# Contents

- Editorial Note 2
- Board of Governors & Staff 5
- FCOBA Past Presidents 8
- LHSOGA Past Presidents 10
- FCFPA Officers 2012-13 12
- Chairperson’s Letter 13
- Amalgamation of LHSOGA & FCOBA 14
- Update on the New School 15
- Prize Night Speeches 17
- Staff Retirements 31
- Graduations 48
- Leavers’ Destinations 2012 50
- A View The Foyle Commanding – Update 52
- FCFPA Facebook Page 53
- Standing Order Mandate 54
- Notes & News 55
- Announcements 56
- Presidents’ Reports & Profiles 66
- Reports on the Year’s Events 74
- Your Contributions 104
- Dates For Your Diary 114
- FCOBA & LHSOGA Memorabilia 117
Welcome to the 2013 edition of the Foyle College Former Pupils’ Magazine. The past year has been a remarkable one, for the school and for our Association. The Association is no longer two distinct organisations but one that embraces the traditions of the FCOBA and LHSOGA, while recognising the need for a new focus that welcomes and includes the past pupils of Foyle & Londonderry College.

The school has seen some major shifts in senior staff with the retirement of Mr Jack Magill, and seven of the most experienced members of teaching staff. There have also been major changes in the support staff of both Springtown and Duncreggan. You can read about their contribution to the school in our new ‘Retirements’ section.

With these changes come new staff members, and the appointment of Foyle College’s new Headmaster, Mr Patrick Allen. The Association would like to extend a warm welcome to Mr Allen as he settles into his new post.

This year the Association aims to create a comprehensive database of contact details for its members – email addresses and years of attendance at the school being key. With this in mind, the Executive Committee have set up a new email address, exclusively for the Former Pupils’ Association, to enable people to submit their information to the database. The email address is shown below.

fpafoyle@gmail.com

I would encourage all former pupils to submit their details for the database as it is such a convenient means of updating members on news and upcoming events.

One of the aims of the amalgamated Association is to attract younger members to participate in it. To this end, a Facebook page for the Former Pupils’ Association has been set up. It can be found at www.facebook.com/foylecollegefpa. I have included a report on it in the magazine, which I hope will tempt you to have a look at it online. There are lots of photos on the site, contributed by various former pupils including myself, and it has images from Foyle College, Derry, Londonderry High School, as well as Foyle & Londonderry College. Some former pupils have also shared anecdotes of their time at the school, which help to bring the photos to life and give a flavour of what it was like to attend the school at that time.

There have also been changes within the magazine in order to reflect the new structure of the Association. There are no longer separate sections for Old Boys’ and Old Girls’ information. Instead we have the new ‘Events’ section which contains the reports from the Association’s gatherings throughout the year, arranged, as much as possible, in chronological order.

The other significant change for the magazine is the resignation of Mr William Lynn and Mrs Joy Tennis from their position as joint editors. I would like to thank them personally for all the years we’ve worked together on compiling the magazines. It has been a pleasure to work with you both. I would also like to add a special thanks to William for helping me to adjust to the role of editor and providing a second opinion when I needed it.

All that is left is for me to say that I hope you like the new format of the magazine and that you enjoy reading it.

Laura Taylor

Editor

Foyle College Former Pupils’ Magazine
Useful contact addresses

Foyle College
Duncreggan Road
Londonderry
BT48 0AW
Tel. (028) 71269321
School Website – www.foylenet.org.uk

Laura Taylor
5 Clooney Park West
Limavady Road
Londonderry
BT47 6LA
Tel. (028) 71344058

For submitting contact information – fpafoyle@gmail.com or foylefpmag@hotmail.co.uk

For magazine submissions – foylefpmag@hotmail.co.uk

- www.facebook.com/foylecollegefpa
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Electing Body</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr R Young</td>
<td>The Honourable The Irish Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr R Manning, Mr B Dougherty, Mrs M McLaughlin, Ms C McGoldrick, Mr E Gee, Mr G Killeen, Mr B Long, Mrs D Fleming, Mrs J Young</td>
<td>Department of Education Representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr J A Black, Mr J McFarland, Mrs C Gilliland, Mr I McCarther</td>
<td>Foundation Nominated Representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev R Craig</td>
<td>Presbytery of Derry and Strabane Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev M R K Ferry</td>
<td>Church of Ireland Diocesan Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor D Heenan</td>
<td>University of Ulster Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr J S M Huey, Mr C Jeffrey</td>
<td>Old Boys’ Representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs J Y Coskery, Mrs I McNally</td>
<td>Old Girls’ Representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr W M Lynn, Mrs H Eakin, Mrs S O’Connell</td>
<td>Staff Representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr C Tennis, Mr M Love, Mrs K Jackson</td>
<td>Parents’ Representatives</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All Governors appointments are tenable until 8 December 2013
Principal
Mr P W J Allen B.Sc., P.G.C.E., P.Q.H. (N.I.)

Vice-Principals
Mr P G Gault B.A., P.G.C.E.
Mr G S Mercer B.Sc., P.G.C.E., P.Q.H.

Senior Management Team
Mr W M Lynn B.A., B.A.
Mrs H Eakin B.Ed.
Mrs B McGowan B.A., P.G.C.E.
Teaching Staff by Department (* indicates Head of Department) 
(# indicates Teacher-in-charge of subject)

**Art & Design**
Mr K F Ward B.A., P.G.C.E.*
Mrs S C Thomas B.A., P.G.Dip., P.G.C.E.
Mrs C J Kane B.A., P.G.C.E.

**Biology**
Mrs I A Hannaway B.Ed.*
Mrs L J Hand B.Sc., P.G.C.E. (*Junior Science)
Mr P Farmer B.Sc P.G.C.E.

**Business Studies**
Mrs H Eakin B.Ed.*
Mrs B McGowan B.A., P.G.C.E.

**Careers**
Mr K J Thatcher B.A., D.A.S.E.*
Mr W M Lynn B.A., B.A.
Mr P Farmer B.Sc P.G.C.E.
Mrs H Eakin B.Ed.

**Chemistry**
Mr K S Given B.A., P.G.C.E.*
Mrs J Millen C Chem., M.R.S.C., P.G.C.E.
Mr R A McKeegan B.Sc., P.G.C.E.

**Computing/Information Technology**
Mrs S McLaughlin B.Ed.*
Mrs K McShane B.Ed.
Mr A J Manning B.Ed.

**Design & Technology**
Mr A C Moorcroft B.Ed. P.G.C.T.E.*
Mr A J Manning B.Ed.
Mrs K McShane B.Ed.

**Music**
Mrs B O’Somachain B.Mus., P.G.C.E., T.T.C.T.*
Miss E Barr B.Mus., P.G.C.E.

**Modern Languages**
Mrs P A Coughlin B.A., P.G.C.E.#
Mrs H Kane-Craig B.A., M.A., P.G.C.E.
Ms L D McAuley B.Ed., M.A., P.G.Dip. Lit.#
Mrs C Lynch B.A., P.G.C.E
Mrs C A Johnston B.A., P.G.C.E.
Mrs J Campbell B.A., P.G.C.E.

**English**
Mrs A B Mercer B.A., P.G.C.E.*
Mr P G Gault B.A., P.G.C.E.
Mrs E O Steele B.A., P.G.C.E. M.A. ALCM LLCM
Mr D Keown B.A., P.G.C.E.
Miss K O Elliott B.A., Q.T.S.

**Geography**
Mrs S Guthrie B.Sc., P.G.C.E.*
Mr R Menown B.A., P.G.C.E.
Ms K Eakin B.Sc., P.G.C.E.
Ms S Bollard B.A., P.G.C.E.
Mr D Gallagher B.Sc., P.G.C.E., Dip. IT., M.Sc.

**Geology**
Mr W M Lynn B.A., B.A.*

**History**
Mr J R McBride B.A., P.G.C.E.
Mrs M Dougherty B.A., P.G.C.E.*

**Home Economics**
Mrs Fiona Feeney B.A., M.Sc., P.G.D.E.*

**Mathematics**
Mr G S Mercer B.Sc., P.G.C.E., P.Q.H.
Mr T S Nutt B.Sc., P.G.C.E.*
Mrs B McGowan B.A., P.G.C.E.
Mrs B A Gillen B.Sc., P.G.C.E.
Mrs C Lynn B.Ed.
Mrs L Buchanan B.Sc., P.G.C.E.

**Physics**
Mrs S M O’Connell B.Sc., P.G.C.E.*
Mr D B Phillips B.Sc., P.G.C.E., M.Sc.
Miss L Carlin B.Sc., P.G.C.E.

**Physical Education**
Ms K Eakin B.Sc., P.G.C.E. (Girls)*
Ms S Bollard B.A., P.G.C.E.
Mr D Barnett B.Sc., P.G.C.E. (Boys)*

**Religious Studies**
Mrs J Allen B.Ed.*

**Visiting**
Mrs Sharon Moore
Mrs Michaela Leonard
Mrs Zara Colhoun
Mr Derek Harrington
Mrs Sharon Karayiannis
Miss C Graham
**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Bursar/Clerk to Governors</td>
<td>Mr Neil Stewart B.Sc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Bursar</td>
<td>Mrs L McLean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headmaster’s Personal Assistant</td>
<td>Mrs J Galbraith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Secretaries</td>
<td>Mrs J Cole (Springtown)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs W Nutt (Duncreggan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerical Officer</td>
<td>Miss J Daly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Mr P Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr P Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixth Form Study Supervisor</td>
<td>Miss C Clifford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior School Study Supervisor</td>
<td>Mrs M Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom Assistants</td>
<td>Mrs M McGeehan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs P McCandless</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ms C Doherty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs P Feathers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs K Doherty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs D Rankin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Miss P Boyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reprographics/Premises Officer</td>
<td>Mr G Balmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network Manager</td>
<td>Mr S Hamilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technicians</td>
<td>Mrs J Woods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr D Dickson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs C Hume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs M Mullan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estates Manager</td>
<td>Mr C Austin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grounds Staff</td>
<td>Mr N Cole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Cooks</td>
<td>Mrs A Burton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ms V Hockley</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Past Presidents of Foyle College Old Boys’ Association

1928 - 29 The Right Hon. Sir John Ross, Bart.
1929 - 30 Alfred Moore Munn, B.A.
1930 - 31 His Honour Judge John Fitzpatrick Cooke, K.C., D.L.
1932 - 33 Major James Sproule Myles, M.C., T.D.
1933 - 34 Professor Charles Gibson Lowry, M.D., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G.
1934 - 35 John Gallagher Michaels
1935 - 36 The Very Rev. James Gilbert Paton M.C., M.A., D.D.
1936 - 37 Sir James McElmunn Wilton, M.C.
1938 - 39 Isaac J. Trew Colquhoun, B.A.
1939 - 40 The Right Hon. Mr. Justice William Lowry
1940 - 41 John Blakeney Gillies, L.D.S.
1941 - 42 Thomas Taggart, LL.D.
1942 - 43 His Honour Judge Marcus Dill Begley, Q.C.
1943 - 44 The Very Reverend William Corkey, M.A., D.D.
1944 - 45 Sir William Athlestan Meredith Good, K.B.E.
1945 - 46 Robert Foster Dill, M.A.
1946 - 47 Professor Frances James Brown, M.S., D.Sc., F.R.C.S., (Ed), F.R.C.O.G.
1948 - 49 Rupert William Jeffares
1949 - 50 Samuel Milligan
1950 - 51 Samuel Russell Foster, M.C. Croix de Guerre, M.B.
1951 - 52 John Foster Caldwell, C.B., Q.C., LL.M., J.P.
1953 - 54 The Right Hon. Sir David Callender Campbell, P.C., K.B.E., C.M.G., M.P.
1954 - 55 William Cecil Glover, M.B.E.
1955 - 56 Henry Cooke Porter Cresswell
1956 - 57 Sir Robert Gransden, C.B.E.
1957 - 58 Charles Wilson, B.A.
1958 - 59 Samuel Maxwell Alexander Lowry
1959 - 60 John Thomas Irwin, A.M.I.E.E.
1960 - 61 William Staveley Ferguson, B.A.
1965 - 66 Samuel Douglas Irons
1966 - 67 The Right Hon. Sir Herbert McVeigh, Lord Justice of Appeal
1967 - 68 The Very Rev. Austin A. Fulton, M.A., PhD., D.D.
1970 - 71 Armour Hamilton Matthews, L.D.S., R.C.S.
1971 - 72 Colonel Oswald W. Gilmour, M.A., M.A.I., C.Eng., F.I.C.E.
1972 - 73 The Right Hon. Sir Robert Porter, Q.C., M.P.
1974 - 75 David Alan Eccles Roberts, M.A.
1975 - 76 John Alexander Crockett
1976 - 77 James Stewart Connolly, M.A., LL.B.
1977 - 78 Professor Emeritus A.C.P. Campbell, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C. Path., F.R.C.P.E.
1978 - 79 Professor J. C. Goligher, M.B., Ch.M., F.R.C.S.E., F.R.C.S. (Edin)
1980 - 81 Rev. R. K. Greer, M.A., B.D.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title and Qualifications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1983 - 84</td>
<td>J. Piggot, M.B., B.Ch., F.R.C.S.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984 - 85</td>
<td>A. E. Barbour, B.Sc., F.B.C.O.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985 - 86</td>
<td>J. Kincade, C.B.E., M.A., B.Litt., Ph.D.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986 - 87</td>
<td>D. C. G. Craig, B.A.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988 - 89</td>
<td>H. W. Young, O.B.E., M.A.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989 - 90</td>
<td>J. C. Lapsley, BSc., D.L.C., D.A.S.E.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992 - 93</td>
<td>Prof. S. G. Carruthers, M.D., F.R.C.P.C.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993 - 94</td>
<td>N. J. Henderson, B.Sc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994 - 95</td>
<td>J. H. Y. Fergusson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995 - 96</td>
<td>A. G. Kennedy, B.A.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996 - 97</td>
<td>Prof. R. J. McClelland, M.D., Ph.D., F.R.C.PSYCH.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998 - 99</td>
<td>The Very Rev. D. C. Orr, M.A.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999 - 00</td>
<td>E.W. Hamilton</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000 - 01</td>
<td>J.E. Bigger, M.A., D.A.S.E.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001 - 02</td>
<td>H.W. Gillespie, B.A., D.A.S.E.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002 - 03</td>
<td>A.W. Roulston, C.A.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004 - 05</td>
<td>I. M. Piggot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007 - 08</td>
<td>R.S. Tosh, B.Sc., B.D., Ph.D.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 - 09</td>
<td>J.A.S. Kelso, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 - 10</td>
<td>J.A.C. McFarland, B.Sc., C. Eng., F.I.C.E.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011 - 12</td>
<td>R. C. Montgomery, MB, DMH, DHMSA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 - 13</td>
<td>W. Young, MA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Londonderry High School Old Girls’ Association

**Founded 1935**

**Presidents LHS OGA**

1935-45  Miss M F McIlroy
1946  Mrs H M Williams
1947  Mrs Killen M.A.
1948  Mrs E R Gordon
1949  Miss Osborne OBE JP
1950  Mrs H Robinson
1951  Mrs Doreen McConnell BA
1952  Miss M K M Aiken BA BLLB
1953  Mrs John Watson MBE
1954  Mrs B H Lynn FRCS
1955  Mrs B Roe MBE
1956  Dr Elsie Johnston
1957  Mrs S Dowds
1958  Dr Violet Breakey
1959  Mrs N Young
1960  Mrs H J Clarke
1961  Mrs J C Eaton
1962  Miss Grace Armstrong
1963  Mrs Jean L’Amie MA
1964  Marie Loullier OBE MA
1965  Mrs Olive McLaughlin BA
1966  Mrs R R Hunter
1967  Mrs G R Joscelyne
1968  Mrs J G Colhoun
1969  Miss Alice Rowan
1970  Miss E A Park BSc
1971  Mrs Mary Britton
1972  Miss M R Colhoun
1973  Mrs K Gillis
1974  Miss A E Stirling MA
1975  Miss M W Cunningham MA
1976  Miss M Anderson
1977  Mrs E W M Marr
1978  Mrs T R Berry
1979  Mrs M B Seaward
1980  Mrs M B Seaward
1981  Mrs R J Aiken
1982  Mrs J Moore
1983  Mrs J McCandless
1984  Mrs E Clay
1985  Mrs E Finlay
1986  Mrs M Welch
1987  Mrs J W Taggart
1988  Mrs D Stuart
1989  Mrs Gladys Black
1990  Mrs K Stewart
1991  Mrs E Whiteside
1992  Mrs Lorna Knox
1993  Mrs W Burns
1994  Miss Anne Wilson
1995  Mrs M Phillips
1996  Miss G Simpson
1997  Mrs R Ramsey
1998  Mrs B Hamilton
1999  Mrs J Y Coskery
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Mrs Helen Hilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Mrs C Corrigan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Mrs J Milliken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Mrs Thelma Arthur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Mrs N Foss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Mrs Molly Kennedy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Mrs Elma McDevitt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Mrs Isabel McNally, CBE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Mrs Molly Sutton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Mrs Phyllis Logan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Mrs Ruth Hamilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Mrs Pamela Jackson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Dr Kanchan McAllister (née Chada)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Mrs Lily Swinson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Foyle College Former Pupils’ Association

OFFICERS 2012/13

Joint Presidents  Dr K McAllister and Dr R Montgomery

Vice Presidents  Mrs E Swinson and Mr W Young

Chairperson  Mrs I McNally

Vice Chairperson  Mr W Lynn

Hon Secretaries  Mrs H Craig and Mr M Kilgore

Hon Treasurer  Mr N Stewart

Members of the Executive Committee

Mr P Curtis

Mrs B Fowler

Mr C. Jeffrey

Mr G. Killeen

Mr B. Long

Mrs J McClintock

Mrs F Rankin

Mrs J Tennis  mailto:joytennis@hotmail.co.uk

Hon Auditors  Mr R Young and Mr B Peoples

Anyone wishing to contact the committee should send their query to fpafoyle@gmail.com.
Chairperson’s Letter

Dear Former Pupils,

As we have worked through the many stages since Foyle College and Londonderry High School amalgamated in 1976, we have eventually arrived at the full integration of the Former Pupils’ Association. We now have one committee.

Our aims are:-

- to maintain and enhance the interest of former pupils in their school

- to sustain friendship among former pupils and to promote and foster interest in the present school including its cultural, scholastic and sporting activities

- to afford facilities for fellowship among members and generally extend and strengthen the feeling of camaraderie among former pupils

- to keep and update a record of former pupils.

To meet these objectives your committee has planned new events as well as maintaining the popular lunches and dinners to encourage a wider age group to attend.

Installation of the Presidents, Mr William Young and Mrs Lily Swinson will be held on April 26th at a Wine and Cheese Evening in Duncreggan following the AGM. Two reasons for attending this event are to welcome and support the Presidents in their year and also to visit Duncreggan while it is still the property of the school.

A Summer Gathering on the 21st June complete with Jazz Band /BBQ /Refreshments is hopefully going to inspire former pupils to organise a mini reunion of their classmates and encourage them to return to the City of Culture and visit Duncreggan on this particular evening. Please put this date in your diary and details will be available on the website and Facebook page.

The news that the school will be moving to the Limavady Road will make visits to Duncreggan and Springtown of greater interest, so your committee will be planning more events at and around the old buildings in the next few years. On a personal basis if you wish to visit the school please make contact with the secretary or any committee member to assist you with your plans.

Our objective to keep and update a record of former pupils can be easily achieved if all former pupils register their contact details including email addresses at fpafoyle@gmail.com

Some years are organising reunions, 50th birthdays, 30 years since leaving etc and we can assist with roll books and hopefully contact details.

The committee will be notifying former pupils through the school website www.foylenet.org under News and drop down to Former Pupils. This is in the process of being updated.

Access to information is also available at www.facebook.com/foylecollegefpa

The committee wish to thank those of you who have posted photographs and comments on Facebook. This is proving to be of great interest. To be more personally involved and to inspire the committee it is important you put forward your ideas and views.

It has been an honour for me to Chair the committee this year and I look forward to seeing you at events planned or hearing your views.
Yours sincerely,

Isabel McNally CBE.

**Amalgamation of the LHSOGA and the FCOBA**

The Londonderry High School Old Girls’ Association was founded in 1935 with the blessing of Miss M F McIlroy (Madame Loullier) who became the first president and served for the first ten years of the association’s existence. Mme Loullier served again in the year 1964-5. Characteristic of the contemporary culture was the fact that in the early days women were happy to use their husbands’ initials. The first magazine was published in 1936, a copy is in the archive.

Elizabeth Whiteside (president 1991-2) created the picture gallery of past presidents in the Duncreggan assembly hall. The chain of office records the names.

The Association is especially proud of its branches – Belfast, Coleraine, London, and more recently, an informal group who meet once a year in Scotland. We have a rota of presidents from the parent association and branches which ensures diversity and interest beyond the city. Lunches and evening reunions are well supported and lively. Old Girls have been generous to the present day school and revisiting Duncreggan is in demand.

The future of the Association is secure now that LHSOGA and FCOBA have combined to form the Foyle College Former Pupils’ Association.

Joy Coskery

2012
Update on the New School

By now, you will know of the announcement in June 2012 that, at long last, we received the approval to proceed with the building of our new school. The process had been stalled for a few frustrating years but the College governors continued to believe in the project and actively lobbied for the announcement. We were supported by all the local political parties and that support was vital in securing approval.

How fitting it will be that we will be in the new building to celebrate our 400th birthday.

Our team are currently completing the final stages of the detailed design and I expect that, by the time you read this report, the formal application to the Northern Ireland Planning Service will have been made. The Design Team and governors have been in constant contact with the local planners and City Councillors to resolve any issues and we are confident of a smooth approval process.

During the approval process, the design team will be busy preparing the tender package and we expect that to complete by May 2013. Working closely with the Department of Education, we are exploring ways to shorten the tender period and our aim is to commence site works late Autumn 2013.

Approved Accommodation, so continuing the educational excellence enjoyed by us as former pupils. We are also planning a dedicated Former Pupils’ Suite on the top floor that will benefit from panoramic views over the playing fields and the city (the Suite can be seen above on the right hand side). We also aim to create, within the suite, a space to display some of the many items of memorabilia.

Our Design Team estimate the cost to the College at £1.5 million, hence the reason for the Development Fund created a few years ago.

As of now, we are incurring significant cost as the Design Team work through the various stages. The College must pay part of these fees, that proportion being our share of the extra accommodation. When construction commences, the call on the Development Fund will increase as we continue to fund our percentage of the build cost.
I therefore appeal to all Former Pupils to support us in securing an educational facility for future generations of Foyle pupils that will be the envy of all.

We need your support now; please contact the College Bursar, Neil Stewart, who can advise on how to help. We cannot do it without you.

I look forward to welcoming you to the new Foyle College, showing you around our exciting campus and facilities and chatting in the superb Former Pupils’ Suite.

Robin Young
Chair of Governors
Foyle College: 1962 - 69
Mr Chairman, ladies, gentlemen, past and present pupils,

As I have stated a number of times already since my appointment in May it is an honour and a privilege to be addressing you this evening as the Principal of Foyle College. With almost 400 years of history and tradition, Foyle College represents both a type of school and an education system in which I believe fundamentally. Preparing my report for this evening has, however, proved somewhat problematic as I have been part of the Foyle community for such a limited time. Due to the brevity of my tenure I trust, as I hope the staff is also doing, that you will grant me a fool’s pardon for this year. That is not to say, however, that I have not already developed a strong impression of Foyle and it is a very favourable one as, I hope, you will see.

I would also like to add my welcome to our guest this evening. As the Chairman has mentioned Ms Turner was the first Head Girl of the newly amalgamated Foyle and Londonderry College. According to a source close to Ms Turner (sibling rivalry is a terrible thing, Rosie) it is rumoured that her appointment divided senior staff in the High School. Half thought her leadership and drive ideally suited her to be Head Girl; the other half were basically afraid of her and regarded the appointment as a useful containment exercise to keep her under control! Hopefully when you have heard the reports from myself and the current Head Boy and Head Girl you will realise that drive, determination and leadership are still traits which are much in evidence at today’s Foyle College. Since leaving Foyle & Londonderry College as Head Girl Ms Turner has had what can only be described as a varied career encompassing not only the world of education but also international marketing, fundraising, team management and logistics, always based around her love of the Arts.

It was the 18th Century poet William Cowper who said “Variety’s the spice of life, that gives it all its flavour” and it is the ability of schools to provide a varied educational experience both inside and outside the classroom that helps all pupils to recognise and develop their strengths whilst managing and improving their areas of weakness in order to achieve their full potential. Foyle College undoubtedly provides such variety and support for its pupils as I hope you will agree. The core business of any school is learning and teaching so let us turn our attention to this year’s performances in the public examinations.

