

# **GOOD HISTORY**

**Journal  
of the  
Eynsham Junior  
History Group**



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**GOLDEN JUBILEE EDITION**

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# GOOD HISTORY

## The Journal of the Eynsham Junior History Group

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Front Cover: Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II

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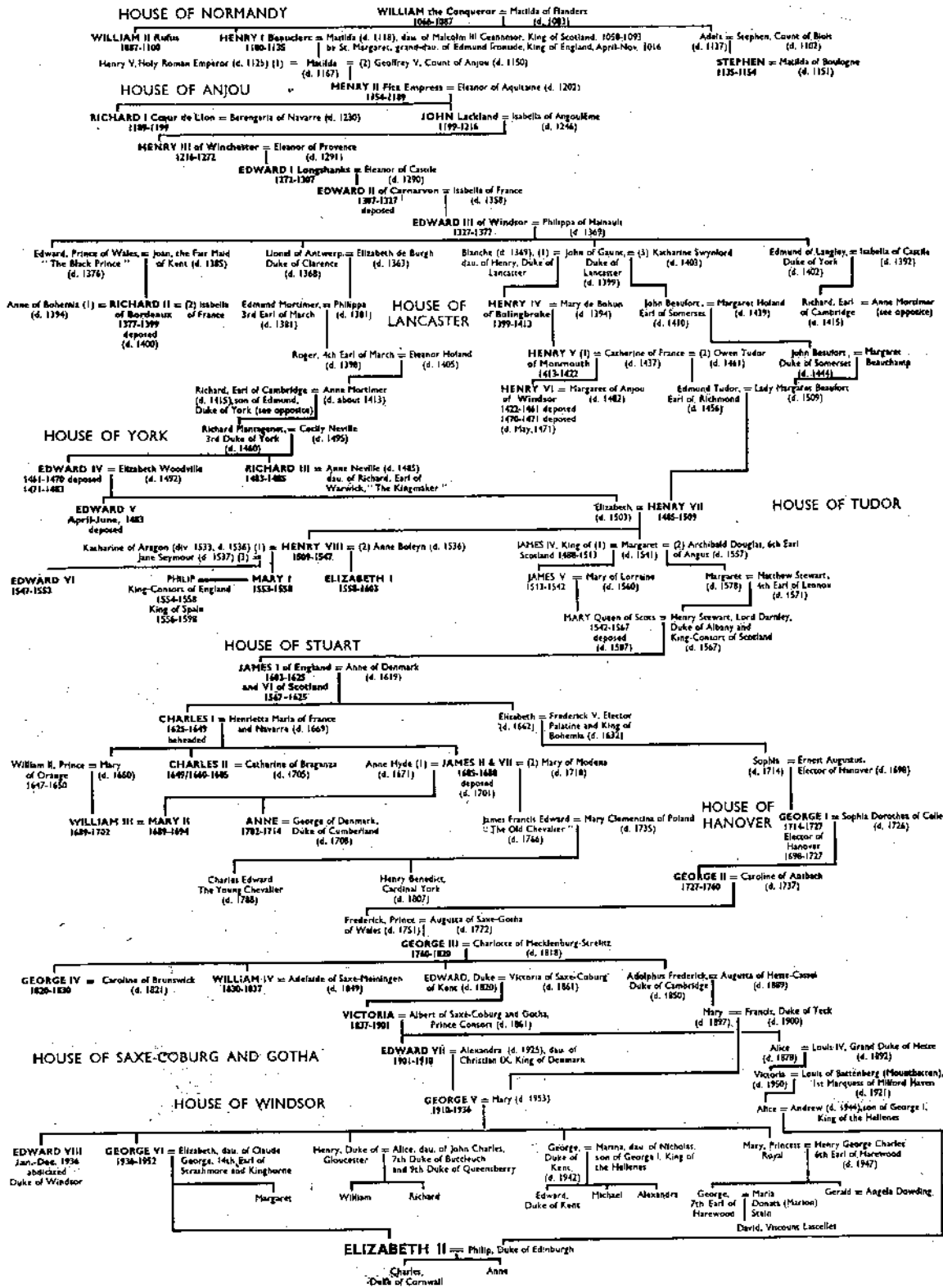
### EDITORIAL

With this edition we celebrate the Golden Jubilee of our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth II. We have been looking at the lives of Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II and the first 50 years of their reigns. We have compared their childhoods and upbringing. We have also tried to highlight the differences of the times by looking at four subjects in each period. We have considered politicians, reforming movements, exploration, and writing. Queen Victoria was the first Empress of India. Queen Elizabeth II has seen the end of Empire and the development of the Commonwealth. Both Queens have been shot at, both Queens have seen new technology in their lives, Queen Victoria witnessed the development of the railways and the introduction of the Penny Post, and Queen Elizabeth II has seen the exploration of space and is a user of e-mail.

