



New fencing was the final project to mark the 450th anniversary of the founding of Elizabeth College, with other schemes including a new refectory and maths block.

(Pictures by Steve Sarre,11439342)

Ceremony marks final project of anniversary fund

NEW fencing was the final 450th anniversary project for Elizabeth College.

Launched in 2012, an appeal has seen Old Elizabethans, parents and other college supporters donate.

The Foundation Appeal has paid for the fencing, a new refectory, performing arts studio, maths block and Acorn House extension.

The new rigid green metal fencing replaces the 1950s-era fencing, which was erected by pupils and had gone rusty over time.

At a short ceremony to commemorate the opening of the final project, principal George Hartley said the appeal had allowed the college to change in a short space of time.

'We have come a long way in these two years. I remember walking up the Grange for my interview, seeing the fencing and thinking it looked like Stalag Luft 17 or something. This has done wonders for the look of our magnificent building.'

The ribbon was cut by Old Elizabethan and former master, Bruce Parker, who is chairman of the Elizabeth College Foundation. He said the change across the school was really something special to behold.

'It is wonderful, there have been some huge projects. A lot of people would look at what was the old gym and never believe that the floor with the refectory on it is brand new and has not always been there, and it is marvellous, first class,' he said.

'People are just gob-smacked when they

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go in and see the changes.'

Mr Parker joked that he had found a letter in the Elizabeth College magazine from 1892, complaining about the state of the area in front of the college, so it was excellent it was finally sorted.

A new extended terrace for seating has also been added, with paving stones replacing what was a grass and, at times, muddy area.



OE and former master Bruce Parker, left, the chairman of the Elizabeth College Foundation, and principal George Hartley cut a cake to mark the end of the 450th anniversary projects, the erection of a new fence.

(11439346)