

# THE ST. ANDREWS PRESERVATION TRUST LTD NEWSLETTER

## NO 11 - JUNE 1998

### FROM THE NEW CHAIRMAN

It is with some surprise that I find myself writing this article for the Newsletter, not as Editor, but as Chairman of the St. Andrews Preservation Trust. I have handed over the Editorship of the Newsletter to the very competent Win Gordon. Win had a distinguished international career and I am sure that editing the Newsletter will fit easily into her stride.

This year has seen many changes in the Trust. At the Annual General Meeting it was time for five long standing Trustees to stand down. Bill Adams. Anne Rose and Christine Wolfe retired along with Vice-Chairman, Bob Naylor, and Chairman, Bob Murray. They have spent a great deal of time working for the Trust and I could fill the Newsletter giving the details but I hope that they will find a simple thank you to be satisfactory. However, I would like to pay special thanks to Bob Murray who has devoted (he last three years to us as Chairman. He and Finance Convener. Timothy Tynte-Irvine, have succeeded in putting the Trust's finances on a more sound footing. I take over as Chairman with the Trust in a strong position, thanks to Bob. This does not mean that we no longer need to increase our funds; just that we are managing our affairs more prudently.

*"For some time responsible Citizens of St. Andrews have been deeply concerned lest the City should be robbed of many of those characteristics which give it an indefinable attraction, and are treasured in the memories of many who have lived within its walls. And they have been made all the more conscious of it by return visits paid by former Citizens, Visitors, and Students, who have expressed the earnest hope that nothing would be allowed to destroy the outstanding features which re-create for them the atmosphere with which they were so familiar."* These words were written 60 years ago when the Trust was set up but the same concerns remain. Today one of our concerns must be the state of some of the town properties; sadly quite a few are suffering from neglect. I hope that we might encourage landlords to take a look at their properties and if they happen to be one of those whose gardens are overgrown or windows in need of paint perhaps they might ask if this is appropriate in one of Scotland's most important historic cities. Bob Naylor, who was until the A.G.M. our Planning Convener, put a huge amount of work into trying to keep the old town a "Wheeled-Bin-Free-Zone". It is unfortunate that he did not succeed and wheeled bins can be seen rather conspicuously in front of houses in several main streets. However, the University has very; favourably refurbished the departments of Moral Philosophy and

Metaphysics on The Scores. And I hope, that in the not so distant future, a similar refurbishment may take place at the Roundel in South Street. The object of the Trust, as contained in the Memorandum of Association, is to preserve (lie amenities and historic character of the City and Royal Burgh of St. Andrews and of its neighbourhood. This is what we will continue to do. Dorothea Morrison

### WHO TO CONTACT 1998-99

We are listing Trustees for the current session below with their telephone numbers should you wish to contact them. We have also detailed, in brackets, which are Committee Conveners

Trustees will be happy to hear from you on anything related to the Trust's work.

Mrs. Dorothea Morrison	(Chairman)	473365
Bryan J. Angood		839736
Mrs. June Baxter	(Publicity)	474995
Edward Brocklebank		475596
Miss Gillian L.C. Falconer	(Museum)	472422
Dr. Winifred Gordon	(Newsletter)	474196
Douglas P. Hamilton		850748
	(Long Term Planning)	
J. Lindsay Hodge	(Environment)	473729
David Joy		475133
Professor Terence R. Lee		478030
Iain B. McIver		473281
Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas		476431
Timothy M. Tynte-Irvine		473150
	(Finance & Property)	
Miss Penelope M Uprichard		474174
Mrs. Elizabeth Williams	(Planning)	474297

### MUSEUM

The museum opened on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May and the current Exhibition includes some fascinating photographs, posters and accompanying scripts portraying "Cinema in St. Andrews". Our new-curator, Matthew Jarron, has done a superb job, so please do visit - and you can also enjoy the charm and tranquillity of the extended Museum garden! **And, if any member would be willing to undertake an occasional duty rota at the Museum, Matthew would be pleased to hear from you at 477629.**

