

**Please find below details of those who played on the Boys' 'Under 14' XV Rugby team at Limavady Grammar School.**

**As with the other sports featured in this archive, the number preceding the pupil name is the school registration number of that particular pupil. If the number does not appear then that is either because there is no surviving school report in school detailing that pupil's activities or the activity is not recorded on their report. The only other information we have therefore is from the school magazine, Roesian.**

**If the reader has relevant information, particularly photographs, to add to this archive we would be very pleased to hear from you. Thank you.**

***Words in italics are taken directly from Roesian.***

**Boys                      Rugby  
Under 14 XV**

**1947-48**

***'We were successful this season in starting an Under Fourteen XV, and this should prove a valuable asset to the School Rugby in the future.'***

**1948-49** (photograph Roesian 1949, page 50)

J Boggs

J Brolly

614 Norman David Cochrane

R Dallas

M Elder

617 John Henry Foster

R Gault

R Graham

I Hamilton

I Haslett

I Henderson

M Lyons

M Mullan

R McKay

M McPherson

J McNeice

Leslie Ross (Captain)

*'Our Under Fourteen XV began the season badly but improved so much towards the end that they can now give stiff opposition to teams which, earlier in the season, beat them easily. The progress of this team holds a promise of a successful future for our rugby.'*





**RUGBY, UNDER FOURTEEN XV — 1948 - '49.**

R. Gault, R. Dallas, I. Haslett, I. Henderson, J. Foster, M. Elder, N. Cochrane, R. Graham.  
M. Lyons, M. Mullan, M. McPherson, L. Ross (Capt.), I. Hamilton, J. Brolly, J. Boggs.  
R. McKay, J. McNeice.



## **1949-50**

Roy McKay (Captain)

## **1950-51**

## **1951-52**

50 Errol Phelan

*'... There is much more competition for places on the Medallion XV and Under 14 XV, and with our increasing numbers in the Junior School, it is clear that in a few years there will be keener competition for a place in the Firsts. A very pleasing feature of the year's Rugby has been the high percentage of playing pupils, almost one hundred per cent.'*

*'Our Medallion and Under 14 XV's had a very shaky start but improved with experience and practice.'*

## **1952-53**

Roesian records play as being

*'... more encouraging, and the team has several promising players.'*

Unfortunately there is no record of who these pupils are.

*'During the season an 'under 13' XV was formed. They won the two matches they played and should form the backbone of a good 'under 14' XV next season.'*

### **1953-54**

- 100 John E Campbell
- 82 William R Hall
- 83 James D Harper
- 84 David Heaney

Roesian mentions the 'Under 14' XV as having a more successful season than the Medallion XV commenting it had '*several exciting games.*'

### **1954-55**

- 133 David G S Avrell
- G Boddie
- I Campbell
- 142 Victor Crawford
- 144 William G Deddis
- J Evans
- 81 David O D Graham
- R Hall
- D Harper
- J Morrison
- 93 Michael J Murphy
- D McCurry
- 90 Ian Brice McQuiston
- 168 Allen L Smyton
- 111 Samuel R Smyton
- 171 Nicholas Stratton
- P Thompson

*'In the few games which they played the "Under 14" XV showed much enthusiasm and promise for the future.'*

## **1955-56**

	G Avrell
	G Bartlett
	I Brewster
	I Campell
137	Ronald M Cartwright
	G Conn
	V Crawford
144	William G Deddis
	T Greenwood
	D Harper
	V Irwin
	K Mitchell
	H Riley
	A Smyton
	G Stewart
	M Stewart
171	Nicholas Stratton
	P Thompson
	R Walker

*'The 'Under 14' XV played four games, all of which they lost narrowly. Nevertheless they played with great enthusiasm.'*

## **1956-57**

*'The Under 14' XV won two games and lost two games. They played enthusiastically and showed great promise for the future. The 'Under 13' XV played one game at home against Rainey ES. They were defeated by 9 points to 3 after a thrilling game watched by many spectators.'*

