



The Round Hill Reporter

Issue 68
June 2017

Full list of 2017 Playsafe dates on back page

Third Playsafe this Year

Sunday 25th June 3 to 5pm

Mayo Road as usual, please bring out your children and their bikes and scooters, footballs and chalks, rollerblades and fancy dress.

Cake and tea available for all – even people without children who just want to mingle and chat.

If you can spare 30 minutes during the event to don a Hi-Viz top and stop cars passing through Mayo Road so much the better.

ELECTION DAY

Thursday 8th June

**Polling Stations open from
7am to 10pm**

**Many people struggled long
and hard for the right to
vote – please make sure you
use yours.**

There's still time to join the Jumble Trail

11th June 11am-3pm

A jumble trail is like a jumble sale, except that stall holders set up outside their own homes and sell unwanted stuff (like household bric-a-brac, books, plants, home-made cakes & drinks, art & crafts) for their own profit or for charity. It's a great opportunity :

- for kids to sell their toys to pay for their new favourite thing.
- for grown-ups to clear out the attic or show off their baking and making skills

Bargain hunters follow the map showing stall locations that will be on the noticeboards, pinned to posts in the street and available on all stalls.

Have you got your address on the map yet? Contact Jane Power by private message on the Facebook group "Round Hill Community Noticeboard" or put a note through the door of 55 Princes Road, 33 or 36 Richmond Road.

After the trail please remove everything from outside your home. If enough people join in AND clear up afterwards, we may be able to make this a regular thing. **Do remember that leaving unattended stuff outside your house is fly-tipping.**

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Starlings and Swifts **page 5** • April Streetplay report **page 6**

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Round Hill Society
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Cuttress's Tower Mill, Round Hill, perhaps in the 1870s.

This photograph is from the Regency Society's James Gray collection of old Brighton photographs. The mill was built in 1838 on land leased from



Thomas Reade Kemp (of Kemptown fame), who granted a right of way from Ditchling Road to the mill. This became Round Hill Road, and houses were built along it in the 1870s.

By the 1890s the mill was steam powered, and the sails made fast. It was demolished in 1913. The 10 redbrick houses at the top of Belton Road were built using the mill's bricks.

The route of Round Hill Road runs between the two (probably) flint walls visible in the middle ground, and Ditchling Road is glimpsed brightly across the bottom of the photograph. The large house partly obscured by the mill stands today at the top west side of Crescent Road, and the long slate roof of Flowline Plumbers merchants is immediately to the left of the house



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Telephone: 01273 796260

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visit us at www.sashwindowrestorations.co.uk

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Cuts to our Police Service

And a response from the PCC's office

After a discussion on policing and reporting at a Round Hill committee meeting we agreed to write to our elected police and crime commissioner, seeking her thoughts on some of the cuts and issues we raised, as follows:

'The most recent Sussex Police Precept, included in Council Tax bills for 2017-18, indicated that spending on "front-line" policing has DECREASED by £5.6 million for police officers and £3.3 million for PCSOs since 2016/17. Spending on PCSOs has actually been reduced by a staggering 33% in one year. These reductions, however, are seen in the context of an overall INCREASE in the police budget. We note that there has been an INCREASE of £5.1 million in the category entitled "Other Spend". We are deeply concerned about the cuts to spending on police officers and PCSOs within the overall picture of an increased police budget. What almost amounts to the decimation of our PCSO team is particularly shocking since this aspect of policing is perceived by many to have had the most direct impact on our community in recent years. Residents in 2017-18 now feel more vulnerable, less protected and less supported.'

Her office's reply to this was that the cut in central funding was made by government, but that the impact would have been worse if not for the rise in our Council Tax which offset all of the reduction. As to the loss of police and PCSOs, her leaflet explained that 24 new Community Investigation Staff will "proactively intervene to disrupt (known) local crime groups and individuals" and "work alongside our Integrated Offender Management teams to reduce re-offending". In addition there will be 20 more staff working with schools and colleges to "steer young people away from crime", and a further 52 Armed Response Officers (with 3 new vehicles) to counter the existing terrorism threat.



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We also raised the problem of unanswered non-emergency 101 crime-reporting calls:

'The 101 number is offered as a means of reporting non-emergencies. According to reports from residents, it is often not possible to get through using this number without waiting for a very long time----waits of anything from 20 minutes to an hour have been experienced and, anecdotally, do not seem to be untypical. This poor service is very frustrating and deters residents from reporting crimes. This poor service may inadvertently aid criminality and lead to an inaccurate picture of the true level of crime in a given area.'

The reply from her office on this point said, "Like you Mrs Bourne has expressed concern about Sussex Police's performance when handling non-emergency calls. She has raised the issue with the Chief Constable several times at her monthly Performance and Accountability meeting, the last time being the 24th March 2017".

The communication went on to offer a link to a website where that meeting can be seen, you may like to follow it: https://sussex-pcc.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/272879



Why we Exist and Why we Want You!

