



The Round Hill Reporter

Issue 62
December 2015

A Women's Hospital in Round Hill? – page 2

Seasonal Singing

6pm Thursday 17th Dec.

Starting at the bottom of the Cat Creep, moving up Round Hill Crescent, then Ashdown Rd, Richmond Rd and Crescent Rd before reaching Princes Road for mulled wine and mince pies (soft drinks for smaller ones).

We need your help again, with singing, knocking on doors for cash donations for Brighton Housing Trust's work with the homeless, and just having a good time. Bring children, torches, lanterns, instruments, costumes and voices. We will provide song sheets, decorated collection buckets and some music to help build the mood.

The whole event takes about 90 minutes, wrap up warm and come along to sing under Round Hill lampposts and make merry.

Advent windows



Admiring the window work in 2014.

If you'd like to get involved in the Round Hill Advent Window event please contact Cath (cathrynchronhamn@gmail.com) or Kate (katepotter72@gmail.com) either with your preferred date (1-24) or requesting to be allocated a random one. We will give you an advent number to stick up in your window. On that day in December you will unveil your advent window decorated however you wish to celebrate the season.

HMO issues **page 4** • Possible Community Garden **page 6**
Halloween Playsafe report **page 7** • Crime report **page 8**

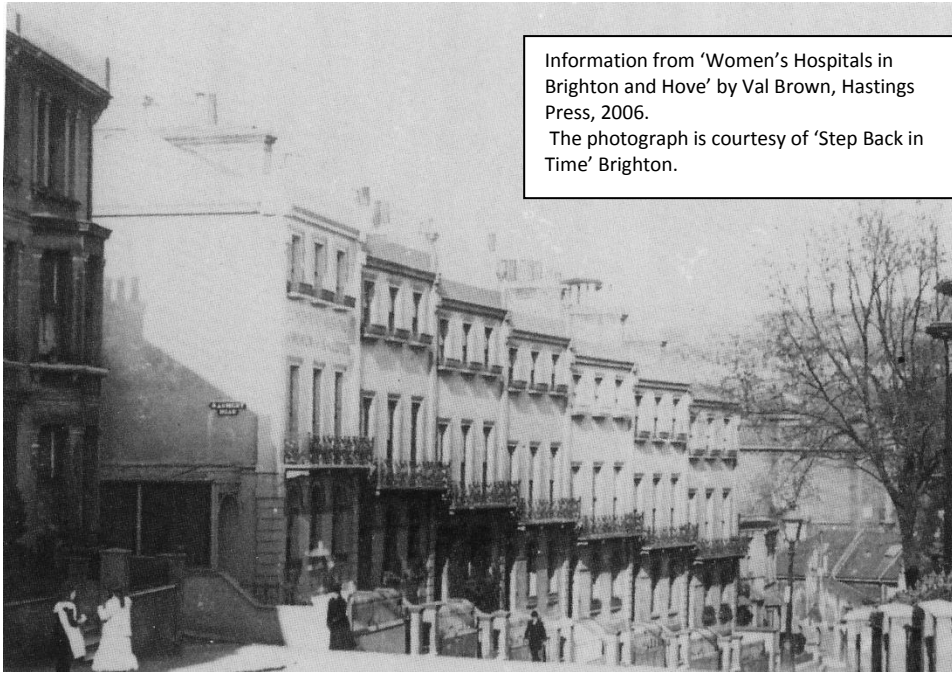
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Historic Round Hill in Pictures

The house with the D'Aubigny Rd sign on it is 101 Round Hill Crescent, and it was the home of the first hospital for women and children staffed entirely by women. Dr Helen Boyle and her colleague Dr Mabel Jones opened it in 1905, on a 7 year lease (at £50 pa). It had 12 beds, a matron and 2 probationer nurses. Since working in a Mental Asylum in Essex, Dr Boyle had been particularly concerned with the early onset of mental illness (which she called borderland nervous disorder) amongst poorer families. No hospitals looked after such people, until this one.

Information from 'Women's Hospitals in Brighton and Hove' by Val Brown, Hastings Press, 2006.
The photograph is courtesy of 'Step Back in Time' Brighton.



The Lewes Road Hospital for Women and Children (at 101 Round Hill Crescent) was supported by a committee of local worthies who fund-raised, and sought subscribers from the wealthier classes of the town. It remained in Round Hill until the lease ended in 1912, when bigger premises were leased in Brunswick Place, where it became the Lady Chichester Hospital, which finally moved to New Church Road in 1920, where it remains today as a day centre for psychiatric patients. Dr Boyle said (in 1926) of her work: "I saw the impecunious and harassed mother of five with a nervous breakdown after influenza or childbirth, getting up too soon, with bad air, bad food, noise and worry. I saw her apply for treatment, wait many weary hours and get a bottle of medicine and the advice not to worry and to go home and rest." She believed that this maltreatment created many certified lunatics.