## THE HIDDEN GARDENS OF ST. ANDREWS

28 JUNE 1998 : 11 a.m. - 6p.m.

In collaboration with Scotland's Garden Scheme, plans are now finalised for the Hidden Gardens event. A composite fee of £1.00 will be charged to view 14 gardens (children free of charge) and tea will be served (£1.00) at the four marked with an asterisk on the following list. Prior to the event, tickets (including a map of St. Andrews indicating the site of each garden) can be purchased at the National Trust Shop, 146 South Street (open Monday to Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) or at the St. Andrews Preservation Trust Museum, 12 North Street (open daily 2 to 5 p.m.). On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June, tickets can be bought at both these addresses and at some of the 14 gardens open to the public. This is one of the largest projects undertaken by St. Andrews Preservation Trust for the purposes of fund raising. So if any members of the Trust would be willing to help with teas or assist with organizational details, please phone:

**Mrs. June Baxter: 01334-474995**  
**Mrs. Dorothea Morrison: 01334-473365**

**Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.**

The gardens are located at the following addresses:

- (1) Mrs. B. Mackenzie  
Garden Cottage, 1 Thistle Lane
- (2) Miss M. Baird  
4 Louden's Close
- (3) Mrs D Morrison  
\* Baidland, 19 Lade Braes
- (4) Mrs. J. Thomson  
5 Allison's Close
- (5) The Burgher Kirk.  
Imrie's Close (116 South Street)
- (6) St. John's House  
Dept of Mediaeval History. South Street
- (7) Mrs. K Noble  
41 South Street
- (8) Mrs. J. Baxter  
\* 46 South Street
- (9) Mrs. M. Coull  
Abbey Cottage, Abbey Walk
- (10) St. Leonards  
Queen Mary's library garden  
St. Mary's House
- (11) Mrs. A. Routledge  
15 South Castle Street
- (12) The Museum Garden  
\* 12 North Street
- (13) Mrs. A. Fisher  
36 North Street
- (14) Mr. R.S. Murray  
\* North Cliff, 11 The Scores

## GREEN BELT CAMPAIGN UPDATE

As many of you know, on April 1<sup>st</sup> we held a highly successful Public Meeting on the Strategic Study (organised with the Green Belt Forum), at which a packed Town Hall enthusiastically endorsed our views on Green Belt. Bob Murray chaired the meeting. Terry Lee presented the case for Green Belt, and we were ably supported by Ruth Day, our Planning Consultant. Dr. Goudic explained the Community Council's Option 4, which has so much in common with our Green Belt proposal but which stops short of backing the Green Belt designation which would provide strong statutory protection for the town's boundaries. We very much hope that in the coming months we shall all be able to join forces and move forward in the same direction

Meanwhile, we await the outcome of the Consultation Exercise, expected some time in June. Early indications are that, of the total number of letters sent to Fife Council, over 50% asked for Green Belt status for St. Andrews. This is a most encouraging figure, and we would like to say **a very big thank you to everyone who wrote to Fife Council during April supporting our proposal.**

We should also like to thank retiring Chairman Bob Murray for steering the Green Belt Campaign through its early stages with such commitment and enthusiasm.

The final Report and Recommendations for the Strategic Study are expected in late summer, and, on the strength of these replies, it is to be hoped that they include a Green Belt recommendation. Then, this autumn, the review process for the Fife Structure Plan will start up, and with it a renewed burst of Green Belt activity, when we shall no doubt be asking for your active support once more. The Trust and the Green Belt Forum will be working away behind the scenes, however, establishing contact with officials and local representatives. We will keep you informed of progress through the Newsletter: so, *stay tuned*, as they say!

Elizabeth Williams

### DATE FOR THE DIARY

An autumn outing, possibly to Loch Tay Crannog, will be arranged.

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