At GCSE the pass rate across all subjects was almost 92% with 44% of the grades achieved being either A* or A. Of particular note, and worthy of an individual mention, are Judith Allen, James Cole and Patrick Leeson who each achieved 10A* grades – an outstanding performance. A further 11 pupils achieved 10 A grades or better; exceptional performances in
their own right. We mustn’t forget the Year 11 pupils who undertook their GCSE Maths in one year achieving a 100% pass rate with 55% of those grades at A* and 40% at A grade. Worthy of individual mention in Year 11 are Gemma Cameron who achieved an A* in Art & Design, Joshua Cheung who achieved an A* in Chinese and Diego Diaz de Rivera who achieved an A* in Spanish. In Year 10 Szymon Konopka achieved an A grade in GCSE Polish.

For Year 13 pupils the AS pass rate was almost 98% across all subjects with 32% of the grades achieved at Grade A, 25% at Grade B and 22% at Grade C. Worthy of individual mention are Graham Caldwell, Laura Dougherty, Alan Hogg, Alice Kennedy, Daniel Martin, Laura McCracken, Eimile McSorley and Niamh Spence who have each achieved four A grades whilst Naomi Hamilton, Laura Harper, David Lapsley, Mark Monaghan and Stuart Nicholl each achieved three A grades. Through their diligence, and that of their teachers, these 13 pupils have put themselves in the best possible position to achieve top grades in their full A Levels and so gain access to their choice of university course.

In Year 14 the A-Level pass rate was 99% of which 10% were achieved at A* and 25% at Grade A. This compares more than favourably with the UK average of 27% at A* or A. 28% of grades were at Grade B and 17.2% at Grade C. Worthy of individual mention are Laura Carroll who achieved 3A* grades and Amy Chambers, last year’s Head Boy Oisin Duddy and Holly Rankin who each achieved 4A* grades. To put this grade into some sort of context, in order to achieve an A* pupils have to have achieved an A grade over the modules that they have studied in both Year 13 and 14 and to have achieved at least 90% of the marks available for the A2 modules. Holly’s grades have brought her further recognition as she leaves the Northwest to study Actuarial Science at University College Dublin where she has been awarded an Academic Scholarship by the Ad Astra Academy. This body was established at UCD to encourage students with exceptional talent and ability by providing them with additional support and unique opportunities, allowing them to reach their maximum potential inside and outside the classroom.

I hope you will agree with me that these are an excellent set of results and the pupils and their teachers are to be commended on their achievements. I have deliberately chosen to report the results for what they are – the number of pass grades which were achieved by pupils. This differs markedly from the method employed by the Department of Education, and therefore by the media, where the emphasis is on the number of pupils achieving 3 A*-C grades at A-Level or 7 A*-C at GCSE. Such a blunt instrument takes no account of the individual circumstances of a pupil, of how they have done relative to their ability or what might be in their best interests. A pupil who achieves, for example, CCD, according to such a measurement does not count in the school’s statistical return and yet this performance might be the best which that particular pupil is capable of achieving, and may well allow them to move on in the world of education or employment in the direction they desire and, most importantly, it may have been in their best interests to have returned to school in the Sixth Form with its high degree of pastoral care and academic support. It is this benchmark, what is in the best interests of the pupil, which we will continue to employ in making decisions regarding our pupils at both Key Stage 4 and Post-16. What is important is that we instil in our pupils the expectation of hard work and determination leading them to set and achieve their own personal goals.

But it is not just through exam results that our teachers work with their pupils to achieve academic variety and success. Pupils have many opportunities to take what they have learned in the classroom and to apply their knowledge so developing the thinking skills and personal capabilities which are central to the Northern Ireland curriculum and which are so in demand and highly valued by today’s employers. Allow me to take a few moments to provide you with a number of examples from across the school.

David Cochrane, from last year’s Year 14, won a silver medal at the Irish Chemistry Olympiad at Queen’s University in February. His performance led David to be chosen as a member of the Irish team and he spent part of the summer in Washington DC competing in the 44th
International Chemistry Olympiad. During Year 14 David also applied to the Nuffield Science Bursary Scheme and was allocated a project at the University of Ulster, Coleraine investigating the use of hydrogels as a drug delivery system. He was given permission to extend the work at his own initiative to investigate if the hydrogels could deliver a photosensitive drug to act as an antibiotic once illuminated. David presented his project at Queen’s University receiving a Science Gold Crest Award and reaching the final of the National Science and Engineering Competition in Birmingham. His endeavours also earned David an Amelia Earhart Medal of Achievement as part of the 2012 Amelia Earhart Festival here in Londonderry.

Last year’s Year 8 Science Technology Engineering and Maths Club (that’s STEM in the acronym obsessed world of education) had the opportunity to kayak under the three bridges in the city under the guidance of the Lough’s Agency; a memorable enough experience but one which sparked three science projects which achieved Science Bronze Crest Awards. These projects were then presented at ‘Scifest’ held at Magee in June with two projects being awarded first place in their respective categories and the Year 8 bridge design team of Oisin O’Connell, Matthew Austin and Sophie McFaul being awarded the Intel prize for the overall winners.

Working with the Technology & Design Department, Year 10 girls took part in the WiSE programme (which stands for Women in Science & Engineering). This programme was run by Bombardier to encourage young women to consider careers in the field of Engineering. The department also hosted the Faraday Challenge where Year 9 pupils competed against six other local schools coming 2nd in the design and construction task.

Year 13 English Literature pupils took up the opportunity to attend an event organised by Magee at which the guest speaker was John Montague, the contemporary Irish poet whose work they were studying for their AS exam. As part of the Shakespeare Schools festival 30 pupils from Years 8-10 staged a highly commended performance of The Merchant of Venice in the Waterside Theatre in November 2011 and I am very much looking forward to attending this year’s performance of A Midsummer Night’s Dream by pupils from Years 9-14.

In the Art & Design department A Level pupils had the opportunity to exhibit their work alongside that from other local schools in the Gordon Gallery. A number of senior pupils also entered the photographic competition organised by the Merchant Taylor’s Guild which will see work exhibited in London in December. In the Junior School, Year 9 pupils contributed very successfully to the ‘Rivers of the World’ project alongside a group of schools from around the world. The work produced as part of this project will be displayed in London in the autumn during the Thames Festival.

Although we don’t yet offer Politics as an academic subject, four Year 14 pupils with an interest in this area had the opportunity to gain first-hand experience of the cut-and-thrust of international politics at the seventh annual mock Council of the European Union. During the event they participated in a heated debate with pupils from twenty eight other schools in the Senate Chamber at Stormont.

In the French Drama Club, La Comédie Foylaise, Sixth Form pupils performed a French adaptation of The Three Billie Goats’ Gruff for the European Day of Languages whilst pupils in Years 8-10 worked on a translation of Goldilocks and The Three Bears for a video competition; once again putting to practical use the skills learned within the classroom.

The History department were able to organise trips for Years 8-10 and 14 each of which allowed the pupils to put history into context. Year 8 visited Inishowen which provided them with an opportunity to work as historians and archaeologists looking at evidence in the field; Year 9 put the events of the Siege of Londonderry into context with a tour of the walls, and visits to St Columb’s Cathedral, the Apprentice Boy’s Hall and the Tower Museum; Year 10 paid a visit to the Titanic Quarter in Belfast as part of their studies of the events of the night of the 14th April.
1912 and finally Year 14’s visit to Dublin has proved beneficial to their studies about the partition of Ireland.

Whilst the focus in many schools tends to be purely on exam performance I feel that the teachers of Foyle College are to be applauded for the variety and breadth of educational experience with which they provide our pupils; however, it is not only in academic subjects that pupils are afforded such a variety of opportunities, the same can be said for their experiences outside the classroom. Pupils enjoy the traditional rugby and cricket for boys and hockey for the girls but what about girl’s rugby and cricket; the performances of the junior and senior choirs, the junior band, the orchestra and the jazz band are something I’m very much looking forward to attending at the Carol Service and Spring Concert here in Christ Church; last year’s production of “We Will Rock You” drew on a huge range of pupil abilities not only musically and on stage but just as importantly backstage; pupil participation in the Reach Across projects and the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal helps to develop Citizenship; there is the personal development that takes place through the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Scheme; entrepreneurship is being encouraged by participation in Young Enterprise programmes throughout Key Stage 3 and 4 and there is the self-confidence which is developed through Debating and Public Speaking.

This variety of experience relies on a single common factor – the members of staff who are prepared to give so generously of their time to support and develop the pupils of Foyle and it is in this area that Foyle has seen significant changes during the past year. Mrs Mildred Deans is the only one of this year’s retirees that I have been fortunate enough to work with directly as she guided me into the hot seat during August. One thing I am certain of is that the dedication of these staff to the school and its pupils, as indicated by the length of service that they have given to the school, means that they will be sadly missed. These individuals are better known to you than to me, and their service deserves more than the brief mention possible here this evening, but I feel that I would be remiss not to mention them in my report of the year’s events.

From the teaching staff we have lost the services of Mr Norman Taylor after 38 years in the Maths Department, Mr Gerald McCarter after 35 years of teaching PE, Dr Pat Carson after 36 years teaching Science, Physics and latterly as Vice Principal, Mrs Elizabeth Adair and Mrs Valerie Little after 35 years, the former in the RE department, the latter in English, Mr Jim Heasley, who had taught previously in England, after 26 years in the History department, Mr John McNee, who had taught previously at Methodist College Belfast, after 17 years teaching Classical Civilisation and latterly as Vice Principal, and finally Mr Jack Magill whose shoes I am endeavouring to fill after 18 years.

The departure of so many staff has meant that a number of changes and promotions have taken place. Mr Graeme Mercer and Mr Ray Menown have been appointed as Vice Principals with responsibility for the curriculum and pastoral care respectively, Mr Trevor Nutt has become Head of Maths, Mrs Sarah Guthrie has become Head of Geography, Mrs Melanie Doherty has become Head of History, Mr David Barnett has become Head of Boys’ PE and Mrs Jacqueline Allen has become Head of RE. Newly appointed Year Heads are Mrs Karola McShane, Mr Dylan Gallagher and Mrs Catherine Johnston.

Joining the teaching staff this year are Mrs Zara Colhoun in English, Miss Michaela Leonard in ICT, Mr Derek Harrington in Maths, Miss Claire Graham in History and Miss Sharon Karayiannis who is part-time in Geography.

We also take this opportunity to offer our congratulations to Trevor and Wendy Nutt on the birth of their daughter Sophie and to Sharon Moore and her husband Tim on the birth of their daughter Lily. We also offer our congratulations to the former Miss Catherine Creighton who became Mrs Johnston towards the end of the summer break.
This, however, is only half the story for there has also been significant changes in the school’s support staff. Whilst the core business of a school might be learning and teaching without the efforts of the support staff outside the classroom schools simply could not function. Once again these staff have demonstrated their commitment and dedication to Foyle by the length of their service to the school and I am sure that they too will be sadly missed. Mrs Mildred Deans retired after 33 years as Headmaster’s secretary and latterly as Clerk to the Board of Governors, Mrs Isabel Wylie leaves the canteen after 32 years, Mr Robert Astbury, the Springtown building supervisor, leaves after 28 years, Ann and David Loughery leave after 22 years as the secretary in Springtown and Duncreggan building supervisor respectively, Mrs Lesley Morgan retires as Sixth Form Supervisor after 21 years, Mr David Thompson leaves the science department after 19 years and Mrs Maureen Cooke leaves the cleaning staff after 11 years. Those of you who know the school well will have picked up a significant omission from the list of departing staff. Having started on the 13th June 1968 Mr Norman Smyth leaves the grounds staff after 44 years of dedicated service to Foyle; the longest serving of any of this year’s departing staff.

To cope with these changes Mr Clive Austin has become the Estates manager for both Springtown and Duncreggan, Mr Graham Balmer is now Premises Officer in Duncreggan, Mrs Hazel Wright has been appointed as Cleaning Supervisor in Duncreggan and Mrs Jenny Galbraith has been appointed as my Personal Assistant.

In total the staff that have been lost this year to Foyle represent 472 years of experience and knowledge – a significant blow to the school.

These changes have been forced on us by the cuts in school budgets imposed by the Department of Education and reduce our ability to provide the variety of curricular and extra-curricular provision that we desire to offer our pupils. At the same time the Minister continues to demand that we move towards the delivery of the Entitlement Framework, a goal that can only be achieved through collaboration with other schools; collaboration which causes logistical nightmares and significant expense for the benefit of relatively small numbers of pupils in our case.

On a much more positive note, on the 25th of June the Minister released the funds for the construction of the new school on the former Clooney army base. Having met with the architects and project manager to dust off plans which have been shelved for the past three years the Chairman and I were initially disappointed to be given a timescale which would have seen us moving to the new school sometime after February 2016 but as the Chairman has indicated we now hope to be in situ in September 2015. I, too, would like to pay tribute to the Governors who have stuck by this project for such an extended period of time but in particular I would like to pay tribute to the Chairman and to Mr Magill for their relentless lobbying of anyone and everyone with any political influence as they endeavoured to keep the project moving forward. I truly believe that we would not have got our funds in June if it had not been for their efforts.

Although I haven’t had the opportunity to work directly with this year’s group of leavers I wish them good luck as they set out on the next stage of their academic journey and hope that they will look back with fond memories of their time at Foyle. Such memories will have been formed if they have given themselves wholeheartedly to the school and taken all the opportunities that have been presented to them. In discussing this evening’s reports with the Head Girl and Boy I had asked them to speak about the areas of school life in which they are interested and involved and asked them to drop me a list of the areas they were going to cover so that we wouldn’t repeat ourselves. When I saw the list of areas they wanted to mention I was initially concerned that they had actually left me nothing to talk about. It is obvious that these two young people, alongside most of the pupils of Foyle College, have indeed seized their
opportunities and are the embodiment of the truism “you get out of life what you put in”. Let us hope that we are able to continue to offer the variety of experience that they deserve to enjoy.

I will now hand over initially to our Head Girl Alison Maybin to be followed by the Head Boy Louis Fields who will report on the past year’s extra-curricular events.

**Head Girl’s Speech**

Nelson Mandela once said,

‘Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world’.

As Louis and myself inform you of the achievements of the past twelve months, it should be clear that Foyle College achieves not only academic success but also excellence in the many extra-curricular activities into which we hope to provide an insight tonight.

With only two players down from the previous season, this year’s 1st XI hockey team started the year quietly confident. The beginning of the season proved to be quite promising as Foyle took their chances and defeated rivals Omagh Academy. However, the season became increasingly challenging and the team were unlucky to draw a very strong Ballymena Academy side in the cup. Defeat in this match landed Foyle in the plate competition and although the 1st XI provided great entertainment in a nail biting victory over Limavady which went to penalty flicks, the team were unfortunately beaten in the next round by Victoria College.

The 2nd XI had a very good season last year, with competition for places resulting in a very motivated and hard working side. Unlike previous years the team progressed into the 3rd round of the cup by beating Bloomfield Collegiate. Although the 2nd XI dominated the next match against Methody the team were unlucky to be defeated.

The 3rd XI had a successful season, with victories over Strabane Academy, Enniskillen Collegiate and a great win over Cookstown on the final day of the season. This gave Mrs Lyttle the send off she deserved for her dedication and enthusiasm over her many years of coaching at the school; she will be sorely missed.

There were celebrations for those involved in junior hockey this year as the U14 team won the North-West league.

The girl’s cricket team returned to winning ways in May, playing Strabane Academy in the U19 Schools Cup. Led by Holly Rankin, who herself has represented Ulster and Ireland at U17 level; Foyle had a comfortable victory over the local rivals. All in all the girls proved that the 1st XI boys aren’t the only cricket cup winners in the school, even if there were only two schools entered in the competition!

This year saw the end of seven years representing the school by senior tennis players, Amy Chambers, Holly Rankin, Heather Manning and Ellen Callaghan who played their final match against Strathearn in early May. Overall it was an excellent performance in which Amy Chambers won both her singles, and her doubles match alongside Heather Manning.

It is of no great surprise that Mr Westgate and his team of talented fencers continue to excel with many pupils from fourth year to upper sixth representing Ireland, internationally. Among those fencers, Eimile McSorley, Lucia McCafferty and Niamh Spence were selected for the Commonwealth games as well as winning a Mary Peters Trust Award. Further credit must go to
Niamh Spence for representing Ireland at the World Championships in Cadet Sabre, a huge achievement.

For those less interested in competitive sport, Mrs McShane’s yoga classes have become a popular hit with pupils throughout the school and even staff!

However sport is not the only extra-curricular activity that Foyle provides. Last year the drama and music department once again joined forces to produce their most audacious spectacle yet….the Queen inspired musical, We Will Rock You. From the opening bars of Radio GaGa to the emotional closing moments of Bohemian Rhapsody the production proved to be a huge success, with a packed house on their feet each night and singing along to a musical which will be remembered for many years to come.

The music department returned with the annual Spring Concert and in just six weeks put on a diverse programme that included over 200 students. Each year the concert seems to become bigger and better and last year proved to be no exception as the Jazz band, Orchestra, Junior band and both the Junior and Senior choirs came together to perform a powerful rendition of ‘I Wish I knew How it Would Feel To Be Free’. The most memorable event of the year though for staff and pupils alike was the opportunity for the senior choir to sing along with Phil Coulter in the Millennium Forum. Although at first our parents seemed to be more excited than we were, it was a huge honour to join Phil in ‘Ireland’s Call’ as well as perform two of our own pieces.

Teams of Foyle pupils participated in the Junior Magistrates’ and Senior Bar Mock Trial Competitions. The competitions took place in November and March in Laganside Courts in Belfast and pupils had the opportunity to prepare cases, which are as true to real-life scenarios as possible. This provided pupils with a clear insight into the justice system and Foyle students continually prove that they can compete against some of the best schools in Northern Ireland.

As in previous years, four willing year 13 students were selected to take part in an engineering programme run by Sentinus. John Mills, Graham Caldwell, John Longwell and Ryan Curry had the opportunity to work with an Engineer from E&I Engineering as part of a three-day workshop at Jordanstown University. As a result of their efforts the team achieved a Gold Crest Award.

It was another busy and productive twelve months in the Technology and Design department. As in previous years students took part in the Bombardier Flight Experience and the IET Faraday Engineering Challenge but this was the first year that Foyle attended the Bombardier WISE Programme. This targets females who are interested in science & engineering with the hope to combat the gender stereotype associated with the aviation industry. This meant that fifteen year ten girls were given the opportunity to witness the production of a Bombardier aircraft as well as take a flight over the Mourne Mountains.

These are a but a few of the achievements attained in the past year and as I pass you over to Louis to highlight the many other experiences, I am already looking forward to the year ahead, the challenges to overcome and the achievements to celebrate, all of which wouldn’t be possible without the unstinting support of our teachers, to whom we can only pay our greatest gratitude.

Alison Maybin
Head Boy’s Speech

As Alison has already stated, a great school provides a host of extra-curricular activities in tandem with its educational responsibilities, and Foyle College has a reputation for offering students a multitude of activities.

Rugby continues to be a popular sport in the school, unfortunately, the senior 1st XV lost to Banbridge Academy, 3-0 in the 3rd round of the schools’ cup, and this disappointment was further reflected in the subsidiary competition in a loss to Sullivan. Nonetheless, winning 9 out of 16 matches during the course of the season was still a marvellous achievement that included an away win to Belfast Royal Academy. Something for Mr McCarter to smile about in his last season here at Foyle.

This year’s Captain Kyle Henderson was top point scorer whilst Ryan Curry and Steven Chi shared the accolade of being top try scorer, an incredible achievement for Steven who is a prop forward. Steven even managed to score a rarely seen hat trick against Coleraine Inst., a game that we went on to win 24-12 – no hard feelings Headmaster! The future 1st XV looks promising with pupils travelling to Scotland on the U14 rugby tour and remaining undefeated against top private schools like George Watson. Steven Mills represented the school during the summer as a member of the Ulster schools under 16 development squad and Niall Adair and Ben Christie trained with the under 17’s, aiming to follow in the footsteps of Neil Burns, who played another year of interprovincial rugby at Ulster U18 level.

The 1st XI cricket team had a disappointing season with expectations high from previous years. They only reached the quarterfinals of the schools cup after several postponed matches and rainy innings, with the 2nd XI eventually reaching the semifinals of their schools cup. Additionally, at junior level, the U13 team lost the final of their cup narrowly and the U14’s lost by 15 runs in their final. Although cricket is a team game, individuals continue to shine with Matthew Alford, Mervyn Magee, Dawson Crumley and Harry Waterstone all being selected for the North West U14 squad with Andrew Austin selected for Ireland U15’s. A special mention to Mr. Taylor, who has dedicated 35 years to 2nds rugby and cricket teams. He will be greatly missed.

The senior badminton team was narrowly defeated in the semi final of the schools cup whereas the junior team missed out on the semi final by only 1 point. However, Mervyn Magee got selected for Ulster U14 and U15 squads as well as the Ireland U13 training squad, showing lots of promise for the years to come.

Foyle college was well represented at the North West schools annual swimming gala this year, with the boys U14 team of Patrick Hughes, Rhys Hughes, Edward Gee and Scott Wylie performing swimmingly, coming 2nd and 3rd in the medley and freestyle medley respectively. Matthew Austin came 3rd in the U13 breaststroke whereas Rebekah Ferry and Rhys Hughes went one further and both came second in their respective categories in the U14 breaststroke. Edward Gee came 3rd in the U13 butterfly; Roise McSorley and Patrick Hughes were second in the girls
and boys U14 freestyle with Fraser Millen topping it off, finishing second in his U16 event. Yet again, the junior pupils of the school are showing the seniors where the talent lies.

175 pupils braved the elements on the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Scheme participating in bronze, silver and gold awards. I was one of the 30 6th form students completing their canoeing expedition during the summer holidays and it was such a memorable experience, perhaps enhanced by the uncommon appearance of some sunny weather in Northern Ireland. On behalf of the canoeists, I would like to say thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Hannaway, for giving up their holidays to watch us endure the open water for four days, and also, to Mr. Nutt and his team who continuously help us to update our logbooks.

Last year, the 16 gold award winners attended Hillsborough castle where the Duke was impressed with former pupil Laura McFaul and how her volunteering in Altnagelvin Hospital inspired her to study medicine. This is a great example of how the award scheme provides valuable skills and knowledge, in addition to precious memories.

Miss Elliot’s public speaking and debating team yet again proved successful in everything they entered. Regional winner Niamh Spence was runner-up in the Northern Ireland Soroptimist International public speaking competition. Her brother, Michael Spence, was nominated as best speaker after attending the individual debating final in Stormont. The debating team of Resham Qureshi and Sarah Morrison argued their way to the third round of the debating competition, a remarkable achievement given the number of teams that had entered.

Last year saw the formation of the new health committee, planning to encourage healthy lifestyles and eating. Twenty 6th year representatives raised £280 towards an MRI scanner to be installed in the Royal Belfast Hospital for sick children after a successful day of making smoothies. Victoria Cole won the come to Derry-Londonderry writing competition, winning £500 worth of art and book supplies for the school, and a kindle for herself.

Foyle College is an easily recognisable school in this small city, so pupils must always be on their best behaviour, none more so than the Combined Cadets Force who attend remembrance services and represent the school during the course of the year on several prominent occasions. Aside from this formality, ten cadets travelled to Bisley for one of the UK’s largest shooting competitions. Kyle Miller managed to make it on to 3 separate prize lists to strengthen the dominance of our cadets after Foyle won the Enniskillen Cup for best school in Northern Ireland. Aaron Feathers completed his gliding scholarship course with flying colours and Andrew Quinn completed his cadet leadership course.

As is already abundantly clear, the school offers a varied programme throughout the year and there are too many activities and achievements to mention in such a short speech. None of this would be possible however without the commitment and dedication of the teaching staff, who not only spend hours upon hours teaching us in class, but then take extra curricular activities, in their spare time after school and on Saturday mornings.

As a first year pupil, you may think teachers seem to only be concerned with homework and behaviour but between then and your final year, you start to appreciate the work that teachers do, not for themselves, but for you as a pupil. You start to recognise the value of their teaching that allows you to be prepared for life after Foyle College, and as the French writer Anatole France once said, “Nine tenths of education is encouragement”. This is a fitting statement and one that I feel best describes the teachers of this great school. The staff not only educate to the highest levels but make the school such an encouraging environment, willing us to do our absolute best in all aspects of school.
Therefore, both Alison and I want to say a word of sincere thanks to the teachers on behalf of the pupils, especially to those teachers who retired last year, all of whom gave so much to the school but also to those teachers who will assume their roles this year. The pupils would also like to welcome our new Headmaster, Mr. Allen, we wish you all the best of luck and hope to help you continue the success of this historic and famous school, for years to come. Thank you.

