



The Friends of
Queen Elizabeth's

IMPACT REPORT
2023

Giving back to *build our future*



THE FRIENDS OF QUEEN ELIZABETH'S
A CHARITY SUPPORTING
QUEEN ELIZABETH'S SCHOOL

1573 — 2023

Contents

- 01 Introduction from the Headmaster
- 03 Introduction from FQE Director
- 04 Our figures at a glance
- 05 The School Shop
- 08 History in the making: our 450th anniversary celebrations
- 14 Masterplan for our campus
- 16 Investing for the future
- 18 Benefactors and champions
- 20 Backed by the boys
- 21 At the heart of FQE: celebrating the volunteers
- 22 Understanding FQE: how the charity is run
- 24 The next steps
- 25 Would you like more details?

USEFUL LINKS:

FQE Charity Commission website

FQE Full, Audited Accounts 2022/23
for the year ended 31st July 2023.

Dedicated FQE pages of our website

FQE AT THE HEART OF OUR 450TH ANNIVERSARY

Welcome to our report detailing the impact that The Friends of Queen Elizabeth's charity has had over a year that has included major celebrations for the School's 450th anniversary.

FQE support, both in terms of finance and of service given by volunteers, has been indispensable in making the anniversary a success. We surpassed our Founder's Day target by an enormous margin, also achieving a record figure for annual FQE income. As we closed the books on 2022–2023, the amount committed through *Giving to QE* was very encouraging, including the contributions from our new Year 7 families. Thanks to the latest major project completed with FQE support, The Friends' Recital Hall and Music Rooms, our musicians could rehearse together and do justice to anniversary events, especially the service in Westminster Abbey. The recent arrival of an electric organ, provided on generous terms by the Royal College of Organists, further extends musical opportunities here.

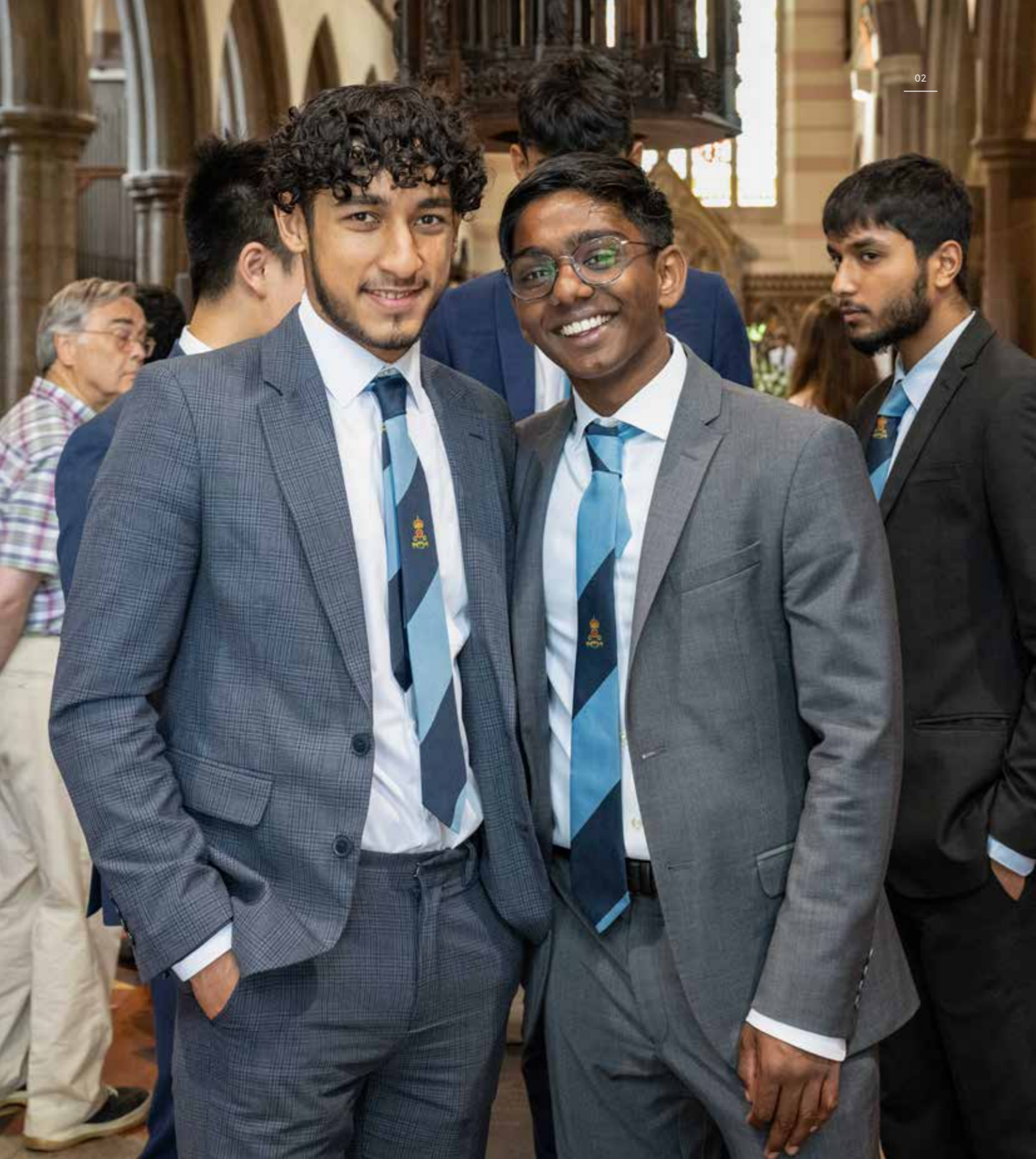
After the major expenditure on the music facilities, the charity continues to help the School repay the building loan. FQE spending this year has been spread across smaller projects. As we now plan future developments, it is immensely reassuring to know that the charity rests on solid organisational foundations and is both professionally and strategically run.

