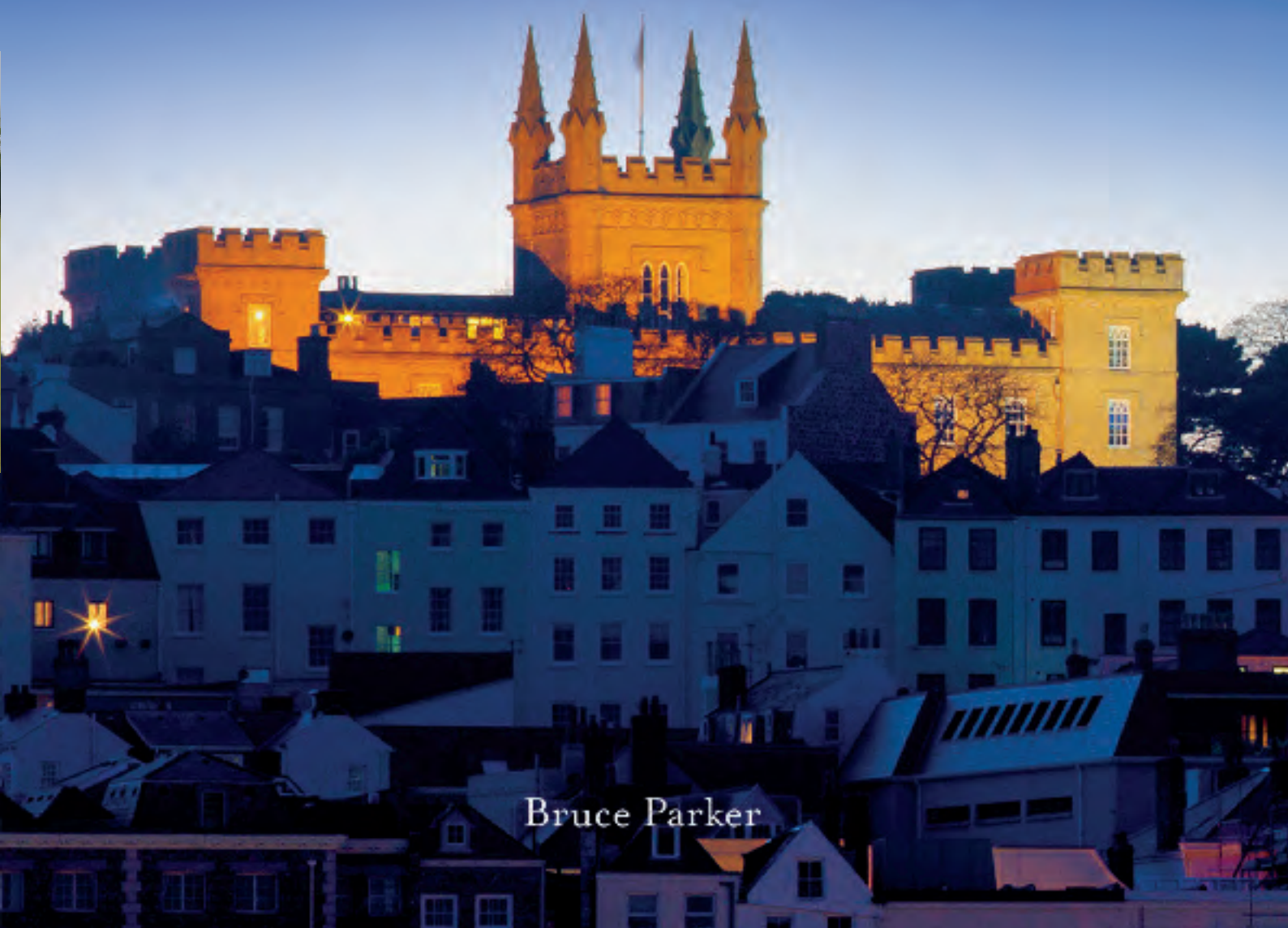


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A History of
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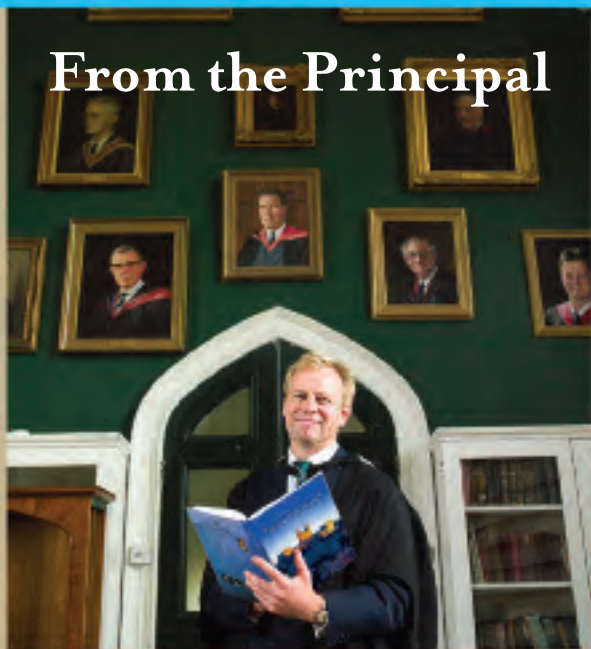
Bruce Parker

