



The Grange Association

NEWS LETTER

SPRING 1983.

At the AGM a new committee was elected and their names are given below. We should like to thank the retiring members, Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Gibb, Dr. Kemp, Miss Marshall and Mr. Robertson for all the work they did for the Association.

The new committee is as follows:-

Mrs. A. Miller (Chairman)	29 Grange Loan	667 4016
Mr. A. Reid (Vice-Chairman)	108 Findhorn Place	667 4876
Mrs. C. Stephens (Secretary)	39 Lauder Road	667 2887
Mrs. M. Thomson (Treasurer and Membership Secretary)	31 Hope Terrace	447 3406
Mr. R. Bartholomew	1 Lauder Road	667 3500
Mrs. C. Cameron	13 Dalrymple Cres.	667 6087
Miss B. Dickson (or she may be contacted at the Library)	215 Dalkeith Road	667 9400
Mr. A. Dixon	50 Dick Place	667 1813
Mrs. N. Drucker	1 Hatton Place	667 1709
Miss C. Fortescue	5 Seton Place	667 1291
Mr. M. Lugton	1 Findhorn Place	667 3259

In addition, the following members have been co-opted:-

Mr. G. Gretton	52 Grange Loan	667 1156
Mrs. I. Simpson (Trees and gardens)	2 Dalrymple Cres.	667 7747

REPORTS

The AGM was held on November 1st and was attended by over 150 people. Mayfield Church Lower Hall was filled to capacity. The meeting approved a motion to extend the northern boundary of the Association to include the area between Grange Road and Sciennes Road. This area is also to be included in the proposed Conservation Area. Other specific matters raised from the floor included parking on corners, the state of the pavements, the problem of rowdy football players at the Carlton Cricket Club, and difficulties with the Gas Board over new white meter boxes. We have followed up all these points and firstly, with the help of Mr. Ancram,

it has been established that residents may paint the new meter boxes in order to camouflage them. We understand that the pavements in Dick Place are listed for reconstruction, but no date has been set for commencing this work. The pavement outside Douglas House belongs to the Health Board and has never been made up to the standard required for adoption by the Council. Unfortunately the cost of making the pavement must come from general Health Service funds, which are not plentiful at the moment. The Carlton Cricket Club realises that footballers sometimes disturb their neighbours, and are concerned about this. They would welcome suggestions about what action to take, but there is a limit to how much time the police can spend watching the ground and ejecting those who cannot establish a right to be there. The Police have promised to take firm action against those who park on corners. They ask local residents to co-operate by parking their own cars carefully, and reporting offenders to Mayfield Police Station. A most successful Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy Sale in January raised approximately £150.00 towards the cost of producing our newsletters. Many thanks to all those who helped, contributed and attended.

CONSERVATION

At the Public Meeting which followed the AGM a motion asking the District Council to designate the Grange as a Conservation area received overwhelming support. Further details of this meeting, and of the issues involved in gaining conservation area status, were given in the recent special newsheet on conservation which was delivered to the 2,500 households in the area before our application for designation was considered by the Planning Policy Sub-Committee of the District Council on February 10th. We had hoped that this newsletter would report that we had achieved our objective. Unfortunately the matter was continued for another 5 weeks and will be reconsidered on March 17th.

The Wyvern in the heading of this Newsletter, has been adopted as the Grange Association's motif. It is an artist's reconstruction of the Lauder Wyverns in Grange Loan (previously referred to incorrectly as the Lauder Griffins) whose repair was organised by the Grange Association and paid for by residents' donations. We are most grateful to Mrs. Chart for her drawing which also featured on the cover of the Conservation Report.

Planning

The appeal to extend the nursing home at 15 Findhorn Place was dismissed. Two further appeals against refusal of planning permission have been made to the Secretary of State - they are for permission to build a house in the grounds of 19 St. Thomas Road and to build 6 lock-up garages in the garden of 79 Findhorn Place. In both cases the Grange Association has commented. Planning permission for a partial change of use to a home for the elderly at 56 Fountainhall Road was refused. An application has been submitted to build 125 units of sheltered housing in 4-storey blocks on the site of the recently demolished Mountgrange Hotel in Strathearn Road. We have objected to this proposal on the grounds of overdevelopment and asked that it should be reduced in height. We have made similar comments on the proposal to build 76 units of sheltered housing (to accommodate 141 people) on the site of Craigmount in Dick Place. In both cases we have suggested that measures should be taken to protect the trees from the adverse effects of building work.

Trees

STOP ALL TREE WORK NOW!! The sap is rising and any cuts will endanger the health of the trees, some of which could virtually 'bleed' to death. The one exception is where branches have been broken in the wind. Cut and trim back to a main branch or trunk and paint with tree preservative. All cuts made during the winter should be checked and painted promptly to prevent rot and encourage healing. If you plan to prune (or 'lop') a tree this year do postpone till July or thereafter. Note that evergreens are best pruned in late spring, though they seldom need it. The Library has some excellent books on the care and choosing of trees and on pruning. Please consult the Librarian or Isobel Simpson who can also recommend reliable tree surgeons.

Burglaries and Household Security

Once again we would like to warn residents about burglaries, bogus callers and workmen etc. "Protect Your Home", a booklet available from the Scottish Information Office or from the Police contains excellent advice on domestic security. It reminds householders not to invite crime by leaving milk bottles or newspapers on the doorstep, notes on doors or keys under mats. Lock away tools and ladders. Never leave doors and windows unlocked. Make a note of the serial numbers of items like television sets and radios and keep

colour photographs of valuable possessions. Do not keep large amounts of cash at home and take care with cheque books and the like. Check the identity of all callers to be certain they are genuine. Most officials carry identity cards—ask to see them. If you are suspicious keep the door shut and call the Police. Take care with bicycles and cars. Always close the windows and lock the doors. Valuables are safest in the boot. Never leave your log book, driving licence, insurance certificate or keys in the car. The Crime Prevention Officer at Southside Police Station in Causewayside (667-3361) is always willing to give advice on all aspects of security, including burglar alarms. Last, be a good neighbour. Report immediately to the Police anything suspicious you see or hear - the Police will not mind if you are wrong.

Grange Association Programme

Saturday April 16th: Children's Easter Party 2.30-4.30 p.m. in Mayfield Church Lower Hall. For children aged 4 to 6. Tickets 75p. Games, tea and an entertainer. Donations of small cakes welcome.

Monday May 9th: Burns in Edinburgh. A talk by Mr. R.A.B. McLaren in Mayfield Church House at 8 p.m.

Transport to and from meetings: Anyone who would like a lift please contact Mrs. N. Drucker (667 1709) or Mrs. Stephens.

Patients' Rights

The Edinburgh Health Council has published an interesting leaflet on patients' rights and responsibilities in the National Health Service. The leaflet, which may be obtained from 21 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh, EH1 2E1 (Tel.229-6605) deals with such subjects as getting treatment from general practitioners and hospital doctors, charges and cases where these may be waived, confidentiality, complaints, legal action etc.

-----TEAR HERE-----

To: Mrs. M. Thomson, Treasurer and Membership Secretary,
Grange Association, 31 Hope Terrace, Edinburgh, 9.

I/We wish to join/rejoin the Grange Association and enclose a remittance of (membership costs £1.00, OAPs 50p)

Name
Address
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