



The Grange Newsletter

Grange Association

May 2016

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**COVER
STORY**

Less is more for Grange Award winner

www.grangeassociation.org

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Many thanks to those who responded so positively to our last newsletter (January 2016). It was daunting to take over from a professional editor but the feedback suggests that the result was acceptable.

Anyone living in the Grange area or with an interest in the area can join the Association. *The Grange Newsletter* is delivered three times a year to all residents in the area and to members outwith the area. We are always delighted to get your feedback, ideas for articles and suggestions for interesting people to profile.

Hilary Watkinson, who organises the Grange Association talks (see the back page for next season's programme), is always on the lookout for speakers. She would be delighted to hear of any potential candidates. And our Chair, Sue Tritton, writing on page 10, is keen to find a couple of new committee members to bring us up to strength. Over to you ...

Jenny Dawe

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Your contributions and feedback are welcome.
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HISTORY & HERITAGE

Getting to the bottom of the Penny Well

Helen Gretton, a local resident, has developed a thirst for knowledge about the Penny Well. Here, she shares the results of her research.

On a wall in Grange Loan is a plaque (photo, right) that replaced a Victorian drinking fountain called the Penny Well. You may have heard that this was an ancient well, and it is probably true that there has been a "penny well" in the Grange for more than 300 years. Yet it is hard to establish that beyond doubt.

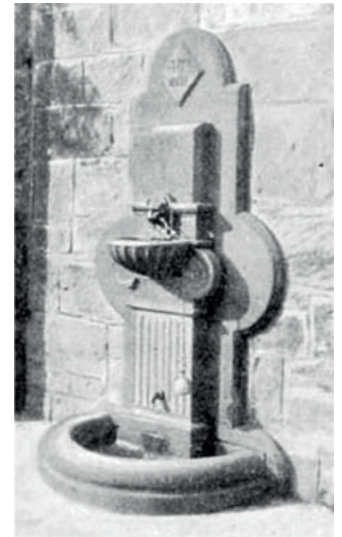


From 1888, the facts are clear. In that year, a drinking fountain was installed. It was connected to the mains, with a cup on a chain and a trough for dogs. This well was inspired by a discovery that stirred up great interest in 1887.

Digging in a garden just behind the wall hit an old stone basin five feet underground. People recalled stories of

an ancient spring with pure, healing water. When the basin was found to be a baptismal font, it seemed even more special. There was talk of a link with the ruined Sciennes convent, but there were tales like this about other wells nearby: a Ladies Well in Lauder Road, for example, not to mention the nuns' own well, now underneath St. Catherine's Place.

Local residents were familiar with a previous Penny Well close to the digging site. Created about 1830-40, it had decorative carving and free-flowing water – at least until it dried up around 1870. Probably the local landowner, Sir Thomas Dick Lauder, commissioned it. He was interested in history, but left no records about the origins of his Penny Well. Was it put in exactly the same place as an older one? Or was it just a reminder of a tradition?



The "new" drinking fountain in the 1890s

There is frustratingly little evidence for an "ancient" Penny Well, especially not for a noteworthy one. Before the 1887 excitement, this well did not appear on maps, in books about local history or sacred wells, nor in property descriptions.

Happily, we can still believe there has been a Penny Well in the Grange for centuries. Pennywell was the name of a Grange Loan property from before 1716 to about 1850 (see box below). Surely no coincidence?

The Pennywell property, Grange Loan

Two hundred and fifty years ago, the Grange estate was mostly agricultural land. Along Grange Loan there were occasional cottages. One of the biggest of these was known as Pennywell House. It stood on a quarter acre of land (site of today's houses 54-76), which had been called Pennywell since at least the early 1700s.

This property had fruit trees, a garden enclosed by a stone wall, outbuildings, and plentiful spring water. A detailed 1825 map shows an un-named well just outside its western boundary, beside a field called Pennywell Park.

Interestingly, this well and the field were a hundred metres away from the Victorian Penny Well and the plaque which now marks its position, just on the other side of the old Pennywell property, to its east.

