



The Grange Association

NEWSLETTER NO. 62

SPRING 1997

Recognised Scottish Charity SC025491

IN MEMORY

This is an appropriate moment to remember that our logo was designed, at the invitation of Isobel Simpson, by Katherine Chart, who died in January. Mrs Chart, a resident of Dalrymple Crescent, had an extensive knowledge of all things heraldic. During the sixties she held the post of Principal Heraldic Painter to the court of the Lord Lyon. She it was who identified the heraldic beasts in Grange Loan as Wyverns - hitherto they had been known as the 'Lauder Griffins' - and gave them a lively new role in the Association logo.

SUMMER EVENT

Saturday 14 June

A visit to 7 local gardens. Meet at 2.30pm on the corner of Blackford Road and Whitehouse Loan. Grateful thanks to the owners.

AN APPEAL - SICK CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

The inside of the 'Sick Kids' has undergone great changes. So much so, that anxious parents and visitors are having difficulty finding their way about. The hospital is planning to set up a team of volunteer guides. Please could you help occasionally? The more guides, the less often your turn will come round.

For information phone the Family Support nurse - Mrs Jean Fraser - 536 0000, or give your name, address and phone number to our Chairperson - Sheila Reid.

NOTES FROM THE AGM - 5 FEBRUARY 1997



95 members and 6 visitors (Councillors and representatives of nearby amenity bodies) attended the AGM. The outgoing chairman Dr Derek Lyddon reported as follows:-

Highlights of the Year - The Association's area was extended to encompass the Airsty Ainslie and the whole declared to be an Outstanding Conservation Area. The constitution was adjusted so that the Association could and has become a Scottish charity. We responded to 4 major planning proposals. The History Group is discussing a management plan for the Grange Cemetery. A leaflet about cabling was distributed. We welcomed to all our events members of the Greenhill and Church Hill Amenity Association.

Planning and Conservation - Richard Ewing and Lesley Robertson have helped the Committee attend to 100 planning applications during the year. Both have our warm thanks. Remember that many applications require at least one visit to the Planning Office in Cockburn Street and call for a detailed written response.

In response to the perceived increasing development pressure, the Committee is making its Planning Group more formal - to be proactive, to indicate what we think is in character, to develop planning briefs and to react as professionally as possible to development proposals.

Constitution - A Special General Meeting held on 13 November 1996 clarified the Association's objectives and broadened the membership. The Inland Revenue now recognises the Association as a Scottish Charity which will confer certain tax advantages, enhance public confidence in the charitable sector and make those running the charities more aware of our responsibilities.

Planting a Millennium Tree? - Almost all of the 10,000 trees in the Grange are in private gardens. To keep our treescape in good heart we need to plant 200 each year. The Association hopes to encourage the planting of 500 Millennium trees. We shall offer advice on what to plant, where to find the tree(s) of your choice and help in having a commemorative label made. If you would like a questionnaire to help you select the right tree, or if you would like to contribute any ideas to this proposal, please contact Alistair Scott.

History Group - A draft management plan for the Grange Cemetery has been discussed with Mr David Jamieson of Edinburgh City Council. The intention is to increase tree numbers, variety, and age structure, to introduce more shrub species, to erect bird nesting boxes, to increase site information and to provide benches. The group is continuing to record the monuments and extra help is required. Please give your name to any committee member. We congratulate the Greenhill and Church Hill Amenity Association for its efforts in having the tombstone of John Livingstone off Chamberlain Road so successfully refurbished.

Carlton Cricket Ground - Apart from Grange Cemetery, the Cricket Ground is our only available open space. Following a helpful meeting with the club we have invited them to tell us about their amenities in this newsletter.

Garden Group - We had a successful talk on the History of the Rose by Dr AC Douglas and an outing to Lord and Lady Elliott's garden at Fairmilehead.

Social Group - The National Library of Scotland, Causewayside was visited and there was a meeting concerning Neighbourhood Watch. Meetings are now organised jointly with the Greenhill and Church Hill Amenity Association which has kindly made a donation towards hall hire expenses.

