



The Round Hill Reporter

Issue 46
DECEMBER 2011

Roundhill Bands play at the Gladstone on Saturday 10th December – see page 7

Round Hill Seasonal Singing

Thursday 15th December between 6.30pm and 7.30pm

Last year we had to cancel the street singing event because the weather was so bad.

Hopefully this year will be kinder to us, and we will be able to set off from the bottom of the Cat Creep - near the west end of Round Hill Crescent - along Round Hill Crescent, up D'Aubigny Road and into Richmond Road as far as Mayo Road. From there we'll go along Mayo Road and then up to the top of Princes Road, down Crescent Road and finish inside the Round Hill Tavern for mulled wine and mince pies (families welcome)

As usual we will stop at intervals under street lights to sing a couple of songs, whilst other volunteers knock on doors and rattle our collection buckets. Last time we raised over £200 and we hope for a similar sum this year, when the charity will be Martlets-At-Home – which provides hospice care for people in their homes.

If you would like to join us, with friends and family, instruments, torches and lanterns, but most of all YOUR VOICES you will be most



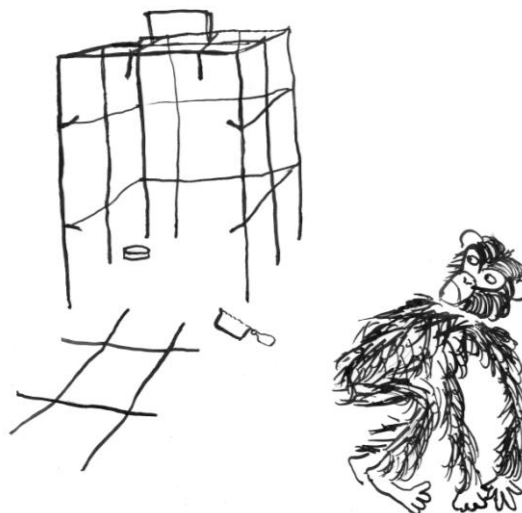
Illustration courtesy of Stefan Holmstrom

welcome. We will provide the song sheets, and refreshments at the end. We will gather at the foot of the Cat Creep near the west end of Round Hill Crescent at 6.30pm.

Round Hill Chimpanzee **page 2** - Christmas Cards & Advent Windows **page 3**
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Monkey Business

When Bonnie Scovell, our Police Community Support Officer, attended our AGM in 2010 she mentioned that she was local, and attended the Downs School. Later she told me that her Dad would ask her, as they passed the end of Roundhill Road, 'Can you see the monkey?'. Bonnie said that she often saw it, in a cage on a platform above a garden. It was some time before she met someone who could confirm this childhood memory.



A long-term resident, who prefers to remain anonymous, recalled, 'I first saw the chimpanzee in 1961 or 62, when I moved here. It sat hunched in its misery staring fixedly down Roundhill Road, completely without protection from the elements and with no sign of bedding of any kind. Its eyes reflected the hopelessness of its situation and they have haunted me to this day. I have since heard that children would taunt it on their way home from school and it would return the missiles that landed in its cage. I have no idea of its fate - it just wasn't there one day. I still reproach myself for not reporting it to the authorities.' Does anyone know any more? (Thanks to Stefan Holmstrom for the image)

The Roundhill Tavern Christmas Menu

will be served from 9th to 24th of December 2011
between 12pm - 3pm and 6pm - 9.30pm.

The menu is also now available at www.roundhilltavern.co.uk
or at www.facebook.com/roundhilltavern

Please email us for details or just drop by.

100 Ditchling Road Brighton BN1 4SG Phone 01273 683 967 info@roundhilltavern.co.uk

Seasonal Window Dressing

Snowmen, Christmas trees, mangers, shepherds and kings

Residents in St Nicholas Road, Brighton, have been decorating their front windows with Christmas pictures in coloured tissue paper for years. Some even turn their windows into display areas for three dimensional displays celebrating the season of good will. Its not just Brighton, you can see examples from Saltaire and Hull on these websites: www.saltairevillage.info/advent06 and www.hullsangel.org/advent06/.

So why not get your kids to design an advent window for your home, and light it up each evening. It doesn't have to be the work of children – nor even particularly Christian to be friendly and welcoming on dark December evenings. The image below is from one of the Hull windows.



