The 150th Founder’s Day at Epsom College was celebrated in style with a magnificent ‘150’ cake made by pastry chef Carrie Eadie to mark the occasion. The day began with a Service of Celebration in the College Chapel followed by lunch in the grounds and the annual inter-house athletics, tennis and rounders matches. The 1st XI also enjoyed their annual cricket match with the Old Epsomians, with the OEs taking victory on this special day.

The Headmaster expressed his appreciation that Carrie had baked and decorated the magnificent cake for the 150th Anniversary and that all the pupils had had the opportunity to enjoy some of it on their return from half term.

Carrie spent more than ten hours producing the celebration cake, which contained 8kg of fruit and was covered in 6kg of marzipan and 10kg of icing. To complete her masterpiece Carrie hand cut the Epsom College crest out of sugar paste, piecing it all together by hand to produce a real labour of love! ❤

Memorial Courtyard is Opened

The Dr. William Carr Memorial courtyard was officially opened by Chairman of Governors, George Pincus, on the 25th June 2005, the day that marked the exact founding of the original Royal Medical Benevolent College. The courtyard, which had not previously been landscaped, was designed by Carr Housemaster Mike Day and Navis Wong (Kingswood House), a Carr pupil, and was generously funded with the aid of FL Beadle and Sons Ltd, The Friends of Epsom College and The Waugh Fund. ❤

Stop Press

Keeping in Touch

As technology develops so we hope to be able to improve our communication with you, the readers, on a more regular basis. We plan to launch an ‘E’ version of the newsletter in September with more regular updates throughout the term.

Those parents and Old Epsomians who have given us permission to contact them by e-mail will receive the e-news and as others contact us with e-mail addresses so names can be added to the mailing list.

We do hope this service will prove useful for all preps schools, current parents, prospective parents, Old Epsomians and others who make up the community of Epsom College. ❤
Cocktails with a Twist

The first Young Co-operative in Surrey has been set up at Epsom College. The aim of the initiative is to promote fairly and ethically traded goods, spreading the word about fairtrade principles.

Over 30 pupils have raised over £1,800 by selling 100% fairtrade food hampers, organising exotic fruit juice tasting events and by selling and delivering 120 romantic Valentine roses.

Non-alcoholic cocktails were served to students at a workshop run by top UK barman, Milo Rodriguez, using delicious fairtrade juices from Fruto del Espiritu, Colombia.

Money raised will be donated to the Microloan Foundation, a microfinance charity who work mainly in Malawi.

Lent Term Volunteer Work

College pupils visited the The Brain Injury Trust in Banstead which is a vital part of the Queen Elizabeth Foundation, providing rehabilitation for young people who have experienced an injury to the brain. Seeing the range of different therapies offered including occupational, speech and physiotherapy and a range of recreational activities such as swimming, trampolining and music left the students in awe of just what can be achieved with the intensive rehabilitation of patients who face some of the toughest challenges of life.

Having visited the centre, seven Lower Sixth pupils spent 42 hours in the Lent Term as volunteers helping with reading, swimming, shopping and music.

"It has been great to see the pupils growing in confidence each week, building relationships with the patients and speaking of their experiences so positively," said the volunteers’ organiser, Raven Housemistress Eve Jardine-Youn.

Elvis Night

Over 100 parents, staff and friends gathered at the College to rock away the evening to music of the King of Rock ‘n Roll. After a jive lesson, supper and ‘Elvis Karaoke’, the Gary Glen tribute show took to the stage. All present were royally entertained and the dance floor was full all night.

Over £700 was raised towards a ‘Hand of Help’ mobile health clinic set up in Sri Lanka post tsunami.

