



# The Grange Association

Covering the Grange Conservation Area

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 1987

## GRANGE FRIENDS AND REPRESENTATIVES

### **The Regional Councillor for Sciennes-Marchmont**

Mrs. Marilyn MacLaren  
19 Wester Coates Terrace  
Edinburgh EH12 5LR  
337-4528

Available for consultation at Sciennes Primary School on every first Thursday in the month between 5.30 and 6.30 p.m.; and at Gillespie's High School on every third Thursday in the month between 5.30 and 6.30 p.m.; or by appointment.

### **Member of Parliament**

*(as at the time of going to press)*

Mr. Michael Ancram M.P.  
Constituency Office  
19 Newington Road  
Edinburgh 9  
667-5783

Available for consultation at the Constituency Office every other Friday at 5.00 p.m. It is advisable to make a definite appointment.

### **The District Councillor for Sciennes**

Mr. Eric Kean  
55 St Alban's Road  
Edinburgh EH9 2LS  
667-2233

Available for consultation by appointment.

### **The Director of Planning**

The Planning Department  
18 Market Street  
Edinburgh EH1 1BJ  
225-2424 (ext. 6514)

### **The Director of Highways**

Mr. P.J. Mason  
Mr. R.A. Paxton  
The Highways Department  
19 Market Street  
Edinburgh EH1 1DL  
229-9292

## ENHANCEMENT SCHEME FOR THE GRANGE

**Parking:** A policy document based on the outline published in the **Newsletter** of Spring 1987 and approved by the Committee of the Grange Association has been lodged with the Department of Highways of the Lothian Region. The first pilot study for the control of parking arranged with the Department of Highways is now being closely monitored. Would residents in Seton Place, Cumin Place and Dick Place please contact Mrs. Sofia Leonard, 12 St Alban's Road (667-2339), before the end of June to help evaluate this experiment.

**Traffic management:** The Department of Urban Design and Regional Planning of the University of Edinburgh recently organised a project with undergraduates to find practical ways to achieve traffic restraint in the streets of the Grange using a combination of regulations and physical measures. The following streets have been studied in this project: Sciennes Road, Grange Road (East of Marchmont), Lauder Road, Findhorn Place, Fountainhall Road and St. Alban's Road. The project was completed on the 20th of March. The results are extremely interesting and will make a very useful contribution to the total Enhancement Scheme.

The project organiser, Mr. Philip Bowers, gave a much appreciated public lecture to members of the Grange Association on the 30th of March. He described to a large audience some of the remarkable experiences of other European countries (especially Holland, Denmark and Germany) in approaching the question of traffic management and restraint in residential streets, and discussed both successful and unsuccessful schemes. It was encouraging to find that the best schemes succeeded not only in establishing a desirable balance between traffic and residents' interests in a given area, but also in contributing significantly to the beauty of the environment.

Councillor MacLaren followed up this talk with a Public Meeting in early April, which provided a useful forum for residents of the Grange to discuss concerns about traffic and parking with representatives of the police and of the Department of Highways of the Lothian Region.

**Railings:** While the particular character of the Grange depends primarily upon its trees, we also have a most important asset in our stone boundary walls and railings. Sadly, many properties are still without the handsome railings which they gave up in a good cause long ago. How nice it would be to see the restoration of at least some of these original railings as a positive contribution to the enhancement of the Grange — as a replacement for more temporary or incongruous varieties, such as wooden or even plastic fencing to which proprietors have had occasional resort. For advice about the original style of railings for your property and how to go about restoring them, contact Mrs. Sofia Leonard, 12 St Alban's Road (667-2339). For repairs and other sorts of ironwork restoration, there are some good local firms:

Mr. Charles Laing  
Chamar Enterprises  
29 Beaverbank Place  
Edinburgh EH7 AE1  
556-3160

Mr. Jack Howells  
18 Northumberland Street  
Edinburgh EH3 6LS  
556-6626

Mr. T.M. Lamb  
Charles Hershaw & Sons Ltd.  
Russell Road  
Edinburgh EH11 2LS  
337-4204

Mr. Arthur Dutch  
Lonsdale and Dutch  
23(b) Howe Street  
Edinburgh  
556-3257

**The Enhancement Scheme:** Parking, traffic, boundary walls and fences must feature prominently in any consideration of the environment, but these factors interrelate with many others, such as the resurfacing of pavements, pedestrian routes, cycle routes, the design of street lights and other street 'furniture', the establishment of a focal point for the Grange area, and so on. Isolated measures to answer particular concerns may contradict each other. The key to success lies in the careful

and systematic planning of a completely integrated scheme, which should have the full support of residents, planners and politicians of every hue, and be capable of being fully implemented at the very least in pre-determined stages. The Association Committee will be continuing to work on this challenging but potentially enormously rewarding task over the coming months. The Committee would welcome as much participation as possible from residents in order to take all points of view into account before making final proposals.