Round Hill Cards

£3 for 10 cards plus envelopes

Yes, it's the same cards (on the right) as last year, two great pictures taken by local resident Adrian Powter. Last year we recovered the printing costs so we can offer them even cheaper this year.

Still the same great snowy scenes in Round Hill. The images are in full colour and there is no message inside the A6 card so you can use it any time of year.

Just £3 will get you five cards of each design, plus 10 envelopes. I can deliver them to you, or you can collect from me. Just contact me to arrange it – 673511 or e-mail me at rob.stephenson51@gmail.com

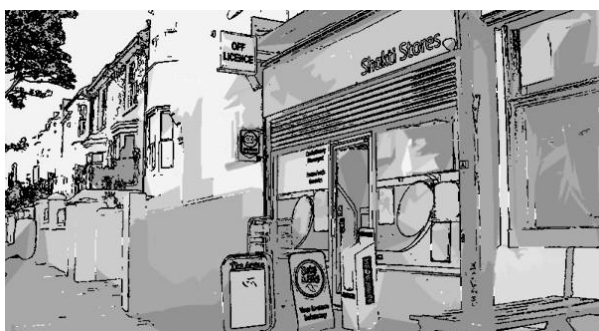


A Safe Crossing *on the Upper Lewes Road?*

There have been calls for a safe crossing on this road for as long as there has been a Round Hill Society, so far without success.

Council Officers will be presenting information on 60+ proposed new crossings to Cllr Ian Davey, the relevant Cabinet member, at a meeting on the 24th January. One of the sites will be on the Upper Lewes Road.

If you think a safe crossing here would be valuable perhaps you could drop a note to our Councillors, see listings on page 5, urging them to approve a crossing before any fatality occurs.



Shakti Stores

Your local Premier retailer

Open 7am-10pm daily

Your local convenience store and newsagent

Fresh organic bread and milk daily, large vegetarian and organic range, frozen food

OFF LICENCE – great selection of good quality wines

102 Ditchling Road
Established December 1983

Reeking Rubbish *What a pong in Princes Road*

During April and July the residents of Princes Road, Ditchling Road and Hollingdean suffered sickening smells from the Waste Transfer Station.

On some occasions the smell has been bad enough for us to close doors and avoid being in the garden. It depends of course on the wind direction as to whose turn it is. Last year it was worse, and on many occasions I complained to the manager of the site and also to the Environment Agency, who grant Veolia a licence.

There has been an improvement recently, following changes in the management. However, if you notice the distinctive smell of rotting rubbish please ring Kevin Hanson the site manager on 01273 544205 or e-mail kevin.hanson@veolia.co.uk and also inform the Environment Agency on 0800 807060.

It is a good idea to keep a log of your calls as evidence, with headings across the top of a page in a permanent diary labelled 'date', 'incident and time', 'who contacted' and 'outcome'. If the problems persist this record could be valuable evidence.

Marigold Rogers

Tour of Royal Pavilion

Join us for a private guided tour

Wednesday 11th January at 1pm is when Pavilion expert Alexandra Loske will meet us and take us on a two hour exploration of Brighton's palace.

If you'd like to be one of this lucky group give me a call and I will take £8.40 from you. This is the Brighton resident entry fee, plus a small sum the Council charge for providing the guide.

Afterwards we can stay on for a cream tea inside the Pavilion, for £4.60 per person, provided there are 15 of us.

Rob Stephenson – see page 8 for contact details.

Some useful contacts Water Warning

Ward Councillors:

Pete West pete.west@brighton-hove.gov.uk
296431

Ian Davey ian.davey@brighton-hove.gov.uk
296430

Lizzie Dean lizzie.dean@brighton-hove.gov.uk
291138

All can be written to at Kings House, Grand Avenue, Hove BN3 2LS

Police Community Support Officer:

Bonnie Scovell
andree.scovell@sussex.pnn.police.uk 07717
785514 (mobile) or 0845 6070999 (John Street)

Keeping in touch with the neighbours

Did you know that Round Hill has an active online community, via an email list? The volume of mails ebbs and flows but in the last few months there has been lively discussion about the concept of a CPZ, requests and responses for information about cleaners, gardeners, painters and plumbers, offers of plants and furniture to give away, discussion about neighbourhood security and about problems with noisy neighbours.

