



**Plumpton's
Platinum
Jubilee
Celebrations**

2-5 June 2022



**SOUVENIR
BROCHURE**

Plumpton started to plan for the Jubilee Celebrations in January 2021 and given Plumpton has a great tradition for celebrating key milestones in Her Majesty the Queen's reign, the Platinum celebrations had to be something special.



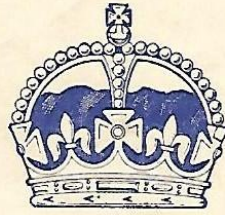
Photo Getty Images

Princess Elizabeth became Queen following the death of her father, King George VI on 6 February 1952 at the age of 25. Following a period of mourning, which gave time for the organisation of such an event, the Coronation took place at Westminster Abbey on 2 June 1953. This was the first Coronation to be televised and is said to have cost over £1.5m (when a pint of beer was 1 shilling and 10d or 9 new pence!).

Plumpton and Streat Parishes celebrated the Coronation at the King George Field on 2 June 1953. Sadly the Coronation Oak planted in the Recreation Ground, came down in the storm of 1987. Here is the official programme to show how villagers Commemorated the Coronation back then (found along the way by Ali Christie, thanks Ali).

PROGRAMME

Plumpton and



Streat Parishes

Commemoration of the Coronation
OF
Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

AT

King George's Field, Plumpton

SUNDAY, MAY 31st, 1953.

**United Coronation Service at 3 p.m., followed by
Planting of an Oak.**

TUESDAY, JUNE 2nd, 1953.

- 3 p.m.** Breaking the Flag.
3.10 p.m. Children's Sports.
4 p.m. Presentation of Prizes for Children's Sports,
followed by Children's Tea in Memorial Hall
and Presentation of Coronation Souvenirs.
4—5.30 p.m. Stoolball Match. Plumpton Stoolball Club v.
Streat Cricket Club.
4—6 p.m. Adults' Tea.
6.10 p.m. Adults' Sports with Tug-of-War, Plumpton v.
Streat.
7.10 p.m. Presentation of Adult Sports Prizes.
8—9 p.m. Old Folks' Concert at British Legion Hall.
9 p.m. **Broadcast by Her Majesty The Queen.**
9.15 p.m. Torchlight Procession to Lighting of Bonfire on
Plumpton Plain at 10 p.m.
(Assemble at Half Moon at 9 p.m.)
9—12 Dance at British Legion Hall.

BURNETTS PRINTING WORKS, BURGESS HILL.

The Queen has since celebrated her 25th Silver Jubilee in 1977, 50th Golden Jubilee in 2002, 60th Diamond Jubilee in 2012 and now her 70th Platinum Jubilee in 2022, becoming the longest ever serving monarch.

Plumpton Parish Council and Plumpton Village Society came together to co-ordinate the villages celebrations and formed the Plumpton Parish Council Events Committee under the chair of Councillor Alison Gardiner. A Jubilee stall at the Strawberry Fair in June 2021, put forward some initial ideas on how the Platinum Jubilee should be celebrated and villagers were encouraged to make suggestions and get involved. A budget was set, and Plumpton Village Society started to put together a programme over the four day bank holiday weekend between Thursday 2 June and Sunday 5 June.

Here is the published programme:



Plumpton's Platinum Jubilee Weekend



Plumpton is hosting a packed programme of **FREE** activities to mark Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee from Thursday 2 June through to Sunday 5 June. Residents of Plumpton, East Chiltington, Hamsey, Offham and Streat are invited to enjoy all the Jubilee fun along with family and friends - culminating in the pageant and Big Event on the racecourse. Do come along!

Plumpton Primary School: The village will be looking its best thanks to a litter pick by the children of our wonderful village who are involved throughout the weekend. They have completed an art project 'Portrait of the Queen' that they want to show everyone and the school choir will be singing at the Bandstand and at the Service of Thanksgiving. The school will be leading the pageant with a decorated float and the PPTFA will be selling commemorative tea towels.