At that time Pennywell was home to the Irving family. They ran a private asylum there, while their main business was carriage hire in the Grassmarket. In 1840 they sold the ground and buildings to the Hewit family, well-known



Kirkwood 1817 map detail, reproduced with permission of the National Library of Scotland

Edinburgh tanners. Ten years later there were two new semi-detached villas, and the Pennywell land had been re-named Hewit's Place - a name that had gone by 1900 when a property developer put up a terrace of ten homes on the land.

It's thanks to the digital revolution that the traditional name for this quarter-acre patch has been rediscovered. Searching newspaper databases for evidence of an old Penny Well led to property advertisements for a "Pendicle of the Lands of Grange called Penny-Well lying on the north side of the Grange-loan" (1776). Owners' names and other details were found in documents digitised by the National Records and National Library of Scotland.

[More information from Helen at EdinburghFootnotes.co.uk]

LOCAL AMENITY

Much more than books

Julia Cormack, Team Leader at Newington Library, gave an interesting illustrated talk to the Grange Association in January. Here, she explains that librarians do a lot more than just stamp books.

In 1897 the Infirmary Street Presbyterian church moved to Fountainhall Road and became Fountainhall Church. But by 1958, with numbers falling, it joined with Mayfield church to become Mayfield Fountainhall Church, now Mayfield Salisbury Church. The old church continued to be used for Christian education and training during the 1960s before being demolished in the early 1970s and the ground donated to Edinburgh Corporation for community use.



Fountainhall Road Church

After discussion, the decision was made to build a library on the grounds. Newington Library was opened on the 13 March 1975 by Councillor Robert Lorimer, chairman of Edinburgh Corporation Libraries and Museums committee.

When the library opened in 1975 it held the city's first audio collection of music on cassette and LPs. It had a collection of audio books on cassette for people with visual impairment and the library was all on one floor with a level path from the street and a ramp for wheelchair access from the car park. The building also had public access toilets, one with wheelchair access. These are all things that we take as normal now but it was an innovation in Edinburgh then with most library buildings either pre World War II or 1950s. In 1976, Newington Library received an award for disabled access.

When Newington Library opened in 1975 we still used small orange tickets and readers were limited to 3 books, though they could also get 3 tickets for use at the Central Library. To borrow LPs from Newington Library, users had to pay a refundable deposit and the

stylus of their record player had to be brought in annually to be checked by members of staff, to ensure records would not be scratched.

Anyone who used Newington Library pre 2008 will remember the big counter in the centre of the library when you entered the building. We needed this counter to contain our issue trays. For the last two hours of the working day members of staff had the task of putting all these library cards into numerical order. Woe betide anyone who upset the issue tray as that would involve even more time consuming work.

Computerisation has removed a lot of the drudgery and changed the way libraries work. Instead of sending out overdue letters on a daily basis, a computer program generates the letters weekly. Readers can reserve items for themselves using our online catalogue as opposed to coming to the library and checking our microfiche catalogue which was always two months out of date!

When people apply to join the library now we can register them at once as full members with full borrowing privileges as long as they have proof of their address. Also, our customers may borrow up to 12 items from any library and return to any library run by the City of Edinburgh Council, as well as borrow up to 10 downloadable books. The plus side of downloadable books is no fines to pay as the books just disappear from your iPad or other device at the end of the loan period.



The light, bright, modern Newington Library

Services provided by libraries have also increased over the years. Users can access various e-resources, such as Driving Theory tests and Ancestry, either from the comfort of their own home or in the library.

We cater well for children. Currently, Newington Library runs four Bookbug sessions of stories, songs and rhymes a week - Monday at 11am for those up to 12 months; Wednesday at 11am, repeated at 2pm, for 0-3 years; and Saturday morning at 11am for all ages.

For 5-12 year old children we have a weekly craft session on a Friday afternoon which has included a Scottie dog parade and spoon puppets. The library

LOCAL AMENITY/SPOTLIGHT/PATAKA

participates in the Summer Reading Challenge each year and ties in events around the theme. Two summers ago we had a Minecraft Minotaur welcoming visitors to the library outside our front gate. A monthly storytelling session is held for children of all ages on the 1st Thursday of the month at 10.30 am. We also have Nintendo OS games and Minecraft games which are proving very popular for use by children in the library.

