

Lairg Magazine

LAIRG & DISTRICT COMMUNITY INITIATIVES



Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

On Thursday 2nd June 2022 Lairg celebrated the Queen's 70th Jubilee by holding several events. The day started with a special 'Jubilee' Health Walk around the Ferrycroft woods at 2pm. After the walk the group made their way to the new Community Shelter at the Church Hill woods to meet up with others and share a 'Jubilee Tea' picnic. It was warm and sunny, so it was a great opportunity for the community to get together and 'toast' the Queen's 70 years of service over a cuppa and some delicious sandwiches and cakes. There was also a chance to taste the 'Beacon Jubilee Tart' which is the official dish of the Jubilee. See page 2 for the recipe if you would like to try making it!

A number of tourists and cyclists passing by were also invited to join us in the celebration. We met people from other parts of the UK, Europe and the USA who were delighted to chat and get a bit of sustenance before continuing their journeys! See page 4 for more about the day...



Recipe of the week

Jubilee Tart

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacon Tart

Ingredients representing all 4 nations of the UK

England: Cheddar Cheese Northern Ireland: Potatoes Scotland: Smoked Salmon Wales: Leek
Average cost of ingredients per tart, between £3.75 & £5.00



The following quantities will serve TEN people.

Pastry 140 g (5 oz) plain flour 35 g (1 ¼ oz) margarine 35 g (1 ¼ oz) vegetable fat About 1 ½ tablespoons cold water

Or use ready-made shortcrust pastry * 20 cm (8") loose-bottom flan tin * baking beans Filling 100 g (4 oz) Smoked salmon (trimmings or chopped small) 50 g (2 oz) leek 100g (4 oz) cooked potatoes 70g (2 ¾ oz) Cheddar cheese (grated) 200 ml (7 fl oz) single cream 2 large eggs (beaten) 1 tablespoon fresh chopped parsley Black pepper Butter or oil

1. To make pastry - place flour in bowl add the fats and rub in lightly with fingertips until mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs. Add enough cold water to bind to a soft dough, knead briefly and shape in to a ball. Wrap and chill for 30 minutes.
2. Roll out the pastry and use to line the flan tin. Prick the bottom of the pastry with a fork. Line pastry shell with foil and fill with baking beans. Place tin on a heated baking tray and bake in preheated oven at 200°C Fan (Gas 7) for 10 minutes, remove foil and baking beans, return to the oven for a further 10 minutes.
3. Reduce oven temperature to 160°C Fan (Gas 4)
4. Scrub potatoes and place in a pan of lightly salted boiling water to cook for 15 minutes. Drain and allow to cool before removing the skin and then slicing thinly.
5. Finely chop leek. Heat a little butter or oil in a small frying pan, add chopped leek to the pan and cook over a low to moderate heat, stirring occasionally, for about 10 minutes until soft but not coloured - allow to cool.
6. Mix together cream, beaten eggs, chopped parsley and plenty of ground black pepper. Layer filling in pastry case; spread smoked salmon over base of tart followed by cooked leek and then 50 g (2 oz) grated cheese (keeping remaining 20g (¾ oz) to sprinkle on top). Top with thinly sliced cooked potatoes. Sprinkle remaining grated cheese over the top then gently pour cream and egg mixture in to the tart.
7. Bake in oven for 30 - 35 minutes until filling is set and golden. Serve cold. NB These quantities also make 18 small tarts using 8cm (3 ¼") plain round cutter and lining patty tins. When making small tarts there is no need to blind bake the cases first. Bake small tarts at 160°C Fan (Gas 4) for about 30 minutes until filling is set and golden.



Platinum Jubilee Portait of the Queen by Randal Mackechnie

1. In which year was Queen Elizabeth II born?
2. The Queen had no brothers, but she did have one sister. What was her sister's name?
3. Who was the Queen's father?
4. How old was Princess Elizabeth when her father died and she became Queen?
5. How many children does Queen Elizabeth II have?
6. Which breed of dog is The Queen famously associated with?
7. In which year did Queen Elizabeth II launch a British Monarchy Facebook page?
8. No other British King or Queen has lived as long as Queen Elizabeth II – True or false?
9. The Queen famously broadcasts a Christmas message every year on Christmas day. On which year did this royal tradition begin?
10. How many years will the 2022 Platinum Jubilee celebrations mark?