Louis Fields

Speech by Rosie Turner, Director of the Canterbury Festival, on the occasion of the presentation of prizes at Foyle College  13 September 2012

Headmaster, Students and distinguished guests.

Well – this is weird!!

Accustomed as I am to speechifying I must confess that tonight’s invitation has caused me considerable anxiety – in fact almost as much as my GCSE Maths…and that’s saying something. That C grade didn’t come easily you know!

I stand here in trepidation ….why is that?

Perhaps it’s the feeling that you’ll expect me to say something meaningful…something educational…..motivational….perish the thought even amusing ….that makes the sweat break on my forehead.

Perhaps it’s the somewhat bewildering (but considerable) honour to be invited to address you – my old school, my friends and my friends children ….that makes me quake in my sensible shoes.

Or perhaps it’s the fact that when I think of School I am immediately transported back to 1970 when I first charged down the corridors of Duncreggan running slap bang into Miss Christie – the tiny but ferocious Deputy Headmistress – who I knocked clean off her feet. And on Day one …not a very auspicious start!

But most of all I think it’s the feeling that somehow I should be sitting down there with you, the thought that instead of feeling 53 I still feel 16, and that frankly the idea that I can dispense words of wisdom to you is simply ludicrous. I’m not super successful, I’m not famous, I’m certainly not rich and when I was at school I wasn’t all that brainy. In fact I don’t think I ever won a prize in my life. So instead of words of wisdom, in the next 10 minutes, I’m going to try to share with you something of my 30 happy years of working in the Arts; something of what I learned along the way; and how I feel that I can attribute so much of who I am, what I am and where I am today, to the experiences and core values that I learned at Our School.

I attended Foyle from 1970 to 1977 – of course for 6 of those years it was all girls at Londonderry High School. I didn’t love it ….nor did I hate it – school was OK. Most of it was quite interesting, and it was very social and my friends were fantastic – I remain very close to many of them 40 years on.

I was completely undistinguished on the sports field – cowardly at hockey, enthusiastic but untalented at tennis and simply the wrong physical shape for volleyball. Even then……

I was however very good at reading aloud and both adored and could understand Shakespeare … but to be honest, my acting talents were dubious. My one leading role – playing Sir Oblong Fitz Oblong in that great classic The Thwarting of Baron Bolligrew was won more because of my stature (Oblong shaped) than for any psychological insight I brought to the part …well I was only 12. In cardboard armour wielding wooden sword I gave it my all …and little did I know it,
but slaying the dragon and thwarting the Baron represented my first steps on a career path in the Arts.

I had a few battles at school - indicative I suppose of the strong character I was forming. Being rather tall my skirt was always too short, and I was secretly delighted when my large feet allowed me to escape the hideous “regulation shoes”. Of course there were the usual skirmishes over wearing jewellery (not allowed) and not wearing our berets (compulsory) but generally the years passed fairly smoothly.

In no time at all, it was A levels (English, Geography and for some ridiculous reason Biology…not of course that there’s anything wrong with Biology as a subject but it certainly wasn’t for me, I should have done French – but as I would have been in Miss Christie’s class – yes she who I knocked for 6 on day one – it seemed best avoided.

With A levels came the amalgamation of the two schools – and boys. Yikes. Totally out of the blue I was appointed Head Girl. I later heard that Miss Christie had a hand in my choice. Well all I can say is that her nasty fall in the corridor in 1970 must have affected her judgement – or maybe she saw something in me that I didn’t see in myself. Secretly I’ve always believed that she thought it was better to have me on side than not – but whatever the reason, that position of Head Girl gave me a real confidence boost, and it was a role I felt I had to live up to and take responsibility for. Also I had to stop people running in the corridors ….so maybe she was just ramming that lesson home!

After school came a degree in Drama at the University of Wales in Aberystwyth. I learned a huge amount during my time at University – enough to get a good degree thankfully – but equally importantly I learned lots about people, living and working with others, taking care of myself, and living with the consequences of my actions. My course was interesting, but for me, there was no theatre as compelling as the dramas, love affairs, and domestic tragedies that university life comprised and I loved being in the thick of it.

To begin with, I was (for me!) actually pretty quiet and low key during my first year there. Looking back I realise I was a bit intimidated by all those bright, attractive (and to my mind ) rather posh people with English accents and double-barrelled names, who owned cars, some of whom took drugs, and altogether lived a racier life than I had come across back home. It was quite challenging to hold on to who I was and not to follow the pack or fall in with “unsuitable practices” to try to be popular. Gradually it all seemed to calm down – in some way to find a natural order in which I felt confident again and ultimately rather more grounded, in control and having a better time and making more friends than I ever imagined.

During my final year some of us formed a small Theatre Company and wrote a show which we took to the Edinburgh Fringe. Almost nobody came to see it – but we had a ball – and it convinced me that finding a job with something to do with performances, and audiences was definitely for me.

Sadly there was looming the alarming prospect of having to earn some money, as my hitherto very supportive parents made it pretty clear that having played hard at Aberystwyth at their expense, it was now time to stand on my own two feet.

And so I found myself appointed as the youngest ever lecturer in Northern Ireland teaching Personal Development through Drama to a wide range of students – many of whom had complex social and emotional issues. For some of them, the drama course was their last chance before a life of unwanted pregnancy, on the dole, or even in prison. It was a real eye-opener into “how the other half lives” and I certainly learned much more from the students than they ever learned from me. I often thought how lucky I was to have a solid education and home
life behind me, which most of them simply didn’t have, but it was incredibly rewarding to see how working on theatre projects helped to develop their self esteem and future prospects. Several of them went into professional theatre or television, and one became a successful playwright, but the majority found “normal” jobs and now send me photos of their kids via Facebook.

Recently I was getting on an aeroplane in Gatwick, when a young man leaned out of the window and shouted “Yes Rose – you taught me Speech and Drama!”

“Alan McLintock – what on earth are you doing messing about in that cockpit???”
Incredibly he was the pilot flying the plane!!!!!

Alan McLintock - the monosyllabic teenager whose parents were convinced would never amount to anything.

When we got the announcement “This is your Captain speaking” I was bursting with pride “That’s my boy!” I thought.

All in all, I taught Drama for 11 years in what is now called the Belfast MET and even at the time I realised how fortunate I was in having a job that could really make a difference to people’s lives.

Throughout my teaching career, I helped out each October as a volunteer for the Belfast Festival. As I’m sure most of you know, it’s an enormous Arts Festival which brings shows and famous performers from all over the world. This was a taste of the life to which I aspired – driving around Belfast with celebrities like Rowan Atkinson, Billy Connolly and Julian Clary, looking after Yoko Ono and taking Michael Palin out to dinner… yes really just me and him! Ironing Judi Dench’s costume, while she stood by in her underwear, or sharing a joke and a slice of cake with Jo Brand. Of course with these perks came considerable pressures, long hours, unreasonable demands and being on the receiving end of lots and lots of “artistic temperament”. One of the most important skills I learned there was how to make conversation ….with anyone about anything ….and also when to keep my mouth shut. I learned how to deal with divas and difficult customers, skills which I call upon constantly in my current job.

When a full time post became available at the Festival I left teaching and jumped at it – completely blagging my way into the position of Marketing Manager by virtue of my rampant enthusiasm and inside knowledge (gained through volunteering). It was a bit of an issue that I didn’t actually know anything about marketing – but hey – my confidence told me I could learn on the job.

I spent 12 more years working full time for the Belfast Festival. Initially I was responsible for Marketing, Press, Public Relations and Fundraising – and as the years went by I also began to take more responsibility for programming. By that I mean learning how to choose which acts to book each year. From my boss – who was a real details man – I learned the importance of balancing the finances and keeping meticulous records of arrangements and deals. Gradually I worked my way up the career ladder until I became the Deputy Director.

Having spent all my working life to this point in Belfast I decided that before I was too old I should venture across the water to seek a Festival Director’s post of my own. In 2003 I took on the Canterbury Festival – a rather old fashioned, mainly classical music festival in a sleepy corner of Kent. With the confidence that only an outsider can get away with in a new place I immediately re-branded it as Kent’s International Arts Festival and set about trying to modernise its image, liven up the programme, and attract more funding and younger audiences. In many ways Kent is years behind Northern Ireland in terms of its arts infrastructure, and for the first time I found that I actually did know what I was talking about! There was no need to blag any
more – but I certainly had to work very hard to drag historic Canterbury and its festival into the 21st century.

I’ve been in Canterbury for 9 years now and having learned to speak about success without coyness, I’m pleased to tell you that it’s going pretty well. I lead a happy team of 7 full time staff and the Festival produces 200 events in a fortnight each October. We have almost 1000 members or Friends of the Festival and we are one of only 9 arts organisations in Kent funded on a 3 year basis by the Arts Council. I’m proud that our turnover this year is nudging £1 million pounds so that’s tripled from what it was when I took over in 2003.

Last year I was honoured to become the first woman to Chair the British Arts Festivals Association – which is the national body for arts festivals in the UK …..and this October will be my 31st consecutive year of working in some capacity for a Festival. From humble volunteer to Festival Director - It took me 20 years but I got there in the end and had a lot of fun along the way.

Let’s hope that it’s not going to be downhill from now on!

I’m joking (I hope) but that’s the potted history of my career. Now comes the difficult bit – when I have to sum up for you what I’ve learned – and hopefully leave you with some food for thought regarding your own hopes and dreams. So here goes…..

As the character Polonius says in Hamlet “Above all, to thine own self be true”. Despite the fact that Polonius is a terrible old windbag – this is very good advice which I have tried to adopt. Sometimes you can even learn good stuff from unlikely sources!

I’ve talked a bit about confidence and I set a lot of store by the fact that I’ve only ever just been Me – I have been true to myself. I haven’t tried to reinvent myself, to make out that I am cleverer, more sophisticated or in any way “cooler” that I am. Like I’ve never been thin, I’ve never been cool, so most of the time I feel fairly comfortable and free of all that pressure that comes from worrying about what other people think of me. That doesn’t mean I don’t care what impression I make – I really do - and ever since that day when I became Head Girl, I have always tried to behave appropriately in every situation both social and professional. So thank you again Miss Christie for teaching me that lesson.

What do they say …you can take the girl out of Derry/Londonderry but you cant take Derry out of the girl. I am enormously proud of where I come from, of having been to Foyle and or Londonderry High School. Irrespective of what name you give to this city or this school, it doesn’t change the fantastic life benefits which they both offered me. Ok so all over the world our city is known by the media – and not always seen in the best light. But we as Northern Irish people have the chance to be ambassadors for the true story – the fact that being Northern Irish is synonymous with “great craic” a sense of humour, a love of language and music, and I’ve found that has been an international passport to friendship when I have been travelling all over the world. So thank you to my home City.

School allowed me to form my own opinions and practice expressing them. It taught me not to be daunted if I didn’t know or understand something – but rather to go and find out the answers for myself. It allowed me to experience the arts, and introduced me to fascinating and colourful teachers like Audrey Sweeney, Denzil Stewart, Art Byrne and Hazel Cathcart who inspired me through literature, poetry, drama but mainly through their own personalities. I learned from them how to use my character, my enthusiasm, to inspire and engage others – when I was teaching, when I am seeking sponsorship for my Festival or when I am leading my staff team. School taught me to love learning – and that learning is a life-long activity. So thank you School – you’ve played a big part in making me who I am.
Now in conclusion – which of my lessons do I recommend to you?

I would like to tell you to

Be proud of who you are and where you come from.

Choose your friends carefully and treat them well.

Try to identify what genuinely interests you – somehow it doesn’t matter quite so much if the working hours are long and the pay is poor if you are doing a job that you love and can be enthusiastic about.

Take control of your own destiny and don’t expect others to make things happen for you or good fortune to simply fall in your lap.

Make the best of your life – irrespective of the hand you are dealt. There will be ups and downs, success and failure, lucky breaks and knockbacks – try to stay positive. If a plan doesn’t work out – make another plan.

Seize every opportunity, be adventurous and step out of your comfort zone. Travel if you get the chance, be interested in other people and learn from every situation.

Don’t waste your time. Live life to the max, and enjoy it as much as you can.

Now finally - If you remember one thing only from this speech, please remember this.

“This life is not a rehearsal – this is the gig” – Make it a Great One!

I wish you all the very best and happy and successful lives.

Thank you.

Rosie Turner
Staff Retirements
Mr Jack Magill - Headmaster

Foyle has always promoted extra-curricular activities, especially sport. As you know, soccer is a gentleman’s game played by thugs as against rugby as a thugs game played by gentlemen. I assume you know that cricket is a gentleman’s game played by gentlemen and I’ll let you make up your own minds about fencing.

Despite that, fencing has really taken off in Foyle, under Jack Magill’s watchful eye and we can now boast of many champions among our past and present students.

His 18 years of headship has seen many changes, both in Foyle and in the wider educational scene. 18 years ago, we still had a prep department, school finances were extremely healthy and we admitted 130 pupils into year 8 through a state sponsored test. Now, the prep has closed, we now admit 125 pupils using an independent testing mechanism and although the overall economic situation seems dire, our school can still operate with a balanced budget – just.

Shortly after he arrived, the thought of relocation first raised its head and after many false starts and unwarranted delays, we eventually arrived at a point a few years ago when we saw some light. He took a very proactive approach to the design and the draft innovative plans we have today are very much down to his personal involvement. Despite speculation about Foyle amalgamating and the name disappearing and others claiming Foyle will never relocate, the design we have will be realised on the Limavady Road and Foyle College as we know it will see 2017 and beyond.

His drive and enthusiasm for education in Foyle and the wider Northern Ireland arena never dimmed, despite the efforts, which are still ongoing, to dim down our grammar sector. I know his participation in lobbying, especially at Westminster, prior to the formation of AQE, was incredibly helpful and much appreciated.

When Jack Magill arrived as Headmaster of Foyle College, some 18 years ago, the headline in the newspaper of 1st September 1994 read, “Jack starts school today”. I wonder will a headline appear on the 1st September 2012 stating, “Jack starts the rest of his life, today”.

Jack, if you find, in a few years time that you need a fresh challenge, I know a local company that may have a vacancy for a master whiskey distiller. Seriously, thank you for all you have done for the school, for your friendship and I wish you many years of happy retirement from life at the coalface.

Robin Young

Mr Robin Young and Mrs Mildred Deans with Mr Jack Magill on his retirement.
Mrs Elizabeth Adair

Liz began her career in Foyle back in 1977. To put that date into perspective, the Christmas number one was Mull of Kintyre and the big movie blockbuster was Saturday Night Fever.

During her time at Foyle Liz enjoyed some fantastic moments; in particular seeing her students achieve amazing success both at GCSE and A Level which helped many students achieve their goal of reaching university. She also shared some special moments with her own family during her time here: watching her boys on sports day (and cheering like any proud mother), listening to them play in school musical performances and seeing them become prefects and even Head Boy. A very proud moment I’m sure.

During Liz’s career she became Head of Department, Head of Year 13 and was also at a time responsible for the school magazine. She really has made a great contribution to school during her time with us.

I first met Liz when I came to Foyle as a pupil in 1988. I enjoyed Religious Studies so much I decided to study the subject at GCSE, A Level and at university. When I look back at my time at Foyle as a pupil, the best memories I have are from my A Level classes which Liz taught. Liz was not only a great teacher but had a warm and welcoming relationship with her students. I have very fond memories of having many a debate over tea and biscuits during a triple lesson last thing on a Friday.

On my own return to Foyle as a teacher I found Liz was the same caring and supportive person who had encouraged me during my time as a pupil. Liz is not only a great teacher, Head of Department and compassionate Head of Year but also one of the nicest people you could ever wish to meet. During the 24 years I have known Liz, I can barely remember a time when she was angry or even in a bad mood! I think everyone will miss her smiling face and positive attitude in the staffroom.

On behalf of everybody I just want to wish you a speedy recovery from your knee operation, I hope you enjoy spending more time with Alan who I know has also recently retired, and with Christopher and Scott and maybe now you will have more opportunities to visit Mark in Australia. Liz you will be very much missed by myself and everyone else, the RS department will not be the same without you and I wish you all the happiness for the future.

Jacqueline Allen
Mrs Jacqueline Allen presenting Mrs Liz Adair with flowers on her retirement.

Dr Pat Carson

The retirement of Pat Carson has deprived Foyle of one of its most distinct characters and dedicated workers. ‘Doc’ Carson to generations of Foyle pupils was an inspirational teacher of Physics who enjoyed nothing better than going ‘off piste’ to provoke thought and stimulate discussion. For many, including myself, this is not digression, it is inspiration. It is what teaching is all about, not a list of competences to be checked but the ability to translate the preoccupations of the day to match the syllabus to be examined. The search for relevance is often cited by education reformers as the key to success but good teachers have always had the knack of taking their classes down that path guided by enjoyment as much as the need to cover the material.

Beyond the classroom Pat Carson served Foyle in nearly all the capacities open to him. His particular talents lay in organisation and creating patterns of work. To this he added an appetite for hard work and unstinting use of his time. In his ultimate role as Curriculum Vice-Principal he used the accumulation of years of experience to organise the teaching across the school drawing on his years of timetabling to understand the most efficient way of using teachers’ time and the best way to minimise the disadvantages of a split site. This was no mean feat and in recent times meant that he had to resist the pressures of sacrificing what works for Foyle to the desire to collaborate with other schools.

Committed as he was to the out-workings of his job the hardest thing for Pat was to relinquish a responsibility once he had assumed it. This meant that his workload constantly grew as he accumulated more roles. In his last year he took on the role of Head of Middle School in succession to Mr Goodman. He did this to assist with reorganisation of management responsibilities despite being fully aware of the scale of the task. There was no sense of ‘winding down’ in his final year! The success of Year 12 in GCSE is a fitting tribute to how well he fulfilled the role.

The fact that his successors in the Science Department, in timetabling and in the planning of the curriculum have the advantage of being inducted into their roles before having to assume them is no accident. Pat was keen to ensure that teachers in Foyle should know why things were done the way they were, rather than just being told to get on with it. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the use of Information Technology in Foyle. The universal application of IT in all aspects of teaching and learning was always the aim of his planning, and limitations of funding, rooming and the technophobia of colleagues (not least the Headmaster) were overcome with patience and enormous input of Pat’s own time for which we should all be grateful.

In retirement I am sure that computers and cars will figure in his preoccupations and we all congratulate him on reaching this retirement after a job well done.

Jack Magill
Mr Jim Heasley

It is my great pleasure, both professional and personal, to pay tribute to the immense contribution to Foyle college made by Jim over the last 27 years. I first met Jim in February 1995 when on my appointment as Vice-Principal, he was assigned to be my unofficial mentor for a period, until I found my feet. He immediately struck me as a person of integrity, friendliness and sensitivity, and our friendship has blossomed and developed since those early days.

A native of County Down, Jim attended Newry Grammar School where he excelled not only academically but also on the hockey pitch, playing on a very successful Birney Cup team which reached the Ulster Schools’ Final. From there he proceeded to the University of Hull where he obtained an honours degree in History and his PGCE. His university days are somewhat shrouded in mystery, but sources assure me that he was a bit of a radical, taking part in a student sit-in; a photograph of him from that era would tend to confirm this - he could easily be mistaken for a member of the Baader- Meinhof organisation - what a difference four decades make!

After Hull, Jim took up teaching posts in Lincolnshire and Middlesborough, and after 15 years in England he returned to the province, to replace the late Cecil Bryans as Head of History at Foyle. Prior to that, he met his future wife Sheila at a dance in Portadown; they married in 1977, and daughter Amanda came along in 1981.

As Head of Department, Jim was a scholar of the highest order, being particularly effective with his Sixth Form classes who were quick to appreciate his mastery of his subject delivered in an informal yet rigorously demanding style. When required, he managed difficult departmental and personnel issues with diplomacy, tolerance and the patience which many saints would envy.

Outside the classroom, Jim was active in many areas. He kick-started Foyle’s involvement in the Bar Mock Trial Competition - now a major element of our extra-curricular provision, and has been central in the development of the Inishowen and Siege Trail field trips for junior school history pupils. To his work with the Sixth Form Council he has brought in a fresh, even brave, culture of autonomy, democracy and openness to new ideas.

In many respects, Jim Heasley encapsulates much of what is best about Foyle, and he, as much as any other individual, has helped to forge and maintain our ideals of tolerance, humanity and genuine interest in the welfare and potential of each student. His calming, judicious, gentlemanly presence will be greatly missed in the classroom and the staffroom, but we wish him and his family a healthy, long and happy retirement. Personally, I hope that, now with more time on our hands, we will be able to meet regularly for coffee, and continue to put to rights the city, the province, the world and perhaps even the school!

I’ll leave the final words of this report to Mrs Melanie Dougherty, who writes....

In his time at Foyle, Mr Heasley has always ensured History and Citizenship were to the fore in the curriculum and extra-curricular life of the school. He educated the sixth form about voting rights and encouraged them to take an active interest in politics, particularly in their local area. Mr Heasley will be missed by all members of the Foyle staff and by the pupils he has ably assisted in their academic and extra-curricular pursuits over the past 27 years. I wish him all the best in his retirement and I am glad to say that we will still see him around the school in the future as he continues to work in the archive room compiling the history of the school.
“It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a [department] in possession of a good [reputation], must be in want of an [outstanding teacher].” And so it was, that for the English Department of Foyle and Londonderry College, 1977 to 2012 were indeed to be the years of jubilee. Following a successful teaching practice in Foyle and Londonderry College, Valerie Lyttle (née Gardiner) began her long career as a teacher of English in the Grammar School, with time also spent in the History and Preparatory Departments.

What have been the highlights of Valerie Lyttle’s reign? Anyone who can reflect over the past thirty-five years will know that during that time she has literally and metaphorically run a marathon and run well. Many can testify unequivocally to Valerie’s competent, conscientious classroom teaching, her expertise at Key Stage 1 right through to Key Stage 5, with the children from 4 to 18 valuing the clarity of her explanations, her preparation, her patience and, of course, she has always been noted for her beautiful handwriting, so distinctive, always so legible...

Valerie’s commitment to extra-curricular activities has been immeasurable and over the years has included:– Junior School Debating, Senior School Debating, Public Speaking, being Housemistress of Northlands, coaching the U13 and U14 hockey teams, hockey tours and supporting the 1st X1 girls every Saturday morning. She coordinated and directed the annual Form Three plays. We also recall the creativity of a costume mistress, whilst sporting her own colourful and carefully created handknitted jumpers, as well as her willingness to accompany pupils on French, ski and university trips, not forgetting her contribution to the school as a governor.

As HOY in particular, her care and compassion for middle-school pupils were valued in her pastoral role, where Valerie’s patience and her understanding have been exemplary. Her gentle manner has never been interpreted as weakness; her firmness and forbearance seen as great strengths within this true lady.

We can all recount her countless kindnesses to us, her colleagues, over the years. Unforgettable were her end-of-term banquets in Deanfield when the staff were invited to enjoy a splendid array of culinary delights, such as Nut Wellington and her poached pears in spiced red wine.

However, on a personal note, Valerie is the only existing member of the English Department who was here when I started, so as a colleague and Head of Department, I have innumerable reasons why I am indebted to her. Not least was her motherly care for me when I first came to Derry and crossed the River Bann. Together we have grappled with numerous specifications, wrestled with the rigours of various exam boards, whilst, with many of a certain age, been applauded for adapting to new ICT technologies, which we have imported, exported, accessed and where we have excelled!

What a tribute to Valerie that her three children inherited her love of literature and excelled in A level English, a reflection of her own enthusiasm for reading and her widely-acclaimed status as an ambassador for our subject!

Undeniably Valerie has never been a Mrs Do-Lyttle; rather a Lyttle who will leave a rather large hole in our department and the wider school community. Nevertheless, she can look forward to a well-earned, relaxing, but knowing her, probably action-packed, energetic, fun and family-filled retirement. After
thirty-five years, Valerie has attained the “green light”, whilst her younger colleagues, in Foyle College, in the final words of The Great Gatsby, will have to “beat on, [as] boats against the current.”

Alison Mercer

Mr Peter Gault and Mrs Alison Mercer with Mrs Valerie Lyttle on her retirement.

