



## Whitehill F.P. Club Newsletter

Lockdown Issue 5, June 2020

The story in the last issue about school camp in Ullapool raised a few eyebrows, and encouraged a contribution concerning the school Mediterranean cruise in 1964. We also received an interesting email from an F.P. in Canada, who found us through our website and who passed on details of a school friend also in Canada. We probably have enough members in Canada to form a separate lunch club there.

### **1) Email From Dr. James Alan Emsley, ( pupil 1955-1957)**

I just happened on the Whitehill Former Pupils' website while working on our genealogy and I'm delighted to add my name to the list of former pupils. I am James Alan Emsley and attended Whitehill from September 1955 until June 1957.

At that time, our family emigrated to Canada. Miss Hetherington was my class instructor. I've lost touch with most of my classmates but have been fortunate to meet up with Stephen Scobie, also of Whitehill, and a poet in Canada recognized by being awarded the Governor's General's medal many years ago. He now lives on Vancouver Island, Canada.

I earned a Ph.D. in Genetics and worked professionally in Canada, USA and, in my own company, with others across the world.

I hope this finds you all well during this crisis and look forward to exploring your website.

Alan Emsley

### **2) Stephen Scobie**



Stephen Scobie left Whitehill in 1960 after 6<sup>th</sup> year. He won the Classics Medal in 1960 and unsurprisingly given his career, the English prize. Stephen is a critic and a poet who won the Governor General's Award for Poetry in 1980 and the Prix Gabrielle Roy for Canadian Criticism in 1986. A founding editor of Longspoon Press, his literary criticism includes books on Leonard Cohen, Sheila Watson and Bob Dylan.

His first book of poetry, *Stone Poems*, was published by Talonbooks in 1974. His critical work, *What History Teaches*, published in 1984, is part of the Talonbooks New Canadian Criticism Series edited by Frank Davey. Scobie was born in Carnoustie, Scotland in 1943 and went to Canada in 1965. He earned a PhD from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver after which he taught at the University of Alberta and at the University of Victoria, from which he recently retired. Formerly based in the Prairies, he now lives in Victoria, B.C.

### **3) Continental Holiday, July 1964: Iain McLean.**



In July 1964, I and about 30 other Whitehill Pupils went on the Whitehill School annual continental holiday organised by Miss Hutcheson. In previous years the destination had been Viareggio in Italy but in 1964 she upped her game and the holiday was a cruise on the TSS Fantasia, from Venice to Athens, the Greek Islands, Israel and Yugoslavia.

The journey from Glasgow to Venice was an adventure in itself; 2 full days by train and Channel ferry. We had a coach tour of London on the way and visited St Paul's Cathedral and The Tower of London. The train ride over the Alps was amazing.

In Venice we stayed 2 nights in a Youth Hostel run by nuns. A bit of a culture shock for non-Catholics from Glasgow. The accommodation was very comfortable and we were made most welcome.

On the cruise our first port of call was Piraeus for Athens. It was fascinating to visit the Acropolis and the Parthenon which is on everyone's bucket list. However, as we visited the Greek Islands of Crete, Rhodes, Mykonos and Corfu it became clear to us that Miss Hutcheson's enthusiasm for visiting ancient ruins under the boiling hot sun knew no bounds. Most of us would have preferred to head straight for the beach or have fun around the ship's pool.

Israel was very interesting. We visited Haifa, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and Nazareth. At that time most of the old religious sites were controlled by Jordan and we were unable to visit them. Miss Hutcheson was disappointed but most of us were ok with it.

According to my diary which we were encouraged, i.e. forced, to write up each day, there was a fancy dress party one evening on the ship and three of our group won a prize. I don't remember who they were, maybe someone reading this does.

The holiday was a great experience. We had a lot of fun in the group and we saw enough ancient ruins to last a lifetime. (Sorry Miss H!) All of this for the princely sum of approximately £65.00, which equates to around £1200 today. Good value for a three week trip.

I've included a scan of the information sheet handed out by Miss Hutcheson before the trip and additional photographs that can be viewed in the web version of the newsletter. It makes for fascinating reading, e.g. only 2 changes of underwear allowed for 3 weeks in the Mediterranean in July.

### **5) Hits of the Shadows, ( Lockdown 4)**

The correct answers were, in this order: Apache, Wonderful Land, Sleepwalk, FBI and Don't Cry for me Argentina. Congratulations to Agnes Lagden and Ned Hunter who are now both "enjoying" the full CD of 20 golden greats.

President:	Iain McLean
Past President	Robin Brunton
Secretary:	Iain Callander, 6a Corstorphine Rd, Edinburgh EH12 6HN <a href="mailto:secretary@whitehillfp.org">secretary@whitehillfp.org</a>















WHITEHILL SECONDARY SCHOOL

Excursion to ITALY, GREECE, ISRAEL and YUGOSLAVIA

Essential 1. Passport or Identity Card.  
2. Diary.

Provisions Biscuits, Ryvita Crispbread, etc. Wrapped Malted Loaf.  
Tin (screw top lid) of Jam; a tube of Jam or Cheese.  
Sweets - (Wrapped boilings) - Tablet.  
Avoid Chocolate, Butter - these melt.  
Fruit - (Refreshing e.g. Oranges, Apples, Bananas)  
1 Bottle Lemonade, etc. Keep the bottle; it is useful  
for refilling at stations en route.  
Tin of Creamola Foam, etc.

Toilet Comb, toothbrush, toothpaste. Health Salts.  
Face-cloth for travelling. Soap - 2 cakes.  
Calamine Lotion or Sun-tan Lotion. Share these.  
All other Medical Equipment will be supplied.

