



Epsom Girls
Grammar School

Media Release

23 October 2013

Freemasons show goodwill to school

Furthering their fundamental principles of integrity, goodwill and charity, Freemasons New Zealand has donated \$30,000 to the Epsom Girls Grammar School (EGGS) Leading Women in Sport campaign.

The Leading Women in Sport campaign organisers are challenging the community to raise \$7 million for much-needed facilities for the school. The school's current sports facilities do not meet the need or demand of the 2200 students who participate in more than 40 sports and physical education classes. The campaign includes the Lady Joyce Fisher Sports Centre and the Sports Complex.



From left, Dr Gerald Young – Chairperson Board of Trustees, Selwyn Cooper – Grand Master, Freemasons New Zealand, Sheila Hicking – Potter Masonic Trust, Madeline Gunn – Principal, Mr David Mace, Chairman – Freemasons Roskill Foundation

Selwyn Cooper, Grand Master – Freemasons New Zealand says the organisation is pleased to continue its tradition of charity and community service. “Supporting young women in education and sport aligns with the goals of the Potter Masonic Trust and the Freemasons.”

He says: “It is a complement to our long term support of the Freemasons Scholarships to support these young students by providing for this wonderful facility that both the students and the community will benefit from.”

Principal Madeline Gunn says New Zealand has always been, and continues to be, a strong sporting nation but we have traditionally focused on men’s sports. “Girls have always been as interested in sports as boys, but in the past girls’ schools were funded much less for facilities because it was thought that girls didn’t need as much room for sports.”

She says sports build important skills and offers young girls life-long leadership tools. “The competencies girls develop in sport complement our key education competencies. Employers look for teamwork, commitment, initiative and self-management.”

The initiative will also benefit the residents of Epsom and the surrounding areas who will have immediate access to world-class training and sports facilities. The Sports Complex will serve as a sporting facility as well as a venue for community activities, meetings, performances and events.

Madeline says: “In building the Lady Joyce Fisher Sports Centre and the Sports Complex we are acknowledging that sports are a part of a healthy education and we want to be a part of it as much as the boys.”

Designed and inspired with longevity and sustainability in mind, when completed, the Sports Complex will include an Indoor Arena with two full-sized multi-use courts for netball, basketball, volleyball, badminton, dance and physical education; an all-weather multi-use turf covered Outdoor Arena and three competition tennis courts and more.

Epsom Girls Grammar School hopes to showcase the Sports Complex at their Centenary in 2017.

To make a donation go to: www.eggs.school.nz/foundation/sports-complex

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Media Contact

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MEDIA NOTES**Sports Centre**

Two full sized netball courts (also for basketball, badminton and volleyball) which can be reconfigured to one main international size court with spectator seating

Dance studio

Health and well-being suite

Mezzanine and viewing gallery

Fitness Centre

Lecture and study room

Offices

Sports Arena

Multi-use covered all-weather turf

Courts

3 new competition tennis courts

Multi-use courts for hockey, netball, basketball, football, lacrosse and physical education