

Sarah Boyack



2004 PG – Opening of the refurbished School, with George Smuga, Evelyn Small and others



1999 – Donald Dewar's first Cabinet – as Minister for Environment, Planning & Transport (far right in photo)



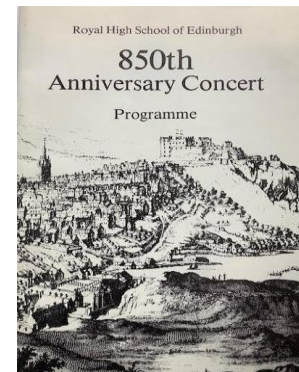
1979 Prize Giving - Sarah Boyack centre of back row holding several prizes



1978 - Choir departs from School playground for Florence



1978 Florence – Sarah (on left wearing bowler hat) playing trumpet



1978 - The High School 850th Anniversary – Concert in Edinburgh

Sarah Boyack was brought up in Edinburgh where she was one of the first female entrants (1973) at the Royal High School. She went on to study at the University of Glasgow in 1979, gaining an MA Honours degree in Modern History and Politics. She became active in the Labour Club, where she was a protégé of Margaret Curran. She became chair of the Labour Club in 1981–82, and chair of the National Organisation of Labour Students in 1985–86. During her time at Glasgow University, she was involved in supporting the twinning with Bir Zeit University in the West Bank.

She then did a Diploma in Town and Country Planning at Heriot-Watt University.

She worked as a town planner in the London Borough of Brent then as a strategic planner in Central Regional Council in Stirling. She then became a lecturer at the School of Planning and Housing at Heriot Watt University and was Convener of the Scottish Branch of the Royal Town Planning Institute in 1997.

She was a member of Donald Dewar's first Holyrood Cabinet in 1999, and currently (2020) is Scottish Labour MSP for the Lothian region.

Sarah gave the Former Pupils address at the 2004 Prize Giving, and unveiled the plaque commemorating the opening of the refurbished School. She was no stranger to the Memorial stage, having collected prizes in 1979 for Debating and Public Speaking (no surprise there), and the Nicholson Prize for Music.

<http://sarahboyack.com/>