Station Road: If you live on Station Road please remember to move your car from the road on Sunday 5 June before the road is closed, with the Pageant starting at 11am. And please get into the jubilee spirit by decorating you front garden with red white and blue bunting and cheer the pageant on.

'Bake a Cake Fit for the Queen': contact Janice Doran jncdor@gmail.com – entries judged (and eaten) at the Rectory tea party on Friday.

1 hour for Plumpton: And please, we need more volunteer Marshalls for the Big Event on Sunday 5 June –email plumptonvillagesociety@gmail.com if you can spare one hour to help on the day.





Thursday 2 June: Jubilee Tree, Entertainment and Lighting of Beacon

4.00 pm: Gathering at Plumpton Village Green for the unveiling of the Jubilee Tree by Plumpton Parish Council and a toast to the Queen.

4.30 pm: Entertainment on the Bandstand by the Pantomime Society, Wings Youth Group, Plumpton School Choir and Turning Pointe dancers.

6.00 – 8.30 pm: Refreshments of Ploughman's supper and bar.

6.30 pm: Plumpton & East Chiltington Camera Club launch their Jubilee Book 'People Places and Events' in Village Hall with Plumpton School 'Portraits of the Queen' on display

9.00 pm: Torchlight procession from The Half Moon car park to Mount Harry Beacon (dusk at 9.10 pm) - wear sturdy shoes and bring a strong torch.

9.45 pm: National Lighting of the Beacons

10.30 pm: End the day with a drink at The Half Moon til 12.



The Thursday celebration was a combined village event and around 250 people came to the Village Green to start the jubilee weekend in a true community event.

Then the focus moved to the Church and giving our thanks to the Queen. The day was led by Reverend Anne Dunlop, with the full support of the Church Wardens and congregation across all the five churches where she is our Priest in Charge.

Friday 3 June: Flower Trail and Service of Thanksgiving at All Saints Church



Morning: Follow a Flower Trail around five local churches decorated for the occasion by teams of volunteers. Pick up trail maps at Plumpton Village Shop. Take time to enjoy our countryside and walk or drive between the churches. ❖ All Saints Church, Plumpton Green ❖ East Chilmington Church (refreshments available) ❖ St Michael and All Angels, Plumpton College ❖ St Peter, Hamsey (off The Drove, Offham) ❖ St Peter, Offham (refreshments available).

2.30 pm: Service of Thanksgiving at All Saints Church, Plumpton Green. Vice Lord-Lieutenant Mrs Sara Stonor DL will be representing the Queen and the High Sheriff of East Sussex Jane King, will also be present. The service will be led by The Venerable Martin Lloyd-Williams, Archdeacon of Brighton and Lewes, and Reverend Anne. Everyone is welcome to attend.

3.30 pm: Rectory Tea party, All Saints Rectory Garden, where the commemorative bench by the wildflower garden will be unveiled. There will be another opportunity to buy the Camera Club's book 'People, Places and Events', see children's 'Portrait of The Queen', 'Bake a Cake Fit for the Queen' competition and visit the Wildlife information stand.



Saturday 4 June was a free day for neighbours to organise street parties and to watch some of the National Jubilee celebrations on the television, including the BBCs Platinum Party at the Palace, with a star studded tribute to the Queens reign, headlining Diana Ross.



Plumpton Racecourse kindly made available the Centre of the Racecourse to the Village for the Big Event on the final day of the Bank Holiday weekend. Our thanks go to Dan Thompson and Molly Taylor in particular, and to all of the Racecourse team for being so enthusiastic and helpful. Neighbouring villages of East Chiltington, Streat, Offham, Cooksbridge and Hamsey were invited to join in with the Big Event after their own celebrations over the Jubilee weekend.



Enter into the Jubilee Spirit - Wear something red white and blue, decorate your front garden and make some noise for the pageant in Station Road!

11.00 am: Pageant through the Village to the Racecourse from Top Barn Farm field featuring floats, walkers with a car and motorcycle procession from The Plough.