## **1957-58**

**1958-59**

**1959-60**

J Harrison  
J Lockhead

*'Due to shortage of numbers both teams quite often overlapped; but attendances at Thursday practices have been good.*

*Although the season has not been victorious it has been both progressive and constructive. The boys played well together as a team, more towards the end of the season than at the beginning, when play was quite disjointed.*

*Tackling has improved immensely and defence has been good. A weak attack is one point in which the team must improve.*

*In conclusion I must thank the staff for their ready help and co-operation during the season, especially Mr McWhirter who took charge of the training and coaching of the Medallion and Under 14 XVs.'*

## 1960-61

The "Under 14" XV team perhaps had the better season. In their three matches, they lost one and won two games. Although details are scant as to who formed this team we do have the names of those who scored Tries and Conversions.

*LGS v Foyle College at Londonderry on 15<sup>th</sup> October 1960*

*LGS: 23 – Foyle College: 0*

*(7 Tries: E S Callaghan 3, Robert B Bloomfield, S M Graham, J A D Sherrard, T J Peace; 1 Conversion: E S Callaghan)*

*LGS v Coleraine AI at Limavady on 26<sup>th</sup> November 1960*

*LGS: 6 – Coleraine: 0*

*(2 Tries: Richard E Acheson, E S Callaghan)*

*LGS v Foyle College at Londonderry on 11<sup>th</sup> March 1960*

*LGS: 0 – Foyle College: 9*

## 1961-62

Roesian has details of the matches played which do not make for good reading! Mr McWhirter's comments below reflect this.

*'Victory, experience and the spirit to fight back when losing are the three things lacking in Junior Rugby.*

*The Thursday afternoon practices, run by Mr Bogle and myself, attempt to make the boys more familiar with the rules, and to enable them to gain valuable experience in playing good rugby.*

*B Archibald, A Sherrard, D Stevenson, V Pollock, G Bloomfield, J Lee and J Willshaw are the players most worthy of mention.*

*Other members of the Medallion and Under 14 teams are:- J Blair, D Simpson, A Crawford, K Wallace, R Lee, J Loughrey, J J Scott, J Hamilton, F Anderson, J Matson, M Gilfillan, M Head, H Mills, I A Hunter, R Hull, H Craig, N Pickett.'*



*'In conclusion I must thank Mr McWhirter and Mr Bogle for looking after the Junior rugby in the school so well. The future of the game in school depends greatly on the training and encouragement given at that stage. The rugby committee, especially secretary J Lockhead and treasurer E S Callaghan, worked hard and were most helpful throughout the season.'*

SPM (Mr S P Mitchell)

## 1962-63

The winter of 1962/1963 is still talked about today amongst those old enough to remember it. The rugby season was described in Roesian as, *'the most disastrous in the history of school rugby. ...without precedent as far as Limavady Grammar School is concerned.'* It was of course nothing to do with skill but everything to do with the weather. Excessive rainfall, snow and hard frosts meant that the pitches were unplayable for most of the winter months.

Two matches are recorded.

*LGS v Foyle College at Londonderry on 13<sup>th</sup> October 1962*

*LGS: 17 – Foyle College: 8*

*(5 Tries: D Simpson (3), K Wallace (1), R Hull (1),*

*1 Conversion: F Anderson)*

*LGS v Ballymena Academy at Ballymena on 1<sup>st</sup> December 1962*

*LGS: 0 – Ballymena Academy: 11*

*'The Medallion and other Junior XVs had mixed success in school matches. Nevertheless, win, loss or draw there is no doubt that all teams enjoyed the matches we were able to play. With the number of enthusiastic young players coming on in the lower school, the future of enjoyable rugby at the school is assured.'*

SPM (Mr S P Mitchell)

## 1963-64

A Bloomfield (If this is Alan Bloomfield, he played on the Medallion XV side this season)

768 James A George

646 John P Hunter

T Mills

D MacLurg (If this is David R W MacLurg, he played on the Medallion XV side this season)

M Price (If this is Malcolm Price, he played on the Medallion XV side this season)

B Wilson (If this is Robert J Wilson, he played on the Under 14 XV side though the year is not recorded on his report)