We also provide fun for other ages. A knitting and handicraft group meets weekly on a Wednesday on a drop in basis at 6.30pm. An Italian Circle meets fortnightly in the library for conversation - all newcomers welcome. We run 3 bookgroups from the library which meet monthly, currently with a small waiting list.

For the elderly or those with mobility problems, we run two services in partnership with the RVS. Our Library Link service buses people into the library on a fortnightly basis for a coffee, a chat and to select books or other library materials. Our Books on Wheels service has RVS volunteers delivering a basket of books on a fortnightly basis to people in their own homes. Library staff visit in advance to check on what type of material the person wants and the format it is needed in.

The council uses libraries as collection points for various other council services. For example, we deal with bus pass forms, distribute hearing aid batteries, sell food waste bags and hold leaflets on council services.

Newington Library has one very popular member of



Engrossed in a talk in Newington Library

staff that the younger children all ask about and that's Fred, the friendly feline who lives in Fountainhall Road. He visits the library on a regular basis for treats and tummy rubs.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Grange Association for its support for Newington Library over the years. If anyone is interested in any of the services that we provide please contact me, Julia Cormack, on 0131 529 5536 or at julia.cormack@edinburgh.gov.uk

Newington Library opening hours are:
10am - 8pm, Monday – Wednesday;
10am -5pm Thursday to Saturday.

SPOTLIGHT on Joan Forehand

The eleventh in a series telling you about your Grange Association contacts

My connection with Edinburgh goes back to family holidays at my Gran's Bellevue Road flat. From an early age I knew that I loved this city and that I wanted to make it my home.

I left my childhood home in Skye in 1983 when I started a Maths degree at Edinburgh University. Following graduation, I decided to remain in the city, training as a chartered accountant with Deloitte, Haskins & Sells. In 1991, I moved to a new job in the Finance department in Standard Life. I have remained there ever since undertaking various financial reporting roles.

In 2001, I moved to my current home in a garden flat in Dalrymple Crescent. I was drawn to the area by its special character, not least the trees and peaceful environment.

I joined the Association's Committee last year, in the role of Treasurer, with the aim of becoming more involved in my local community, learning more about this area and the challenges involved in retaining and enhancing that special character that drew me here 15 years ago and which I have somewhat taken for granted.



PATAKA 25th anniversary



Twenty five years ago, brothers-in-law Noonu Miah and Shamim Hussain set up the Pataka Indian and Bengali restaurant at 190 Causewayside. It has become a firm favourite of local people and tourists. Many are drawn in by the Charles Rennie Mackintosh décor but return for the excellent food, much of it sourced locally. Even Ian Rankin's John Rebus had the Pataka's tarka dal and ginger murgh in *Set in Darkness* and a takeaway rogan josh in *Standing in Another Man's Grave!*

Over the years, new and spicier dishes have matched today's more adventurous taste buds. Expanded 4 years ago, the Pataka still retains its unique and intimate atmosphere.

From 6-8 June, the Pataka is celebrating its 25th with *Ghorer Ranna* - "a special authentic home cooked menu" for £19.95 a person, with complimentary drinks, served by staff in traditional Indian outfits. Beat Rebus to it and book now on 668 1167 or 662 9434.

Jenny Dawe

PROFILE



Grange resident, ALISON ELLIOT, made the news when she was elected as the first woman Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. JENNY DAWE learns more about her background.

PHOTOGRAPHS
STEVE COX

Alison's love of music and art is captured in these photos of her at home.

A not so monstrous Moderator

For someone who has held high-profile roles, from academia to church affairs to land reform and devolution, Dr Alison Elliot is a modest, somewhat reticent, person who makes light of her achievements. John Knox, leader of the Protestant Reformation, would have found it hard to justify including this glass ceiling breaker in *The First Blast of the Trumpet against the Monstrous Regiment of Women* (1558), his rant against women holding positions above men.

