



## Whitehill F.P. Club Newsletter.

Issue VIII/ March 2016

### Annual Reunion Dinner.

We held our 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion Dinner in Glasgow on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2016, welcoming a table of 11 current pupils, with the head of school, two former headteachers and several teachers joining us. There were several highlights of the evening, notably the presentation of the Lifetime Achievement Award, the Wine Auction for school funds, the introduction of the recently appointed headteacher, the speeches given by three of the current pupils and the installation of the incoming President Bill Sang.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Myra Hunter, a former pupil of Carntyne Primary and Whitehill School. She went on to become a teacher of home economics. Myra has, throughout her life, given of her time on a voluntary basis to many diverse worthy causes and institutions. We would highlight her longterm involvement in Scottish tennis, playing, coaching and in administration. Myra also spent many years at all levels of Guiding, including coaching and training upcoming Guide leaders throughout Scotland. She has been a member of Renfrew Ladies Speakers Club for over 20 years, winning several speaking competitions. Myra is a volunteer guide at Glasgow Cathedral. Add to this, her continuing work with the committee of this former pupils club of which she is a past president and secretary.

Myra accepted the award and gave a short speech, addressed as much to the current pupils as to the wider audience. She spoke of the importance of facing up to challenges and overcoming them, of “being the best you can be”. Myra proposed the toast to the school and led off the singing of the school song, “Altiora Peto”.



Jim Aitken contributed a box of “six of the best” wines to an auction raising funds for the school expedition to Malawi. The auction was administered by Jim Aitken and John Munro, the latter being auctioneer. Jim gave a description of the wine and John made sure that the maximum value was squeezed out of the bidders. The auction raised £151.00. Well done and thank you to Jim for the donation of the wines.

The president presented two cheques to Mrs Swan for school funds.

Mrs Pauline Swan the new headteacher spoke to thank us for the contribution and to introduce herself. She spoke of the honour to be head of a school with such a long and distinguished history, of the challenges and opportunities which lay ahead and of the recent notable achievements of pupils in sport and academic subjects. Mrs Swan introduced three

current pupils who spoke to us about their achievements and aspirations for the future. As always the pupil contributions to our evening were well received.

Finally the formal part of the evening was closed with the handover of the Presidents chain of office from Iain Callander to Bill Sang. Bill gave a short speech, thanking the hotel staff for the excellent food and service, acknowledging the work of the committee in trying to advance the FP Club and its activities, and encouraging everyone to come back for the Autumn Lunch later this year.



### **From The Glasgow University Alumni Magazine.**

Many FPs will remember Mr Wyatt, English teacher during the 1950's and 60's. Earlier this year Glasgow University published an excellent piece on Walter Wyatt and his wife, which is summarised as follows:

“As gifted teachers who believed wholeheartedly in the fundamental importance of English language and literature as cornerstones of a rounded education, alumni Walter and Anne Wyatt shared a life long interest in young people and inspired generations of school pupils and students through their wisdom and generosity of spirit.

To celebrate their memory, their children, Margaret, Diana and Roger have endowed a prize for postgraduate students in the field of English Literature. The prize will consist of an annual award of around £500 in perpetuity.

Walter Wyatt graduated BSc in 1926 and MA (Hons) in 1928, he became Principal Teacher of English at Whitehill before moving on to become headmaster at Hillhead High School.”

### **A poem which may amuse ( especially our overseas readers)**

#### **To a Macaroni Pie.**

Fair fa' your sharp, acidic tang  
Great Chieftain o' the Scotch Pie gang!  
Ye staun aboon the whole shebang  
Steak, Mince or Mutton  
Sworn foe of every hunger pang  
And strainin' button!

Behind the Co-Op checkout's shield  
Ye stand in majesty revealed  
Proud pasta tubes in pastry sealed  
Wi' milky sheen  
And topped wi' grated cheese congealed  
Like plasticine.

His lunch see rustic Labour crave  
And bung ye in the microwave  
Until your stodgy guts behave  
Like lava streams  
And careless diners rant and rave  
Wi' anguished screams.

What setting suits your charms the best?  
A banquet for an honoured guest?  
Or watching Strictly in a vest?  
Each maun be prized.  
The eve of a blood glucose test?  
That's no' advised.

Is there that owre his wilted greens  
Or trumpety Adukl beans  
Or juices packed wi' carotenes  
An' mingin' flavour  
Regards this dish for kings an' queens  
Wi' stern disfavour?

Poor devil! See him at the gym  
Astride a treadmill to keep trim  
Sae puritanical and prim  
That joy's forbidden!  
The wind could sweep him on a whim  
Intae a midden.

But mark the pasta-nurtured chiel!  
Life holds for him a rich appeal  
The cauld blast canna mak him kneel  
Or idly drift  
He's blubbered like an Arctic seal  
And hard to shift.

Ye Powers wha strive for mankind's good  
And keep them healthy, fit and rude  
Auld Scotland wants nae rabbit food  
That maks her bony  
But one thing stirs her gratitude:  
Baked Macaroni!

By William Duguid

## **Dennistoun Walk**

After our successful walking tour of eastern Dennistoun last October, we plan to do a similar walk around the western part in late summer or autumn. We will keep you informed of progress on this and the planned date. It will be a Saturday morning probably finishing with lunch in Coia's.

**Autumn Lunch: The date has not yet been set, but we plan to have the lunch in October this year before the clocks change, to allow folks to get home before dark. The date will be advised when we have it.**

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