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A HISTORY OF ELIZABETH COLLEGE

From the Principal



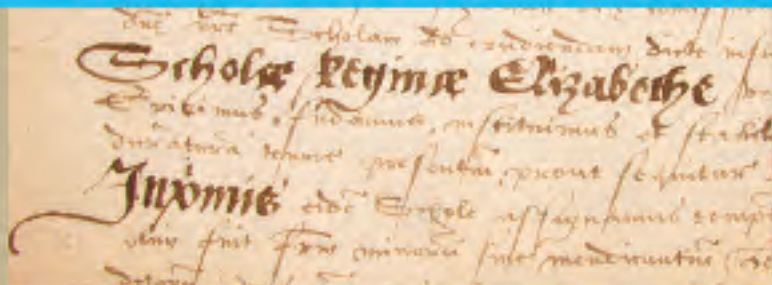
I AM DELIGHTED to introduce this marvellous history of Elizabeth College, written by the ex-BBC journalist and OE Bruce Parker. It seems particularly appropriate that the book will be available in time to celebrate the College's 450th anniversary in 2013.

Bruce has produced a rollicking-good read, which entertains from the very first pages with the College founded amid a potent cocktail of the Reformation, witchcraft and the great Sovereign herself. Thereafter for a long while we hear of all manner of scandals, triumphs and shenanigans, before the calming influence of the College's re-chartering in 1824 and the construction of the striking skyline building we know so well today.

What becomes increasingly clear, however, is that the College is far more than just a collection of buildings. We are introduced to a series of colourful pupils, teachers and headmasters who collectively serve to show what a remarkable school the College is, and notably one of far and wide-reaching influence.

Themes of academic excellence, an emphasis on good character and notions of great service and leadership emerge clearly to remind us that this modest-sized island school has always punched far above its weight, and will continue to do so for many years to come; *Semper Eadem!*

G.J. Hartley



About the book



This is the first comprehensive history of Elizabeth College since the school was founded by Queen Elizabeth I in 1563.

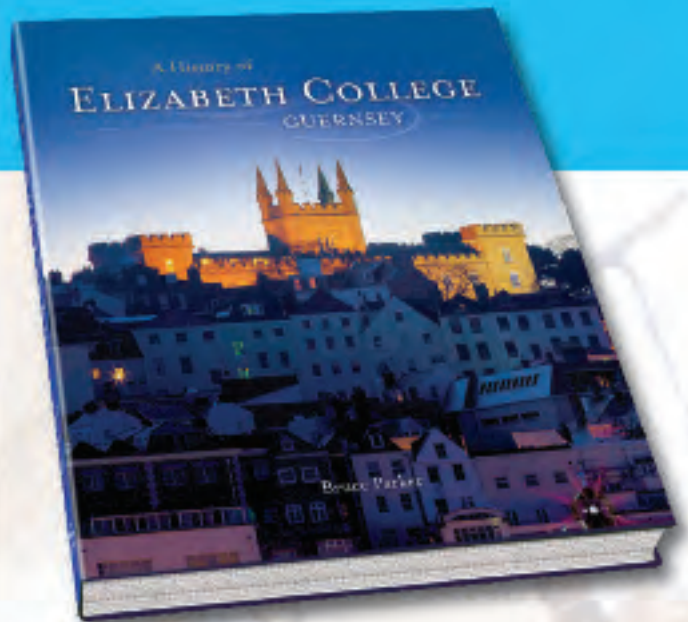
Following a chequered existence in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries,

sometimes with no pupils at all, in 1824 the College was rescued from almost certain oblivion by Guernsey's celebrated Lieutenant Governor, Sir John Colborne. His belief in the value to Guernsey of a properly conducted school led to a re-chartering of the College and the construction of the building, which to this day dominates the St Peter Port skyline.

The history of Elizabeth College reflects the history of Guernsey: many of its former pupils have become Bailiffs and senior members of the States but, away from the island, Old Elizabethans have distinguished themselves in every walk of life. Four OEs have been awarded the VC.



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This is a serious but entertaining account of the good and bad times of a Royal Foundation which still needs the consent of the monarch before any fundamental changes are made. The book includes fresh insights into the five years of exile in Derbyshire when the College was evacuated from Guernsey, ahead of the island's occupation by German forces. It is a story, the details of which may come as a slight surprise, even to those who are reasonably familiar with Elizabeth College.



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The Author

Bruce Parker's connection with Elizabeth College goes back to 1948 when, aged seven, he joined the lower school and was one of Beechwood's first intake. After university in Wales and Reading, where he was an education correspondent of *The Times*, he returned to the College as an English master and Senior House Tutor. His subsequent career was with the BBC as news presenter, producer and political editor. In 2008, he took on the chairmanship of the College Foundation and has been a Gibson Fleming trustee for 25 years. Bruce is the father of 7675 and brother of 4630.



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