Mr Gerald McCarter

Gerald McCarter spent all but one year of his teaching career in Foyle College. A former pupil at the school, he excelled at rugby and cricket as a schoolboy and this interest in sport led him to study Physical Education at Loughborough, where his contemporaries included Clive Woodward – now Sir Clive, following England’s 2003 World Cup victory. On his return Gerald worked for one year in Faughan Valley High School before returning to Foyle.

During his long career there were many changes in the demands made on teachers, yet one constant remained; every Saturday Foyle rugby and cricket teams played at Springtown or at away matches at one of the province’s sporting schools. There were many highlights including three consecutive wins in the Ulster School’s Cricket Cup, as well as other victories in this prestigious tournament. While Foyle remain winless in the Ulster School Rugby Cup since 1915, there were two victories in the Ulster School’s Bowl, two Cup semi-finals and numerous quarter-final appearances. Under Gerald’s coaching many players went on to win provincial and international honours in rugby and cricket, including Gerald’s son Richard, who represented Ulster and Ireland at various age group levels. Recent success would have to include Graeme McCarter (no relation) who went from helping Foyle to win the Cricket School’s Cup and Rugby School’s Bowl to a professional cricket contract with Gloucestershire. None of this would be possible without hours of work on the coaching ground and further hours of phoning, faxing and emailing to arrange fixtures, transport and logistics. Following the inaugural Southern Hemisphere rugby tour in 2002, which was led by Stan Huey, Gerald took over as tour leader and further visits to Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and Dubai took place in 2005, 2008 and 2011. Once more this required considerable work on raising funds, organising over 40 boys and giving up three weeks of precious summer holiday. Cricket tours took place every year, with the area around Chester and The Wirral being a favourite destination.

Away from the sports field Gerald taught Junior History and became heavily involved in the pastoral system, culminating in his appointment as Assistant Head of Junior School, working with firstly Jean Wilson and latterly John McNee to ensure that the Springtown campus of Foyle College was a safe and enjoyable place for young people to learn and take part in extra-curricular activities. He did a great deal to promote a sense of responsibility and his common sense approach kept a lot of students in education who might otherwise have lost their way. Christmas will not be the same without Gerald’s Staff Christmas dinner, which did a great deal for staff morale as we approached the end of a long term.

Like many experienced teachers in Northern Ireland Gerald received an offer he couldn’t refuse and so his 45 year association with the school as a pupil, teacher and parent has come to an end. He will not miss the constant stream of initiatives or the phone calls from concerned parents, though we do expect to see him at Springtown on the odd Saturday morning, watching a school rugby or cricket match and sharing his thoughts with the current coaches, who are building on the solid foundations and principles established by Gerald over the last 35 years.
Mr John McNee

Although it hardly bears comparison with 2012 and the loss of seven senior academic staff, 1994 was nevertheless a year of significant change. Hugh Gillespie who had been Headmaster for 21 years retired, and John Magowan, the Senior Vice Principal, was promoted to be Principal of the (then) Clondermott. The timing of change is often more challenging than the personnel, and as the new Headmaster I found myself with the urgent need to appoint a new Vice Principal as almost my first task. In addition to the extra work which was shouldered by the two remaining Vice Principals, Lewis Lacey and Jean Wilson, there was the inevitable nervousness in the Staff Room about having two new faces in top jobs! The recruitment set the pattern for all subsequent interviews and the result brought John McNee, an Old Boy of the school, back from exile in Belfast.

A feature of John’s interview had been the fierce loyalty which he had for his old school and the appetite he brought to a return to Londonderry life. These characteristics remain eighteen years later as the driving force of his involvement with not only the school but the wider community. Over these years I am pleased to say that he added a further dimension, a personal loyalty to me as Headmaster, for which I remain profoundly grateful.

I have often conceded that in the role of schoolmaster, John McNee fits the bill more fully than I have ever done myself. He was passionate about his class teaching, whether in French, Latin or Classical Civilisation, and always concerned about the progress of his pupils even during his last, extended leave of absence. But loyalty and a passion for the classics inevitably came into conflict when Foyle, much to John’s disappointment, abandoned the teaching of Latin to all first year pupils. He noted at a meeting of the Senior Management Team that for the first time in nearly 400 years no Latin was heard in the classrooms of Foyle! Everyone knew that this was not a choice which John would have made but I mention it here to show how, once the decision had been arrived at, John accepted his role in the collective responsibility of the Senior Staff and made no difficulty in assisting with the new timetable arrangements which directly impacted on his area of personal responsibility, Springtown.

Such forbearance grew from John’s overriding priority which was to serve the school to the best of his ability, and this he did despite some radical changes to his role from Head of Sixth to Senior Vice Principal in charge of the Junior School. To follow such a vivid personality as Jean Wilson in that office was never going to be easy, but John worked to establish his own approach to the job and his own style with the pupils. That style was based on a personal touch which was never patronising but always compassionate and measured. Again this was an area on which I relied upon John’s discretion, recognising that he was better suited to dealing with staff, parents and pupils, often in difficult or emotional situations, than I would have been.

After experiencing such support and concern, staff trusted John in times of difficulty and recognised his good intentions in all his dealings with them. That trust was born of the conviction that John would always behave with the utmost propriety when entrusted with a confidence. I can honestly say I never heard him utter a deprecatory remark about a colleague in all the years of our association. At his appraisal each year his staffing dispositions would be reviewed, and regularly gained the endorsement of Governors. It was a fundamental part of what makes Foyle, Foyle.

Such care and commitment often comes at a cost and in recent years John’s health became problematic. The opportunity for a well-earned rest presented itself this year and wisely, he took it. In the peace and quiet of
retirement I know there will be writing opportunities and new seas to sail. We wish him well and trust the example he set for generations of Foyle pupils will endure - the example of a true gentleman.

Jack Magill

Norman Taylor has been associated with Foyle College, in one way or another, for almost all of his life. He was a pupil of the school from 1963 to 1970, before gaining entry to the University of Reading, where he took a degree in Mathematics. After graduating, he was employed as a temporary teacher of Mathematics at Foyle, before completing his teacher training at Stranmillis College in Belfast. From there, he was offered a permanent position back in his old school and so began a long and distinguished teaching career at Foyle College.

Norman was the consummate professional. He hardly missed a day throughout his entire teaching career and could be seen most mornings marking books or preparing lessons, well before the start of school, or working with pupils over break or lunchtime. Always willing to do whatever was demanded of him, Norman never complained if he had to teach a difficult class, or make extra travels between sites, or even teach a different course, as was the case early on in his career, when he found himself instructing boys in Technical Design and Graphic Communication. He was meticulous in everything that he was asked to do, whether it was marking exam papers for school or CCEA, serving as chairman of the Old Boys’ Association or attending to heath and safety issues around the school. Attention to detail and a capacity for hard work served him well, when it came to providing organisational support for any school function.

Norman has also contributed fully to the extra-curricular life of the school. As a keen sports enthusiast himself, he happily gave much of his time to school games, coaching rugby and cricket teams, refereeing matches, assisting with overseas tours and organising skiing trips abroad. Indeed, in his early years at Foyle when teaching was more leisurely, he was a regular and skilful member of staff teams who competed against other schools in a range of sports. He still, of course, turns out every Friday afternoon for staff football, where his competitive spirit remains undiminished. Beyond his sporting interests, Norman enjoyed helping out with school shows, in whatever role he was needed most – working behind the scenes, singing in the chorus or being one of the supporting cast. Such events provided ample opportunity for socialising with the other staff and Norman enlivened many an occasion with his understated humour and gentle bonhomie; he was good company on nights out because he was always himself. In fact, he often took responsibility for organising social events for the staff and many of our memorable occasions may not have happened without him.

Norman Taylor’s contribution to this school over the past thirty eight years has been immense and is unlikely to be surpassed for quite some time. He has made a lasting impression on the pupils whom he taught and the colleagues with whom he worked, and I count it a privilege to have known him throughout my own teaching career. Undoubtedly he will miss teaching but we are sure that he will use his time profitably to develop new interests and to indulge his love of travel. We wish him, and his wife Paula, a long and fulfilling retirement.
Mr Robert Astbury

Robert retired from Foyle College on 31st August 2012 having worked for the school as a caretaker/building supervisor since August 1984 some 28 years ago.

In previous employment Robert had been an operator in Du Pont before taking on the role as caretaker in Riverview (Abercorn Road). John Magowan approached Robert in July 1984 letting him know that the role of Caretaker was coming up at Foyle & Londonderry College following the retirement of Frank Smith, and the rest is history.

From the day and hour that Robert came to Foyle he not only gave his total commitment to the role of caretaker but he totally immersed himself in facilitating and taking part in the extra-curricular life of the school. Robert was associated with the CCF in Foyle for many years and held many of the major ranks and positions whilst in the organisation. Many staff and pupils who have gone through the school owe Robert a huge debt of gratitude for all the additional hours of time he put into this over the years. If he wasn’t out with the cadets at the weekend Robert would be taking walking tours out to the top of some mountain. The West Highland Way was also a favourite of his which would involve walking nearly 100 miles over 4 days from Milngavie (outside Glasgow) to Fort William in the Highlands. Robert’s knowledge of the terrain and countryside were legendary.

Everyone involved in extra-curricular activities in Foyle College called upon Robert’s help and support at some stage. Robert drove the minibus the length and breadth of the UK, often at short notice. Whether it was a fencing trip going to Sheffield, the Jazz Band going to a ‘Gig’, a hockey team needing a lift to training/match, the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award needing help with transport, a rugby/cricket team needing left somewhere for a match, it was Robert who was always on hand to help out.

Robert we will all miss you for your friendship and support. Have a long and healthy retirement.

Neil Stewart
Mrs Mildred Deans

One consequence of a new Headmaster arriving at a school is that the settled order of the staffing receives a shake up. For no particular reason associated with the new person everyone reassesses their own position and, as a consequence, very often a series of further changes ensues. Here I am reflecting on 1994 rather than 2012 and my own experience. Certainly one of the first conversations I had with Mildred as the Head’s PA was that she felt for her it might be time for a new job. This was not something I looked forward to as the team around me, the administrative and Senior Staff had the one quality which I clearly lacked, a profound knowledge of Derry.

After a few months when nothing had happened, I tentatively raised the subject and received the reply that in her opinion with the change of Headmaster, she HAD a new job! I suppose I should not have been surprised at that. Everyone in Foyle in 2012 is now having to assimilate the change to Mr Allen. It isn’t just a question of style, and it is no criticism of the former regime, but each person brings a whole different approach to the job of Headmaster and inevitably that affects everyone in the organisation. The trick is to understand the nature of the change and its implications, and react appropriately.

Mildred certainly grasped the essentials of my way of working and I found it useful to encourage her input rather than creating a ‘speak when spoken to’ regime. I like to think that applied to the other senior staff but the closeness of the working relationship between a Headmaster and their PA means well intentioned straight talking should be seen as an asset. The other key part of the relationship is what I would characterise as a ‘no blame’ culture. If something goes wrong then whoever can, fixes it, and a lesson is learnt. Pursuing blame is rarely constructive. In this I think I was lucky that Mildred and I share this approach and I like to think it filtered down through the school. Fear of rebuke is a poor management tool.

Like her successor, Mildred had made the most of serving Foyle in a number of roles prior to becoming Head’s PA. That knowledge of the mechanics of the school administration and the insight into her colleagues working preferences meant that Mildred became the touchstone for many queries which were not strictly her responsibility. With a change of Bursar and Assistant Bursar, this was even more important because Mildred inherited the role of Clerk to the Governors. Meant to be a stop gap, she soon became indispensable to the Chairman of Governors and she continued in this vital role until on her retirement the responsibility reverted to the Bursar.

The other group who would find an accurate and prompt answer to their enquiries was prospective parents. With the advent of the AQE test this role had at first to be defined and then to be rationalised. A great deal of change both from the Department of Education and the new AQE Ltd meant that no one quite knew the rules so it was a great tribute to Mildred’s attention to detail that people got the right advice, and as far as possible a straightforward explanation of why things worked as they did. This meant that much time was saved on chasing misunderstandings or unwarranted appeals.
Nor were pupils overlooked in Mildred’s wider view of the school, I think for the simple reason that she always knew that they were what the school was really all about, and as a parent of two Old Boys she remembered her own experiences watching from the side lines as a young person developed into adulthood. This didn’t end when they left Foyle as many Former pupils relied on Mildred to provide information or act as a point of contact, even many years after they had left school.

Mildred Deans will be missed by Foyle College in many ways which may only become apparent with the passage of time. Mr Young as Chair of Governors once said to me that his ‘nightmare scenario’ was that Mildred and I would retire at the same time. I suspected at the time that he was being polite to me in not suggesting that Mildred would be the greater loss. Now that has come to pass, I don’t see any need for nightmares but I am certain that Mildred will be missed more widely and deeply than the Headmaster she served so loyally and efficiently for 18 years!

Jack Magill

Ann retired from Foyle College on 31st August 2012. Prior to joining the school, Ann worked at Leckpatrick Creamery for nine years in a secretarial/wages clerk role before being previously employed by Motorway Tyres and Hunter’s Bakery. Ann married David in March 1976 and soon after this John and Carol Ann were born in quick succession. This saw Ann become a housewife up to February 1990 when both herself and David came to the City where David had been newly appointed the caretaker at Foyle College Senior School.

Ann soon became an employee of the school also (September 1990), taking on the role of classroom assistant initially followed by reprographics technician and then the role we all know her for as School Secretary in the Junior School from September 1995.

During Ann’s time as School Secretary in Foyle she has seen many pupils and parents come through the doors, and they all know they will get a sympathetic ear and sound advice and assistance from Ann no matter what they are looking for. Is it testament to Ann that all the pupils that go through the Junior School speak very affectionately of her, and she is invariably the one name that comes up time and time again for special mention and praise. Not only has Ann carried out all that has been asked of her over the years (and much more) she has especially prided herself on the pastoral role that came so naturally to her. Ann knew every child that came to the office by their first name and would soon establish where a little extra care and attention was required from time to time.

We would like to pass on our best wishes to Ann on her retirement after 22 years of service to the school, and the place won’t be the same without you. We wish you a long and healthy retirement Ann and enjoy your grandchildren growing up over the coming years.

Neil Stewart
Mr David Loughery

David retired from Foyle College on 31\textsuperscript{st} August 2012 having worked for the school as a caretaker/building supervisor since February 1990.

David didn't initially hail from these parts and was born and brought up in Drumaduff Road, Limavady. David's early working life was as a milkman where he started a run in January 1970 which he sold some 20 years later in 1990. This was because he had been appointed as Caretaker in Foyle & Londonderry College and this necessitated a move to be resident on site. There were mixed feelings at this point as David had spent his whole life in Limavady but he uprooted himself, Ann and their children for a new challenge and life in Londonderry. Going from a small farming community where everyone knew each other was difficult at the start but David's outgoing personality and nature would mean building a new group of friends would prove no difficulty.

From the first day David settled into the role easily and soon felt at home here. He quickly made friends with staff and pupils alike especially Dr. Carson and Mr. Given. David has been a most dedicated and loyal member of our staff over the years and has assisted in many parts of our Extended Schools Activities in addition to his day to day work.

David has been a fountain of knowledge over the years and if any of us were in any doubt about something school related a quick word with him would soon keep us right. I will miss David for his conversation, support and loyalty that he has given over the years, and wish to thank him most sincerely for all his years of service to the school. Have a long and healthy retirement David.

Neil Stewart
Mrs Lesley Morgan

Lesley joined the support staff at Foyle in 1992. She set up a new reprographics facility since the photocopying of student notes, extracts from books, past examination papers, etc. had become the norm. It was decided that one person should be responsible for this rather than individual staff since the latter caused technical problems with the machines and failed to keep proper records of the number of items copied. Lesley undertook this most efficiently but after a few years was to make the next of several changes of role within the senior school. She moved to library supervision which gave her increasing contact with pupils rather than staff.

When the numbers of sixth form students with free periods increased and the library could no longer cope, it was decided to set up a study hall for the Year 13 pupils. Again Lesley's role changed when she undertook the management of this study hall which could incorporate up to eighty pupils. This was a daunting task for any single member of staff but she rose to the challenge.

Lesley oversaw the refurbishment of the study hall with new carpeting, individual study carrels, comfortable chairs, sets of reference books and even art on the walls. It became a much more conducive working environment but still required a firm hand to oversee it. Lesley’s undoubted contribution to the academic success of the senior students was her ability to transform Year 12 pupils who had never experienced a free period to Year 13 students with considerable free time but little understanding about how to use it fruitfully. By the end of September even the most indolent of students realised that quiet application to private study was preferable to annoying Mrs Morgan and being transferred to a pole position in front of her desk.

The academic staff very much appreciated the role that Lesley has provided through the induction of the senior students to appropriate study skills. This sentiment is reflected by the students even if not always evident. Lesley has experienced a few difficult years during which she took time away from the school to look after her elderly parents and was welcomed back after this period of absence. Although a member of staff for 21 years, her association goes back much longer. Her mother worked in the office at Lawrence Hill; along with her sisters she came through Londonderry High School as a pupil; her late
husband was Head Boy of Foyle College and her three children all progressed through Foyle and Londonderry College.

Lesley says she will miss the rapport with staff and pupils and appreciated the support shown by many during her periods of personal difficulty. She will miss the beautiful grounds at both schools and the banter from the pupils and their ability to “tell fibs!” Retirement will give her a well-deserved opportunity to see more of her family in Scotland and Chile as well as time to relax and enjoy her caravan at Marble Hill. We wish Lesley a long and happy retirement. You will be a hard act to follow!

William Lynn

Mr Neil Stewart presenting Mrs Lesley Morgan with flowers on her retirement

Mr Norman Smyth

Norman retired on 31st August 2012 having worked with the College as a Groundsman since June 1968. Norman has seen many staff come and go over the years and has worked through many changes such as the amalgamation with Londonderry High School. When counting he has seen off at least sixteen different grounds staff, eight caretakers and three Headmasters!

Techniques for ground preparation and maintenance have certainly changed over the years. Gone are the days when the hockey pitches were marked by hand using a bucket of white wash or when the lines on the rugby pitches were dug using a spade.

Norman has become a very familiar sight especially with visiting sports teams and their staff would often remark upon Norman and the number of years he has been with us. Norman has been a most loyal and dedicated member of our staff and we will certainly miss him. Saturdays won’t be the same when we were used to seeing Norman set up for rugby in the autumn and winter or cricket in the summer. There would always be a story about what was happening in the City, the weather or Manchester United.

The familiar sight of Norman arriving for work on his bicycle gave way to a taxi in more recent times. This was due to a few health issues with Norman breaking his leg and then going through major heart surgery.

We would all like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Norman for all his years of loyal service to the school and wish him a long and healthy retirement.

Neil Stewart
Isobel joined the catering staff of Foyle in September 1980 having been successfully interviewed by Mrs Gordon. The canteen system at that time was very different from the cafeteria system at present. All pupils assembled for lunch and stood at their assigned tables until grace was delivered by the member of staff on duty. Prefects and senior pupils acted as servers for the assorted younger pupils at their tables. There was no choice of food and the menu varied little from week to week. There was considerable food wastage in contrast with today’s system. Isobel was in the forefront of the new cash cafeteria system where all pupils queued for a choice of food and paid accordingly for their selection. Isobel had a great rapport with staff and students alike and when they overspent their budget, she entered the offenders name into her little “book of debtors”. Thereafter they would be challenged with the well practised words “you owe me money” until the debt was cleared.

When travel between schools became fraught with ever increasing traffic, the governors agreed to pay a member of the catering staff in each school to provide break time refreshments for the staff, Isobel undertook that role in Duncreggan and for the past fifteen years she carried a great tower of scones from the kitchen to the staffroom up some 52 steps and then made tea and coffee in time for break. She always had a smile and friendly greeting for everyone but became irritated when cups or teaspoons disappeared or when there were insufficient funds in the tin box to cover the number of scones provided.

Isobel says that she has enjoyed her 32 years with the school and saw her three children educated there. She will be greatly missed by her colleagues in the canteen and by all the academic and support staff but we look forward to the occasional visit since she is only a short walk from Duncreggan, and will need a replacement for her twice daily trek from one extremity of the school to the other. We wish Isobel a long, healthy and well-deserved retirement.
Mrs April Burton presenting Mrs Isobel Wylie with flowers on her retirement

Retiring staff members pictured at the Staff Retirement night out at the White Horse Hotel

Back row: Gerald McCarter, Norman Taylor, Pat Carson, Jack Magill, John McNee, Jim Heasley
Front row: Mildred Deans, Lesley Morgan, Valerie Lyttle, Isobel Wylie, Liz Adair
The Former Pupils’ Magazine would also like to thank the following members of staff who left in 2012, for their years of service to the school:

Maureen Cooke
David Thompson

Graduations

University of Ulster – Coleraine Campus

Aaron Beattie  BSc Hons Biomedical Sciences
Stephanie Boyd  BA Hons English
Chloe Duddy  BA Hons English
Raisa Greer  BA Hons English with Education
Nicholas Higgins  BSc Hons Biology
Kendra McClintock  BA Hons English
Luke Storey  BSc Hons Business with Marketing
Emma Wilson  BSc Hons Psychology

University of Ulster – Jordanstown Campus

Richard Craig  BSc Hons Accounting
Eimear Faller  BEng Hons Civil Engineering
Laura McDermott  BSc Hons Sport Studies
Kirsty Murray  BSc Hons Sociology with Criminology
Tom Patton  BSc Hons Quantity Survey
Gareth Smith  BSc Hons Sociology with Criminology
Ross Young  BSc Hons Quantity Survey

University of Ulster – Magee Campus

Lauren Curry  B.Sc Hons Psychology
Ruth Gibson  B.Sc Hons Nursing - Mental Health
Matthew McCracken  B.Sc Hons Information & Communication Technology
Laura Patterson  L.L.B. Hons Law with Accounting
Emma Tomlinson  B.Sc Hons Nursing Adult

**Queen’s University Belfast**

Thomas Alford  B.Mus (S) Music
Jordan Catterson  B.A (S) English
Tia Cummins  B.Sc (S) Psychology
Laura Cunningham  B.A (S) English
Philip Doherty  B.A (S) History
Matthew Donaghy  B.Sc (S) Geography
Nikita Duggal  B.Sc (S) Mathematics
Lauren Duncan  B.Mus (S) Music
Gwyneth Huey  M.Pharm (UM) Pharmacy
Richard Hyndman  B.A (S) Politics, Phil & Econ
Cathy Leonard  B.Sc (S) Actuarial Sci & Rsk Mg
Steven Leslie  B.Sc (S) Geography
Holly McCombe  B.Sc (S) Geography
Andrew McFaul  B.Sc (S) Physics with Medical Applications
Andrew Morrison  B.Sc (S) Finance
Ryan Nicholl  M.Sc (UM) Physics
Emily Priestley  B.Sc (S) Geography
Rachel Stone  B.Mus (S) Music
Rebekah Throne  M.Pharm (UM) Pharmacy
Natalie Wray  B.Sc (S) Mathematics

**Harper Adams University College**

Jenny Hamilton  B.Sc (Hons) Agriculture & Animal Science

**Napier University, Edinburgh**

Peter McMinn  B.Mus (Hons) Popular Music

**Trinity College, Dublin**

Paul McFeely  L.L.B. (Hons) Law
Christopher McKeone  B.Sc (Hons) Engineering

NB: Most universities no longer furnish the school with details of its students’ graduations. Please send us this information and we will include the details. Information may be sent to foylefpmag@hotmail.co.uk
TERTIARY EDUCATION, COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND THE PROFESSIONS

Pupils are proceeding to Degree Courses as follows:

**University of Aberdeen**
Sean Devine, Niall Montgomery, James Thompson, Karla Totton

**University of Bedfordshire**
Nicole Lindsay

**University College Dublin**
Ellen Callaghan, Holly Rankin

**University of Dundee**
Leona Reid, Catherine Taylor

**University of Edinburgh**
Rachael Adair, Hannah Doherty

**Edinburgh Napier University**
Aimee Doherty, Alex McCorkell

**University of Glasgow**
Charlotte-Louise Jordan, Tara McElhinney, Sarah Morrison, Cormac Nelis

**University of Hertfordshire**
Jordan Cairns
Herriott-Watt University
Shanice Nagra

Imperial College London
David Cochrane

University of Liverpool
Emilio Chiquito, Catherine Dougherty, Angus Millen

Liverpool Hope University
Ayesha Nagra

Liverpool John Moore University
Molly Babington, Vicky Cuthbert, Michael Hanna, Adam Reid

University of Manchester
Ruth Babington, Calvin Jones, Michael Spence

Manchester Metropolitan University

Queen’s University Belfast
Sophie Alexander, Chloe Brown, Joanne Campbell, Laura Carroll, Ethan Doherty, Stephen Donaghey, Megan Dougherty, Jane Downey, Oisin Duddy, Shakira Kemish, Matthew Love, Heather Manning, Kerri McClements, Megan McClintock, David McDermott, Steven McFaul, Rachel McKee, Peter Norris, Resham Qureshi, Victoria Spence, Christopher Ward

Newcastle University
Katie Christie

NUI Galway
Matthew McKeown

University of Newport
Lynsey Campbell

Northumbria University
Conor Cummings, Jenna Mackey, Joanne Pearson

University of Reading
Musaib Kar

University of Sheffield
Erin McCombe

University of St Andrews
Amy Chambers
A View the Foyle Commanding – Update

Four Hundred Years of Foyle College & its Antecedent Schools.