On the evening of Thursday 2nd June at 9.45pm, people gathered at the Ferrycroft Jetty to listen to Iain Mackay play the pipes while processional torches were lit to mark the time that the Queen lit the Jubilee beacon which was followed by over 3500 beacons being lit around the world. Sheila Stewart, Deputy Lieutenant for Sutherland welcomed those who had come along to join and although everybody was eaten alive by midgies – Lairg did join in the country's celebration of lights!

Commenting on the day Sheila said, "Her Majesty The Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee after 70 years of service and I feel it is important that our Community share in the celebrations and mark a moment in history. It was great to speak to Willie Mackay MBE who recalled Coronation Day and enjoying the Pipe Band marching down Main Street. Thereafter he went off to play in a 5-side football match. It would be great to put together many more memories from those who, like Willie, remember clearly how they celebrated all those years ago.

A well supported health walk and afternoon tea, arranged by LDCI was held. In the evening we gathered to the tunes on the pipes from Iain Mackay, who we thank so much, and lit six torches held by members of the community: Morag Macdonald, Catrina Cameron, Kaye Hurrion, Willie Mackay as well as Sara McLeod and Dani Rutter Johnstone (both School Dux). Thank you to all the torch bearers."





A memory from the Queen's Coronation

"On the day of celebration for the Queen's coronation in 1953 the heavens opened, it poured torrents here and people had to celebrate in the school gymnasium. I don't know of photos for that day..."

I remember being at a massive bonfire on Clais nam Buaile, a wonderful sight! Lighting up all around but was that another end of war or start of new reign I cannot remember."

Joan Leed



LDCI would like to thank the Community Centre for lending us the tables, flasks and crockery and the Lairg Learning centre for the flasks and tablecloths. We would also like to thank Caroline, Lorraine and Amy for all their help and all the bakers for donating their lovely cakes to the Jubilee tea.

A huge thank you to Iain Mackay for playing the pipes, and to the torch bearers and to Tracie Drummond for taking the photographs.

Finally - thank you to the Fire Brigade for helping us to hang the bunting.

