



# The Grange Association

NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 1984

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Grange Association will be held on Monday 29th October 1984 in Mayfield Church Lower Hall at 7.30 p.m. The formal agenda will include reports on activities during the year and on progress on the making of "an Article 4 direction" to assist in the conservation of the Grange. The election of the Committee for 1984/85 will take place. After the business has been discussed there will be an illustrated talk on the varied work of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children by two nursing officers from the staff.

## ELECTION OF THE COMMITTEE

Nominations for the new committee are invited from members. Please lodge them with the Secretary by Monday 22nd October with names of proposer and seconder and signed by the nominee. Present members of the committee are:—

Mrs. A. Miller (Chairman)	29 Grange Loan	667 4016
*Mr. R. Bartholomew (Vice Chairman)	1 Lauder Road	667 3500
*Mr. G. Gretton (Secretary)	52 Grange Loan	667 1156
*Mr. R. Cavaghan	19 Tantallon Place	667 6085
*Miss B. Dickson	Newington Library	
*Mr. A. Dixon	50 Dick Place	667 1813
*Mrs. N. Drucker	1 Hatton Place	667 1709
Miss C. Fortescue	5 Seton Place	667 1291
Mrs. A. Graham	55 Grange Loan	667 6331
*Mr. G. Houston	51 Grange Loan	667 1513
*Mr. I. Klayman	18 Tantallon Place	667 7298
*Mr. M. Lugton	1 Findhorn Place	667 3259

In addition the following member has been co-opted:—

*Mrs. I. Simpson	2 Dalrymple Crescent	667 7757
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\* Available for re-election.

Please note that although all are welcome at the AGM, only members may vote.

## CONSERVATION

A consultation paper on conservation in the Grange was distributed to all households in August. It described the proposals for the making by Edinburgh District Council of a direction under Article 4 of the Town and Country Planning (General Development) (Scotland) Order 1981 and invited residents to express their views by completing a form attached to the paper and handing or sending it to any member of the Committee. A good many completed forms have now reached the Committee, and any more which are received before the AGM, when a progress report will be made, will be welcome. If you have not received a copy of the consultation paper, please contact Miss B. Dickson at the Newington Library.

The consultation paper indicated the Association's understanding that the Article 4 direction would not bring the painting of exterior woodwork under control. However, the Committee now understands from the District Council that, once the direction came into force, they would issue guidance on appropriate colours similar to guidance issued for other parts of Edinburgh including Trinity and the Blasket area. Colours would be recommended for various kinds of woodwork, and for front doors these would include black, white and a wide range of both rich deep and medium tone muted colours. Comments on this aspect of the proposed direction will be taken into account in the same way as comments on the aspects described in the consultation paper, and there will be an opportunity to discuss it at the AGM.

## PLANNING

In May, McCarthy & Stone withdrew their appeal for their most recent application to build sheltered housing at **Hope Terrace/Strathearn Road** and decided to build according to the plans for which permission was granted last February. The appeal concerning the site owned by the same company at **Sciennes Road/Chalmers Crescent** was dismissed. The site remains untidy and the Association has written to the Planning Department requesting them to ask the owners to tidy it up.

The appeal by Miller Homes for permission to substitute concrete tiles for natural slates at the development at **Craigmount/Dick Place** was dismissed. As a result, there may be some alteration to the pitches of the roof of the proposed sheltered housing but the overall effect should be much more in keeping with the surrounding houses.

Following the refusal of the previous application to convert **Dunard, 121 Grange Loan** into 7 flats and to build 51 flats in the grounds, an amended application has been submitted to build 36 flats in four new blocks in the grounds and to convert the house into 7 flats (making 43 in all). An entrance from Oswald Road is proposed and there would be 51 parking spaces. The Grange Association still considers that too many flats are proposed.

Applications to build new houses in gardens have been approved at **16 St. Albans Road** and **3 Mortonhall Road** despite objections from the Association and from many neighbours.

