

## **Durham High School *for* Girls celebrates its 125th Birthday in style!**

Visitors to Durham Cathedral last Friday witnessed an unexpected sight when a procession of pupils from Durham High School *for* Girls took part in a special service as the school began a weekend of celebrations to mark its 125<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The service was attended by former pupils, including Old Girl, actress Wendy Craig, who enthralled the congregation with her moving reading of the Magnificat. David Wilkinson, Principal of St John's College Durham, then delivered an inspirational address. The service was attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Durham, Roberta Blackman Woods MP, the Bishop of Jarrow and the Dean of Durham.

On Saturday the school opened its doors to current and prospective parents, as well as over 200 former pupils to view the school in action. A display of archive materials was a key attraction as were performances of music, drama, dance and sport. Members of the Junior School delighted visitors with their Maypole Dancing.

Alumni, who had travelled from all parts of the country and from as far away as Canada for the occasion, enjoyed catching up with friends they had not seen for many years over a celebratory luncheon.

A Grand Crystal Ball attended by parents and friends of the school as well as Upper Sixth leavers marked the end of the weekend's celebrations in style.

Ann Templeman, Headmistress, said "it was absolutely thrilling to see so many members of Durham High School, past and present, gathered together to celebrate 125 years of girls' education in Durham".