



Whitehill F.P. Club Newsletter.

Issue V/ November 2014

Autumn Lunch.

The Autumn Lunch, held on Friday 14th November, was a great success, enjoyed by all. Some 60 or so FP's, including 9 past Presidents, several welcome newcomers, a far travelled lady from Kansas, Elspeth Pierce, right down to four FP's who managed the trip from the far eastern city of Edinburgh. During the event, we can report that the raffle raised some £160 for funds and the wine auction raised £126 which will be donated to the Erskine Hospital. Thanks to our President Jim Aitken who donated the wine and to all who joined in the auction process, particularly the lucky seven who outbid all comers to succeed in securing the fine wines. (Iain McLean, Helen Miller, Ron Fernand, John Munro, Bill Sang (via internet), Jean Cook and Iain Callander)

We also welcomed, Cherie Anderson (Deputy Head), together with Daud Sarwar and Kirsty McAdam, head boy and girl respectively. Kirsty, who had participated in the Malawi project this year, spoke to us about the challenges faced by the group and the opportunities taken to help the children both at the school they were working with and at the local orphanage which our pupils had visited. She concluded that the experience had been life changing for all of them. The photograph says it all, Kirsty with a little orphan named, "Boy boy".



Whitehill FP Website.

Joe Clarke has been working on the development of the FP website and it will be “open” within the next few weeks. We will circulate details of the web address later.

With any website, good content is key and we want to populate our site with your memories, photographs both formal and informal, etc., to build the history of the school and pupils. It is our intention to scan and upload school magazines, probably from the late 1940's onward and develop a “where are you now” and contacts section.

We encourage all to submit appropriate content for the website via email to the FP Club address.

Where are you now! From John Minelly ('48 to '53)

Taking you at your word, the following is a potted history of my career since leaving Whitehill School.

I lived in a house on the Monkland Canal above Alexandra Parade from 1941 to 1960, and attended Whitehill from 1948 to '53. I met my future wife Margaret Noble also of Whitehill, in fact we had both attended Alexandra Parade school six months apart but did not have previous acquaintance.

On gaining my highers I took a job as a student apprentice civil engineer with the then British Railways where I carried out track and junction designs such as a new line in Edinburgh, partial reconstruction of bridges such as Dalguise viaduct, and an embankment dam at Hurlford.

I left BR after Dr Beeching's 'solution' and went into road design with local authorities then as a consultant carrying out planning studies in Kirkintilloch, Helensburgh and an environmental study for a coalfield in the Midlands.

Redundant for the first time in 1980, I took a job planning a new super highway in Malaysia and later returned to work at Dockland redevelopment on the Isle of Dogs with Fairhurst and Partners. Since then have worked in Indonesia and Russia on transport and its environmental consequences.

My lifelong interest has been in archaeology and being from Dennistoun have been taking a renewed interest in the area where I played in my pre-teens, namely the old whinstone quarries east of Firpark Street and the Glasgow necropolis, and looking into the historic development of the area and its place names as defined by its geology.

John Minelly C Eng, MICE, Dip TP, MRTPI (ret): (refugee in Surbiton, Surrey)

Do You Remember



Alexandra Park.....it's still there. Not quite as well kept as you will remember, due to the general cutbacks, but the swans are happy and it remains a beautiful patch of green space in the east end of the city.

Members E-mail addresses:

We now have some 105 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

Note:

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

Date of Annual Dinner: Friday 13^h March 2015

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

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

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