



Friends of Eckington School
FOES are cool raising money for school



16th September 2011 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORTS and ACCOUNTS

CHAIRMANS REPORT

I am very pleased to report another successful year for FOES in 2010-11. Our primary objective is to raise funds to support the school development plan and provide additional activities for the children. The economic downturn has had an impact on our income and our costs have been greater for some events but we are still in a very healthy position and will be able to help the school realise their ambitions for this year.

Who are we?

Every parent/guardian of a child at school is a member of FOES and the committee is comprised of a small number of parents who dedicate a lot of time and effort to raise money through events, provide social interaction for the children, parents and villagers as well as managing the spending to meet the needs of the school. They are the backbone of all our activities and without them we would not be the enviable success that FOES continues to be.

Thanks to Alec Simpson (Treasurer), Sheri Edwards (Secretary), Matt Tebbatt, Ali Sanderson, Jane Evans, Philly White, Julie Cole, Sara Bennet, Nat Ambrose, Lisa Wallace, Nick Doyle, Kerry Kirtland and all of those who have helped us over the year.

What do we do?

We run several large and small events during the year to raise money and Alec Simpson, our Treasurer, will provide our financial successes in his own report later.

Our primary fundraiser of the year is the **Auction of Promises** which is a fun and entertaining night out with an exclusive FOES made movie. Last years theme was "I'm From Eckington Get Me Out Of Here!" which saw several of our parents and children endure all sorts of horrible challenges including our eventual King of Eckington, Will Ambrose, eating an oven baked tarantula spider! Once again our theme and event sparked a fantastic buzz in the village helping to make the auction a great success under the expert auctioneering skills of Phil Sagar.

The auction relies on the kind donations of individuals and businesses so a big thank you goes to everyone who gave promises, sponsored sections or placed adverts in the catalogue. The biggest thank you goes to those who came along to bid and part with their hard earned cash.

On November 19th we will have our 2011 auction with the theme "Little Eckington" showing lots of classic comedy sketches with a FOES twist featuring various parents, children and villagers as you have never seen them before! I hope to see lots of new faces along with old friends at the auction to enjoy the film and dig deep once again to raise money for the school.

The 2012 plan is to contribute to the major project of creating a useful indoor space within the central open courtyard. This could provide a library or extra space for all sorts of activities.

Our second biggest event of the year is the **Music Festival** which was on Saturday June 11th at the Rec. The events aim is to promote FOES, engage the village and encourage them to come along to other events such as the auction. Whilst it is not a big money raising event there are some cost efficiencies to be gained next year to be able to maximise potential earnings.

This year we joined forces with Eckington Under 5's to incorporate their summer fete and make the day even bigger than previous years. Once again the village showed how much talent there is with performances from local bands The Eckington Smoothies, Where's Martin and Angry Brigade. There were also plenty of local singers including Mae Bradbury, Sara Bennett, Pippa Hancocks and the Hedges family who all performed. Plus we had performances from the School Violins, Recorders, Flutes and Singing Club. Not only did we have local talent but also performers from further afield including Aesthetics and Dave McCaffrey.

A big thank you to Chris Daniels who organised and ran the sound for us using equipment supplied by DJ Chris (from the discos). Also thank you once again to White Logistics for the use of the lorry as a stage and their help with transporting equipment. Plus

thank you to the Rec for the use of their facilities and their recent upgrade of the outside electrics which was a great help to the smooth running of the power on the day.

The event was a great success and thanks also to the committee for helping organise the day and work tirelessly to make the day enjoyable for all. Special thanks also to the parents and villagers who gave up their time to set up, run and clear up over the weekend including Jim Pitchforth, Carl Redfern, Martin Hagley, Stu Bradbury, Phil Sagar, Sean Ditchburn, Pierre Du Toit and many more.

Our third fundraising event is the annual **Bonfire night pancakes**. The village joins forces at the REC each year for a bonfire and fireworks evening with stalls from various organisations. FOES run a stall selling pancakes which is always popular. Thanks to Alec Simpson for leading this event and to all the committee members who provide the pancakes and serve the masses on the night.

Social and Educational Events:

In addition to the fundraising activities, FOES also organise and run a wide range of social and educational events.

- **School Disco** – towards the end of each term, FOES organise a Disco for the children. Admission is £1 towards costs and Toilet tissue to help school provisions. This is not profit making event but is very popular with the children providing them a good social interaction.
- **Family Bingo** – this is an annual event in Feb/March providing an early evening family night out with Hamper prizes made up of items donated on “dress down” Friday. This is a low cost social event rather than a fund raising activity and is a great evening of entertainment and this year featured a new bingo caller called “Bernard”, worth coming along just to see “him” in action!
- **Poetry Day** – this is an annual school day activity involving parents and villagers reading poetry to the children and providing a little “theatre” for a fun morning of entertainment.
- **Father Christmas** – each year we have a special visit from the man himself bearing a small Christmas gifts for all the children from FOES. Thanks to Arthur Orr for using his extensive contacts and helping to arrange for Father Christmas to come along.