I am hugely grateful to all who contribute.



Neil Enright, Headmaster





WE NEED YOUR HELP FOR THE NEXT STEPS

We are at the conclusion of an estates strategy that has transformed the School over 20 years through the addition of the Martin Pool, Shearly Hall, Queen's Library, Café 1573 & dining complex, and the Friends' Recital Hall & Music Rooms. We are now thinking long-term and strategically about the next steps.

These will involve major financial commitments. Amid soaring construction costs and a cost-of-living crisis, we do not underestimate the challenge: FQE's directors will be both prudent and bold in meeting it. We draw considerable encouragement from this summer's refurbishment of two chemistry laboratories. The School received £100k from the Wolfson Foundation – their maximum grant. It was provided *only* because FQE had committed to contributing to the project. Your donations are thus vital in unlocking further income. In similar vein, for those involved in business, please consider providing matched funding. And I urge all donors to consider signing up for Gift Aid, adding 25% to donations at no cost to you.

Due in large measure to the generosity of our donors, our School reached its 450th anniversary in fine shape. Please support FQE so that we can continue this proud record for the benefit of future Elizabethans.

Barrie Martin

Barrie Martin, FQE Director



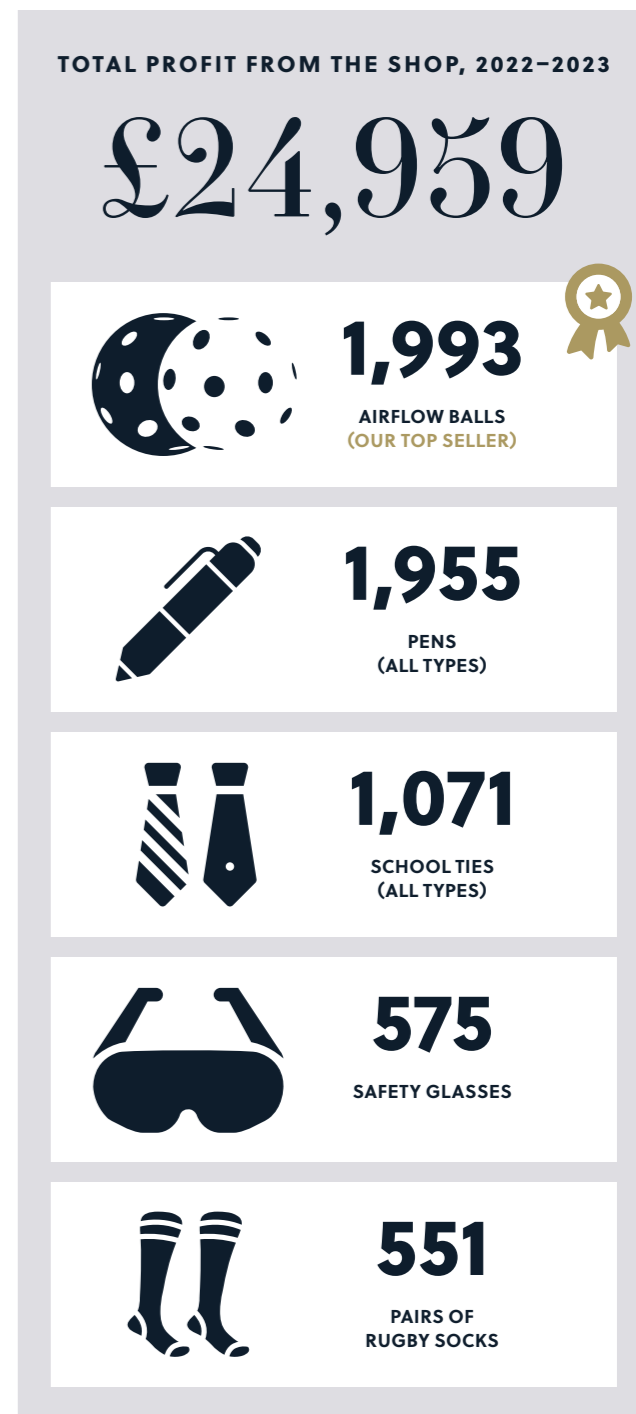
Our figures at a glance

The 2023 financial year (ended 31st July 2023) saw further increases in revenue, with fundraising for the 450th anniversary helping to generate a record level of income.



The School Shop

The School Shop is run by FQE Enterprises Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the FQE charity. All the shop's profits are donated to the charity. The shop team work hard to keep prices competitive and affordable: offering a high-quality service to families is paramount, rather than maximising profit.



“As stewards of this ancient institution, my colleagues and I... aim to be bold in our decision-making to secure a bright future for the School in an often-uncertain world. We would like to think that your generation will be able to look back to the era of the School’s 450th anniversary with pride...”

From the Headmaster’s letter to the Elizabethans of 2023, placed in the time capsule



History in the making: *our 450th anniversary celebrations*


OUR ROYAL VISIT

Queen Elizabeth's School's 450th anniversary year was heralded in royal style by HRH The Duke of Gloucester. After being formally introduced by Martin Russell, Representative Deputy Lieutenant of the London Borough of Barnet and a former QE parent, the Duke met CCF cadets, saw some rugby and listened to QE musicians. He enthusiastically tried driving two VEX robots, planted a tree and presented to the Headmaster a banner commissioned by the School.

Launched during a relaxed evening in March was former Headmaster Dr John Marinowitz's definitive history, *Queen Elizabeth's School: 1573-2023*. All profits from the book's sale go to FQE.

The year was enlivened by anniversary-related subject festivals and competitions, while QE Collections now sports an interactive section about the 1573 Royal Charter on its home page.

