WHADDON

One Hundred Years of Coronation and Jubilee Celebrations

1902  2002

EDWARD VII  ELIZABETH II

1911  1977

1935  1953

1937

GEORGE V  GEORGE VI
WHADDON
CORONATION OF KING EDWARD VII.,
JUNE 26TH, 1902.

Programme

11 o'clock Service at Church.
1 " Dinner.
2.30 " Cricket Match.
4 " Climbing Pole for Leg of Mutton.

PRIZES

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>4.30</td>
<td>Races in Sacks</td>
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<td>Balancing Broomstick</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Tea</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Blindfolded Race</td>
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<td>7.30</td>
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<td>Women's Race</td>
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<td>Tug-of-War</td>
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<td>9.30</td>
<td>Bonfire and Fireworks</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Dancing</td>
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GOD SAVE THE KING

Balance Sheet

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<tr>
<td>Rev. Mr. &amp; Mrs. Taylor</td>
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<td>Edward VII.</td>
<td>2.5</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Taylor</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Taylor</td>
<td>15.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Turner</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Phillips</td>
<td>10.0</td>
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<td>Mr. Shaw</td>
<td>10.0</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<td>Cash in Hand</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>23.7</td>
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We would like to thank the Royston Crow for permission to reprint articles from the newspapers and long-standing residents of the village for loaning photographs. S & J Ralls, May 2002
**Coronation Celebrations**

This village had made all arrangements for great rejoicings on the Coronation of King Edward VII., on Thursday, June 26th, but on Tuesday when the sad news arrived that His Majesty was seriously ill, the people seemed dumbfounded. On Wednesday evening, the Vicar, the Rev. J. G. Eames, called a meeting of the Parish Council to decide what should be done, and as meat, cake, bread, &c., had arrived and been cooked, it was decided to meet all together and have the dinner and tea as first arranged and in accordance with the King's desire. There was a good programme of sports, fireworks, bonfire, band, &c. arranged, but this was cancelled until a future date. A service was conducted in the Church at 11 o'clock by the Vicar, a large number being present. Dinner and tea were served in a large tent erected with sets of hay poles and cloths, kindly lent for the occasion, and erected in the grounds of Mr. Alfred Coningsby, a most suitable place for it, and where the Jubilees of 1887 and 1897 were held. All the inhabitants of the parish attended, young and old, except a few who were ill, and something was sent to them. The Vicar and Mrs. Eames and Mr. J. Beaumont attended at dinner, the Vicar making some suitable remarks on His Majesty's illness. Mr. W. T. Nash was also present and kindly carved for the committee and helpers after the others had done. A cricket match was played in the afternoon, Married v Single, Single winning on the second innings; also a tug-of-war, Married winning easily, but no prizes. A vote of thanks to Mr. Coningsby for the use of his grounds, Mr. Nash and others who helped, terminated a very enjoyable day under the circumstances.

*Royston Crow July 4th 1902*

The King had an emergency operation for appendicitis on June 24th. Following the King's recovery the date of the actual Coronation was Saturday, August 9th, 1902.

**Celebrations on Coronation Day**

The fact that a substantial part of the original programme of Coronation festivities was carried out on June 26th, did not prevent the inhabitants of Whaddon from sharing in the common rejoicings on Saturday, August 9th. Tea was provided for all, and a very happy time was spent with amusing sport and fireworks in the evening. The school children were presented with Coronation mugs by the Vicar Rev. J. G. Eames.

*Royston Crow August 15th 1902*

**Coronation Celebrations**

The inhabitants of Whaddon celebrated the Coronation of King George Vth on Thursday, June 22nd, 1911 with a Service in the Church at 11 o'clock and at 1 o'clock dinner was provided in Mr Coningsby's barn. After dinner each child of 14 years and under was presented with a Coronation mug and sports followed in Mr Coningsby's field. Then tea was served in a large marquee and afterwards the Sports were continued followed by a large bonfire and dancing. The inhabitants were well entertained and spent a thoroughly enjoyable day.

*Royston Crow June 30th, 1911*

**Silver Jubilee**

Whaddon went really gay with Jubilee celebrations on Monday, May 6th 1935, and a right royal time was spent by young and old alike. The Committee are to be heartily congratulated upon the result of their strenuous efforts, and everything passed off wonderfully well.

A Thanksgiving Service was held in the church during the morning and was well-attended.

At 2.30 p.m. a cricket match Married versus Single took place, the Single eleven proving themselves victors. During the afternoon children's sports were much enjoyed, these had been arranged by the Juvenile Sports Committee. Tea for the children in the Church Room followed, and after mugs had been presented, photographs, etc., been taken, came the big event of the day, viz., a meat tea for all adults in the schoolroom. This had been transformed for the occasion, and the tables resembled those of a banqueting hall. Justice was done to the bounteous fare provided, and a toast to H. M. King George and Queen Mary was proposed.

