



# The Grange Association

Newsletter No. 78

New Year 2004

<http://www.the-grange.org> Recognised Scottish Charity SC025491

## Forthcoming Events

Here are some dates you may wish to put in your diary. Full details of events later in 2004—from May onwards—will be in the Spring newsletter.

- Wed 25 February* Annual General Meeting: come and join, new members welcome. This will be followed by an illustrated talk to be given by Helen Clark—of the People's Story Museum in Edinburgh's High Street—who is well placed to tell us of Aspects of Edinburgh Tenement Life, making a link with our local history project.
- Wed 24 March* Mrs Noreen Weston who opened her garden on our 2003 Gardens Walk has kindly offered to give a talk on The Grange of St Giles and the District. Stories you may or may not have heard!
- Sat 8 May* Our annual plant sale will be held at Marchmont St Giles Church, as we will be unable to use the Cricket Ground this year. Come along and buy your summer bedding plants—we will again have a large range this year. All donations of indoor and outdoor plants will be gratefully received, and we can collect items in advance. Last year's event raised over £200!
- Sat 22 May* Our annual garden walk will take place a little earlier in the year than usual. More details later.

Unless otherwise stated, meetings usually take place at 7.30pm in St Catherine's—Argyle Church Hall, Grange Road. Tea, coffee, and biscuits are served after the meeting.

If anyone has suggestions for future speakers or events, please get in touch.

*Christina Somerville and Judith Reeves*

**Are you a member of the Association?** Annual Subscriptions are payable in mid-February. To join or renew by post, please complete the form on page 5. You can also join or renew at the AGM.

### Grange Conservation Awards

The awards recognise outstanding contributions to improving the quality of the area by residents. Types of "enhancement" which might warrant an award include: restoration of high quality gates or railings; high quality repair of stonework; new building contributing to the character of the area; and tree planting and landscaping complementing the local streetscape. We warmly welcome recommendations.

## Happy Anniversary!

All of us—President and Committee—have the greatest pleasure in wishing all the members of the Grange Association a very happy 25th anniversary. We are grateful to all those who came to our special celebratory evening on December 3rd in the German Church, and to all the people who helped make it such a successful and happy occasion. We had music, folk-singing, balloons and a special cake—with carol-singing to round off the evening. It made the perfect opportunity to launch the fruits of our Silver Jubilee project: our new website, reminiscence book, and audio cassette. The project was made possible through a generous Community Grant from the City of Edinburgh Council's South Local Development Committee, and many people worked very hard on the project, especially our Vice-chair, Jon Oberlander.

All the copies of the book version of 'Memories of the Grange' in the first print run have been sold already, but more copies are being printed, and can be ordered via the Chair, and will be on sale at the AGM. The book costs £5, and the tape £4. The history project will continue to evolve in the future, updating the website on demand, and issuing a new paper edition of the scrapbook each October—so if you have corrections to offer, or new memories, pictures or documents of changing life in the Grange, please do get in touch. To whet your appetite, see page 7.

We hope we can further celebrate our anniversary with a real drive to increase our membership numbers, and a record attendance at our AGM in February. Now is the time to renew your membership—join us for the first time.

*Sheila Reid*

## Edinburgh Tree Warden Network

Members may be interested in finding out more about the Tree Warden scheme, which was launched in Edinburgh in the Spring of last year. The information below is quoted directly from the Natural Heritage section of the Council's website (<http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk>):

The Tree Council's Tree Warden Network is a UK wide initiative to enable people to play an active role in conserving and enhancing their local trees and woods. The City of Edinburgh Council set up the Edinburgh Tree Warden Network in April 2003 with the aim of encouraging citizens to become involved in tree and woodland issues within the city.

Tree Wardens get involved with a range of activities; from gathering information, giving advice, undertaking practical projects and providing a support network for people already involved with trees and woods. Tree Wardens are volunteers and there is no obligation as to how much time should be devoted to the scheme. They can spend as little or as much time as they feel appropriate. Training days and activities will be held regularly throughout the year and cover such topics as tree identification, tree planting, trees and the law, conservation issues and biodiversity.

