



The Grange Association

NEWS LETTER

SPRING 1984

At the Annual General Meeting held on 7th November 1983 a new Committee was elected. The members and their responsibilities are listed below. Each member will be happy to deal with any enquiries or requests for assistance in his or her area of responsibility:

Mrs. A. Miller (Chairman)	29 Grange Loan	667 4016
Mr. R. Bartholomew (Vice Chairman & Publicity)	1 Lauder Road	667 3500
Mr. G. Gretton (Secretary)	52 Grange Loan	667 1156
Mrs. N. Drucker (Minutes Secretary)	1 Hatton Place	667 1709
Mr. R. Cavaghan (Treasurer & Membership Secretary)	19 Tantallon Place	667 6085
Mrs. A. Graham (Social Secretary)	55 Grange Loan	667 6331
Mrs. I. Simpson (Trees & Gardens Convener)	2 Dalrymple Crescent	667 7747
Mr. G. Houston (Planning Convener)	51 Grange Loan	667 1513
Mr. A. Dixon (Assistant Planning Convener)	50 Dick Place	667 1813
Mr. M. Lugton (Newsletter Editor)	1 Findhorn Place	667 3259
Miss C. Fortescue (Newsletter distribution)	5 Seton Place	667 1291
Miss B. Dickson (Newsletter distribution and Newington Librarian)	2 Henderson Terrace	346 2725
Mr. I. Klayman	18 Tantallon Place	667 7298

Mr. Reid, Vice Chairman of the Association since its formation, Mrs. Stephens, the Secretary, Mrs. Thompson, the Treasurer and Membership Secretary, and Mrs. Cameron, the Social Secretary, retired at the AGM. We thank them all for their very substantial contributions to the work of the Association.

At the AGM, the Chairman gave an account of the previous year's activities and of developments on conservation. Several members expressed concern about dog litter in the Grange and about the limitations of the new controls in the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982. Continued difficulties over traffic and parking were also raised and the Chairman said that the Committee would be considering these matters early in its new programme of work. Immediately after the meeting, Mr. James Simpson gave a fascinating illustrated talk on aspects of architectural and craftsmanship conservation. We are very grateful to him for replacing the advertised speaker at a few hours' notice.

CONSERVATION

In the last edition of the newsletter, it was reported that Edinburgh District Council had designated the Grange as a Conservation Area on 30th June 1983. The Planning Department of the Council has drawn attention to certain qualifications to the effects of designation described in that newsletter, and for the avoidance of doubt these effects are described in more detail below:

(i) Planning consent is normally required for the demolition of buildings in the conservation area if they have a capacity of more than 115 cubic metres. The Planning Department ask, however, that they be consulted before any demolition work is carried out.

(ii) Work on trees protected by Tree Preservation Orders must be approved by the Planning Department before being carried out. Work on other trees should be notified to the authority so that the site can be inspected. In both cases six weeks must elapse before the work is carried out, and in the latter case the site may be inspected and advice can be given on correct pruning for the benefit of the trees and the general amenity.

Anyone intending to apply for planning permission should contact the Planning Department for further information at 18 Market Street, telephone 225 2424, ext. 6553 (Miss Smith), but members of the Committee of the Association will be happy to try to answer any questions residents may have.

PLANNING

Several significant applications have been considered by the District Council since the last edition of the newsletter. In the autumn fresh applications were submitted to build private sheltered housing at the site of the former Argyle Church and at Strathearn Road/Hope Terrace (the former

Mountgrange Hotel) by McCarthy & Stone, the new owners of both sites. Last year consent was granted to the previous owners of the sites for similar developments. In our comments on the Strathearn Road/Hope Terrace application, which is for housing for about 145 people, the Association suggested substantial modifications to the plans, so that it would be more in keeping with the surrounding developments and take account of the protected trees. Both applications by McCarthy & Stone were refused consent and are now the subject of appeals to the Secretary of State. In both cases we are pressing for public local enquiries to be held as we feel that the external appearance of the buildings on both sites is important.

Elsewhere around the Grange, an application for a licensed (hooker/leisure centre on Causewayside (at the site of Melvin Bros.) has been approved, despite our objections. Ross Motors were refused consent for a public house on the site of their garage and car showroom in Causewayside and their application for an hotel on the same site has not yet been decided.

There has been a spate of applications to build houses in gardens in the Grange. The Grange Association has opposed these applications as we consider that modern houses and bungalows intruding between Victorian stone houses in mature gardens detracts from the amenity of the area.

TREE CARE

All tree work should cease by the beginning of March. By then growth will have started and severe loss of sap will result. Birch, beech and cherries are particularly vulnerable. Two very helpful leaflets entitled "Tree Maintenance" and "Tree Preservation" have been produced by the Planning Department. The former covers Tree Preservation Orders and aspects of general tree preservation in a Conservation Area. Both leaflets are available from the Planning Department (225-2424 5085) or Mrs. Simpson (667-7747).

TRAFFIC AND PARKING

The Committee shares residents' continuing concern about over-parking in many streets in the area. We have submitted the conservation report formally to the Highways Department and we write frequently to them and to the police. In response to pressure from us and other amenity associations a meeting with the police and Highways Department, at which the Association will be represented, is to be held in March when we shall press for extended controls where they are needed. Concerned local residents are pressing for a Green man crossing on Grange Road and we are supporting them. If you wish to

help, please write to your local Regional Councillor (Rev. Gordon Reid), to Mr. Cramond, Chairman of the Highways Committee at Regional Chambers, George IV Bridge and to the Chief Constable at the Police Headquarters, Fettes Avenue, Edinburgh 4. There will also be an opportunity for residents to raise these matters at the first meeting in the forthcoming programme.

PROGRAMME

Monday 5th March at 8.00 pm in Mayfield Church Upper Hall: Crime Prevention and Traffic Control. Illustrated talk and discussion with Lothian and Borders Police. Several burglaries from houses in the Grange have taken place in recent months and crime prevention officers will show a film and give guidance on reducing the risk of house-breakings. In the meantime, the police have asked the Association to intimate that any householder may arrange a free crime prevention survey by contacting the crime prevention officer at South Side Police Station (667 3361) or through the Community Involvement Branch, Police Headquarters (311 3131). The police officers present at this meeting will also be able to deal with questions on enforcement of the existing traffic and parking controls.

Saturday 7th April, 2.30 to 4.30 pm in Mayfield Church Lower Hall: Children's Easter Party, for children aged 4-6 years. Tickets 75p. Games, films, tea and an entertainer. Donations of small cakes welcome.

Monday 14th May at 8.00 pm in Mayfield Church Upper Hall: Talk on "Conservation in Edinburgh" by Mr. Desmond Hodges, Director of Edinburgh New Town Conservation Committee. Transport to and from meetings. Anyone who would like a lift please contact Mrs. Nancy Drucker (667 1709).

To renew your subscription, please fill in this slip and bring it with you to a meeting, or send it to the address shown.

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

To: Mr. R. Cavaghan, 19 Tantallon Place, Edinburgh 9.

I/We wish to join/rejoin the Grange Association and enclose a remittance of £ _____ (Membership is £1; OAP's 50P.)

Name: _____

Address: _____