

BIRKENHEAD HERITAGE

— SOCIETY INC —

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 10th September 2-4pm
St Andrews Hall 172 Hinemoa Street –
Speaker: Erica Hannam
Topic: The Iconic Bridgeway Cinema

October: Auckland Heritage Festival
Event trfd. from 2021 due to Covid Lockdowns

* Special Openings

* **Saturday 8th October 12 – 4pm**

* **Sunday 9th October 12 – 4pm**

**‘Sugar, farming and the Birkenhead
Heritage Museum’**

**at Farrington House 44 Mahara Ave, off the
Highbury by-pass, next to War Memorial Park**

The usual opening hours of-

Farrington House Museum

Open 2-4pm on 2nd & 4th Sundays

January to November – or by request.

44 Mahara Ave., Birkenhead

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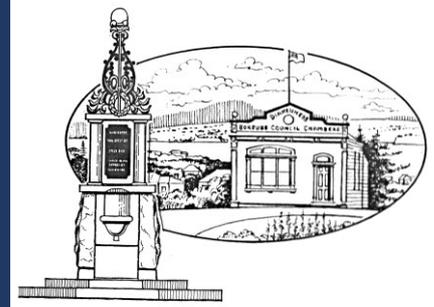
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September-
October
2022

**This issue celebrates Queen Elizabeth's
Platinum Jubilee**



The NZH produced
a photo released by
Buckingham Palace
– the small print
reads “The queen
has been hit by
mobility issues but
made a surprise
video with
Paddington Bear”



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The Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II

- Queen Elizabeth II became New Zealand's monarch on **6 February 1952**, following the death of her father, King George VI. Her Coronation, 2nd June 1953. In September 2015 she became the longest-reigning British monarch, surpassing the 63-year reign of her great-great-grandmother Queen Victoria. The first British monarch to celebrate a Platinum (70th) Jubilee, in 2022.
- The Queen is New Zealand's head of state. Under the concept of the 'divisible Crown', she reigns as Queen of New Zealand independently of her position as Queen of the United Kingdom. Her title was confirmed by the Royal Titles Acts of 1953 and 1974, the latter entitling her 'Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God Queen of New Zealand and Her Other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith'.
- Previous Reigning monarch's following the death of Queen Victoria – Group photo



R) King Edward VII (R) bn. 1841 – 1910
reigned 1901 - 1910

L) King George V (L) bn. 1865 - 1936
reigned 1910 - 1936

Sons of King George V -

Rear) Prince Edward – bn.1894 - 1972
Proclaimed King Edward VIII, in Jan.1936
Abdicated in Dec. 1936.

Front) Prince Albert – bn. 1895 – 1952
Proclaimed King Dec. 1936 chose to be called
King George VI from 11th Dec.1936
reigned 1936 - 1952

King Edward VII was 2nd born, his sister Victoria born 1st, she died the same years as her mother, but as a daughter she was not heir to the throne in that period of history.

King George V was 2nd born, his older brother died, age 28yrs, just before he was due to marry.

King George VI was 2nd born - his brother abdicated to marry Wallis Simpson.



King George VIth Queen Elizabeth – (later Queen Mother), with Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret and some of their trainbearers.

After the Coronation ceremony 12th May 1937

Queen's visit and unusual accidents.

1953/54: The Queen visited NZ in 1953 during her 1st long Commonwealth tour of her reign, and 1st reigning monarch to open the New Zealand Parliament. She made her Christmas broadcast for 1953 from Government House in Auckland.

The Queen had travelled by Air New Zealand (or TEAL.) In 1953 it was the first flight on a commercial airliner by members of the British Royal family.

The Queen has visited New Zealand on ten occasions: 1953-1954, 1963, 1970, 1974, 1977, 1981, 1986, 1990, 1995 and 2002.

When attending a powhiri or Maori welcoming ceremony, The Queen dons a ceremonial Korowai cloak, made from prized kiwi feathers, and speaks a few words of Maori.

When the Queen and Prince Philip visited N.Z. in 1953 little interaction with our Maori people was included. The programme was altered on the 30 December to allow the car carrying her and the Prince to pass Turangawaewae. However when the Queen saw the path lined with flowers and the people waiting she requested the car stop, and she received a formal welcome and visited the Meeting house prepared for her visit – the whole visit lasted 17 minutes but showed her concern and interest in the indigenous people of the Commonwealth. .

King Korokī greets **Queen Elizabeth II** at **Tūrangawaewae** on 30 Dec. 1953.



During that 1st visit two pilots who were to fly out and greet the plane bringing the Queen, were killed in a flying accident. Then the Tangawai disaster occurred when a laha from Mt Ruapehu swept away the bridge before a Christmas Eve train plunged into the river – Prince Philip went to Wellington to attend the memorial Service. The Brynderwyn bus crash on Feb. 7th 1963 killed 15 of a Kapa Haka group returning from performing at the Waitangi celebrations in front of the Queen on her 2nd visit. Fortunately no further accidents have occurred during subsequent Royal visits – but these are part of our history.

Queen of our times The Life of Elizabeth II
by Robert Hardman Published by Macmillan 2022

A long book, 360p. before the “Notes and Index” begin, with much use of archives and personal knowledge of our working Queen. The book gives insight into the importance of the favourable International relations the Queen has built up with different Commonwealth Governments and Republic leaders over her 70 years as Queen. She has had regular contact with all British Prime Ministers starting with Winston Churchill. She amazes American Presidents with her memories of previous Presidents. Her visits to Commonwealth countries, and willingness to sit down with her hosts, watching and meeting indigenous peoples around the world has endeared her to many. She quotes being trained for her position well by her father, in this respect she differs from previous monarchs who were not given the same opportunities.

The author suggests the British people do not appreciate the value to Britain, (in trade, tourism, and good will) of maintaining links through the Commonwealth Games, Heads of Government’s meetings, and the diplomatic invitations to Heads of State from multiple Countries to dine at Buckingham Palace. The Queen through the summer Garden Parties reaches out to people from widely different backgrounds. Shared among the Royals they are patrons of countless organisations and charities, and respond to large tragic events.

The book covers some of the family issues which the author considers the Queen has handled sensibly, and with considered responses. From the break-down of her sister Princess Margaret’s marriage, and later three of her own children’s marriages she has not been spared scrutiny, and public airing of opinions during times when huge changes in societies views on these matters has occurred.

The very sad public out pouring of grief and anger towards the monarchy after Princess Diana’s tragic death in 1997 is handled sympathetically. As the Grandmother of two young boys who had faced the separation of their parents, and now total loss of their mother she stayed where she felt the need was greatest. (We have to remember Diana’s own mother had left her father when she was 8 years old, and she had little to do with her as her mother lost custody of her 4 children. We do not know what contact she had with her two grandsons, she died of Parkinson and a brain tumour in 2004.)

A delightful piece shared about Prince Philip’s mother. After years in the religious retreat Princess Alice had founded, she was in danger during a revolutionary period in Greece. She did not heed invitations from her children to leave Greece, but when Queen Elizabeth sent a personal messenger to join the family in 1967 at Buckingham Palace, she immediately packed up and spent a delightful time in London. She amused her grandchildren who loved dropping in on their eccentric, smoking, and canasta playing grandmother. She died 2yrs. later at 84.

The Queen enjoys her job, she has faithfully carried out her duties. Fortunate to have her own mother live to 101, and only recently lost her great supporter and husband Prince Philip

Our Queen with her son, grandson, and great grandson George, future heirs to the throne, and the Duchess of Cornwall, and Duchess of Cambridge, Charlotte and Louis.

