

STOCKBRIDGE COLONIES RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

WELCOME!



www.stockbridgecolonies.com

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BEGINNINGS

The Colonies at Glenogle Park, Stockbridge were the first development by the Edinburgh Co-operative Building Company, started in 1861 and completed in 1911. They are the best example of the co-operative housing movement and are recognised in general histories of working –class housing in Britain.

As well as having an interesting social history, the terraces are of architectural interest, the quality of which cannot be matched in Scotland. Note the plaques showing tradesmen's tools on the gable ends.

In recognition of this, in 1973 the Colonies were Grade B listed.

Further reading:

The Stockbridge Colonies, Rose Pipes

No Whistling on Sunday, Rose Pipes

Edinburgh's Colonies, housing the workers, Richard Rodger

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

In the 1960s the Stockbridge Colonies Residents Association (SCRA) was formed and successfully fought a serious threat of a ring-road that would have run along the Water of Leith. Today the SCRA is still very active and is respected by the Council as a responsible lobbying group.

The SCRA is made up of a number of sub-groups with new ones being formed as needs arise. Issues include traffic, parking, flood protection, fundraising, community activities and of course, our environment.

Each street has a Street Convener, who delivers our Stockbridge Colonies news bulletin, Newline, when it is printed once or twice a year. There is a notice board at both east and west ends of the Colonies on Glenogle Road where important information is displayed. Up-to-the-minute information on wider points of interest is sent out to all whose email addresses are on the SCRA's list. To subscribe, please email coloniesgrapevine@gmail.com to be kept up to date with all sorts of matters of interest to residents. Please also see www.stockbridgecolonies.com for more detailed information.

A variety of annual events are organised by SCRA volunteers, including a quiz night, a yard sale, a garden competition, 'Colonies clean-up', carol-singing... and new ideas are always welcome!

Membership of the SCRA is free to all residents and we encourage everyone to attend the AGM held in March each year. New members on the Committee and new Street Conveners are always welcome.

PLANNING GUIDELINES

Most alterations will require some consent, including, in many cases Listed Building Consent and it is best to check with the Council before embarking on any structural or external alterations. If the Council confirms that consents are required, then it is essential that you obtain all the documents in relation to any alteration or other works which you carry out on the property (i.e. building warrants, planning permission and plans). You should note that all documentation relating to this will be required, should you choose to sell your property in the future.

***Interiors** - Original cornices, doors and architraves should be retained where possible. Some alterations will require a building warrant.*

***Exteriors** - Any alteration technically requires consent. Re-slating must use matching second-hand slates and new dormer windows (if approved) must match the original style for the terrace. Traditional sash-and-case windows, if replaced, must match the original design in your street and be painted white. Original front doors should be retained. Re-pointing work must use a lime mortar mix, not cement. Permission is required for stone cleaning or painting external stonework. Satellite dishes require planning permission but this is unlikely to be granted. Double glazing and Velux windows all require planning permission.*

***Gardens** - Permission is required for the laying of any hard surface and construction or alteration of gates, fences or walls. Original clothes poles are a special feature and should always be maintained and retained. The erection of a shed requires planning permission, which is normally granted, subject to a maximum height of 1.5 metres and a volume of 2.25 cubic metres. Trees whose trunk diameter exceeds 75mm cannot be removed without giving the Council 6 weeks' notice.*

Shrubs must be trimmed to clear pavements. The Council regularly checks this and will charge for doing this work if the resident fails to do so.

Garages and run-ins are not permitted and fully paved gardens are actively discouraged because of the danger of flash flooding.

Residents may regard some of these rules as unduly strict but they are designed to protect the character of the Colonies. Unauthorised alterations and installations risk forced removal by the Council. A Conservation officer will be happy to advise you.

Council contacts for planning applications and information:

Help desk: 0131 529 3550

http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/161/planning_and_building_standards

SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES

All Colonies housing is regarded as tenemental and is usually divided into blocks of 4 flats for common repairs, excepting dormers which are the responsibility of the owner of the relevant upper flat.

