



The Round Hill Reporter

Issue 56
June 2014

Celebrating the new-ish Level – page 3

Playtime, Picnic, Party

The Round Hill Summer Picnic and Playsafe Event 29th June 1 - 4.30pm

Sunday the 29th June really must be a sunny, warm and delightful day because the Round Hill Society, with other volunteers, is planning a picnic on a short piece of Richmond Road between the top of Ashdown Road and the bottom of Mayo Road. There will be 'grass' on the road for sitting and spreading your blanket, or you can bring picnic tables and chairs.

There will be tea and coffee and soft drinks available, but you can bring drinks of your own choice, as well as food.

If you, or your children, would like to offer cakes or other snacks for sale, or you have surplus plants to sell, or homemade jams or chutneys please contact one of the committee to arrange a table-top stall.

We hope to be visited by local acoustic musicians at intervals during the afternoon, and to help meet the costs we will have a raffle – Sainsbury's have given us a £50 voucher as a prize, and we are seeking others from local businesses.

Meanwhile, on Mayo Road, there will be playtime. Over 40 children enjoyed the first Playsafe street closure in April (see page 5), and parents who came with them had the chance to talk and share ideas. We are hoping for more play and more networking this time.

Of course we have applied for street closures for both events, and hope that people will help by moving their cars away from the two areas on Saturday once our volunteers get there to stop others parking. People could also help make the streets more pleasing by taking in their bins and recycling boxes.

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Another developer, less greenspace **page 6** • London Road changes **page 5**

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by



New Planters – a gateway to Round Hill

You will have noticed two large black metal cylindrical planters with green BHCC logos being installed at each end of Round Hill Crescent over the weekend of 17/18 May. This was the achievement of the first stage of creating a distinctive entrance into Round Hill. The (pre-loved) planters were donated by BHCC being surplus to their requirements.

Firstly they had to be rescued from City Parks department at Stanmer Park; emptied of the old planting and then moved into storage while adjustable 'feet' were welded on to ensure they could be levelled securely on our hilly streets. Finally they had to be moved into position and filled with good quality top soil (1 tonne in each). Veolia helped us by giving us about £200 worth of composted greenwaste. Their positions were agreed with the Council to ensure safety at junctions and footpath access for all users. We could not have achieved all this without the massive support of Chris and Tina Groom of Richmond Rd, together with their son Ashley. They led the planning and action at every stage. The pictures give you some idea of the work involved.

The next stage is to find some sponsorship for covering the cost of plants and then to have a community 'plant up' day. There are also plans to finish the installation of the planters with a metal trim to hide the feet.

We are hoping that those of you who live nearest will keep an eye on and occasionally water the Round Hill planters if the weather gets very dry. If you have suggestions for planting schemes, ideas for sponsors or would like to help with the planting up and watering, do let us know. Text or call Annie on 07801701551 or email at amccabebrighton@gmail.com



At Stanmer Park: Chris and Tina strive to empty the first planter.



The final positioning of the second planter on its carefully adjusted feet.



