



Friends of the Priaulx Library

Friends of the Priaulx Library Newsletter

Issue 3 2013

Elizabeth College- A Research Journey

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Newsletter Contributors our thanks to:

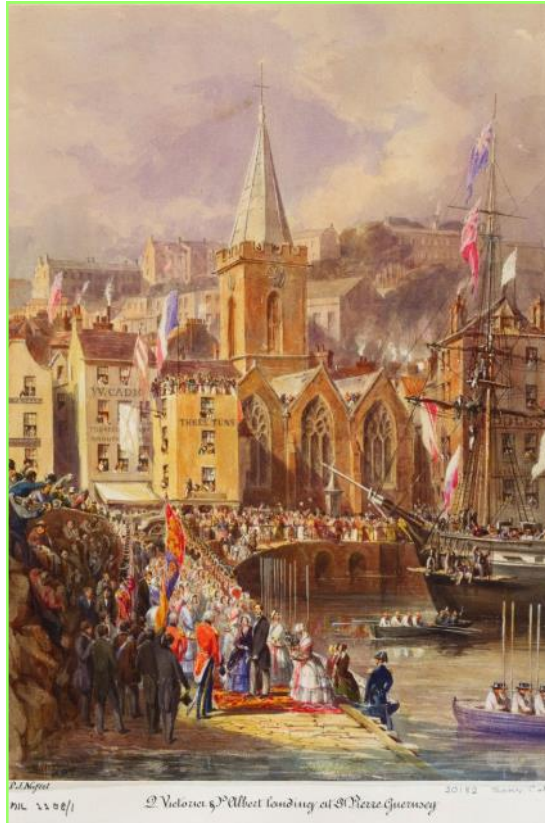
Amanda Bennett (A2 Scanner)
John David (Bells)
Rob Grant (Vïaer Marchi)
Evan Ozanne (Elizabeth College)

STOP PRESS

The 7th in the Friends' series of talks will take place at the Frossard Lecture Theatre, Candie Gardens commencing 7pm on the evening of Wednesday, 30th October 2013.

Eric Grimsley will give an illustrated talk on his research of the history and development of the Guernsey Scout Association, leading to the publication of his book "Going Forward" to celebrate the centenary of the Guernsey Scout Association in March 2011

More details on page 7.



Queen Victoria and Prince Albert landing at St Peter's, Guernsey on 24th August 1846

because of their close proximity to Catholic France. Guernsey children were thought to be in great need of education at senior or secondary level and for that a school was needed to be established.

An horrific event, when three Guernsey women were burned at the stake for theft, is graphically described in the early pages of Bruce's book.

On learning of this most barbarous act, the Queen's Privy Council recommended, inter alia, the establishing of a college on Guernsey by Royal Charter. This Charter required the States of Guernsey 'to erect a free grammar school called *Queene Elizabethes Grammar Schole*'.

For the first time the young men of the Island could be educated and grounded properly in Protestantism, some of whom it was hoped, would become Island clergymen.

The College Statutes of 1563

A copy of the College Statutes, held at Hatfield House, is signed off by William Cecil, the Queen's Chief Minister. These set out in detail the area of land that was to be made available for the establishment of the school. They (the Statutes) are also quite specific about the duties of both The Master and the boys. 'Let some fit Master be chosen, with good morals, noted for the infamy of no evident crime and grave in countenance and deportment'. Bruce was given free access to these and was able to handle them (without having to wear cotton

On the 26th June Guernseyman and Friends' member Bruce Parker, former House Master at Elizabeth College, presenter of many BBC programmes, presenter of South Today for 36 years, Political Editor for BBC South and a member of the House of Commons Press Gallery, gave Members the 6th talk in the Friends' series of talks and lectures.

In presenting this synopsis of Bruce's talk it is neither possible for me to reproduce, in written form, his extremely attractive manner of presentation, nor remember all of the fascinating anecdotes or facts he discovered in his research for his recently published book 'A History of Elizabeth College, Guernsey'.

Suffice for this Newsletter, I will attempt to highlight, from Bruce's visuals with captions and reference to his book, some of the surprises he met during his 'research journey'. As Bruce, in the introduction to his talk stated, "Quite an adventure but fascinatingly exciting. Never expected".

Elizabeth's Foundation

Four hundred and fifty years ago communities in England were being torn apart by religious differences between the Protestant Queen Elizabeth 1 and Rome.

For the Queen and her Ministers the Channel Islands were particularly troublesome,