Newsletter - A great 'thank you' to our voluntary distributors who each year make 3 distributions to about 2,800 letterboxes. More volunteers are always needed. Special thanks to Alistair Scott for his work as editor and welcome to Lucy Richardson, the new editor.

In conclusion, Dr Lyddon thanked the Committee members for their efforts in 1996.

Finance -The honorary treasurer, Marion Cantley, presented the Statement of Income and Expenditure and the Statement of Funds for the year ended 31 December 1996. These accounts showed a small surplus of £51 due to the profit made from the sales of publications. Members passed a vote of thanks to the honorary auditor, David O Douglas, Chartered Accountant. The Association was particularly grateful for extra advice received in relation to the Association's role as a Scottish Charity.

Elections - After the elections of officials and committee members, Mrs Sheila Reid, the new chairperson, proposed that Dr Derek Lyddon should be our first Honorary President. This was seconded by Mrs Dorothy Ryle. In eloquent terms, Mrs Reid referred to Dr Lyddon's outstanding leadership and the unstinting ways in which he gave of his time to progress our affairs. Happily, he would continue as a co-opted member of the Committee and would be convenor of the new Planning Group.

FORUM ON CONSERVATION AND TRAFFIC CALMING FOLLOWING THE AGM

Derek Lyddon, introduced Will Garrett, Conservation Officer, City Development Department, Graham Reed from Historic Scotland and several members of the Association's Planning Group.

He stated that efforts must focus on how to maintain and enhance the quality of the Grange; in particular how to indicate in advance what will be appropriate instead of only reacting to proposals.

Mr Reed said that the Secretary of State for Scotland had made local authorities responsible for bringing forward proposals to protect Conservation Areas. But, few, if any authorities have done so. A proposed development should be tested against the question of whether it will maintain the character of part of a Conservation Area and preserve, protect and enhance its surroundings.

Mr Garrett said that a local authority, limited by resources, couldn't do all that it might wish. Recent efforts involved the use of planning briefs and impact statements and there was an awareness that the characters of individual streets should be studied.

Sofia Leonard referred to 'The Grange A Case of Conservation' published by the Association in 1982. The policies outlined there had not been worked through and it was even more necessary today that they should be.

Many of the 100, or so, people there then took part in an open forum. Issues raised included; the increasing density of population and traffic when flats are built; local parking and traffic problems; the need for a city wide transport strategy; and developers should be asked to produce a statement on what they were doing to preserve the quality and character of the area.

Mr Garrett foresaw a partnership between the City Development Department and the Grange Association to further our objectives. He promised to produce a template for immediate future action here.

The monitoring report on traffic calming had not yet been received from the City Council. The bumps in the road were made to government standards and the whole scheme was aimed at getting a 20mph limit.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS: 26 JULY 1996 - 5 FEBRUARY 1997



There have been a total of 69 planning applications since the last Newsletter. The list below indicates the variety of work proposed. There have been further large and important applications for flatted developments in the area which have raised considerable public comment. Applications not noted below included 5 conservatories, 29 house alterations, 5 window alterations and 1 satellite dish. Unresolved applications in the last Newsletter are now noted.

Applications not within The Grange Association area but of interest to residents are marked by an asterisk (*).

ESDAILE SITE

Kilgraston Road, Elphinstone Homes, (A 344 96 FL) Erect one block of 29 flats & one detached lodge. PENDING.

Kilgraston Road, Randolph Hill Group, (A 376 96 FL) Alter & change of use from residential training college to nursing home. PENDING.

Kilgraston Road, Randolph Hill Group, (A 473 96 FF) Part change of use from training centre to nursery. PENDING.

Kilgraston Road, Randolph Hill Group, (A 1919 96 FL) Erect 15 Flats. PENDING.