School Charities Update

More than £18,000 is expected to be raised for Epsom College charities by the end of the summer term through events including Sixth Form Dances, the staff pantomime and the ‘Big Gig’. An additional boost in charitable funds came from the sales of a special backstage DVD of ‘150 at the Royal Albert Hall’, produced by students and a CD of photographs by Naveed Barakzai. Benefiting charities include St. John Ambulance, the Tsunami Appeal, Epsom Riding for the Disabled, Laura Crane Teenage Cancer Trust, The Tadworth Children’s Trust and Njogu Primary School in Gambia.
Leadership Day

Lower Sixth pupils took a break from revision to take part in a Team Building and Leadership Day co-ordinated by Housemistress Deborah Parsons. The day was aimed at providing career information, promotion of teamwork and having fun! A talk on the university entry system was followed by team building and leadership exercises with ‘ice-breaker’ questions used to help groups to get to know each other.

For the Practical Task, pupils had to plan and build a structure out of newspaper that would then be judged for its height, strength and beauty. The structure also had to be able to support a plastic cup filled with water.

With much concentration, laughter and high spirits the race was on to complete the structures in 30 minutes. Deputy Head and teacher of physics John Hartley judged the structures and after carefully worded comments on each of them one overall winner was selected.

Photo: Jane Britton

The winning construction of the Team Building practical task.

Advice from the Top

The College was delighted to welcome back fourth year medical student, Asif Khan (Rosebery 1994-1999) to speak to aspiring medical students about the course and life as a medical student, at a Medical Careers Lecture. Pupils from Epsom College, Howard of Effingham School, Epsom and Ewell High School, Ashcombe School and City of London Freemen’s School were able to ask Dr. Jonathon Salisbury, Senior Admissions Tutor at King’s College, and Asif Khan for first hand guidance on choosing a university, completing the UCAS forms and what to expect at interview.

Photo: John Higgs

The Friends of Epsom College danced the night away at the RAC Club in Epsom at the 150th Anniversary Dinner and Dance which was superbly organised by Elaine Tyrrell and generously sponsored by parent James Dubois. Almost 200 parents, friends and guests joined in this celebration of the school’s anniversary. The evening was enjoyed so much by all the guests that there are now calls to make this an annual event.

Epsom College Student Awarded Army Scholarship

Congratulations to 17-year-old Sixth Former Charles Gray (Downsend) who has been awarded a prestigious Army Scholarship which provides financial support through both the Sixth Form and university. To be selected, Charles had to complete a tough assault course, intelligence test and command tasks.

Charles will study medicine at university and then attend the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst before joining the Royal Army Medical Corps.

Photo: Naveed Barakzai

Admissions Director Secures Churchill Award

Director of Admissions at Epsom College, James Postle, has been awarded one of the esteemed Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Travelling Fellowship Awards.

James was one of only 100 to be chosen from over 1000 applicants, and has won funding to travel to Australia to research partnerships between independent and state schools. After flying in to Brisbane, James will be visiting 12 schools on the Gold Coast and in Melbourne and Sydney.

This award is a living memorial to Sir Winston Churchill and at the end of the trip James will be required to present his research which will be published and copies sent to the Department of Education and Skills.
Foreign Exchange Success

Pupils involved in the foreign exchange and annual visit to Iserlohn, Germany, and Gredos, Spain, received a warm welcome from families, along with the opportunity to savour at first hand the culture of the country.

During the trip to Gredos pupils had the opportunity to enjoy a week in an Activity Centre as well as experiencing the atmosphere of Barcelona.

The Modern Language Department is also organising a week-long trip to a traditional boarding school in Paris where pupils will be able to immerse themselves totally in "la vie en rose"! ♥

Ethel Celebrates her 90th Birthday

Ninety-year-old Ethel Reid, who lived and worked at Epsom College before and during the Second World War from 1932 until 1946, was invited back to the College by the Headmaster to celebrate her 90th birthday.

