

THE GRANGE ASSOCIATION

SUMMER '79

GRANGE ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

We need nominations for some new Committee members in October - from our 'new' area particularly. Meanwhile, the Committee for 1978-79 will welcome any news or views to do with local needs or facilities. They are:-

Mrs. A. Clarke (Chairman)	55 Grange Loan	667 6331
Mr. A. Reid (Vice-Chairman)	108 Findhorn Place	667 4876
Mrs. H. Sawers (Secretary)	54 Grange Loan	667 6360
Mrs. A. Lilwall (Treasurer & Membership Secretary)	2 Dick Place	667 9743
Mr. G.D. Booth Flat 11,	25 Mortonhall Road	667 8797
Dr. J. Hammond	61 Fountainhall Road	667 6146
Mrs. H. Kirkland	17 Hope Terrace	447 3268
Mr. I. McNab	17 Cumin Place	667 4175
Mr. H. Robertson	19 Dalrymple Crescent	667 1150
Mrs. I. Simpson	48 St. Albans Road	667 7747
Mr. J. Wilson	19 Grange Crescent	667 5926

Mrs. Sophie Leonard, 12 St. Alban's Road (667 2339) is the person to contact about CONSERVATION; and please contact Mrs. Isobel Simpson (667 7747) about TREES.

RECYCLING WASTE - The Edinburgh District Cleansing Department has a WASTE-PAPER recycling scheme - phone the Department at 225 2424 for details of collections and to have a green sack delivered. Mrs. Noble, 17 Dick Place (667 0439) collects ALUMINIUM FOIL. Mr. Gruber, 44 St. Alban's Road (667 4813) finds that collecting GLASS for the whole of the GA area is too demanding of his time and petrol. It would be sad if this was to lapse: please could someone from the Western part of the GA area volunteer to collect glass brought to his house, and take it to a Cleansing Department collection point? The nearest place is at ASDA super-store, and many residents find it impossible to get there themselves, despite good intentions.

PLANNING MATTERS - There have been a lot of planning applications since the last 'Newsletter', but few decisions reached. The proposal for a dining-room extension at 23 Hope Terrace has twice been turned down by the Planning Sub-Committee, but now the applicant is exercising her right to put it to the full Committee. The old British Rail Weighbridge site on Mayfield Road was similarly turned down by the Sub-Committee as the proposed site for vehicle-parking and tool-storage for Ross's Garage; but we understand that this application may be taken up again. Ross's have also made an application for their premises and Neal's old Printworks on Causewayside/Ratcliffe Terrace. The proposal is to convert Neal's to 31 double flats, and build 'industrial units' at the back of the site, along the boundary with the gardens of houses in Findhorn Place. The GA Committee is worried that the precise use of the 'units' has not been specified, and that they are too high and too close to the houses. The plans have not yet been submitted to the Planning Sub-Committee, but we understand that the situation is influenced by the fact that Ross's have permission outstanding from several years ago to build similar 'units' which would be even higher.

The most contentious application has been a second attempt to get permission to build a lounge bar at 40 Blackford Avenue. Once again, concerted local action produced an impressive number of letters to the Planning Department objecting to the proposal - undoubtedly the best way of influencing decisions. The plans have not yet been put to the Planning Sub-Committee, but they resemble substantially the plans which were rejected less than 12 months ago.

TRANSPORTATION IN EDINBURGH - The Regional Council have produced a consultation document 'Transportation in the Edinburgh Area'. None of the proposals affects the Grange directly, but they matter to us because they affect the City as a whole. The GA Chairman and Secretary have copies of the document which can be borrowed; and anyone can obtain a copy from the Regional Council, who are holding an exhibition on weekdays at 12 St. Giles' Street. They want to assess public reaction to the document, and request comments by September 14th. It's easy to complain about decisions once they have been made: this is a chance to influence plans before they happen. Often the public response to this sort of opportunity is disappointingly small. It's a good idea to register our ideas constructively when we have the chance. Let the GA Committee know your reactions, too.

