

Georgian Leaflet No. 5.

# THE ORGANISATION OF THE GROUP

THE GEORGIAN GROUP

2, Chester Street, S.W.1

Belgravia 3081

# THE GEORGIAN GROUP

*Patron:*

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*President:*

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY, K.G.

*Chairman:*

THE EARL OF ROSSE

*Hon. Treasurer:*

A. W. ACWORTH

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| The Earl of Crawford and<br>Balcarres, G.B.E.    | <i>The Marquess of Salisbury, K.G.</i>                                 |
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| The Earl of Ilchester, G.B.E.                    | J. Holman Sutcliffe  |
| <i>The Hon. E. Langton Iliffe</i>                | <i>Anthony R. Wagner, C.V.O., F.S.A.</i><br>( <i>Deputy Chairman</i> ) |
| <i>Walter Ison, F.S.A.</i>                       | <i>Francis J. B. Watson, M.V.O., F.S.A.</i>                            |
| J. D. K. Lloyd, O.B.E., F.S.A.                   | The Duke of Wellington, K.G.   |
| <i>Ian R. M. McCallum, A.R.I.B.A.</i>            | <i>Miss Mary Woodall, C.B.E., F.S.A.</i>                               |
| <i>J. E. M. Macgregor, F.S.A.</i><br>F.R.I.B.A.  |  |

*The names of members of the Executive Committee are printed in italics*

*Hon. Technical Adviser:*

MARSHALL SISSON,  
C.B.E. A.R.A., F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A.

*Hon. Solicitor:*

K. MILLER JONES  
(Messrs. Braby & Waller)

*Bankers:*

Barclays Bank Limited,  
23 Grosvenor Gardens,  
London, S.W.1

*Auditors:*

Thomson, Gregory, Thol & Co.,  
60 St. Paul's Churchyard,  
London, E.C.4

## HOW IT IS ORGANISED

If Members are to take an active and keen interest in the work of the Group, it is well that they should not only know the objects which it pursues but also something of the manner in which it is organised in order the better to attain them. It is not enough that the Group should have a written Constitution to which Members can refer, a Constitution which is necessarily expressed in somewhat formal language. They need to know why the Constitution contains the provisions it does and how it operates. It is the purpose of this Leaflet to fulfil this need.

The mainspring of the Group is its Executive Committee which meets once each month (except in August), receives reports from the Secretary and from Sub-Committees and takes decisions on all matters of principle and importance. The Committee consists of twenty-two members, together with the three Hon. Officers. In view of its important role, it is essential that the right persons should be elected to the Committee and the procedure at present laid down by the Constitution aims at securing an alert, balanced team, able to work together, and at the same time to vest a proper measure of control in the general body of Members. This is achieved by electing the members of the Committee (other than the Hon. Officers) for a term of two years only. Each year half the members retire but are eligible for re-election, and eleven persons are elected for the term of the next two years by the Committee. In practice, the majority of the retiring members are re-elected; but two or three each year are likely to want or to be willing to retire and make way for fresh minds, so that the Committee may not get old, stale or tired. Of the Hon. Officers, the Chairman and the Hon. Treasurer, as being principally responsible for the administration of the Group's affairs, are elected for one year only—but are eligible for re-election. The President, whose duties are rather more formal, is elected for a fixed term of five years and is then eligible for re-election. However, persons freshly elected as Hon. Officers or to the Executive Committee are required to have their election confirmed at the next General Meeting of the Group: in this way Members have the last word on the matter.

The Council includes not only members of the Executive Committee but also not more than twenty-four other persons who are appointed thereto (normally for a term of four years) by the Executive Committee. Membership of the Council provides an opportunity for persons who—either because they live too far from London or because of pressure of other business—cannot accept the responsibilities of membership of the Executive Committee, to play a part in furthering the work of the Group. By the provisions of the Constitution only those persons are eligible for appointment to the Council who “are rendering or have rendered notable service in promoting the work of the Group or who are prominent in public life or in their profession and are in sympathy with the objects of the

Group". The appointed members of the Council thus form a body of experienced and influential persons to whom the Executive Committee can turn for advice or assistance in case of need.

As it meets only once a month, the Executive Committee cannot, of course, deal with more than matters of principle and importance: the general conduct of business is left to the Chairman, Hon. Treasurer and Secretary on the one hand and to Sub-Committees on the other. Of the former, the Chairman is concerned with questions of general policy; the Hon. Treasurer is responsible for Membership, subscriptions and financial matters; while supervision of the office and responsibility for taking requisite action in all other matters rests with the Secretary. However, certain broad fields of activity—Visits, Publications, and General Policy—are handled by three Sub-Committees which are appointed at the beginning of each year. As these are small and have a limited field of action, their discussions are usually brief and to the point and provide ready backing for effective action.

Finally, there are the Members whose subscriptions make possible the activities of the Group. To them are circulated copies of all Leaflets and Interim and Annual Reports so that they may be kept informed of what is being done in their name. In addition, a General Meeting of Members is required to be held each year so that they can approve the Report and Accounts for the previous year, to confirm the election of any new persons as Hon. Officers or as members of the Executive Committee, and to transact general business. Members have thus a recurring opportunity of passing judgment on the management of the Group's affairs and by criticisms and suggestions of making their own contribution to its efficiency.

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The GEORGIAN GROUP was founded in 1937. Its aims are:

- (1) to awaken public interest in Georgian architecture and town planning;
- (2) to afford advice in regard to the preservation, repair and use to-day of Georgian buildings;
- (3) to save from destruction and disfigurement Georgian squares, terraces, streets and individual buildings of special merit;
- (4) to ensure, when an area is replanned, that Georgian buildings are not wantonly destroyed, and that the new buildings harmonise (though they may contrast) with the old.

*Particulars of Membership can be obtained from the Secretary.*