Ashley cuts the sack to release a tonne of topsoil

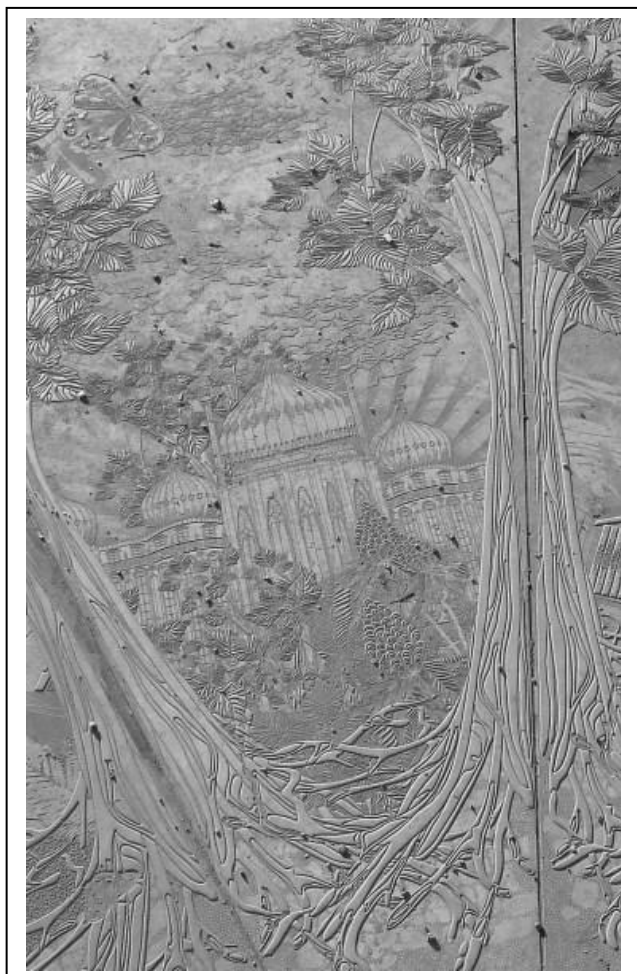
Level Best 14th June

Celebrating the new Level

The grand community celebration event for the Level will be on Saturday 14th June from 10am until 6pm.

The play equipment at the southern end is full of families whenever the day is bright, people sit around the central grassy area close to the water feature and curved pavilions, reading, talking and eating. If it's warm, the play-fountains attract lots of attention. And the skatepark is busy just about any time it's lit.

There still needs to be more seating, especially on the central Rose Walk. Even when the fair was here the remaining grassy triangle was active with Frisbees and jugglers. At night, if you are lucky, you might see flaming fire-stick twirling. And, if the electrical problems have been solved, you should enjoy the delightfully precise LED lighting of the two diagonal cross paths. In the central crossing make sure you examine the beautifully detailed relief panels with lots of Brighton features, past and present. If you are concerned get involved – contact thelevelcommunitiesforum@gmail.com



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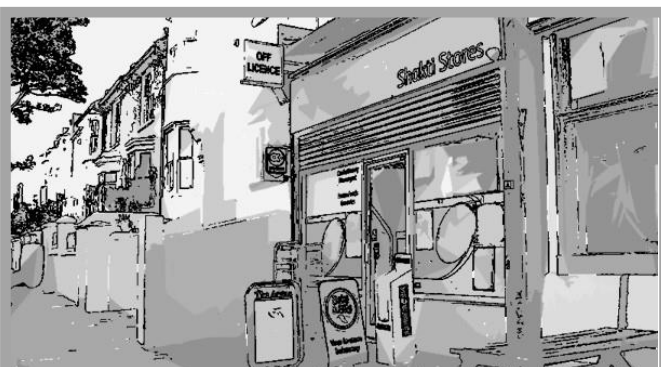
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The Need for Neighbourliness

Round Hill has a diversity of residents – from retired folk, through families with young children and on to young people living independently. And all these groups have pressures and demands on their time which can lead to a degree of insularity, an emphasis on their own needs. Whilst this is perfectly normal and understandable there are many advantages to making a small effort to connect with your neighbours. A greater awareness of each other's needs makes living more comfortable for everyone. Building connections makes small kindnesses possible – and this helps to create a more liveable community. A simple task for a fit adult, such as replacing a lightbulb in a ceiling rose, might be frustratingly difficult, even risky, for someone less agile.



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Being aware of your neighbours' situations might even be life-saving. In a busy family home any accident will be spotted and dealt with, but a person living alone may find themselves helpless after a fall. Good neighbours keep an eye open for activity next door or over the road. Running taps, lights going on and off, regular taking in of mail, drawing together and apart of curtains, and putting out of waste and recycling indicate life going on as usual – but a change in the pattern might indicate a problem.

In November of last year the remains of a relatively young man were found in his Leopold Road flat. He was known to be a loner, and none of his neighbours knew him well enough to be aware of his death. The Coroner reported it was believed he had been dead for two years.

Last year a woman died unnoticed in her Richmond Road home, and just a few weeks ago an elderly woman died and went unnoticed for some time in her house in Princes Road.

Reductions in social care budgets mean that more people are being left alone more often. A recent national newspaper article reported that the number of older people receiving Meals on Wheels dropped by over a half while care services carried out in the home or Day Centres have been cut by over 20%.

None of us have a duty to our neighbours, and we can discuss perhaps endlessly how best we should use limited public resources, but just a little more connecting with our neighbours will help to weave a stronger social fabric.

Wedding Photography

by John Fowler

Hi, I'm a professional photographer covering weddings in Sussex, Surrey, Kent, and Hampshire. My style is the increasingly popular mixture of contemporary, informal reportage shots along with the classic formal poses that are still a beautiful record of the day for everybody.

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London Road

Getting better all the time

Lots of things are happening on the London Road, all making it a better place to visit, eat and relax, so here are some highlights for you to consider:



The Hare and Hounds at Preston Circus has been refurbished and offers a better range of beers.