It has been almost two and a half years in the making but during the first week in December, the final proofs were signed off and returned to the publishers in London for printing. Having seen the book at every stage of production up to its final proof, I am confident that we have produced a book that is not just a definitive history of Foyle and its antecedent schools since 1617 to the present, but provided a beautifully illustrated portrait of this history.

The book will be published in late February 2013 and will be released at a book launch to be held on 8th March in the former Foyle College building in Lawrence Hill, courtesy of the University of Ulster, School of Music and Performing Arts. The event will be part of City of Culture 2013 programme and details will be on the school’s website in February.

Sean Mc Mahon has proved himself invaluable as editor. He brought an external and critical eye to what was very much an in-house production. Editing a book with multiple authors is not a simple task and the many contributions were professionally transposed by him into a format set out by the publishers. Apart from those who wrote sections that held a specific interest for them, many former pupils submitted their reminiscences or gave permission to be included in the chapter on notable alumni. Where possible, the editorial group have tried to include as much submitted material as possible either as text or images. It was essential to avoid repetition or images that did not come up to the publisher’s exacting standards so unfortunately not everything could be included. Large sections of the early history were written by Robert Montgomery and Sean using the now extensive archive. The production of the book has had a subsidiary effect in that the school now has a well organised and
extensive archive which has been located in a suitable room with fire proof storage for those items that are irreplaceable.

Almost 500 copies of the book have been pre-purchased at the discounted rate and the names of those who subscribed will be printed in the final pages of the book. If you missed that opportunity, sufficient copies are being printed and will be available from the school office and other outlets throughout N. Ireland after March 8th 2013. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sean and Robert, my associates on the editorial team, all those who wrote particular sections, those who contributed their experiences as pupils or staff members and those who showed their confidence in us by pre-purchasing the book.

I hope that everyone enjoys reading the book as much as we have enjoyed writing it. It has been a labour of love.

William Lynn

---

**Foyle College Former Pupils’ Association Facebook Page**

Foyle College Former Pupils’ Association is now on Facebook!

The Association’s page can be found at [www.facebook.com/foylecollegefpa](http://www.facebook.com/foylecollegefpa)

The page was set up on 30th May, and at the time of writing over 550 former pupils had connected to the page. I am sure that many more people will connect with it in the future.

The idea for the Facebook page came out of the first joint meeting of the executive committee after the amalgamation of the Associations, and it is currently the only official online forum for all past pupils of Foyle College, Derry, Londonderry High School, and Foyle and Londonderry College.

Currently there are over 200 photos on the site, supplied by myself, and other former pupils who have connected with the Facebook page. Some of these provide fascinating glimpses into the history of the school and its pupils, while others mark the momentous changes the school has experienced this year – from the news about the new school, to the celebration of the years of service to the school by retiring staff members, some of them former pupils themselves.
The page is kept up to date with Association events being posted on its calendar. Other useful documents are also available to download such as the standing order mandate for the hard copy of the magazine, and booking forms for upcoming events.

On the page I am currently appealing to former pupils to contact me via email at foylefpmag@hotmail.co.uk as I am in the process of compiling a contact list for former pupils. Any contacts I receive will be shared with the email address fpafoyle@gmail.com set up by the executive committee. Your email address will only be used by the Association to keep you informed of upcoming events or news, and emails would be kept to a minimum.

I would encourage any former pupils reading this to check out our Facebook page. Everyone is welcome – whether you attended Foyle College, Derry, Londonderry High School, or Foyle & Londonderry College. Our school has a rich and varied history. Come and help us celebrate it!

Laura Taylor
Editor
Foyle College Former Pupils’ Magazine

www.facebook.com/foylecollegefpa
foylefpmag@hotmail.co.uk
fpafoyle@gmail.com

FORMER PUPILS’ MAGAZINE ONLINE OR PRINTED COPY

I hope that you enjoy reading the latest edition of the Former Pupils’ Magazine. This edition is currently available on the school’s website – simply click on the Former Pupils icon on the web page. It is now available principally on line and copies will only be provided and posted to those who return the mandate below. The increasing cost of publishing and postage has made this course of action essential. By filling in and returning the standing order mandate for £4 to be paid annually, a copy will be posted to you in future years and the editors will know how many copies to order from the publishers.

If you want to secure copies in future, the mandate form below must be returned to:-

The Bursar
Foyle College
Duncreggan Road
Londonderry
BT48 0AW.

--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standing Order Mandate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Your Name:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

54
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address:</th>
<th>Name:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postcode:</td>
<td>Postcode:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please Pay From My Account -
Name

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Number</th>
<th>Sort Code:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

£4 - Annually
Commencing On / / 

To Credit Foyle & Londonderry College Former Pupils Association Ulster Bank Limited – Culmore Road
Sort Code: 98-09-80 Account Number : 77863014

Signed: Date: / / 

---

**Notes and News**

**James Buchanan** (FLC 1986-1993) Moved to Australia in 2000. Set up his own mining service company in 2010, based in Kalgoorlie Western Australia – currently employing 12 staff. Jonathan has been named Business Person of the Year at the annual Goldfields Business Awards. Gyro Australia also received the award for Goldfields Business of the Year - 11-20 Employees.

**Rev. Robert Craig**, Minister of Kilfennan Presbyterian Church, has been appointed Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. He will chair the 2013 General Assembly when it meets in Londonderry in June to mark the City of Culture year.

**Jonathan Doak** (FLC 1987-94) has taken up a Chair in Law at Durham University.

**Peter Eyre** is RNLI Naval Architect and has designed the hull for a new prototype lifeboat of the Shannon class, currently undergoing sea trials and will go into service in 2013. Peter says that it will be the high point in his career when the lifeboat goes into service later this year. It will make up one third of the lifeboat fleet around the coasts of Britain and Ireland and will have the most advanced technology on board. It will replace 50 older lifeboats. Over the next ten years it is estimated that it will save over 1,500 lives. Peter studied at the school and went on to take a degree in Ship Science at Southampton University.

**Stephen Gillespie** is the senior partner in the European finance group of Kirkland & Ellis International LLP and a leading figure in the European acquisition finance field. Prior to joining Kirkland & Ellis in 2006, Stephen was a senior banking partner with Allen & Overy LLP where he led the Leveraged Finance Practice and was Co-Head of the Firm’s Global Banking Practice. He has twenty years’ experience of complex business transactions including mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, recapitalizations, workouts and restructurings, with specialist experience in leveraged and event-driven financing. Stephen has been consistently cited as a leading finance lawyer in all the leading legal directories, including *Chambers Global, The World's Leading Lawyers for Business* (2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 editions), and *The Legal 500*. Stephen is recognized as a key figure in the European acquisition finance field. He was described in *The Legal 500 2008* as "one of the best debt lawyers in Europe" and
in *Chambers Global* (2009 edition) as "a seriously good lawyer", "excellent to deal with" and "an emergent market leader".

Stephen and teams led by him have won numerous awards in recognition of work done by them including "Banking Team of the Year" at The Lawyer Awards (twice), "Projects/PFI Team of the Year" at The Lawyer Awards, "Banking Deal of the Year" at the Legal Business Awards and, at Kirkland & Ellis, Stephen received the Private Equity News Banking and Finance Award for Excellence in Advisory Services in Europe in 2008 on behalf of the Kirkland & Ellis European financing team.

**Clare Goodman** has opened The Green Cat Bakery vintage tearoom in Eglinton. Website: 
[www.thegreencatbakery.co.uk](http://www.thegreencatbakery.co.uk)

**Billy Platt** has authored a new book *Cricket in County Donegal 1850-2012*, due for publication July/August 2012. The book which is dedicated to the memory of the late Scott Huey, contains illustrations, and is a record of all the clubs that have existed in Co. Donegal, the scorecards and details of all the various matches played by them. All proceeds from the book are being donated between the Co. Donegal branch of Feileacain – Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Charity Association of Ireland, and the SANDS charity in Northern Ireland.

---

**Obituaries**

**Maureen Joan Phillips (née Greer)**

Maureen was born on July 8th 1929 in Bromley Kent. She was the only child of Stewart Peddie Greer and Edith Mary (Peggy) Greer.

Our fathers were brothers. Stewart was an engineer and worked in the Gold Coast now known as Ghana. Due to difficulties in ensuring a good education abroad, Maureen was mainly brought up in Derry where she lived with our grandmother and Aunt Alice (Allie). Her parents came back as often as possible. In spite of this separation she had a very happy childhood in Derry.
She attended Londonderry High School where she made many friends, many of whom remained close friends throughout her life. On leaving school she joined the staff of the Northern Bank in Belfast.

When her parents retired they bought a house in Jordanstown to be near Maureen in Belfast, but Maureen was very much a Derry girl. By now she had fallen in love with Eric and duly married him on June 17th 1953. They set up home at ‘Ardfoyle’, Victoria Park and had 42 years of very happy marriage until Eric’s death in 1995.

She gave up her banking career on marriage as women had to do in those days. She enjoyed helping Eric in the family music business HB Phillips at Beethoven House, Shipquay Street. In spite of physical curtailments, Maureen led a very active life and shared in Eric’s love of sailing. They were founder members of Lough Swilly Yacht Club. Recently when the celebrations for the Clipper Homecoming events were taking place on the river Foyle, her good friends Diana and Terence Parker managed to take her for a trip on the Foyle in their boat. This she enjoyed immensely.

Maureen thoroughly enjoyed music and drama and loved to go to the opera. She took a great interest in the community, serving on the Foyle Civic Trust, belonging to the Outlook group and she had an enduring interest in Londonderry High School, now amalgamated with Foyle College. She served on the Board of Governors and took an active part in the Old Girls’ Association where she kept up with her school friends.

We will all miss her company and her cheerful smile.

Maureen Annesley

David Alan Eccles Roberts M A

Alan Roberts was born on 10th June 1924, the son of Hugh Roberts, of 14 Northland Road. On 29th April 1930 he entered the Foyle Preparatory School, when Miss Wright was the principal. During his later career in the senior school he played for the first XV in 1941/42 and for the first X1 in 1941 & 1942. He was a prefect in 1940-1942 and the captain of the school in 1942. He won the Lieutenant J H Barr Classics Prize in 1941 and was awarded the Lawrence Medal one year later. In September 1942 he proceeded to Trinity College, Dublin to study English and Spanish.

In July 1943 he interrupted his university training and volunteered for service as a non-commissioned officer in the Royal Marines. In December he was appointed to their most elite unit, the 30 Assault Unit, the Royal Marine Commandos. This comprised a group of 120 men
whose task it was to operate behind enemy lines and undertake covert infiltrations in hostile territory in order to obtain much needed intelligence and capture documents, equipment and enemy personnel. Alan always honoured his vow of silence and it was never possible to gather any information from him about his war service. While much still remains secret, it is known that in June 1944, the 30 Assault Unit took part in the Normandy Landings and re-took Cherbourg. It later joined the Free French forces to liberate Paris. When he was demobbed in 1946, he returned to TCD and in 1950 he graduated with a Moderatorship in modern literature. He also played cricket for Trinity and was captain of the second XI in 1949. Fluent in Spanish, he then worked as assistant export manager for Clarks of Upperlands from 1951 until 1953 when he joined the family firm, Roberts & Sons, the motor & agricultural engineers in Foyle Street. After its closure in 1967, he joined Magee College as a Librarian, and remained there until retirement in 1984.

In 1954-55 he captained the City of Derry Rugby Football Club first XV and represented County Londonderry in the inter-county rugby tournaments. He was the Vice-President of the Club until his death. He was a member of the City of Derry Cricket Club, the North-West of Ireland Agricultural Society, and of the Royal British Legion. From 1962 he was an elder in Strand Presbyterian Church.

In 1953 he joined the late W S Ferguson and the late G C Gillanders in running the affairs of the Foyle College Old Boys’ Association. In 1956 he was appointed to the Board of Governors. On becoming the President of the Association in 1974-75, he had already served twenty one years as treasurer. He then continued to assist the joint honorary secretaries in organising the annual dinners, and the series of Belfast luncheons and London dinners. He compiled the ‘Old Boys’ Chronicle’ and contributed many articles on school history to the magazine. Working closely with W S Ferguson they preserved and built the archives. Alan also contributed articles to the Donegal Annual magazine and was the chief editor in 1981 of the City of Derry RFC Centenary Brochure.

In 1979 Alan married Mrs Maureen Glenn and they lived in Deanfield until Maureen’s death in 2004. In 2009 Alan moved into Deanfield Nursing Home and died there on 15th March 2012. The funeral service was conducted by Rev Dr Robert Buick and was followed by internment in Ballyoan Cemetery with the Royal British Legion forming a guard of honour.
His brother, Brian Hugh Eccles Roberts FCA is an Old Boy of Foyle College.

**Doreen Hazel Allen (née Sheppard)**
15th November 1914- 25th February 2011

Hazel attended Londonderry High School between 1928 and 1933. On leaving school she trained as a teacher at Stranmillis College. Starting her teaching career in 1935, she taught in Rossdowey Primary School and then became Principal at Derry Cathedral, Bishop Street School and finally head of English at Templemore Intermediate School.

Hazel had a great interest in scouting and became Assistant District Commissioner in charge of Wolf Cubs. She was also a keen member of the B and P Club. On retiring, Hazel and her husband, John, moved to Fife in Scotland to be nearer to her daughter. Hazel is survived by her daughter, Deirdre, and her son, John and his family.

Deirdre H Smith (née Allen)

**Catherine L. Brown (former Head Girl, LHS)**
4 July 1932- 6 August 2012
Catherine was born in the Republic of Ireland on 4th July 1932, moving to Northern Ireland soon after, settling at Elaghmore, Galliagh where she lived with her extended family. She attended Groarty Primary School, and later the Model School. She entered Londonderry High School on 8th September 1944. Here she was allowed to develop leadership skills and learned to expect quality. This is also where she was introduced to field hockey which became an important part of her life. At the school, posture was taught in PE classes and badges were given to girls who behaved properly and dressed according to the regulations. Fingernails and shoes were inspected regularly. Adhering to these expectations earned Catherine the honour of being named Head Girl in 1949/50.

After leaving Londonderry High School, Catherine attended Dartford College in Kent on a scholarship, before returning to Northern Ireland to take up an appointment as a teacher of physical education at Regent House Grammar School, where she also coached hockey and netball. She later became a lecturer at Stranmillis teacher training college in Belfast.

Through her participation with the Irish Field Hockey Team, she travelled to the United States in 1963 to take part in the International Federation of Women’s Hockey Associations (IFWHA). During her time there she was offered a year’s teaching in Ohio University. She agreed to return there to teach, and stayed, becoming a US citizen. During her years teaching at Ohio University, she earned a Bachelor’s Degree, Master’s Degree and a doctorate in Philosophy of Sport at the Ohio State University.

Catherine maintained her interest in hockey and sport, coaching field hockey, lacrosse, track and field, and assisted with basketball. She belonged to many organisations and was an active participant in many community clubs.

Catherine died on 6th August 2012. Her sisters Margaret E. (Pearl), and Mary also attended Londonderry High School.

Information taken from the memorial programme for Catherine L. Brown, supplied by Richard Manning.

Hazel Brown née Piggot

By the time she left Londonderry High School in 1943, Hazel Piggot had passed her Secondary School Senior Certificate in Mathematics (Distinction), English, French and German (Credit) and Geography and Art. The records show that she had also attained Credit in Grade III Elocution under the direction of Miss Plaskitt, and Grade V (Higher) Pianoforte under the tutorage of Miss Elfrida Howes.
Shortly after leaving school, Hazel qualified to render *First Aid to the Injured*, and completed a course of instruction in *Home Nursing*, both with the Saint John Ambulance Association. She then left home, her parents and her brothers Ian, Drew and Alex, to study Radiography in Edinburgh. The Second World War was yet to end; Hazel’s completion of three years’ training despite poor accommodation and long hours was evidence of her determination and stamina. She passed the Society of Radiographers (London) examination, held in Glasgow in April 1947, and was admitted as a member three months later.

Hazel returned to Northern Ireland to work at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast, where she met John Samuel Brown, who had recently graduated in Medicine at Queen’s University. They married in 1953, and had three sons, Ian, Malcolm and Donald, all of whom went on to become doctors themselves. John became a general practitioner following his hospital training. His work included a substantial on-call commitment. Hazel worked tirelessly to coordinate his out-of-hours duties, fielding calls from patients requiring his attention while he was already out treating others.

Hazel made comfortable and happy homes for her husband and sons at Brianville Park and then Slievemoyne Park. For 1970s housewives, cooking and cleaning were full-time occupations in themselves, and frequently taken for granted. Hazel’s other skills included baking, knitting and needlework, all of which added to the quality of life at home and cushioned the family from the troubling events taking place outside on the streets of Belfast. Hazel ensured her family was looked after equally well when away from home, whether on summer holidays in Portballintrae, Southern Ireland and Scotland, or caravanning and sailing at the Quoile and East Down Yacht Clubs on Strangford Lough.

Sadly, John was troubled by significant illness for many of the later years of his life. Following her husband’s death in 1992, Hazel lived independently at Cleaver Court in Belfast for twenty years. Wishing to give something back to Belvoir Park Hospital, where John had received treatment, she volunteered for the portable library service there. She faced her own medical problems, in particular a neurological condition which caused difficulty with hand movements, with courage, grace and, above all, good humour. Hazel first became a grandmother in 1988. Her grandchildren were a great source of joy and fun for her, and she for them. Throughout her life, Hazel was keenly involved in the activities of the Old Girls’ Association, catching up with news of the school and her peers. She helped with administrative duties at the Belfast branch, and latterly was proud to be one of the more mature delegates at reunion dinners.

Hazel will be remembered as an enthusiastic schoolgirl, a talented radiographer, a hardworking housewife and a special, elegant lady by the fortunate people who knew or met her through the years. She was dearly loved, and will be particularly missed, by her surviving brothers Ian and Alex, her sons Ian, Malcolm and Donald, her daughters-in-law Gillian, Catherine and Catherine, and her grandchildren Catherine, Tom, Robbie, Ruth, Rosanna, Rory, Andy and Julia.

*Hazel Brown, née Piggot, born Londonderry 4 July 1926, died Belfast 15 September 2012.*

**ALAN SCOTT WATSON CAMPBELL**

**1933-2012**

Alan Campbell was the only son of a family of four which was located in Londonderry.
After leaving 1st Derry school, Londonderry, he entered Foyle College in 1945. Following his secondary education Alan worked for a short period in a local business in Londonderry before moving into the insurance industry where he worked for a prolonged period with Scottish Provident becoming branch manager in Donegal Square West, Belfast.

Whilst living in Londonderry and Helen’s Bay, Co. Down, Alan made many life lasting contacts with his clients who became good friends with him and Iris. He met Iris in 1953 while they were at university, and they married in 1958.

Alan developed a substantial property portfolio in Londonderry, Belfast and latterly in Bangor. Iris and Alan managed this business totally in house.

Alan’s main social interest was music and this was tempered by supporting his local rugby team, City of Derry and latterly Malone Rugby Club in Belfast. His attendance at Irish international rugby matches was remarkable from Edinburgh, Cardiff, Paris, Twickenham and even in Hong Kong. Very few matches were missed.

Alan was a quiet and thoughtful person and he and Iris spent substantial time over the last decade on many cruises all over the world.

The latter stages of Alan’s work in the insurance business was that of an independent broker with his office on the Holywood Road, Belfast and in Spencer Road, Londonderry.

Alan died on 2nd November 2012 suddenly and his funeral service was held on 6th November in Bangor where his old friend Victor Eakin gave a warm tribute before his burial in Bangor Cemetery. The solo at the end of service was the Londonderry Air –one of Alan’s favourite pieces of music.

He is survived by his wife Iris and his three sisters Joyce, Mavis and Winsome.  

Dr Robert (Roy) Ritchie Johnston BA PhD

Roy Johnston was born on 21st October 1924, the son of Frank Johnston, who lived on the Crumlin Road, Belfast. When his family moved to Londonderry, he entered Foyle College on 4th September 1940 on transferring from Methodist College where Roy had been the top student entry in 1937. Among his fellow pupils here were Norman Austin, Ian Kennedy and Jack Kyle, of whom all would become his life long friends. As an active sportsman, he played in the first XV in 1941/42, and he also was a Prefect. He then went to Magee College and graduated with a BA in Classics from TCD in 1946. While at TCD, he won a gold medal for his singing as a bass revealing his natural talent. Music became a passion which would occupy a large part of his later life. Following graduation and a short time as a supply teacher in First Derry PE School, he then taught Classics in Down High School (1946-52), and later Belfast Royal Academy (1952-57).

While teaching another of his talents was manifest when he wrote plays, including two for Radio. By 1962, Faber had published his Scruff Rafferty dog stories and short stories also were produced. During these years he continued performing as a bass soloist in Handel’s Messiah, and with the Studio Opera Group and Havelock Nelson in many productions including Don Giovanni and the Marriage of Figaro (as Dr Bartolo). Along with his classical career, Roy also enjoyed singing with his guitar and performed both on radio and TV. But in order to placate the Headmaster of BRA, he acquired a ‘stage name’, that of Frank Ritchie the singing Ulsterman, and he had a popular TV series called ‘The humour is on me’, in which Roy provided the songs between the comedy acts while Rowel Friers drew the cartoons. In addition he was a regular on BBC radio reading the football results with Ronald Rosser.
From 1973 Roy sang with the exceptional Belmont Church Choir singing anthems in ye olde English, Latin, German and 17th century Scots. They competed with great success in the Belfast Music Festivals. One of three basses in the New Belmont Consort, during the 1970’s they gave many recitals at Choral Festivals throughout Ireland, and they also were broadcast on BBC Radio Ulster and BBC Northern Ireland TV.

From 1957 Roy was the Assistant Education Officer with County Down Education Committee, and for 6 years from 1966, he was Deputy Director of Education for County Londonderry. He then became Head of the Arts and Libraries section at the Department of Education, and it was during his time there that he played a major role in ensuring that the Grand Opera House was saved and restored as a theatre (after major bomb damage). When Edith was diagnosed with serious illness in 1973, Roy took early retirement in order to look after her. They had married in 1951 when he lived in Downpatrick.

With the re-opening of the Grand Opera House in 1981, Roy provided David Byers with a half-hour radio feature called Carl Rosa and the Gilded Elephants, which was based on the first Opera week in September 1896 in the Opera House. In subsequent years they would collaborate with notable programmes on Verdi, Mozart, Farinelli and Joan Trimble. As a writer for radio, Roy’s programmes were meticulously researched, and broadcast with a style that was down to earth and full of lovely turns of phrase.

For recreation Roy walked in the Mournes. In the late 1940’s he was the first person to ascend some difficult climbs including the Rowan Tree and the Trap. He held the record for many years for the Mourne Wall Walk (just under 7 hours). Later he would climb Ben Nevis and reach the base camp of Mount Everest (18000 feet) when aged 61. He later was a Governor of the Linenhall Library (1983-89), a Trustee of the Opera House, and served on the Arts Council (1990-94). For more than 10 years he worked on a major dissertation on Music in Belfast up until 1874, and for this QUB awarded him a PhD in 1996. He continued to write and publish his work on composers, musicians and music, and a version of his PhD thesis is still awaiting publication.

Dr Roy Johnston died in hospital on 24th March 2012. Predeceased by Edith, he is survived by his daughter Rosemary and his sons Peter and David. A celebration of his life was held on 28th March at Brown’s Funeral Parlour, and he was interred in Roselawn Cemetery.

His sister, Beryl attended the Londonderry High School (1946-49), and was for some years the secretary of the Belfast Branch of the Old Girls’ Association.

