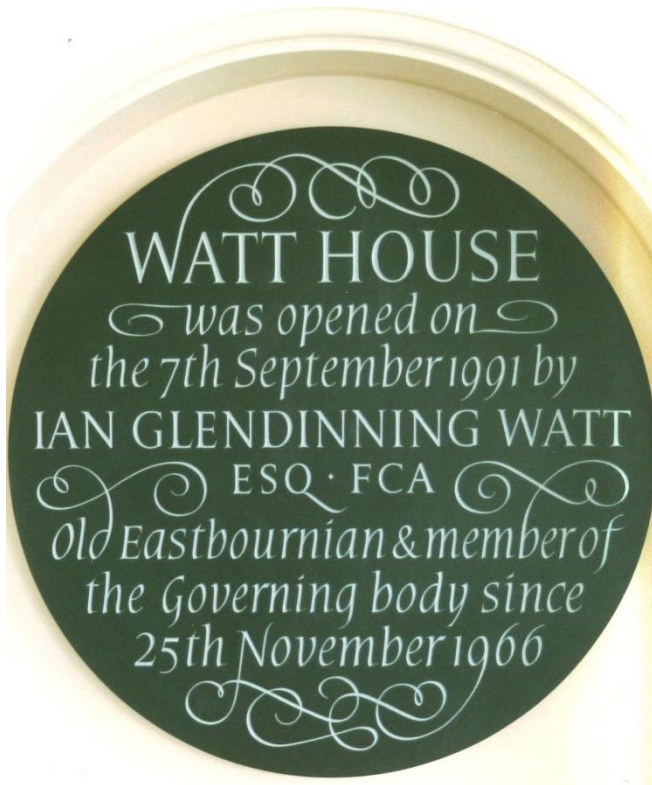


Watt House

Watt House has had a varied history. Opened in 1991 as a girls day house for sixth formers, it reopened in September 1996 as a girls boarding house. After two years the house closed and for about a year it became an annexe for Wargrave before reopening in 2003 as a girls day house.



Opening of Watt House by Ian Watt (Powell 1946-51) in 1991



First sixth form day girls at Watt, September 1991,
with housemaster Alec Deighton

Beresford House



Beresford House School closed abruptly on Friday 13 December 1991 and 21 girls joined the new Watt House in the Lent term of 1992. Of these, 16 were in Year 11 which technically makes them the first non-sixth form girls to be enrolled at the College.

The new girls quickly became involved with College activities, particularly sport. Natasha Gudge came first in the girls steeplechase and won the Victrix Ludorum in athletics. She also played in the hockey 1st XI alongside Beresford girls, Chantelle Waddingham and Claire Rossell. A former Beresford teacher, Ann Williams, came to the College to look after the newly arrived girls.

Natasha Gudge (Watt 1992-94)



‘Pioneer Girls’

In September 1995 Watt hosted the first Year 9 girls to join the College. The School became fully co-educational the following year.



The seven remaining girls in the sixth form, 2000. They were the first girls to complete a full five years at the College



Boarding house

In 1996, Watt became a boarding house



Ian Watt planted a tree in October 1996 to commemorate the opening of the new house. Housemistress Fiona Donaldson is next to him



1997



Watt House numbers had more than doubled by September 1997 so half the Year 11 girls moved into a new annexe in Tulloch House (now the Medical Centre)



1998-2003

Watt House was too small for the increasing numbers of girls and it was closed at the end of summer term 1998. Some of the girls, with their housemistress, Fiona Donaldson, transferred to School House. Although at this point it was a boys house, it became co-ed for three terms before



it

finally reopening as a girls house in September 1999. The former Watt House was then taken over as an annexe for Wargrave.

In 2003 Watt House officially reopened on its former site in Grange Road. Gwen Taylor-Hall was housemistress, seen here top row right



Life in Watt



Watt House leavers dinner in the house common room, summer 1997



Life in Watt



Watt House play, 1997

Sports day, 2016