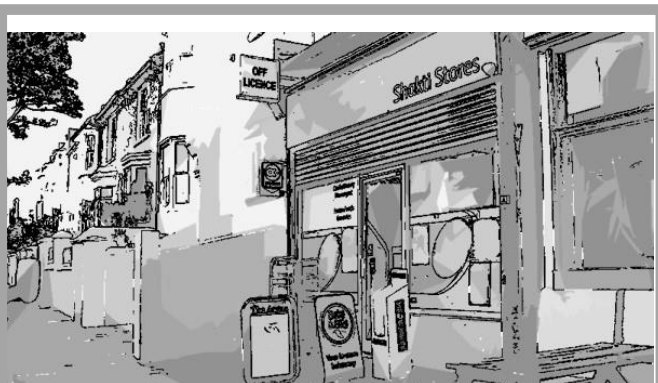
Just what does the Round Hill Society do? Everyone living within Round Hill automatically becomes a member of the RHS and some residents also volunteer to become committee members. In brief the RHS exists to 'promote civic pride and a sense of community' within the Round Hill area.



Often the RHS provides a link for the Council and other public bodies to inform the community of potential changes to local services (which sometimes we can influence) and we do have the potential to be a pressure group if there is a major local concern. Some of our achievements include:

- Replacing vandalised Rowan tree at the junction of mayo and Richmond roads.
- Preventing the demolition of Richmond House and its replacement with a block of student accommodation.
- Planters at the two junctions of Round Hill Crescent and the Upper Lewes Road (below).
- Purchase of signs and barriers to improve safety of community road closure events.
- Annual street clean-ups (see left)
- Quarterly free newsletter delivered to every home in Round Hill.

If you want to read the official RHS constitution, it is on the RHS website at the link shown at the bottom.



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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

We are a friendly group (honestly) who really need some more help. And we need to seek ideas, issues and concerns from a broader base than ourselves. So, if talking to an existing committee member might help you to decide whether or not to give it a go, just e-mail/call any of us. We are all listed on the back page.

Annie

<http://www.roundhill.org.uk/main.php?sec=about&p=constitution>

SCREECH, CHATTER and CLICK

Teddy boys of the bird table

Racy outfits, shiny black with a dazzle of purple tinged with pink and aquamarine green. Out with the other lads. Noisy, brash, greedy. Rarely alone. 'You're smaller than us, so shove over mate, we're here to stay!'

But unfortunately not: Like many other birds that share this planet with us STARLINGS have been shown the RSPB 'at risk' Red Card. The population of starlings has fallen by 80% in the last few decades. Probably as our climate becomes drier, their food of choice - worms - is harder to come by.

Nevertheless, it is still possible to be awestruck by the swirling flight patterns (murmurations) they create in the sky in that magical time between day and dusk. Flocks from all parts of the City, can join together in their hundreds to perform aerial acrobatics before roosting in favoured places. The two Brighton Piers being in the top dozen places in Britain to see this remarkable phenomenon, all the year round but especially in the early Autumn.

They land and spend a noisy, busy, busy few minutes preening and pecking, jostling and arguing about their bit of space and then suddenly with one accord all appears quiet. In the morning I have read, they leave their roosting place in a much more orderly fashion - small groups at a time at approximately three minute intervals. Amazing.

One of those groups come up to Roundhill to spend the day, they certainly try to monopolise bird tables which is why it is a good idea to place smaller feeding stations around a garden so that timid birds can find safer places to eat. There are plenty of gnats, midges and aphids around for the newly hatched nestlings for all kinds of garden birds but the overworked adults trying to catch choice food for their young, will be grateful to know there are still places they can find a supply of seeds, cheese, biscuits oh and water to sustain themselves at this busy time. If you have ever gratefully dropped in at a McDonalds for a break and an easy meal after a days work, you will appreciate how adult birds feel when they drop onto a bird table of tasty bits. Please continue to feed the birds.

Jan Curry

Our Daddy of an Elm *has a big trim*



Having lost two fairly small elm trees on the Upper Lewes Road in the last year I was startled to see the giant elm at the east end of Round Hill Crescent swarming with tree surgeons in March this year.

Thankfully the guys on the ground were only too pleased to tell me this was just a thinning job to give the neighbours a little more light and to reduce the risk of another big branch suddenly deciding to fall, as happened in early 2013, see back page.

Rob Stephenson

First Swifts seen over Round Hill

The numbers seem to be falling, but it is still a sign of the coming summer when we hear the screeching of swifts chasing each other over our heads.



First Playsafe Event of 2017

Rain did NOT stop Play!

Our first street play of 2017 was held on a rainy afternoon on Sunday April 30th. Fortunately the bad weather didn't deter Roundhill's intrepid families and several ventured out to join us.



Local resident Bruce of 'Bike for Life' joined us to

offer free bike maintenance and was kept busy for the whole 2 hours. Some parents popped home for bikes to make the most of Bruce's experience.

Because the weather was not promising we sold cakes and tea at half price, taking just £16 for Round Hill funds, and running out of cake.