We have also encouraged people to share their memories of the Queen's Silver Jubilee with us and we thank all those who have helped us in our research.

Pamela Richards, Senior Member & Editor.

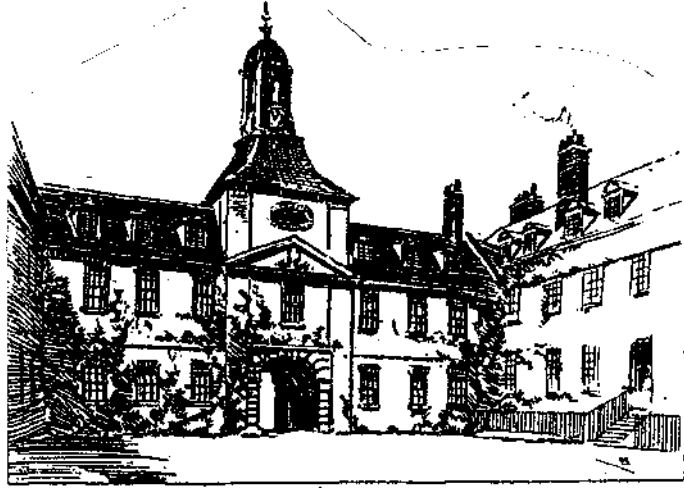
# A Genealogical Table showing the descent of the Crown from the House of Normandy to the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth



## THE VICTORIAN AGE

### QUEEN VICTORIA by Rosy Hammond

Queen Victoria was born at Kensington Palace on May 24th 1819. She was christened Georgina Charlotte Augusta Alexandrina Victoria. She was named after her godparents. Her mother was also called Victoria. Her nickname was Drina. Victoria spoke German until she was 3.



THE QUEEN AT THE AGE OF TWO, AND HER MOTHER  
From the Painting by Sir W. Beecher in Windsor Castle

When Victoria was 5 she had a German governess who got Victoria interested in history, especially her own ancestry. Victoria did not like learning but she was taught drawing and dancing. She learnt Italian because she liked opera and ballet. She also learnt Latin. She had a good head for figures. She did not like learning the piano.

She was described as honest but hot-tempered. Victoria described her childhood as dull and sad. She was always surrounded by adults and had no childhood friends, but she had a doll and a dog to keep her company.

When she was 11 her governess first put it to her that she could be queen after the death of her uncle William IV, who had succeeded his brother George IV. Her mother tried to keep this from her because of the influence of John Conroy, who, it is suggested, had hoped to gain the power for himself through Victoria's mother. Victoria came to the throne in 1837 and died in 1901.

## MORE ABOUT QUEEN VICTORIA

Victoria chose to marry her German cousin, Albert, Prince of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, who was the same age as her. He was a serious young man but considered by Victoria to be very good looking. She had to propose to him and they were married in 1840. She made him her Prince Consort but for a long time she would not let him help her in her 'queenly' duties. Albert began to get bored. He was also resented by many as a 'foreigner'. Eventually Victoria let him help her, particularly when she was pregnant. She had nine children.



Albert, Prince of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha



The Marriage of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert.

Albert's greatest achievement was the commissioning of The Great Exhibition and the construction of the Crystal Palace in 1851. Sadly, he died of typhoid fever in 1861.

Victoria went into a very long period of mourning and refused to appear in public for many years, so that some thought that she was dead. She was finally persuaded to take up her public life again and was actually on the throne for 64 years.

Queen Victoria's Signature

## **MY 105 YEAR OLD BOOK ABOUT QUEEN VICTORIA**

**by Rosy Hammond**

I got my 105-year old book from my Grandma's next door neighbour Freda. She knew someone when she was about 10 years old who made Queen Victoria's hats. She gave Freda the book and last year she gave it to me.

The book is about Queen Victoria from when she was young to when she died. It has pictures from when she was four and has her signature at the age of seven. It is very small and brown, the pages have goldleaf on them so they look very nice. I am very proud of my book and hope to pass it through the rest of my family and friends to come. I will take very good care of it and hope everyone else does too.