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Or visit us at www.sashwindowssussex.co.uk

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Older People's Council

Local luncheon club

I was recently elected to the OPC to put forward the views of older people and want to ensure that the contribution of all older people is acknowledged and valued by the City Council. All members of the OPC are over 60 and volunteers. There are lots of events and activities that take place across the City but they are often not very well communicated. Locally there is information on the Fed website called 'Its Local Actually'

<http://www.thefedonline.org.uk/services/out-and-about/its-local-actually> which shows what's going on in the area. The Council also has a web area called My Life which outlines a range of services that older people may use its <http://www.mylifebh.org.uk> and gives health & social care information. I am well aware that not everyone has access to computers, so, if you want any particular information and need a hand, give me a ring on 01273-687319. I live in Round Hill and will try to help.

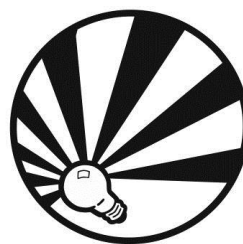
Locally, the Salvation Army cafe at the top of the Level in Union Road runs a Thursday Lunch club at 12.30 for older people which is £3. They can be contacted on 01273-607095 for further information. They are keen to attract more older people to the luncheon club and all are welcome. The Round Hill Society is very supportive to the Older People's Council and we do put regular information on their website as well as our own website www.olderpeoplescouncil.org but if you do not have access to a computer give me a ring.

Penny Morley.

New Traffic Exclusion Box Created

The new traffic controls at the Gyrotory have been causing traffic to tail back across the eastern end of Round Hill Crescent. The committee raised the matter with the Council and we now have a new set of road markings urging motorists to leave a gap across the end of the Crescent so that others can still get in and out at peak times.

If only all issues could be so quickly solved.



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Protecting your Home from Fire

I was horrified to read about the dishwasher fire in the June issue; a similar thing happened to me a few years ago when my washing machine caught fire.

Unfortunately, we can't assume that the only appliances that will go wrong are those which have been identified by the manufacturer as having a design fault. Any appliance can fail at any time, so we should take appropriate precautions.

As well as the precautions mentioned in the article, which I fully endorse, I'd also encourage householders to ensure that they have a Residual Current Device (RCD or RCCB) fitted to their consumer unit or fuse box. These devices are of course intended to protect human beings from electric shock, not prevent fires, but they are very sensitive, and may be triggered by other types of fault, such as this one. It was my RCD that saved my washing machine, and possibly my flat too, from major damage.

It is also a very good idea to make sure that you can turn off any appliance in an emergency, and keep it turned off when not in use. (The switch on the machine itself does not necessarily completely isolate it; in the case of my washing machine it was the suppressor that went wrong, and that is connected straight across the incoming mains, before the switch.)

This is not so easy with some kitchen appliances, as the modern vogue for putting them under worktops means that the switch on the socket is often completely inaccessible, being behind a large, heavy machine. There is, of course, always the option of turning off the electricity at the main switch, but that may be inconvenient, especially at night. Nevertheless everyone should make sure that they at least know where their main switch is, and that it is easily accessible

Jim Grozier



HMO issues

Several local residents' associations have been discussing the growing number of student houses in their streets, and the fact that it is changing the nature of their home area. The Council recognised this threat some years ago and established a new planning rule for St Peters and North Laine ward (where the problem is particularly acute) which limits the establishing of new Houses in Multiple Occupation if there are already deemed to be too many. It does this by drawing a 50metre radius circle around the proposed new student house (HMO) and checking to see if 10% of the houses in the circle are already registered as HMOs. If it is already 10% or more, then the current applicant will not be granted permission to operate as an HMO.

You can find a list of HMOs on the Council website, and a list of all recent HMO licence applicants. A developer has to carry out improvements to apply for an HMO licence before the Planning department can decide if the developer can run the property as an HMO. I know it sounds weird, but that is the case.

It seems that we might need to keep a close eye on developments near our homes and chase them ourselves rather than wait for the Council machinery.



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Possible new Lamppost

We have recently been given £250 towards the installation of a traditional street light lantern, like the one in the old photograph from the Regency Society photo archive below, which shows the Upper Lewes Road in the early 20th century. Does the idea appeal or not? And which of the many posts on Round hill should have it?



The original would have been lit by gas, but we'd use electricity!

The lanterns are still made, parts of Nottingham still use them to light their streets.

Would you like to see one here?

Please send any comments to me, Rob Stephenson.

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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.

