



The Grange Association

<http://www.the-grange.org>

Newsletter No 96

New Year 2010

Recognised Scottish Charity SC025491

Forthcoming Events

Wed 24 Feb 7.00pm (*Note earlier time!*) Annual General Meeting. An opportunity to come and join, new members welcome. Formal business will be followed with a presentation. We welcome back Dr Graeme Cruickshank, writer, traveller, and local history expert, who has entertained us on two previous occasions, in 1998 and 2002. On this return visit, he will deliver an illustrated talk entitled 'A Capital Story: Edinburgh's history in a nutshell'.

Wed 24 March We're delighted to host a talk by Joanne Lamb on 'Dalrymple Crescent: A snapshot of Victorian Edinburgh'. When she moved into her house in Dalrymple Crescent, a comment in the schedule set Joanne off investigating the history of the house—and eventually the lives of the people of the whole street. They illustrate aspects of Victorian Scotland: family life, health, commerce, education and migration. The talk focusses on the links between the Crescent and the Grange more widely, and the research behind it builds on Joanne's invaluable experience working at a research centre in the University.

Sat early May Our Annual bring and buy Plant Sale will likely be held in the early afternoon, in the large hall at Marchmont St Giles Church Hall, entered by the door to the south of the main church. The Spring Newsletter, confirming details of date and time, will be distributed in April.

Caroline McInnes & Tony Reeves

Unless otherwise stated, meetings take place at 7.30pm in Marchmont St Giles' new hall. Tea, coffee, and biscuits are served after the meeting. *Are you a member of the Association? Annual Subscriptions are payable in mid-February.* See pages 5 and 6 for more details.

The Grange's character depends on its geography, history, natural history and architecture; and it depends on its residents! We therefore aim to encourage four things:

- Learning: Education about the Grange's character
- Care: Active interest in looking after it.
- Enhancement: Recognition, preservation and improvement of its best features.
- Quality: High standards in its planning and architecture.

Parking in The Grange

Proposals to extend the Controlled Parking Zone to the south of Zone S1 (proposed Zone S6) were rejected by the City Council in early 2009 due to the number of objections to aspects of the scheme. However, residents in parts of the proposed S6 area continue to suffer severe difficulties due to commuter parking which also causes traffic congestion in some streets.

The Council was asked to review the impact of Zone S1 and to consider alternatives for the S6 area which would reduce the impact of commuter parking without creating negative impact outwith the zone. A local panel consisting of the 4 ward councillors, transport officials and chaired by the Grange Prestonfield Community Council (GPCC) considered the options and has drawn up draft proposals for the area.

About 150 local people attended a meeting on 1st December arranged by GPCC and attended by the councillors and officials at which the proposals were discussed. Most people commended the City Council for listening to the concerns and for putting forward proposals which might help. These proposals included:

- New double yellow lines in areas with serious congestion such as Blackford Avenue and in parts of the Waverley Park area.
- Short stretches of single yellow lines which would only operate for an hour in the middle of the day to deter commuters.
- Reducing the cost of some all-day parking bays in Zone S1, especially in roads which were currently 'underused', to encourage commuters to park there.

Those present at the meeting welcomed some of the suggestions and that the Council seemed to be listening to residents' problems but also expressed concerns including; that commuters would just move to park south of the railway line and cause problems there; that residents should be able to buy permits to allow them to park on the new single yellow lines; that local businesses need to be protected by having short term free parking nearby; that sightlines in many areas needed to be protected by longer double yellow lines. There was also a suggestion expressed that abolishment of the S1 zone would help to remedy matters although it was evident that most of those attending the meeting were from outside the S1 CPZ area.

This "informal consultation" – comments should be sent to the GPCC, city councillors or transport officials – will result in new proposals which will go to formal consultation in early 2010. For information, the councillors are Steve Burgess (Green), Gordon Mackenzie (LibDem), Ian Perry (Lab), and Cameron Rose (Con). All can be reached by email, and each of their addresses is of the form: firstname.lastname@edinburgh.gov.uk

Sue Tritton & Andrew Bell

GEARS Grange Energy and Renewables Study – Progress Report

The Stage 1 section of this project is now almost complete and the final report will be sent to the Climate Challenge Fund in early January. The results of the survey sent to all households in the Grange Association were reported in Newsletter No 95. A workshop was held at the end of September at which experts from Changeworks presented details of successful energy saving schemes implemented in other parts of the city. Our own Stuart Brown also described the research he had done into possibly installing a ground source heat pump into his property – unfortunately, the costs proved to be prohibitive in his case, although this may not be the case for other properties in the area. Residents were also able to discuss individual improvements and energy saving measures with each other and the Changeworks representatives. Unfortunately, this workshop was held on “Doors Open Day” and was not as well attended as we had hoped.