Dick Place, Randolph Hill Group, (A 1419 96 FL) Change of use from offices to 6 flats. PENDING

Kilgraston R, Dick Pl, Royal Bank of Scotland, (A 2929 96 OL) Outline planning permission and listed building consent to construct residential accommodation & change of use to residential. PENDING.

After the public meeting held on the 16th October 1996 at Marchmont St Giles the DESIGN BRIEF was adjusted and accepted by the Planning Committee on the 7th November 1996. The considerable public concern expressed at the proposals influenced the Planners, but failed to prevent the proposal for housing development on the south section of the lawn. Development is restricted to 6 units and must respect the building line, eaves and ridge line of the properties to the south. Access from the site onto Kilgraston Road is restricted to a 3 metre opening. The successful developer will be required to carry out a Traffic Impact Assessment for any proposals.

The current owners are investigating the most acceptable form of development within the limitations of the Brief. The property has been re-offered for sale.

Mortonhall Road, Stewart Milne Homes Ltd, (A 735 96 FF) Erect 5 detached flatted villas on existing allotment ground (44 housing units). PENDING.

A further amended scheme has been submitted indicating radical changes and a

reduction of flat units from 44 to 38. One large block is removed from the north section of the site and a terrace of house units substituted to the lower south section. The three public access roads off Mortonhall Road have been altered to 1 public and 2 private access drives. The house units to the south are a welcome alteration, but whereas the Glenisla houses are an elegant sweep of terrace, the new houses have not captured the elegance. Generally the scheme still fails to inspire and the density should be reduced to 30 units.

- 33 Blackford Road, Applecross Properties Ltd, (A 2822 96 FF)** Demolish dwelling and erect 7 flats. PENDING.

Considered to be overdevelopment in a predominantly single residential unit street of varying style and size of properties. Some properties have been sub-divided, but style and form has been retained. Approval of this application would create a precedent for similar possibilities in many areas of the Grange. Contrary to good urban design. GA lodged objections.

- Canaan Lane, Prop, Woodville Court (A 2927 94 FC)** Erect 20 flats. REFUSED.

GA lodged objections to density and siting of development. Planning Committee site visit and thereafter refused application.

- Canaan Lane, Proprietors of Woodville Court (A 2359 96 FC)** Erect 22 residential flats. APPROVED.

This is an intensive and high density development of 2 separate 3 storey blocks of 9 flats each and a 2 storey mews to the southern section of the site. There is little improvement to the former application. The Morningside Association, Grange Association and local residents have indicated strong feeling against the proposals.

- 38 Blackford Avenue, Caledonian Heritable Ltd, (A 1690 96 FF)** Change of use from bank to public house. PENDING.

GA lodged objections as contrary to the predominantly residential use of the area.

- 1 & 2 Grange Road, (A 2690 96 FL)** Form public house from shop & public house. PENDING.

GA lodged objections at the loss of a small shop at a busy junction in an area of ever increasing development, especially in view of the large number of similar public houses (5) within 300 M. There is additional disturbance to the flats above.

- 15 Hatton Place, North British Hotels Trust, (A 2929 96 FL)** Alterations and change of use from offices/laboratory to residential accommodation. PENDING.

Concern has been expressed by neighbours and other residents in the area who feel the application and possible implications should be carefully considered.

- 10 Grange Loan, (A 1846 96 FF)** Change of use from coffee shop to hot food takeaway. REFUSED

GA lodged objections to location of unit in a predominantly residential area.

- *146 Marchmont Road, (A 1426 96 FF)** Change of use from bank to coffee house. APPROVED

- 28 Relugas Road, (A 2724 95 FF)** Extension to dwelling house. APPROVED.

GA objections; proposals contrary to villa policy.

