



The Grange Newsletter

Grange Association

June 2018

ISSUE No. 121



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story

Blackford Pond life

www.grangeassociation.org

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This is the 121st *Grange Newsletter*. We hope you find something of interest to you in it.

At the Grange Association AGM in March, we were sorry to bid farewell to Roger Kellett and Doreen Allerton from the committee - more about them in the AGM report on page 8. Roger's role as our lead person on planning issues has been passed to Nigel Ayton, who has taken to the position with apparent ease and dedication. Nigel has said he will be pleased to hear from residents about current and prospective planning applications.

With hopes of warmer weather ahead, there is the annual garden trip to look forward to on 27th June. Details of how to sign up for this are on page 11.

Happy reading!

Jenny Dawe

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Cover photo of
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Your contributions, photographs and feedback
are welcome. Please send to Jenny Dawe
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ASTLEY AINSLIE/SPOTLIGHT

There be dragons (and a lizard) at the Astley Ainslie

Tom Breheny's Nature Notes in our last edition in which he shared his fond memories of the Astley Ainslie hospital site encouraged others to recall similar happy experiences there.



One reader, Terry Russell, was particularly interested in Tom's recollection of the three cast iron dragons that supported a wooden bench encircling a tree. He remembered photographing these and hopes that the transparency (right) he took in the 1970s will be evocative for many local people. Depending how you feel about dragons, it's magnificent or scary - maybe a bit of both.

The wrought iron lantern (left) with bird and pouncing lizard or dragon (views vary) by St Roque's Pavilion entrance, photographed at the same time, is still there for all to see.



Update on Astley Ainslie site

The Astley Ainslie Community Council Engagement Group comprises representatives from the Grange Association and the local community councils. We have had two further meetings with NHS Lothian. By now we had expected consultation with the community to have begun but we are told clinical considerations necessitate a rethink of the relocation of the last 80 patients at Astley Ainslie. Some of these patients may now move into the community. While this is being negotiated, other patients will take priority at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital, the new build there for AAH patients being put back for approximately three years. There is considerable uncertainty about the timing and whether NHS Lothian will produce a masterplan as originally intended or an updated development brief. NHS Lothian have reaffirmed their commitment to full public consultation.

We are considering putting on further guided walks round the Astley Ainslie grounds this autumn. If you would be interested in joining an autumn walk, let me know (aah@grangeassociation.com).

We are working with the group who are looking at possible asset transfer or community right to buy. They are making good progress and are setting up a trust, the Astley Ainslie Community Trust. They have appointed Robin Harper as their interim chair and he now joins us at our meetings with NHS Lothian.

Roger Kellett

SPOTLIGHT on Edythe Murie The fifteenth in a series telling you about your Grange Association contacts



I grew up in Glasgow where I studied law, but, after a few years working in Oxford, we came to Edinburgh in 1989 when my husband took up a consultant post at the Royal Infirmary. In those days I was a solicitor in private practice, but in 1999 I joined the Scottish Government Legal Directorate where my job involved steering legislation through the Scottish Parliament.

Although retired now, I still sit on a Law Society committee and do occasional tribunal work in London, where my daughter now lives.

We moved to the Grange in 2013, attracted by the combination of proximity to the city centre and the prospect of a lovely garden in which to potter. We are close to Blackford Hill and enjoy the walks and the wildlife.

I have always found relaxation in the garden and I enjoy meeting other gardeners and swapping ideas and plants. The Grange is full of knowledgeable and enthusiastic gardeners and I was happy to find the Garden Exchange Group.

GRANGE ASSOCIATION THANKS

Thanks from the Grange Association to Dorothy Ryle for living up to her name and getting riled to such good effect

Dorothy Ryle joined the Grange Association Committee in November 1986 and retired from it at the end of last year, a remarkable 31 years later. Dorothy Ryle eschews publicity. She prefers a photo of one of her favourite winter plants (right) to one of her but was happy to share ways in which she has tried to contribute to the Grange area over the years. She recognised issues and instigated action to remedy matters.

Many of you who know Dorothy probably think of her as a product of Edinburgh. In fact, she is proud to be “a Perthshire girl”, born in Crieff 86 years ago. The all-girls Edinburgh school, St Margaret’s, was evacuated to Perthshire during the Second World War. Dorothy remembers cycling up and down hill every day to Auchterarder House to go to school there. She followed that with a degree at St Andrews University.