A sketch by Queen Victoria

## **BENJAMIN DISRAELI by Rosy Hammond**

Benjamin Disraeli was the leader of the Tory party during Queen Victoria's reign and tried several times to become Prime Minister. He finally achieved this aim in 1868 and again in 1874-1880. He lived in Oxfordshire and married Mary-Anne. He was a Jew and people were suspicious of Jews. He also liked to wear fancy clothes and was what people called a fop.

Benjamin Disraeli became the 1st Earl of Beaconsfield and lived from 1804 to 1881. He was also an author and probably his best known novel is *Coningsby* written in 1844.

## WILLIAM BOOTH AND THE SALVATION ARMY by Matthew Marks

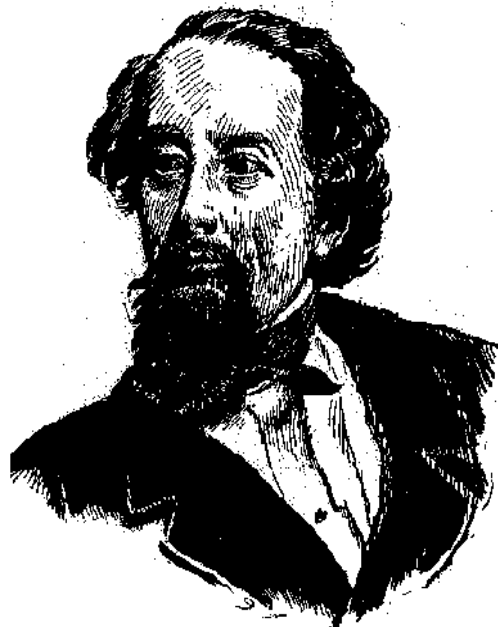
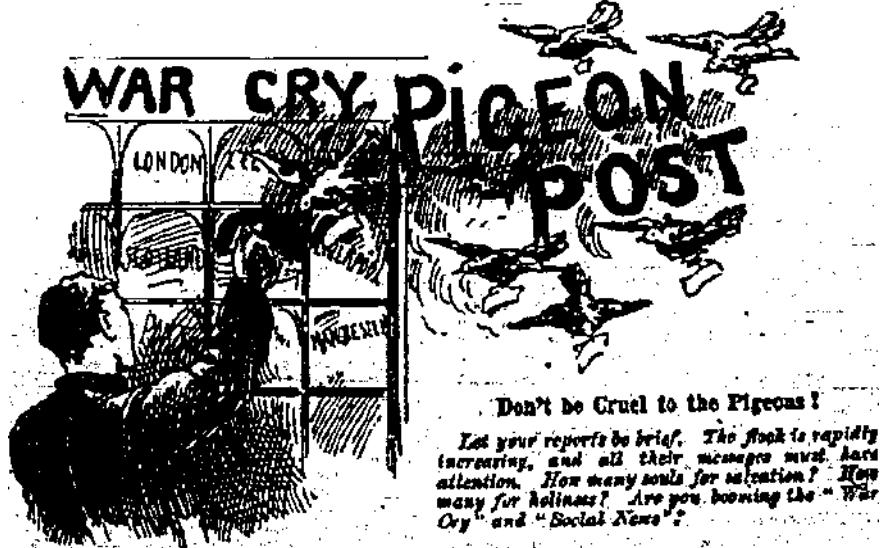
William Booth was born in 1829 and died in 1912. He lived for 83 years. William was the British founder of the Salvation Army. He was also the first General. He was the son of a builder and born in Nottingham. When he was the age of 15 he experienced a religious conversion. In 1865 he founded, in Whitechapel, the "Christian Mission" which became the Salvation Army in 1878. The Salvation Army has spread throughout the world and has an international base in London where the General directs its activities.

Towards the end of the 19th century the Salvation Army held meetings in Eynsham around Newland Street. Some meetings were held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel. We know from some of the extracts from the accounts about the use of that Chapel. There was some trouble at a few of the meetings such as drunkenness and interruptions. The Salvation Army sold a newspaper or magazine called *The War Cry*.

The Salvation Army's red shield canteens for the armed services are well known for their work in war and peace. The Salvation Army emphasises that God will forgive a person's sins, provided he is truly sorry for doing wrong.

