



## Whitehill F.P. Club Newsletter.

Issue IX, November 2016.

How time flies Autumn is upon us, but this year, oddly, Christmas seems to be starting before Halloween. Many of the big stores have Christmas trees and decorations up already!!

### **Autumn Lunch**

This years Autumn lunch was held earlier than usual to beat the clock change and we met on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October in Glasgow, at the Hallmark Hotel. Our president, Bill Sang, introduced the top table and welcomed headteacher Pauline Swan together with head girl Taylor Hood and head boy Himanshu Bhatt. John Munro said Grace and had us pause in silent prayer for a moment to reflect on the friends and colleagues not with us today.

Both Taylor and Himanshu spoke to us about their experiences at Whitehill School and those of us fortunate to have their company at lunch enjoyed hearing about their plans for the future.

The raffle was a resounding success and we thank everyone who donated prizes. Special note is made regarding the "Autumn Hampers" which included items donated by the committee and which were prepared by Elaine Fernand. The other star prize was the bag of "goodies" from Vancouver, donated by Wilma Macfarlane (nee Ferguson), who is the sister of Elaine. We raised over £150 for club funds.

In support of our efforts to populate the website our thanks to Adam McNaughtan for the volumes of magazines going back to the 1930's and to Betty Patterson for the 1991 Centenary Magazine. Ron is busy scanning and uploading to the website for all to enjoy.

Our long serving secretary, Myra Hunter, spoke to encourage sales of the club merchandise and then confirmed that she has decided to step down from her post as secretary. Myra has served the club as secretary for more than seven years and as she said the time has come for the baton to be passed to someone else.

Bill Sang followed this by confirming that the committee has unanimously agreed that Myra be appointed Honorary Life President. This was warmly applauded.

Guests were then encouraged to stay, chat and enjoy the remainder of the afternoon.

### **The West Dennistoun Walk.**

Following on from our successful walk last year, we continued the ramble on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October, this year covering the west side of Dennistoun. It was a beautiful warm autumn morning and we met at the Girls gate at the site of the old school building, just off Whitehill Street. We had three new members, Isabel Simpson, Tom Rowlands and Andrew Lothian. We set off down the hill stopping for stories about the cycle shop, Frasers Dairy, Macraes Fruit Shop and so on. Then on into Hillfoot Street and of course Dan's snooker establishment and across the street the famous

Dick's Tailors, where Joe Clarke had an eyewateringly expensive suit made. On along Duke Street, stopping at Craigpark Library to reminisce about studying hard for exams. The library has an interesting poster display on the history of Dennistoun with old photographs of shop fronts and one of Whitehill School, regrettably titled "Whitevale School".



Onward to Westercraigs after a stop at the corner opposite where the Rendezvous Cafe was sited. The cafe is now an exhibit at the Glasgow Riverside Museum. Next we headed to Golfhill School, which is in a dreadful state. A derelict but architecturally sound building, hopefully someone in the council will see sense and save it.

We stopped off at a very large Georgian mansion in course of renovation at Broomhill Circus and the ladies boldly trooped in to have a nosey. We were all welcomed by the owner to see the restoration work ongoing.

On the last leg we stopped at Dennistoun Baths and shared our memories, good and bad, and cold mornings with the walk back to school. The building has been converted to an upmarket snooker establishment frequented by no less than John Higgins himself.

Finally after our 90 minute walk we piled into the Amore D'Italia restaurant on Alexandra Parade. This was originally the Bungalow Cafe. We had a table upstairs and thoroughly enjoyed lunch and the opportunity to continue our reminiscing.



No doubt we will have another walk next year.....

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