Rev Ian John Edward Knox B A, B Phil

Ian Knox was born on 13th November 1946, the son of ECH (Teddy) & Renee Knox who lived at 9 Templemore Park. He entered Foyle College on 2nd September 1958 and proceeded to Magee College and Trinity College, Dublin graduating in 1970 with a BA degree. From 1974-76 he studied at the Irish School of Ecumenics, Dublin and obtained a Bachelor of Philosophy degree from the University of Hull, to which the ISE was affiliated. Committing to a lifetime of service in the Church of Ireland, in 1971 he was ordained a Deacon and became an ordained Priest in 1972. He became a curate at St John’s, Malone Road, Belfast and in 1976 was made the rector of Gweedore, Carrickfinn & Templecross. While there he learned Irish and was able to celebrate Holy Communion in Irish. As Bunbeg was a light duty charge he also helped in Clooney and St Peter’s churches in our city. In 1980 he went to Tipperary as Rector of the Clonmel group of Parishes, and stayed until ill-health forced him to resign in 1996.
In 1995 he married Jeanette and both supported each other in declining health until Jeanette died in 2005. With his life-long friend, Canon David Crooks he travelled extensively and was able to visit many of the Cathedrals of Great Britain, France and Germany. In 1980 they were allowed behind the Iron curtain, and over many years, Ian built a collection of more than 3000 post cards of various cathedrals and abbey churches which he had visited.

With his knowledge of history and a deep love of the Church of Ireland he updated and published a number of important books. In 2008, Rennison’s Clergy of Waterford & Lismore, and Canon JB Leslies’ Clergy & Parishes of Ferns was produced. In 2012 Archdeacon Seymour’s List of Clergy of Cashel & Emly and Canon Leslies’ Clergy of Leighlin were published. These two volumes are part of a series of updates of succession lists of the Clergy of the Church of Ireland, a project which began in 1993 and which is now nearing completion. Rev Ian Knox died on 31st October 2012, and was buried with Jeanette in the graveyard of Cashel Cathedral. He is remembered as a dedicated Priest and Pastor who endured much illness with courage and patience. He is survived by his children Eoin and Gillian, and by his sister Helen who is a former pupil of the LHS.

Albert Griffith Maxwell

Albert Maxwell was born on 21st July 1940, the elder son of Albert and Ethel Maxwell who lived at 52 Duncreggan Road. After he entered Foyle College on 1st September 1952, his love for music developed and would remain a passion for the rest of his life. In addition to playing in the school orchestra, he participated in Miss Anderson’s orchestra, the group which accompanied the fondly remembered Gilbert & Sullivan productions of the 1950s in the Guildhall. A member of the school Scout troop, he went on the 1956 summer trip to Norway - the first time they had ventured to mainland Europe.

When aged 19, Albert joined the Belfast (later the Northern) Bank, and initially served in several branches in the north-west of the province. By further study he acquired additional expertise in banking law, and then taught the Practice and Law of Banking first in the Technical College, Londonderry and later as a lecturer at University College, Dublin. He was an examiner for the Institute of Banking.

In 1976 he was transferred to Lisburn and became the assistant manager of the Northern Bank, Market Square. On being assigned ten years later to the Head Office in Belfast and, as manager of the Bank’s Administration Department, his expert knowledge of banking procedures was utilised as he supervised the writing of the protocols and manuals for lending and he was the bank’s in-house expert on credit-scoring. Following his retirement Albert remained in demand for his banking and legal expertise as a consultant both in the UK and in the Middle East.

In 1962 Albert met Rosemary Taylor (a former pupil of the High School, Omagh) when both were working in the Belfast Bank, and they married in 1968. For most of their married life they lived in the Lisburn / Hillsborough area where Albert became an active member of his local church and put his financial skills and musical talents to good use. He was the organist for seven years and the choirmaster for several more. As the congregational secretary he set up effective financial structures within the church. As a member of the Presbytery of Dromore he was the corresponding elder to Rev Dr Bert Tosh (another Old Boy). He was also appointed to a number of committees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland and served on the Business Board, the Union Commission and the Board of Finance and Personnel. For over thirty years Albert was a member of the Dromore Male Voice Choir, was the treasurer for many years and also their deputy conductor.

After a short illness Albert Maxwell died on 27th October 2012, and his funeral service was held two days later at Elmwood Presbyterian Church, Ballymacash, Lisburn. He is survived by Rosemary, his son Ian and his daughter Jane.

His brother Dr Kenneth James Maxwell is an Old Boy of Foyle College.

Richard Orr (1978-2012)
Richard was born on the 9th November 1978. He turned out to be a lovable, lively wee boy. From an early age he had a great interest in toy cars, tractors or anything that had an engine and wheels. He wasn’t very old when he wanted a garage from Santa, and this was the start of a collection of toy cars and vehicles of all sorts.

As Richard grew, so did his love of cars and tractors.

Then one Christmas he wanted a toy cooker. This came as quite a surprise... but we wanted to fulfil his wish, so, amongst other things, the cooker did arrive. It wasn't long before the cooker was taken apart to find out how it worked, and then put together again. He had to find out what made the sizzle sound of the sausages in the frying pan, and the whistling sound of the kettle etc.

Richard had a very inquisitive mind from an early age. This led to an interest in books, and I used to take him to the library in his buggy, to choose the books he wanted. As soon as Richard was able to read by himself, he just went through books like water. Sometimes he would open a dictionary at a certain page and just read and read. Richard could remember everything that he read, and this was a great help during his school years. He wouldn't have studied, but remembered what he had learned in class.

He also had a great interest in computers, and had actually built one to his own specifications.

However, a university degree was not the path that Richard wanted.

Richard spent a lot of time at the late Sammy Wilson's farm. There was so much machinery there, and someone was usually working under the bonnet of some sort of machine, and that was what the attraction was for Richard. When Sammy passed away, he left the farm to Richard.

For the past twelve years or so, Richard worked on a farm. He also did quite a bit of mechanical work. He was never idle, and enjoyed what he did. He liked tractor and digger work also. Richard went out to work smiling, and came in from work smiling.

Richard liked his gadgets too, and had about four phones, but his iphone was never away from him at any time.

He did a bit of stock car racing, but more recently had taken up landrover racing which is done in the forest. He spent quite a bit of time in the summer of this year, doing up one of those landrovers he had bought. It would not have been a challenge for Richard to buy one that didn’t need a lot of work done to it.

He was so thrilled with the end result.

Sadly, Richard only got to use that landrover at a few events, On September 8th 2012, Richard died in a freak accident, doing what he loved doing.

We just miss him so much, and in so many ways, and always will. His death has left an aching void that nothing can or will ever fill, but we have all the good memories of Richard which will hopefully help in the years to come.

Richard attended Foyle & Londonderry College from 1989 to 1993, leaving in 5th year.

Mrs I. M. Orr
Jimmy Truesdale was born on 15th October 1912, the son of John J Truesdale who lived at 12, The Diamond, Londonderry. He entered Foyle College on 31st August 1927 and, after attending the teacher training course at Stranmillis Training College, he graduated with a B A from Queen’s University in 1942. Soon after joining the staff of Lurgan College, Jimmy became the Assistant Headmaster under Mr V M Harper and in 1952, he became Headmaster. The 1947 Education Act had brought changes, and during his tenure the school became a County Grammar School. From 1955 a series of additional buildings were added to the school campus. This programme continued until 1969 and resulted in the school having a suite of premises which were well equipped to meet the needs of the area. After 1960 the City of Craigavon was developed and the Dickson Plan introduced a two tier system based on the Leicester Plan in which Lurgan College was made a Senior High School. In 1973 he was appointed a J P, and retired as Headmaster in 1978. Today the school is the educational facility for over 400 pupils. Jimmy Truesdale died on 6th March 2012. His funeral service was held in St Paul’s Parish Church, Castlewellan on 9th March with the burial in the adjoining graveyard. He is survived by his wife Eunice, and his daughters Stephanie and Yvonne.

Deaths

February 29th 2012 Iris Houman (née Boardman)

February 2012 Ruth Morrow

As the magazine was going to print we heard of the passing of Mrs Maureen Brown. A full obituary will be included in next year’s magazine.

Birth and Marriage Announcements

Births

20th December 2011 to Ian and Julia McLernon (née Hunter) a son, Alexander Marcus Hunter.

28th December 2011 to Ray and Nicola Davies (née Smallwoods) a daughter, Megan Annabel.

7th January 2012 to Clifford and Emma Palmer (née Hunter) a daughter, Lucinda Kathleen Grace.

24th January 2012 to Darrell and Suzanne Caskey (née Charlesson) a son, Daniel Richard, a little brother for Thomas.

8th February 2012 to Sameer and Gail Kothari (née Coskery) a son, Rohan Daniel, a little brother for Maya.

28th February 2012 to Ian and Rachel Goldby (née Sinclair) a son, Luke Patrick.

5th October 2012 to Matt and Victoria Edwards (née Young) a daughter, Iona Philippa, a little sister for Isaac.

2nd January 2013 to David and Kerry Lynn (née Eakin), a son, Thomas Andrew.

Marriages
3rd March 2012 Robert McFaul to Jill Lyttle
26th May 2012 Jennifer Allen to Ian Dunlop
29th September 2012 Jonathan Charlesson to Bronwyn Masters
Presidents’ Reports and Profiles

My Presidential Year from March- December 2012
First of all I must say what an honour it is to be the first Lady President of the amalgamated Old Girls’ and Old Boys’ Associations.

On my inauguration as President of the Old Girls at Londonderry in March 2012, I was the 68th President of the Londonderry High School Old Girls’ Association (LHSOGA) and the 10th London branch President.

The amalgamated association came into existence in April 2012.

In 1935, the Headmistress Miss Mary French McIlroy set up the LHSOGA. She became President and remained so for the first 10 years and then again in 1964 as Madame Louliér, in her married name.

Miss M.F. McIlroy left us with a strong, unique and enviable association, not to be matched by any other Old Girls’ association known to me.

This tranquil existence was disrupted by the recent amalgamation with the Old Boys.

It is believed that the combined associations will bring new blood and life into the decreasing membership of the separate associations.

In order to implement such a change each pupil will now automatically become a member of the Former Pupils’ Association on leaving school at no cost.

The years 2012-2013 that span my presidential office mark some notable historic events.

In 2012

The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee
The London Olympics
The 100 year Titanic memorial in Belfast
200 years since the birth of Charles Dickens
100 years since the birth of the innate genius and father of computing, Alan Turing
80 years since the emergency landing of Amelia Earhart at Ballyarnett in Londonderry
30 years since the first pupils from the 1976 amalgamated Foyle and Londonderry College left school.

In 2013

Londonderry -the United Kingdom City of Culture
The Foyle book launch in March
60 years since Mrs Pearlie Taggart presented Her Majesty the Queen with a boutique of flowers on her post-coronation visit to Londonderry in 1953.

I was inaugurated in March 2012 at the new Derry luncheon venue, the Belfray Country Inn. It was a great success with good food and friendship as the main themes.

I had the pleasure of three London girls joining me, Mrs Sandra Reeves, Mrs Theo Norman-Walker and Elizabeth McCurdy.

Past president Mrs Pamela Jackson imparted the Presidential chain to me after giving the last speech of her presidency.

This was to be the last AGM that we were to enjoy as LHSOGA, for the next AGM is to be a joint venture with the Old Boys in April 2013.

Uniquely, I shall be president for 13 months in order that the Old Girls’ and Old Boys’ Presidential chains be handed over to the respective incoming presidents on the same day.

I will be president for the second time in London on 13th April 2013- a double honour and to my delight, extra time spent with our most coveted chain!

My first commitment as President was to attend the London Old Girls’ luncheon in April 2012. This was special to me because I was on home ground and I wore the impressive LHSOGA’s chain of office with pride.

Having been secretary for the previous five years everyone present was familiar to me. Our usual regulars from Northern Ireland attended, with the added bonus of having our President-Elect Mrs Lily Swinson from Coleraine present.

I gave the first speech of my presidency, about the embracing of Irish and Indian cultures. It went down a treat and I had a brilliant day with my friends.

Moving on to my visit with the Coleraine girls, I was indeed very warmly welcomed. We wined and dined in the cozy and homely atmosphere of honorary secretary Mrs Rosaleen Ramsey’s beautiful home. There is nothing to beat home cooking, it was lip-smacking good. We laughed a lot and put the world to right. A most enjoyable affair ending with one of the Old Girls’ husbands taking our group photograph.

My next stop was the school prize-giving in September.

With all good intentions I set off for Belfast, visited the Titanic museum with some of my class year of ’67 and then travelled on to Londonderry.

Unfortunately I was called home for a family emergency and missed prize-giving.

Thanks to Mr William Lynn’s kindness, arrangements for the presentation of my prize was carried out by the Headmaster and a photographic memento was posted to me.

My bursary prize was ‘The Dr Kanchan Chada prize for the best student going forward to study Medicine’. This was presented to the Head-boy Oisin Duddy, who went to study Medicine at Queens University Belfast where I also studied Medicine.

I was greatly disappointed when I had to also miss the Belfast Old Girls’ lunch. I had looked forward to this occasion for some time because the chair Mrs Joan Milliken was in my class year of ’67 and also a past president.
I was extremely grateful to my school classmate Dr Christine Crockett, who delivered my speech titled 'The Irish Raj'. This was a heart-warming account of my family's journey west from India and how they successfully integrated with the local community.

Now for the last of my commitments that I attended in 2012 - a historic occasion.

The first Old Boys' dinner in the presence of nine Derry Old Girls, namely Mrs Elma Lynn, Mrs Hester Craig, Mrs Barbara Fowler, Mrs Joy Tennis, Mrs Alison Kilgore, Miss Ann Watson, Mrs Fiona Rankin, Mrs Jennifer McClintock and Mrs Harriet Love.

My dear friend Mrs Maureen Phillips was to accompany me at this dinner, it was her way of sharing my presidential journey, but sadly this was not to be.

The dinner was indeed a most formal and grand affair and on all accounts a great success. I was comfortably sandwiched between my two ‘archivist buddies’ Robert Montgomery and Sean McMahon at the top table and I wanted for nothing.

Four speeches were given from the top table. In order, myself, Dr Robert Montgomery, the joint president, the Headmaster Mr Patrick Allen and Mr Sean McMahon, the editor of the Foyle book.

My speech was titled 'Lawrence of India'. It was an account of Lord John Lawrence and his brothers who were deep-seated in the history of Foyle College and India.

I was made to feel very welcome and had the pleasure of meeting many Old Boys who either remembered my father (Mr Ian Piggot and Mr John Arthur) through business connections, my uncle Johnny Chada who was Head-boy at Foyle in the 60s, my brother Jeety Chada and my rugby-playing cousin Charlie Chada.

The city is a poorer place without those wonderful old businesses like McCandless & Piggot, The Corner Boot Stores (Chadas) and Phillips Music Shop (Maureen Phillips' family) that are no more.

Mr William Lynn worked relentlessly in the background to make it such a great evening. My journey was not complete without a visit to see Lord John Lawrence at Springtown. I took his photograph at every conceivable angle and discovered the famous Austrian sculptor's name 'Sir Joseph Boehem 1881' engraved on the base above the plinth. The recently restored quill and sword (in 2010) still remained un tarnished, whilst the rest of the statue is covered in green verdigris.

Lord John was bathed in glorious sunshine and looked splendid against the beautiful azure blue sky. His facial expression is stern and commanding, in keeping with his military background and achievements.

I ventured forth into the Junior school, last visited by myself when my brother Jeety Chada was a pupil at Foyle in the 1960s.

What a warren of hidden treasures for the amateur archivist within me. From the moment I entered the front door - I was a captive audience. Each corridor and each floor of the building was covered with the history of Foyle's past and I was like a child let loose in a 'sweetie' shop.

Suddenly the subjects in my speech- ‘Lawrence of India’ came to life.

There were portraits of the Rev. James Knox, (uncle and principal of Foyle when his nephews attended) and his three distinguished nephews, Sir George St. Patrick Lawrence (1804-1884), Sir Henry Montgomery Lawrence (1806-1857), and Lord John Lawrence (1811-1879).
From there I proceeded to the Foyle Arts building, previously Foyle College, on Lawrence Hill and located the Ulster History Circle Blue Plaque erected in honour of Sir Henry Montgomery Lawrence who built schools in India for the orphans and children of British soldiers.

I was very kindly invited to the Scottish girls’ reunion dinner in November, but was not able to attend because of a family commitment abroad.

My presidential year thus far has been exciting and rewarding, but most of all a pleasure.

In 2013 there is the ‘Foyle book launch’ on Friday the 8th March and the first combined Old Girls’ and Old Boys’ AGM on Friday 26th April.

I look forward to next year’s commitments with equal gusto. Roll on 2013!!

Dr Kanchu McAllister

Treasurer – Ruth Parker, Lady President Kanchu McAllister, Secretary Ann Seaton.
Billy Young attended Clooney Primary School before entering Foyle College in 1956. During his time there he was involved with rugby, basketball, cross-country and cricket, becoming the captain of the cricket team for 1962/63. Academically he pursued Latin, Greek and Mathematics as his senior subjects, his teachers for these being Mr Mullan, Mr Gillanders, and Mr Bogle. He became a school prefect and then went on to become Head Boy for the year of 1962/63.

After Foyle he continued his interest in classics at Queen’s University Belfast, earning a B.A. in Classics in 1967, and then a M.A. in Greek Mathematical Astronomy in 1968.
After leaving his studies, he went on to teach at Belfast Royal Academy, staying there until his retirement in December of 2008. During his time there he became Head of Religious Education (in 1976), Vice Principal in 1980, Deputy Headmaster in 1990 before finally becoming Headmaster in 2000.

Billy has been working with the Association for Quality Education Ltd (AQE) since January 2009, and he is the present Chief Executive Officer of that organisation.

Elizabeth Swinson
Lady President-Elect
I was born in Cabry, Co. Donegal. When I was 10 weeks old my family moved to Kilcatten, Co. Londonderry, a farm near Claudy. I attended Killaloo Primary School, walking there every day. After the 11 plus selection I transferred to Londonderry High School as a day pupil and in the final two years I became a boarder to study Chemistry and Physics.

On completion of Senior Certificate I was accepted into Queens University, Belfast. I spent five years studying Dentistry and qualified in 1960. Experience was gained as an assistant in three different practices in Newtownards, Belfast and Ballymoney.

After getting married, we bought a Dental Practice in Ballymoney. My three children were born in Ballymoney, Brian, Peter and Karen. I continued to work as a Dental Surgeon over the next 35 years, moving the surgery from Linenhall Street to Union Street. I enjoyed great support from patients and staff.

The children and myself moved to live in Coleraine, this was more convenient for their schools; Brian is now a Maxillo-Facial Consultant and is married to Gillian. Peter died aged thirty two. Karen moved to London and explored new pathways in Nursing. She is married to Terry and works as a Nurse Manager and mother. I have 7 Grandchildren, ranging in age from 14 years to 2 weeks old.

I am a long term member of Ballymoney Soroptimists, serving as a secretary and a President. I also served on the committee for Save the Children and Multiple Sclerosis societies. My interests include horticulture and The National Trust and hobbies are painting, hand crafts and cake decorating.

My family are my main priority and my life revolves around them and my many friends.

Looking forward to taking over as President in 2013 with trepidation and anticipation.

Lily Swinson
The editor would like to apologise for the omission of the photographs that were to accompany the London Branch’s 55th anniversary lunch report in last year’s printed magazine. When the oversight was highlighted, the photos were inserted into the online version of the 2012 magazine, available at www.foylenet.org.uk. The article is reproduced here with the photos.

London Branch 55th Birthday Luncheon
9th April 2011

Having had (for the most part) a horrendous winter, we were able to bask in beautiful spring sunshine leading up to and including (as usual) the day of our 55th birthday luncheon on the Cromwell Road in London.
Theo Norman-Walker (née Heaney) and Sandra Reeves (née Black), bravely manning the registration desk, welcomed 50 girls, with the absence of some due to ill health and some others due to previous commitments; however we were delighted that some of our more senior girls were present including Lorna Knox (née Clarke), Helen Hilson (née Eaton), Norah Foss (née Kelly), Fay Browne (née Andrews) and, of course, Lucie Seaward (née Johnston). Lucie was accompanied by her daughter Linda and we were delighted to welcome them both to our celebration.

Molly Sutton (née Price-Owen), chair of the London Branch of the OGA, welcomed everyone to the luncheon.

Marjorie Yates (née Sheppard) said Grace and remembered absent friends.

Just before lunch, Lucie cut our birthday cake (a family recipe baked by Ann Seaton) during which she was surrounded by the OG “paparazzi” with their plethora of cameras of all shapes, sizes and descriptions, asking for ‘just one more photo’. We had our own professional photographer behind the lens in the form of Ruth Parker who blitzed away with her impressive SLR digital camera. It gave us a great record of our special day and we look forward to viewing the snapshots in our Branch Photo album. It was such a shame Lyn Gill was unable to attend the luncheon as her hand-made decorations for the cake drew plaudits from all. Following this, Theo enchanted us with ‘Danny Boy’ (sung a cappella) with the rest of the girls trying (?) to match her clarity of pitch and diction, and many of us failing pretty dismally. We then settled down to a commendable buffet lunch, and as always the Holiday Inn did us proud.

Ruth Edwards (née Lelievre) proposed the Loyal Toast after lunch.

We were pleased that our President, Pamela Jackson (née Nutt) from the Londonderry Branch was able to join us, given the failure of so many of the Londonderry and other girls to attend the previous year due to the Icelandic volcanic eruptions. Isn’t it amazing how we think we are so in control and then our ‘great taskmaster’, every so often, reminds us of exactly who is in charge? Pamela brought greetings from the other branches and presented an update on school activities. Ann Seaton (née Oliver) and Ruth Parker (née White) were elected onto the London committee.

Our secretary Kanchu McAllister (née Chada) is President Elect for 2011 – 2012

As a special birthday gesture on behalf of all the London girls, a miniature rose and Easter cactus were presented to Lucie Seaward, Lorna Knox, Helen Hilson, Norah Foss and Fay Browne in colourful ‘Happy Easter’ bags.

There followed some discussion, led by Theo, regarding the proposed re-branding of the school. This was as much about the name change as the way in which it was communicated to the wider body of the OGA. Ann Seaton was able to share some input from two of the FALC governors’ meetings (with thanks to the Chair, Robin Young, for allowing her to disclose them). There was response from the President with regard to the fact that many of the OGA in Londonderry had also been unaware of these proposals until they appeared in the local newspapers last September.

As is our wont, those girls who felt the need for some fresh air and a healthy dose of vitamin D withdrew to the garden to take photographs and continued their reminiscing over a glass of wine or two (left over from lunch because we wouldn’t want to waste it).
Another beautiful day: full of fun and friendship; full of laughter and love. We look forward to seeing as many girls as possible at our next reunion luncheon on 21st April 2012 when we will welcome our own Kanchu as President.

Ann Seaton

The 55th Anniversary cake

Kanchu McAllister with Lucie Seaward

Lucie Seaward

Lucie cutting the cake
Minutes of LHSOGA AGM 24th March 2012

The meeting was held in the Belfray Country Inn after an excellent lunch. There were 76 members in attendance.

At the lunch, guest speaker, Dr Pat Carson gave an interesting talk about his life at the college. President Pamela Jackson invested the incoming President Kanchan McAllister with the chain of office.

Apologies were noted followed by the loyal toast. The minutes of the 2011 AGM were read followed by the Treasurer’s and Secretary’s reports. The adoption of reports was proposed by Harriet Love and seconded by Olivia Nutt.
Joy Coskery informed the meeting of her decision to step down as chairperson. She was presented with flowers from the committee to thank her for her long, loyal and dedicated service to the OGA.

Joy outlined future plans and explained how the £10,000 donation given by the OGA to the school would be used to build an archive room for Old Girls’ material and memorabilia. She also described the book currently being written on the history of Foyle and Londonderry College, and the section devoted to the Old Girls’ Association. If members wish to pre-purchase a copy, their names will be noted in the book itself.

Discussions took place from the floor regarding the amalgamation of the boys and girls past pupils associations. A few concerns were raised about the place of the OGA lunches and events. Members were reassured that these would continue as before if wished by the branches. The Old Boys’ and Old Girls’ committees will meet on Wednesday 18th April 2012 and members were encouraged to read the proposed new constitution before then and register any comment before 11th April 2012.

The Old Boys’ Association has proposed that the new first joint Chairperson should come from the Old Girls. It was announced that Isabel McNally had accepted the offer to become the new chairperson.

The meeting ended at 4pm.

Treasurer’s Report

Madame President, Madame Chairperson, Dr Carson, Old Girls and guests, I would like to present the Treasurer’s Report. The report covers the period 1 March 2011 to 29 February 2012.

The main features of the report are as follows:-

- You will notice that we no longer have any subscription or life membership income since all school leavers automatically become a member of the Former Pupils Association.
• The reunion lunch incurred a loss of £152 this year.

