

Whitehill F.P. Club Newsletter.

Issue III/ March 2014

President's Message

Welcome to our third Newsletter, which I hope you will feel keeps you up to date with FP news and events. I was very pleased to be asked to become FP Club President and I pledge to continue the evolution of the Club started by my predecessor, John Munro.

The FP committee has four objectives for this year:

Consolidating our print and digital Members list. Expansion of FP membership. Enhanced presence on web with links to e-mail and Facebook page. Greater engagement with the school.

To these I would add seeking a female FP to join our committee.

I am very conscious of the old adage that a club is only as strong as its members and I hope that more of you will be able to join us at our lunch and dinner. I also hope that you will share with us your memories and anecdotes about Whitehill, so please contact us.

Yours aye,

Jim Aitken.

Annual Dinner

On 14th March, we held the Annual Dinner at the Menzies Hotel in Glasgow. All indications are that it was a huge success. Some 70 former pupils and partners attended, with a table comprising very recent pupils. This was great to see and we hope to see them again at the lunch in the autumn. We had a group of current pupils together with the Headteacher Louise Connor and other members of staff. Several of the students gave the guests outlines of their activities and all of them spoke with commitment and dedication.

Katelyn Beattie and Calum McNairney, supported by Reverend Peter Davidge, spoke movingly about the service conducted annually on 11th November at the Whitehill School War Memorial to honour the fallen in both World Wars. They highlighted several names from the memorial, George S. Dinwoodie, Second Lieutenant of the Air Force, who died in action on 29th August 1918 aged just 23 years. Robert W. Sadler, Lance Corporal of the Cameronians who was killed on 23rd October 1916. Each year the school group sells Poppies for Poppy Scotland as a mark of respect. This year several pupils studying History, are visiting the Flanders battlefields in June.

Katelyn and Calum also told us about their visit to Auschwitz in 2012 and the impact the visit had on them. After their trip they were invited to speak at the Scottish Parliament to deliver their message to First Minister Alex Salmond. They finished with a recitation of poems by A E Housman and Wilfred Owen.





Sidi Agoro then spoke to the guests about her achievements in athletics, representing the school. She has been selected to be a "Clydesider" volunteer for this summer Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. James Coulter has been nominated as a Queens Baton Bearer for the games. The achievements of the current pupils is immense and a credit to the teachers and staff at the school.

The famous (or infamous) 6(1) group, who have celebrated a separate annual dinner for the past 49 years were joined by Dr James McAuley, who had been their form teacher. They were in attendance to congratulate our worthy recipient of the 'Lifetime Achievement Award' and one of their number, Dr Andrew Jamieson. Their presence added to everyone's enjoyment and all hope to see them at our next lunch or dinner.

Lifetime Achievement Award.

Dr.Andrew Jamieson OBE attended the school from 1959 to 1965, going on to Glasgow University to study chemical engineering. He held various positions with Shell International in Holland, Australia, Nigeria and now serves on the boards of several oil and gas related companies.



John Munro presenting the Cup and Quaich to Andrew Jamieson

Andrew gave an entertaining speech with many humorous anecdotes of his years at Whitehill and at University. His message was upbeat and positive and will surely have been encouraging to current pupils. The text of Andrew's speech will be distributed by separate email, and those who receive their Newsletter by mail can request a copy from our secretary Myra Hunter.

President

John Munro handed on the badge of office to Jim Aitken. Jim gave a short introduction covering his career in Overseas Aid and Development, and proposed the votes of thanks.

Members E-mail addresses:

We now have some 90 names and email addresses for communication with FP's. E-mailing invitations and communications to members, saves on paper and the huge cost of postage. If you have contact with other FP's and they are not on the email list. Please have them make contact with me as follows: whitehillfp@btinternet.com

Did you know:

When the old school on Whitehill St.was being demolished the contractor managed to save the pillar which supported the base of the handrail on the main stairway. This has been mounted on a base, with a brass plate, giving the dates of the school etc. It is now in the safe keeping of the FP Club. Just think how many FP's hands have 'graced' this piece of wood over the years. You included !



Note:

We welcome any input from members of the club, to include in future newsletters, for example, information on the whereabouts of former pupils, particularly those now overseas, a what career did you follow section, items of news concerning FP's and so on.

Date of Autumn Lunch: Friday 14th November 2014.

President: James Aitken, e.mail: jamesaitken@3beulah.freeserve.co.uk

Past President: John Munro. e.mail: revjohnmunro@hotmail.com

Secretary: Miss Myra Hunter, 20 Almond Street, Riddrie, Glasgow G33 2AT. Tel: 0141 770 5106

email: whitehillfp@btinternet.com

Like "Whitehill Secondary School" on Facebook.