For 37 years, the family home for Dorothy, her late husband Andrew, and twins Gavin, sadly killed in a mountaineering accident in 1998, and Mark was in Mansionhouse Road. She loved living there and for many years one of her favourite walks was around Grange Cemetery. She now lives not far away, still keenly interested in local matters.

In 1988, two years after joining the **Grange Association Committee**, Dorothy became Secretary and Events Organiser for four years. She was then co-opted annually to the Committee, acting as Community Council liaison until she retired in 2017. She was also very involved with the small group who deliberate each week on planning matters.

Dorothy has always been interested in community structures. She helped to set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme, retains her interest in Friends of the Meadows and Bruntsfield Links and has had a long involvement with **Marchmont and Sciennes Community Council**, “at times frustrating but always interesting”. One of her most enjoyable memories was helping with the tenement garden competition, choosing the best gardens in various categories, followed by the annual party and prize-giving.

Gardens have always played an important role in Dorothy’s life and she recalls with great fondness organising the opening of gardens in Mansionhouse Road and Dick Place, rounded off with tea and scones baked by former Grange Association Chair, Sofia Leonard.

Highlights of Dorothy’s contribution to the area include improvements to **Grange Cemetery**. It was through her

persistence that the cemetery gates were repainted a few years ago. Those who have admired the “Notables” information boards should thank Dorothy for having the initial idea. A letter by Alan McKinney in *The Scotsman*, highlighting restoration work in Liberton Cemetery, spurred Dorothy to invite him for coffee. From this



Viburnum bodnantense

stemmed the excellent work, led by Alan, on the rebuilding of gravestones in Grange Cemetery by Community Payback Order participants.

Due to Dorothy - and others, she stresses - there are some fine trees in the Cemetery grounds and elsewhere. She is particularly pleased with the thriving silver birch at the junction of Marchmont Crescent and Road.

Saddened by the state of the patio garden at **Newington Library**, Dorothy and her gardener cleared, composted and replanted to create a pleasant garden, though she admits to being disappointed that it has suffered from recent roof work and scaffolding.

Always interested in maps, Dorothy tentatively approached Robbie Bartholomew to see if he would be interested in compiling a **history of the Grange in maps**. The result was a fine book of maps of the area through the years from 1590.

Lobbying with others, Dorothy helped to get the **No.24 bus** to serve the area. Originally, it was subsidised to provide two buses an hour but it was not until continued lobbying succeeded in getting three buses an hour that a more punctual and regular service led to a well-supported service paying its way.

Three years of emails and letters persuaded the Transport Department that **parking in the triangle of land next to the west cemetery gate** should be reduced from 9 hours to encourage people to use local shops.

Dorothy has taken a great interest in the **Astley Ainslie grounds** since first being shown round by the daughter of the medical superintendent, who lived there for many years. Dorothy helped organise the first guided walk and hopes that any development will be sympathetic.

The Grange Association thanks Dorothy for all she has done over many years of caring about her local community.

Jenny Dawe

TREES

Why plant trees?

The City of Edinburgh Council's trees and woodlands action plan - *Trees in the City* - lists a number of well substantiated benefits associated with trees in an urban environment, and a report on the Forestry Commission (England) website - *The Case for Trees* - gives a longer list and cites some of the evidence.

Trees provide shade, privacy, shelter from the wind, and ornament. They can hide ugly features and soften the hard outlines of built structures and they can act as a barrier to noise and dust from traffic. Most trees planted by private individuals are likely to be planted with one of these ends in view.

But trees planted in an urban setting provide other benefits. There are an estimated 10,000 trees in the Grange and the visual contribution they make to the landscape is very obvious. They provide a habitat for birds to roost, shelter and nest in, and probably support a great many insects – lime trees are likely to be particularly important in this respect for their scented, nectar-bearing flowers. Trees help to maintain air quality, by removing pollutants (NO₂ and SO₂) and the 'particulates' emitted by diesel engines. They remove carbon from the atmosphere, and although in global terms the effect of 10,000 trees is small, they act as a buffer against climate change. They can help keep a city cool in summer and perhaps protect it from the severest

frost in winter.