Noon: Family Fun Fair and local clubs and societies stalls on the centre of the racecourse. Bring your own picnics or visit refreshment vans and stalls. Pageant judging around 2pm. Tug of war competition. (Advanced parking on racecourse from 9am til road closure at 11am.)

2.30 pm: Soap box race in the centre of the racecourse on the tarmac track, so everyone can watch.

4.30 pm: A terrific and covering music from the 70 years of the Queen's reign. Put on your dancing shoes!

6.30 pm: End of celebrations



Thanks go to Plumpton & East Chiltington News in particular to Penny Acton and Barry Luck, for advertising the above Jubilee programme in a specially created June 2022 Jubilee edition and putting delightful colour photographs into the July 2022 edition after the event.

So, after all the planning, it was set to be a wonderful community weekend celebration. The week before the Jubilee, the school children did a litter pick to make sure the village was clean and tidy under a 'Clean for the Queen' initiative and the Station Partnership decorated and planted up the troughs with red, white, and blue to welcome travellers to Plumpton. Residents decorated their homes, pubs, fences and hedges with bunting galore and the Village Stores post box was adorned by a Jubilee topper by a very creative villager called Joanne.



Thursday 2 June 2022

Jubilee Tree, Entertainment and Lighting of the Beacon

Villagers arrived at the Village Green at around 4pm for the unveiling of the Jubilee Tree, a native tree - Wild Service Tree (*Sorbus Torminalis*) which has interest throughout the seasons and in Autumn its leaves turn to yellow.



The Tree was organised by Plumpton Parish Council under the Queen's Jubilee Green Canopy Project. The Tree was planted by the Councillors in the Spring to give it a good start in life, right next to the Diamond Jubilee Plum Tree by the Village Green bridge and it was unveiled by Nick Beaumont, Chair of Plumpton Parish Council.



Sparkling wine was made available to all, for a toast to the Queen, with kind donations of bottles from Plumpton College and Artelium Vineyard in Streat, topped up by the Parish Council. Nick Beaumont provided the official toast to Her Majesty.

Lee Stevens, from Plumpton Village Society, was presented with a bouquet from Plumpton Parish Council to thank her for driving forward the Jubilee Celebrations.



Then the bandstand celebrations commenced, with a performance circle by the bandstand created with hay bales, kindly donated by Rusty McCracken from Glencove House Farm. Everyone laughed and listened to the songs from the Pantomime Society. Wings Youth Group also entertained us with some lovely singing. Plumpton missed both these groups performing during the Covid years and they hope to be back to their normal annual Panto and Musicals soon.



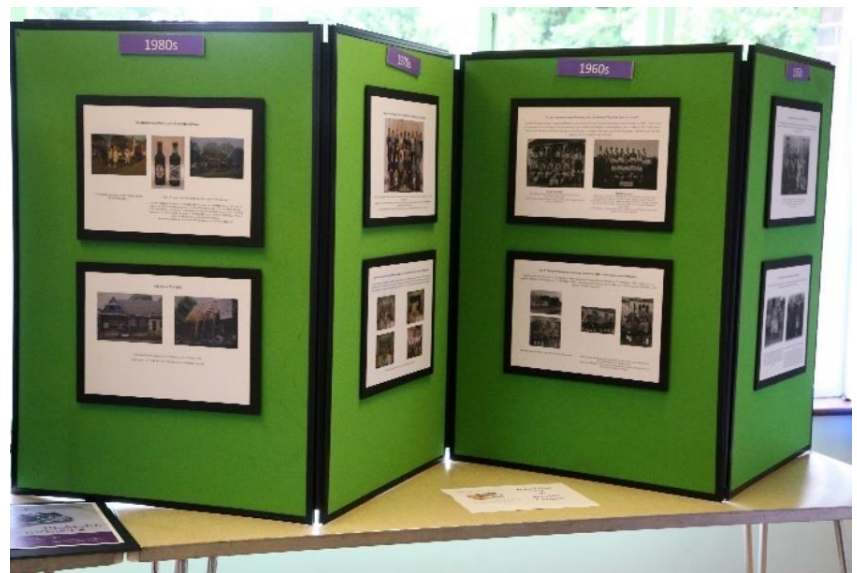
After much rehearsing in the Village Hall, Turning Pointe Dancers took to the grass for the first time to delight the crowd with some lovely performances and here is a small selection of photos to remind everyone of their amazing dances.





