

Royal High School and Royal High School Club

Chronological Tables

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Duxes

Until 1875, this accolade was entitled 'The Royal High School Prize-man'. Given that the school has been comprehensive since 1973, the title would certainly not have been appropriate in modern times, particularly considering that roughly half of the duxes in the last couple of decades have been ladies.

1850	Edward Little Neilson	1896	James Bryce Jamieson	1942	Robert J. K. Cromarty	1980	Fergus McInnes
1851	Alexander Cowan	1897	Francis John Gordon	1943	Ronald R. Davidson	1981	Richard Steedman
1852	Maurice Paterson	1898	George Hogarth	1944	James H. Brown	1982	Elizabeth Thomson
1853	James Monro	1899	John Handyside	1945	John L. Stevenson	1983	Sara Welham
1854	John Neilson	1900	Gilbert Watson	1946	Andrzej T. Falkiewicz	1984	Eric Steedman
1855	Emile Samuel Roland	1901	James M. Finlayson	1947	Ronald G. S. Brown	1985	Susan M. Johnston
1856	John A. Banks	1902	William Watson	1948	Norman A. Izzett	1986	Simon J. Dresner
1857	William Gavin Henderson	1903	Walter H. Stevenson	1949	Karl F. C. Miller		Graeme I. Prest
1858	W. A. C. Macfarlane	1904	Roderick McKenzie	1950	Ronald J. Laing	1987	Robert H. Seaton
1859	Francis Hay Muir	1905	Francis McKay Dickson	1951	Ian C. Fairweather	1988	Sharon Adams
	H. R. H. Ferdinand d'Orleans	1906	David Galloway Watson	1952	Ian R. Findlay		David Fordyce
1861	Thornton Arnott Lewis	1907	Colin E. Cumming	1953	Anthony A. H. Inglis	1989	Anne S. Campbell
1982	William McGilchrist	1908	Edward G. McAlpine	1954	Gordon D. Stark	1990	Morag A. Easson
1863	Alexander Sim	1909	Duncan T. McAinsh	1955	David I. Olive		Michael A. Penman
1864	George Cotton	1910	George Brown	1956	James W. Cochrane	1991	Gordon S. Balfour
1865	Thomas Walker	1911	Charles B. McAlpine	1957	Kenneth A. Hay	1992	Roland C. Armes
1866	John Keith	1912	Hamilton A. R. Gibb	1958	Herbert G. Kinnel		
		1913	William M. Yeats				