Alison Elliot acknowledges she had a “tremendously privileged” upbringing. It was also an unusual one. Her father was a psychiatrist, chief superintendent at Bangour Village Hospital in West Lothian, her home from age 5 to 21. Alison recalls: “The Hospital was laid out as a village with a “Village Shoppe”, big recreational hall which had good shows, a bowling green and a church, in which I learned to play the organ.” She continues, “Living there, where community was so important, amongst those with mental illnesses, made me aware of the vulnerability of the patients and that I need not fear them as so many did in the ‘50s and ‘60s.” Not a worry for her as a child but living in a big, old house (postcard, right) had its problems: “We escaped dry rot from one room to another”!



School at Bathgate Academy (where 1982 Moderator, Rev. John McIntyre, was also educated) was followed by an MA

in Maths from Edinburgh University. An experimental psychology M.Sc. at Sussex University preceded return to Edinburgh and a Ph.D. in 1976 in children’s language development, a topic in which she was really interested, though she jokes now, “I kept hoping I would think of something more exciting to do.”

Alison’s career followed a fairly straightforward path from Psychology Lecturer at Lancaster University 1974 -76 to Psychology Lecturer at Edinburgh University 1977-85, giving up her post when her daughter Christina was born. From her upbringing and her time at University, where her social life centred on the student Christian movement, Alison’s faith has been an extremely important part of her life. It has defined her as a person and led to an impressive litany of posts.

Joining the church as a student, Alison has been an elder at Greyfriars Kirk since 1983 and Session Clerk from 2000 to 2007. It is no surprise she is so at home at Greyfriars, renowned for its strong community engagement and welcome to the public for many musical and other events. Involved in Edinburgh University’s Centre of Theology and Public Issues since 1985, Alison was Associate Director from 2001 and is currently Acting Director. She describes it as “a very exciting place with space for meetings and conferences involving academics, church leaders, policy makers and the public.” The Centre’s focus on issues of public concern and dialogue with the public suits Alison well.

PROFILE

Alison was Convener of the influential Committee on Church and Nation of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland from 1996 to 2000. This was an exciting time. She describes the highlight as “the coming of the Scottish Parliament and devolution”. She recalls: “I loved the opportunity to meet lots of people in civil society – STUC, farmers, SEPA, UNISON, Ravenscraig workers – and a huge range of subjects to cover. I had to deal with the media to the extent that my son Johnny suggested I should have an answering machine with Press 1 for my views on the Iraq War, Press 2 for ...”

The list of Alison’s roles continues: Convener of Action of Churches Together in Scotland since 2002; and member of the Central Committee of Conference of European Churches, which covers 125 different denominations, culminating in her selection as Moderator of their Assembly in 2009.

The pinnacle of appointments came in May 2004 when Dr Alison Elliot became the first woman to take on the mantle of Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. As an elder of the Church, not a Minister, she was only the second layperson in the post - the other held the post in 1567.

“My year as Moderator was amazing after I realised it wasn’t going to go pear-shaped. My first visit was to the Western Isles from Barra to Stornoway. People were very welcoming and having a Granny from Lewis was very useful.” Other visits were further flung to South Africa, North America and the Czech Republic. “I was actually in his birth country of Poland when Pope John Paul II died and I was the only female Church leader at his funeral. Sadly, my term also included the tsunami, which happened shortly before I was due to visit India, and I met aid workers and saw the awful devastation.”

Did she meet any problems as a woman in the role? “I felt no overt antagonism, though I was aware of unease in some quarters. It actually made it easier that I was not an ordained minister. I was less threatening as a woman elder.”

A lasting physical memorial of a hectic year is a portrait by Jennifer McRae commissioned by the Scottish National Portrait Gallery in 2004. A similar piece by the artist hangs in the Elliots’ home (photo, right).

Life for Alison has continued to include a range of public appointments. In 2012, she was appointed by the Scottish Government to chair the Land Reform Review Group, which reported in May 2014. This is not the mismatch it might appear. Alison’s three crofting grandparents in Lewis and Sutherland, her mother’s great pride in her Highland ancestry and her husband Jo’s farm in the Borders have all made her acutely aware of land issues. “It is a neglected issue,” she suggests, “one that has been

waylaid by history in a sense.” Credentials also lie in her report on land reform to the General Assembly in 1998 and Scottish Land Reform Convention chairing from 1998-2001. Membership of the Christie Commission on the Future Delivery of Public Services, 2010-11, and the Campaign for Scottish Home Rule, “a cross-party exercise in putting down a marker for Scotland to raise more of what it spends” launched in 2014, continued Alison’s involvement in public life.