TRAFFIC - Junction of Kilgraston Road and Grange Loan

So much for our information that the improvement scheme would be complete by last March! It seems that the Highways Department is ready to go ahead with the work, but there are difficulties over the joint-ownership of the land on the N.W. corner, which has to be bought in order to improve the sight-lines at the junction. The Highways people have no idea when they'll be able to start; they're waiting for the legal tangle to be sorted out.

School Children - Parents living South of Grange Loan, particularly with children at Sciennes School, are very worried at the danger to children crossing Grange Loan at its junction with Findhorn Place. It seems a good case for a School Crossing Patrol (a 'lollypop-man'). Mrs. Pat MacLeod (86 Findhorn Place, telephone 667 3896) is collecting names for a petition so please contact her if you support the idea. She also needs to know how many school-children cross Grange Loan at this point and there must be others who now cross further along, but would cross here if there were a Patrol. It would also help very much if we knew of someone who was willing to be the 'lolly-man' (or 'lolly-lady'). Apparently many schemes fail because they can't recruit anyone.

The committee is always pleased to be kept informed of TRAFFIC INCIDENTS, wherever they happen in the Grange area. For the worst places we have volunteer 'recorders' who live nearby and keep note of mishaps as they occur. They are:-

Blackford Avenue - Mr. Scobie, 30 Blackford Avenue.

Corner of St. Alban's Road/South Lauder Road - Mrs. Simpson, 48, St. Alban's Road (667 7747).

Corner of Findhorn Place/Fountainhall Road - Mr. Bealby, 16 St. Alban's Road.

Grange Loan - from Causewayside to Findhorn Place - Mr. Cuthbert, 13 Grange Loan (667 2937).

MINTO STREET SUB-POST OFFICE - The GPO have intimated that this branch will close as the shop has a new owner. The General Purposes Committee of Edinburgh District Council voted unanimously that retention is in the best interests of the local community and Councillor Ruby Paterson has sent in petitions and letters from local people to the GPO. There will be a public meeting in the Doric Hotel in the near future but no date has yet been fixed.

TREES - Many people have expressed concern about the trees in the grounds of 18 Lauder Road. Mrs. Simpson, our tree expert, has been on to the Planning Department and they are aware of the situation. Two trees, a chestnut and a sycamore, are to be felled to allow building but neither of these is close to the boundary wall. Damage to any other trees should be reported to Mr. Baker at the Planning Department.

GRANGE ASSOCIATION LEAFLET FOR NEW RESIDENTS - This sets out to be an introduction to the area and its facilities, but many old-established residents have learnt from it too! If you yourself are a new resident, please ask any committee-member for a copy of the leaflet. If anyone knows of a house which has recently changed hands, visiting with a GA leaflet is a good way of getting to know the new people. We've always got spare copies.

GRANGE ASSOCIATION PROGRAMME

Friday, October 5th, 8 p.m. Wine and Cheese Party. Carlton Cricket Club, Grange Loan.

Monday, October 22nd, 7.30 p.m. Annual General Meeting. Dr. M.S. Higgs will speak on Victorian Architecture and Engineering. Mayfield Church Lower Hall.

Musical Evening - We should like to hold another of our successful musical evenings in November. If anyone were willing to have it in his home - a room large enough to hold 20-30 people with a piano - we would be grateful if they would contact Ian McNab, 17 Cumin Place, 667 4175.

Monday, December 3rd, 8 p.m. Dr. Grant Peterkin will speak on "East Lothian Doocots". Mayfield Church Upper Hall.

TRANSPORT TO AND FROM MEETINGS

Anyone who would like to have a car bring them to meetings and take them home again please contact Ian McNab 667 4175.

SUBSCRIPTIONS fall due at the AGM on October 22nd. Please take your subscription (75p or 30p for Pensioners) to the meeting; or send it to the Treasurer, Mrs. Anne Lilwall, 2 Dick Place.