

Report: 2022 LOG Reunion held on 1 October 2022

Sister Shirley will be gratified in her heavenly space for the continuation of the LOG Reunion which she started in 1950 and which has continued unabated for 72 years except for the Covid period.

Our thanks to Father Ncedo Siwundla of St John Vianney Seminary for saying the Mass. He reminded us that it is in the small things that we are strengthened to deal with the large challenges of life in the same way that St Theresa of the Child Jesus developed a spiritual approach of striving for holiness through her childlike confidence in God's love and mercy. The day of the LOG Reunion on 1 October 2022 was the Feast Day of St Theresa of the Child Jesus.

Once again we thank Ursula (Sinovich) Jadrijevic (Skinner 1966) for playing the piano and to her husband, Jaksa Jadrijevic (LOB), as Communion Minister and leader in the "Echo Our Father". They have done this for many a year and always as professionals.

Congratulations to Jaksa and Ursula Jadrijevic on their GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY. Very special in the LOG calendar of Memories!

We thank all who were present. Also thanks to Violet Nyirenda (a LCS teacher) for preparing the altar and arrangements in the Chapel, and to the two Altar Servers, Ofentse Madia and Sandile Mabuza (both in Grade 9 at LCS) and the younger sister who sat alone during the Mass but was very proud of the surname of Madia!

Moreover, thanks to Jabu Nkosi and his wife Karen Nkosi who assisted in dealing with the Venue, Staff Room and Chapel.

Mass was offered for Yamkela Mgxashe (Skinner 2014), who died in a freak car accident on 24 September 2022.

Also once again our thanks to Mrs Suzette Truter, Executive Principal of LCS, for the venue and the LCS sponsorship of tea and coffee in the Staff Room.

Our thanks to all LOGS for the generous donations and for supplying the eats.

Our heartfelt gratitude to Margaret (Wickham) Collins (Skinner 1951) who dealt with the arrangements in the Staff Room.

We are reminded that it is better to "Guide from the side" than to be a "Sage from the Stage" as educational methods change and as Pieter Dirkie Uys reminded us to "Adapt or Die".

The Golden Girls (the only category to be celebrated from now on) for this year included the LOGS for 2020 and 2021 when we could not hold a physical Reunion (1970, 1971) and for 2022 (1972) as follows:

<b>Golden Girls</b>	<b>50 years out of school</b>				
<b>Maiden Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Year left</b>	<b>School</b>
(Chan)	Denise	Pin	Mrs	1970	Skinner
(Wallis)	Teresa	Neville	Mrs	1971	MS/Skinner
(Allwright)	Joan	Bromfield	Mrs	1971	Skinner
(Andreatta)	Alida	Cosani	Mrs	1971	Skinner
(Argyrou)	Athenia	Couvaras	Mrs	1971	Skinner
(Mackintosh)	Judy	Joubert	Mrs	1971	Skinner
(Couvaras)	Agatha	Romanos	Mrs	1971	Skinner
(Tilley)	Clare	Sloan	Mrs	1971	Skinner
(Greet)	Carol	Stegmann	Mrs	1971	Skinner
(Nurse)	Terry	Koot	Mrs	1972	Skinner
(Fransolet)	Josette	Meyers	Mrs	1972	Skinner
(Wilson)	Geraldine	Wilson	Ms	1972	Skinner



Photo of the Golden Girls of 1970, 1971 and 1972

#### NOTE

We are including LOG News and Letters from LOGS received after the main 2022 LOG Newsletter was sent out.

1. Tribute sent on 12 September 2022 from Dellene (Hamilton) Clark (Skinner 1987) on behalf of the Skinner 1987 group

The class of 1987 has been engaged in communication over a WhatsApp group since 2017. We have slowly reconnected and have added classmates and siblings who we were at school with, even if they did not complete matric with us. How incredible it is to connect

with our friends in Greece, Portugal, the United Kingdom, Texas, Mbombela, Eastern Cape, Western Cape, Johannesburg and Pretoria.

We are collectively reeling from the shock of Michelle Robertson-Swift's death on 6 June 2022 (prefect 1987) and the death of her younger sister Angelique the month before. When we reconnected with Michelle she was receiving dialysis and was waiting for a kidney transplant, which was not to be. Some of us had the wonderful privilege of flying down to Cape Town to meet up with her and her wonderful family. We shared her journey of ups and downs – all along gathering and giving strength to one another.

I would like to pay tribute to Michelle, a truly phenomenal woman, who used her God given talent to change urban landscapes to address structural inequality and make them economic hubs in the centre of township communities. Michelle shared with us how she had put her health on hold to give the best of herself to others.

I would like to encourage anyone reading this to be kind to yourself and if you are facing a health challenge to give yourself time to adjust. It's ok to take a bit of time out.

Warm regards

Dellene Clark (nee Hamilton) Head Girl LOG 1987, daughter of Ursula Hardy, LOG 1966.