Work is now almost complete on the final report for Stage 1 and considerable effort from the GEARS steering group has been devoted to preparing the application for Stage 2 funding. The “Expression of Interest” was submitted in December and the full application must be sent in by January 13th.

In preparation for the Stage 2 application, an email questionnaire was recently sent to all those (for whom we have email addresses) who responded to the original survey inviting people to indicate their willingness to implement energy saving measures. The Stage 2 proposal is to engage with these householders to advise on suitable measures for individual properties, assist with obtaining contractors and advise on grants available to help with the costs. To help with this, the Association will work in partnership with Changeworks and employ a locally based project worker to coordinate the project. Unfortunately, the terms of CCF grants do not allow financial help from the grant to be given to individuals installing energy saving measures.

Work is currently underway to identify the first residents to take part in the project – it is expected that these households will be representative of all the 8 identified property types in the Grange. We will also be working closely with the Planning Department to ensure that any measures introduced do not compromise the character of the area. If there are people in the area who did not respond to the original questionnaire or who did not receive the follow-up email please get in touch as more households can be included in this project. The project will also hold public events to report on the project and to make the recommendations for energy saving measures widely available. The final report will detail the results of the work done with the individual properties and include recommendations for energy saving measures which can be implemented in similar Conservation areas in the country. We are already aware of other Conservation areas with similar hard-to-treat properties who will be following our progress with considerable interest. Note our website: www.grange-energy.org

Grigor Mitchell & Sue Tritton

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.

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, Sofia Leonard, 667 2339.
- *Volunteer to be one of the 64 distributors of the Newsletter.*
- 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 2010 is £5 per household or business, with a £2.50 concession for over-60 households and student households. (The household system appears fair, and continues to work 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.
- Please note that all memberships are due for renewal.
- There is a £1 charge to attend meetings, if you are *not* a member.
- If you have not already done so, you can arrange annual payment by Standing Order. Please complete the form on page 6, and send it to the Treasurer, as well as completing and returning to us the Membership Form on page 5.

Membership of the Association ... and the Committee

The Committee send you our warmest greetings for the New Year and we hope that you will fill out the membership form for the Association, as well as the Gift Aid declaration, and send it to the Treasurer very soon. Gift Aid helps charities: over the last few years, we have been able to claim back hundreds of pounds. If you have not been a member before, please do join us now. The more committed public support we have, the better, as we work to implement the aims of our constitution.

As usual, we aim to elect a number of new people to the Committee. Both the Secretary and the Treasurer are retiring this year, so we *very much* welcome new talent.

We also recognise that some residents can offer expertise on an occasional basis, but do not wish to serve on the Committee; we are grateful for the input from these members, and would like to encourage more to come forward on this basis. At the same time, we earnestly hope that some other members will be willing to put their names forward. The work is varied, interesting, and a continual learning process. Even as we push the work forward, good friendships are made: our monthly meetings are informal and enjoyable. If you think you might be interested, and would like to know more about it, please speak to one of the current Committee members, or to me. Please do consider it seriously: We need you!

Sofia Leonard

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 2010.
OR

I/We would like to join/renew membership of The Grange Association until further notice, and am/are sending you, the Treasurer, 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 if you wish to receive a membership card.)

Name(s)

Address

Postcode Tel

Email

Membership form

standing order form:
please send to the Treasurer of the Association

To: The Manager

Bank
&
Address
..... Postcode

Please pay to The Bank of Scotland
51 South Clerk Street
Edinburgh EH8 9PP

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

.....

1st payment : immediately, and on 1st February 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.
3. You can cancel this declaration if your circumstances change.
4. Please notify the Association of any change of address.

Bank Account and Standing Orders

The Grange Association has had fraudulent withdrawals made on its Bank Account and has had to open a new account. The Bank of Scotland say they cannot stop withdrawals being made on our account if someone knows the account number – even though no authorisation had been given by the Grange Association to make any payments out except by cheques bearing two signatures.