Upper Lewes Road, Brighton.
07970 887604

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Pursuing Pong Problems at Veolia

At the Environment Agency, we are responsible for regulating waste management facilities. Part of that regulation concerns the amenity impact of the site, which is the affect it has on the surrounding environment, both Human and natural. This includes odour, but can also be dust, mud, liquid discharges or any other impact the site is having on the local environment. Typically, we are only made aware of amenity impact through reports made to us by the general public.

Reporting an incident

When you report an incident to us on our incident hotline 0800 807060, it gets inputted onto our National Incident Recording System (NIRS). We use this to record where and when an incident is reported, who it is reported by and the actions taken as a result.

When the incident has been logged it will be passed to a duty officer, who has the responsibility for managing the initial reaction. They will inform both Veolia and B&HCC that a complaint has been received, and the road it was reported from. They will then conduct their own investigation and report back to us. Your specific address or personal information will never be passed on by us, but if you want to report directly to Veolia as well, they are keen to meet the residents and will assess odour with you if you wish. You should also expect to receive a call from our duty officer to establish whether the odour is still present, exactly what you have experienced and to fill any gaps in the information you have left.

We are not able to attend every time a complaint is made, but must always assess the risk and seriousness of the incident. At present we will generally attend if we receive 3 or more complaints, provided we can establish that the odour is still present. It is vitally important that we are provided with accurate information on strength and duration of odour. Odour is transient and variable, and the more detail you can give on what you have experienced the better for us in determining patterns and potential solutions. Likewise, please do not feel tempted to exaggerate the strength of odour you are experiencing. This is a natural reaction as you may feel it would get taken more seriously, but it can do the opposite in the long term if we are attending reports of very strong odours and finding that it is actually very mild or not there at all.

What action can we take?

It is important to understand that an odour being present is not in itself sufficient for us to take action against a waste site. We regulate against the conditions in the Environmental Permit, and can only record a breach against the site if they have not met the requirements stated in them. For your information, the relevant condition is as follows:

Emissions from the activities shall be free from odour at levels likely to cause annoyance outside the site, as perceived by an authorised officer of the Agency, unless the licence holder has used appropriate measures to prevent or where that is not practicable, to minimise, the odour.

This means that in order for us to score a breach of permit at the transfer station, we have to not only perceive the odour ourselves, but we have to be certain that it is originating from that site, rather than the council depot, street bins or dustcarts, and we have to show that they have not breached their odour management plan, which is what is used to determine appropriate measures. Veolia are very strict about working to the odour management plan, and we have only found them to be non-compliant with it on one occasion in the last couple of years, and that led to a permit breach. In order to take more serious actions such as enforcement notices, prosecution or permit revocation there would have to be sustained non-compliance with the permit and an unwillingness to put it right, and neither of these things are happening here.

However, we are working with Veolia to make any improvements they can to actively prevent odour being generated, and this has led to the doors being limited in how high they open to reduce exposure time. Further improvements are being investigated, and I hope they will be able to reduce any odour you are experiencing. If you have any enquiries that aren't reporting odour, you can e-mail me directly at chris.parkin@environment-agency.gov.uk and I will answer whatever I can.

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Jasmina Cordal BSc (OST) ITEC
Registered Osteopath

01273 687072

07816 288 632

Weekend and evening appointments by arrangement





Music at the Martha Gunn Wednesday Evenings

Gypsy jazz led by guitarists Pete Long and Elis Davies, with different support each week. On the 4th November it was Dan Cartwright on tenor sax and George Berrills on double bass. Come on down and enjoy the music, and maybe eat as well. Food until 9.30pm.

Possible Community Garden and Safer Crossing *What do you think?*

Are you a pedestrian who crosses Crescent Road at its southern end? Do you live in the area around its junction with Princes Crescent? The absence of any road markings means motorists feel no need to slow down whichever way they are using the junction.

A local resident suggested that we might reduce the crossing distance by creating a garden for flowers or fruit and veg, on the tarmac, making crossing the road safer.

Have you seen the beautiful garden created at the narrowed junction of Stanford Avenue/Cleveland Road? We couldn't create so much space but might be able to do a mini version.

If there is local support for this idea we could consider a petition to the Environment, Transport and Sustainability Committee of Brighton and Hove City Council. We would have the support of our two local councillors who sit on this committee.

We just want to air the idea before door knocking and setting up an e-petition. Do you have any thoughts to contribute? Send them to any committee member, contact details page 8.

Christmas Carols in the Pub

On Tuesday 22nd December the **Park Crescent Tavern**, just out of Round Hill in Park Crescent, will be hosting a local group who will be singing carols and raising money for local charities. Details and other pubs on their Facebook page: **Brighton Pub Carols**

Dog Fouling Pilot Scheme *Early progress report*

During the last two weeks of October two members of your committee together with the enthusiastic help of local children applied Round Hill's new 'Clean it Up' dog stencils liberally around the area. We will be surveying to see if this initiative has helped to improve the behaviour of the few irresponsible dog owners who give dogs a bad name!