- 19a Blackford Road, (A 2980 95 LE)** Certificate of lawfulness for residential use. GRANTED

- Grange Road, Grange Furniture**, (A 3027 95 FL) Alter retail unit to provide retail on 1st fl & fire escape stair. APPROVED.
GA objections lodged to alteration and development.
- *20-34 Upper Gray Street, Applecross Properties Ltd**, (A 157 96 FL) Demolish offices & workshops, alter existing offices to form 10 new flats & erect 32 new flats. APPROVED. *GA lodged objection to the density of development and urged reduction to allow landscaping.*
- 18 St Albans Road**, (A 1084 96 FF) Change of use from hostel to dwelling house. APPROVED
- 109 St Albans Road**, (A 1114 96 FF) Form run-in. APPROVED
- 180 Grange Loan, Carlton Cricket Club**, (A 1158 96 RT) Renewal of consent for nursery use. APPROVED
- *91b West Saville Terrace, J Sives Surfacing Ltd**, (A 1458 96 FF) Erect portable unit. PENDING.
- *Sciennes Road, Edinburgh Sick Childrens NHS Trust**, (A 1513 96 LB) Alter lecture theatre. PENDING.
- Grange Loan, Astley Ainslie Hospital, Edinburgh Health Care Trust**, (A 1604 96 FL) Construct extension. APPROVED
- 98 St Albans Road**, (A 1768 96 FF) Form vehicular access. APPROVED
- 65 Grange Loan, Edinburgh Health Care NHS Trust**, (A 1777 95 FF) Erect storage units. APPROVAL for 1 year - 04/10/95.
The approval granted for 1 year has lapsed and no request for extension has been notified to The Grange Association. Concern has been expressed by many residents in the area. Recently a notice of property sale has been posted on the building.
- *Duncan St/ South Gray St, The Burrell Co & CALA Homes** (*A 2633 95 FL) Part new build of 44 flats & refurbishment of 5 flats. APPROVED - *with a large number of conditions.*
- 64 Fountainhall Road**, (A 1261 96 FF) Renewal of consent for dwelling house granted 1991. PENDING.
- 3 Beaufort Road**, (A 1847 96 FF) Alter & change of use from retail to hot food takeaway. REFUSED.
- 1 Sciennes, Sepia Enterprises Ltd.**, (A 2000 96 FF) Change of use from shop to flat. PENDING.
- 1-1a St Albans Rd**, (A 2021 96 FF) Change of use from dwelling house to dwelling house/guest house. PENDING
- 23 Hope Terrace, Grange College Ltd**, (A 2239 96 FF) Increase number of children from 30 to 35 in day nursery. PENDING.
- 20 Lauder Road**, (A 2427 96 FL) Form run-in. REFUSED
- 18a Hope Terrace, Whitehouse Grange Bowling Club**, (A 2640 96 FF) Alter & extend clubhouse. PENDING.
- 37 Dick Place**, (A 2771 96 FF) Install surface solar collectors. PENDING.
The use of natural resources is to be encouraged. Solar collection panels should be mounted to cause least visual intrusion from the street. GA has advised location on flat or inner slopes of roof with no section visible from point 2M above the pavement

GRANGE CEMETERY - COMMEMORATIVE SEATING AND TREES

Cemeteries in urban areas are increasingly seen as sources of recreational space for local communities, and the Recreation and Leisure Department of the City Council would like to encourage donations of commemorative seats and specimen trees. Please contact the Department if you can help.

Dorothy Ryle

TREE NOTES



Most lime trees in the Grange are common lime, *Tilia x europaea*. Some 15% however are the large-leaved lime, *Tilia platyphyllos* and there are a few small-leaved limes *Tilia cordata* and silver pendant lime, *Tilia petiolaris*. If you would like help in identification, do ask me, preferably when the tree is in flower or fruit.

400 copies of 'Trees in the Grange' have now been sold, but some stocks remain. If you would like to buy a copy (£5.00) contact me, or any committee member will pass on your order. The book is elegantly illustrated by Fiona Reid and Anne Gilchrist.

Alistair Scott

WILDLIFE

Early in 1997 a heron was often seen on rooftops overlooking garden ponds. A female blackcap was in Dick Place in the first week of January and a male in the third week. Mistle thrushes have been regular residents in Dalrymple Crescent and Grange Loan. A local female sparrowhawk has been reported regularly, particularly at 2 different plucking posts.



