

# REC UPDATE

Issue 2 - December 2018

## Latest building news

### At its meeting on 22nd November the Board made two important decisions:

- To proceed with a version of the refurbishment which will deliver all the benefits of the refurbishment as well as part of the extension. By adding the link building into the refurbishment phase the REC will gain valuable additional space which will be able to accommodate additional classes.
- That the summer programme of courses will run as published. Further details will follow confirming the venue.

### The question has been raised about why the refurbishment has been prioritised ahead of the extension.

This decision was reached following lengthy discussions and made for two reasons, one practical the other financial.

Firstly in terms of practicalities we will need to upgrade the electricity supply to three phase and all of the utilities for the extension will need to connect with those already in place. In other words, the main building will be disrupted whether or not work starts on the refurbishment or extension so it makes sense to do the former first.

Secondly, though we have a fundraising challenge to meet the £260,000 cost of the refurbishment it would be significantly greater to reach the £380,000 estimated for the extension.



## Look out for our fundraising tree!

It is on display in the restaurant area.

With a target of £130,000 we'll add a leaf for each contribution, and a fruit when the total reaches each £5000 threshold.

### Furnishings and Fittings

To get the most from the significant expenditure the REC is committing to the building it's important that everyone has the opportunity to contribute their views on the furnishings and fittings. On display in the café/restaurant area are a range of possible curtains, blinds, doors, handles, carpets, flooring and bathroom fittings.

If you have views or can spare a little bit of time explaining your preferences on what would work best please contact David Wood (david@recbedford.co.uk).

# FUNDRAISING UPDATE

In the last issue we highlighted we need a further £130,000 to deliver the refurbishment next year.

**Since then we have raised £8,496**

Two successful fundraising applications have raised £3,000 from the Gale Family Charity Trust and £2,000 from the Bedfordshire Charitable Trust.

Two anonymous donations from students of £1,000 and £2,000.

We also held a very successful quiz night on 14th November raising £496, a record sum!

# LEST WE FORGET

We hope that you have had the chance to look at the wonderful exhibition of World War I inspired pieces of art in the cafe area. Well done to all of the artists.



# CONTRIBUTIONS AND LEGACY

Our members have been more than generous over the years with their financial bequests, which has played a huge part in the REC being where it is today and facing a bright future.

There are a number of ways in which you can help to support the REC.

- One off donations – no matter how small or large by cheque or cash.
- The donation option on our website (to be found under the membership section of the information tab).
- Monthly giving via direct debit.
- Supporting us through a legacy in your Will.

For more information please contact [admin@recbedford.co.uk](mailto:admin@recbedford.co.uk)

We also need volunteers to help us with our forthcoming fund raising events. Please let us know if you are able and willing to help.

**In the New Year we will be launching our new website.**

We are currently working on the design and content and aim for it to be easy to use and full of the information and news that you need.

Please tell us if there is anything that you would like to be included on the site that you feel would be useful.

Please send your suggestions to [david@recbedford.co.uk](mailto:david@recbedford.co.uk)