## CHARLES DICKENS 1812-1870 by Adam Williams

Charles Dickens was born in Portsea, Hampshire. He didn't have much formal education but he read a lot and wrote and told stories he made up. He spent some time working in a blacking factory in south London, like his character David Copperfield, while his father was imprisoned in the Marshalsea for debt during 1824. He did then get three years private schooling before coming a lawyer's clerk in 1827. He became a reporter working for four years on the *Morning Chronicle*, to which he contributed *Sketches by Boz*. In 1836 he married Catherine Hogarth. He visited America and in his *American Notes* he upset the Americans by complaining about their pirating of English books. He liked to travel abroad. In 1857 he met the actress Ellen Ternan and in 1858 he agreed to a separation from his wife, although his sister-in-law remained with him to care for his children.



During his lifetime he wrote many books, the first one being *Pickwick Papers*. Most people know the story of Scrooge, which he tells in *A Christmas Carol*, and of *Oliver Twist*, where Oliver asks for more and Fagin trains the pickpockets. He was in the middle of writing *Edwin Drood*, a mystery story, when he died. He gave dramatic readings of his books and from his amateur theatricals he raised money for charity.

### **DAVID LIVINGSTONE 1813-1873 by Luke Maskell**

For more than thirty years David Livingstone worked in Africa as a medical missionary. He gained worldwide fame as an explorer.

He was born in Blantyre, Scotland in 1813. He was one of seven children from a poor family. In 1834 he heard of an appeal by British and American churches for medical missionaries to go to China. He decided this was what he wanted to do but he could not go because of the Opium Wars. He was persuaded to go to Africa by a missionary he met, called Robert Moffat. On March 14, 1841 he arrived in Capetown. He travelled into the Kalahari region further than any European had gone before.

In 1853 he went on his second adventure to Luanda. He arrived on May 3rd 1854. After four months he made the return journey along the Zambezi river. On May 20th 1856 he arrived in Quelimane in Mozambique. It was on this trip he discovered the spectacular waterfalls he named for his Queen, Victoria. He returned to England in December 1856, a national hero. He went back to Africa in 1858 to explore the Zambezi region.

Livingstone's canoe attacked by a hippopotamus on the Zambesi River August 1855

His last great adventure was to locate the source of the Nile but he fell on hard times and was thought to have died. But on October 23rd 1871 he was found in Ujiji by Henry Morton Stanley, a journalist, who was to provide him with food and medicine. Together they explored Lake Tanganyika. Stanley returned to England in March 1872, but Livingstone would not return. On May 1st 1873 he was found dead in a village that is now in Zambia. His body was taken back to England where he was buried in Westminster Abbey in 1874.

### **WHAT HAPPENED IN EYNESHAM IN 1887**

We learn from the newspapers of the time and the recent article by John Golby in *Eynsham Record No.19* that Eynsham seemed a bit reluctant to organise itself to celebrate Victoria's Golden Jubilee. However, we noted that three publicans applied to have their



opening hours extended and were granted leave to keep open until midnight on the day. So we imagine some people did have a jolly time. Another item we noted in the Oxford Times of the period was not so happy as shown in the following.

**JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS DAMPENED BY EYNHAM HOUSE FIRE**  
**by David Richardson**

On the evening before the Jubilee celebrations in July 1887, there was a house fire in Eynham. It caused the evening sky to light up so much that some people thought that the illuminations had begun early. The cause of the fire is not known, but someone knocking over a candle in the house may have caused it. This was a common reason in those days as candles were used for light. The neighbours who rushed to help used all the wells nearby to collect water to put the fire out. Luckily the neighbours carried out the children and they were all saved. Sadly, the cottage burned to the ground but the adjoining house did not burn down. It is not known where the houses were or whether these houses had thatched roofs.

The Royal Procession arriving at Westminster Abbey for the Queen's Jubilee Service June 21st  
1887

## THE SECOND ELIZABETHAN AGE

### ELIZABETH II by Lewis Cooper

She was born in London on 21st April 1926 and christened Elizabeth Alexandra Mary. Like Victoria she had a nickname. At home she was called Lilibet. This is how she signed herself on the card which was with the flowers on her mother's coffin.

The Queen's Silver Jubilee marking 25 years of her reign was held in June 1977. There was a national holiday when fireworks, street parties and other celebrations took place.



### MORE ABOUT QUEEN ELIZABETH

Unlike Victoria the Princess Elizabeth had a younger sister, Margaret, so was not a lonely child. Her father had an elder brother and did not expect to become King but on her uncle's abdication she learnt that perhaps one day she would be Queen. She was about the same age as Victoria had been when she learnt of the possibility. Like Victoria, Elizabeth had a governess. Marion Crawford (usually known as Crawfie) made sure that her charge had a wide education and her chief tutor Sir Henry Marten said she had a mind capable of mastering things. She liked swimming and horse riding. She also liked dressing up and acting in plays.