Alison was Convener of the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) from 2007 to 2013. “The invitation came out of the blue. I didn’t know a lot about the voluntary sector, though I had met many of the people involved when I chaired a forum in 2005 to see how the voluntary sector could contribute to delivering public services. I became a complete fan of the voluntary sector and am still on the Board of Volunteering Matters, previously Community Service Volunteers.”

This would be more than enough for most people but there’s yet another aspect to Alison. She is a Founding Board Member of the Palestine Festival of Literature, set up in 2008 to reaffirm Edward Said’s belief in “the power of culture over the culture of power” through annual gatherings for workshops and readings. Her interest stemmed from friendship with Founding Chair, Ahdaf Soueif, the Egyptian author.

Does all this involvement leave time for anything else? Married life with Jo, whom she met at a Hogmanay Party given by the organist at Greyfriars, began in 1979. Their children, Christina and Johnny, both live in London now.

Grandparenthood came six months ago with the birth of Christina’s son, Jamie.

Alison and Jo both enjoy music. “I play the piano and sing. Jo plays the violin. I thought we might have joint musical ventures but that hasn’t happened.”

How do they enjoy living in the Grange? Alison explains: “It’s a great place to be, close to shops but feeling like leafy suburbs. It’s a wonderful setting though my previous half hour walk to the city centre, Church of Scotland offices, theatres, etc, takes a bit longer now.”

They love their big house and garden, the only house they bid for, but they were not always so sure it was the right place to be. “We moved in in a snowstorm in January 1985 with our first child 8 months old. Johnny was born the next year. When we first arrived, we thought we’re not old enough for this part of Edinburgh. There were no children

around – or so we thought. Then we found there were children behind walls and in cars. We never considered living anywhere else after that.”

It’s a good base for all the forays into public life but also somewhere Alison can enjoy being “fairly domestic” with home baking on offer as proof of that.



GRANGE AWARD

Less is more for Grange Award winner

The annual Grange Association Award for the best development or refurbishment in the area was inaugurated over a decade ago. It was last awarded in 2003 to 1 Blackford Road for repairs to the boundary wall and installation of traditional railings.

In early 2015, the committee decided to re-introduce this award as a way of giving a positive image of the Grange Association and our contribution to the area; congratulating effort and care; and encouraging residents to take an interest in buildings and landscaping.

Awards will be given bi-annually for any development that enhances the area. This could be new buildings, extensions, refurbishment or landscaping, including simple tree planting.



Six of the nine nominations for the Grange Award 2016

Nine worthy projects were nominated for this year. The full Grange Association committee was provided with a brief outline and photograph of each. Their decision was based on whether projects enhanced the Grange Conservation Area.

In particular they were looking for sympathetic restoration which maintains and enhances existing features; innovative design which respects its immediate surroundings and the wider context of the Conservation Area; and maintenance and enhancement of green spaces.

The three nominations on the final shortlist were the new

gates to Carlton Cricket Club; a new sympathetic extension to number 40 Dick Place; and the considerable work which achieved removal of the clutter of parking sign poles from Blackford Road.



Cricket Club gates



40 Dick Place

The winner was John Wood for his work on Blackford Road, assisted by Jonathan Carnegie.

The award is a trophy which is a 3D print taken from the 3D scan of one of the Grange Loan Wyverns. This will be handed on to the next winner. John Wood and Jonathan Carnegie also received personal certificates.



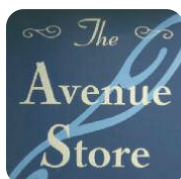
Blackford Road free of parking poles

Text and photos by Roger Kellett

Thank you, Jim

An interesting nomination for the Grange Award did not meet the criteria set. This was for the Avenue Store in Blackford Avenue. The Committee very much appreciated the reason behind the nomination.

As a result, the Association has now written to **Jim Ramsay** at the Avenue Store to thank him for his exceptional service to the community, particularly to the elderly and infirm.



