



Whatlington News

MAY 2022

GET IN TOUCH: STEVE TURNER 01424 870041

All set for a big **JUBILEE WEEKEND**

Concert of the Queen's
most-loved music

Church flower festival

Family picnic event
with free hog roast,
beer and 1950s buffet

Raise a toast with a
special Jubilee Ale at
the Royal Oak

MORE DETAILS INSIDE

Prizes on offer for your
jubilee photos: page 5

How we celebrated
in 1935: page 6



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Village gears up for a right royal celebration

Helping to organise the village celebrations are, from left, Jeffrey Bridges, Ed Henderson, Simon White, Annette McBride, Charlotte Moore, Yvonne Underhill and Pauline Lyon

Free hog roast, children's games, 1950s buffet and lots of bunting

Put on some red, white and blue clothes, pack some goodies and a bottle of wine (or two), grab a blanket or a table and chairs and get set to celebrate at the Jubilee Picnic on Sunday 5 June.

There'll be a hog roast provided by the Parish Council, 1950s style buffet prepared by residents of Woodman's Oak, a barrel of beer from the Royal Oak and children's games with prizes – all FREE!

Music, stalls, a balloon modeller, raffle and plenty of bunting add up to what will be the first big community gathering in the village for two years.

The picnic will be a chance to reflect on 70 years since Queen Elizabeth came to the throne.

"It will be a right royal community celebration,"

Jubilee Family Picnic
Sunday 5 June, 2pm, next to Village Hall

said Annette McBride, whose Village Hall committee is organising the event.

"There will be free food and beer but people should also bring their own picnics and drinks to make sure there is enough to go round.

"It would also be a good idea to bring a blanket to sit on or table and chairs.

"The village has a great history of celebrating royal events and the Queen's remarkable 70 years of service to the nation is a wonderful reason to continue the tradition."

Spam sandwiches and jubilee chicken anyone?

A free 50s style afternoon buffet tea will be provided by Sandie Sullivan and Karen Hendley, who will be up to their elbows in bread and butter on the day of the Jubilee Picnic.

The Woodman's Oak pair

promise bridge rolls and sandwiches with "really inspiring" fillings such as Spam and pickle, corned beef and tomato, egg and cress, salmon and cucumber, cheese and whatever! And, of course

jubilee chicken.

Also on offer will be a special new recipe dessert similar to individual bakewell tarts . . . but with a twist.

The food will be free but villagers are urged to bring their own as well.

Concert of Queen's favourite music and church flower festival: page 4

Volunteers needed to help set up picnic field: page 5



The Queen's favourite music and the memories of a Coronation chorister

A concert of the Queen's favourite music with plenty of opportunities to join in will kickstart the village's jubilee celebrations.

Music both sacred and popular, along with that from the Coronation and the Queen's wedding, will feature at the hour-long concert at Whatlington Church.

Organ music will be provided by Andrew McGregor and a pop-up choir will lead the singing.

Malcolm Tegg from Sedlescombe was a

Jubilee Concert Thursday 2 June, 7pm, Whatlington Church

chorister at the Coronation and will share some reminiscences of that day.

Other readings will be provided by Charlotte Moore and there will be some memorabilia on display.

The church will be filled with flowers and refreshments will be provided after the concert, hopefully in the churchyard.

Doors will open at 6.45 pm and parking is available in the Village Hall car park.

Donations to the church on the night are welcome and can be made in cash, by card reader or via a QR code.

■ **Entry is free, but places must be booked by emailing underhilly@msn.com. Please use 'Tickets' in the subject line.**

Flowers, teas and a special service

Church Flower Festival Friday-Sunday 3-5 June Thanksgiving Service Sunday 5 June, 10.30am

■ Whatlington Church will bask in floral glory with a jubilee flower festival.

The church will be open to see the displays between 10am and around 4.30pm on Friday and Saturday, and after the jubilee service until 5pm on Sunday. If you've never seen the inside of the village's medieval church, what better opportunity than this?

Teas will be served between 2-4pm on Friday and Saturday.

■ A special church service will mark the jubilee on Sunday morning.

Her Majesty's strong Christian faith is something that has sustained her throughout her long reign.

So it is fitting this service will give thanks for her 70 years of loyal service.

It will be taken by Rev John Hawkins and the hymns will be chosen to suit the occasion.

Everyone is welcome to come along.