The Edinburgh Scheme is based around the Community Council areas, 'friends' groups and some other established environmental groups. As of July 2003 there are 36 Tree Wardens operating in the city. For information on the scheme contact the Natural Heritage Section of City Development on 0131 469 3677 or visit the Tree Council Web Site (<http://www.treecouncil.org.uk>)

## Crime report

The arrangements for Neighbourhood Watch schemes are not part of the remit of the Grange Association but from time to time, as appropriate, we draw attention to the scheme and police matters in general. Thanks to the police, we can summarise some of the recent crime figures in the Grange and neighbouring areas. In a monthly report for December 2003, covering the period to 22nd December, 68 crimes in total were recorded.

There were four thefts by house-breaking from private premises in December, in Livingstone Place, Spottiswoode Road, Albert Terrace, and Morningside Road. In three cases, doors were forced, and in the other case, entry was gained via an insecure rear window. At the time of writing, one case had led to an individual being reported to the Procurator Fiscal for the crime. There were also three thefts from business premises, all in the Morningside Road area.

Four thefts of bicycles have been reported: all had been left insecure and unattended in the Marchmont area. However, a number of other thefts also occurred, where people left property (such as handbags or mobile phones) unattended, and only discovered the theft at a later time.

Four minor assaults were reported. Three were 'domestic' assaults, and the fourth involved a fight between school children. Enquiries are ongoing concerning these incidents. There were two reports of vandalism or malicious damage in December, and there were seven incidents of threats over the telephone, all of which were solved, and a report on the individual concerned has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

Finally, vehicle crime still accounts for a high proportion of reported crime. There were two thefts of motor vehicles in December at the time of writing. In one case, an individual has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal. There have also been four break-ins (or attempted break-ins) to vehicles, and two thefts from motor vehicles that were left insecure.

*Report dated 22.12.03, from PC McCullough, via Angela McFee*

**Carlton Cricket Club News:** The Chairman of the Carlton Cricket Club reports that work to demolish the old pavilion was to begin over Christmas, and continue over the Winter and Spring, with the hope of the new pavilion being up and running in time for the latter part of next season. Some games have had to be rescheduled as 'away' matches, but it is the intention to play at Carlton right through the season. However, the Coffee Morning will be a casualty, and so we change venue for our plant sale this year (see p1); we hope it may be possible for the Grange Association to join the Cricket Club in a joint event later in the season. Mr Parker has asked us to note that their Appeal Fund has been re-opened, and all donations will be welcomed. The Association wishes the Club every success for the venture, which is very important for the future of this beautiful part of our area.

### What is the Grange Association?

- A local community association, having charitable status, covering the area known as the Grange, from Hatton Place in the north to Relugas Place in the south, and from Whitehouse Loan in the west to Ratcliffe Terrace in the east.
- The Association is run by a committee of 12, plus others co-opted for their particular expertise.
- The committee represents your views, particularly on planning matters and other local concerns.
- The Association is celebrating its first 25 years, this year.

### What does the Association do for you?

- It considers all planning applications affecting the area and, where appropriate, comments to the local authority.
- It was largely instrumental in having the Grange declared a Conservation Area in 1983, and an Outstanding Conservation Area in 1996, and assisting the Council in adopting a statutory character statement in 1998.
- It liaises with the appropriate authorities over matters concerning traffic.
- It is active in issues concerning tree management in the area.
- It organises talks, walks, visits and other social events on matters likely to be of interest in the Grange.
- It compiles and distributes the Newsletter each Spring, Autumn and New Year to all of the 3,000 households in the area covered by the Association.

### What can you do?

- Join the Association by completing the Membership Form opposite. The more households we represent through membership (currently around 15%), the greater our voice in the matters that concern us all.
- *Volunteer for election to the committee*—contact the Chair, Sheila Reid, 667 4876.
- Volunteer to be one of the 64 distributors of the Newsletter—contact Ruth Munro, 668 4783.
- Join in the activities advertised in the Newsletter.
- Raise any matters and bring forward ideas for meetings and articles with committee members—listed in each Newsletter, and on our website.