It's easy to join - send an email to roundhill-subscribe@yahoogroups.com outlining where you live in Round Hill - this is simply so we can keep the group locally focused and avoid spammers joining the list. You can control your own settings to either receive each email individually or a daily or weekly digest of mails. The volume of mails isn't high - an average of about 10 per month. You can see a sample of recent messages by visiting <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/roundhill/> and following the links.

The email list is a good way to keep up to date with what's happening locally between editions of the Round Hill Reporter! And remember the website at www.roundhill.org.uk for other news.

A fable for our times

A few years ago my neighbour decided to have a free water meter fitted. He lives on his own so thought it ought to be easy to save money with a meter rather than paying on the basis of his rateable value.

Once the meter replaced the stop cock in the pavement he set about reducing his water use, fitting a flow restrictor in his shower hose and a 'hippo' bag in his wc cistern and even turning down the water pressure. He made sure he only used the shower, rather than the bath, and only used the washing machine when he had a full load.

He even followed the advice in the rhyming couplet:

If its brown flush it down
If its yellow let it mellow.

But his water consumption stayed high. So he turned everything off and took a look at the meter. As he looked at the dial it suddenly started to turn rapidly and an idea struck him. Knocking at the door of the ground floor flat he discovered that they had just started to run a bath. It turns out that he had been paying the water bill for the family downstairs for five years! The water company have now fitted a meter to his water supply, and after they have monitored it for a while he should receive a substantial refund.

Mick points out the offending meter



Round Hill AGM

Summary of the Meeting

About 28 people attended the meeting held for the first time in the upstairs room of the new Roundhill Tavern.

There were some significant committee changes, with Marian Gerrett stepping down from the committee, leaving a vacancy for treasurer, which was ably picked up by Carol Hall.

Marian has been on the committee since the beginning and stepped down only because she plans to leave Round Hill for the delights of Shoreham.

Three new committee members stepped forward, Jenny Tear and Boo Vaughan, both living on Princes Road, and Deborah French, Chair of the newly formed residents group at Mayo Court.

The street party made a tiny surplus (£57) only through the generosity of local businesses D'Aubigny Fusions and Magnetic Events, without them we would have lost well over £1000. The Council also gave us £1000 towards the event.

Overall we had an income of £7575 and expenditure of £4964. The Community University Partnership Project provided £2491, and the project is still ongoing.

The weather spoilt the street party and led to the cancellation of the seasonal singing last year, but, on the up side Carelets lost their appeal to the Planning Inspectorate largely because of the huge efforts made by a handful of residents who carried out several traffic surveys which convinced the Inspector that there is no spare space for a big Carelets development. **Continued on page 7**

Fix those Winter Blues



**Come & Sit by a Roaring Fire
Whilst receiving Ear Acupuncture**

For: anxiety, depression, energy levels, post party detox, menstruation, Morning sickness, mood swings, Sleep & Stress

Tuesdays from 7.30pm
£8.00 a session. Roundhill Crescent.

Contact Juliana to book a time.
Tel: 07817 541163
Juliana@brighton-acupuncture.co.uk
www.brighton-acupuncture.co.uk

Lewes Road Local Sustainable Transport Fund Programme

The Council has won £4 million to improve sustainable transport on the Lewes Road. They are holding a number of exhibitions where Council Officers will be available to talk and hear your thoughts. Questionnaires will be available for you to record your ideas and comments.

By the time you get this last event will be at the **Church Hall, Norwich Drive, Bevendean.**

Thurs 8th December 9am to 4pm, Fri 9th Dec 2pm to 8pm, Saturday 10th Dec 10am to 4pm

Why not stroll up there and, maybe, discuss cycling around the gyratory or trying to walk to Sainsburys through the crowds waiting for buses on too narrow a pavement, or something else. Or read and respond online at <http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/index.cfm?request=c1252674>

Nearby Planning Proposals

Applications in the pipeline

Pete West and Lizzie Dean, two of our Councillors attended our Annual General Meeting in September and spoke about planning applications and developments which might have an impact on people living in the Round Hill area.

The Preston Barracks site, on the Lewes Road, is being considered by the University of Brighton as a possible site for housing 750 students, as well as about 300 homes and some retail. One hope is that more student housing will reduce the demand for rented housing in town, so that more may become available for families here. Landlords like housing students partly because student households pay no Council Tax.

