

THE GRANGE ASSOCIATION

SPRING, 1980

Last October we held the first A.G.M. of the newly extended Grange Association'. We were pleased to welcome many people from the new area among the 150 or so members present. It had been a successful year, with encouraging support for all activities.

A reminder: The New BOUNDARIES of the Grange Association are:-

- South - the suburban railway line
- East - Mayfield Road/Ratcliffe Terrace/Causewayside
- North - Grange Road/Beaufort Road/Strathearn Road
- West - Whitehouse Loan/north and east boundaries of the Astley Ainslie Hospital grounds.

Anyone can join the Grange Association on payment of the subscription of 75p (30p for pensioners). The Newsletter is delivered free to members wherever they live, and to all houses within the G.A. area, whether or not the owners are G.A. members. This seems the best way of keeping the Association, its committee and the Newsletter in touch with the real needs and concerns of the community. Members, in addition, receive extra news-sheets from time to time, are admitted to ordinary meetings free of charge, and have priority at any G.A. visits or special events.

The COMMITTEE elected for 1979-1980 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
Mr. J. Wilson (Treasurer)	19 Grange Crescent	667 5926
Mrs. A. Miller (Membership Secretary)	29 Grange Loan	667 4016
Mrs. M. Anderson	12 Monkwood Court	667 8072

Dr. J. Hammond	61 Fountainhall Road	667 6146
Dr. R. Kemp	2 Mortonhall Road	667 5817
Mr. H. Robertson	19 Dalrymple Crescent	667 1150
Mrs. I. Simpson	48 St. Albans Road	667 7747
Mrs. M. Thomson	31 Hope Terrace	447 3406
Mr. R. Trim	17 Lauder Road	667 2251

This NEWSLETTER is distributed by volunteers. Mistakes do sometimes occur, and we apologise if you live in the G.A. area and have not had a copy delivered to your house - or if you have had two delivered. Please let Mrs. Margaret Thomson (447-3406) know if there are problems, and we shall do our best to put things right. And very many thanks to our army of voluntary helpers!

PLANNING MATTERS - There are three major projects under consideration. The Viewpoint Housing Association has applied to deviate from the plans approved for its development of sheltered housing at 18 Lauder Road. At 35-41 Ratcliffe Terrace, Mr. K. Waugh has applied to convert the eighteenth-century pan-tiled buildings, and other buildings behind these, into a new betting-shop, restaurant, public bar and hotel with 18 bedrooms. The G.A. committee feels there is no place for yet another licensed premises here, there would be traffic problems, and the old buildings (which are 'Listed') would be spoiled - though it would be no bad thing to tidy them up. The Nursing Home at 15 Findhorn Place has applied to extend over very nearly the whole of its back garden. We understand that the plans do not comply with District Planning Policy on windows and privacy as stated in the Information Sheet 'Housing: outline policy on extensions'.

A piece of good news: The Appeal to the Secretary of State to allow a bar to be built at 40 BLACKFORD AVENUE has been WITHDRAWN.

TRAFFIC - news in brief. The improvement scheme at the junction of Grange Loan and Kilgraston Road has been started: delay has been because of difficulty lining up contractors. Some markings at road-junctions have been repainted, and make things much safer. When the road was resurfaced at the junction of Fountainhall Road and South Lauder Road, and markings were obliterated entirely, complaints by the G.A. were noted - and temporary 'Give Way' signs were in position the same afternoon. Also as the result of G.A. prompting,

Traffic Wardens now visit Grange Loan, so the yellow line there serves its proper purpose of discouraging dangerous parking. We are grateful to the Highways Department and the Police for their co-operation, and willingness to listen.

VICTORIAN FIREPLACES - Is anyone restoring his house interested in acquiring 'period' fireplaces? Mrs. Ahrens has three to spare since dividing her own house recently. Contact her at 668-2052.

A WARNING

We have been worried by recent reports of thefts from the outer halls of houses in the area, so with the help of the local police we have drawn up the following notes:

Bogus Officials - This type of criminal usually calls at houses under various guises ranging from the respectable business-official or antique dealer to the workman in overalls. The best way to beat them is not to let anyone into your house until you are satisfied they are genuine. On no account sell anything to someone at the door but take any item to a reputable dealer. (In this area, this applies particularly to callers wanting to buy antiques; sometimes the prices they offer amount to a swindle. You will get a fairer estimate if you take items to a valuer such as Lyon and Turnbull's or Phillip's, and it's no bad thing to get two opinions before you decide to sell). If you have a suspicious caller contact the local police station (Mayfield Road - telephone 667-7272).

Thefts from Porches - If you leave your outer door open, do not leave anything portable in the porch. Keep all pedal cycles padlocked to some immovable object with a stout chain. If you are out or in another part of the house make sure that the back door is locked.

Home Security - To prevent your front door being forced the police recommend fitting a good quality mortice lock with a minimum of five levers to British Standard 3621. Door chains and wide-angle lens viewers are relatively easy and cheap to fit and enable one to check on callers. Windows on the ground floor, and any upper floor window that is accessible from a flat roof or drain-pipe, should be fitted with burglar catches. Remember it is the rear of your house, that is not overlooked, that is most vulnerable. If you are in any doubt about the security of your home, our local Crime Prevention Officer is Mr. Hickman at Southside Police Station (667-3361) and he will

come and survey your property free of charge and offer suggestions at a time convenient to you.

GRANGE ASSOCIATION SUBSCRIPTIONS - for the year 1979-80 are now due. Please take or send your subscription (75p or 30p for pensioners) to the Membership Secretary, Mrs. Anne Miller, 29 Grange Loan, with details of name, address and telephone number.

TREES - Spring is in the air and plant-sap is rising already. All pruning of deciduous trees should be discontinued now, as some will weep badly. The best time to prune cherries and almonds is August or September when disease is unlikely to occur. Evergreen trees are best trimmed back, if necessary in late spring. Heavy lopping can be fatal, especially if done during winter when there is danger of frost. Mrs. Isobel Simpson has the Arboricultural Association's list of Tree Work Contractors and literature on pruning trees and shrubs to lend to members who want assistance.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION - A Community Information file and a Community Diary are maintained at the issue desk in Newington Library. The card file contains information on clubs and societies in the area while the diary records events such as coffee mornings, jumble sales, talks, etc. Both are freely available for the use of residents either for the purpose of recording forthcoming activities (so that the clashing of dates can be avoided) or, in the case of the file, for entering particulars of community facilities.

GRANGE ASSOCIATION PROGRAMME

Monday, March 10th: "Some Impressionist Paintings" a talk by Mr. H. Lundy on some of the slides from his large collection. Mayfield Church Upper Hall at 8.00 p.m.

Saturday, March 15th: Musical Evening at 13 Strathearn Place, the home of Mr. Bill Wishart at 8.00 p.m. Those wishing to participate or to be entertained please contact Mr. Wishart tel. 447 8607.

Saturday, March 29th: Party for children age 4-6, in Mayfield Church Lower Hall, 2.30 to 4.30. Tickets 60p. Games, films, tea, and entertainment by Ray Silver. Donations of small cakes gratefully received.

Monday, 28th April: "Local Bird Life" an illustrated talk by Mr. M. Phillips, group Leader for the RSPB at 8.00 p.m. in 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 John Hammond 667-6146.