Quiz Answers

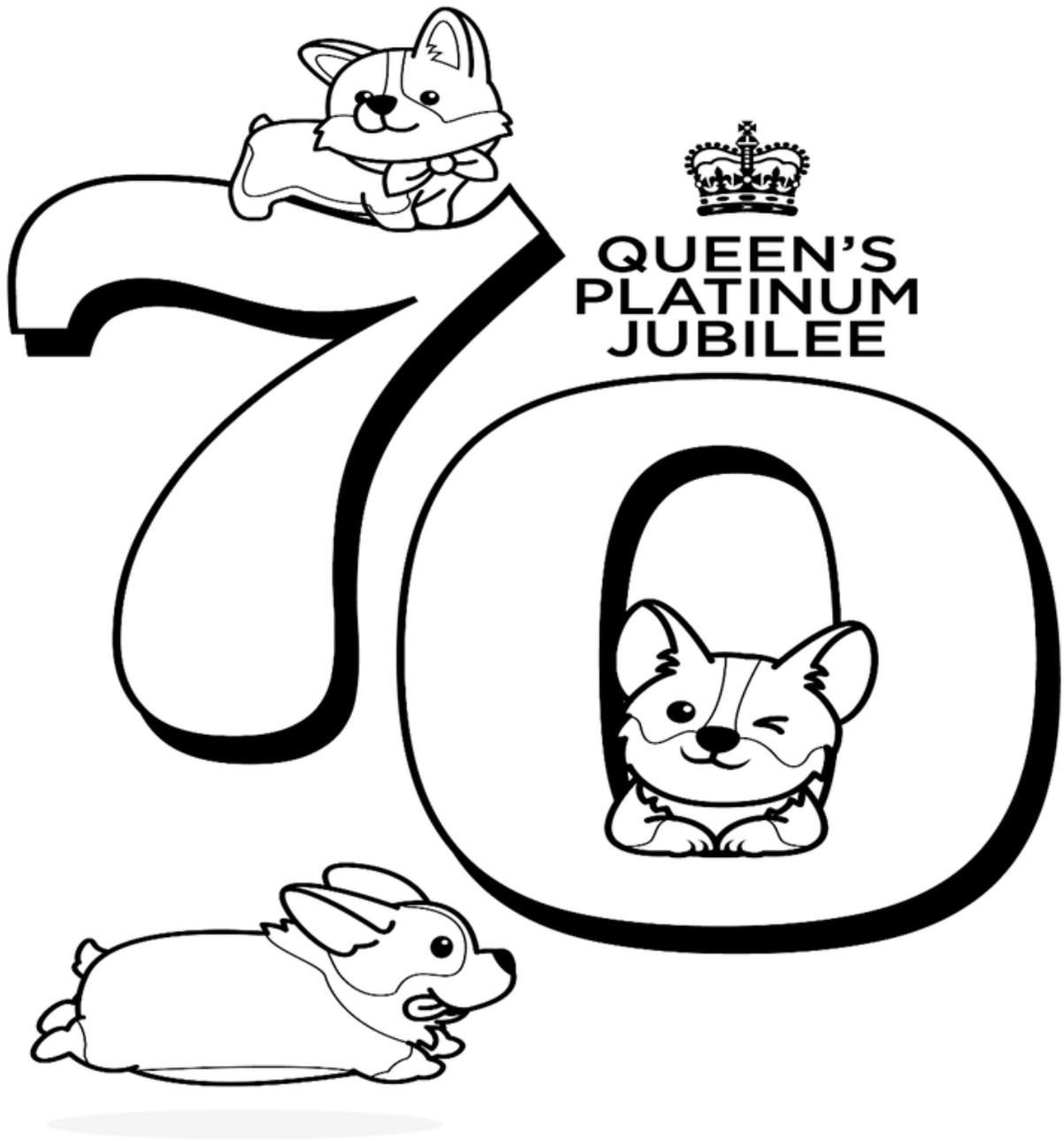
- | | |
|-------------------|----------|
| 1. 1926 | 6. Corgi |
| 2. Margaret | 7. 2010 |
| 3. King George VI | 8. True |
| 4. 26 | 9. 1932 |
| 5. 4 | 10. 70 |



1. On 9th September 2015, The Queen became the longest reigning Monarch in British history, surpassing the reign of her great-great-grandmother Queen Victoria. In a speech given on the historic day during an engagement in the Scottish Borders, Her Majesty said, "Inevitably a long life can pass by many milestones - my own is no exception - but I thank you all and the many others at home and overseas for your touching messages of great kindness."
2. Her Majesty is better travelled than any British Monarch before her. Within the Commonwealth alone, she has made over 150 visits during her reign.
3. The Queen has visited over 100 countries as Monarch, including Canada 22 times – more than any other country in the world - and France 13 times - more than any other country in Europe.
4. Her Majesty's first solo public engagement (as Princess Elizabeth) was on 21st April 1942, her sixteenth birthday, when – then Princess Elizabeth - she inspected the Grenadier Guards at Windsor Castle.
5. The Queen has carried out more than 21,000 engagements over the course of her reign.
6. Her Majesty has given Royal Assent to approximately 4,000 Acts of Parliament.
7. The Queen has hosted 112 incoming State Visits to the United Kingdom, including Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia (1954), Emperor Hirohito of Japan (1971), President Lech Wałęsa of Poland (1991) and President Barack Obama of the USA (2011).
8. Her Majesty is currently Patron of over 500 organisations, including: over 70 education and training organisations; over 60 sports and recreational organisation; over 30 faith organisations; and over 40 arts and cultural organisations.
9. The Queen has sent over 300,000 congratulatory cards to people celebrating their 100th birthdays, and over 900,000 messages to couples marking their Diamond (60th) Wedding Anniversaries.
10. At least 35 countries have issued coinage with the image of The Queen.



Jacob King/PA Wire/PA Images.



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Thank you for reading issue 48 of the Lairg Magazine! If you would like to submit something to the magazine, please send it to: projectofficer@lairginitiative.co.uk.

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