Local foxes are being seen almost as often in the afternoons as at night. Their route can often be tracked by security lights being triggered. Walls are used as aerial roadways, with foxes jumping with ease from the ground onto a 7 foot wall.

Grey squirrels have stripped important areas of bark from a treasured Hoheria in Dalrymple Crescent. Before moving to any other measures, the owner is intent on discovering whether these pesky animals can be deterred by the application of pepper.

Thanks to Mr Weir and Mr Johnson, Mr Steedman and committee members.

Gerald France

SHOPPING MEMORIES: TIMES CHANGE.

Much has changed in our way of life since before the 1939-45 War, not least in shops and shopping. Many of today's residents in the Grange will remember the delivery service, widely used at no extra charge. Milk, cream and eggs

came by horse drawn float - the intelligent animal knowing at which house to stop while the milkman ran up to the front door with the delivery. Later, electric carts superseded the horses.

Grocer's and butcher's orders were delivered by message boys on heavy bicycles with a big basket in front. Butchers' shops have not changed a great deal apart from having refrigerated display cabinets but the old style grocery store with a chair available for the customer whilst the grocer assembled the order, item by item from the shelves, has all but disappeared. Shops, on the whole, knew their customers, so very different from today's impersonal supermarkets.

Few of the old shops now remain but well known survivors in the district include Mr. Matheson, the butcher, in Ratcliffe Terrace since 1880, and McGregor's grocery at Marchmont since 1907. Some of fond memory have unfortunately gone: Miss Gould, the chemist in Grange Road and an early woman pharmacist, could always advise on medication for a sick child. A visit to Forrest the ironmonger at Salisbury was always a rewarding experience: it was known in our family as "the avalanche shop" on account of the apparently chaotic display of goods - but they nearly always had what you required and knew where to find it!

Bakers' shops abounded- Mitchelhill at Marchmont, Scott Lyon, Youngs and Crawfords at Salisbury, all with a great array of freshly baked products.

For special treats there were expeditions to town, perhaps to one or other of the stores: Darling's, Romanes and Patterson, Greensmith Downes for exclusive clothes or Forsyth's for school uniform, McVitties or Mackies for tea or coffee, scones or cakes. These shops are no longer there, although some of the names are still in use.

However, there are notable survivors including Jenners, in Princes Street since 1838, Thins, opposite the Old College since 1848 and James Gray, the ironmonger in George Street, whose history goes as far back as 1818. Long may they remain!

Elsa Hendry

THE CARLTON CRICKET CLUB



The Association is happy to give space in the newsletter to the following note from the local Carlton Cricket Club in Grange Loan. The unwary should know that the Grange Cricket Club is in Stockbridge.

"The Carlton Cricket Club is among the top clubs in Scotland. Last season our 1st XI finished 3rd in the Scottish League and reached the semi-finals of the Scottish Cup. We run 3 senior teams, 3 junior teams and are about to start a ladies' team. Our strong junior section has 70 boys and girls from Primary 7 upwards attending coaching. The club professional also coaches in 3 local primary schools.

We have a secluded and beautiful ground in one of Edinburgh's most desirable suburbs and a recently upgraded clubhouse with a comfortable bar and lounge. We are keen to expand our membership in the local community - whether playing, social, officiating, sponsoring or patron. We need your support if the club and its beautiful ground is to survive and prosper. Social membership is only £15 p.a. By special arrangement with the Grange Association the normal £5 gate fee is waived for members.

As a social member you would be welcome at any time to walk in the ground, to walk your dog provided you clean up, to enjoy a drink in the bar (open at weekends and Tues/Thurs evenings during the summer) and to watch the cricket.

If you are interested in joining or offering some form of support do write to Nick Blundell, Carlton Cricket Club, 42 Abercorn Road, Edinburgh EH8 or contact him on 661 6619."