VISIT QE COLLECTIONS WEBSITE

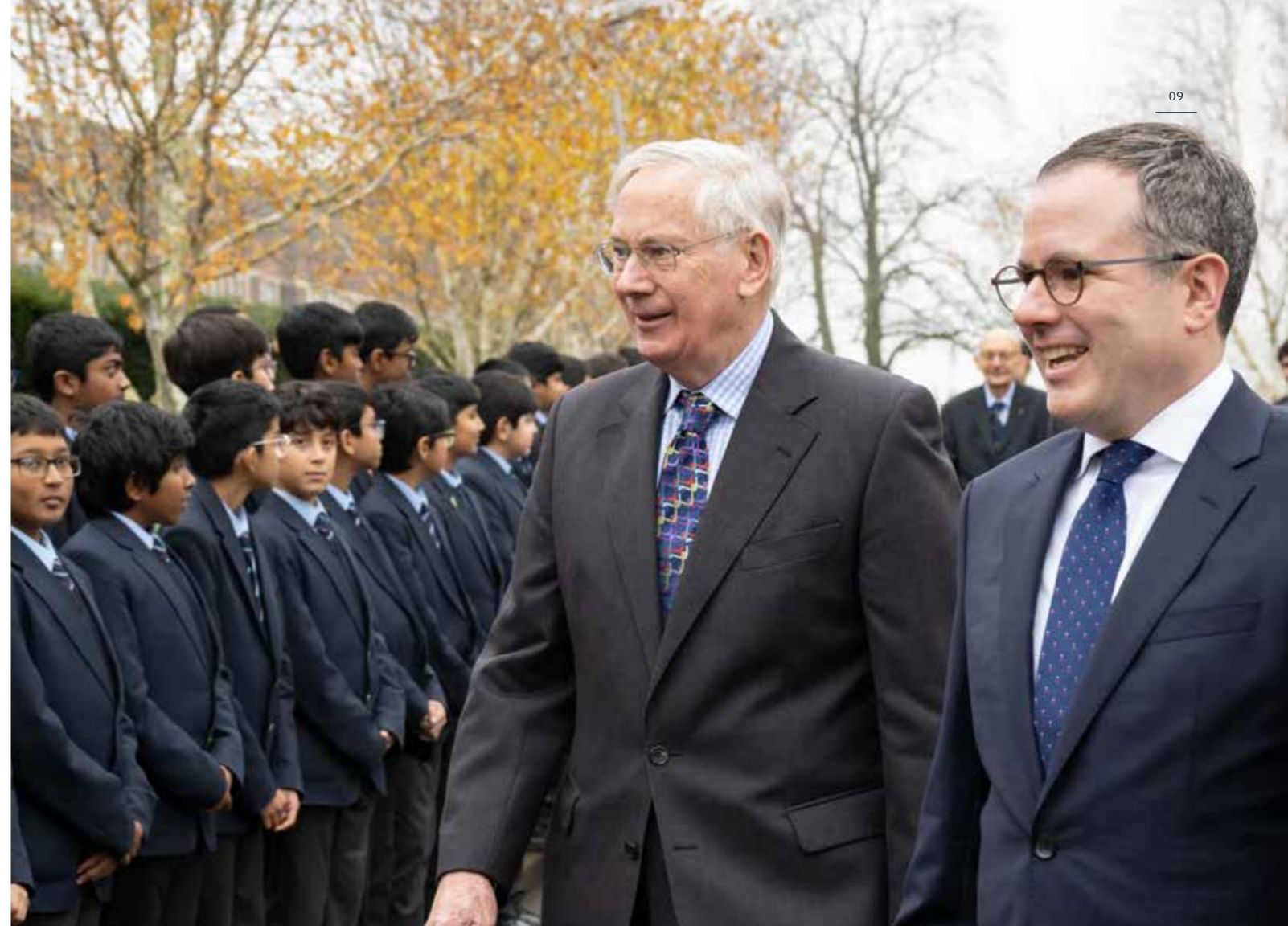
60-90
CAPACITY OF THE ORIGINAL SCHOOLHOUSE (TUDOR HALL)



1d (PENNY)
THE QE FEE FOR HIGH BARNET BOYS IN THE 1500S; 6D FOR BOYS FROM FURTHER AFIELD



24
NUMBER OF GOVERNORS SPECIFIED IN THE 1573 ROYAL CHARTER



“John’s work has made a significant contribution to our understanding of the School and the context in which it has evolved over the centuries.”