He presented Ethel with flowers and a copy of the newly published book 'Benevolence and Excellence' by Alan Scadding, College Archivist, which charts the history of 150 years of The Royal Medical Foundation of Epsom College. During her time at the College Ethel’s duties were as a maid, domestic and in the dining room. Born in Mile Road, Epsom, Ethel has lived in either Epsom or Ewell all her life. ♥

Katie Wins Award

Katie Pavey (Aberdour) made it a first when she won one of only 170 prestigious Arkwright Scholarships awarded each year, the first girl at Epsom College to achieve such an award.

Fifth Former Katie, who wants to be a materials scientist for the McLaren Formula One team when she leaves Epsom, was selected after successfully passing the Arkwright Aptitude Paper demonstrating flair and originality in solving engineering design problems and impressing interviewers with her GCSE work.

The Arkwright Trust supports young people during their A levels by awarding £250 a year to assist with the purchase of books and materials plus £225 for the Design and Technology department.

Thomas Wharram (Downsend) was also Highly Recommended for his outstanding work and depending on the level of sponsorship available to the Arkwright Organisation could still receive a financial scholarship. ♥

School Staff Instructor WO1 (RSM) R. Bonner meets the Princess Royal at the Irish Guards Shamrock Parade in Wellington Barracks on St. Patrick’s Day.
TC Executive Brings Olympians and Leading Coaches to College

Olympic competitors joined professional sports coaches at Epsom College for one of the last events of the 150th Anniversary Year – A Sports Coaching Day sponsored by leading specialists in executive travel, TC Executive. Over 400 students gained valuable coaching in ten sports including hockey, rugby, cricket, netball and swimming. Brett Garrard (England and GB hockey Captain) put the pupils through their paces throughout the day, improving their skills out on the new Astroturf, whilst in the pool Nick Gillingham (Olympic silver medallist) led a strokes masterclass. On the track Daley Thompson’s ex-coach Peter Thompson was just one of the coaches who demonstrated teaching techniques in the different sports with the College’s own academic and sports staff learning and benefiting from fresh approaches that will help them develop and keep their teams ahead of others in the future. Neil Rollings, Independent Coaches, said that he believed that this gathering of top quality professional coaches had to be one of the biggest in a UK school and he hoped the coaching day would become an annual event at Epsom.

As part of their sponsorship agreement TC Executive generously provided a fabulous prize draw of a chauffeur-driven Bentley for the day which was won by the surprised Director of Sport, Mrs Fiona Drinkall, whose name had been entered in the draw by a colleague, said: “It was a fantastic day for the pupils and I am so grateful to TC Executive for making today possible – after all the organisation I shall look forward to sitting back in luxury in the Bentley, although I would have loved to drive it!” A sumptuous barbecue rounded off the day for students and spectators, who relaxed on the lawns into the evening.

Survival of the Fittest

Dr Mike Stroud OBE, explorer and expedition doctor, was the second guest speaker in the 150th Lecture series. Dr Stroud captivated the audience as he spoke of his polar and desert expeditions in addition to the well publicised ‘Seven Marathons in Seven Days’ with Sir Ranulf Fiennes in 2003 on behalf of the British Heart Foundation.

More recently famous for his BBC programme ‘The Challenge’ and the ‘SAS-Are You Tough Enough?’ series, Dr Stroud, with the use of slides, also talked about the optimal performance of the human body.

Confirmation Service

The feast day of the Irish Patron Saint, Patrick, was the chosen date for this year’s Confirmation service for twelve candidates, including Mrs Linda Clarkson of the Marketing Department, who had completed three months of preparation alongside the pupils.

The newly-appointed Guildford Diocesan Bishop, the Rt. Revd. Christopher Hill, on his first official visit to Epsom College, conducted the service and used the example of St. Patrick in his sermon to encourage the candidates to pursue their own spiritual journeys.
Epsom College Travels to Bergen-Belsen

An Epsom College party of staff and pupils marked the 60th Anniversary of the liberation of the Bergen-Belsen Concentration Camp by laying the Royal Army Medical Corps wreath in memory of Old Epsomian Brigadier Glyn Hughes and those who perished at Bergen-Belsen. Brigadier Glyn Hughes was the Senior Medical Officer who led the medical relief to the 60,000 victims of the camp.