Over the past few years there have been many studies of the contribution trees can make to health and wellbeing and there is reasonable evidence that where there are trees, people feel less stressed, more inclined to take exercise and recover from illness more quickly. Indeed, this was part of the thinking in the 1920s that led to the establishment of the Astley Ainslie Hospital in its parkland setting.

I recognise nevertheless that we need to take a balanced view of all this. Trees can damage built structures, can cast shade where it's not wanted, shed leaves onto pavements, and all too often cause disputes between neighbours. Some people clearly feel threatened rather than reassured by them. There's a risk of older trees shedding branches or blowing down - maintaining them in a safe and healthy condition can be expensive. And some of the benefits claimed, particularly on US websites, do rather stretch the imagination – 'trees have been reported as having a relaxing effect on students studying for exams'.

The Grange Association aims to preserve the public benefits associated with trees in the area and to foster the planting and management of trees with this in view. This may occasionally put us at odds with individual self-interest. Bear in mind, however, that planting a tree in a sensible place will be doing a good turn for humanity. Cutting one down will most likely benefit only you.

Peter Pitkin



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PROFILE - Marina Donald



Latvian born **MARINA DONALD** shares her complex family history with **JENNY DAWE**
PHOTOGRAPHS by **STEVE COX**

“The Grange is where I want to be”

When Aunt Ira, her last relative in Edinburgh, died in 1999, Marina Donald thought that she and husband Frank could now live anywhere. That fancy was soon dismissed: “Our house is not perfect but there is nowhere else I would want to be. We can walk practically everywhere, so don’t need a car. The Grange is not the village it once was, but it is still a great place to be. I like the sense of history. People know who lives, and who used to live, in the houses in our street. I find that sense of rootedness appealing.”

Marina’s appreciation of “rootedness” may well be fuelled by her unsettled early years. By the age of six, she had lived in Latvia, Austria, Germany, Edinburgh and Stirling.

Her story here begins with her father, Juris Grinbergs (Greene from 1955), and mother, Militsa Eduardovna (known as Lita) Grinberga (Greene). Juris was born in Valmeira, then the Russian Empire, now Latvia, in 1906. He became a lecturer in law, consultant to the Latvian Finance Ministry and contributor to the Latvian National Encyclopaedia.

Lita was born a Gartier in St Petersburg in 1912. The Gartier origins were “very Russified German”, Marina explains when I ask if the name is French. In 1921, the family moved briefly to Estonia until the father, Eduard Gartier, a paediatrician, was offered the Chair of Paediatrics in the University of Riga, Latvia. Lita later studied law there, married one of her lecturers – Juris Grinbergs – and practised law. Marina was born to Juris and Lita in Riga in June 1943.

Latvia was under Russian rule from 1710 to 1918, became independent as the Republic of Latvia, was occupied by the Soviet Union effectively from November 1939 to June 1941, occupied by Nazi Germany during 1941-44 and then reoccupied by the Soviets in 1944 to form the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic for 50 years. Marina’s parents and grandfather had narrowly escaped deportation to Siberia in June 1941 and were on the last train out of Riga, with baby Marina, in July 1944. An estimated 120,000 to 300,000 Latvians fled from the Red Army. The Grinbergs’ new life began in Graz, Austria, in a smoky hut. They moved west as the Russian front advanced, finally to a Latvian Displaced Persons’ (DP) Camp in Flensburg, North

Germany, where they were for a year and which Marina recalls fondly. “I loved the camp. I nearly died three times but I remember it as somewhere with many friends and freedom to play within the camp.”

On 19th June 1948, Marina arrived in Edinburgh with her mother. They stayed initially at 3 Duncan Street with Marina’s aunt, uncle and grandfather. Marina’s aunt, Irina Prehn, born in St Petersburg in 1907, was Lita’s older sister. She studied Mathematics at the University of Riga and, at the end of her life in her 90s one of her last discussions was on Fibonacci numbers [yes, I had to look it up too]. Marina’s uncle was Eric Thornton Prehn, born in Moscow in 1894 to British parents who owned huge textile mills in the Russian Empire. The name Prehn came from distant Danish ancestors. They all left Russia for the UK after the 1917 Revolution but Marina notes, “They didn’t take to life here, preferring Latvia with its large artistic Russian community.” It was in Riga that Eric and Irina met and married.