1867	Alexander B. Paterson	1914	Frank S. Sparke		Hamish W. Gillon	1993	Martin S. Campbell
1868	John Robertson Baxter	1915	Alfred L. Shearer	1959	Neil C. McGill		Jason K. F. Wong
1869	Joseph Martin Kennedy	1916	Charles H. Sarolea	1960	John McClafferty	1994	Fiona Grosart
1870	Abijah Murray	1917	Robert R. Turner		Ian Anderson	1995	Andrew Dingwall-Smith
1871	Pringle Kennedy	1918	Robert R. Turner	1961	Ian Fisher	1996	Kirsty Grosart
1872	Duncan James Macpherson	1919	George Inglis	1962	Stanley M. Langdon	1997	Rob Sellar
1873	John Brainerd Capper		Ian C. Somerville	1963	James M. Harris	1998	Colin Masterton
1874	Daniel Stalker	1920	Alexander R. Reid		James G. Colvine	1999	Elizabeth Bentley
1875	Stewart H. Capper	1921	Henry S. C. Gill	1964	Iain S. McLean	2000	Aoife Doran
1876	Hay Shennan	1922	David W. Erskine	1965	David R. Moir	2001	Neil Shoulder
1877	William Cotton	1923	David A. Walker	1966	Alasdair T. Paterson	2002	Andrew Torrance
1878	William Duff	1924	William Eadie		Graeme S. Charles	2003	Claire Kelly
	George Lovell Gulland		Alastair Graham	1967	Theodore Balderston	2004	Helen Moir
1879	James McLachlan	1925	James Gibson	1968	Ian C. George	2005	Ewan Bleiman
1880	Norman McLean	1926	Ian A. Gordon	1969	Brean S. Hammond	2006	Zander Mclvor
1881	David Anderson	1927	Walter S. Brown		Christopher MacFarquar	2007	Amy Campbell
1882	Alexander D. Thomson	1928	James K. Handyside	1969	J. Adam Rennie	2008	Chloe Cranston
1883	Thomas Gibson	1929	Andrew G. R. Lowdon		Peter M. Russell	2009	Rebecca Powell
1884	James Anderson	1930	Thomas Lothian	1970	Douglas Hutchison	2010	Fraser Arnott
1885	James J. Trotter	1931	Gordon Donaldson	1971	Neil P. Carmichael	2011	Graham Dunlop
	John B. Young	1932	George A Smith	1972	Brian J. Thomson	2012	Ewan Smith
1886	John Craig	1933	John D. Christie	1973	Gordon N. Blair	2013	Aoife Crumney
1887	Neil Macmichael	1934	George J. Wedderspoon	1974	A. M. Blyth	2014	James Powell
1888	Philip H. Hanson	1935	Edward M. Dishington		C. C. Watson	2015	Katie Darling
1889	Hugh L. Jackson	1936	Roy G. Ewart	1975	Niall F. Ross	2016	Eleanor Young
1890	William J. Keith	1937	Ian S. Currie	1976	Gordon R. Mackay	2017	Ross Witney-Hunter
1891	Donald G. Ross	1938	Alexander G. McGill	1977	Ian W. Jardine	2019	Emma Walker
1892	John F. Finlay	1939	Harold F. Lyon	1978	Bruce T. Ferguson	2020	Emily Goddard
1893	Arthur Berriedale Keith	1940	George L. Elliot	1979	Ashok J. Jacob	2021	Douglas Macartney
1894	Arthur Berriedale Keith	1941	Osmond P. H. Robb			2022	Rachel Hutcheon
1895	James Stirling Ross	1941	William F. Farrant				

Captains

These are the individuals, who along with their Vice-Captains and Nation Captains provide the link between the Rector and the School. Many of them have gone forward to be Captains of Industry.

1920	Robert W. Williamson	1958	Evan W. J. Cameron	1991	David A. Williamson
1921	David W. Erskine	1959	James A. Waite	1992	Dominic C. Sheils
1922	William G. Ferguson	1960	David D. Fraser	1993	Caitlin M. Laird
1923	George C. Coutts	1961	Malcolm F. Macnicol	1994	Jennifer E. Dunsmuir
1924	William I. C. Morris	1962	Richard M. Hogg	1995	Shona M. Thomson
1925	George D. Gray	1963	Iain S. McLean	1996	Matthew R. Pearce
1926	Walter S. Brown	1964	Allan Peden	1997	Jan Dinwoodie
1927	David Murray	1965	William G. Seath	1998	Sarah Burns
1928	Andrew G. R. Lowdon	1964	Allan Peden	1999	Lindsay Dunsmuir
1929	Francis M. Trotter	1965	William G. Seath	2000	Mark Cairns
1930	Thomas S. Brotherstone	1966	J. Alistair Mackie	2001	Ryan Carter
1931	George A. Smith	1967	Robert Forrester-Paton	2002	Iain Dinwoodie
1932	John D. Christie	1968	Brean S. Hammond	2003	Sarah Drummond
1933	James L. Wells	1969	Andrew N. George	2004	Ross Whiteside
1934	Edward M. Dishington	1970	Alistair J. Senter	2005	Patrick Dempsey
1935	Douglas Ford	1971	Alexander A. H. Prentice	2006	Fiona Kingston
1936	William J. Stirton	1972	Douglas J. P. Brown	2007	Megan Shandley
1937	John McVie	1973	Alan M. Blyth	2008	Joseph Ghaemi
1938	James L. Gilmour	1974	Gordon D. Cairns	2009	Dylan Lynch
1939	James McLelland	1975	Alan J. Morrison	2010	Harmandeep Shetra
1940	Douglas E. Johnston	1976	Colin W. Blaikie	2011	Craig Taylor
1941	Thomas B. Hamilton	1977	Scott J. Murray	2012	Joe Treanor
1942	James R. Hunter	1978	Neil D. Leslie	2013	Robert Bough
1943	Robert M. Gunn	1979	Keith J. Blaikie	2014	William Shepherdson
1944	William T. D. Baxter	1980	Jennifer A. R. Muir	2015	Eleanor Young
1945	George P. T. Barclay	1981	Neil A. Forsyth	2016	Angus Farquhar
1946	Frederick J. R. Manders	1982	Gordon A. Leckie	2017	Tom Campbell
1947	George A. Henry	1983	Andrew R. Seaton	2018	Meghan Aitken
1948	Lauchlan B. McKenzie	1984	Barry E. Maguire	2019	Lucy Krauth
1949	John S. Robson	1985	Jonathan D. Dickson	2020	Cameron Thores
1950	Henry Neil Henriksen			2021	Jessica Davies