In consequence, any new Standing Order forms should be completed and sent to the Treasurer (*not* your bank), while all existing Standing Order payers have been sent a letter informing them of the changes, and giving details of the new account. If you are a Standing Order payer and have not yet received a letter, please contact the Treasurer Marion Cantley (667 8074).

Roads Capital Fund

Neighbourhood Partnerships (NPs) throughout the city have been allocated sums of money which can be used to remedy defects on roads, pavements and associated areas. The Grange lies within the South Central NP and so if any resident has a particular item they would like to have considered they could contact either the Grange Association or the Grange Prestonfield Community Council in early January when it would be considered along with other proposals for submission for inclusion in the next year's budget. It should be stressed that this fund is intended for relatively minor projects such as the removal of the tree stump by the railway bridge in Blackford Avenue, restoration of some paved areas and installation of drop kerbs in some locations. It should also be born in mind that the fund is shared out over the whole South Central area so submission of a proposal does not necessarily guarantee its implementation. For further information contact Andrew Bell.

Bequest to the Grange Association

Recently the Grange Association received a generous bequest from one of its former members. The sum of £10,000 was left to the Association to further its aims and the committee believes that the wider membership of the association should be consulted to ascertain its views on appropriate projects which these monies would allow. Some ideas include re-erecting headstones within Grange Cemetery or providing an interpretation board, installing a notice board within the Grange, digitising our growing archive or giving grants to improve shop fronts. The committee would welcome suggestions from members of the association and the matter will be discussed at the forthcoming AGM.

Independent Examiner

The Association is much indebted to Alasdair Macdonald who has served as Independent Examiner of our accounts for many years and his advice has been of great value. Alasdair is standing down from this post and we urgently need someone to perform this task, our accounts require inspection before our AGM. The work is not too onerous but would require some knowledge of financial matters and accounts. If anyone would be willing to assist in this role we would be most grateful; please contact either Andrew Bell or Marion Cantley.

The Grange Association Committee 2009/10

Sofia Leonard 12 St Alban's Road EH9 2PA	667 2339	Chair
David McCardel 3 Cumin Place EH9 2JX	667 7426	Vice-Chair, Neighbourhood Watch
Marion Cantley 59 Fountainhall Road EH9 2LH	667 8074	Hon Treasurer
Andrew Bell 17 Hatton Place EH9 1UD	662 4354	Hon Secretary, Planning
Doreen Allerton 61b/4 St Albans Road EH9 2LS	0780 3356200	
Kirstine Baxter 47 Findhorn Place EH9 2NZ	667 8214	
Tom Cunningham 7 Lauder Road EH9 2EW	667 8614	
Graham Dickson 108 Relugas Road EH9 2LZ	667 6057	Planning
John Duffus 43 Mansionhouse Road EH9 2JD	667 3682	Planning
Olga Franks 66 St Alban's Road EH9 2PG	667 1689	
Richard Groom 19 Relugas Place EH9 2PY	667 9249	
Gordon Liddle	07770 262319	
Derek Lyddon 31 Blackford Road EH9 2DT	667 2266	Honorary President
Caroline McInnes 127a Grange Loan EH9 2HB	667 5641	Newsletter Distribution
Richard Mowe 30 Lauder Road EH9 2JF	667 2979	
Jon Oberlander 22a Findhorn Place EH9 2JP	667 9551	Newsletter Editor
Judith Reeves 125d Grange Loan EH9 2HB	667 5570	Gardens, Social
Frank Rushbrook 31 Mansionhouse Road EH9 2JD	662 0295	
Dorothy Ryle 33 Mansionhouse Rd EH9 2JD	667 1444	Community Liaison
Sue Tritton 6 Grange Terrace EH9 2LD	667 8027	

Recommended reading: withouthotair.com is the website of Prof David MacKay FRS, who observes that Britain is dangerously reliant on fossil fuels. If you are interested in a comprehensive plan for change, thoroughly informed by the physical and engineering facts, then download his book 'Sustainable Energy – without the hot air' (or you can buy it in bookshops). The government seems to be paying attention: as the site notes: "Nine months after the publication of 'Sustainable Energy – without the hot air', David MacKay was appointed Chief Scientific Advisor to the Department of Energy and Climate Change."

Copy date: 31/12/09. You are welcome to quote from this newsletter, but please acknowledge the source. The information herein is as accurate as we can make it, but we do accept articles in good faith without always being able to verify the contents.

<http://www.the-grange.org>

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