

Report of 2019 LOG Reunion held on Saturday 5 October 2019 at 11h00

Such an intimate gathering this year! Seems a small number means everyone can meet and speak to everyone. Hooray! Sister Shirley would have been delighted to know that the LOG Reunion (started in 1950) has achieved its goal of LOGS across the generations talking to each other.

Sister Eileen welcomed all and thanked everyone for coming. She commented on the wide range of LOG ages from Natalie Human (Skinner 1944) and Gracie Pozzo (Skinner 1947) to Mamiemie Mmolawa and Kerotse Kekana (both Skinner 2008). Well done to all!

Sister Eileen called to mind the environment so well loved by St Francis of Assisi. In Arbor Month Pope Francis planted a tree in the Vatican. Sister Eileen went on to remind us that a young Swedish girl has told us that we should be ashamed of ourselves for spoiling the environment, but Sister Eileen conceded that South Africans in general did a good job of recycling instead of littering!

Sister Eileen thanked Louisa Sousa (Skinner 1976) for the flowers at the Reunion and all others who participated in organising the Reunion. After this we continued with Refreshments (delicious eats supplied by Maria Balanco) organised by Margaret Collins (Skinner 1951) and her helpers.

The activities in the School Hall (dedicated to Sister Shirley Kay) were preceded by Mass in the School Chapel. Many LOGS expressed thoughts on the remarkably meaningful Mass with the First Reading done by Molly Connolly (Hillcrest 1954) and the Responsorial Psalm done by Molly's friend, Julie Wilcocks. Ursula Jadrijevich (Skinner 1966) played the piano for hymn-singing and her husband, Jakska Jadrijevich (Loreto Old Boy), led the "Echo Our Father".

Father Kevin Reynolds (Loreto Old Boy), who, as usual, celebrated the Mass, exceeded his normal 3-minute sermon with an inspiring comment on anti-clericalism, a favourite topic of Pope Francis, and furthermore invited us to be more personal in our celebration of the Mass, and our interaction with Loreto Sisters, lay teachers and LOG peers.

Back in the School Hall the Lucky Draw for Three, organised by Kim Lamble (Skinner 1988/1992) and drawn by Margaret Collins (usually done by Felicity Mullan – Hillcrest 1954, called away for other duties) was won by Natalie Human (Skinner 1944), Andrea Koundouris (son of Patricia Koundouris (Skinner 1991)), and Mrs Suzette Truter (Principal). Hope you all enjoy "Family Favourites Cookbook" of Loreto Skinner Street.

Sister Emer presented the Celebratory Awards as follows.

Golden Girls	50 years out of school				
Maiden Name	First Name	Surname	Title	Year left	School
(Kuhn)	Shannon	Abdo	Mrs	1969	Skinner
(Bidgood)	Sandy	Horne	Mrs	1969	Skinner

(Neville)	Gail	Prinsloo	Mrs	1969	Skinner
Diamond Girls	60 years out of school				
Maiden Name	First Name	Surname	Title	Year left	School
(Jadrijevich)	Kornelia / Neja	Du Chenne	Mrs	1959	Skinner
Pearl Girls	30 years out of school				
Maiden Name	First Name	Surname	Title	Year left	School
(Gray)	Eleanor	Brown	Mrs	1989	Skinner
(Abdo)	Carmel	Grundling	Mrs	1989	Skinner
(Van Niekerk)	Annalize	Koekemoer	Mrs	1989	Skinner
Platinum Girls	70 or more years out of school				
Maiden Name	First Name	Surname	Title	Year left	School
(Dovey)	Natalie	Human	Mrs	1944	Skinner
	Gracie	Pozzo	Ms	1947	Skinner
Blue Sapphire Girls	61 to 69 years out of school				
Maiden Name	First Name	Surname	Title	Year left	School
(Kilfoil)	Colleen	Newton	Mrs	1950	Hillcrest
(Wickham)	Margaret	Collins	Mrs	1951	Skinner
(Swacina)	Frances	Olver	Mrs	1951	Skinner
	Molly	Connolly	Ms	1954	Hillcrest
	Felicity	Mullan	Ms	1954	Hillcrest
	Maureen	Greet	Ms	1956	Skinner

LOGS who sent good wishes or apologies are as follows 1. Joan (Loretan) Stuart (Hillcrest 1958). 2. Beatrice (Richardson) Eksteen (Skinner 1946) – Many blessings to all at the Reunion. 3. Cecilia (Bettini) Wilson (Skinner 1969). 4. Isabel (Maree) Groot (Hillcrest 1961), from the Netherlands. 5. Natasha Odendaal (Skinner 1987), from McAllan, Texas. 6. Carmel Borland (Hillcrest 1955). 7. Ilona (Viola) Mosca (Skinner 1969), from the USA. 8. Gloria (Hogeboom) Bouwer (Hillcrest 1961). 9. Sister Monica. 10. Mrs Renée d’Oliveira (Past Principal). 11. Dominique Drake (Skinner 1994), family wedding. 12. Denise (Minnar) Smith (Skinner 1968). 13. Paula (Malherbe) Martin (Queenswood 1978), from Ireland. 14. Karen (Hazell) Chellew (Skinner 1979). 15. Ayesha (Cassim) Jadwat (Skinner 1987), unwell. 16. Teresa (Walles) Neville (MS/Skinner 1971), unwell. 17. Gwen (Huddle) Cooper (Lydenburg 1966), unwell. 18. Lebogang Madise (Skinner 2005), family funeral. 19. Barbara (Valente) Burge (Hillcrest 1973). 20. Briget (Dennis) Stone (Queenswood 1987) from the USA.

Our heartfelt thanks to Mrs Suzette Truter (Principal of Nana Sita, previously Skinner, Loreto Convent School) for the venue and other amenities. Also, many thanks to Violet Nyirenda (the RE co-ordinator for the High School learners) for dressing the altar and arrangements for Mass, Charlize Van Der Colff (Grade 9 Skinner learner) as altar server, and Jakska Jadrijevich as Communion Minister.

In addition, we thank Sister Emer for presenting the Celebratory Awards and Sister Eileen for the Word of Welcome, and both for chatting here, there and everywhere. Bravo, Loreto Sisters!

Thanks to Ursula Jadrijevic who played jolly tunes in the School Hall and even used Irish melodies to entertain us.

Moreover, our thanks to Loreto Old Girls, School Staff and School Support Staff for help with preparations. And, wow, a big hand for Sherilyn Haupt (Teacher) and her sister Debbie whose surprise visit was greatly appreciated by the LOGS.

Last but not least, mention be made of letters after the Reunion from Skinner 1971 LOGS, Carol, Judy and Alida, who expressed kindly words of thanks for an enjoyable 2019 LOG Reunion. Bravo! Love you!

**See you all and many more next year on the first Saturday of October 2020. DV.
Please diarise Saturday 3 October 2020.**