

# Elizabeth College Foundation

January 2015

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#### **Progress Report**

Reflecting on the success of the Elizabeth College Foundation and the two appeals it has held, it is almost impossible to overestimate the enormous impact they have had on the Elizabeth College Upper School and Junior School. The bird's eye view of the main college campus with the superimposed details of additions and improvements is staggering enough – add to it the Beechwood and Acorn House developments and you have a glowing testimony to the generosity of our appeal donors. What has been achieved through this generosity, in under a decade, would be the envy of most schools in the British Isles.

To the eye of the unaccustomed passer-by in the Grange, nothing much has changed. Even the third layer on the old gym, now the FG Manchester Refectory, looks as though it's been there forever. Behind all those imposing walls, however, many areas of the College have been transformed.

What is particularly pleasing is that every age group, from Acorn House to the Sixth Form, has reaped the benefit.

Elizabeth College has always been an institution which has worked for the good of Guernsey as a whole. It continues to be a beacon of excellence for which the whole College community, and the rest of the island, has reason to be very proud indeed.

#### Bruce Parker Chairman - Elizabeth College Foundation







### **Maths Block Extension**

The 27 September 2014 was the 451st anniversary of the signing of the College Statutes and was chosen as an appropriate date for the Elizabeth College Foundation to celebrate the formal opening of the newly extended and reconfigured Mathematics Faculty building.





Previously the Music department, the building was originally constructed as a new wing of the Boarding House "to give greater comfort and better facilities". The December 1959 Elizabethan reports that "downstairs there is a dormitory for about 20 boys and upstairs a large study room, divided into individual cubicles after the pattern of the *toyes* at Winchester".

The building has been extended at the first floor level to square off the block at the back and provide a more usable space. It has been completely reconfigured to create six purpose-built classrooms, each one fitted with a state-of-the-art interactive whiteboard, projector and motion-sensor lighting, plus associated office and storage space. These dedicated classrooms will help to accommodate the College's increasing pupil numbers and allow the most effective delivery of Mathematics which is becoming an ever more popular subject choice at AS and A level.

Over one hundred donors to the Appeal and invited guests enjoyed a tour of the new facilities and refreshments on the lawn. Jon Ravenscroft, the Chairman of the 450th Anniversary Appeal team and Old Elizabethan 7102, cut the ribbon to the new facilities and raised a toast to the College and all of its supporters.





Guests included Donors to the 450th Anniversary Appeal and Members of the Appeal Team

#### **Tennis Court Recreational Area**

The final phase 3 project which has been made possible by the 450th Anniversary Appeal is the redevelopment of the tennis court area.

This invaluable space at the front of the main College building area is heavily utilised for a broad set of activities including break and lunch-time recreation, PE classes, CCF activities and as a supplementary car park for College meetings and events.

The functionality and appearance of the tennis court area will be greatly improved by a redesign, installing a new surface and more sympathetic fencing.

The whole area will be resurfaced with a suitable modern surface and new markings will be applied to create a 6-a-side football pitch. This will include





the installation of a low kick panel suitable for either football or hockey and the creation of a small recess for goal areas at each end.

The 'vintage' fencing will be replaced with green plastic coated Zaun fencing, similar in style to that used around the Beechwood all-weather pitch but taller at the end of the court to cope with flying footballs! In addition the patio behind the fenced tennis court area will be extended to provide a much larger area for pupils to sit and enjoy their lunch during the better weather.

The development of the tennis court area will require planning permission and work is in hand to submit an application. If all goes according to plan it is hoped that the work will be completed during this year's summer holiday.



#### Friends and Family Refectory Lunch

The FG Manchester Refectory has now been open for eighteen months and it is already very hard to imagine how the College managed without this very popular facility. The Refectory is increasingly busy every day and the staff perform an excellent job of serving a constant stream of pupils at both breaktime and lunch.

Parents, OEs and other members of the extended College family have recently been able to sample the catering on offer in the refectory at a 'Friends and Family' lunch. Many have taken the opportunity to book a table for the whole family to come in to experience the new facilities.

Two such events have been held and over three hundred and fifty people have enjoyed a lunch similar to those on offer every day to Upper School pupils. The feedback from guests has



been overwhelmingly positive. Many Old Elizabethans in particular seem to be most envious of the quality and variety of food on offer to our current pupils, all freshly prepared in the small but high-tech refectory kitchen.

It is hoped to be able to organize another Friends and Family Lunch in the spring.

## Other projects enabled by the Foundation

The longer term objectives of the Foundation, the establishment of a bursary fund and the refurbishment of the all-weather pitch at Footes Lane, remain as priority projects and will be the subject of a future appeal.

The generosity of donors to the 450th Anniversary Appeal and the assistance of a couple of legacies which the Foundation has recently received has meant that the Foundation will be able to deliver all of the Anniversary Appeal phases 1 to 3 projects. Specifically, these are: the FG Manchester Refectory, the Performing Arts Studio, a Reception classroom at Acorn House, the Maths Faculty extension and the redevelopment of the Tennis Court.





The College has identified two urgent projects which will also benefit from Foundation funding:

- Recent work has exposed that the College Hall roof is in desperate need of repair. The work is essential in order to avoid any potential damage to the historic ceiling and interior of the College Hall.
- A renovation of the College Field Pavilion is necessary to avoid any deterioration of the fabric of this historic building. The project would include installing a new kitchen and refurbishment of the changing rooms.

These projects will be planned in more detail once a thorough survey has been completed.



### The Dead Donkey Club

The Dead Donkey Club was established by the Elizabeth College Foundation to help extend the financial support the Foundation can provide to Elizabeth College in the medium and long term. While clearly a long term project, the Foundation has already benefitted from a number of bequests which have assisted the College in achieving the recent redevelopments quicker than might otherwise have been possible.

The club operates as an informal social club and has a programme of well attended social events both in Guernsey and in the UK. Recent events included a reception in the historic and fascinating surroundings of the Apothecaries' Hall in London, a barbecue and highly competitive croquet championship at the home of Roger Perrot and a fascinating talk from Alan Cross on the history of the Guernsey Sporting Club.

We hope to arrange events in the spring in both London



and Guernsey and details of the events will be sent to all Dead Donkey Club members in due course.

If you are interested in joining the Dead Donkey Club, or in hearing more about it, please contact Dot Carruthers in the College Foundation office (details below).



The College continues to be immensely grateful to all of the donors to the Foundation 450th Anniversary Appeal for their generous donations which have made these projects possible. We hope that you are pleased with the huge impact your generosity has had.

### Thank You to all Donors

A bound list of all donors has now been created in a book, illustrated with images of the 450th Anniversary Appeal Foundation projects.

Copies of this Roll of Honour will be on display in each of the schools.

If you have any questions about the Elizabeth College Foundation, or would like an opportunity to visit the new facilities made possible by its success please contact: Dot Carruthers, Foundation Director 01481 728217 foundation@elizabethcollege.gg