

## Planning Permission granted for £7m Iconic Building

On Wednesday 5 December, Rushmoor Borough Council granted permission for the College to develop a new 3-storey building to replace the aged Scola Building at the heart of the College campus. It will be built using a sustainable design approach, and is intended to require no artificial light during normal daylight hours.

The new building will house Physics, Electronics, Computing, IT and the whole area of Art, currently located in Scola.

Principal John Guy said, "This will give the College wonderful new facilities and will set new standards of provision for sixth form studies."



The first stage of the process will be to erect a number of high quality temporary buildings which will provide accommodation for the subjects displaced from Scola; Scola itself will be demolished in July 2008.

Construction of the new building will begin in August 2008 and will be completed within a year - the temporary buildings will be removed in the summer of 2009 when the new building will open.

The architects, Broadway Malvan, have been appointed to design the building and it is hoped to appoint contractors in the Spring Term.

The new building will complete the £24 million investment programme undertaken since 2000.

## Government Adviser praises students' achievements

Mary Curnock Cook, the government's principal adviser on qualifications reform, told students and staff at the College that their work had had a profound impact upon government thinking.

Mrs Curnock Cook was speaking at an awards ceremony for the College's second cohort of 138 Extended Project students.

Presenting the students with their bound university-style theses, Mrs Curnock Cook said, "Farnborough Sixth Form College has taken a pioneering lead in helping us to understand how we should guide the national development of the Extended Project. The success of Farnborough has raised the profile of this important initiative nationally and I hope you will show these projects with pride to friends and family. This has been an inspirational evening for me personally."

The 138 students who received certificates from Mrs Curnock Cook had each completed a 5000 word dissertation on a topic of their choice linking two of their A level subjects. They undertook the research during the summer holidays and were required to complete their projects by the end of October. Jon Marks, Associate Assistant Principal who led the project, also undertook his own research and was rewarded with a Master of Science degree just two weeks earlier. Mr Marks said, "The breadth and depth of the students' research was astonishing – I am very proud of all that they have achieved."

Muhammad Saqib, President of the Students' Association, completed his project on whether Turkey should be admitted to the European Union. He told the audience of parents and students in the Prospect Theatre that not only had he positively enjoyed doing the research but that the project had given him a real understanding of time management and prioritisation. "This will be a really useful skill for both my university career and my employment in the future," said Muhammad.

Becky Glass undertook her project on whether Jane Austen was a feminist. She told the audience that the supervision she had received from her tutor, Jo Chambers, had been invaluable. "It was really helpful to have someone to bounce ideas off on a topic which fascinated us both," said Becky.



Becky Glass tells the audience and Mary Curnock Cook (left) about her experiences of the Extended Project.



Right: Mohammad Saqib, President of the Students' Association, speaks at the awards ceremony.

## Why do we return on Monday 7 January?

The Christmas holiday is an important time for some rest and relaxation; for most, it is a period to be spent with the family. However, time must also be set aside for a period of intensive revision.

For first year students, the AS modules will be the first public examinations taken at advanced level. They are not the same as GCSE examinations and it is foolish to think that one can prepare properly for an advanced level module without serious revision. As a guideline, I would expect students to undertake the equivalent of at least FIVE full College days of revision during the Christmas vacation.

**Thursday 3 and Friday 4 January have been particularly identified as study days for students to spend the whole day working. They should not be used for additional part-time work.**

Last year, the AS and A2 results for this College were exceptional compared with the national statistics. I know that parents will encourage and assist students to undertake serious revision during this time.

## When do the examinations begin?

The January modules begin on Wednesday morning, 9 January 2008. Module tests are about one hour long.

All candidates must be aware of the times of their examinations (see CristalWeb), and their locations in the College. If a student misses an examination for any reason, it cannot be rescheduled - the next available time will be June 2008.

If a student is ill on the day of an examination, please phone the College to inform Registry of the illness. In exceptional circumstances, it may be possible for an invigilator to bring the paper for the examination to be taken at home - but please understand that staffing availability does not often permit this.

**The College does NOT close down for study leave** at this time - students must attend all their classes during the module period, except when they have a module test. If the module test is at 1.15pm, students must attend their classes in the morning and, if they have a class at 2.45pm, they must, of course, attend it.

## Examination Guidelines

The College publishes a booklet which has been given to each student giving essential information about external examinations - a copy is available on CristalWeb (home page > Examination Information > Exam Guidelines). The conduct of examinations is subject to routine external inspection and the College complies with the regulations to the letter. Regulations relating to appeals and enquiries are also given in the booklet.