### How much?

- The annual subscription for 2004 is £5 per household or business, with a £2.50 concession for over-60 households and student households. (The household system appears fair, and so far it has worked well.)
- Donations are always welcome, to help fund the production of the Newsletter and expenses incurred when arranging public meetings.
- You can apply for membership at any time, but it would help us enormously if you could apply by 15 February 2004.
- Please note that all memberships are due for renewal.
- There is a £1 charge to attend meetings, if you are *not* a member.
- You can now arrange regular annual payment by Standing Order. To do so, please complete the form on page 6, and send it to your bank, as well as completing and returning to us the Membership Form on page 5.

**Waxwings:** Alison Bramley of Findhorn Place reports sighting a pair of waxwings, before Christmas, gorging in her neighbours' rowan tree. Although they are reasonably rare winter visitors, this is exactly where you would expect to find waxwings: they love berries, particularly rowan and mountain ash, and "they are fearless and readily approached, ... indifferent to passing traffic", according to <http://www.birdsofbritain.co.uk>

## Membership renewal

On the front page of the Newsletter, we ask "Are you a member?". Experience has shown that quite a few people *think* they are, but they are not actually up to date with their subscriptions; if you're not sure whether you have current membership, please check with Marion Cantley. Naturally, we work for the whole community (members or not) but, while to "play the numbers game" sounds crude, it does help to be able to speak for a good-sized official membership.

You can pay by cash, cheque or standing order. However you choose to pay, if you are a tax payer and sign the declaration on page 6, your subscription is worth a further 28% to the Association. (If you signed that declaration last year, you don't need to do it again.) It is definitely worth doing this: last year we were able to claim back to 2000 for the first time, and this raised an additional £724 for the Association. Plans for using this 'windfall' wisely will be put to the AGM.

*Sheila Reid*

Membership Form

To: The Treasurer, The Grange Association  
59 Fountainhall Road, Edinburgh, EH9 2LH

I/We would like to join/renew membership of The Grange Association for 2004.

OR

I/We would like to join/renew membership of The Grange Association until further notice, and am/are sending my/our bank the Standing Order Form.

Annual Subscription Rates:

Household Membership: £5

Senior Citizen/Student Membership: £2.50

I/We enclose £ .....

(Please make cheques payable to The Grange Association, and enclose an SAE for your membership card.)

Name(s) .....

Address .....

.....

Postcode ..... Tel .....

Email .....

To: The Manager  
Bank .....  
& Address .....  
..... Postcode .....

Please pay to The Bank of Scotland  
51 South Clerk Street  
Edinburgh EH8 9PP (Branch Sort Code 80-02-73)

for credit of the account of the Grange Association (account number 00352857)  
the sum of (in words)

.....

1st payment on: 1st February 2004 and annually thereafter until further notice  
and please debit my account, number

.....

Date ..... Signed .....

Name .....

**Gift Aid Declaration**

Name of Charity: The Grange Association (Scottish Charity No SC025491)  
(Please use CAPITALS)

I (Name) .....

of (Address) .....

..... Postcode .....

would like The Grange Association to treat all donations I have made since 6 April  
2000 and all donations I make from the date of this declaration, until I notify you  
otherwise, as Gift Aid Donations.

Date ..... Signed .....

1. You may cancel this declaration at any time by notifying the Association.
2. Signatories of this declaration must pay income tax at least equal to the tax that the Association reclaims on your donations in the tax year (currently 28p for each £1 you give—i.e. paying 22p in the £1 income tax).
3. You can cancel this declaration if your circumstances change.
4. Please notify the Association of any change of address.

### Fountainhall Road in the 1930s and 1940s

I was born in the Grange, at Number 42 Fountainhall Road. The whole family were born there. I had a lot of relations living nearby: my maternal grandparents were at Number 11 Lauder Road, and my paternal grandparents were in Chalmers Crescent, and I had two uncles in Mansionhouse Road.

I remember the elderly hurdy-gurdy couple who used to come round the houses. That was a great thrill. They had a donkey that pulled the barrow, and they had a monkey sitting on top of the barrel, and they wound it up and the music was a bit chronic, but it was all very exciting, and we all had to give them money. There was also the one-man band that came round, with all his pipes and little drums and cymbals, which he played all at once.