The Cricket Club ran the Village Hall Bar and Plumpton Village Society served refreshments, including ploughman's suppers, in the Village Hall after the bandstand entertainment.

The Camera Club launched their Jubilee book, People, Places and Events (a new spin on PPE after Covid times!) and this was created from a selection from around 4,000 pictures, provided by villagers of Plumpton throughout the Queen's 70 year reign.



This book was created largely by Carole Nicholson, Tim Honess and Romy Conroy.

People, Places and Events is a must for Plumptoners to have on their bookshelves. If you would still like one, please contact Carole Nicholson on 01273 891722.

Children at Plumpton Primary School had created portraits of the year and all 125 portraits were on display at the Village Hall in an exhibition in honour of the Queen. We think the Queen would have been mightily impressed and congratulations to everyone for making a superb display.



The focus then moved to the South Downs and the Beacon at Mount Harry. Hamsey and East Chiltington' Parish Councils arranged for the Beacon to be lit and around 150 Plumptoners walked up to Black Cap and across to Mount Harry from The Half Moon pub. They joined residents of Hamsey and East Chiltington at 9.45pm as dusk fell on the Downs, to end the first days celebrations.





Friday 3 June 2022

A Day of Thanksgiving by the Church

Plumpton Flower Club decorated All Saints Church in the Queens riding colours. A special thanks to Gill Wells, Sue Akers and Nichola Massingale.

St Michael and All Angels, St Peter Hamsey, St Peter Offham and East Chiltington Churches were also decorated with flowers, for the flower trail on the Friday morning, with refreshments served at Offham and East Chiltington churches.





The special Service of Thanksgiving was attended by Vice Lieutenant Sara Stoner DL who represented the Queen and High Sheriff of East Sussex Jane King. The service was led by The Archdeacon of Brighton & Lewes, the Venerable Martin Lloyd-Williams and Reverend Anne Dunlop.

After the Service a Jubilee bench was unveiled looking over the wildflower garden. In the Church Annex the 'Bake a Cake Fit for the Queen' competition run by Janice Doran and Angela Spinks was held. Accompanied by the children's 'Portraits of the Queen' on display again for more to enjoy the children's creative pictures.



Young bakers, Poppy Peach and Henry Ponsford (nearest 2) were in the top four.



A tea party was held in the Rectory Gardens to complete the Thanksgiving Day.



Vice Lieutenant Sara Stoner DL, Reverend Anne, High Sheriff Jane King are served by Marion Richards above.

“Thank you all for the events on Friday... the Jubilee has been a wonderful roller coaster of different happenings some of which will stay in my mind, Plumpton is definitely one I will treasure... it was a perfect occasion, and the Parish Tea was a joy if bad for the waistline!” Sara Stoner DL.



“... such a happy atmosphere, the exhibition (children’s pictures) was very impressive. I loved the depictions of the Queen in wire... a delicious tea, the best egg sandwiches I’ve had for a long time! ... everyone was so friendly.” Jane King.

Church Warden Howard Wood talks to the Archdeacon of Brighton and Lewes, Venerable Martin Lloyd-Williams

Sunday 5 June 2022 Plumpton Big Event at Plumpton Racecourse

The Plumpton Big Event started at 11am and Station Road residents came out early to wait for the pageant through the Village.



Pageant Master, Ali Christie, started the Pageant from David Westgate's Top Barn Farm Field. Everyone turned out to see the spectacle and 11 floats from children floats, businesses, clubs and societies had spent hours creating their float with lots of imagination! Plus of course some tractors to portray the villages agricultural heritage.