Clothing Keep to a minimum. Luggage must be light.  
YOU HAVE TO CARRY IT.  
Paper handkerchiefs, 3 pairs socks, 2 changes of under-  
clothing, 2 towels.  
Comfortable Shoes (NOT NEW). Sandshoes.  
Shorts for Cruising.  
Thread, needles, buttons, darning materials.  
Coat-hangers, Cleaning materials for shoes - SHARE THESE

IMPORTANT No valuable jewellery, valuable cameras or watches.  
N.B. PUPILS TRAVELLING ON A COLLECTIVE PASSPORT ARE FORBIDDEN  
BY CUSTOMS REGULATIONS TO BRING BACK ALCOHOL OR TOBACCO.

General Traffic in most other countries keeps to the right.  
Don't straggle. Keep in the Group.

Currency Italy £1 = 1,735 Lire.  
Greece £1 = 80 Drachmas.  
Israel £1 = 8.40 Israeli £. (I.£ is divided into  
100 agorot)  
Yugoslavia £1 = 2,100 Dinars

ADDRESSES: (1) Italy.  
3rd-5th July Your Name,  
c/o Whitehill S. School Group,  
Istituto Maria Ausiliatrice,  
via Garibaldi, 454,  
VENICE,  
Italy.  
(2) Remainder of tour.  
5th-18th July Your Name,  
c/o Whitehill S. School Group,  
T.S.S. "FANTASIA,"  
International Cruises, Ltd.,  
PIRAEUS,  
Greece.

LUGGAGE: 1. LABEL outside Your Name,  
Inside also. Passenger to Venice.  
2. Have ready label with your name and name of the ship  
and address of the shipping company.

POSTAGE To Italy, Greece, Israel, Yugoslavia:-

N.B. Letters 6d. Postcards 4d.  
From Italy:- Letters 70 Lire



### CUSTOMS

All luggage may be examined.  
For return journey, prepare a list with your name, price of all articles bought on the holiday. The Customs Officer demands this.

### CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Have ready and handy a plain postcard stamped (2½d.) and addressed to your parent with an "arrived safely" message to be sent from London.
- (b) Postcards and letters will be sent from the various places to be visited.

### DISCIPLINE

The Group comes first. Your wishes next. Pay attention to all instructions while travelling. All regulations regarding Lights-Out, Sun-bathing, Sea-bathing, Dress, etc., must be adhered to. No short sleeves on the first day.

#### Note

#### N.B.

Swimming. Whenever possible there will be bathing. No bathing, however, without supervision. Strict obedience to regulations is essential.

### SPECIAL NOTE

YOU ARE AN AMBASSADOR REPRESENTING YOUR COUNTRY.  
MAKE SURE YOUR CONDUCT AND FRIENDLY MANNER  
COMMEND THE SCOTS TO THE ITALIANS, GREEKS, ISRAELI,  
AND YUGOSLAVS.



WHITEHILL SECONDARY SCHOOL

Excursion to ITALY, GREECE, ISRAEL and YUGOSLAVIA.

TIME - TABLE

1st July	9.25 p.m.	Leave Glasgow Central.
2nd July	6. <sup>39</sup> <del>47</del> a.m.	Arrive Olympia, Kensington. Breakfast. Coach Tour. Lunch. Leave Victoria.
3rd July		Arrive Basel. Leave Basel. Breakfast on train. Arrive Milan. Lunch in Milan. 14.45 Leave Milan. 18.34 Arrive Venice.
4th & 5th July		Venice.
5th July	22.00	Leave Venice on T.S.S. "Fantasia."
6th July		Cruising in Adriatic en route to Greece.
7th July		Corfu - Coach tour and bathing.
8th July		Athens. Then Coach tour to Sounion. Visit St. Andrew's Preventorium and present gifts.
9th July		Crete (Heraclion). Visit Knossos. Bathing
10th July		Rhodes. Old town - Castle of Knights
11th July		Hospitaller - Coach tour to Lindos, Kamiros Valley of the Butterflies, etc. Bathing.
12th July		Arrive Haifa, Israel. Coach tour via Caesarea, etc. Jerusalem. Visit Mt. Zion, Domition Abbey, Cenacle. View of Bethlehem, fields of Boaz, Dead Sea, Wilderness of Judea. Visit Hebrew University (Dead Sea Scrolls) and back to Haifa by the Valley of Sharon. Overnight on T.S.S. "Fantasia."
13th July		Coach tour to Nazareth and Kefar Kana via Horns of Hittin to Jordan Valley, Kibbutz Deganya, to the River Jordan. Then to Tiberias, Tabgha, Capernaum, Mt. of the Beatitudes via Upper Galilee, Sefad, Acre to Haifa. Sail from Haifa late evening.
14th July		Cruising in Mediterranean en route to Greece.
15th July		Morning in Mykonos. Bathing Evening in Athens. Visit National House etc. Present Books. Leave Piraeus at midnight.
16th July		Cruising in Bay of Corinth and in the Ionian Sea en route to Yugoslavia.
17th July		Arrive Dubrovnik early. Tour. Bathing. Leave Dubrovnik in the afternoon.



18th July Arrive Venice.  
 11.16 Train at St. Lucia Station, Venice.  
 15.25 Arrive Milan. Lunch.  
 17.09 Leave Milan.  
 23.19 Arrive Basel. Dinner.

19th July 00.42 Leave Basel  
 14.50 Arrive London, Victoria.  
 Lunch. Tea.  
 21.00 Leave Euston.

20th July 7.10 a.m. Arrive Glasgow, Central.