During the Second World War 1939-1945 the King and Queen decided to stay in Britain as a family to share whatever happened to their people.

The Royal Family together in 1940



The two princesses spent most of their time at Windsor where they joined with the evacuee children in pantomimes and concerts. In March 1945 Princess Elizabeth joined the Women's Royal Army Corps, then the Auxiliary Territorial Service, as a second subaltern. She learnt to drive and how to look after cars, heavy lorries and ambulances.

Her engagement to Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten R.N. was announced in March 1947. They were married on a grey day in November 1947



Royal Wedding, 20th November 1947

She came to the throne in February 1952 on the death of her father King George VI. Her coronation was on June 2nd 1953.



1952 Returning from Kenya, after the King's death.

## QUEEN ELIZABETH THE QUEEN MOTHER by Michael Wilson

She was born on August 4th 1900. It was a very hot summer's day. She was the youngest of ten children. People called her the 'merry mischief.' She was always keen to play a new prank on her brothers and sisters. When she was an adult she went to visit a lot of countries, including

Jamaica	Canada	Italy
Yugoslavia	Australia	Fiji.
France	Panama	Norway
New Zealand	Belgium	Italy
Malta	Denmark	Germany
South Africa	United States	

## QUEEN MARY OF TECK, THE QUEEN'S GRANDMOTHER by Mary Moore

In 1893 the future George V married Princess Mary of Teck. Although one of her grandmothers was an Hungarian countess, the future Queen Mary was a Londoner by birth, a granddaughter of the Duke of Cambridge, the youngest of George III's sons to survive infancy. On the 6th of May 1910 her husband's father, King Edward VII died and so George and Mary became King and Queen. Queen Mary encouraged King George to go out and meet ordinary British people and so he became the "people's King".

It was during one of the "Royal Walkabouts" during the last war, that Mr Richards, when he was a boy, shook hands with Queen Mary.



Queen Mary and two of her children

## **MARGARET THATCHER by Adam Williams**

Margaret Thatcher was born in Grantham, the daughter of a grocer, in 1925. She studied chemistry at Oxford University before becoming a barrister. She then entered politics. As a member of the Conservative Party she became minister for education in 1970, holding office until 1974. She faced a lot of criticism for abolishing free milk for schoolchildren over eight. Unexpectedly, she won the leadership election in 1975, defeating Edward Heath. In 1979 she became Prime Minister, holding that office until 1990. In 1982 she sent British troops to recapture the Falkland Islands from Argentina. She confronted the trade-union power during the miners' strike 1984-85. She sold many public utilities to the private sector and reduced the influence of local government. Her most unpopular act was probably the introduction of the 'poll tax' or community charge.

In 1984 she narrowly avoided an IRA bomb that exploded during the Conservative Party conference. She was created a life peer in 1992. Some of her sayings have become famous. In April 1989 she said "I am extraordinarily patient, provided I get my own way in the end."

## **CANON MILFORD AND OXFAM by Matthew Marks**

Oxfam was first called the 'Oxford Committee for Famine Relief. It was established in 1942 by Canon Theodore Richard Milford who lived from 1895-1987. He lived to be 91 years old. The Oxford Committee for Famine Relief was set up initially to assist starving people. It campaigned for food and medicine to be sent to civilians in blockaded Greece during the second world war, and subsequently to relieve poverty and famine worldwide and fund long term aid projects.

The committee registered as a charity in 1943 and opened the United Kingdom's first ever permanent charity shop in Broad Street in Oxford, where it remains to this day.

In 1960 the committee abbreviated its name to Oxfam with the 'Ox' from Oxford and the 'fam' from famine. Whenever and wherever disaster strikes, Oxfam is among the first on the scene. When an emergency is over Oxfam's work isn't. They stay and help people rebuild their lives. On 23rd November 1984 Eynsham Primary School presented Mr Marcus Thompson, an Oxfam representative, with a giant-sized cheque for £120.



## **SIR EDMUND HILLARY by William Cross**

Sir Edmund Hillary was born on July 20th, 1919 in Auckland, New Zealand. He was raised in Tuakua, a rural town 40 miles south of Auckland. His parents were very strict, keeping him, his brother and his sister busy with house chores and school work. Despite his father's rigid ways Edmund learned a very important lesson from him. When he was 11 years old he started school where he was seen to be rather unco-ordinated and the gym teacher set out to change this, little knowing how Edmund would become famous in the future. Edmund also loved reading adventure stories and his great hero was the famous mountaineer and author Eric Shipton.