Eric and Irina Prehn left Latvia for London in 1939. Bombed out four times during the London Blitz, they moved to Oban and later to Edinburgh. Marina describes her uncle: “He was a superb linguist. He had private means and supported several family members. He painted all his life and displayed at the RSA, becoming a part-time lecturer in Edinburgh College of Art. He gave up exhibiting after the 1950s but, after his death in 1985 in Edinburgh, the Fine Art Society held a memorial exhibition.

Also in the Duncan Street household was Marina’s distinguished grandfather (left, with Marina). Professor Gartier had arrived in 1947 on condition he did not work as a paediatrician.



What did the young Marina think of life in Duncan Street? “I infinitely preferred the DP camp. I couldn’t get my head round stairs, beds and tables that had to be laid in a certain way.” Marina found the Prehns’ new house at 6 Spence Street, to which they all moved, much more appealing: “They were family houses and I played with the kids in the street even though we didn’t share a language. We ran along the tops of

PROFILE - Marina Donald

walls, instead of using pavements.”

Marina’s father arrived from Flensburg DP Camp in 1949. The reunited family of three moved to Stirling where the grandfather of Frank Donald, who became Marina’s husband, had found Marina’s father a job in Stirling Royal Infirmary. “You had to have a job to get into the country,” Marina explains. It was a tough move from legal expert to hospital orderly.

Nursery school in Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, at age five was followed by Beacon School, Stirling, with fees paid by the Prehns. There, Marina was transformed - a child who could not communicate in English learned to read and write. There were some cultural misunderstandings: “I was accused in the street of speaking Latin at home, meaning I was a Catholic. I had a hard time explaining that Latvian is not Latin. And one Stirling landlady thought my mother was cooking hens’ food – she did not believe buckwheat, a Russian staple, was human food.”

Marina’s mother started teaching Russian, commuting from Stirling to deliver Army and Council evening classes in Edinburgh and Glasgow. In 1952, she got a job in Edinburgh as a language assistant. Her career flourished, becoming a lecturer in the newly established Russian Department at Edinburgh University and main breadwinner after completing her PhD thesis in two years.

In Edinburgh, Marina joined Mary Erskine’s School where she describes herself in the early years as “impossible, priggish, awful” – a view not shared by at least one of her peers. Marina then went to Edinburgh University to study English Language and Literature, with two years of Russian, graduating in 1965.

Initially in 1952 the family rented rooms in Buckingham Terrace, which Marina hated. A pet worm was poor compensation for lack of playmates. Her mother later bought a house in Eltringham Terrace, near Saughton Park, which Marina loved because there were other children. She disliked the next house in Orchard Road because it was “a non-place, defined by what it wasn’t – not Blackhall and not Ravelston Dykes.”

In 1962, Marina persuaded her mother to buy the bottom half of 37 Lauder Road. “My parents had friends in the Grange. One day I was walking along Grange Road and snatches of conversation from a family group made me think, ‘This is the place to be. My parents will be happy here.’ I also realised the cellars at No.37 would be perfect for wild student parties!” So it proved, with a memorable Denning Report party in October 1963. Her parents made many friends. When Juris died in 1976, the whole street turned out for his funeral.

A decision to do a second degree at Sussex University proved not to be for her but, “I had a good time. I had a ticket for the British Museum and could meet Frank in London.” Despite Aunt Ira thinking they were not suited, Marina and Frank married in 1966. Frank has researched his family history and it makes for good reading. Of relevance here is the intertwining of his family with Marina’s. Frank’s Russian mother, Kyriena (Kyra) Andreyeva,



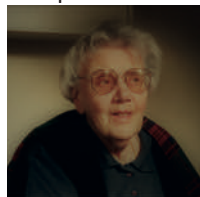
Marina in Edinburgh

born in 1908, moved to Riga in 1922 and became a close friend of Marina’s Aunt Ira. Frank’s father, Colin Donald, in the Navy on HMS Versatile, met Kyra, who was then engaged to an English refrigeration engineer, in Riga in 1931. Colin and Kyra married in London in 1936. At the start of war in 1939, Kyra moved to the Donald family home in Stirling where Frank was born in 1940. Sadly, Colin was killed at Boulogne when Frank was just two months old. It was Colin’s father, who became a close friend of the Prehns, who found Marina’s father work in Stirling.