The group travelled with Jewish survivors and liberators and attended a memorial service held in the camp. The service was taken by Rev. Leslie Hardman MBE, the first Chaplain to enter the camp on Liberation Day, 15th April 1945. The pupils said they experienced a mixture of anger, sadness, shock and admiration and would never forget.

Remarkably, a book entitled ‘Our Destruction in Pictures’, that was produced and printed in Bergen-Belsen camp after the liberation by former inmates in 1946, was recently discovered in a bookcase in London having been missing for 40 years. The book had been given to Brigadier Glyn Hughes by survivors in 1955 on the 10th Anniversary of the liberation in accordance with the wishes of his family, the book has been donated to The Wiener Library in London.

National Champions Tour to Guernsey

The Epsom College Rifle team enjoyed their first tour to Guernsey where for two days they competed against the renowned Elizabeth College.

Matches were held at 300, 500 and 600 yard distances with the Epsom VIII winning the main ‘Ashburton’ style match 730 to 650 points. The top three scorers of the matches were Epsom Students: 1st place James Lothian (Chinthurst), 2nd place Thomas Wharram (Downsend) and 3rd place went to David Nuthall (Downsend).

Congratulations to William Stewart (Feltonfleet) and Sam Harley (Feltonfleet) who won the U16 match and Dan Sherville (Tanglin Trust) who won the Reserve competition with Hannah Kent (Parsons Mead) coming second. The U16 team of four were all new M4s who narrowly lost to a more experienced team. On the Saturday evening a dinner was held with both teams and the Elizabeth College Headmaster presented the medals and trophy. Sunday was a day spent exploring the island and visiting the beach before a calm crossing home.

Quadriplegic Mountaineer Inspires Audience

Jamie Andrew, quadriplegic mountaineer, was guest speaker at the final Lecture in the 150th Lecture series. The Lecture was sponsored by the Warren Pickett Trust Fund, which was set up in memory of Warren Pickett, who tragically died aged 16 at Epsom College. Jamie captivated the audience with details of how his life was dramatically changed after he was caught in a storm for five days on the North Face of Les Droites in the French Alps where he suffered severe frostbite and hypothermia. As a result his climbing partner and best friend Jamie Fisher died and Jamie had to have both his feet and hands amputated.

Jamie was an inspirational speaker as he outlined his recovery, learning to come to terms with the death of his friend and adapting to life without his limbs.

He made an amazing recovery and within three and a half months was walking on prosthetic legs and re-learning the fundamental chores that we take for granted such as washing, feeding and dressing himself. This has not deterred Jamie from continuing to climb, raising £15,000 for charity and running in the 2002 London Marathon where he raised £22,000 for the Red Cross. He participates in many other sports such as skiing, snowboarding, paragliding, caving, orienteering and sailing.

He said, "It is my hope that my experiences and achievements may inspire others to tackle the obstacles they face in life and to achieve their full potential."
Eboni Selected for England

Playing in the European Championships in Hull, Sixth Former Eboni Beckford-Chambers (Gordon’s) represented England in the Under 17 Netball Team to take the title beating Wales 44-6, Republic of Ireland 70 – 1, Northern Ireland 37 – 10 and Scotland 36 – 12.

Eboni has trained hard for the last three years to achieve this goal and said: "I am ecstatically happy for the team. We have all put in a lot of hard work, which has been worthwhile."

Congratulations to Eboni who, following the European Championships, has now been selected for the England Under 19 Netball Team.