Headmaster Neil Enright on his predecessor’s new book

BUY HISTORY BOOK



History in the making: *our 450th anniversary celebrations*

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

On Friday 24th March 2023, exactly 450 years since Queen Elizabeth I granted QE's Royal Charter, the whole School journeyed to Westminster Abbey, scene of Elizabeth's coronation and burial. The Service of Thanksgiving featured music from every century of the School's existence. Readings included Year 11 pupil Rohan Kumar's winning entry in our anniversary poetry competition. The Headmaster's address covered themes of: foundations; challenges; service to others, and hope for the future. The service concluded memorably with the world premiere of *And Be It Known*, an anthem commissioned by the School from internationally renowned composer Howard Goodall.

*“So, fearless, meet the road ahead.
Face fate and fortune in our stride.
That like an oak, we draw our strength.
From ancient roots spread deep and wide.”*

Howard Goodall



History in the making: *our 450th anniversary celebrations*

FOUNDER'S DAY

The 450th anniversary Founder's Day will live long in the memory as a happy and successful occasion for the whole QE community. The afternoon fete, FQE's biggest annual fundraiser, drew the largest numbers in recent memory. Any fears that the increased financial target was over-ambitious were soon laid to rest – it was smashed by an even bigger margin than last year's.

Traditional elements included the thanksgiving service and reading of the School Chronicle, while there were special anniversary events covering both the past (the 1573 Royal Charter had a rare outing) and the future (a time capsule was buried). Secreted in the capsule was a copy of the whole-School photograph, produced for the anniversary following a meticulously planned shoot in April.



£41,837

167%

RAISED AGAINST £25K FOUNDER'S DAY TARGET ON THE DAY AND THROUGH SUBSEQUENT DONATIONS

For generations to come

MASTERPLAN FOR OUR CAMPUS

Queen Elizabeth's School is reviewing its strategic aims and development plans for the campus over the next 15-20 years, so that, with FQE support, it continues to provide an inspirational learning environment for future generations. To help in its planning, the School commissioned education sector specialists NVB Architects.

In their 48-page Masterplan Study, they considered priorities such as: replacing the existing gymnasium and changing rooms; increasing the number of Science classrooms, and improving the overall efficiency of the site.

The study recommends carrying out work in five phases, subject to planning permission, starting with the demolition of the existing annex to allow the building of a new sports hall. Environmental improvements form an important aspect of the plan.

Note: all visuals shown here are just early, exploratory ideas and are subject to change.



How a new sports hall might look, exploring colour and materials.



A proposed new atrium as part of a remodelling of the ground floor of the Fern Building.



A potential new classroom block and outside space.

Investing for the future

CHAIN REACTION

FQE's commitment to funding improvements unlocked a large charitable grant to completely refurbish two Chemistry laboratories, which in turn prompted **Old Elizabethan Tony Sherrard** to give. The Wolfson Foundation provided £100k towards the £230k project for the Fern Building's labs S9 and S10. The work was completed during the summer of 2023.



Behind the scenes

This year saw significant investment in two areas that go largely unseen but are essential for a modern, high-quality learning environment. After bids for Government funding to replace the Main Building boilers were refused – and with the RAAC* crisis making an early reversal of that refusal unlikely – FQE stepped in with £120,000 to guarantee that QE could keep its pupils warm. After extensive work in the plant room, the heating system is now working well.

A major upgrade of the School's wi-fi network was completed, with new cabling and hotspots installed. The project paves the way for QE's digital strategy, spearheaded by the 1:1 programme. The roll-out of 1:1 learning devices (tablet computers) began with Year 7 in September 2023.

* Reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete, found in some school buildings, is prone to sudden collapse. There is no RAAC at QE.



TAKING CENTRE-STAGE

Postponed because of the urgent need to divert funds towards the boilers, work on the Robert Dudley Studio will now go ahead in spring 2024, following FQE's detailed tender process. Phase I sees the conversion of former computer rooms in the Main Building into a space for drama and spoken-word activities. Phase II – the installation of tiered seating – is pencilled in for summer 2024.