Wow, what a picture to sum up the community spirit of the day!



Look at villagesociety.plumptonpc.co.uk/jubilee for a video of the Big Event. The day, particularly the pageant and the soap box race, comes to life.

The pageant was led by the Primary School children with their beautifully decorated crown. The floats just kept on coming with the villagers following the pageant through the village and towards the Racecourse. The pageant was held up in the middle of the village to give people a chance to get their breath and chat a little, until the two trains had gone through our station. Our thanks go to Stewart Laughlin and Southern Rail personnel to make sure that the pageant crossed the level crossing safely. Also, a big thank you to all of the volunteer marshals on the day, who kindly gave up an hour of their time freely, to help make it all run smoothly.

A few favourite photos from the pageant



Plumpton Pantomime Society were fully involved throughout the weekend and being part of the Hispaniola float crew.



Plumpton and District Footpath Society – walking of course.



Turning Pointe Dancers – dancing of course.





The car and motorcycle pageant entries met up at The Plough, before following the floats and walkers.

And on to the Racecourse they go!

Led by the motorcycles and then the oldest car, a Model T Ford driven by Mike Sewell from Streat, with the cars following in age order.



After much cogitating, the judges made their decision, and the results were announced. Best float was Honeybees Preschool, second was The Fountain Inn and third The Wildlife Group.

The Good Ship Honeybee sailed smoothly to the Racecourse and into first place.



The Fountain Inn proceeded with military precision into second place.



The Wildlife Group by James Otway (& mouse) and Kate Gold squeaked into third.



The best car was won by a 1941 Lanchester owned by the Brunt family.



Second was a Jensen Healy (sorry driver unknown) and third a 1972 Morris Marina Fastback driven by D Medhurst.



The best motorcycle was a Triumph (sorry rider unknown), and the best tractor was recently restored by Mark Brunt.



Ridleys Family Fun Fair, plus local club's and society's stalls kept us entertained.



The soap box race had been months in the planning.

Martin Gilbert, our Soap Box Director had provided guidance and support to the creators of the soap boxes during the build period, which was up to 85 hours!



All 11 soap boxes were scrutinised and had safety checks before the race could start and there were a few nerves... would they pass?

Of course they did!

Guy Gilbert, Bob Gilcrest, Matt Maynard from Phil Hill, Louis Howard, Lucy Banks, Henry Ponsford, Edward Manville, Paul Shoesmith and two Scouts from Forest Row were at the start line with their support teams and families, for Plumpton's Jubilee Soap Box Race.



After a walk of the course and a safety briefing, it was all systems go!

Liam and Sam from Forest Row Scouts get ready with their banana themed boxes.



The rules of the soap box race: each soap box completed three runs down a 500 metre track, including a 90 degree bend, a chicane, speed bumps and through to the finishing line. The fastest racer was the lowest time of all three combined runs.

The crowds gathered for the start of the racing, thankfully the weather was still dry.



Thank you to John Fahey, assisted by Kim, who provided running commentary about the soap boxes and their performance throughout the race. They did it on top of one of the buildings in the centre of the racecourse.

What a great view they had across the Racecourse!



Director Martin Gilbert helps them on the way with a homemade ramp.

Paul Shoemith in Plumpton Bob and Guy Gilbert at the start point!



Forest Row Scouts Group with added plumes of smoke, goes through the chicane.

Matt Maynard from RW Engineering flies over the speed bump.



Lucy Banks goes through the finishing line getting the chequered flag, waived by Beverley Gilbert.



The fastest adult soap box was won by Bobby 'Biggles' Gilchrist in the Plumpton Flyer, second was Mat Maynard from RW Engineering and third Phil Hill from Plumpton College.



The Wackiest soap box and fastest junior was won by driver Louis 'Maverick' Howard and Max Howard.