Look out for the next call for nominations for the Grange Award to be given in 2018.

Another thank you note

Thanks for the service: After many years running the Blackford Avenue Post Office, **Mr Hassan** is moving on. The Association has written to thank him for the good service which he and his family have given to residents over the years and to wish them well for the future.

PLANNING WATCH

Update from Roger Kellett

As reported before, having lost his appeal to the Scottish Government against being required to remove the unauthorised artificial grass at 20 Mansionhouse Road, the owner made a second appeal to government against the refusal of retrospective permission for the artificial grass. This second appeal was made in October and has just been refused.

We reported in the last newsletter that the owner's planning permission had expired when he demolished 18 Grange Crescent and started to rebuild. He made an application in retrospect and permission was granted.

Plans were lodged to create both a two storey extension and a single storey extension to 20 Relugas Road. We felt this

was over-development but the plans were passed.

Our other objections to applications were more successful. Plans to move the driveway of 56 St Alban's Road to the other side of the house were modified so that the new break in the boundary wall will be the same size as the existing break that is to be filled in. Also, a solid wooden gate has been changed to an open iron gate.

In three cases plans were withdrawn by the applicants after we lodged an objection. These were a new garage at 17 St Thomas Road which would have meant loss of 3.57m of original boundary wall, a two storey extension at 4 Blackford Road which seemed out of keeping with the main house and conservation area and an extension filling much of a small garden at GF4 Palmerston Road.

APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING CONSENT

Between December 2015 and March 2016, the following planning applications were granted:

60 Fountainhall Road. Single storey extension to side and rear with new door.

18 Grange Crescent. Demolition of existing house and build new one. (*)

3A Dalrymple Crescent. Joining upper flat 3A with lower flat 3B.

GF2 27 South Oswald Road. Extension to the west and internal alterations.

91 South Oswald Road. Temporary Estate Agent sign boards.

17 South Oswald Road. Extend drive and bollard lights.

17 Findhorn Place. Attic conversion with two dormer windows.

42 South Oswald Road. Re-slate roof and new leadwork.

143 Blackford Avenue. Alterations to existing roof to form rooflights.

1/2 Lauder Road. Lowering of window sills to garden room.

20 Relugas Gardens. Single storey extension at the front and two storey extension at the side. (*)

17 Dalrymple Crescent. Garden room extension; solar panels; double glazing.

102A Findhorn Place. Demolish rear porch.

56 Relugas Road. Rear extension to ground floor flat.

3B South Lauder Road. Single storey extension to rear; attic conversion.

56 St Alban's Road. Changes to front garden and replacement of existing trees. (*)

17 West Relugas Road. Attic conversion.

36 Blackford Avenue. Extend and alter The Avenue Store.

19 Dick Place. Replace existing garage with single storey extension.

8 Strathearn Road. Internal alterations and renovation of existing extension façade.

7 Sciennes Gardens. Alter and extend dwelling house.

171 Whitehouse Loan / 1 Whitehouse Terrace.

Subdivision of garden to create two separate houses.

The Scottish Government has refused the second appeal on:

20 Mansionhouse Road. Works associated with, and thereafter the laying out of artificial grass (in retrospect)(*)

The following were still pending:

87 St Alban's Road. Bicycle storage in front garden.

36 Dick Place. Rear vestibule.

49 Grange Road. Internal alterations.

10 Blackford Road. Summer house.

9 Relugas Road. Rebuild and extend first floor. (*)

5 Dalrymple Crescent. Summer house.

30 Dick Place. Cast iron railings and gate.

45 Dick Place. Dormer window of reduced size.

2 St Alban's Road. Replacement windows.

45 Dick Place. Replace garden hut with glasshouse.

7 Blackford Road. 12 Velux windows.

117 Grange Loan. Replace conservatory roof with membrane on plywood.

20 Blackford Road. Two-bay oak framed carport.

18 Relugas Road. Attic conversion.

Royal Blind School, 43 Canaan Lane. Timber cabin for outdoor training.

Flat 1, 7 Relugas Road. Changes to windows.

