ROUND HILL?

On Friday 19 May, Brighton & Hove Council hosted a Neighbourhood Renewal Community Safety Day entitled 'Safe in the City' at the Jubilee Library. I went along to see what it was all about.

The Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership has been formed to tackle crime and disorder in our city and the Partnership Community Safety Team is now delivering services from 162 North Street. It comprises many different groups, with the council and police working together to combat crime and antisocial behaviour. The 'Safe in the City' day was a way to launch the partnership and bring it to the attention of local community groups. They've produced a bright, glossy brochure explaining what they're about and I spoke to various helpful people about topics specific to the Round Hill area. You can drop in and talk to them (162 North Street) on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday 10am to 1pm or phone their hotline on 294646 to report incidents of physical abuse, threats, verbal abuse, written/printed abuse, graffiti attacks, harassment or stereotyping.

I went onto the CADDIE website (Crime & Disorder Information Exchange) and found the crime statistics for Round Hill in March 2006, which are as follows:

Theft from vehicles	2
Theft other	4
Violence	8
Sexual Harassment	1
Theft of vehicles	1
Burglary - dwelling	1
Drugs	1
Criminal Damage	5
Total reported crimes	23

CADDIE is an internet-based service giving you access to accurate and up-to-date information about levels of crime and disorder in your area. I've got a handful of leaflets about it if you'd like one. The web address is www.caddie.gov.uk.

Graffiti is now the responsibility of Cityclean and 10 areas have been identified as priorities; these are the main routes into the city and the parts that are visible from those routes. That rules out Round Hill, but if we let them know that we're concerned, they will endeavour to do something about it. Let me know on 276386 and I'll pass on your

information.

Dog fouling is still a problem in Round Hill. It's against the law to allow your dog to foul on the road, pavements, grass verges or parks. If you know the culprit's address, you can call the Animal Welfare Officer on 292400 or 292406. If you know who the culprit is and what time they walk their dog, but don't know their address, a dog warden will come and deal with them. If you want dog mess cleared up, phone Cityclean on 274674.

We sometimes have problems with noisy neighbours. Examples are loud music, dogs barking or unattended alarms. If the disturbance is serious and the problem can't be solved by negotiation, legal action is possible. Phone the Community Services Team on 292400 or 292424 for advice or if it's an emergency, phone 292229. A noise patrol operates on a Friday and Saturday night between 10pm and 3am and you can phone them on 07831 698907.

It's good to know there's a concerted effort to make our city safer. Let's hope it has the desired effect.

Vivien Eliades



THE ROUND HILL SOCIETY

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Email: news@roundhill.org.uk
Website: www.roundhill.org.uk



COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

Chair	Rob Stephenson	51 Upper Lewes Road	673511
Treasurer	Paul Thompson	29 Richmond Road	883004
Secretary	David Guest	16a Wakefield Road	699476
Vice chair	Marian Gerrett	77 Princes Crescent	688009
Minutes Secretary	Jean Brennan	87 Round Hill Crescent	693100
Newsletter Editor	Vivien Eliades	66 Richmond Road	276386
Webmaster	David Guest	16a Wakefield Road	699476
Member without Portfolio	Peter Meakins	19 Round Hill Street	571519
Member without Portfolio	Terry Tidman	56 Richmond Road	699182
Member without Portfolio	Jan Curry	58 Richmond Road	601320
Member without Portfolio	Ted Power	55 Prince's Road	688102

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE DUE OUT AT THE BEGINNING OF SEPTEMBER

Please send your articles, letters, pictures, adverts, poems, anecdotes etc, to the editor at the above address by **MONDAY 14TH AUGUST** preferably by email.

I am looking for a cleaner. Does anyone have someone they would recommend? Round Hill area. Contact Naomi on 01273 690652

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M: 07759 9699514, E: col.scarratt@ntlworld.com
Bishop Window Cleaning T: 07939 161904

BUILDERS

Jack Gibson—J G Construction T: 07813 241287
Chris Nesbitt Plastering, bricklaying. T: 07867 864619

DECORATORS

Preston Decorators (Prince's Road), T: 07976 893087
Rob Stephenson 51 Upper Lewes Road, T: 673511
Peter Skinner T: 558790/889964

PLUMBERS

Tim Packwood 88 Waldegrave Road, T: 0770 325 3740
G J Saunders 80 Melrose Ave, Portslade, T: 882827
C R Laker 76 Rugby Rd, T: 501006, F: 507745
Tom Plumb T: 07973 551841
Lynette Ward CORGI registered plumbing/heating with associated carpentry/tiling. M: 07910 763689
T: 302574 E: lynette1.ward@ntlworld.com

CARPENTERS

SAB Carpentry 27 Prince's Rd. T: 702632
M: 07963 8415630

GARDENERS

Sadie at Plant People T: 562425, M: 07881 992762
Bruce Jonas Tree Surgeon T: 693247

Please send your recommendations (or warnings!) including your own details for verification, to the editor at 66 Richmond Road, tel: 276386

The Reporter is published by the Round Hill Society to keep residents in the area in touch with local news, events and each other. Every effort is made to present a fair and balanced view, while aiming to accept any material from Round Hill residents. The opinions expressed in The Reporter are not necessarily those of the Round Hill Society.

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