The celebrations were rounded off by the Wild Zane Band singing songs from throughout the Queen's 70 year reign. The band ended their set with the current favourite of Sweet Caroline and then there was a resounding rendition of God Save the Queen when everyone joined in. It then started to rain, phew we made it!

Whilst co-ordinated by Plumpton Parish Council and Plumpton Village Society, villagers were keen to get involved in so many ways and it was a village wide effort. A huge thank you to you all, but here are a few noteworthy votes of thanks:

Plumpton Parish Council Events Committee:

Councillor Alison Gardiner (Chair), PPC Chair Nick Beaumont, Councillor Paul Burford and Councillor Jim Brown.

Plumpton Village Society: Lee Stevens (Chair), Sue Brown, Dominic Ponsford, Sheila Ponsford, Martin Gilbert, Ali Christie, Rod Owens (not in picture), Alyson Owens and Beverley Gilbert.

Plumpton Village Society Committee Post Event Meal.



Village Hall celebrations on 2 June: Jane Donovan, Village Hall Manager. Jo Dubber and Glenda Bowden for serving drinks for the toast to the Queen. The Pantomime Society, Wings Youth Theatre Group and Turning Pointe Dancers for the bandstand entertainment. The Cricket Club for running the bar, Aly Owens and Sheila Ponsford for the refreshments. The Camera Club for putting together such a great Jubilee book, People, Places and Events and for taking many of the photos.

Thanks to the Camera Club especially to Tim & James Hones and Kate Gold for the Jubilee photos and videos. James in action below.



Thanksgiving Day on 3 June: The Parochial Church Council, especially Reverend Anne Dunlop, Amanda Inglis, Howard Wood, Jay Haque, David Dawson, Janice Doran and Angela Spinks.

Floats: Primary School, Don't Urbanise the Downs, Activity Scheme, Honeybees, Plumpton Scouts, Footpath Society, Pantomime Society, Turning Pointe, Junior Football, The Fountain Inn, Wildlife Group.

Stalls: Pantomime Society, Honeybees, Wildlife Group, Camera Club, PPTFA, Good Neighbours, Activity Scheme, Plumpton Scouts and Junior Football, The Great Mobile Bar Company, Tiny Thai, Plumpton's ice cream van and Bevan's burger van.

Soap Boxes: Bob Gilcrest, Matt Maynard from RW Engineering, Phil Hill from Plumpton College, the Howard Family, Martin Gilbert and Guy Gilbert, Lucy Banks, Henry Ponsford, Edward Manville, Paul Shoemsmith and Forest Row Scouts Group.

And finally, a message from Her Majesty.



Photo express.co.uk

“When it comes to how to mark seventy years as your Queen, there is no guidebook to follow. It really is a first. But I have been humbled and deeply touched that so many people have taken to the streets to celebrate my Platinum Jubilee,” she wrote in a statement released by the Palace at the end of the Jubilee weekend.

“While I may not have attended every event in person, my heart has been with you all; and I remain committed to serving you to the best of my ability, supported by my family. I have been inspired by the kindness, joy and kinship that has been so evident in recent days, and I hope this renewed sense of togetherness will be felt for many years to come.

She concluded the message, “I thank you most sincerely for your good wishes and for the part you have all played in these happy celebrations.”



From Plumpton, thank you Your Majesty for 70 years of service to your Country. Let us take inspiration from you and continue in a spirit of togetherness and kinship across Plumpton and our neighbouring villages.

Information: Plumpton has had a great tradition of celebrating Jubilees, and this was no exception and Plumpton should be proud of its community celebrations. Videos of the Golden Jubilee in 2002, Diamond Jubilee in 2012 and of course the Platinum Jubilee in 2022 that record this tradition and to see a few familiar faces over time, are on the Village Society's website: villagesociety.plumptonpc.co.uk/jubilee An electronic copy of this souvenir brochure can also be found there, if you want to share it with any friends and family.

Plumpton Village Society Contact Details: plumptonvillagesociety@gmail.com