



Whitehill F.P. Club Newsletter

Lockdown Issue 3, May 2020



“Not Auld Reekie”

One of the results of the enforced lockdown and the reduction of road and air traffic has been the dramatic improvement in air quality. This photograph over Edinburgh from Corstorphine Hill is remarkably clear. Berwick Law, some 20 miles distant, can be seen just at the left side. The Castle and Arthur's Seat are prominent with no golfers out on the Murrayfield course. Corstorphine Hill was where, in R.L.S. “Kidnapped”, Alan Breck Stewart bade farewell to David Balfour.

A statue commemorating the “event” stands on the main road at Western Corner.



Professor Robert Ramage, FRS



Robert Ramage attended Whitehill School in the 1950's. A school magazine of 1956 shows him seated with other prefects as vice captain.

He completed his B.Sc. and Ph.D. under the supervision of Ralph Raphael at Glasgow University. He then undertook post-doctoral work with Bob Woodward at Harvard University, 1961–63, and at the Woodward Research Institute, Basel, 1963–64.

In 1964, he was appointed Lecturer in Organic Chemistry at the University of Liverpool and there followed a five-year period of research.

In 1977, he was appointed Professor of Organic Chemistry at UMIST, becoming Head of Department in 1979. He went to Edinburgh University in 1984 as Forbes Professor of Organic Chemistry, serving two spells as Head of the Department of Chemistry before his retirement in 2001.

Bob Ramage was married to a Whitehill girl, Joan Paterson, and they maintained close academic and personal contact and friendship throughout with Dr. Ron Cresswell and his wife.

To quote Ronnie Cresswell, “ The story of a Whitehill boy who became a giant in his field of chemistry. He never became a headline scientist because he remained to the end just as Bob Ramage. Football and Rangers daft. The best that Glasgow and Scotland has to offer and he never forgot his roots.”

Professor Ramage was a past-president of the Perkin Division of the Royal Society of Chemistry and a Fellow of the Royal Societies of both Edinburgh and London.

**Professor Robert Ramage, FRS died on 16 October 2019.
Another posthumous Lifetime Achiever.**

Jim's selected ephemera and quiz.

(answers in next Newsletter)

The Scots word of the month; “**Milygant**” – a rascal or a scrounger

From the Oublette

Things you probably always knew, but have momentarily forgotten.

- 1) In the poem by Burns, where did Willie Wastle live and what was his trade?
- 2) What has an uncle to do with Sherry?
- 3) What is the longest river in France?
- 4) Who links a 1915 War Office pamphlet on Grenade Warfare, the Royal Air Force and Chaucer's Canterbury Pilgrims?

Jim's Quiz Answers from Lockdown 2:

- 1) Geneva, 2) Corsica, 3) Edward Jenner, 4) Nanny, 5) Alaska, 6) Salisbury,
- 7) Rogers & Hammerstein, 8) Hydrochloric, 9) Don't stop me now,
- 10) Julia Roberts, 11) Brazil, 12) Clarinet.

The Chocolate Quiz: Identify the Chocolates.

- 1 Definitely not before 20.01 hours
- 2 Mother's hostelry, perhaps
- 3 Voodoo in a box
- 4 Cow juice container
- 5 These grow on you
- 6 Single snowy deposit
- 7 This becomes you, according to the song?
- 8 The 'E' Missing from this pet food
- 9 Could be in Park Lane?
- 10 A star cluster
- 11 Another Star Cluster
- 12 Sounds like an undergarment.
- 12 We have at Christmas
- 14 Bruce said "Give us a"
- 15 Are you a case??????
- 16 Talk Quietly
- 17 Al Fresco Cuisine
- 18 Mainly for Trucker Up for discussion
- 20 Superman and Batman are these.

This is your Newsletter and we value our readers' comments – what do you like?

What should we include, reduce or expand?

We would also like your contributions. For example, has anyone a photo of a pollution free Glasgow? Don't just limit your contribution to stories of schooldays, what did you do after you left Whitehill? Can you tell us about your sport or hobbies?

Remember, your Newsletter NEEDS YOU!

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