The following was refused:

26 Mansionhouse Road. Internal alterations and bifold doors.

The following were withdrawn by the applicant:

4 Blackford Road. 2 storey extension and internal alterations (*)

17 St Thomas Road. New garage with access from St Thomas Road. (*)

GF 4 Palmerston Road. Single storey extension to rear. (*)

49 Lauder Road. Internal alterations.

(*) Signifies that a comment or an objection was lodged by the Grange Association

ENVIRONMENT/CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Baffle, bulbs, bones and behaviour

Newington Library. The Council have installed a baffle to try to reduce the noise from the air conditioning unit but neighbours nearby are still disturbed by the noise. The Council do not believe the noise levels breach any guidelines. It is hoped that they will be able to make improvements to the baffle.

Thanks to St Alban's Road gardeners. Thanks again to the local resident(s) who planted flowers under the trees at the junction with Blackford Avenue. The Association would encourage residents in other streets to "adopt" a tree and plant around it. We would help provide compost and plants to anyone doing this. We would also be willing to provide bulbs to provide a Spring display around street trees.

Jawbones. The Grange Association made a donation towards the restoration of the Jawbones on the Meadows. The Council is carrying out work to improve the paths across the Meadows and the Jawbones should be back in place soon.

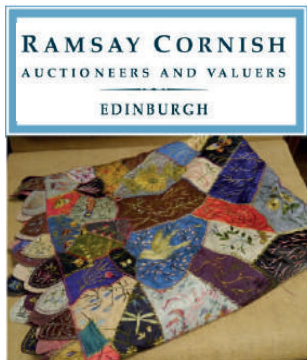
Enforcement of 20mph. Grange Prestonfield Community Council has been working with the Police to ensure that speeding motorists are fined, not just warned that they are exceeding the 20mph limit. It is hoped this will change drivers' behaviour. At a recent meeting, it was confirmed that some officers have now been trained in using the equipment to monitor speeds. However, there are only four trained officers at St Leonard's and it requires two officers working together to complete a check.

SUE TRITTON

Message from the Chair

The Grange Association AGM, held on 2 March, was attended by over 60 people. They enjoyed talks by Alistair Lawson on the history and work of the Scottish Rights of Way Society and a brief update on access rights at the Astley Ainslie Hospital by our committee member, Jo Doake. As mentioned at the AGM, the Association has two vacancies for committee members. We encourage all residents to consider joining the committee. We are particularly keen to recruit someone to take over as membership secretary and we always welcome those interested in planning matters. If you are interested, please contact anyone on the committee for further details.

The Association thanks Dan Cronin for his work in organising the distribution of the newsletter and welcomes Lucy Richardson who has volunteered to take over this task. Many of you will know Lucy as organiser of the Grange Fair, taking place this year as we go to print.



A late 19th century patchwork coverlet
Sold for £720 in our Antique & Decorators' Auction
12th March 2016

As featured on BBC's Antiques Road Trip, Ramsay Cornish is Edinburgh's busiest independent saleroom holding over 62 auctions annually making Ramsay Cornish the ideal place to either buy or sell.

Weekly General Interiors and Collectables Auctions: to include Modern and Antique Furniture and Interiors items to suit every taste and budget.

Forthcoming Specialist Antique and Decorators' Sale:- 11th June 2016. Further entries invited.

Forthcoming Specialist Collector's Auction: 9th July 2016. To include Stamps, Militaria, Coins, Banknotes, Cameras, Toys, Collectables, etc. Further entries invited.

Our experienced valuers are happy to offer free advice. We also undertake valuations for Insurance or Inheritance Tax. Please contact us to make an appointment.

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GARDENING/CONTACTS

Outrageous topiary

Grange annual gardening coach trip on Wednesday 29 June.

This year's annual coach trip is to Fife to visit Earls Hall Castle in the morning and Craigfoodie after lunch.

Earls Hall Castle gardens and house are being restored by Paul Veenhuizen. They were initially restored by Robert Lorimer and described by Suki Urquhart, the



eminent late garden designer, as "a one-man version of the English Gertrude Jekyll and Sir Edwin Lutyens partnership - combining the skills of both architecture and horticulture in one harmonious whole".