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SET UP EVENT

Villagers are being asked lend a hand to help set up the Jubilee Picnic on the morning of the event – Sunday 5 June. The Village Hall committee is seeking volunteers to commit to turning up to help

set up stalls, gazebos, tables and chairs, and anything else that needs to be done. If you can help contact Annette McBride on 01424 871629 or by emailing wildblueyonder@btinternet.com



Royal ale at the Royal Oak

As befits its name, the Royal Oak will be suitably dressed for the jubilee – with metres of Union Jack bunting at the ready to mark the occasion.

And when it comes to drinking Her Majesty's health, customers will be able to raise a glass of a limited edition Celebration Ale.

The bespoke English ale (4.8 per cent ABV) will be available on draught just for the extended jubilee bank holiday weekend Brewery Shepherd Neame, which owns

the Oak, describes the ale as having light caramel notes and a deep golden hue.

It adds: "Local East Kent Goldings hops add a spiciness to the citrus and fruit aromas, balanced with subtle bitterness from a generous hopping of Kentish Challenger."

Chief Executive Jonathan Neame said: "We have always supported the Queen's jubilees with a special beer and hope that our customers will enjoy raising a glass to toast this very special occasion."

Prizes and an expo spot for your jubilee weekend photos

We're looking to create a photographic record of the jubilee weekend and would like villagers to send in pictures they've taken to mark the occasion.

That could be at any of the village events or even your own jubilee party.

There's a £20 voucher prize for the picture judged as the one that best sums up the spirit of the weekend and a bottle of bubbly for the runner-up.

The best shots will feature in an exhibition of photos at the Village Hall later in the year and some may also be used in the Whatlington News.

Send your photos – no more than five – to newsletter editor Steve Turner at steveturner807@gmail.com

■ Note: if your image is of individuals or a small group of people you should check they are happy to have their image published.



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Jubilee celebrations of the past

1935: Silver Jubilee of King George V

Village celebrations for the Silver Jubilee of King George V were recorded in this cutting from the Sussex Express unearthed by Charlotte Moore. Hand-written notes on the Parish Council preparations for the event have been copied to the Whatlington News by Parish Clerk Valerie Bennett.

Church service 11am starting with Nat Anthem.

Worshippers taken by car and on foot to sports field.

Oak tree presented by W. Goldsmith, planted by Lady Moore. Rev Browell to declare the oak planted.

All home for lunch.

Return 1.30.

Tea 4pm. Adults 4.45pm.

Sports until 7.30pm.

Bonfire in adjoining field.

Baby show (up to 18 months).

Mugs for children - 112 at £3.7s.11d.

£11 spent on sports (ground expenses, tents etc).

£23 catering to include 100 pints of beer, minerals etc

100 illuminated cards of invitation with programme of day's events printed and sent to every home - 3/-

House-to-house collection for funds by W. Goldsmith.

Music by Mr J Slade, Battle Radio Gramophones.

Previous residents or people associated with the village welcome to attend.



Nearly 200 people helped to plant an oak tree in a field at Hancox Farm, Whatlington, as a permanent village memorial of the Jubilee. Lady Moore put in the first spadeful of earth, and everybody present at the ceremony heaped on the remainder. This ceremony followed a brief service in the Parish Church, conducted by the Rev. F. J. Browell.

Sports were held in the cricket ground in the afternoon, and over 300 meat teas were provided for children and adults in a large marquee. The tables were tastefully decorated by Miss Piper with red tulips, white narcissis and bluebells. Souvenir mugs were distributed to the children. Music was provided by radio-gram, and the King's speech was broadcast in the evening. Lady Moore presented the sports prizes, and she was thanked by Mr. Browell. Mr. W. Goldsmith, J.P. (chairman of the Jubilee Committee) called for cheers for all who had assisted.

At night a bonfire was lit by Master Norman Moore.

The sports judges were Messrs. Browell and E. H. Meade, and Mr. Thompson was starter. The results were as follows:—

50 yards race.—Girls under 8: 1, Ruby Puxty; 2, Peggy Tester; 3, Hilary Moore. Boys under 8: 1, Edmund Reed; 2, John Humphries; 3, Kenneth Lavender.

100 yards.—Girls 8-12: 1, Mary Fry; 2, Joyce Deeprose; 3, Jean Sampson. Boys 8-12: 1, Reginald Deeprose; 2, Fred Moon; 3, John Blankley. Girls 12-16: 1, Rosemary Buss; 2, Joyce Lavender; 3, Evelyn Lavender.

