

**Grace Wilson Blair, written testimony Highstreets**

**Earliest childhood memories while still at school. -**

Buying a puppy from the pet's corner in Lewis's.

Attending St Andrews Halls to hear the Glasgow Orpheus Choir and going to the pantomimes at Christmas, my mum having queued for a few hours at the Alhambra booking office in Hope Street. Going to the Royal Theatre and also to the Kings Theatre; my parents were always keen theatre goers.

Weekly Shopping with my Mum during school holidays and having lunch at the Georgic restaurant or at the Ca'Do'Ro listening to a ladies string quartet. Special occasion meal at Ferrari's after I had been at the BBC studio in Queen Margaret Drive to sing on a Children's Hour radio programme.

Annual visits to Lewis's Christmas Grotto where the REAL Santa gave the children gifts!

Visiting Wilson's Zoo (in Oswald Street I think). A small privately owned zoo (which wouldn't be allowed now).

More visits to Lewis's most week days spending two hour lunch break from college hanging around the basement with lots of other young lads and lasses listening to the latest pop records and very occasionally buying one if we had money.

This would be 1951/1952.

**1952.** Working now and window shopping every lunch hour. Loved the department stores and had my hair done in Pettigrew & Stephens. Sometimes playing tennis at the Kelvin Grove courts  
Being astonished to see a car parked between other vehicles(in Sauchiehall Street), with a rotor blade attached to its roof and while we were staring at it a gentleman 'explaining' its purpose was to help get sideways out onto the road! We were told that the driver was none other than the late, eccentric A.E. Pickard.

Watching a film at La Scala, Sauchiehall Street where they had tables in the balcony and you could have afternoon tea while watching the film.

Enjoying Saturday afternoon dancing at Green's playhouse. Some years later dancing at the Plaza and the Albert , where I met my Glaswegian husband!