Navy life for Marina and Frank was mainly in the south, though Marina adds, “We were frequently summoned to Edinburgh at Mother’s behest.” Their two children, Kira and Nick, were born in 1968 and 1970 in Edinburgh, Nick while Frank was based at Rosyth. As a Navy wife, who might have to move at any time, Marina struggled to find work, though got some Russian and English teaching.

The Donald family returned to Edinburgh permanently in 1978. They hoped to convert the basement at Lauder Road for themselves with Lita upstairs. This proved impossible. They viewed the house in which they still live in Tantallon Place on a Monday with Frank “as weak as a jelly after peritonitis”, had it surveyed on the Tuesday, and made an offer that was accepted on the Wednesday. Lita, who had paid for half, immediately gifted a share so that she, Frank and Marina had equal thirds.

Marina recalls moving in during the gritters’ strike in January 1979 with her new job about to start at Stevenson College. A precious cargo, moved in sledge loads, was the Archive of Ivan Bunin (1870-1953), the first Russian Nobel Prize for Literature recipient. Bunin’s secretary, Leonid Zurov, was an old friend of



Lita’s from Riga. When he died in 1971, Lita inherited Zurov’s own archives and those he had inherited from Bunin and his wife. Lita (right) published three volumes of Bunin’s diaries and gifted the archives to Leeds University.

Frank continued in the Navy until 1990. Marina worked full-time at Stevenson College, teaching English to those whose first language was not English, with her mother, retired in 1979, able to provide resident child care. Marina took early retirement in 1996, two years before her mother died shortly after the birth of her first great grandchild. Marina recalls with gratitude the invaluable support Lita provided in her final days to Nick, her grandson, during a severe mental health crisis.

Nowadays, Marina enjoys going to the gym; playing online scrabble; and going to the theatre, concerts and the International and Book Festivals. She and Frank still enjoy living in the Grange with Uncle Eric’s paintings; portraits of Frank’s ancestors and Catherine the Great; and photos of Riga bizarrely discovered in a piece of second-hand furniture bought in Edinburgh.

When Marina took a DNA test “to prove her German ancestry”, the results were intriguing. As a refugee, the question ‘Who do you think you are?’ can be hard to answer. Now, Marina Donald can retort that she’s not only a resident of the Grange, born in Latvia, but she is descended from the Queen of Sheba!

NATURE NOTES from Tom Breheny/AGM

Twa Corbies

Late February one cold and frosty morning I opened the blinds and saw a dead squirrel belly up in my neighbour's garden. Later, two crows visited and pecked out the eyes; their attempts to open up the stomach



Corbies by Arthur Rackham, "Some British Ballads", 1919

were rather more problematic. A grey squirrel has remarkably tough skin: Native Americans often used squirrel pelts for making tobacco pouches. The crows attended the corpse on two consecutive days but made little impression on the body. While they took turns to stab away at the thick skin, three randy squirrels were racing in and out of the garden carrying on business as usual, seemingly unaffected by the recent demise of their relative. The cause of death was a mystery to me; if a hungry fox had killed it, it would have carried away its victim and eaten it. On the second day I guessed what might have happened as I watched the big black tomcat from number 15 wander into the garden. The three squirrels hightailed it up into the chestnut tree and the two crows flew up on to the roof ridge. Big Tam strolled around the garden stiff legged, chest out, Cock-o'-the-Walk, took a brief disinterested sniff at the dead Nutkin and then sat erect beside the body with a proprietorial air. In my eyes he had to be the chief suspect. I once sat beside him at my neighbour's house feeling rather intimidated when he gripped and held my arm with his

extended paw and needle-sharp claws connecting with my skin.

At the beginning of April we had a heavy snowfall which raised the water level of Blackford Pond covering the island. Only the swans' nest remained above the surface. I watched the female struggle desperately to enlarge the nest using twigs snapped from overhanging trees. She had been brooding on the nest for several weeks before the flood. The cob appeared to take no interest in helping to rebuild the nest.