Earls Hall has some of the most outrageous topiary in Scotland, as well as herbaceous borders, a formal rose section, a

vegetable garden, a sunken garden, a double avenue of

pollarded limes, and more. Kenneth Cox in *Scotland for Gardeners* says, "Earls Hall is without doubt one of Scotland's horticultural highlights".

There will be a lunch stop on the way to Craigfoodie, described as one of Fife's many excellent private gardens, interesting for both its design and range of plants. South facing terraces are home to tender exotics and fine views over St Andrews' golf links. There are parterre beds with lavender edging, herbaceous geraniums, shrub roses and other delights.

Please let Alison Bramley know (details below) if you want to come. She will note your interest and send you an application form with more details of the trip.

I wish you all a happy new gardening season.

ALISON BRAMLEY

To join the Grange Garden Exchange group and to hear about future activities write to gardens@grangeassociation.com or phone Alison Bramley 667 5667 Find news under the gardens tab at <http://www.grangeassociation.org>



A slice of Alison's garden

VIEWPOINT joy in later years

Kilravock House

Retirement Living - Oswald Road

Marian House

Care Home - Oswald Road

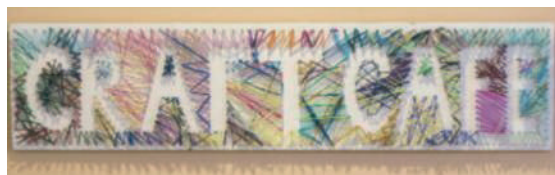
St Raphael's

Care Home - South Oswald Road

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find out more
0131 668 4247
viewpoint.org.uk



USEFUL CONTACTS

MP for Edinburgh South: Ian Murray

Tel: 0131 662 4520

Email ian@ianmurraymp.co.uk

Office: 31 Minto Street, Edinburgh EH9 2TB

MSP for Edinburgh Southern: Daniel Johnson

Tel: 0131 541 2145

Email contact@danieljohnson.org.uk

Councillors for Southside/Newington and Meadows/Morningside: all at City of Edinburgh Council, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1YJ; telephone 200 2000; and email at first.name.surname@edinburgh.gov.uk

Southside/Newington

Steve Burgess

Jim Orr

Ian Perry

Cameron Rose

Meadows/Morningside

Paul Godzik

Sandy Howat

Melanie Main

Mark McInnes

EVENTS/TALKS

Churches and surgeons

Wednesday 5 October:

Tom Kelly, longstanding enthusiast for church buildings and a past secretary to the late Historic Buildings Council for Scotland, will give an illustrated talk on *Churchspotting on the Southside*.

Wednesday 2 November

Chris Short, a well-travelled former nurse/midwife with a lifelong interest in history, will give a talk on *A Fair Field and No Favours - three women surgeons who broke the mould*.

There will be talks on **Wednesdays 7 December, 4 January and 1 February** with speakers and subjects to be announced later.

The next **AGM** will be held on Wednesday 1 March 2017.

Grange Association meetings, organised by Hilary Watkinson, are held in Butterflies Cafe, Marchmont St. Giles Church. Coffee, tea and biscuits at 7.00pm precede the main talk at 7.30pm.

EVENTS ORGANISER: Hilary Watkinson (667 6360)
events@grangeassociation.com



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You can now support the Grange Association and enjoy your tea or coffee in a fine china mug. Beautiful mugs with the Grange Association logo are available for just £5 each from Hilary Watkinson (Events). Order on 667 6360, at events@grangeassociation.com, or at Grange Association meetings.

They make great gifts too!

Small Ads

Fiona Hastie - Self-employed Mobile/Freelance Hairdresser - Hairdressing in your own home by Jenners trained stylist with many years' experience in traditional hairdressing. For an appointment to suit, please call mobile 07932 763522; home 0131 447 1968; or email fionahastie@me.com

Do you have a local service to offer? You can have a "small ad" here for just £25 and reach over 3,000 households in the area. Contact Joan Forehand or Richard Brown (details on front inside cover).



**1 Grange Loan,
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Weekly Wine Tasting Friday and Saturday 4-8pm

Monthly Beer Club First Tuesday of the month

Exclusive Grange Association Case Offers



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