We also normally do a tree planting activity for the new children but the weather was against us this year and we were unable to do it. We hope to re-instate tree planting for 2012 and involve this year and last years new children.

School Liason:

Gail Whiting, head teacher, has continued to support the activities of FOES and our relationship with the school leadership has continued to grow. Mrs Whiting has attended the majority of our committee meetings and we have been joined by some of the teachers at some meetings to discuss specific projects they are involved in. The school have engaged fully with our activities and many of the staff and teachers have assisted with events, especially the Bouncy Slide at the Music Festival which they completely run for us. Thank you to all for their support.

Committee Membership:

Our committee for 2010/11 enters a new phase as 5 members are stepping down this year after 3 or 4 years service. Tim Adkins (Chair), Alec Simpson (Treasurer) and Sheri Edwards (Secretary) along with Julie Cole and Ali Sanderson are all leaving. The last year has been spent with this in mind so we will have nominations and voting for these key posts at this AGM. Nick Doyle joined during the year and we hope more parents will join this year to keep the great work going for a few more years.

On a personal note, I have thoroughly enjoyed my 3 years with FOES and I am very proud of what the team have achieved. We have some fantastic talent in the committee, school and village and the support the community gives us is amazing. There is a fantastic enduring FOES spirit that is the envy of many other communities. I look forward to seeing you all at future FOES events and wish the new chair and committee every success for the coming years.

Thank you for your support.



Tim Adkins
Chair -Friends of Eckington School



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Treasurers Report 2010/11

During 2010/11 over £10,841 (gross) was raised by FOES, which was a decline of 10% on the on the prior year. The expenditure incurred for fundraising were in the region of £4,012, giving net proceeds of £6,829 being £1,778 (20%) down on the previous year.

The decline in income was primarily from the Auction of promises which raised £7,387 (£1,100). Costs were increased in the Music festival with increased drink sales and having to pay full cost for the Food & music system, both of which we received at a discount last year.

During the year only £1,512 was donated to the school, primarily voluntary donations on behalf of the children. Funds are earmarked for purchasing books and mainly to assist in the development of the courtyard into a new library / classroom. Therefore a balance of £5,055 is taken to funds.

Fundraising Activity

The Auction of promises continues to be the main fund raising activity with net proceeds of over £6,138 a decrease of £984 on last year. The music festival continues to grow in popularity and raised a gross amount of £2,707 being £250 up on last year but with increased cost as detailed above and lower bar prices the net proceeds was just £289.

A summary of main fundraising events follows:

- Auction Of Promises
- Music Festival
- Bingo Night
- Bonfire Night pancakes
- Various one off donations

School Donations

As stated above Foes have donated £1,512 to the school this year being:-

- Voluntary contributions to be used at the school's discretion (£5 per child for each term) (£1,345)
- Santa presents (£96)
- Pond clearance (£71)

Financial Position

FOES have finished the financial year with surplus funds of £11,048. There are a number of major developments outlined for 2011/12 and we therefore need to ensure that this years activities continue the successful fund raising seen over the last couple of years.

As this is my final year as treasurer I would like to thank all of the Foes committee members over the last few years who have all worked incredibly hard at fund raising to help support the school & children.

Alec Simpson
15th September 2011



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Foes Accounts for 2010/11

	Receipts	Expenditure	Net Proceeds
Opening Balances			5,993.13
Fund raising & Events			
Auction of Promises	7,387.50	(1,248.96)	6,138.54
Bonfire Pancakes	254.80		254.80
School Bingo	143.00	0.00	143.00
School disco	127.00	(277.36)	(150.36)
Music Festival	2,707.10	(2,418.58)	288.52
Bank Interest	6.09		6.09
Donations	216.00	(40.00)	176.00
Poerty day		(27.24)	(27.24)
	10,841.49	(4,012.14)	6,829.35
Donations			
Pond clearance		(70.73)	
Voluntary donations		(1,345.00)	
Christmas presents		(96.10)	
	0.00	(1,511.83)	(1,511.83)
Other Expenditure			
Insurance		(63.00)	
AGM		(164.00)	
Internet		(35.00)	
	0.00	(262.00)	(262.00)
Totals	10,841.49	(5,785.97)	5,055.52
Closing Balance			11,048.65
Made up of			
Cash			1,696.90
Deposit account			6,265.95
Current account			2,000.87
Std life account			1,084.93
			11,048.65