*'Rugby in the Junior School still continues to prosper under the enthusiastic guidance of Mr Bogle. The training received now by these junior players should do much to improve the standard of school rugby in later years.'*

SPM (Mr S P Mitchell)

## 1964-65

J George

D Stenhouse

*'We welcomed Mr Dobson to school rugby this season. He and Mr Bogle looked after the Junior rugby teams. There certainly appear to be many enthusiastic young players coming along in the Junior School.'*

## 1965-66

*'The Under 14 team appeared quite a competent side consisting of 8 members of the medallion and 7 under 13's. Although they lost their two fixtures they proved well up to the standard of the other teams and went down by the narrowest of margins.'*

## 1966-67

	Alcorn
	Cartwright
1079	Thomas Henry Graham Cowan
832	John Andrew Fleck
	Gordon
1087	Andrew Lawrence Hodge
	Johnstone
994	Leslie Robert Knowles
	Madden
	Pollock
	Rew
	Robinson
	Stevenson
870	Christopher David T Walker
	Wallace

*'This year the Under 14 Team had four matches. They won one and lost three of these. Most of the players in this team are regular members of either the Medallion XV or the Under 13 XV, but for these four games they combined well and produced some spirited matches.*

*Of the forwards, the most outstanding were Wallace, Stevenson and Rew. Wallace made a very firm prop and lent his weight well in the loose. He was, at times, inclined to be slow and this is an aspect of his game that he must improve for the future.*

*Stevenson was a tireless worker, tackling well and grasping any opportunities for dribbling on. Unfortunately, in these breaks he had very little support from the rest of his pack.*

*Probably the most outstanding forward at the end of the season was Rew, an American, who joined us at the beginning of the year. After a few months of settling down and learning the basic skills and rules of the game he became a very useful player, jumping well in the line-outs, tackling with great vigour and generally moving around well.*

*Of the backs Hodge and Johnstone were the most outstanding. Hodge has developed a great range of kicks, grubbers, sharp up-and-unders and long accurate kicks for touch. He is, however, inclined to hold on to the ball too long and his tackling needs sharpening up.*

*Johnstone, who moved from the forwards to the backs during the season, showed great strength and determination in his running. His tackling and defensive work were also very good but he was inclined to be rather slow off the mark at times when he received the ball.'*

## **1967-68**

J Allison  
J Byrne  
J Corscadden  
W Deehan  
C Fleck  
T Graham  
J Head  
W Houston (Captain)  
C Knowles  
B Love  
C McCartney  
K O'Hara  
K Scott  
J Smith  
P West

*'This team played with great spirit and were always a match for the opposition. They were particularly strong in the forwards where W Houston played with great determination and strength. In the backs C Fleck utilised his speed in many fast breaks, whilst K O'Hara when he overcame his initial hesitancy, became a most effective winger.'*



## 1968-69

I Alcorn  
R Barkley  
M Byrne  
S Cromie  
B Deehan  
T Graham  
L Hall  
J Head  
R Hodge  
W Houston  
J Irwin  
C Knowles  
A Long  
B Love (Captain)  
D Maxwell  
B McArthur  
C McCartney  
D Price  
T Ritchie  
D Robinson  
K Scott  
J Smyth  
P West

*'The under-14 XV played three games, drawing twice and losing the third.*

*Perhaps this season we were lucky enough to have many players in the Medallion XV who were eligible for the under-14 and these, together with keen younger members, gave of their best in every game.*

*The backs always ran well and looked dangerous when they received good ball. But this was too seldom and if they had been given more ball through quicker heeling in the tight, and more definite rucking in the loose, then perhaps they might have crossed their opponents' line more often.*

*The forwards cannot entirely be blamed for the slow heels, for on all occasions they were up against heavier and bigger opponents. Indeed their strong point was their line-out play. Here, there was good tight binding and accurate ball to the scrum-half.*

*Throughout the season spirit and interest were high. Certainly if enthusiasm and the desire to do well are contributory factors to success then I'm confident that this side will have their fair share of success in seasons to come.'*