If you would like to borrow the stencil/paint to apply to pavements near your home contact Annie Rimington (see back page for details).



Spraying paint through the 'Clean it Up' stencil

Halloween Playsafe

On Mayo Road

We held our second Halloween Playsafe on Saturday 31st October and it was another brilliant event.

Around 50 children attended dressed in their scariest costumes and ready for some spooky fun. The devilish doughnuts made a welcome return (thanks to the Stewart family for organising) as did gruesome lucky dip and our carved pumpkin competition (thanks to Ted for his expert judging).

A surprise smoke machine and assorted paraphernalia added to the fun with kids shooting smoke rings into the air and chasing smoky bubbles up and down Mayo Road (huge thanks to Stefan and family for this). Many brought cakes and biscuits for our refreshment stand which raised £65 in donations towards the cost of replacing the vandalised mountain ash tree on the corner of Mayo Rd and Richmond Rd.

Grateful thanks as always to the residents of Mayo Road and surrounding areas for supporting these events by moving their cars and accepting the temporary road closure.

Playsafe will return in the spring - if anyone is interested in supporting these important community events then please contact Kate at katepotter72@gmail.com



Eating a doughnut – mainly without hands, but what's that skeleton doing? (see back page for another picture)

Rowan Loss Brings Community Together



The RIP notice is a well-considered response to this act of stupidity, it reads:

To the perpetrator

From a mourner of the humble mountain ash.

Living in a densely populated area can be a difficult thing, what is right for you may not be right for others.

Long after the night is over, your youthful hijinks are but a distant memory and the spectre of regret comes back to haunt you, you may well realise that even your friends, deep inside, thought your behaviour on that night was willfully selfish.

Trees take years to establish, bear fruit and attract much needed wildlife to our city, as well as simply looking beautiful and making the urban environment more enjoyable.

I hope that when all is said and done you do realise the error of your ways. You could of course help to put things right in some way.

The Sylvan Hall Residents Association has also offered financial help to replace the Rowan.



Round Hill Reporter
51 Upper Lewes Road
Brighton BN2 3FH

www.roundhill.org.uk

We Tweet :

Follow us at:

@RoundhillSoc

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	01273 609086
Secretary/editor	Rob Stephenson	51 Upper Lewes Road	01273 673511
Treasurer	Carol Hall	36b Princes Road	01273 687636
Conservation	Ted Power	55 Princes Road	
Community Events	Kate Rice	33 Richmond Road	01273 673321
Community Events	Boo Vaughan	21 Princes Road	07971823014
Environment	Sandy Thomas	47 Round Hill Crescent	01273 699152
Environment	Jan Curry	58 Richmond Road	601320
Environment	Barbara Harris	14 Mayo Road	677610

Veolia Waste Plant issues :

Noise problems – B&H Council 01273 292256

Smell problems – Environment Agency 0800 807060

Illegal parking in the CPZ

Report it on 0845 603 5469 and select option 3 for a traffic warden.

Student liaison officers:

Sussex-Mark Woolford 01273 678219 M.A.Woolford@sussex.ac.uk.

Brighton- Andrew Keeffe 01273 641894 a.w.b.keeffe@brighton.ac.uk

Recent Reported Crimes in Round Hill

A motor cycle was stolen from Princes Road on 10th September, it was subsequently found in Whitehawk and charges have been brought. A car was taken from the Upper Lewes Road on the 16th September - the police found it three weeks later in Hollingbury. A door was damaged on Princes Crescent on 24th September but no access was gained. A bike was stolen on the Upper Lewes Road on 30th September.

A burglary took place in Round Hill Crescent, entry being via a back alley in D'Aubigny Road.

Between the 10th and 11th of October a car in Princes Road was 'keyed', and in the early hours of the 23rd October a young mountain ash (rowan) was vandalised on the corner of Mayo and Richmond roads.



Display of carved pumpkins at this year's Halloween Playsafe event in Mayo Rd

PCSO Bonnie Scovell

Police Contact Nos.

Emergencies

Call 999 if:

- A crime is being committed now, or
- The offender is still there or nearby, or
- People are injured or in danger.

Non-emergencies

Call 101 if:

- It's less urgent, or
- You have a question

You can also report a crime or incident online:-

E-mail: contactcentre@sussex.pnn.police.uk

If you have Bonnie's number in your phone or on your fridge please note it has changed – new one below

Alternatively, for non-emergencies, contact Bonnie on **07912 897 134** 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 then please call me and I will do my best to help." **Bonnie Scovell, Community Police Support Officer**

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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