Alcampo Lounge replaced Blockbusters and offers coffee, wine and a good range of comfort foods such as eggs benedict and buttermilk pancakes. The Open Market is a big space but still needs more traders to become a real attraction.

(continued on page 7)

First Playsafe street event

Sunday 6th May saw the first 'Streetplay' event in Round Hill, kindly agreed to by the residents of Mayo Road. The event was co-ordinated by the Round Hill Committee members in collaboration with Brighton and Hove Council and Residents of Mayo Road and Mayo Court.

Mayo Road was closed off for two hours between 2-4pm, cars were moved and children from the community were encouraged to play freely on the traffic-free road. The rain thankfully held off and with a range of marshals watching the closure signs, playtime began!

Over 40 children came to play, bringing with them scooters, roller skates, footballs, chalks and skipping ropes. They had so much fun, and were able to make new friends, have a kick about with a ball, and even have their face painted! It was a great opportunity for the children to meet each other, and for adults to have a chat and a piece of cake!

Ted and Jane Power kindly donated packs of sunflower seeds to each family, and we launched a competition to see who can grow a sunflower taller than themselves! So if you managed to plant your sunflower seeds, watch them grow and send in your pictures of how tall they get! We can print these in a later edition of the Reporter. You can send photos to news@roundhill.org.uk.



Brighton in Bloom

Register your entry by 27th June

Got a fantastic front garden? Perhaps it's a wonderful window box? Or maybe it's a beautiful basement? Maybe yours is a heavenly hanging basket? Further afield you may have an alluring allotment? Then there is still time to register it in the Brighton and Hove City in Bloom competition.

Your fantastic feature must be visible from the street (except the allotment). Register on-line at the B&H City in Bloom website, you'll find it at www.brightonandhovacityinbloom.co.uk.

London Road (continued)

The Emporium offers great coffee, pleasing hot snacks, often with live music at weekends, and a theatre ('Entertaining Mr Sloane' is on next).



Vi Fairhall - an obituary

Vi moved to Mayo Road in 1959 with her husband (Big Tom) and young son, Tom. When I painted her house in 2008, she was a widow. She had been a vegetarian since childhood, was a great pet lover, always willing to feed neighbour's cats, and the proud owner of two tortoises. She never had a washing machine, preferring to visit local laundrettes with bedding and towels, and washing the rest in her kitchen sink. Two of her great pleasures were smoking and horse racing - she always attended the races at Brighton. When Vi died in March she was in her mid-80s.

Sunbirds deli and café is good for mezze, baklava and falafel, or just a coffee.



Or you might fancy a Full English, which LangeLees offers all day, beside the Hobgoblin.

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Two local
recommendations





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51 Upper Lewes Road
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www.roundhill.org.uk

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Yahoo Roundhill
Community Group: a
forum for local info and
advice (Google or find
link on website).

The Round Hill Society Committee

Chair	Annie Rimington	8 D'Aubigny Road	609086
Secretary	Rob Stephenson	51 Upper Lewes Road	673511
Treasurer	Carol Hall	36b Princes Road	687636
Conservation	Ted Power	55 Princes Road	933018
Others	Deborah French	3 Mayo Court, Mayo Road	
	Kate Rice	33 Richmond Road	673321
	Boo Vaughan	21 Princes Road	07971 823014
	Sandy Thomas	47 Round Hill Crescent	699152
	Cath Kronhamn	84 Richmond Road	
	Adam Campbell	94 Round Hill Crescent	07889 148143
	Jan Curry	58 Richmond Road	601320
	Barbara Harris	14 Mayo Road	677610
	Maria Bonner	48 Richmond Road	383407

Veolia Waste Plant issues : Noise problems – B&H Council 01273 292256

Smell problems – Environment Agency 0800 807060

Report an illegally parked car in the CPZ on 0845 603 5469 and select option 3 for a traffic warden.

Student liaison officers: Sussex-Mark Woolford 678219.

Brighton- a.w.b.keeffe@brighton.ac.uk

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- People are injured or in danger.

Non-emergencies

Call 101 if:

- It's less urgent, or
 - You have a question, or
 - You can report a crime or incident online:-
- E-mail: contact.centre@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Alternatively, for non-emergencies, contact Bonnie, local Police Community Support Officer on 07717 785 514 or e-mail andree.scovell@sussex.pnn.police.uk. I would encourage residents to make me aware of any suspicious behavior in the Round Hill area. If you have a question or need any advice at all then please give me a call and I will do my best to help in any way I can. Bonnie

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.

Letters or ideas for articles are welcome – please contact the editor at the address shown above.

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