



Whitehill F.P.s' Club Newsletter

Issue 36 January 2026

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

One or two items of interest to keep you up to date with F.P. activities and news.

Alasdair Gray Archive

In November a group of F.P.'s had the opportunity to visit the Alasdair Gray Archive where we were given a private tour by the archivist Sorcha Dallas Gray. The archive is very impressive, showcasing Alasdair's incredible output in Art and writing and also highlighting his deep personal commitment to equality, social justice and welfare.



Autumn Lunch

We had our Autumn Lunch at the House for an Art Lover, again, on 2nd October. Numbers attending continue to decrease, however the lunch was judged to have been a success and enjoyed by all. Ruth McConachie, Head Teacher, accompanied by two pupils Narjis and Zara joined us and they spoke of their achievements and future plans. Ruth sent a thank you email shortly after the lunch.

Thank you so much for having myself, Narjis and Zara to the lunch in House for an Art Lover. I so enjoyed seeing everyone and having an opportunity for the young people to speak to the room. Narjis and Zara got a lot from the experience personally as, although we talk about the F.P. club and also the trustees, there is nothing like meeting people face to face.

As always, the lunch itself was a real treat!

Adam McNaughtan

Our email informing of the passing of Adam McNaughtan generated several responses, some of which are included below along with a worthy AI attempt at the Glasgow vernacular. The actual words of perhaps his most well known ballad, THE JEELIE PIECE SONG (SKYSCRAPER WEAN), and links to some of his other songs are given in the article on the website.



Very sad to hear about Adams's passing. There are many many teachers in the Glasgow area who owe him a debt of gratitude for his very special songs which enlivened a great deal of school shows!

Good morning Iain,

That is sad news indeed. Adam (known as Tulloch McNaughton when he was at school) was in the year above me in the late 1950s. At that time we had a flourishing school mag which was published twice per year. So I have some gems of the early bard which I can forward to you if at any point you wish to add anything to the F.P. Newsletter. They are mostly short and pithy on a variety of schoolboy subjects: here is the opening verse of one of these.

Entitled "Comment" "(Written in Imbecilic Gasometer)

I've studied Latin, studied Greek.
I thought that English I could speak,
But nowadays, 'midst many wails
We translate Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales."

Virgil copied Homer
And Dryden copied him.
I wish they'd never started
Cause, to memorise, it's grim.
4 more versesetc etc

Thank you for this. I will be singing The Jelly Piece song all day long - here in Vancouver! OMG even I know it's the Jeely Piece Song!! Hate that American correction . First saw Adam at the Lit and Deb when my friends and I (as 3rd years) crashed the evening. Then later, trod the stage with him at the end of the school concert in the all singing and dancing show at the Lyric Theatre?

Many thanks for this message. It was saddened to hear this news. The first time I ever heard one of Adam's songs being sung was at a school show put on by pupils at Whitehill back in June 1969. The song was 'The Glasgow that I used to know'. A beautiful song and it was sung excellently by Henry Peachey, who was a 5th year pupil. The memory of it has stuck with me for years. Adam McNaughtan will be long remembered.

Secretary: Iain Callander, 6a Corstorphine Rd, Edinburgh EH12 6HN:
Email: secretary@whitehillfp.org
Tel +44 (0)7780 991505
Website: www.whitehillfp.org