• Memorabilia sales were down again from £464.50 in 2010 to £189.62 in 2011 to just £38.00.

• Postage, stationery and Branch expenses have been contained this year at £120.12.

• Bank Fees are down to £3.72 due to minimal activity on the account and interest is down at £12.45.

• We only hold 2 accounts now with Northern Bank and our present joint balance is £1781.

• Magazine costs are also down this year as fewer copies have been printed. Some members have elected to pay a £4pa standing order to receive a hard copy and others will read the magazine on line. Additional hard copies are available today also.

Our thanks are due to Mr Robin Young for his continued support in examining our financial records.

If there are any queries regarding the accounts please feel free to ask me.

Thank you.

Barbara Fowler
Honorary Treasurer LHSOGA
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bank Fees</td>
<td>$72.5</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Management Costs</td>
<td>$607.50</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage, Stationery, Branch Expenses</td>
<td>$363.72</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union Lunch and Other Expenses</td>
<td>$1167.65</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel Development Fund</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Investment Account</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Interest</td>
<td>$1.22</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sale of Memorabilia</td>
<td>$189.62</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reunion Lunch &amp; Other Function Income</td>
<td>$1195.10</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual &amp; Student Subscriptions</td>
<td>$340.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Expenditure: $2011.22

Total Income: $2011.12

LONDONDERY HIGH SCHOOL OLD GIRLS’ ASSOCIATION - INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 29TH FEBRUARY 2012
Members enjoyed our annual Spring Lunch at the Beech Hill Country House Hotel on Saturday 19th March 2011. Lunch was followed by our AGM.

Joy Coskery, Barbara Fowler, Joy Tennis, Averil Watt, Jennifer McClintock, Fiona Rankin, Caroline Lynch and Hester Craig continued as committee members. Isabel McNally, our governors’ representative, and Pamela Jackson, our President, were also invited to attend our committee meetings this year.

We held three committee meetings this year. A sub-committee held several meetings with the Old Boys to draw up a new constitution for the Joint Former Pupils’ Association.

At our first committee meeting of the year on Wednesday 21st September 2011 we heard that the Former Pupils’ magazine will principally be available online and copies will only be posted to those who have returned a standing order mandate for £4 to be paid annually. Many members have arranged standing orders and will continue to receive their magazines by post. Extra copies will be printed and will be available to purchase at £4 per copy.

Committee members were pleased to hear that submissions for the book to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the college have been very forthcoming. Old Girls have supplied articles and information on boarding, hockey, and girl-guiding. We look forward with excitement to the publication of this wonderful book.

Members of committee brought greetings from Londonderry to Old Girls’ events in London, Belfast, Coleraine and Edinburgh.

Our main social event organised with the Old Boys was a Gala night for the school musical “We Will Rock You” on Thursday 1st December. There was a wine reception before curtain up and during the interval. The show was outstanding! A wonderful evening was enjoyed by all those who attended the show.

On Wednesday 7th March at 8.30pm in Duncreggan, the Old Girls’ committee and the Old Boys’ committee held a joint meeting to finalise the arrangements for the amalgamation of the Former Pupils’ Associations. This will take place on Friday 27th April at 7.30pm in the City Hotel. The Old Girls will hold an EGM to wind up the existing association and to agree to the amalgamation of the Former Pupils’ Associations.

The new draft constitution for the Foyle College Former Pupils’ Association has been published in the 2012 edition of the Former Pupils’ magazine. Any comments or suggestions received from members will be considered at a joint Old Boys/Old Girls’ meeting on Wednesday 18th April 2012. Any suggestions members wish to be considered should be sent to me by Wednesday 11th April 2012.

Joy Coskery is standing down as our chairperson today. She has been the corner-stone of our association for many years. I wish to thank her for all her hard work! I hope that the new chairperson appointed today, will take us forward into this exciting new era for us Old Girls.

Hester Craig
Hon. Secretary

Spring Luncheon at the Belfray Country Inn - 24th March 2012
Pamela Jackson, outgoing president handing over the Chain of Office to Dr Kanchan McAllister

Pamela Jackson, President, Dr Pat Carson, and Dr Kanchan McAllister, incoming President

Kathleen Steward, Maud Bredin, Morwena Willoughby and Elizabeth Hawthorne

Marjorie Mitchell, Edna Cunningham, and Hilary McClean
Elizabeth Whiteside, Pearlie Taggart and Elizabeth Swinson

London Branch members Sandra Reeves, Dr Kanchan McAllister, and Theo Norman-Walker

Pamela Jackson, President, with Heather Manning (Head Girl), Amy Chambers, and Holly Rankin

Committee members LHSOGA
Fiona Rankin, Jennifer McClintock, Joy Tennis, Averil Watt, Joy Coskery, Barbara Fowler, and Caroline Lynch
The London girls had a beautiful day for their luncheon on 21 April 2012, suitably graced by the President, our own Kanchu McAllister.

Forty-five girls were able to attend. I'm afraid age and ill health are making their presence felt. We were pleased to be able to host a table of 11 girls from the class of 1967.

Our registration was ably and efficiently managed by Olga Tuffery and Helen Scott, following which we were updated on LHSOGA and school news. The grace was led by Helen Hilton and the loyal toast (particularly in this Diamond Jubilee year) ably presented by Theo Norman Walker.

Kanchu gave a witty and entertaining President's address entitled the Irish Raj.

There were several apologies including Norah Foss, Anne Clarke and Lyn Gill. The Treasurer's report and minutes from last year agreed.

There was considerable discussion around the proposed amalgamation of the Old Girls’ and Old Boys' into a united 'Foyle College Former Pupils Association'.

We were also delighted to have the President-Elect Lily Swinson with us.

Ann Seaton

London Branch Secretary
‘Top of the afternoon to you’
‘Namaste’

I bring you greetings from two kingdoms that are represented in the title of my speech, ‘The Irish Raj’.
The word ‘Irish’ needs no explanation, but the word ‘Raj’ refers to ‘kingdom’ in Hindi, the native language of India.

The title reflects the journey made by the Irish to India and Indians to Ireland but I shall concentrate on the latter because of my first hand family experience.

India and Ireland, two beautiful countries separated by over 5,000 miles, by language, by religion but joined together by an imperial past.

One is described as the lush green fertile isle ------- the land of the Leprechaun, while the other is steeped in eastern mystic with spices, deities and the yogi.

The cool and fresh running waters versus the scorching heat and dust.

The fiery red head and dark haired Romanies of Ireland versus the exotic, enticing dove-eyed Divas of India.

The association with two precious stones - the rich deep green Emerald versus the white ice-cold Koh-I-Noor diamond which is literally ‘the jewel in the present crown’

Two Nobel Poets Laureate - the poetry of William Butler Yeats (Nobel prize in 1923) meets the poetry of Rabindranath Tagore (Nobel Prize in 1913). They became great friends.

Tagore named Ghandi MAHATMA (great soul) and he wrote the Indian national anthem.

While Yeats’ beautiful words linger on for a lifetime-
‘But I, being poor, have only my dreams; I have spread my dreams under your feet; Tread softly because you tread on my dreams’.

For Tagore, Yeats was a vibrant symbol of the creative energy of the West. To Yeats - Tagore represented the wisdom, dignity and vitality of Asian philosophy.

Two magical stringed instruments- the heavenly, hypnotic hum of the Harp versus the intoxicating singing soul of the Sitar.

Now for the true story ----I shall give you an insight into how a pioneering Indian youth from the Raj came to set roots in the North of Ireland.

It was 1935 and life in an Indian village did not hold the attention of this restless 17 year old youth. Despite being the top of his class at school he abandoned the prospects of a bright future through education. The seeds of his ambitions and dreams had already been sown by the fact that an uncle had made the journey west.

This youth was my father who is now 94 years young and lives in Toronto.

His marathon journey began with a six week crossing on the Royal Mail Ship ‘Georgic’ - the last ship built for the ‘White Star Line’ shipping company by Harland & Wolfe Belfast, who of course also built the ‘Titanic’.

The journey was from Bombay, ‘the gateway to India’, to Liverpool, then across the Irish Sea to Belfast with the final leg of the journey ending in Londonderry.

This new life was a far cry from the comforts of home. It took hard work, determination and many sacrifices in order to survive but it all paid off and he was able to reap the rewards over the next ten years.

War broke out and my father was unable to return home until 1947 when he was approached by my maternal grandfather, a Major in the Indian army. My grandfather was impressed by this pioneering young man and within weeks, as tradition would have it, my parents were married and returned to Ireland where they initially lived as part of an extended family.

This pioneering family worked selflessly to provide the next generation with education and opportunities that they had never had.

Some found themselves to be enchanted, some for a short time, some for a lifetime by the far away country to which they had ventured.

I speak with pride and passion about my parent’s achievements, reflecting on my rich and fruitful upbringing when East met West.

A wonderful adventure ending in the marriage of two cultures and the best of both worlds.

I look on the world as a rich tapestry that is interwoven with colour, culture, faith and compassion.

I am the product of both unions- of the people, and of the nations-the very best of both worlds.

So let us embrace the entwining of cultures, share their riches and live a life of harmony.
Greetings to all old Girls and old boys from Coleraine
We in Coleraine were saddened by the deaths of two of our members at the beginning of the year. Edith Duddy (née Gamble) passed away in January and Iris Houmann (née Boardman) in February. Edith and Iris were members of our branch for many years. We miss them both.

We met as a group on two occasions during the year. In May we had our Annual Buffet Supper in the home of Rosaleen Ramsey when a good number of members attended including members from the Belfast Branch. We were delighted to have had our President Kanchu McAllister from London with us.

In December our Annual "Get-together" was held in the home of Lily Swinson. As a Branch we were pleased that Lily has agreed to be our President Elect and also to be the Chairperson of the Coleraine Branch. Thank you Lily. Thanks also to our Past Chairperson Phyllis Logan for all her efforts and support for the Branch.

Our members attended other Old Girl's functions and were pleased to meet up with friends and Old Girls in Londonderry, Belfast, London, and Scotland (Glasgow). We look forward to a New Year 2013 and being able to attend future events.

Rosaleen Ramsey (Hon Secretary /Treasurer)

Ladies attending the annual Coleraine Branch buffet supper

Foyle College Old Boys Association

Golf Society

Convenor- Jack McFarland
Golf Society Report for 2012

The first event of the Season was the Glover Rose Bowl at Greencastle Golf Club on Wednesday 6 June on a fine summer’s day. 27 Members and Guests competed.

One of our more youthful and recent Member, Gareth Reid top scored with an excellent 43 points!!! followed some way back by Tommy McBride on 39 pts off a 4 Handicap. A former winner Billy Haslett was third on 36.

The Team Prize was won by George Fleming’s 4 ball with Tommy McBride’s group 2nd. The Visitors produced some fine scores with Philip Babbington best with 40 and Keith Lapsley second on 37. Tommy McBride was back again with the longest drive at the 10th.

The Ballintine Cup was played at City of Derry Golf Club on Wednesday 12 September 2012, postponed from its usual date of 29 August because of very heavy rain.

A good turnout of 27 Members and Guests enjoyed a great day’s golf in good weather and course conditions.

The usual suspects were in the winners’ enclosure with Iain Anthony best with 38 pts. Just 3 over par!!! Tommy McBride second with 37 and Jack McFarland next with 35. John Love and Colin Jeffrey followed with 33 pts each.

Again Visitors scored better than Members. Paul Wallace and Alan Montgomery each scored 38 pts. and Keith Lapsley 3rd with 37. The longest drive at the 18th fairway was won by Iain Anthony and Eric Christie nearest the pin on the 15th green. That is at least the 3rd time Iain Anthony has won the Trophy and he might just keep it!!!!

Brian Long was unable to compete but was his usual generous self donating wine for prizes.

Next year the venues and dates are as follows:

Glover Rose Bowl, Greencastle GC Wednesday 5 June 2013; Cost 5e, 20e for Visitors.

Ballintine Cup, City of Derry GC Wednesday 28 August 2013. Cost £5 and £25 Visitors.
Tees booked from 3-00 to 4-30 pm.

Please encourage more Members and Visitors to attend and have fun and fellowship.

Jack McFarland,12 Cregg Road, Claudy, Londonderry, BT 47 4HX.
E-mail; j.mcfarland@talktalk.net, mob; 07523296066; home 71338397.

Jack McFarland, Convenor FCOBA Golf Society.

October 2012

GREETINGS TO ALL FROM THE LHSOGA BELFAST BRANCH
We were very saddened to learn of the death of Hazel Brown and Maureen Phillips. Both of these ladies were very loyal members of the association and regularly attended the Belfast lunch.

A very fitting tribute to Hazel was provided by her son Donald and this can be read in the obituaries section of the magazine.

Many of us have fond memories of visiting Phillips record shop on Shipquay Street. The Ulster History Circle placed a blue plaque for H.B. Phillips (an old boy of Foyle College) on the wall of his former shop. Maureen was at the unveiling of the plaque and photos of her and a summary of the life of Mr Phillips can be found at www.ulsterhistory.co.uk/plaques.htm

Our annual lunch was held on 6th October 2012 at the Park Plaza Hotel, Belfast International Airport.

We were delighted to welcome Pamela Jackson and Olivia Nutt from the Londonderry branch. Pamela was able to give us an update on what was happening. She told us of the large fire at the Ebrington site. She also told us that plans for the new school are well advanced and that construction work is due to start in 2013.

We were also delighted to welcome a large contingent of old girls from Coleraine. Our incoming President, Lily Swinson, brought greetings from the branch and told us what they had been doing during the past year.

Mabel Colhoun’s niece, Kyleen Clarke, spoke briefly about the current interest shown in Mabel’s lifelong work which culminated in the now out of print book “The Heritage of Inishowen – Its Archaeology, History and Folklore”.

During WW2 Mabel cycled the many miles from her home in Londonderry to Inishowen, Co. Donegal to research archaeology and discover folklore by talking to the local people. Then when petrol became available she would persuade her little car down tracks to record perhaps a souterrain, standing stone or dolmen.

Denise Hunter from Muff, Co. Donegal is researching Mabel’s life for an MA but has also been giving talks to residents in Inishowen pointing out that Mabel’s love of the area and her knowledge gleaned over the years is invaluable and she deserves to be known and remembered for this.

Phenella Black was elected to be the new chairperson of the branch and we all wish her well in her new post.

Joan Milliken (née McCartney)
Chairperson

Foyle College Old Boys’ Annual Dinner
President’s welcome and opening remarks
Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Foyle College Former Pupils Association has a Joint Presidency and tonight for the first time you will hear from both of us. In her days at the High School in the 1960’s my Joint President was Kanchu Chada, so most will recognise that she is part of the family who came to our city in the 1930s and ran the very successful drapery business and the shoe shop in Waterloo Street.

In the former Old Girls Association, Kanchu was the London Branch’s secretary for the 5 years prior to becoming its President this year. Then when the Foyle College Former Pupils Association was formed on the 27th April, Kanchu and I became its Joint Presidents.

Kanchu’s family have run a Girl’s Charity school in the Indian village where her father was born for a number of generations and Kanchu continues to support that school. In doing so she follows in the tradition of Sir Henry Lawrence who did exactly that in India in the 1850s.

Henry Lawrence entered Foyle College on 31st January 1815, a few months after the school had moved to Lawrence Hill, and just after the school became known as Foyle College. He later died at the siege of Lucknow in 1857 after a lifetime of service in the British Colonial Administration of India. He is our distinguished former pupil about whom Kanchu is uniquely endowed to tell us. Thank-you Kanchu.
Until recent times one of the debates in our secondary schools has been about whether we should provide a Classical education or a Mathematical & Commercial one. My distinguished guest this evening, Sean McMahon had a Classical education and showed early promise when he won the Semple prize for Greek at his alma mater, St Columbs. At Queens, he continued the Classics courses and also studied Mathematics & Mechanics. After graduating, in 1953 he returned to St Columbs to teach mathematics. He choose Mathematics as his subject because he had figured out that correcting the maths homework would not take as long as it would to correct essays, and he would then have more time to write. And more than half a century later, Sean is now one of our country’s most prolific writers, having published over 60 histories, biographies, anthologies and children’s books. He has authored a ‘History of Ireland’ and a History of Derry, co-authored Brewer’s Dictionary of Irish Phrase and Fable, and written biographies of Wolf Tone, Joe Devlin and Charles Stewart Parnell. Not confining himself to Irish History and Literature, he has lectured on Shakespeare in Stratford, and has no problem translating any Latin or Greek quotations.

In the city of his birth he has helped keep local theatre alive, and from the 1960’s he has involved himself in the life of our school by helping us with the drama productions at the High School. Always a believer in cooperation in education, in those terrible times of the troubles, he crossed barriers with a remarkable generosity of spirit and tolerance. During the 1970’s, with Denzil Stewart of the English Department he ran the Inter-Schools Drama Festival with Brian Friel as the first Adjudicator. Starting with the four Grammar schools it would later involve most of the secondary schools in the city. Sean was in Duncreggan so often that Miss Christie appointed him an ‘Official Visitor’. The Springtown Campus was used for the day-time rehearsals, and Sean recalls that he always had High School girls in the cast of his productions. He has contributed to the History of St Columbs, but it was a difficult task as the archive material was lost in the fire which gutted the school library in 1989. All his remarkable knowledge and experience has been put to good use during the past two years as the General Editor of our own school history. Even with our large archive, together with the contributions from former pupils and teachers, Sean had a most demanding role. We are all most grateful to my honoured Guest for his extraordinary contributions, and I count it a rare privilege to have worked with Sean on the Editorial board.

We are also privileged to have other distinguished guests with us and on behalf of our Former Pupils Association I would wish to express our appreciation for their presence with us this evening and thank them for being here.

So, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would now ask you to please charge your glasses, and I give you the toast of ‘Our Guests’. Thank-you.

Headmaster, Ladies and Gentlemen
I must admit, now at the beginning, to the feeling of being in a rather anomalous position, what psychologists call cognitive dissonance. It is that as a guest – indeed an honoured guest – a very honoured guest – that I address you. The term ‘guest’ suggests an outsider, even an alien but after two year’s embroilment in the histories of Foyle and its predecessors and that of Londonderry High School and its predecessors I don’t feel in the least bit like an outsider. It is rather as if ET on arrival on earth had discovered that the Mooneys (of William Street) were his cousins. So any obvious evidence of mental confusion may be put down not only to extreme old age but also to having one foot in and one foot out, like someone doing the Hokey-Cokey.

If this were a sermon, which in a sense it is, my text would be: ‘Let us now praise famous men’ from Ecclesiasticus Chapter 44, Verse 1. We can ignore the rest of the verse: ‘and our fathers who begat us!’ since like some of what I have to say this evening it may be apocryphal. And really demands an addition: ‘and the mothers that bore us!’ but written 2192 years ago – even older than Foyle – the necessary contribution of women was never properly acknowledged. We know that man embraces woman and that behind every great man is a great woman whispering, ‘Don’t be such a tedious bore!’ But in those days there was no vinism like chauvinism!

Because of the culture of the past two millennia the history of this school has been largely man-centred. It has had thirty-seven headmasters and five headmistresses and of these twenty-seven were ordained clerics. Most of the assistant teachers in the early days were also clerics and known as ushers. It occurs to me that if women had then been involved in teaching they would have to have been called usherettes, suggesting completely the wrong type of image – of smart uniformed ladies with torches tearing tickets and showing people to seats in super-Odeons.

The first of the famous men I would praise is Matthias Springham, the founder. As chief representative of the Merchant Taylors’ guild he felt keenly his responsibility towards the city assigned to the reluctant London guilds by James I. He was aware that Londonderry County, as it became known, had not been granted the honour of a titular royal school unlike the other five planted counties. In compensation the less than honourable Irish Society had promised a substantial grant of land to maintain the school, which it never delivered. He had had the school built from his own not very adequate means out of a sense of shame at the Society’s dereliction. It meant that the Free School for the first two centuries of its existence lived in penury and on handouts until the generous Bishop Knox took the school under his episcopal wing and nurtured it into near solvency at the beginning of the nineteenth century. Though Springham provided most of the capital for the Free School its site in Society Street commemorates not him but his organisation. Still the wording of the original inscription has been preserved:

Mathias Springham Ar(miger) ad Honorem Dei et Bonarum Literarium Propagationem hanc Scholam Fundavit.
(Mathias Springham Es(quire) built this school to the honour of God and for the study of the classics.)

and his name will live on in Springham Street, halfway up Lawrence Hill (called after a number of other famous men), in Springham Park, across the road from Springtown and supremely in the new Springham campus, the final resting place of the much travelled Foyle College.

The next great man in my necessarily short list is George Fletcher Moore, afterwards Advocate-General and Colonial Secretary for Western Australia. It occurred to him that the lordly river that flowed on the periphery of the grounds should name the school then built at what would later be called Lawrence Hill. It was the second edifice built there; the first Gothic building proved to be
‘too dark’ and in those days of cheap labour and different attitude to time it was demolished and replaced by the elegant building that was for years Foyle College and now houses the Music Department of Magee. It was a sublime if quixotic choice of name. I can think of no other educational establishment that has a name derived from topography. It is rather as if Eton College had decided to call itself the Thames Tech. It is a lovely river, chic and soigné. It may even have given Stephen Foster the opening line for his song, ‘The Old Folks at Home’. His old folks came from Killea and it is certain that they often described the river in the old country to their Pittsburg-born son. We could even sing, ‘Way down upon the soigné river’! And though it is likely that the thought never occurred to Moore the acclaimed choice of name unwittingly prevented the later struggle over nomenclature that still bedevils the city.

Next comes a trio of men to whom all alumni of Foyle owe an immeasurable debt: WS Ferguson, Alan Roberts and Robert Montgomery. Two have gone to the great archive room in the sky; the third is happily with us and indeed is your president. Ferguson juicily clung to every scrap of paper that held information about the school’s early history and wrote about his findings. The torch passed to Alan who squirrel-like continued the work and also gathered more information about the many strands that were woven into the institutions known from the early 1920s as Londonderry High School and the various prep schools. The mass of their accumulated material was assembled, rationalised and curry-combed into an archive worthy of the Library of Congress by the multi-talented Dr Montgomery and caused the publishers of the book *A View the Foyle Commanding* to go green with envy. I could not help contrast the paucity of material that I had to deal with when writing a history of my own old school St Columb’s because of the fire the school suffered in 1989 with the Ali Baba cave of riches that is the Foyle archive. The time is surely overdue for the promulgation of that store. Now if you want to trace any aspect of Foyle and LHS history, whether about the India connection, the Trinity connection, the Norwegian connection, the Antipodean connection or even the Derry connection simply get in touch with Dr Montgomery and information will be instantly available for the most nominal of fees. You can vicariously become raiders of the lost archive.

You may notice that I mentioned a book, with a commanding title. Well now I can reveal that all I’ve said before is part of a cunning plan to obscure the fact that what you are experiencing is a commercial break. There is clearly not the time in a short talk to cover the many famous women and men who are connected with the school. The extremely elegant volume now with the printers will fill that gap. The structure was devised by William Lynn, the project manager, a man whose instinctive gravitas makes the ancient Roman senator Cato look like Coco the clown. Apart from other contributions his work included the sourcing of the many illustrations and the exhausting task of captioning them. Without going into too much tedious detail the broad sections are:

- A narrative history written mainly by Robert and myself with inputs from Jim Heasley and Jack Magill on the changing curriculum and including the history of the once rival Londonderry Academical Insitution that changed the name of Haw Lane to Academy Road.

- An account of girls’ education in the city, including the various strands that made the final fabric of LHS, done by me with help from Joy Coskery, who held a watching brief for her gender throughout all the committee meetings.

- An account of the amalgamation in 1976 by Hugh Gillespie

- Accounts of the war years, boarding, the prep schools done by various hands. (It’s worthwhile buying the book just to see who was guilty!)

- A composite section labeled extra-curricular activities including Sport, (rugby and cricket mainly by Ken Gamble and hockey by Hilary McCloy), Music and Drama (by Jim Goodman),
Trips and Tours, (by Ken Thatcher, who is also business manager), Cadets (Jack Bogle), Scout and Guides (by Stan Huey and Joy Coskery) and Fencing (by Jack Magill)

- Foyle Lives – an account of some famous alumni
- A fascinating collection of reminiscences of school life by a great variety of people
- A Vision of the Future, by the retired headmaster Jack Magill, a future now considerably clearer than when the piece was written.

As well as all this there are many nuggets of information, boxed for ease of reading, that will be interpolated at appropriate parts of the narrative thread: Bishop Hopkins and the diocesan library; pen-pictures of various headmasters, the role of the Honourable, The Irish Society, and much much more.