A LETTER FROM A RESIDENT



'Who are 'the most selfish owners in the Grange'? Those who light bonfires without forewarning their neighbours? Those who allow branches and bushes to overgrow the pavement below head height? My vote goes to those who allow their dogs to foul on our roads and pavements without clearing up after them. Treading in dog muck is no fun for anyone. All is not lost however. Direct action apart, if you do see a dog owner behaving in an irresponsible way, you may consider phoning the Council dog wardens on 529 3030 and asking them to visit the offender. Following complaints from residents the dog wardens did take prompt and effective action recently in relation to Lover's Loan - so as service it does work.'

FAVOURITE PLANTS IN THE GRANGE - A GARDEN SUPPLEMENT



Given that there are some 1500 gardens in the Grange and some knowledgeable gardeners, we thought it would be interesting to ask a number of them to tell us briefly about their favourite plant. Here are some of the responses.

Jean Duff

Geranium phaeum (Mourning Widow) - PC, Lauder Road

The Mourning Widow was already established in our garden when we took it over, and for me it was a happy discovery. In spring the leaves appear in delightful pale yellowish-green hummocks and over the summer the leaves gradually darken. Our form has a prominent and attractive maroon blotch on each leaf and maroon flowers which are of a lighter shade than the more usual version. The particular value of this plant lies in its capacity to live happily in shade - even dry shade under trees, where the pale foliage looks particularly attractive. It is easy to grow, tolerant, non-invasive and does not readily succumb to pests and diseases. What more could one ask?

Kirengeshoma palmata - AC, Whitehouse Loan

My choice is based on the shape and form of the plant and foliage and an extended period of interest, rather than solely the spectacular flowers. Kirengeshoma palmata flowers in late summer/early autumn when there is not much else around. The palmate leaves are attractive against the black stems and petioles. It is a hardy perennial from Japan. The flowers are shaped like little tubular hats and are pale yellow borne on longish stems. I have seen this plant growing to about 6 feet in Kew Gardens, but in my garden it is a more reasonable 2-3 feet and growing in a shady position on acid soil.

Fuchsia magellanica - RW, Grange Loan

This was difficult to establish, but gives much pleasure with its late summer display of delightful pendulous scarlet and purple flowers. It grows against a south facing wall in a sheltered spot sharing the same bed as the early flowering daffodils.

Eucryphia glutinosa - PY, Dick Place

During the year its handsome evergreen leaves give much pleasure, but in August it comes into its own when the strangely capped buds open to give an abundance of white flowers with their striking crimson tipped stamens. The scent of honey is overwhelming and attracts bees in great numbers. This Chilean shrub grows in a west facing border with damp acid soil.

Viburnum x bodnantense - DAR, Mansionhouse Road

After enjoying the winter flowering of a large old specimen in a neighbour's garden, we planted one in our back garden. In winter it is a welcome sight covered with clusters of fragrant pink tinged flowers. The new leaves in spring are an attractive bronze colour, and the shrub will grow slowly to about 10 feet and produce sweet perfumed flowers from November until early spring.

Rosa spp. - DF, Fountainhall Road

No apology for choosing something as traditional as the rose. Roses brighten the garden from early June onward and even now, in January, amid the ice and snow, a few determined and gallant blooms struggle to give a touch of colour to the bleak scenery. Roses come in infinite variety, their only drawback being the multitude of pests and diseases which attack them, but it's well worth the effort.

Meconopsis sheldonii (Himalayan Poppy) - PP, Relugas Road

I am the opposite of green-fingered, so it is always a delight when the plants in my garden thrive, particularly those I plant myself. The Himalayan Poppy has startling icy blue flowers, reminding me of Nepal and cold streams and clear skies above Annapurna.

Eranthis hyemalis (Winter Aconite) - South Lauder Road

Looking round my garden on a dark miserable January day, the winter aconite and its little clump of greenery is rather coyly recurving itself ready to present its cheerful yellow flowers at the first blink of sunshine. My garden books tell me it is a wild flower, which explains why mine has survived many turmoils in my garden - a real survivor!