A visitor beside the pond told me she had just seen a water vole. Five minutes later a large brown rat, followed by one of its skinny kits, scurried out from the banking and picked up a soggy bread crust from the water's edge. There did indeed used to be resident water voles in the Braid burn beyond the Hermitage, but the last one I saw was about 30 years ago when I fished for wild brown trout upstream beside the tennis courts. Misguided animal liberation activists who released farmed mink in the 1960s were thought to be mainly responsible for the serious decline of our UK water vole populations, although wild otters and herons are also known to predate on water voles.

An elderly couple beside the pond were concerned about a mallard duck standing in the shallows in a trance like state. The husband told me he thought the duck was giving birth to a duckling because he could see a tiny leg protruding from under its tail. When I mentioned that the mallard was a drake we both laughed. I caught a brief glimpse of this pink protuberance as it enlarged to about one and a quarter inches, it was tubular and corkscrew shaped. Closer inspection revealed an ejaculation of milky fluid into the clear pond water. It was a eureka moment, something I had never seen before on my rural rambles. Ahh, the joys of spring, sex in the city for all creatures great and small, furred and feathered.

Grange Association AGM

Due to the unexpected late snow we decided to cancel the original 2018 AGM date of 1st March at very short notice. We were fortunate that we were able to reschedule for 13th March and thank all those members who were able to attend. In the circumstances, the number present, about 45, was more than we might have expected. All the formal papers presented at the AGM are now available on the website – if any member was unable to attend, has difficulty in accessing the website, and would like hard copies, please get in touch.

At the AGM we said a formal farewell to Roger Kellett who retired after serving on the committee for seven years, most of the time expertly leading the Planning Group. However, we are delighted that Roger has agreed to continue to lead the group of community council and GA

reps who meet NHS Lothian about the future of the Astley Ainslie site – see his article on page 3 of this newsletter.

The AGM also said farewell to Doreen Allerton who has been on the GA committee in various capacities since February 2005.

Doreen and Roger were both thanked for their work for the Association at a dinner hosted by the committee.

Nigel Ayton was formally elected to the committee and takes over the planning role from Roger.

After the formal AGM business, Alan McKinney gave a very informative and interesting talk on the work being done restoring fallen gravestones in the Grange Cemetery. The GA contributed to the costs of this project and we are sorry that funding has almost finished. We are sure members appreciate this work and hope that more funding can be found to continue this project.

Sue Tritton

GRANGE AWARD/DEVELOPMENT/BENCH

Extension, walls and gates

The main criterion for Grange Award nominations is simple: the development should enhance the area. This year, the Grange Association Committee was presented with a range of projects, dominated by walls and gates. We felt that all the restoration and designs showed a sympathetic approach to their environment. Choosing a shortlist and then a winner to receive the trophy and certificate at our AGM was not easy.

Highly commended were gates at 139 Grange Loan and 30 Dick Place and the wall repair at Lover's Loan:



And the winner for 2018 was ...



the extension at 40 Dick Place. It was felt that the extension to the 1934 Kininmonth design B listed semi blended well with the original arts and crafts style.

Photos by Roger Kellett

Unlawful development?

The Grange Association accepts it can get things wrong. So, it was with some nervousness that we received a missive from a reader complaining about unauthorised development in the Grange area.

Our planning team, headed by Nigel Ayton, works hard but Nigel is new to the job ...

The correspondent reproached us for allowing a number of small properties to be constructed in the Grange area without planning permission. He attached a photograph of one of the offending structures.



It was just a wee igloo!

Break into print ...

If you find something interesting, then so might our readers. We welcome short articles - or suggestions - particularly on historical, environmental, social or other topics that relate to the Grange area.

Robbie's bench

The bench in memory of former Grange Association Chair, Robbie Bartholomew, has now arrived in Grange Cemetery. It is near the West Gate, not too far from the gravestones of the map-making Bartholomews, and has already been appreciated by many visitors.



The inscription on the bench



Bench photos by Joan Forehand

PLANNING UPDATE by Nigel Ayton

We have written to Councillors expressing concern about recent changes to the Scheme of Delegation whereby planning decisions can be taken by officials without reference to elected Councillors. The maximum number of objections permitted for delegated approvals has been increased from six to twenty. This would make it very much harder to get controversial planning applications considered by Councillors rather than being delegated to officials. We are seeking to

mitigate these changes and to secure stronger roles for Community Councils and Ward Councillors.