## Mobile Phones - NEVER EVER in the exam hall

Possession of a mobile phone or other electronic device, even turned off, in the examination hall WILL result in disqualification. We advise that on examination days, mobile phones should be left at home but a "phone minding service" is available in the Finance Office for those students who hate to be parted from their phone; the cost of the service is £1 for the January session of examinations.

## College Travel Scholarships

Each year, the College makes available a number of scholarships (maximum £250 each) to support individual students to travel abroad in order to undertake project work or adventurous activity.

In the past, examples have included work with charities in Brazil, Nepal, Guyana, Africa and China, expeditions with the Venture Scouts, and even turtle conservation in Mexico. Projects tend to be for the summer duration or for a whole or part gap year.

**Application forms for Travel Scholarships for 2008 are available from the Principal's Personal Assistant, Jan Moore. Closing date: Friday 8 February 2008.**

## Result of Parent Governor Election

Following the election earlier in the term, Mrs Katrina Cochrane has been appointed as a Parent Governor until 2009.

The two parent governors are:

Mike Philippson 01276 507880;

Katrina Cochrane 01276 471225.

## Spring Term Consultation Evenings

The two consultation evenings in March are primarily aimed at first year students and at second year students in difficulty.

**Thursday 13 March 2008 5.30 pm - 8.30 pm**

**Monday 17 March 2008 5.30 pm - 8.30 pm**

## Prayer Evenings

A group of parents has been meeting in College to pray for the College and its success. Those wishing to join would be most welcome. All meetings will be in Tutorial room 6, Ranson Building, 7.30 - 9.00 pm.

Thursday 24 Jan Monday 3 March,

Tuesday 6 May Thursday 12 June

For further information contact Andrea Birkett:

01252 663349; mother\_of\_all\_chaos@hotmail.com

## Ghana Link - The Ticket Fund

The College is seeking ways to develop further its links with the Presbyterian Secondary Technical School in Aburi, Ghana, and it has invited a group of Ghanaian students to visit Farnborough in April 2008.

The costs of air-fares, however, are prohibitive for the Ghanaian students and we are raising funds to cover the costs (approximately £5000). The College Calendar is currently on sale in the College shop featuring art work by our students (see Congratulations) and by the Ghanaian students. All proceeds from the sale (£3) of calendars are going to the Ghana Ticket Fund.

If you would like to make a contribution to the Ticket Fund, please send your donation made payable to the College to Jan Moore, Principal's Personal Assistant.

## £250 Scholarships from Southampton Solent

Universities and Colleges offer a broad selection of bursaries and scholarships to a wide range of students. Southampton Solent has written to inform us of a £250 scholarship to every Farnborough Sixth Form College student who enrolls in 2008. The best aspect of a bursary or scholarship is that it does not have to be repaid! For full details of scholarships and bursaries look on the websites of universities to which you have applied.

## Feedback

It is always very helpful to receive feedback on your perception of the College - if you have any comments concerning the quality of education, we would be very pleased to hear them. In particular, please do not hesitate to let us know if you have any concerns.

## Travel

When students experience problems with the bus or rail service, it is helpful if they inform Mary Marsh in the Student Services Office or send her a message via email [mmarsh@farnboroughsfc.ac.uk](mailto:mmarsh@farnboroughsfc.ac.uk). All complaints are forwarded immediately to the appropriate bus or rail company.

### New building and Student Car Park Permits

We are delighted to have received planning permission for a replacement building for Scola. This will mean some changes to the College site for the next eighteen months whilst the building programme takes place.

We have been working with Rushmoor Borough Council over the last year to provide extra car parking for the students during this period and we are pleased that spaces are being made available to our students at the Farnborough Football Club ground which is about an eight minute walk from College, accessed from Cherrywood Road.

Car Park Permits will be issued in two colours according to the table below. We felt that this was fair, as it gives every driver some time in the College Student Car Park.

Peach permit holders are advised to check out the location of the football ground before the start of the Spring Term to ensure they arrive on time at their first lessons next term; this new arrangement will start on Monday 7 January 2008.

Colour of permit	Park on College site	Park at Football Club ground
BLUE	1st half of each term	2nd half of each term
PEACH	2nd half of each term	1st half of each term

### Student car drivers

- Please emphasise to your son/daughter that, if he/she parks in the Student Car Park or the Farnborough Football Club ground, he/she does so entirely at his/her own risk.
- There are minor accidents in the Student Car Park almost every day caused by the large number of inexperienced drivers all in one place. The College accepts no responsibility for dealing with these incidents which should always be referred to the insurance companies.
- If your son/daughter would find it distressing to deal with damage to his/her car, he/she should think seriously about leaving it at home.
- The College will, of course, continue to treat dangerous driving on the College site very seriously by suspending any student seen driving in that manner.