Consent has been granted to convert the stable block at the **Grange Hotel, 8 Whitehouse Terrace** into a house. An outline application has also been given consent for the demolition of **Silver Kings Garage at 3, 5, 7 Fountainhall Road** and the erection of 30 flats. There will be a vehicle entrance on to Fountainhall Road. Alterations and extensions to the Bank of Scotland at **56-62 St. Albans Road** have been approved. There will be a new conference room, covered way, car park and vehicle entrance. At **24 Grange Loan** an application has been made for change of use from electrical supplier to dry cleaners. It is proposed to change the cafeteria at **Bertrams, Sciennes Road** to a recording studio and offices for Radio Edinburgh.

## TREES

We are sad to have to report that a fine old elm tree in Oswald Road will soon be felled as it has Dutch Elm Disease; the hot still weather this summer favoured the breeding and movement of the beetles which carry the virus, so it is good news that research is now well advanced on a treatment. Other kinds of trees have suffered from the drought and will need surgery on dead branches; if left they will decay and may cause disease in the trunk of the tree. Proliferation of branches from all lopping, and some pruning wounds, has been common this year. These thin whippy branches will grow rapidly if left and should be thinned, or removed if possible.

**Ivy** provides an excellent habitat for birds and does no direct harm growing through a tree, but it does compete for moisture especially during drought, so ivy should not be allowed to become dominant. It will conceal rot, bracket fungus etc., and may ultimately bring down the tree by its sheer weight. To remove the ivy cut away all stems at ground level.

**Footpaths** – Please walk along your pavement frontage and consider whether your hedge or overhanging branches cause an inconvenience to passers-by. Of course the overhang is part of the charm of the Grange but no one likes being slapped in the eye! We understand that some residents have had letters from the Highways Department asking them to attend to offending greenery.

A leaflet, "**Trees in the Grange**" is presented to you along with this Newsletter. Please keep it for reference. This will be complemented by a leaflet on "Tree Care" being produced by the Landscape Section (Planning Dept.). Isobel Simpson continues to be willing to help with any tree problems. A list of suitable trees for suburban gardens and a short list of helpful books, most of which can be borrowed from the Newington Library, are available; others can be consulted at any time by phoning Mrs. Simpson (667 7747).

## REPORTS

A most successful **Guided Walk** through the Grange was held on 12th June.

On 10th September, there were two talks about trees under the title 'The Grange without Trees'. Dr. John Bryom of the Department of Landscape Architecture, University of Edinburgh spoke on **Designing with Trees** and Mr. George Anderson, Principal Scientific Officer, Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh spoke on **Tree Care – The Root of the Problem**.

## PROGRAMME : AUTUMN 1984 / SPRING 1985

Monday 29th October: **Annual General Meeting** (see page 1).

Saturday 10th November: **Reminiscences**, 2.30 p.m. in Mayfield Church Upper Hall.

This meeting, on a Saturday afternoon, is a new venture for the Association. Older residents will be especially welcome. Slides of old Edinburgh will be shown and the audience's comments will be welcome. Tea will follow. To take people to and from the meeting, we will be hiring a "Handicab" which can take wheelchair passengers and people who can walk but cannot bend to get into a car. If you wish to use this service, please telephone Mrs. Drucker (667 1709) by 1st November. (Grange residents may like to know that "Handicabs" run a door to door service for disabled people – telephone 666 0955 for information).

Saturday 19th January 1985 – 10.30 a.m. to noon – **Bring and Buy and Coffee Morning** in Mayfield Church Upper Hall. Contributions of books, home baking and preserves, plants and bric-a-brac will be very welcome.

Monday 11th March 1985 at 7.30 p.m. – **Scotland's high living**, an illustrated talk on the story of the tenement by Mr. Peter Robinson, Edinburgh Architectural Association, in Mayfield Church Upper Hall.

**Transport to and from Meetings.** Anyone who would like a lift please contact Mrs. Drucker (667 1709).

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

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 £1.00; OAP'S 50p.)

Name .....

Address .....

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