1951	Andrew Gilmour	1986	Stuart R. Carlile	2022	Iain Dunlop
1952	William A. F. McAdam	1987	David S. Bowmaker		
1953	Ian M. T. Sandison	1988	Fiona S. Stewart		
1954	Edward J. H. Moore	1989	Jean M. Campbell		
1955	Richard D. Jackson	1990	Gordon S. Balfour		
1956	Malcolm McSwan				
1957	Ian S Brown				

Rectors

Extraordinarily, in the history of the School following the Abbots of Holyrood as a form of Rector, there have been only thirty two Rectors, with an average tenure of around 20 years. Alexander Adam (1768-1810), the celebrated educationalist holds the record at forty two years (with a further four years as teacher), while Adam de Camis (1378-1519) served a year less. These exceptionally long tenures were due to two reasons, firstly that the holders could start at an early age (Alexander Adam was just 27) and secondly that there was no retiral age. Adam died just a few days after delivering his last class. Sadly, a later rector, the one who saw one of the Editors of this History through his entire School life was D S M Imrie, who died in harness while making one of his regular visits to the Junior School in Northfield Broadway.

1128	Abbots of Holyrood	1656	John Muir, M.A.	1882	John Marshall, M.A., LL.D.
1378	Adam de Camis	1660	John Home, M.A.	1909	William J. Watson, M.A., LL.D.
1519	David Vocat	1665	David Ferguson, M.A.	1914	John Strong, C.B.E., M.A., LL.D.
1524	Henry Henryson, M.A.	1669	Alexander Rutherford, M.A.	1919	William King Gillies, M.A., LL.D.
1530	Adam Mure, M.A.	1672	Alexander Heriot, M.A.	1940	James J. Robertson, M.A., B.D. (later Sir James)
1545	Sir John Allan	1679	Archibald Guillane, M.A.	1942	Albert H. R. Ball, M.A.
1546	William Robertoun	1680	William Skene, M.A.	1948	David Stuart M. Imrie, M.A., Ph.D.
1568	Thomas Buchanan, M.A.	1717	George Arbuthnot, M.A.	1965	Baillie T. Ruthven, M.A.
1571	William Robertoun (again)	1735	John Lees, M.A.	1972	Farquhar Macintosh, M.A.
1584	Hercules Rollock, M.A.	1759	Alexander Matheson, M.A.	1989	Matthew M. MacIver, M.A.
1596	Alexander Hume, M.A.	1768	Alexander Adam, LL.D.	1998	George Smuga
1606	John Ray, M.A.	1810	James Pillans, M.A.	2009	Jane Frith
1630	Thomas Crawford, M.A.	1820	Aglionby—Ross Carson, LL.D.	2014	Pauline Walker
1641	William Spence, M.A.	1845	Leonhard Schmitz, Ph.D., LL.D.		
1650	Hew Wallace, M.A.	1865	James Donaldson, M.A., LL.D. (later Sir James)		