Since the last newsletter, which included 17 applications still pending, there have been a further 37 applications for planning or listed building consent in the Grange.

All planning applications in the Grange can be viewed [via gaedin.co.uk/wp/planning-2](http://www.gaedin.co.uk/wp/planning-2)

PLANNING APPLICATIONS and DECISIONS January - April 2018

Applications granted:

46 & BF2 50 Sciennes EH9 1NL	Combine 2 ground floor flats
8 Tantallon Place EH9 1NZ	Extend single storey outshoot
* 22 Tantallon Place EH9 1NZ	Single storey extension into garden
12 Grange Court EH9 1PX	Garage conversion to bedroom
9 Palmerston Road EH9 1TL	LBC for French doors at rear and new rear window
19 Palmerston Road EH9 1TL	Vary permission from conversion to 3 flats to 2
27 Hatton Place EH9 1UB	CLP for replacement timber sash and case windows
*¶ 42 Lauder Road EH9 1UE	Replace garage and rear extension
8 Grange Road EH9 1UH	Extend kitchen into garden (LBC refused for internals)
5B Hope Terrace EH9 2AP	Create new entrance to Strathearn Road
Marchmont St Giles EH9 2DW	Extension into courtyard south
Marchmont St Giles EH9 2DW	4G antennae in steeple; replica louvres in GRP
130 Grange Loan EH9 2EF	Replacement timber sash and case windows
4 Lauder Road EH9 2EL	Replace vehicle gates and garage door; widen entrance
* 6 Whitehouse Terrace EH9 2EU	Orangery, new garage and studio block
* 149 Whitehouse Loan EH9 2EY	First floor flat-roofed extension
172 Whitehouse Loan EH9 2EZ	Ground floor flat-roofed extension. Absorb balcony.
13 Oswald Road EH9 2HE	Garage conversion
2-6 S Oswald Rd (Raphael's) EH9 2HG	CLP for replacing aluminium windows with uPVC
7-15 South Oswald Rd EH9 2HQ	CLP for replacing aluminium windows and PVC fascias
9 Glenisla Gardens EH9 2HR	Move kitchen to lower ground floor; garden doors
* 7 Mortonhall Road EH9 2HS	Replacement garage with first floor extension over
2A Mortonhall Road EH9 2HW	Wooden logstore and bike shed on Blackford Avenue
38A Dick Place EH9 2JB	Ventilation outlets
35 Lauder Road EH9 2JG	Garage extension
14A Dick Place EH9 2JL	Basement conversion and extension into rear garden
15 Findhorn Place EH9 2JR	CLP for bathroom alterations and roof light
7 Cumin Place EH9 2JX	Remove garage; new extensions to north and west
11 Grange Terrace EH9 2LD	LBC for internal reconfiguration

Applications granted cont.

* 15 St Alban's Road EH9 2LT	Extension to corner site and internal alterations
9 Relugas Road EH9 2NE	Sheds for use as pottery and garden store
25 Findhorn Place EH9 2NT	Garage conversion to study
6/2 Dalrymple Cresc. EH9 2NU	CLP for removal of chimney
15 Eden Lane EH10 4SD	Timber garden workshop

Applications refused or withdrawn:

8 Grange Road EH9 1UH	LBC refused for internal reconfiguration
* ‡ 42 Grange Road EH9 1UN	New modern house in garden
3 Blackford Road EH9 2DT	New opening from kitchen into garden
* ¶ 9 Blackford Road EH9 2DT	Garage conversion to new annex on Whitehouse Terrace
* 7 Grange Loan Gardens EH9 2EB	Rear single storey extension
2A Dick Place EH9 2JN	Slate vents to roof
‡ GF 15 Grange Terrace EH9 2LD	Hardwood conservatory and internal alterations
9 Relugas Road EH9 2NE	Garden tree house
‡ 10 Relugas Place EH9 2PY	Extension to front

Applications pending at end of April 2018:

3 Palmerston Road EH9 1TL	LBC to extend rear outshot and internal alterations
* 5B Hope Terrace EH9 2AP	Modern two storey house in gap site
83 Grange Loan EH9 2EG	Attic conversion and rooflights
18 Lauder Road (VHA) EH9 2EL	LBC for replacement glass in windows; fan to laundry
* ¶ 13 Lauder Road EH9 2EN	Extensions to rear and north
25A Grange Loan EH9 2ER	Attic conversion with new roof windows front and rear
2 Oswald Road EH9 2HF	New modern extension and remodelling of garage
1F 12 Grange Terrace EH9 2LD	LBC to reconfigure kitchen, hall and WC
1F 18 Grange Terrace EH9 2LD	New rear extension with partial lower ground floor
62A St Alban's Road EH9 2LX	Erection of metal fence in front garden
3F1 14 Fountainhall Road EH9 2NN	Alter flat, convert attic and create new dwelling

LBC = *Listed Building Consent*

CLP = *Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed*

* *comment or objection submitted by Grange Association*

¶ *application modified thereafter*

‡ *appeal pending*

GARDENING/NEWINGTON LIBRARY

Gardening matters

Our garden visit this year on Wednesday 27th June will take us first to Kirklands, a garden in the picturesque village of Saline in Fife, which the owners have opened to the public for over 25 years and which has featured on the Beechgrove Garden.

Around the Victorian house there is a terraced walled garden with herbaceous borders, raised beds, espalier fruit trees, a rock garden, a bog garden with giant *Gunnera* and an unusual tree house. The 2 acre garden is set in 20 acres of ancient woodland featuring a walk by the Saline Burn.

After lunch in Saline we shall set off for our second garden at Kilbryde Castle near Dunblane. This garden described in *Scotland for Gardeners* as "magnificently sited" by the river Ardoch has been in the Campbell family since 1659. The imposing castle was rebuilt in the 1870s and the garden created in the 1970s. It covers 12 acres with a formal garden beside the castle and wilder

areas along the riverbank where there is a "charming path through the steep sided gorge". We will take afternoon tea here before our return to Edinburgh.

If you want to come, please email me at gardens@grangeassociation.com or phone on 07779 763930. You will be sent an application form with full details of the trip which is likely to cost around £33 including morning coffee, a light lunch and afternoon tea, garden entrance and coach costs. **Edythe Murie**



To join the Grange Garden Exchange group and to hear about future activities write to: gardens@grangeassociation.com or phone Edythe Murie 07779 763930

Newington Library noise update

A report on the air-conditioning system was discussed at the meeting of the "South East Locality Committee" on 23rd April. The report detailed the work done to mitigate the noise problems which affect neighbours. A further report

was requested in about a year to see if the recent improvements have indeed solved the problems. We strongly suspect that the problems remain and, if so, will continue to press for further modifications to the system.

Sue Tritton

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EVENTS/USEFUL CONTACTS/FAIR

Dates for your diary

For our next season of talks, we will continue to use **ST. CATHERINE'S ARGYLE CHURCH, 61 - 63 Grange Road**, which our audiences and speakers have found a good venue. We have had excellent numbers turning up for our events at this venue.

Although the dates for the Winter 2018/19 talks have not been fixed finally, these will be on **TUESDAYS** - probably the first or second Tuesday in each month.

The first meeting is fixed for Tuesday 2nd October 2018.

As always, let us know of any speakers you think would be suitable for our talks.

Meetings will be in St Catherine's Argyle Church. Coffee, tea and biscuits at 19:00 precede the main talk at 19:30, except for the AGM which begins at 19:00 preceded by refreshments at 18:30.

Ads

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USEFUL CONTACTS

MP for Edinburgh South: Ian Murray

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Email: ian.murray.mp@parliament.uk

Office: 31 Minto Street, Edinburgh EH9 2BT

MSP for Edinburgh Southern: Daniel Johnson

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Office: 134 Comiston Road, Edinburgh EH10 5QN

Councillors for Southside/Newington and Morningside:

Tel: 0131 200 2000

Address: City of Edinburgh Council, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1YJ;

Email: firstname.surname@edinburgh.gov.uk

Southside/Newington

Morningside

Steve Burgess

Nick Cook

Alison Dickie

Melanie Main

Ian Perry

Neil Ross

Cameron Rose

Mandy Watt

Grange Fair 2018: *The sun shone, dancers and singers performed, children laughed, adults relaxed and stalls were busy on 12th May at a very successful Grange Fair. More in the next newsletter but, for now, many thanks to those who worked so hard to make it happen.*

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