After two years at college, Hillary dropped out and went to work for his father as a bee-keeper. This was hard work and strengthened his body, but left him bored. In 1942 he joined the airforce and became a navigator. He was 23 years old and had a chance to get into the mountains and hike on rocky summits. In 1951 Hillary was invited to join a New Zealand climbing team that trekked into the Himalayan Mountains. Later he was chosen for an Everest Expedition which was to be led by his hero Eric Shipton. Hillary's climbing skills gave him the chance to join the 1953 British Everest climb to try to reach the top of Everest. Men had been trying for forty years to be the first to reach the top of this highest mountain. Finally, on May 29, Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay became the first men to stand on the top of the world.

Edmund Hillary received worldwide acclaim for his achievement. He and the trek leader John Hunt were knighted by the Queen. A modest man, Hillary did not consider himself 'knightly material' but his life seems to prove that he was.

In September 1953 he married an old friend Louise Rose. Their honeymoon was a trip round the world with Hillary giving lectures about Everest. Their first child was born in 1954 and soon after their second child was born Hillary went off on another expedition, this time a tractor-crossing of Antarctica. He was shocked to find that his son, Peter, did not know him when he returned and vowed not to leave his family, which grew to five, for such a long time again.

In 1961 Hillary returned to Nepal with funds to help the Sherpa people (the inhabitants of the Everest region) to build a school (the first in their region). Sadly, in 1975 a plane carrying his wife and youngest daughter crashed in the Himalayas on their way to meet Hillary. It was a great blow which he found hard to get over. However, in 1990 he married June Mulgrew who shares his love of mountains and together they continued to work for the people of Nepal. Now they live in New Zealand. Recently, as there is trouble in Nepal, Hillary has once again made an appeal for help for the Nepalese people.

## **J.K. ROWLING by Matthew Marks**

J. K. Rowling was born just outside Bristol. She was travelling by train from London to Manchester (which is where she lives) that she got the idea of writing Harry Potter. She thought about Harry Potter all the way to Manchester. She thought about it because she didn't have a pen and paper with her.

J. K. Rowling thinks that Kings Cross Station is a romantic place because her mother and father met there. She loves trains. It took J.K. Rowling five years to complete Book I. She wrote it in cafes in Edinburgh She wrote in cafes because her baby daughter seemed to sleep better there. Her favourite cafe to write in was Nicolsons. She liked it because she didn't feel guilty about taking up a whole table. They gave her lots of tolerance because she would try to make them popular if her book was published.

She believed in the book and with no promise of publication she felt she had to give it her best shot. Her flat was a tip and people asked how she wrote in it. When she was 28 she was living on a benefit of about £70 a week. She was a teacher of English and Portuguese while she was writing

In 1997 she was writing Book II. Book I was doing well, but not as much as now. Then her world changed. 'Harry' went to America and the American publishers got caught up in a bidding war for the book. The American publishers loved her book and she was able to fulfil her lifelong ambition to be a full-time writer. Her memories of childhood had a lot of influence on her books. She was bossy like Hermione. She completed her first story at the age of 6. She went to Tutshill Primary School in Chepstow. She went to Exeter University. She has already written the last chapter of Book VII.

An advertisement for the film of Book I

## **MEMORIES OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II'S SILVER JUBILEE 1977**

Members of the group interviewed various people to find out what they remembered about the occasion. As always oral history gives a diversity of memories.

### Francis & Martin Harris interviewed by Becky Treadwell

Francis and his son Martin were not living in Eynsham at the time but in Farmoor and their chief memory is of walking with Martin's Mum and sister, Diane, from Farmoor to the top of Beacon Hill to watch the lighting of the Beacon (a large bonfire). They remembered that people were dressed up and seemed in party mood. After the lighting of the Beacon they went to join their local street party.

### Mr & Mrs P. Whittaker interviewed by Matthew Marks

Mr & Mrs Whittaker live at 11 Green Road. They were not born in Eynsham. In 1977

they lived in Woodstock Road, Oxford. They were 34 and 37. There was a parade with the Lord Mayor, floats and bands going through Oxford to the South Park. There was a barbecue and fair. Oxford was decorated with flags, Union Jacks and pictures. They saw the parade and held a garden party. It was hot, flags flying, people in crowds, very colourful and people were happy. There were approximately 4000 people, adults and children. Oxford city council organised it. There were lots of hot dogs, burgers and pubs open. The children received a mug and coin from school.