2. News on 27 September 2022 from Sherilyn (van Niekerk) Haupt (Queenswood 1976)

Good morning.

As a Loreto Old Girl and current Loreto Skinner Teacher for nearly 40 years I will unfortunately not be able to attend the reunion on Sat. I will be flying over to join my daughter in Dublin. She is currently specialising in emergency medicine at Crumlin Children's Hospital.

Hope you have a great day.

Regards

Sherilyn Haupt (nee van Niekerk)

3. On 17 September 2022 Judy (Mackintosh) Joubert (Skinner 1971) wrote

I also have very sad news. My sister-in-law, Anna Patricia Pollitt nee Joubert (Hillcrest Loreto Convent 1962) passed away on 19th July 2022 in Kempton Park. She is survived by her husband Errol, daughter Claire, granddaughter Georgia and son Father Russell Pollitt. She will be so sadly missed by her family and friends.

So sorry to inform you so late. My sincere apologies.

4. News on 25 October 2022 from Karen (Hazell) Chellew (Skinner 1979) on the passing of Norma (Wolff) Higgins (Hillcrest 1952)

We received word earlier today that Norma Higgins (Wolff) passed away peacefully at 08:30 this morning. I think she was in a home in Garsfontein.

I have very fond memories of Norma.

All the best for what remains of 2022.

Karen Chellew (Hazell)

5. A correction from Peter Schoorl in relation to the article "Blossom Time" Programme from 1957 that was included in the 2022 LOG Newsletter

Thanks for mailing the 2022 LOG Newsletter to me.

Please note the following: I was not involved in the production. At that time I was at the age of 15 and an altar boy. Especially the boarding school girls knew me because I served Mass many mornings or Benediction in the afternoon.

I hope that some of the "Old Girls" will remember "Blossom Time".

Thank you very much.  
Peter Schoorl

6. From: Mrs Suzette Truter, Executive Principal of LCS

It is with sadness that I have to inform you about our head girl of 2014, Yamkela Mgxashe's death the past weekend. She finished her medical studies last year and was working at Mamelodi Hospital. She used an Uber to get to work, and with loadshedding, another car skipped a robot and hit the Uber she was a passenger in.

Violet, myself and two other staff members would like to attend the memorial service at 10h00 in Centurion. (Note: the time coincides with the time the LOG Reunion took place.)

7. Info from Violet Nyirenda, teacher at LCS

I hope you are well. I have got a bit of information on the faithful departed Yamkela:

Name: Yamkela Mgxashe

Born on: 16 March 1996

Matriculated at Loreto Convent in 2014/ Head Girl

Stellenbosch University 2015-2020

Passed away on 24 September 2022 in a tragic Uber accident

Age: 26 years

Intern doctor at Mamelodi Hospital since January 2020

She was well loved by her fellow doctors, was always helpful and giving advice to others.

Mature for her age.

I also got some lovely comments from Denise (Chan) Pin (Skinner 1970) who was at the LOG Reunion for the first time. **Denise wrote:**

*I attended the Loreto Old Girls Reunion on Saturday. It was such a joyous and beautiful occasion. Thanks to Frances and all the organisers who made so much effort to make it successful. The Mass was so special, especially since the pianist- Ursula Sinovich, was in the*

*same class-1966 with my older sister Maureen. I remembered her distinctly as she was the Head Girl for that year. We spoke and took photos and it is so great that she remembers my sister as well. I am going to pleasantly surprise my sister who lives in Los Angeles- a blast from the past. I was the only one from my year 1970 but it was wonderful to get together and reminisce.*

Best regards  
Violet

#### 8. Additional book

The following book is recommended: "A Simplified Catechism of the Catholic Church" by Father Vincent Brennan SMA obtainable from the Cape Town Catholic Bookshop at 021 465 5904.

#### 9. Thoughts to ponder till next year.

The LOG Reunion was devised to include LOGS of all years. Sister Shirley meant the LOG Reunion to celebrate aliveness and well-being of all LOGS. This meant that LOGS from all years to meet and speak to each other to celebrate aliveness. LOGS who have passed on are to be prayed for. This is done in the Mass.

Sister Shirley was not fussy about which year you were at a Loreto Convent. She meant for LOGS of all years to communicate with each other.

Please think again and again about coming to the LOG Reunion. It is not only to see your friends of a particular group, which is just as important, but to celebrate with all who have passed through the portals of all Loreto Convents!

Bravo to all who have a steadfast love for the Loreto tradition whether it be for 1925, 1935, 1945, 1955, 1965, 1975, 1985, 1995, 2005, 2015 or 2022!

Deo Gratias

**Keep safe and progress steadily till we meet again on Saturday 7 October 2023 at 11h00. DV. Please diarise the reminder in your 2023 year planner / diary / calendar!**

E.&O.E.