**PLANNING CONTROLS IN THE GRANGE:** Everyone living in the Grange is aware that the area is a 'Conservation Area' and that this status has recently been further strengthened by the 'Article 4 Direction'. But what does this mean in practice?

**Conservation Area Status.** This gives general protection throughout the area as follows:

- i) Special attention must be paid to the character and appearance of new development and alterations.
- ii) The demolition of any buildings or walls requires Listed Building Consent.
- iii) Mature trees are protected from felling or pruning work and some trees are also covered by Tree Preservation Orders. The District Council require six weeks' notice of any proposed operations.

**Article 4 Direction.** This direction, under the 1981 Town and Country Planning Order, means that, in addition to the normal planning controls, certain classes of development also require planning permission, as follows:

Class I: Development within the garden of a dwelling house, or to the dwelling house itself, including:

- 1) Enlargement, improvement or other alteration to a dwelling house.
- 2) Erection of buildings within garden areas including sheds, greenhouses, garages etc.

Class II: 1) The erection or construction of gates, fences, walls or other means of enclosure (within specified heights).  
2) The painting of the exterior of the buildings.

If in doubt, do contact the Planning Department for help and advice (it can save a great deal of trouble and expense). The telephone numbers are:

Listed Building Consent	225-2424 ext. 6560
Tree Work	225-2424 ext. 6571
Article 4 Direction	225-2424 ext. 6551

## PLANNING

**St Raphael's, Blackford Avenue:** the new plans are due to go before the main Planning Committee (outcome unknown at the time of going to press).

**Mortonhall Road Allotments:** plans have now been refused by the main Planning Committee.

**Sciennes Road:** plans have now been passed.

**31 Blackford Road:** plans to subdivide the house and build a new house in the garden have been refused.

**36 Mansionhouse Road:** outline planning permission has been sought to build a detached house in the garden with access from Dick Place. The Grange Association have strongly objected.

### **SATELLITE DISHES**

Residents may be interested to install these wonderful symbols of the post-modern age. Indeed, some residents are already being telephoned by would-be installers without having expressed any such interest. The regulations governing these dishes in the Grange area are, as they stand, certain in some respects, less certain in others. Certainly, dishes must not be placed in front gardens (or in front of the foremost walls of houses); nor above the highest part of the roof (chimney stacks may be taken into account, or not, at the discretion of the Planning Department, each case being taken on its own merits). The dish must not measure more than 90 cm. across (about 3 feet). No dish can be installed for a flat or divided house without formal planning approval. It is in fact highly recommended that anyone intending to install a satellite dish contacts the Planning Department for approval. Apparently there are many subtle ways of camouflage known to Mr. Henderson or Mr. Alexander of the Planning Department, 18 Market Street, Edinburgh (225-2424, ext. 6551) and they will be pleased to help and advise.

### **RECENT EVENTS**

**Antiques Evening:** On the 11th of May the Association held an Antiques Evening at the Church of the German Speaking Congregation. The panel consisted of Mr. Campbell Armour and Miss Belinda Woodward both partners in Phillips, and Dr. Kemp of the University of Edinburgh, who admirably amused and informed their audience throughout the evening. The Committee wish to thank the members of the panel for their expert and very entertaining comments, and also the members of the Association who submitted such a wide and interesting selection of items.

### **PROGRAMME OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**Walk in the Grange:** The Walk in the Grange this year will take place on the afternoon of Saturday 20th June, when visits will be made to some of the most beautiful gardens in the area. Interested members should meet at 2.00 p.m. at the corner of Dick Place and Lauder Road.

**Scottish Society and Architecture of the 1930s:** Charles McKean, FSA, FRSA, Secretary of the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland, will give an illustrated talk on this topic on Thursday 29th September at 7.30 p.m. in the Church of the German Speaking Congregation. This event is being held jointly with the Blasket Conservation Association. Refreshments will be served.

### **GRANGE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP**

Regular readers of this **Newsletter** and newcomers to the Grange are urged to join the Association. Subscriptions are exceptionally good value and provide free admission to all Association events, as well as being a valued and effective contribution to the conservation and enhancement of our unique area. Please send the form below to the Membership Secretary.

---

**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 .....