120 yards, boys 12-16.—1, Jack Upton; 2, Norman Moore; 3, John Cox.

Egg and spoon, 50 yards, women.—1, Mrs. Lavender; 2, Mrs. W. Martin; 3, Mrs. V. Mann.

Obstacle (open), men.—1, Donald Scott; 2, Joe Ellis; 3, Jim Wilmshurst.

Sack race, 50 yards.—Girls: 1, Betty Ellis; 2, Audrey Hutchinson; 3, Eileen Veness. Boys: 1, Fred Puxty; 2, Joe Ellis; 3, R. McDonagh.

Three-legged race, 50 yards (open).—1, Amy Wilmshurst and Gladys Lavender; 2, Audrey Hutchinson and Joyce Lavender; 3, Evelyn Lavender and Eileen Veness.

Arm-in-arm race.—1, Mr. and Mrs. Rose; 2, Mr. Mephram and Mrs. Martin; 3, Mr. and Mrs. J. Masters.

Tug-of-war.—Mr. C. Mephram's team.

Wheelbarrow race.—1, Winter and J. Cox; 2, G. Woodward and J. Ellis; 3, Rose and Rich.

Slow bicycle race.—1, J. Moon; 2, R. Briggs; 3, R. Buss.

Walking race, men over 50.—1, G. Cox; 2, C. A. Cunningham; 3, Sir Alan Moore.

Land boat race.—1, I. Smith's team.

Jubilee celebrations of the past

1977: Silver Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II

Children's competition for objects made of silver foil

Programme of events, Silver Jubilee Day

Tuesday 7 June 10am

■ Planting of a commemorative oak tree on the village green by Mrs Anne Moore

2.15-5.30pm in the Village Hall

- Exhibition of arts and crafts and items in connection with previous royal occasions
- Display of flower arrangements
- Children's competition for an object made of silver foil
- Presentation of jubilee mugs and crown pieces to all village children up to school leaving age
- Tea served by the Whatlington WI

7pm

- Bonfire and refreshments behind the Royal Oak

The sum of £476 was contributed to the Village Jubilee Fund by Whatlington residents to provide:

- Jubilee oak tree
- Nine flowering trees planted below Woodman's Oak
- A new path with handrail for the Village Hall
- New oak noticeboard suitably inscribed outside the hall
- Balance presented for Village Hall maintenance funds



Organising committee

George Sax (chairman)
 Mrs J Crouch
 K. Crouch
 Geoff Dann
 Mrs R Gallagher
 Mrs D Lavender
 Mrs A Moore (vice chairman)
 R. Moore (vice chairman)
 Mrs T Smith
 Mrs J Topley
 J Upton
 J Watson (vice chairman)
 Mrs B Petty (hon secretary)
 D Elliott (hon treasurer)

2002: Golden Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II

A bountiful feast and a barrel of beer

From the Whatlington News, July 2002

Church Jubilee Weekend

On Saturday the 1st June the coffee morning made an incredible sum of £300 towards the upkeep of our beautiful church.

On Sunday the 2nd of June the Evensong Celebration service was very well attended. Light refreshments and wine were enjoyed by all afterwards in the churchyard on a really warm summer's evening.

Heartfelt thanks to all who supplied items for sale and gave their precious time to help in making the weekend such a happy and successful two days of celebration.
Valerie Bishop

Laughter and Merriment in the Hall - the Golden Jubilee Village Party

A successful party was held at the village hall on Saturday 1st of June night.

Everyone contributed to the supper, producing a bountiful feast and the parish council was grateful to the Royal Oak for providing a barrel of beer, which was enjoyed by the majority.

The evening was fine which enabled tables to be placed outside, so some could enjoy the warm evening.

It was good to catch up with so many friends and neighbours on such a cheerful occasion.

Jubilee celebrations of the past

2012: Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II

Almost 200 people attended the village's Diamond Jubilee Street party in Whatlington Road – the biggest public event in the village in living memory.

A crew of volunteers was on the scene from before 9am to set up gazebos and a long line of tables and chairs.

Food and drink arrived by the plate load, with villagers bringing 1950s style grub including Spam, egg, and jam sandwiches, bread pudding, ice cream and jelly, and sherry trifle.

There were three-legged, space hopper and egg and spoon races.

One of the trickiest tasks of the day was moving the entire party to outside the Royal Oak for a mass photograph – described by one onlooker as "like trying to herd mice".