Cyclamen hederifolium - MF, Dick Place

Our garden is sunny and dry, but there are 1001 shady places suitable for this favourite. It has marbled ivy-like leaves and pretty pink flowers. The behaviour of the plant is most intriguing. When the flower has faded and the seed has set, the flower stem, at first quite straight, sets itself into a tight coil round and protecting the seed, remaining there until the seed is ripe. Then the coiled stem withers, allowing the seed to fall to the ground and start a new plant.

Epimedium x rubrum - RE, Lauder Road

Since it is an evergreen perennial retaining its leaves throughout the winter, it makes an attractive ground cover, of about 12 inches tall, during this season. In spring, however it is a real delight. The fresh green of the lopsided and heart-shaped leaves become tinged with red and the plant blends beautifully into the herbaceous border. Sprays of crimson flowers are produced in May and the leaves become more beautifully veined and coloured as the summer and then autumn progress. It is untroubled by pests or disease.

Lamium maculatum (Dead Nettle) - AS, Grange Terrace

This is the most useful plant in the garden and saves hours of work as it provides excellent ground cover between shrubs and perennials. Evergreen and only 9 inches tall, it has purplish pink or white flowers in May and the leaves striped with silver are always pleasing. Although invasive, the plant is easily controlled by clipping in the late autumn with the removal of unwanted runners.

Pyrus communis (Pear) - CF, Seton Place

I have always liked history and the things which express it, so one of the favourite plants in my garden is the pear tree which is one of the three trees shown on an old map dating from about the time of the construction of the house c 1865. Even should the pear die, I have the sport from the adjacent apple tree cut down some years ago.



THE GRANGE ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

Sheila Reid 108 Findhorn Place EH9 2PB	667 4876	Chairperson
Lesley Robertson 21 Blackford Road EH9 2DT	447 5019	Vice-chairperson /Planning
Marion Cantley 59 Fountainhall Road EH9 2LH	667 8074	Hon Treasurer
Graham Dickson 5 Glenisla Gardens EH9 2HR	667 2738	Planning
Jean Duff 13 Dick Place EH9 2JU	667 0538	Gardening
James Fleck 38 Dick Place EH9 2JB	667 3176	
Gerald France 67/6 Grange Loan EH9 2EG	667 5891	Hon Secretary, Wildlife
Hamish Logan 19 Hatton Place EH9 1UB	667 4232	
Derek Lyddon 31 Blackford Road EH9 2DT	667 2266	Honorary President /Planning
Angela McFee 23 Mortonhall Rd EH9 2HS	667 4043	Newsletter Distribution /Planning
Ian Macneil of Barra 95/6 Grange Loan EH9 2ED	667 6068	
Betty Paul 18a Dick Place EH9 2JL	667 1240	
Lucy Richardson 31 Fountainhall Road EH9 2LN	662 4992	Newsletter Editor
Dorothy Ryle 33 Mansionhouse Rd EH9 2JD	667 1444	Community Liaison
Alistair Scott 26 Dalrymple Crescent EH9 2NX	667 9577	Trees
Jo Scott 43 Grange Road EH9 1UG	667 3386	Marketing/Sales



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ASET, 20 South Lauder Road
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Are you a member of The Grange Association ?

Recognised Scottish Charity SC 025491

What is the Association?

- * The Association will be 21 years old in 1999.
- * It was largely instrumental in having the Grange declared a Conservation Area in 1983 and an outstanding conservation area in 1996.
- * The Association is run by a committee of 12, plus people co-opted for their particular expertise.
- * Since 1979 nearly 70 residents have served on the committee.

What does the committee do?

- * It considers all planning applications affecting the area and, where appropriate, comments to the local authority.
- * It liaises with the appropriate authorities over all matters concerning traffic.
- * It is active in issues concerning tree management in the area.
- * It organises talks, walks, visits, socials or the like on matters likely to be of interest in the Grange.
- * It compiles and distributes a newsletter each Spring and Autumn to all of the 2800 households in the area covered by the Association.