Meanwhile the old Co-operative store on the London Road may be demolished and replaced by ground floor retail topped by several floors of student accommodation specifically for foreign students studying at the University of Sussex. Presumably the University thinks secure purpose-built in-town housing will help attract valuable foreign students who pay fees substantially higher than UK students.

Just down the road from the Co-op, the Open Market seems finally ready to start work on a complete new build, all new stalls on two floors under cover, funded by a substantial number of social housing units down the Francis Street side of the site.

Roundhill Rewind

Local Bands at the Gladstone

You might recall that our street party was rather wet, and if you stayed long enough you will know that rain eventually got into the speakers and some of the bands who still wanted to play had to abandon the attempt.

Dr Scardo, We Are Team Waste and **Bob Wants His Head Back** will play from about 8pm at

The Gladstone on Saturday 10th December.

A collection will be made at the event, but money raised above expenses will be set aside for the next Round Hill Street Party – so please get along and enjoy.

Check them out at www.scardanelli.com and www.reverbNation.com/weareteamwaste

Round Hill AGM continued

In the discussion period smells from the Refuse Transfer Station and car parking issues featured highly.

The petition run by those in favour of another CPZ consultation seems to have worked as it has recently been reported that Round Hill will be consulted again in 2013/14.

The Councillors raised a number of issues (see above) including the creation of 'special stress areas' to act between Cumulative Impact Zones and other parts of the town where booze licences are usually granted. Cllr Dean urged us to object to applications for drinks licences if we feel there are too many already. Without objections they will be granted.

Afterwards we ate some excellent snacks prepared by the pub and enjoyed half an hour of songs from Cocktail Party.





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www.roundhill.org.uk

The Round Hill Society Committee

Co-chair	Jean Brennan	87 Round Hill Cres	693100
Co- chair	Annie Rimington	8 D'Aubigny Road	609086
Secretary	Rob Stephenson	51 Upper Lewes Road	673511
Treasurer	Carol Hall	36b Princes Road	687636
Conservation Committee	Ted Power	55 Princes Road	688102
	Emma Daniel	15 D'Aubigny Road	
	Kevin Tansley	11 Wakefield Road	672648
	Robin Morley	112 Richmond Road	
	Jenny Teare	15 Princes Road	
	Deborah French	Mayo Court, Mayo Rd	
	Boo Vaughan	21 Princes Road 07971	823014

Directory

Window Cleaners

Bishop Window Cleaning M 07939 161904
Alan Barnett T 606710
Matt Cook E weatherwatchers@hotmail.com
T 07940 071302

Decorators

Preston Decorators Princes Road M 07976 893087
Peter Skinner T 558790/ 889964
John Hoyle Round Hill Crescent M 07743 751665

Carpenters

Richard Simpson W simpsoncarpentry.com M 07754 650135 E richard@simpsoncarpentry.com
Beacon Woodwork M 07843 247411
E steffan@beaconwoodwork.co.uk
John Mildoon M 07890 689982

Gardeners

Sadie at Plant People T 562425 M 07881 992762
All Out Tree surgery and garden clearance.
Contact Giles T 243026 M 07989 537828
Bloomers Contact Sophie M 07773 984421
E brightonbloomers@gmail.com

Plumbers

Tim Packwood 88 Waldegrave Road M 07703 253740
C R Laker 76 Rugby Road T 501006 F 507745
Tom Thumb M 07973 551841
Lynette Ward Gas Safe Regd. M 07910 763689
T 302574 E lynette1.ward@ntlworld.com
Atlas Heating Engineers M 07930 877575 T 820551

General

Getafix mobile cycle mechanic T 693247 M 07928 116037
Darren Clarke Electrician M 07815 145556
Auto-bodycare Car Service Centre 25 Ditchling Rise
T 696030
Jim Gustard Waste clearance incl trade, bulky waste
174 Hollingdean Terr M 07773 396212
E j.gustard@ntlworld.com

Builders

Earthwise Construction Greendesign, construction and renovation.
W www.earthwiseconstruction.org
A Team Builders Ltd Plastering, damp-proofing.
Contact Giles Walker T 385478 M 07725028393

The Round Hill Reporter is published by the Round Hill Society to keep residents in the area in touch with local news, events and each other. We try to present a fair and balanced view but the opinions expressed in this paper are not necessarily shared by all.

Please send your recommendations or warnings to the editor. Letters or ideas for articles are welcome – please contact the editor at the address shown above.

Deadline for the March edition 14th February