REFUSE AND RECYCLING

Up-to-date schedules for recycling, general refuse and garden waste collections are available on the council website.

http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/1054/rubbish_and_recycling

Brown bins (for garden waste), grey bins (for food waste) and blue and red bins for other recyclables need to be taken to Glenogle Road by 8am on collection day. If possible, please try to collect your recycling bins as soon as possible after they've been emptied on Glenogle Road so as not to impede pedestrians. If your bin has your address on, a kind neighbour may return it for you if you're away for the day!

CONSIDER YOUR NEIGHBOURS

Noise levels need consideration between neighbours, particularly those between High Doors and Low Doors. Between High Doors, party walls are often only one brick thick. The Victorian 'ash deafening' (sound-proofing between floors) was originally very effective but changes over the years eg accidents with washing machines, central heating installation and major alterations have undermined it. Carpets as opposed to floorboards greatly improve sound insulation.

Please consider your neighbours when running your washing machine and/or dishwasher: if you are in an upper colony, limit their use to normal waking hours and try not to leave the property when they are on, as any leaks very soon result in damage to the flat below.

Gardens – please respect the privacy of your immediate neighbours when positioning your refuse bins, seating etc, especially when your garden is the outlook for your neighbours downstairs.

Please ensure that the ventilation grills (which open into our gardens) for the cellar beneath each building are kept clear of any obstructions, as they perform a vital role in keeping our homes dry.

When planting trees and shrubs, think carefully about their proximity to the building and the future! Height and root spread can cause serious damage as well as reducing the amount of light inside the property.

Please park with consideration to maximise scarce space and always reverse into a Colonies street to avoid having to reverse from a side-street onto Glenogle Road. (If you're new to the area and have lived in a much busier place, it's not obvious why we're asked to reverse in!) Double parking at night should be avoided in the interests of access for emergency vehicles, as should parking at the end of street entrances.

Residents' Parking Permits and Visitors' Parking Vouchers are available online at:

www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/1278/parking-zones_and_permits/1461/resident_and_visitor_parking_permits

or in person from: 249 High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1YJ Tel: 0131 469 3291

WINTER FREEZE-UPS AND BURST PIPES

In 1995 there was a 4-day freeze-up over Christmas when many were seriously affected by burst pipes. Plumbers were in short supply, disruption was rife and several residents had to find alternative accommodation for months whilst their homes were being repaired.

Take precautions, check your lagging, and make sure you know the whereabouts of the Toby key for your street which will close the mains water inlet in the street (usually for 4 properties). Leave heating on low (10C) day and night as a frost prevention measure. Be aware of the disruption that events of this nature cause others

LEISURE ACTIVITIES

We are very fortunate to have on our doorstep the Glenogle Swim Centre, Tanfield Bowling Club where we hold our AGM and Quiz nights, the Royal Botanic Gardens and Inverleith Park, walks along the Water of Leith, a thriving 'high street' and local farmers market on a Sunday, as well as many other facilities that are too numerous to mention here.



USEFUL INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

Community police	311 3131	www.lbp.police.uk/my_neighbourhood/edinburgh/inverleith_community_police.aspx
Refuse collection, recycling	529 3030	www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/1054/rubbish_and_recycling
Report faulty street lighting	0800 232323	Email: clarence@edinburgh.gov.uk
Glenogle swim centre	343 6376	www.edinburghleisure.co.uk
Stockbridge Health Centre Blue Practice Green Practice	225 9191 260 9226	www.bluepractice.co.uk www.greenpractice-shc.co.uk
Eyre Medical Practice	556 8842	www.eyre-medical-practice.co.uk
Stockbridge Library	529 5665	www.edinburgh.gov.uk/libraries
SCRA notice boards		Located at the east and west end of Colonies on Glenogle Road. To place a notice on the boards, please email coloniesgrapevine@gmail.com
Stockbridge Community Council		www.stockbridgeinverleithcc.org.uk
SCRA Website		www.stockbridgecolonies.com
SCRA Grapevine email for regular updates and information – just register your interest.		coloniesgrapevine@gmail.com
Neighbourhood Partnership		www.edinburghnp.org.uk/page/Inverleith.aspx
Friends of Rocheid Path		See notice board at west end of path
Edinburgh Council Severe Weather		www.edinburgh.gov.uk/severeweather
Stockbridge Spotlight		Local magazine delivered free to all residents