What can you do?

- * Join the Association—membership form below.
- * Volunteer for election to the committee—contact the Secretary Dr Gerald France 667 5891.
- * Volunteer to be one of the 64 distributors of the Newsletter—contact the secretary.
- * Join in the activities—advertised in the Newsletter.
- * Raise any matters with committee members—listed in each Newsletter.

How much?

- * The annual subscription for 1997 is £3 (£1.50 concessions).

Membership for 1997

- Please return to Marion Cantley, Treasurer, 59 Fountainhall Road, EH9 2LH
- If you require a receipt please add a S.A.E.

I/we would like to join/renew membership of
The Grange Association for 1996 and enclose £

Name:

Address:

.....

Postcode: Telephone Number:

The Committee of the Grange Association and Planning Applications.

- Examining and responding to Planning Applications on behalf of members is a primary task for the Committee.
- This has always been the case but, within the last year, it has become clear that our activity must be advanced by a quantum leap if we are to continue to respond professionally to the development applications coming forward. There have been four major applications over recent months and we anticipate that the drive for development will increase.
- The task is not only to conserve the essential nature of the Grange but to enhance that inheritance. Is there a single new building in the last few decades which *enhances* the area?
- We must and we do maintain contact with the local councillors and with the officials of the City Planning Department.
- Our response to this increased pressure includes making more formal the composition and procedure of the planning group within the committee. We may need to employ consultants to prepare additional reports or briefs on our behalf. There may be need to increase funds to cover such expenditures.
- We plan to prepare design and conservation briefs for specific areas before there is a major planning application, so that their character and thus the type of development that will 'conserve or enhance' is defined. The next area to be treated in this way might be the Astley Ainslie Hospital grounds.
- We need to clarify and strengthen communications between the planning group and residents affected by specific planning applications. Those affected must make their views known directly to the Director of Planning. It will always be helpful if those views are copied both to the local councillors and the Association. Conversely we will be seeking better means of communicating the views of the Association to affected residents.
- Do please discuss any of these related matters with:
 - * Dr Derek Lyddon (*chairman*), [REDACTED], 667 2266
 - † Mr Richard Ewing, 46 Dick Place, [REDACTED]
 - Mrs Lesley Robertson, 21 Blackford Road, 447 5019

Current Possible Major Applications

ESDAILE, KILGRASTON ROAD

Following pressure from the Association, local councillors and residents, the Planning Committee has resolved to adopt a design brief limiting development in front of the main building to six residential units. The Association would have preferred to see no development on this land but unobtrusive development may be acceptable, subject to traffic impact assessment.

MORTONHALL ROAD

Following continued comment from residents and the Association, the developer has submitted a revised scheme of lower density. We hope that a sensitive scheme will eventually be formulated.

CAANAN LANE, WOODVILLE

The Association feels strongly that this application to build twenty-two flats is overdevelopment of the site in an already congested road. We will be recommending refusal of the application. (a previous application has already been refused.)

33 BLACKFORD ROAD

The Association is recommending refusal of this application on the grounds that the proposed four-story development of seven flats is not in character with the street and constitutes overdevelopment of the site. (The proposal to demolish the existing house for a flatted development gives rise to concern that a precedent may be set.)

The Association has prepared a planning brief for Blackford Road (which would equally apply to Hope Terrace and Whitehouse Terrace) to maintain the street character of individual villas behind stone walls in generous gardens.

ASTLEY AINSLIE GROUNDS

There have been recent reports that the Health Trust is considering the future of this land, along with that of its other properties. This is a large site of enormous importance and the Association is particularly keen to be involved in any proposals for change.

* 31 Blackford Road
† 667 2724

Notice - AGM

Wednesday 5 February
7.30pm St Catherine's — Argyle

followed by an open forum on
'Traffic Calming and Positive Conservation'