Another thing I remember was that there was always an aeroplane race over Edinburgh each Summer. It must have been from East Fortune, and it was quite low and they were pretty noisy ... One other memory was going to Blackford Hill for walks quite regularly and we used to pass a field of sheep. My sister and I were trying to remember where they could be, and we think it must have been St. Alban's Road, just across the road from the junior Watson's School.

We moved to Number 60 just before the war, when I was seven. During the war, my father was in the Observer Corps, and so had to go down to Granton quite a lot of nights, and be on duty all night. They had to report all the planes that were coming over up the Forth. But he had quite a few friends who'd been in the First World War with him, and I think they had quite a good time down there. I think they got a bit of extra petrol ration in order to get themselves there.

My mother was in the ARP, she was an air raid warden. So as soon as the air raid siren went, she had to don her tin hat and go out and check the whole of Fountainhall Road, to see that nobody was showing any chinks of light at all. Before she did that, she packed my brother and I downstairs into the dining room, which was the safest room because it had wooden shutters. So we were bedded underneath the table and she went out and said, 'Don't move until the All Clear goes'.

Grange House was a ruin by then. If we went to take the dog out a walk, we went round the block and we always went into the ruins, which were where Grange Crescent is now. We wandered round there with the dog and climbed the walls and things. It was all weeds and ruins. During the war we got hens and chickens and we named all the chickens after the Seven Dwarfs. We did not enjoy eating them, particularly Dopey - we were all in tears - so when we got laying hens later on, we didn't name them all. We also had a family of rabbits, which the dogs were itching to get at. And I remember we dug up a huge lawn to plant potatoes; my mother insisted that we Dig for Victory.

I remember buying mutton pies at Young Bros. - it was on the corner [of Fountainhall and Causewayside], where Hutcheson's the chemist is now. The mutton pies had very little mutton in them, they were all beans!

*Mrs Jean Bartholomew - interviewed by Sheila Reid - June 2003*

## The Grange Association Committee 2003

Sheila Reid 108 Findhorn Place EH9 2PB	667 4876	Chairperson
Marion Cantley 59 Fountainhall Road EH9 2LH	667 8074	Hon Treasurer
Graham Dickson 5 Glenisla Gardens EH9 2HR	667 2738	Honorary Secretary, Planning
Andrew Bell 17 Hatton Place EH9 1UB	662 4354	Minute Secretary, Planning
John Duffus 43 Mansionhouse Road EH9 2JD	667 3682	
Derek Lyddon 31 Blackford Road EH9 2DT	667 2266	Honorary President Planning
Angela McFee 23 Mortonhall Rd EH9 2HS	667 4043	Planning, Crime Prevention
Ruth Munro 18 St Catherine's Place EH9 1NU	668 4783	Newsletter Distribution
Jon Oberlander 22a Findhorn Place EH9 2JP	667 9551	Vice-Chair Newsletter Editor
Judith Reeves 125d Grange Loan EH9	667 5570	Gardens, Social
Dorothy Ryle 33 Mansionhouse Rd EH9 2JD	667 1444	Community Liaison
Christina Somerville 111 St Albans Road EH9	667 9797	Social, Web Site

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Alistair Scott 26 Dalrymple Crescent EH9 2NX 667 9577 Tree Advice

Alistair is no longer on the Committee, but, he is very happy to continue to offer advice on trees! We hope shortly to add Alistair's '100 Desirable Trees' to the website.

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Copy date: 24/12/03. You are welcome to quote from this newsletter, but please acknowledge the source. The information in this newsletter is as accurate as we can make it, but we do accept articles in good faith without necessarily being able to verify the contents.

**Planning On-line:** If you would like access to information and plans lodged with planning applications, without making the trek to Cockburn Street, you might like to check out the Council's Planning Portal, at <http://citydev-portal.edinburgh.gov.uk> It doesn't work with all web browsers, but it's up to date and quite easy to use.

**Website:**  
<http://www.the-grange.org>  
email us at  
[J.Oberlander@ed.ac.uk](mailto:J.Oberlander@ed.ac.uk)  
or  
[Christina.Somerville@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Christina.Somerville@ed.ac.uk)

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