Whatlington News
July 2012 01424 870041 • steve.messages@virgin.net

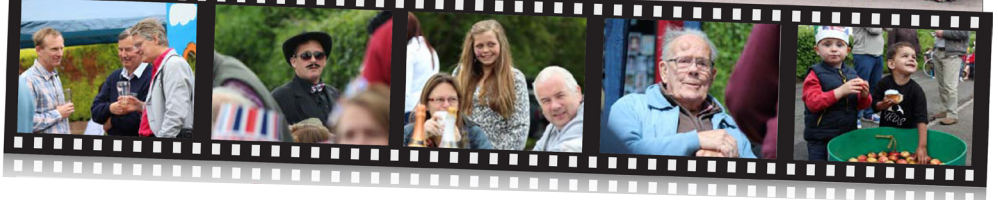
A DIAMOND DAY TO REMEMBER

Almost 200 at street party

INSIDE: EIGHT-PAGE SOUVENIR PULL-OUT

And now for the fete

SATURDAY JUNE 30 – see Page 3 for full details



Royal occasions of the past

Local historian John Shepperd trawls through his archives to find details of previous royal occasions in the area.



The only almost definite royal visit to Whatlington was King Harold, on his way to his defeat by 'William the Bastard' who, of course, was not king at that time and, in any case, never tainted Whatlington with his presence. He likely crossed the Line stream at Lee Ford.



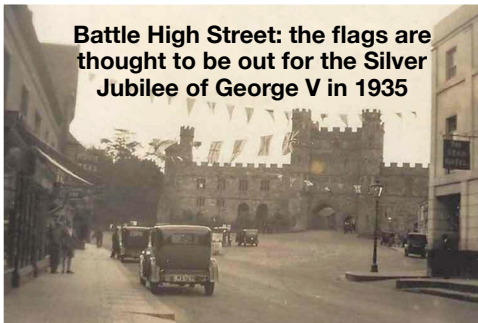
King Miguel of Portugal was displaced at home, and lived in Starrs Green House in Battle from 1848 to 1851.

Mount Street in Battle decked out possibly for the coronation of George V in 1911



Queen Mary visited Battle Abbey and Crowhurst Park in the early 1930s

Battle High Street: the flags are thought to be out for the Silver Jubilee of George V in 1935



Our present Queen and Prince Philip visited Battle and Hastings in 1966 to mark the 900th anniversary of the battle

Royal memorabilia

Coronation souvenir kept under the bed

C The book belonged to my late wife Bernadette who died in 2003. Bernie, as she was known by all, was born in Ireland in 1943. Her mother died when Bernie was a baby and as her father was away in England building runways for the American bombers, she was left in the care of relatives.

Her father re-married to a 'county lady' from Rutland who promptly travelled to County Meath and brought the now four-year-old Bernie to London Marylebone Lane to be educated and raised as an English lady. There followed deportment and elocution lessons, ballet and other pre-debutant activities. Bernie's stepmother was a fervent Royalist and so the ten-year-old joined the coronation crowd with her and was given the commemorative book as a memento of the occasion. The book was kept in a vanity case that Bernie

The forthcoming jubilee celebrations prompted Whatlington Road's Mike Tapsfield to dig out a splendid 80-page book issued soon after the coronation. Priced five shillings the glossy volume had been kept under the bed by his late wife but forms a unique souvenir of the occasion. Here Mike tells the story of the book and its owner.

kept under her bed with other precious things. Remarkably she kept the book intact through several moves.

I was five years old in 1953 and the book reminds me of listening on the wireless and, as a former advertising man, I just love the social history told by the advertisements of the time (see *next page*).

Fancy a mink coat for a £100? We had to burn my grandmother's.



Royal memorabilia



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■ The advertisement for a new priest-in-charge, which was placed in the Church Times earlier this year, did not attract any suitable applicants. So the post is being re-advertised, with interviews planned for July.

■ Although the church is without a vicar it continues to be business as usual, with all services and other events, including weddings and funerals, going ahead, arranged by the churchwardens.

■ Forthcoming services

Sunday 29 May, 10.30: United Service at Whatlington Church

Sunday 5 June: *jubilee service*, see page 4

Sunday 12 June, 10.30: Family Service

Sunday 19 June, 9.15: Holy Communion

Sunday 26 June, 6pm: Evensong

Sunday 3 July, 9.15: Holy Communion

Sunday 10 July, 10.30: Family Service

Sunday 17 July, 9.15: Holy Communion

Sunday 24 July, 6pm: Patronal Evensong

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