Prep Schools Meet Rugby Legend

Rugby stars of tomorrow met former England Rugby Union Coach Sir Clive Woodward following a nailbiting finish to the National Prep Schools’ Rugby Tournament Final. Over 3000 people attended the 11th Annual Tournament which took place in the grounds of Epsom College in March. The College hosted both the regional and national final, supported by sponsors Allied Irish Bank (GB), the Epsom College bankers, in this 150th anniversary year of the college.

Sir Clive, who coached England to victory against Australia in the 2003 World Cup, presented prizes to the winning teams and signed autographs – as well as passing on a few top tips to the young teams.

Pupil Plays Rugby for Ireland

Following trials with the Irish Exiles last summer Sixth Former David Millard (Hall School) was selected to play with the provincial teams from Connacht and Munster in Ireland as prop forward and subsequently was chosen to play in the U18 Four Nations Tournament versus England, Scotland and Wales. He felt privileged to play for Ireland at such a high standard and hopes in the future to play rugby professionally.

Superteams Day
Supported by AIB (GB)

The 28th Annual Epsom College Superteams event, sponsored by Allied Irish Bank (GB), took place on 22nd May. Pupils from 22 prep schools competed in sports such as steeplechase, hockey, swimming, basketball and 4 x100m relay, long jump and netball. The teams from Highfield won the overall prize for the girls and Parkside regained the trophy for the overall prize for boys.

The Superteams event is one of the highlights of the sporting calendar for local prep schools, providing a competitive and enjoyable day for pupils and parents.
Epsom College Remembers Old Epsomians

As part of the 150th Anniversary Celebrations, Epsom College staff, College Corps, pupils in the CCF Drill Squad and Old Epsomians attended a weekend trip to Ypres, Belgium to remember those Old Epsomians who fell in the service of their country during the World Wars, in particular the 149 OEs who died in the Great War.

The group was privileged to be invited by the Mayor of Ypres to the historic Cloth Hall for warming drinks before the Drill Squad laid a wreath as part of the Menin Gate ceremony. The weekend closed with a moving service taken by Fr. Paul Thompson, Senior Chaplain at Epsom College, in the Field at Lijessenthoek Cemetery.

UBS Laing & Cruickshank Support Anniversary Concert

To celebrate the 150th Anniversary of its foundation, Epsom College presented a concert by its Chapel Choir and Orchestra, under the direction of Mr Graeme Lodge (Director of Music) and Mr Michael Hampshire in the historic musical venue of St. John’s Smith Square, London.

Speaking of the occasion Libby Johnstone, an Epsom College parent, said: "This was a phenomenal opportunity for the students who performed both the commissioned pieces and music by Haydn, Vivaldi, Bach, Kreisler and Mozart to an extremely high standard. It was a very special and enjoyable evening in a wonderful setting."

Special thanks go to the sponsors, UBS Laing & Cruickshank.

Farewell

Epsom said goodbye at the end of the summer term to four members of staff who have played an integral part in the life of the College.

Anna Peak (Geography) heads east to the Garden International School in Rayong in Thailand to take up a new post teaching geography and PE.

"My time at Epsom College has been very busy but rewarding. My lasting memories will be of the good friends and the support offered by everybody. I have particularly enjoyed seeing the increase in the success of girls’ sport."

Eve Jardine-Young (Raven Housemistress, Economics) moves to Blundell’s School, Devon as Director of Studies. Eve has been at Epsom for ten years, teaching Economics and subsequently setting up Raven House. Eve said: "I will miss the variety of helping with Careers, Young Enterprise and Young Co-operatives and U14 tennis, and working with some excellent people who have never failed to reveal a good sense of humour."

Barry Cooper (History and Politics) moves to Loretto School in Musselburgh (Scotland) to teach History and Politics. Barry said: "I'll miss a lot of things, especially the laughter."

Meanwhile Andy Copsey (Chemistry) moves to Eton and will take on new challenges including adapting to a very different style of uniform and being known as a ‘beak’. 

Epsom College thanks all the 150th Anniversary Sponsors for their valuable support including the Warren Pickett Trust Fund