There is also a series of boxed vignettes written by William about such subjects as the Lawrence Statue, the Lawrence Medal and Honours Board, the House System and the Japanese Ceremonial Samurai Sword – a blow to those who thought that corporal punishment had been discontinued. There will be many illustrations of school artefacts: flags, uniforms, badges and medals, the original plate brought by Springham and now part of the cathedral archive, and loads and loads of school photographs, perhaps of people sitting here innocently unaware of ultimate exposure.

Also featured are the school coats of arms which I do not need to remind you are respectively Ne umquam cesseris and: Ως αει ενωπιον του Θεου. The adamantine refusal to surrender was first shouted, though not in Latin, at Bishop Gate in 1689, when James II failed to persuade the citizenry to be good Jacobites. The LHS motto meaning literally ‘as if ever in the presence of God’ was softened for the rather unwary little maids of the seminary as ‘as ever in my great taskmaster’s sight’.

As I consider how this school evolved from so many others to become the exemplar of non-sectarian excellence it now is I recall many more famous women and men (mentioned of course in the book). Their careers in the Church, Academe, science, public service, medicine and the arts make the school quite exceptional. Most people know about George – a decent Farquhar, fewer about Charles Macklin and after Ken Thatcher’s splendid piece of literary detective work we can claim John Mitchel, the second most vocal Young Irelander. And while we are on the subject of fervent nationalists we should not forget the poet Alice Milligan who taught in Victoria, wrote the first playlet in modern Irish and whose most famous poem ‘When I Was a Little Girl’ has the verse:

But one little rebel there
Watching all with laughter,
Thought, ‘When the Fenians come
I’ll rise and go after.’

Kathleen Coyle, one of Derry’s finest novelists, was probably taught by her and when we are on the subject of anti-imperialists, Gretta Cousins, another old Victoria girl, after a lot of deliberate civil disobedience became India’s first woman magistrate. We nearly had WB Yeats but we did have his Pollexfen cousins. I could go on but will have a big finish with showbiz: actors Noel Willman, Amanda Burton, Eva Birthistle and Andrew Simpson. Know I would accounted be true brother of that company. I played a tiny part in one of their careers and have one claim to fame as far as LHS is concerned in the mid-1970s I was appointed official school visitor – a post less than onerous.
One last plug for the book. If you wish to have delivered to you a readymade *Mastermind* subject this is clearly your best bet. For many here it will be a trip down Memory Lane, for others a useful means of settling arguments with appendices of list of heads, the words of the school songs, the lists of presidents of FCOBA and LHSOGA and the enviable list of those who by ordering early will find their names in the list of subscribers. So with the hope that when the roll is called up yonder you'll be there we recommend this gorgeous book.

There’s an old Gaelic proverb which states: ‘*Deirtear gur an chéad céad bliain is measa*’ – (‘The first hundred years are the worst.’) In *A View the Foyle Commanding* we have recorded the history and herstory of the first *four* hundred years of disinterested endeavour and we calmly await the next four hundred. Ladies and gentlemen, you have a school to be proud of. Cherish it!

Sean McMahon

---

**Foyle College Old Boys’ Annual Dinner**
President Robert Montgomery, with Past Presidents

 Presidents and Top Table Guests
Presidents and Lady Members

Presidents with the Head Boy, Head Girl, and Capt of Rugby
Past President Stan Huey presenting the Huey Salver for Rugby to Oisin Duddy, with President Robert Montgomery

Oisin Duddy and President Kanchan McAllister
Members attending the Annual Dinner
Scottish Reunion – 17th November 2012

14 LHS and FLC Old Girls from Scotland and Northern Ireland gathered for an enjoyable and relaxed dinner in the Pipers Tryst restaurant in Glasgow. Some others would have loved to join us but could not this time; we hope they can come next year when it will probably be in Edinburgh.

Susan Lawson, Isabel McNally, Marilyn Moore, Marianne McNally, Harriet Love, Joanne Love, Elma McDevitt, Molly Kennedy, Morag White, Rosaleen Ramsay, Debbie MacDonald, Lesley Robertson and Mary McKerrow.
Old Girls’ Hockey Match
The Old Girls’ hockey match was moved from September to December this year and proved to be a tremendous success. Once again it provided the opportunity for the girls to meet up with our past pupils and to hear what life at University is really like.

The match or matches as it turned out allowed the school 1st XI to keep up some match fitness over the Christmas holidays. The two match series ended in a 1-1 draw and proved to be very enjoyable and entertaining for players and spectators alike!

After the first match the girls enjoyed dinner in Halo giving everyone an opportunity for some catching-up. With the return of Megan Frazer from America the following day it was decided that another match should be played between Christmas and the New Year. Miss Eakin and Kathryn made cameo appearances but were a little in the shadow of Megan who had recently been voted best Field Hockey Player in the USA. A wonderful achievement and one that makes us very proud. Following her starring role on the Old Girls’ team, Megan jetted off with the Irish team to South Africa to play in a series of games as final preparations for the Olympic Qualifiers in Belgium in March. Unfortunately for reasons only known to the Irish coach she did not make the squad for Belgium but did travel out to support her team. I have no doubt that she will have many years ahead in International hockey, such is her talent.

As well as Megan at Maryland, the Old Girls are well represented at universities in England and Scotland. Camilla Lyttle and Jane Manning are playing for Edinburgh University, Victoria McAllister at Nottingham, Leanne Orr at Stirling and Laura McFaul at my old alma mater Loughborough to name but a few.

This year the old girls match had four sets of sisters playing against each other which intensified rivalry. Clare and Alexandra Graham, Kathryn, Jane and Heather Manning and Rachel and Amy Chambers all took part. Not to mention the mother daughter combination of Camilla and Valerie Lyttle!

The enthusiasm for this match is certainly strong and already next season’s match is pencilled into the fixture list for the same time of year. Perhaps we might even get two teams playing as there are so many Upper Sixth leavers this year.

K.Eakin
Your Contributions
I first heard of this special lady through the Old Girls’ grapevine but did not have the pleasure of meeting Maureen until 2006.

Once I joined the Londonderry High School Old Girls’ Association in 2002, I began to take an interest in the history of LHS, both past and present. This interest was fuelled to ignition point after Mrs Joy Coskery pointed me in the right direction, namely to number 5 Bayview Park, where Maureen lived.

I never looked back since and my life became enriched by the knowledge that Maureen imparted to me over the next most precious years.

We loved, we laughed and we lived every moment as we scoured through the old magazines-starting from number one dated 1935.

Sadly, we only got as far as the 1960s.

On each of my visits to Londonderry, I set aside my special day for Maureen and memorabilia. I would always call with Maureen at about 11am-just enough time for her helpers to get her dressed immaculately-for that is how I will always remember her-beautifully turned out with a smile to match.

Despite all her pains, aches and ailments there was always that sunshine smile to greet me. Our faces would light up like beacons at the thought of seeing each other again- I shall truly miss those magic moments.

Maureen always booked lunch at the Waterfoot for 1pm, but we were always late. Time meant nothing to us as we buried ourselves in the pages of the old magazines. There would be shrieks of delight from Maureen as we came across events and people to which she could relate.

She was so grateful for my interest in our school and its history. It was her great passion in life, never missing a school or Old Girls’ function, health permitting.

I was jealous of her treasured memories, so much honour and dignity in her past world, one that I would have loved to share.
Maureen talked of many wonderful past Old Girls, including Mrs Lucie Seaward (née Johnston), Mrs Lorna Knox (née Clarke), Mrs Pearlie Taggart (née Wilson), Mrs Helen Hilson (née Eaton), Mrs Norah Foss (née Kelly) and Mrs Betty Hamilton who are personally known to me and of her own vintage. All a credit to the Old Girls’ Association.

We would always make a bee-line for each other at any Old Girls’ functions that we attended together. Maureen would always sit with her Thursday lunch club friends Mrs Maud Bredin, Mrs Morwena Willoughby, Mrs Elizabeth Hawthorne and Mrs Etta Glenn, and I, with my year, the class of ‘67.

I would take photographs of her with her special friends and there would always be one taken of us together.

The most treasured one being taken with me as President last March, the last time that we saw each other.

A past pupil of LHS, Treasurer of the Derry Old Girls’, Governor of the school but foremost, ALWAYS a Londonderry High School Old Girl.

Rest in peace my friend for I will never forget you.

‘Death leaves a heartache no one can heal
Love leaves a memory no one can steal’

Lady President Kanchu McAllister & Maureen Phillips at the Derry Old Girls’ lunch March 2012

Maureen’s invaluable memorabilia has been left to the school archives and I am honoured that she bestowed me with the task of vetting her material before handing it over to the school.

We are very grateful to her family for this honour.
Maureen’s famous family connection

Maureen’s husband Eric Phillips was nephew of the eminent Henry B. Phillips.

Henry Bettesworth Phillips (affectionately known as H.B.) was born in Co. Kildare in the Station Master’s house Athy in 1866 and came to Derry at the age of ten to sing as a chorister in St Columb’s Cathedral.

The young Henry won a scholarship as a boy soloist, soon became the head choir boy and took the solo soprano role in a performance of the first part of Handel’s Messiah.

H.B. attended Foyle College from 1879-1882.

In 1890 he set up his "Piano and Music Salon" in Marlborough Street in Londonderry, moving to "Beethoven House" in Shipquay Street in 1901.

Between 1896 and 1903 he controlled Derry Opera House.

In 1907 he opened a second music shop near the Ulster Hall in Belfast also called "Beethoven House". Henry promoted concerts in Belfast, Derry and Dublin.

He moved to London in 1911 to work for Thomas Beecham and in 1923 he acquired the Carl Rosa Opera Company and ran it until his death in 1950.

He promoted and arranged the first ever major concert in the Derry Guildhall.

The Derry shop at Shipquay Street surpassed all others in the country.

Pianos were their speciality, but one could purchase the latest recordings, and almost any musical instrument or musical score.

Musical instrument repairs were carried out and it served as a booking office for musical shows. The full frontage window of Beethoven House, reputed to be the largest in Europe, was later shattered in a drunken brawl by two sailors in 1947.

H.B’s greatest achievement was bringing the most celebrated artist of the time, Enrico Caruso, to Belfast in 1909. Others included Count John McCormack (October 1935), Fritz Kriesler-
violinist (January 1936) and Paul Robeson-baritone (February 1936) and conductor Sir Thomas Beecham.

The Belfast shop was sold after the war and by 1980 the Derry business was sold with no family left to keep it running.

H.B. kept a little leather bound autograph book, containing all the above names plus the rather unique and famous signature of Amelia Earhart who made an emergency landing at Ballyarnett Londonderry in May 1932.

H.B. Phillips was made CBE in 1948. He died in 1950 and is buried in London.

His two younger brothers George and Arthur ran Beethoven House after H.B. moved to England.


Kanchu McAllister
Pearlie Taggart remembers a Royal Visit in 1953

This year’s Diamond Jubilee celebrations brought back wonderful memories of the Queen’s post Coronation visit to Londonderry 60 years ago in 1953.
Pearlie Taggart (née Wilson) vividly remembers the day over half a century ago when as a young woman she was chosen from thousands of young ladies in the city to present Queen Elizabeth II with a bouquet of flowers when she visited the former Gwynn’s Institute at the city’s beautiful Brooke Park.

Pearlie remembers “in 1953 Londonderry Corporation wanted a representative of the shirt industry in the city to present a bouquet to her Majesty. The difficulty was how to choose from thousands of girls without offending them all. I worked in the Star Factory on Foyle Road which was the only factory in Londonderry with a welfare officer and I was in that position. Mr Charlie Swann was the Managing Director of the factory and he chose me. I lived at Clooney Park West in the Waterside, and a Corporation car came to my house along with a well known florist in the city at the time, Mr McCorkell, whose shop was in Shipquay Street. They drove us up to Brooke Park, Mr McCorkell wouldn’t let the bouquet out of his sight the whole time.

I also remember the garden party was at about 2 or 3pm and just before the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh arrived, I was brought to the top of the steps at Gwynn’s Institute, then down the steps onto the lawn. I was told that the Queen would go around greeting people and then on her way out I was to step forward and present her with the flowers.

Mr McCorkell stayed with me the whole time. Queen Elizabeth came around with the Mayor, Mr Samuel Orr, and Sir Basil McFarland. I am small in stature but I remember thinking she was only the same size as me.

When I gave Her Majesty the bouquet, she said ‘thank you for the beautiful flowers’ and gave me a lovely smile.

About a week later I was on my holidays in London and on TV there was footage of the Queen leaving Eglinton Airport. Then I could clearly see that the flowers had been kept because someone was carrying them onto the plane.”

Adapted from the Sentinel article

Pearlie giving the Queen flowers
1953

Pearlie remembering the event
2012
Recently children in Monte Horebe School, Itaperuçu, Brazil, have been introduced to the rugby ball and have had opportunities to practice mini rugby skills. Once again John and Phyllis Logan have been working in the school alongside their Brazilian colleagues. Phyllis has been talking to and updating the family history of the many children whose education is being sponsored through the generosity of people in Northern Ireland, particularly Coleraine. John has been in classrooms, assisting the Principal with matters of school improvement and teaching physical education during which sessions he has been able to introduce some mini rugby skills. The children wear the Coleraine RF and CC rugby shirts with pride and have adapted easily from round ball at feet to oval ball in hands.

Working in the school is but one strand of the involvement which John and Phyllis have with Itaperuçu. Of particular importance at the moment is the social development of Caçador, an impoverished rural area some 25 miles from the town itself. The wealth which so obviously exists in parts of Brazil and within certain strata of society has permeated neither to Caçador nor to countless other similar regions.

The work being done by Monte Horebe within the Caçador community is currently in the area of health with a volunteer nurse visiting the new community centre weekly and both a GP and a paediatrician visiting on a monthly basis. With the nearest local government first aid post situated some 10 miles from Caçador and being inaccessible in wet weather, the new arrangement has proved of considerable value.

Education is a second major priority and plans are under way to develop a school in the new building. When the school is operational most children will have comparatively easy access to education and will not experience the current discontinuity in their studies. During one week recently the school bus was able to access Caçador on one day out of 5 due the state of the dirt roads.

While still not operating to its fullest potential, the new community centre is proving to be of considerable importance to the community. Not only are some services being provided but the very fact that people’s needs have been recognised and are being dealt with have raised self-esteem in the community. The people of Caçador thank those in Northern Ireland for their generosity in funding the construction and fitting out of the centre.
Celyne with Phyllis

An informal English class

P.E. Class
Representing Ireland at the 44th International Chemistry Olympiad

David Cochrane represented Ireland at the 44th International Chemistry Olympiad in Washington DC in the summer of 2012.

The International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) began in the former state of Czechoslovakia in the late sixties. Since then the IChO has been held every year, except 1971 and invites all countries to send their most talented Chemistry students to partake in the theoretical and practical problems set, of which some are equivalent difficulty to third year BSc Chemistry. However the purpose of the event is now much more than ranking countries by chemistry students, but rather an opportunity to explore the culture of the host country and form international relations with fellow competitors, many of whom you would be likely to meet again if one were to follow an academic career. This is analogous with the modern Olympic Games.

Foyle College has been sending students to take the regional examinations held in Dublin and then Queen’s University Belfast for 17 years (1996). Out of the first heat the top six competitors are asked to undertake further training at Dublin City University during the summer along with the top six competitors from the Republic of Ireland who have taken the same qualifying exam. Upon completing the preliminary training another examination is taken which contains practical and theoretical elements to decide the final team, which always consists of two from Northern Ireland and two from the Republic of Ireland. Team Ireland then receives further training at Belfast and Dublin before heading to the IChO with two mentors.

This year was the 44th IChO and hosted by Washington D.C., USA. After arriving in the States we transferred to The University of Maryland which provided our meals, accommodation and venue for examinations. The opening ceremony followed, each country is formally introduced and performances from Native American Dancers and Maryland Jazz Band ensued. Throughout the Olympiad we were taken on excursions to the Smithsonian Museums, a tour of NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Centre, lectures were given by Nobel Prize Laureate John Mather and British born astronaut Piers Sellers. We also had a tour of the US Naval Academy in Annapolis. After taking our five hour practical and theoretical exams each team was transferred to their embassies in DC. I was warmly welcomed by Michael Collins the Irish Ambassador to the US and had tea before all teams rerouted to a reunion party hosted by the French Embassy. Before the Closing Ceremony we had more excursions to The National Aquarium and a Baseball Game in Baltimore. The Closing Ceremony was held at Georgetown University. Sixty percent of competitors are awarded either a bronze, silver or gold medal. One member of the Irish team won a Bronze medal. Those who win gold are offered scholarships to Moscow State University to study Chemistry. This is usually why some countries take the IChO more seriously than others! Team Ireland left the States the next day after a Banquet at the National Building Museum having formed many international ties and lifelong friendships.

I would encourage all pupils of Foyle College, particularly those in upper sixth who have an aptitude for science and mathematics to read more on the International Science Olympiads. The IChO is only one of twelve Olympiads offered to post-primary school students. You may not win a medal or qualify for the team, but regardless It will always look good on your CV that you are one of the best scientists in Ireland.

David Cochrane

David’s trip was supported by a donation from the Presidents’ Fund.
I decided to spend my eight week elective period in India. I spent five weeks in Tezpur, a rural city in northeast India, and the other three in Leh Ladakh on the Tibetan border. I chose India as I was keen to spend my time in a non-NHS institution and preferably a developing country, as I felt this would provide me with different experiences from placements I have undertaken in the UK. I also felt that India would provide me with the opportunity for hands-on experience and the possibility of relief work. I specifically chose a hospital and project that did not focus on one speciality as I wanted to gain as much experience in general medicine as possible. Additionally, I wanted to choose a country that would offer me an insight into a completely different culture from my own.

During my time in Tezpur, I was based in a mission hospital which was privately funded by generous donations. Care provided by the few government hospitals in the region was extremely poor, with many people preferring to travel miles to the mission hospital. The more time I spent in the remote foothills of the Himalayas, the more it became clear that the communities relied on the Himalayan Health Exchange project returning annually to provide healthcare. During the eight weeks, I felt saddened by the number of deaths caused by easily preventable diseases, with many children dying due to vaccine preventable diseases. I believe I felt this way as I have been brought up in a country that thanks to the NHS provides everyone with access to free healthcare.

I have learnt that implementing simple measures such as good vaccination programmes can have a massive impact on the health of a country. This reinforced my personal view on the importance of free healthcare for all and the role the NHS plays in the UK. My experiences would motivate me to work abroad in the future with the hope of providing free healthcare to other parts of the world.

If I was pushed to choose my most valuable personal experience from the eight weeks I spent in India, it would be the clinics we set up at Pangong Lake Tso Ladakh. For many of the patients that attended these clinics it was their first ever contact with health professionals. The area was so remote that the nearest hospital was eight hours by jeep, a mode of transport which many people did not have access to. We had the equipment to perform minor procedures onsite and our dentist was extremely busy with tooth extractions. I felt that all the advice, procedures and medication that we were able to provide to these patients was greatly appreciated.

Having returned from my elective, I feel that my choice of country fulfilled all the expectations that I had. It broadened my cultural horizons, gave me hands-on experience, and provided an insight into a country where free healthcare is not available to all.

Catherine Thatcher

Catherine’s trip was supported by a donation from the Presidents’ Fund.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date &amp; Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A View the Foyle Commanding – Book Launch</td>
<td>8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; March @ 7pm</td>
<td>The old Foyle College Lawrence Hill Londonderry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jazz Night - £5 entry</td>
<td>9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; March @ 7.30pm</td>
<td>Tower Hotel, Butcher Street Derry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCFPA Spring Luncheon</td>
<td>23&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; March @ 12.30pm</td>
<td>Belfray Country Inn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LHSOGA London Branch Luncheon</td>
<td>13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April @12pm</td>
<td>Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza Inn, Kensington, 100 Cromwell Road, London. SW7 4ER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wine &amp; Cheese Event, including AGM and Investiture of Presidents</td>
<td>26&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April @ 7pm</td>
<td>Foyle College, Duncreggan Road Londonderry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class of ’74-’81 Reunion</td>
<td>18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; May @ 7pm</td>
<td>White Horse Hotel Campsie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LHSOGA Coleraine Branch Lunch</td>
<td>Date to be decided</td>
<td>To be decided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Competitions</td>
<td>Tees 3pm-4.30pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glover Rose Bowl</td>
<td>5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; June</td>
<td>Greencastle Golf Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballintine Cup</td>
<td>28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; August</td>
<td>City of Derry Golf Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer BBQ and Jazz Night</td>
<td>21&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; June</td>
<td>Foyle College Duncreggan Road Londonderry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LHSOGA Belfast Branch Luncheon</td>
<td>5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; October</td>
<td>Park Plaza Hotel, Belfast International Airport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCOBA Annual Dinner</td>
<td>11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; October</td>
<td>City Hotel, Derry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LHSOGA Scottish Reunion</td>
<td>Date to be decided</td>
<td>To be decided</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Foyle College

Former Pupils’ Association Annual Spring Lunch & Reunion

at the

Belfray Country Inn

Saturday, 23rd March 2013

12.30 for 1.00 pm

The cost of the lunch will be £20.00 per person (cheque payable to FCPA) and please bring a friend.

Please return your booking form (below) with your remittance and indicating your choice of menu by 9th March 2013 to:

Mrs Barbara Fowler, 1 Salisbury Crescent, Londonderry BT47 5SX

Telephone 02871346215 or 07743449566

Name (Please print) ......................................    E mail address..................................................

I will/will not be present at Spring Lunch at The Belfray Country Inn.

Please tick your menu choice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starters</th>
<th>Main Courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deep Fried Breaded Mushrooms &amp; Garlic</td>
<td>Roast Beef with House Jus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egg Mayonnaise</td>
<td>Chicken Haystacker with Pepper Sauce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caesar Salad</td>
<td>Fillet of Salmon with Dill Sauce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homemade Vegetable Broth</td>
<td>Vegetarian Option</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Served with seasonal vegetables, creamed and roast potatoes

Choice of homemade desserts – Tea/Coffee with Belfray Mints

Please add your e mail address if possible as Spring Lunch invitations will no longer be posted.

Details of lunch can be e mailed or will be available on web site.
INVITATION

FOYLE COLLEGE FORMER PUPILS’ ASSOCIATION INVITES YOU

“THE CLASS OF ’74 – 81”

TO A SCHOOL REUNION

on
18 MAY 2013

at
WHITE HORSE HOTEL for 7PM

HOT BUFFET AND DISCO

FOR THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE SCHOOL ONE LAST TIME BEFORE IT MOVES TO NEW PREMISES. DUNCREGGAN HOUSE WILL BE OPEN FROM 2-4PM

COST £25

Please post cheques made payable to “Foyle College FPA” to:
Adair’s, 11 Chapel Road, Waterside, Londonderry, BT47 2AN

Please e-mail school photos to Sheena at sheepsie@hotmail.com

FCOBA Memorabilia
Cuff links (Old Boys)………………………………….£20.00

Ties (Old Boys)…………………………………………£10.00

Bow Ties (Old Boys)…………………………………….£10.00

Lithographs of School Buildings (A4)…………….£5.00 + £1 p+p
(By Yvonne Huey)

Watercolour collage & history of
School buildings, past & present (A3)……………£25.00 (unframed)
(By Hugh Gillespie) £50.00 (framed)

To purchase or enquire about any of the above items, please contact a committee member

LHSOGA Memorabilia
SILVER BROOCHES
FLC - £70 & £4 p&p
LHS - £65 & £4 p&p – only 2 available

LITHOGRAPHIC PRINTS
The popular collection of prints of the old Schools by Yvonne Huey are available, each £5 & £1 p&p.

Prints available - Strand House 1860
LHS 1928
Academical Institution 1871
Victoria High School 1877
St. Lurach’s 1900
Foyle College, Springtown 1967
Foyle College, Lawrence Hill 1814

NOTELETS
Notelets of Duncreggan House by the late Gordon Whiteside are available in packs of 5 for £5 & £1.50 p&p.

DERRY CITY CRYSTAL ETCHED PAPERWEIGHT
The etched paperweight of Duncreggan House is available at the price of £14 & £1.50 p&p.

SILVER COMPACT MIRROR – LHS CREST
The elegant handbag-sized compact mirror inscribed with the LHS crest is available to buy for only £15 & £1.50 p&p.

TEA TOWEL
Cotton tea towel depicting Duncreggan House available at £3.50 each plus p&p.

To purchase or enquire about any of the above, please contact:

Mrs Averil Watt  Tel – 028 7131 1176
Or any committee member