#### Her father interviewed by Mary Moore

My dad was 15 years old in 1977. He remembers bunting strung out between houses and lampposts along the street where he lived. There were also celebrations held in the playing fields down by the River Windrush where a TV celebrity named Willie Rushton opened the event with a short, comical speech. All the children in the village received a specially minted coin for the Silver Jubilee. 1977 was also the year of the drought and the river level dropped so much that my auntie found an old penny from the time of King William II in the dried-up river bed.

#### His mother interviewed by Sean Moore

In 1977 my mum was 9 years old. There were many street parties that year, but my mum didn't attend any. In August of that year my mum, nan, grandad, aunties and uncles all went on a holiday to Cornwall. It was a very hot summer, in fact there was a drought. My Mum remembers going on long walks down a steep hill to a cove where she used to swim in the sea. My grandad had a car which everyone used to call "Erv" and on that holiday the engine caught fire and my grandad burnt his hands badly trying to put the fire out. My mum remembers that the whole family had to travel back to Oxfordshire in an AA van. It's a holiday that has always stayed in my mum's memory.

#### Jeffrey Williams interviewed by Adam Williams

My grandfather was living in Spareacre Lane at the time of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations, and he remembers street parties, celebrations in the Square, competitions, presentations, games and fun, fancy dress and the bells of St. Leonards being rung.

Bunting, Union Jacks, silhouettes of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh and floral displays were all used to decorate Eynsham.



My grandfather remembers attending celebrations including presentations, dancing and a street party. The celebrations were held in the Square and in Spareacre Lane. He remembers preparing decorations for the house in the back garden; making a crown, using bunting and silhouettes, all of which hard work won the best decorated house competition for which a hand-thrown plate depicting the royal occasion was awarded.

Other awards for decorated premises went to Mr Percy Lewis the Bookmaker for the best decorated business premises and he thinks it was the Red Lion which was the best decorated pub.

He also remembers helping to organise the Spareacre Lane street party. The Morris Men and children from the primary school danced in the Square. There was lots of fun.

It is difficult to estimate the number of people attending in the Square but most of the village was there because all the children were presented with a commemorative coin. The street party was held halfway down Spareacre Lane and all the houses probably up to the Spar were involved and attended the celebrations - lots of people.

The main organisers of the street party were my grandfather, Mrs French, Mrs Buckle Mrs Clark and Mr Taylor the photographer. There was lots of food and drink for the street party; sandwiches, cakes, crisps and squash. My grandfather remembers that he spent many weeks collecting 10p per week from families to contribute towards the cost of the street party. A lot of mums from the street helped to prepare all the food.

Children received commemorative coins, mugs from the Primary School and full stomachs.

Special entertainment was provided by the Morris Men and there were VIPs attending the street party too - Bob Arnold (from the Archers) and local celebrity Molly Harris. The street party also had Space Hopper races and a fancy dress competition. The whole occasion was lots of fun and there were a lot of smiling faces.

Jeffrey Williams in the Union Jack waistcoat with Bob Arnold from the 'Archers'

Joyce White remembers that the British Legion had organised games in the 'Litchfield' in Station Road, as well as recalling all the street parties.

Eileen Brown interviewed by Luke Maskell

Eileen Brown remembered that it was a cold miserable day but that there was a church service at St. Leonard's and that she served on the Silver Jubilee Committee. Eynsham was decorated just as it is at Carnival and that there were children's races and a barbecue. She also remembers that the children were given commemorative coins.

From interviews by David Richardson

His Uncle David, then aged 12, remembers no particular celebrations in Eire but remembers that in the news there was regular mention of the extension of the Jubilee line in London. David's mother was in the middle of exams and being in a boarding school, also in Ireland, has no recollection of any special jubilee events. From a friend, Mrs Ward, he also learnt of the parties and the bunting and flags which decorated Eynsham

