

Whitehill F.P. Club Newsletter

Issue XXVI March 2022

Dear FP Club Members,

Just like Corporation buses, no sooner have you shredded the last one and another one comes along. Newsletters, that is.

The general consensus of those members who replied, is that we should wait until autumn and hold the formal dinner to celebrate the 100 years of the dinner club. The date for your diary is Friday 21st October. Details of venue will follow later in the summer.

Rangers Soccer Academy Partner with Whitehill Secondary School.



You may have spotted this in the local press or have seen it on our website, however, here is a short summary of the full story. As part of the partnership, a Rangers Soccer Academy coach will now be based at the school and will work with over 70 young pupils per week as part of a football academy. The programme is aimed at using football to increase participation and physical activity and the academy will also aid the school in increasing engagement and attainment.

A substantial financial contribution to facilitate this has been made by the Whitehill Sports Trust as well as by Rangers Football Club. You can be sure that Rangers will be on the lookout for talent for the first team at Ibrox.

"Once in a Blue Moon"



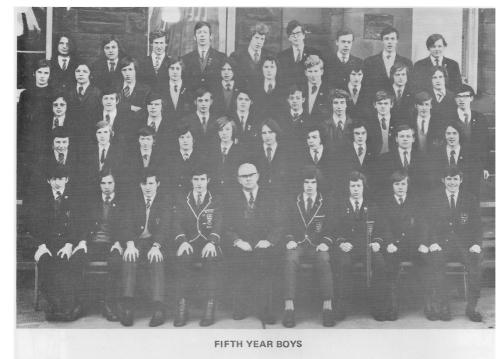
Our very own Fraser Speirs has recorded a CD album together with David Pringle available as a download and titled "Once in a Blue Moon". It is a jazz/blues set of compositions, perfect for late night listening with a dram. Well worth a listen.

Robin Barr, (Whitehill 1953-1959)

Robin dropped us an email looking to join the FP Club and he can now be recognised as our northernmost member. Robin was vice-captain and dux of the school in 1959 and now lives at Birsay on Orkney with his wife Anne. Together they run a self catering establishment in a great location looking out on to the Atlantic Ocean. He is Secretary of the Arts Society and has been recognised for his charitable work, particularly his accomplishments with his fiddle.

Take a look at www.anniesplaceorkney.co.uk and www.orcadian.co.uk/birsay-musician-shortlisted-for-fundraising-award/

A Contribution by David Hornsby



Front Row: I. Rae, D. Hoey, D. Prentice, D. Crosbie, Mr. Mundy, J. Crossan, F. Thomson, W. Owen, R. Gordon Second Row: J. Collins, W. Robin, R. McAllister, A. Dalziell, A. Brown, J. Cox, A. Welsh, D. Palmer, D. Reid, S. Mackie Third Row: R. Millar, J. Houston, T. Thomson, J. Dalgleish, R. Livingston, G. Watt, J. Prentice, R. Whyte, C. Harvey R. Walker.

Fourth Row: F. Johnston, M. Hendry, K. Watson, W. MacLelland, R. Young, I. Clark, R. Edwards, A. Grant D. Anderson, J. McMahon.

Fifth Row: R. Malcolm, R. Ashford, G. Gilmour, K. Strickland, D. Hornsby, I. Raitt, J. Carmichael, R. Woodrow G. McGrath.

June 2022 will mark half a century since I and my sixth year Whitehill 'class of 1972' left the school bound for pastures new, be it further education, training or the world of work. A long time ago certainly, but I can still recall many of that cohort guite well and picture them in my mind. I find myself wondering where has all the time gone and what happened to all those people. (I was in contact with one person towards the end of last year.) Doubtless the ravages of time will have had its effects as it has on me. Pictured in the school photo in the magazines of 1971 and 1972, I and many other lads had the almost obligatory long hair which was fashionable then. Many of the girls had their hair in the styles common for young girls then, feather cuts, backcombed bobs or just in curtains of very long hair. Many wore mini skirts. We all look so young, wide-eyed, optimistic and confident. Yet, we must have been all just a bit unsure and even nervous of what lay ahead. Sadly, in my twenties, I started to lose my precious locks, but thankfully there came a time when it was fashionable for men to have shaved heads! (I am grateful for what I had whilst at secondary school though.) There were no mobiles, no internet and few had colour TVs (we didn't) at the time. There were but three TV channels. Music was listened to on the radio or vinyl records-those we could afford. Cassettes lay a few years ahead and there were no CDs for quite some time. The idea of 'streaming' music or movies etc was a long way off! You got your news from newspapers and the TV newscasts a few times in the evenings or radio. You went to the pictures to watch films. My dad worked for the 'Evening Citizen' but two years later it would be defunct and he redundant. He moved to the 'Glasgow Herald'. Now that's merely 'The Herald' and the 'Evening Times' is the 'Glasgow Times.' Yes, 'times change' in more ways than one and sometimes I even feel out of my time in a weird sort of way with all the present innovations, jargon and fashionable aspects of which I don't feel a part. I do know that the sixties and the seventies were a great time to actually live through and I wouldn't want to have missed it, in order to 'buy' some extra time now or in the future. Great memories and finally 'memories' are what matters most! That probably says it all!

Many thanks for your memories David.

Jim McArthur, (Whitehill 1961-1967)



Photo by J. & S. Sternstein

GOLF TEAM

Front Row: R. Watson, I. H. Ritchie (captain), D. B. Hamilton (secretary). Back Row: G. J. Brockett, J. S. McArthur, J. R. Fraser, I. Sharp.

It was reported in the Scotsman, (16/02/22) that Jim McArthur has been elected as president of the Fife Golfing Association. Jim has previously been Chairman of the R&A Championship committee, and chair of the UK golf handicapping body. A young Jim can be seen in the 1967 summer magazine in the photographs of the 1st 11 football team and the Golf Team.

Dorothy Watson

We are sorry to have to inform of the death of Dorothy Watson who passed away on 31st January. Dorothy and her husband David were great supporters of the club and attended our lunches and dinners over many years. Iain McLean represented us at her funeral service on 17th February. Our sympathies to David and family at this time.

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Iain McLean Robin Brunton

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