



## **The Richmond Building, Clifton**

The University is investing some £30m in a major project to put this building back into good repair and to make it more sustainable and fit for the future.

Over a number of construction phases the project will create new spaces for existing activities, including the Students' Union, Anson Rooms and swimming pool; and new facilities including the International Foundation Programme.

This exciting project will completely transform a very large, tired 1960's concrete building into a vibrant, welcoming and sustainable facility for university students, staff and visitors.



Concept view (Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios)

## **Building Progress Update:**



*Left to right:* Simon Hinks, Director of Sport; Craig Figes, Olympic Water Polo player; David Clarke, Deputy Vice Chancellor; Hannah Pollak, Sabbatical Officer-VP Sport & Health; Patrick Finch, Director of Estates; Mark Taylor, Pool Manager; Karsan Vaghani, Director of Capital Projects.

On 21 January 2013 Deputy Vice Chancellor, David Clarke, accompanied by Craig Figes, captain of the GB 2012 Olympic Water Polo Team, formally opened the new Swimming Pool changing facilities at the Richmond Building. Craig is a local lad, who learned to swim and play water polo at the university pool.

This concludes a period of 9 months closure of the pool and the relocation of out of date facilities accessed from Richmond Hill Avenue to the new main entrance of the building on Queens Road. During this time the pool hall was also given a refurbishment, and a full height scaffold was suspended across the pool, with the water kept in place throughout.

The new facilities feature fully accessible entranceways, and an increased capacity, flexibility and quality of facility for use by the University Students, Staff and members of the public.



*The new swimming pool and 'Changing Village' accessed from the new main entrance on Queens Road*

- Works along Queens Road continue on the new footpath and landscape areas. Weather permitting, the footpath is due to be completed by the end of January with the remainder of the external works due for completion before the end of February. The University of Bristol would like to thank local residents for their continued patience while work is underway.
- Works on the upper floors (Levels 3, 4, and 5) of the North Block are very close to being complete. Final finishes are being applied and work has started on clearing these areas of construction materials. It is anticipated that all works will be complete by the end of February when these last areas will be handed over to the University, and the Contractor will leave site.

## Key activities for February into March:

- The hoist on the north elevation of the building will become operational.
- Works on 'strip out' and asbestos removal on the lower floors of the North Block will continue in preparation for the next phase of the refurbishment to start in April.
- Waste will continue being loaded into skips on Richmond Hill Avenue with pedestrian traffic management controls in place to ensure segregation.
- Skip Exchanges are likely to increase during the month of February as the removal works reach a peak of activity.
- The compressor has arrived and has been located in the waste compound within the site to keep noise levels to a minimum for neighbours.

## Next phase of building works:

Phase 1 is due for completion by early March 2013. On completion of 'strip out' and asbestos removal to the remainder of the North Block refurbishment works will commence on all of North Block ready for the start of term in September 2013.

Phase 2 mainly involves upgrading the Students Union facilities, including the Anson Rooms, Winston Theatre, café and bars, clubs and society spaces as well as the refurbishment of the South block.

A preferred contractor has been identified to carry out the next phase of the refurbishment which will run from April 2013 until Autumn 2014 with the remaining areas of the North Block, including the Anson Rooms being targeted to be complete by September 2013. The South Block works including asbestos removal is anticipated to run from June 2013 until Autumn 2014.



### *Measures to minimise disruption to the local area continue:*

- The hoist will operate between 8am – 6pm, Monday to Friday and till 1pm on Saturdays.
- Skip deliveries will be scheduled outside of major circulation times eg school runs/rush hour.
- No skips will be delivered on Saturday pm or Sundays.
- Banksmen will control traffic during delivery times

Cowlin Construction is committed to the Considerate Contractor's scheme and may, from time to time, notify neighbours in adjacent streets of any specific works that might affect them.

***If you have any queries relating to the works programme or require further information on the project please call AVRIL BAKER CONSULTANCY 0117 977 2002 or email [info@abc-pr.co.uk](mailto:info@abc-pr.co.uk)***