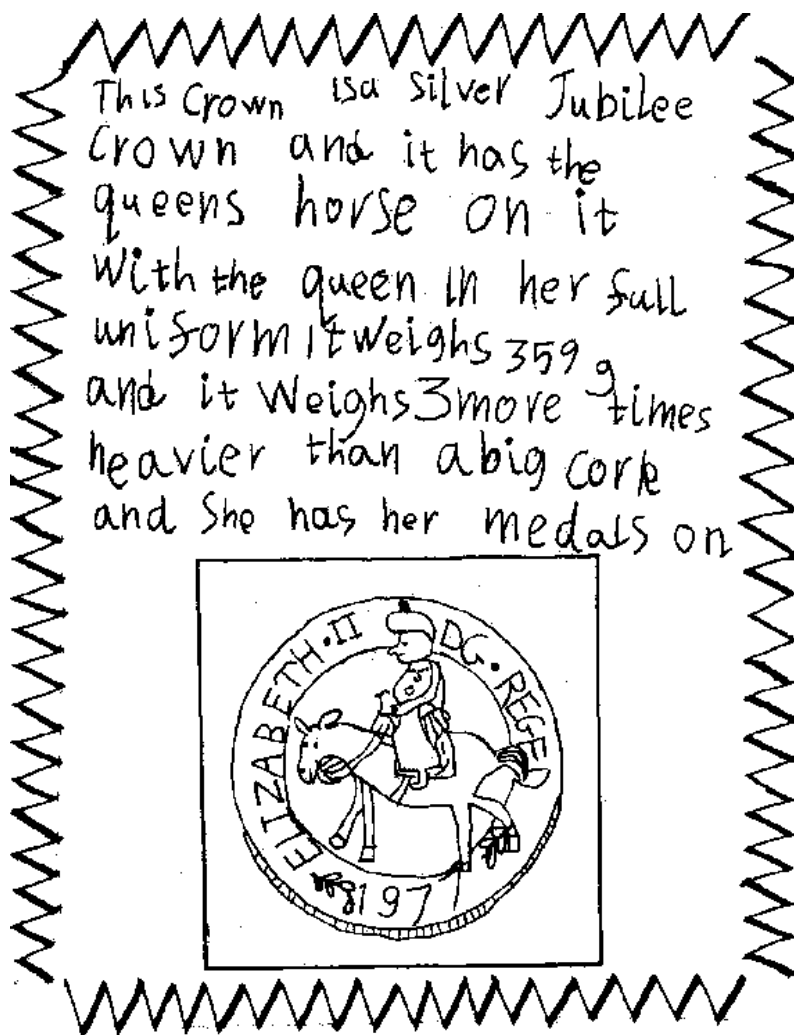
The photograph below, taken by Sue Chapman, which appears in Martin Harris's book has raised the question in some minds as to the identity of the lady in the wheel chair. She was not a resident of Eynsham but a visitor. She was the editor's aunt who was staying in Eynsham for a few days. She gained tremendous enjoyment from watching all that went on and so the editor too has very happy memories of that day in June 1977.

Silver Jubilee Celebrations in the Square, School May Day 1977



### **A NEAR DISASTER - 1977 by Luke Maskell**

As the celebrations in 1887 were marred by the fire in a cottage in Eynsham there was nearly a death during the celebrations for the Silver Jubilee. Mr Howard Peters, the escapologist, had a blackout while he was hanging 80 ft in the air at the start of his act. It was seen that he was in trouble and he was quickly brought down and given medical attention. Fortunately, it was not long before he was able to resume his act which this time he completed successfully.



This picture was printed in the Primary School's Silver Jubilee Magazine.

Our thanks to the unknown author. If you recognise this as your work please let us know.

An Event in 2002, the Golden Jubilee Year.

### INTERVIEW WITH MR ROBIN SAUNDERS, M.B.E.

by Kimberley Treadwell

In reply to the question about the difference between the real Queen and the school May Queen Mr Saunders replied that on the day that he met them there was not much difference. In each case he was afraid of making a silly mistake or saying the wrong thing. For all their age difference and the difference in surroundings each of them was gracious and serene. All in all he thought our May Queen won the day because she had youth and beauty on her side and he did not get to kiss the real Queen. Mr Saunders moved into the village 27 years ago when he opened the D.I.Y. shop. He remarked that he had seen many changes during that time but he feels Eynsham has maintained its lovely friendly atmosphere. He hopes that the changes to the square will enhance and not detract from this part of Eynsham which is dominated by our beautiful church.

Besides his interest in Morris Dancing which he took up after he came to live here he enjoys cycling, sailing, walking and tree planting and other conservation projects, which he usually does in connection with the C.P.R.E He is also a governor of our Primary School and leads a team of Morris Boys on May Day.

Asked how things had changed since he received his MBE he said it took longer to do things as so many people wanted to congratulate him. He is now asked to attend many more functions and present prizes. He found it a humbling experience to be nominated by people in Eynsham for such an award and hopes he can live up to it.