Benefactors and champions

FQE has for many years benefitted from the generosity of donors across the whole Elizabethan community, with current and former parents, alumni, staff, governors, and others all contributing their time, expertise and money in support of the School.

£10,000

Old Elizabethan **Dr Tony Sherrard** (1952-1959) planned to remember QE in his will, but brought forward his £10k donation after reading about the Chemistry laboratories' refurbishment in the OE Association magazine, *The Elizabethan*. Since he enjoyed a successful career in chemical engineering before retirement, the project was close to his heart. After calling in on a Year 13 practical in the refurbished labs, Tony expressed satisfaction that many QE pupils today take A-level sciences, especially Chemistry.



The 450 Club

Launched in 2021, the club gives members an opportunity to support QE pledging at least £450. It is aimed at alumni, former parents and friends of the School. Here we spotlight a couple of members:



Andrej Porovic (OE 2005-2012) is CEO at PES Technologies Ltd, which provides farmers with a comprehensive picture of soil health. *"Growing up and attending QE, I was aware that our School benefitted from the kindness and donations of former pupils. Now that I am financially established enough, I am keen to help in a similar manner."*

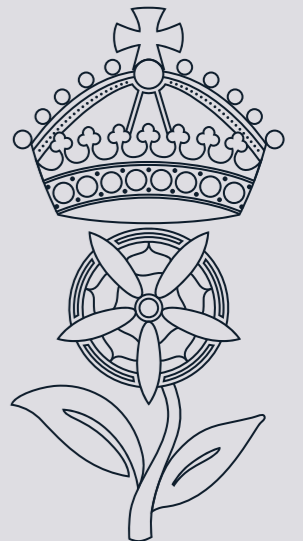


The FQE-funded Martin Pool opened when **Alex Liangas** (OE 2005-2012) was in Year 8, presenting a sharp contrast to its ageing predecessor. *"I have fond memories of competing in inter-House water polo tournaments, so the direct impact of contributions is very clear in my mind!"* says Alex, a senior manager in PwC's Deals Insights & Analytics team.



Diane Mason Stalwart of FQE

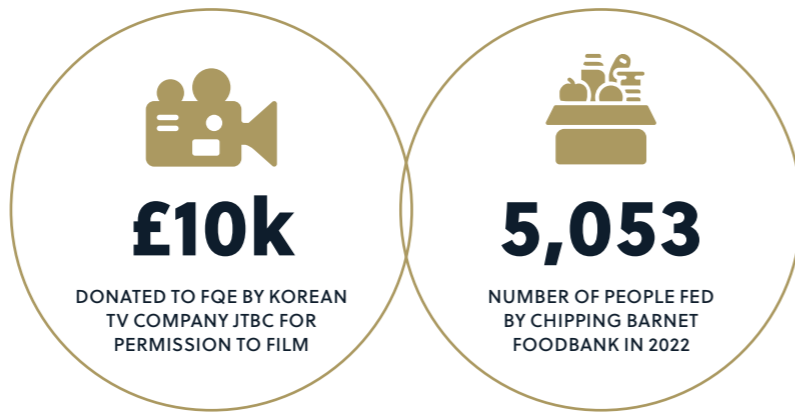
Diane, who died recently aged 88, served as FQE Secretary for 35 years. Popular and respected within both FQE and the School, she was known for her energy and for encouraging others to get involved. She was a QE parent, who also worked for the School in administrative roles from 1997-2011, and had been a Governor.



Backed by the boys

Fundraising is not just for parents and alumni!

Whether it's mid-winter collections for Chipping Barnet Foodbank and Homeless Action in Barnet, or sponsored walks in July (raising money, jointly, for FQE and Teach Sri Lanka), QE inculcates the culture of charity work and philanthropy that is the cornerstone of FQE's success. Pupils played their part in shattering the 450th Anniversary Founder's Day target, both by serving at the fete and through the sponsored House Music Challenge.