We also had fun with bottle rockets and toasted marshmallows - a very big thank you to all who came and supported and a special thanks to those who gave up time to marshal. **Kate**



Commission a portrait which captures the essence of your loved one



email- maliktokwe@gmail.com
instagram- [@fayawox](https://www.instagram.com/fayawox)
tel- 07960508772

The Long Wall *Action at last?*

With a little luck the long wall at the bottom of Wakefield Road should have seen some long-term action by the time you read this newsletter. Perhaps there will be little to see just yet, but with the help of Round Hill folk and some of the people who live opposite the wall we should have planted ivy in lots of places at the base of the wall. If it takes, and it is a harsh environment, and if we can convince the Council's herbicide squad to leave it alone, then we will have a naturally green and pleasing wall. It will need maintenance, but we think there will be enough annual volunteer effort available to stop it invading the (fairly wide) pavement there.

In addition any recent tagging should have been overpainted, with masonry paint donated by the Council (via CityClean).

How to Recycle in Brighton

The Nuts and Bolts of using the Council Recycling Facilities

It's all about Black Boxes. You should have one, if you are lucky it will have a lid, or you may have a net which might keep paper in the box but will do nothing to keep it dry whilst it's on the pavement awaiting collection. You may have two or more boxes. You need two if you plan to put out clean glass bottles and jars (without lids) – they need a box of their own, and must not be mixed with paper, card, plastic bottles, cans or anything else.

If you have just the one box you can take your clean glass bottles and jars (without lids) to the glass bank outside the Co-op store on the Lewes Road. This will leave you an empty box for the other recyclables.

In Brighton and Hove the recycling contract we have means we can recycle clean plastic bottles but no other plastic items – so please, no plastic trays, wrapping or tubs. Just plastic bottles without tops. Step on the bottles a few times to flatten them – you can get more in the box that way, and perhaps fewer rolling down the road.

Newspapers, magazines, directories, envelopes (even window envelopes) can all be recycled. Other papers can go in too – but keep it clean and flat, not space wasting scrunched up balls of greasy chip paper!

Cardboard is OK too. Just be sure it fits in the black box. Flatten boxes. Spend a few moments cutting up big ones so that each piece fits into the box easily. That way the pieces will be carried easily along the sorting conveyor belts at the Hollingdean sorting plant.

Food and drink cans (clean) are good, as are empty aerosol cans (no lids thanks). You can squash the food and drink cans if you are tight for space.

Those cartons for food and drink which are mainly cardboard but include plastic and sometimes aluminium layers are not collected in our black boxes. But there is a big bin for them outside the Co-op on Lewes Road – no tops, clean and flat please.

If you have dead batteries – the sort that go in watches, clocks, radios, toys, torches and more -

You can put them in a clear plastic bag on top of the box, for the recycling staff to put into a separate collection point on the vehicle.

When to put the box outside?

If you live on Round Hill and get this newsletter the answer is alternate Tuesdays. Specifically, the next four are the 13th and 27th of June and the 11th and 15th July.

In an ideal world you will take the box in after collection.

In summary:

BLACK BOX 1

Newspapers, magazines, directories, envelopes, advertising flyers and all clean paper.

Cardboard – clean and cut to fit in the box

Clean food and drink cans and empty aerosols (no lids)

Clean plastic BOTTLES, flattened and without lids (no other plastic)

BLACK BOX 2

Clean glass bottles and jars, no lids

You can find more stuff at:

www.facebook.com/recyclingandrefuse
and

www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/cityclean

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Your local entertainment hub

Come to us for:

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Open Mike Music every other Wednesday

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Good food every day

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A great beer garden for sunny days

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We are at 100 Upper Lewes Road where a warm welcome is guaranteed. 01273 681671.





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 the link on our website).

On Facebook at both :
Round Hill Community Noticeboard
Round Hill Society Brighton UK

The Round Hill Society Committee

Chair	Annie Rimington	8 D'Aubigny Road	01273 609086
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	Ray Knight	93 Princes Crescent	01273 681965
Environment	Sandy Thomas	47 Round Hill Crescent	01273 699152
Environment	Jan Curry	58 Richmond Road	01273 601320
	Peter Meakins	19 Round Hill Street	01273 571519
	Miriam Stephens	31 Richmond Road	07739 795 740

Veolia Waste Plant issues :

Smell, noise and dust 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

Non-emergency police reporting: call 101 if your issue is not urgent or you have a question, alternatively report a crime or incident on contact.centre@sussex.pnn.police.uk

The day the giant elm got suddenly smaller, when it dropped a branch a foot in diameter at its base.



Playsafe dates for 2017

As usual they will be for two hours on Sundays – 3 to 5pm, and all children are welcome. Bring balls and bikes, scooters and chalks. Adults are welcome too – there is usually tea and even cake available. Come along for a chat.

We can always use additional help in setting up and clearing away, and standing around in Hi-Viz clothing to stop motorists driving through. Contact Kate, see above, if you can help.

25th June
23rd July (perhaps)
10th September
1st October
29th October (Halloween)

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.

Deadline for October edition 18th Sept 2017

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