

Prince pipes up for dream dram

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THE Prince of Wales yesterday revealed his favourite tippie — and how he failed as a piper at Gordonstoun school.

The prince told Mr Joseph Macdonald (79) that his dream dram was Laphraoig, the Islay malt whisky.

Then he described to former piping instructor Mr Kenny Macrae how his tutors gave him up as a failure when he took up piping at Gordonstoun.

The prince was chatting to a group of old people at a new geriatric wing of the Lawson Memorial Hospital at Golspie.

Later, touring the general ward of the hospital, he autographed the plaster of a patient who shares the same name as royalty critic Mr Willie Hamilton.

■ Prince Charles accepts red roses from delighted Donna and friends.

And to another male patient he gave this racing tip — bet on the jockey, not the horse.

The prince's day started with his reading the lesson in 13th-century Dornoch cathedral, this year celebrating 750 years of worship.

And it ended with a 10-year-old girl presenting him with three red roses from her garden.

Donna Cowie, of Rogart, had travelled with friends to Golspie just to get a glimpse of the prince.

"I could not believe it when he came over and accepted my flowers," said the delighted youngster.

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