KOREAN LUNCH TRAY

The two-day shooting of the East Asian show, *Korean Lunch Tray*, gave boys a golden opportunity to help FQE – just by eating delicious Korean food. The visit came about through Peter Bint (OE 1994–2001), an established Korean TV host.



At the heart of FQE: *celebrating the volunteers*

Volunteers and helpers are central to FQE's work to support the School – and more are always welcome! So, whether it's the volunteers running quizzes and serving in the hospitality team at events such as parent briefing evenings and Sixth Form Luncheon, or it's the paid helpers providing uniform fittings in the School Shop for incoming Year 7 boys, their contribution is important. Most of all, a small army of volunteers is needed for the Founder's Day Fete in June. The fete is not only a highlight of the year for the whole Elizabethan family; it's also FQE's single biggest annual fundraiser.



Please tell me more about being an FQE volunteer

Our top two:



Tony Binstock is Chairman of the FQE Executive Committee, an FQE Director and a Member of the School Academy Trust. Now retired after an international business career, his interests include golf, outdoor pursuits and spending time with family. A former Governor, he has been involved in many QE roles since his son, Jamie, became a pupil in 1993.




IT professional **Priyadarshini Raykar**, Vice-Chair of the committee, joined FQE's volunteers when her son, Manomay, joined QE. She soon proved a great ambassador and an effective convener within the parental community. Manomay left last year, but she continues to serve, still wanting to help QE provide "meritocratic, high-quality, free education".

"I hope the current band of volunteers are able to inspire more parents to join FQE to help, and to experience this joy and sense of community."

Priya Raykar

Understanding FQE: *how the charity is run*

The Friends of Queen Elizabeth's School is a long-established charity, registered with the Charity Commission. Our governance structure is designed to ensure that we make the best professional strategic use of all donations to benefit current and future pupils of the School. In addition to the Directors, there are an executive committee and various sub-committees. These help FQE fulfil its role of liaising with parents and also ensure that parents can play a key part in organising fundraising activities for the School.

1966
THE YEAR FQE WAS
ESTABLISHED



289174
OUR CHARITY COMMISSION
NUMBER

CORPORATE TRUSTEE

Sets the policies of the charity with respect both to raising funds and to managing those funds in accordance with the charity's objects

The Friends of Queen Elizabeth's School Corporate Trustee Limited.

DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATE TRUSTEE

Trustee representatives:

- Emi Aghdiran
- Tony Binstock
- Del Cooke
- Neil Enright
- Nick Gaskell
- Eric Houston
- Barrie Martin
- Colin Price

The next steps

We trust that you have enjoyed reading this report and learning about just how big an impact giving through The Friends of Queen Elizabeth's has had – and continues to have – in transforming the School and enhancing opportunities for successive generations of boys.

Do you think you can do more to support FQE?

Whether you're a parent, an alumnus or another member of the Elizabethan family, we would welcome a conversation with you. It's important to note that support can take many forms, including financial donations and the giving of your time and expertise. There is considerable flexibility: while one-off donations are always welcome, many find that giving monthly or annually works better for them.

Yes, I would like to get in touch about increasing my support

I would like to remember the School in my will

Do you wish to make a donation right now?

You can make a donation to FQE towards the delivery of new facilities and opportunities for our pupils through the secure CAF Bank portal. CAF specialise in working with charities.

We are hugely grateful for each and every donation received.

Yes, I would like to make a single or regular gift

Yes, I would like to join the 450 Club

Would you like more details?

Please click the links below to access the FQE page on the Charity Commission website and to read FQE's full, audited accounts for the year ended 31st July 2023.

[FQE Charity Commission website](#)

[FQE Full, Audited Accounts 2022/23](#)

for the year ended 31st July 2023

[Dedicated FQE pages of our website](#)





The Friends of Queen Elizabeth's

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The Friends of Queen Elizabeth's is a registered charity, no. 289174



1573 — 2023