Presidents of the Royal High School Club

1849	Robert Dundas Duncan - Earl of Camperdown	1980	Dr J. B. Barclay, M.A., Ph.D.
1861	Henry Peter Brougham - Baron Brougham and Vaux	1982	Sheriff Andrew Bell, B.L.
1870	Arthur Hay - Marquess of Tweeddale	1983	John V. Gardner, A.R.I.C.S.
1882	James Moncrieff - Baron Moncrieff	1984	Robert C. Logan, A.C.I.I.
1897	Sir Douglas Maclagan, M.D., F.R.S.E.	1985	T. P. L. McGlashan, L.D.S., R.C.S.(Edin)
1901	William Dalrymple Maclagan, P.C., D.D., D.C.L., LL.D.	1986	Adam Tait, F.R.I.C.S.
1911	Alexander Crum Brown, M.D., D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S.	1987	Dr D. Bell, F.R.C.P.(Edin), F.F.O.M., (R.C.P.), D.I.H.
1914	Sir George Adam Smith, D.D., LL.D., F.B.A.	1988	Ian C Fairweather, M.A., LL.B., S.S.C.
1939	James Watt, LL.D., W.S.	1989	David A. Lamb, S.S.C.

1945	Sir Francis Grant, K.C.V.O., LL.D.	1990	J. S. B. Crombie, W.S.
1950	Edward Bruce, D.L. - Lord Dean of Guild	1991	R. M. Graham
1951	William C.A. Ross, M.A.	1992	Donald Semple, M.C.I.B.S.
1953	Sir Thomas Gardiner, G.C.B., G.B.E., LL.D.	1993	Robert C. B. Forman, W.S.
1955	George Boyd	1994	John L. Mitchell, Q.C.
1956	R. Marr Meldrum, L.D.S., H.D.D., F.D.S.R.C.S.Ed.	1995	Clive F. Martin
1957	P. F. Hutton, M.C., L.D.S.R.C.S.Ed.	1996	Douglas R. Lawrence
1958	Sir Hugh Watson, Deputy Keeper of the Signet	1997	C. I. Bryden, F.R.I.C.S.
1960	E. W. Wilson, W.S.	1998	Raymond Paul, F.F.A.
1961	Claude F. Henry, M.C.	1999	Andrew D. Forgan, B.Arch., R.I.B.A., A.R.I.A.S.
1962	W. J. King Gillies	2000	Norman A. Arthur, A.C.I.I.
1964	Alexander R. Reid, M.A., F.F.A., F.I.A.	2001	D. Rutherford, B.A., C.A.
1965	Neil M. Law, F.F.A.	2002	A. Stuart Macmillan, B.A.
1966	Sheriff Charles H. Johnston, Q.C.	2003	James Inch, B.A., F.I.M.S.
1967	W. R. Vass	2004	Alan G. Grossett WS
1968	G. Drummond Miller	2005	Colin W. Blaikie LL.B
1969	D. A. B. Scrimgeour, F.F.A., F.I.A.	2006	Robin S Boog, B.A., A.C.I.I.
1970	Bailie W. Simpson Bell, J.P.	2007	Val Tudball, MBE
1971	Kenneth D. G. Reid, M.B., Ch.B.	2008	Alastair Allanach
1972	Francis G. H. Cowie, O.B.E.	2009	Martin Bryden
1973	James M. Calder, M.A., LL.B., W.S.	2011	Louise Stevenson
1974	T. D. S. Bell, T.D., B.L., S.S.C.	2013	Sheriff Frank Crowe
1975	Sheriff Principal F. W. F. O'Brien, Q.C. (later Sir Frederick)	2016	David Williamson
1976	Wm. St John C. Spence, C.A., A.T.I.I.	2018	Ian Cowie
1977	George A. Henry, M.A., LL.B., W.S.		
1978	Phillip Harris, F.R.C.S., F.R.C.P.E., F.R.C.S, F.R.S.		
1979	John. P. Small, F.C.I.B.		

Building Timeline

This information can be found in the 'History of our Buildings' section

Educational and Curriculum timeline

This will be part of a future edition

A tabular timeline of Rectors, pupil celebrities and others

This can be found as a main menu item