Rosemary Heasman  
Assistant Principal, Student Services

## Sports Report

Congratulations go to the women's football team for reaching the last 32 of the national cup, beating teams from Oxfordshire and Berkshire before losing to Southampton rivals Taunton's College. Likewise, the women's basketball team is currently preparing for the semi-final of the county cup versus St Vincent College. The women's hockey and rugby teams continue to perform well whilst the netball team is being coached in the arts of Korfbal every Thursday in preparation for the Italian Korfbal courts while on tour in Verona in February 2008.

All three men's football teams head their leagues at the mid point of the season. The men's rugby team reached the semi-final of the Wren cup, losing in a hard fought game against Churchers College, Petersfield. The side got back to winning ways with a solid away win at QMC, Basingstoke. Likewise, the men's basketball team continue to improve with good wins against Peter Symonds, QMC and Totton in recent weeks.

Both the men's and women's swimming teams have qualified for the Nationals which will take place in Yorkshire in January.

New to the College this year have been judo, lacrosse and outdoor adventurous activities. Finally, and perhaps most significantly, the department is proud to announce the inaugural 'Farnborough 6'. This new event, taking place on Sunday March 9, is a six mile fun run around the local area. For more information, visit the main College website and click on the 'Farnborough 6' link.

## Careers and Future Events 2008

### Tuesday 12 February

University of Warwick.

### Thursday 28 February

Progression Talk by Farnborough College of Technology for one year students; University of Winchester.

### Monday 10 March (Evening)

Higher Education Finance Talk **for the parents of year two students only. Admission by ticket.**

### Tuesday 11 March

Year in Industry.

### Thursday 13 March

Brunel University - School of Arts.

### Thursday 20 March

UCAS H.E. Convention to be held at the University of Surrey. A visit for most first year students.

### Thursday 27 March (Afternoon)

Oxbridge Admissions Tutors will visit the College to discuss Oxford and Cambridge admissions with students and parents.

### Tuesday 22 April (Evening)

Higher Education talk **for the parents of first year students only. Admission by ticket.**

### Thursday 1 May

Pam Hardy Business School at Farnborough College of Technology, Managing Personal Finances.

### Thursday 8 May

Index Recruitment Talk for one year students.

### Friday July 4 (All day)

Moving On Day. A day of Careers seminars and Exhibition for all first year students.

### Monday 22 September

College deadline for medicine, veterinary science and Oxbridge UCAS forms.

# Honk! plays to packed audiences



Congratulations to the entire cast and production team of *Honk!* which played to packed audiences in the Prospect Theatre on Wednesday 5 to Friday 7 December.

## Director General Schools opens UpGrade



Ralph Tabberer, Director General Schools in the Department of Children, Schools and Families, visited the College on Friday 30 November to open the new facility, UpGrade, and to discuss curriculum developments in the College. The College's new approach to supporting all students to improve their grades was featured in the Guardian newspaper, Tuesday 11 December 2007.

**The Learning Resource Centre will be OPEN  
10am - 4pm Wednesday 2 January  
to Friday 4 January 2008**

If you are coming from a long way, phone first to check that the network has no glitches (01252 688 271)

### Congratulations to the following students:

**Gemma Bannister** and **Andrew Willis** for being awarded advanced apprenticeships for sporting excellence by the Amateur Swimming Association;

**Sophie Dundovic** and **Nathan Steele** who have been nominated to represent the United Kingdom at the Global Young Leaders' Conference in Washington DC and New York next summer;

**Eliza Fleming** who was appointed as the first Leader for Youth in the Borough of Woking;

**Mark Cappleman** who reached the last 16 at the Danish Junior Cup (European under 17s tournament) for Badminton and who won the Hampshire and IOW Sport award for his contribution to sport;

**Eleanor George**, **Elizabeth Smith** and **Olivia Allison** who are members of the British Elite Synchro Swimmers Squad training in preparation for the 2012 London Olympics;

**Marc Spicer**, **Michael Vincent**, **Kirsten Charles** and **Helen Colson** for their recent performances and technical assistance with the Starburst Theatre Company's production of *Aladdin* at the Harlington Centre, Fleet;

**Peter Gornall** on his award of an Army Scholarship;

**Gemma Harris** whose prize-winning entry in the ACT One-ACT Playwriting Competition will be presented at the ACT Theatre, University of Kingston, in Spring 2008;

**Holly Carter** for being runner-up in the Nikon: Young Fashion Photographer of the Year Competition in which she competed against over 200 undergraduate entrants.

**Lucinda Hodge**, **Rachel Wilkinson**, **Charlotte Kendall**, **Sezin Tugen**, **Kerry Saunders** and **Craig Davidge** whose work has been selected for the 2008 College Calendar.