In the evening the adults' sports were the special features, and were much enjoyed by entrants and spectators alike. In the tug o' war, the Singles were the winners. The darkness then compelled the folks again to return to the schoolroom, where ample refreshments were served. A social to which many contributed, then followed. Songs sung by the older members present were much appreciated. Shortly before midnight, all joined hands in a chain of friendship, and sang "Auld Lang Syne." Mr. W. T. England, jnr. then proposed a vote of thanks to all who had worked so wholeheartedly to make the venture such a success. The singing of the National Anthem brought a long-to-be-remembered and much-talked-of day to a close.

*Royston Crow May 10th, 1935*
1935 SILVER JUBILEE

Watching the Cricket Match  Married v. Singles (Singles won)

A Meat Tea for the Adults  in the Schoolroom

Adult Sports

Tug of War  Married v. Singles (Singles won)  Wheelbarrow Race
1937
GEORGE VI
WHADDON CORONATION DAY PROGRAMME
MAY 12th 1937

10 a.m. Special Service in Church.
2 to 3 p.m. Fancy Dress Procession.
3.30 to 5 p.m. Children's and Adults' Sports in meadow near the School.
5 to 6 p.m. Meat Tea in School.
6 to 8 p.m. Continuation of Sports.
8 to 12 p.m. Musical Evening in School. It is requested that each person bring two plates, glass, knife, fork and spoon, also cup and saucer.

Coronation Festivities in Whaddon
The inclemency of the weather did not appear to materially dampen the ardour of the inhabitants of Whaddon who under a hard-working Committee, arranged and carried through a long-to-be-remembered Coronation programme of events.

The day began with service in church. The merrymakings commenced with a fancy dress parade with Mrs. Hale and Mrs. W. T. England, junr. in charge. This produced much merriment and was a highly successful feature, with many original and comical costumes.

As the sun shone for a brief space, all went to Mr. J. Coningsby's meadow for the sports which programme could not unfortunately be carried through.

A splendid repast followed consisting of a meat tea for adults and fruit tea for children. Ample justice was done to the bountiful fare provided. Toasts to the King and Queen were proposed by Mr. W. Parcell (Chairman of Committee). Each child was presented with a Coronation souvenir beaker. The King's speech was listened to with keen interest, the wireless set being lent for the occasion by Mr. H. Bishop. A musical evening arranged by Mrs. Hale and Mr. R. Jarman with Mr. H. T. Hinkins, as chairman, then took place. This was much enjoyed; each item being received with much applause. It is impossible to enumerate all the artists or to pick out any particular item for all were very good.

Special mention, however, should be made of the rendering of the traditional "Whitsuntide Song" by two old inhabitants, Messrs. J. and A. Smith. They were bedecked with ribbons and branches of oak, and it gave younger inhabitants an opportunity to hear this old song. Mr. Charles Hinkins' songs were also received with much gusto. Refreshments were served during the evening.

However, just after midnight, Mr. Parcell called for hearty cheers for the hard-working Committee and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and the National anthem concluded a very enjoyable time.

Whitsuntide Song
Now Whitsuntide is come you very well do know;
Come serve the Lord we must before we go;
Come serve him truly with all your mind and heart,
And then from heaven your soul shall never depart.

How do you know how long we have to live?
For when we die, O then what would we give
For to be sure of having our resting place,
Since we have run our sinful wretched race?

Down in those gardens where flowers grow in ranks,
Down on your knees and unto the Lord give thanks,
Down on your knees and pray both night and day,
Pray unto the Lord that he will lead you the right way.

Pray unto the Lord that angels he may bring,
And then in heaven your soul shall set and sing.

Both young and old, both rich and poor give ear;
Don't allow your children to lie both curse nor swear;
Pray do not allow them to keep ill company,
For that will surely bring them to shame and misery.

Come all those little children in all the streets we do meet,
All in their pastime so even and company,
So its how you may hear them lie, both curse and swear,
Before they do know one word of any prayer.

Now we may bring the royal branch of oak,
God bless our king and queen and all the royal folk,
God bless our king and queen and all this world beside,
Then the Lord will send us a merry Whitsuntide.

This was the last occasion on which the song was performed in the customary way.

It is recorded that c. 1900 men clad in knee stockings and beribboned coats processed through the village singing and placing sprigs of oak on all the houses. The placing of oak sprigs on houses and reference to them in the song suggests that the ceremony took place on Oak Apple Day (29th May).

Certainly few East Anglian children dared to go to school that day unless they were wearing oak leaves for being pinched, stung with nettles or being called 'roundheads.'

'Folklore of East Anglia' E. Porter 1974.

Royston Crow May 14th 1937
Fancy Dress Procession

Photographed outside the School
The two men arrowed are J and A Smith who sang the Whitmistle Song.

Procession in Bridge Street with its decorated houses
Coronation

June 2nd, 1953 will be well remembered by most of the people in Whaddon for many years to come. The Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second was celebrated in grand manner by almost every man, woman and child in the village.

The day commenced with a service in the Parish Church, conducted by Rev. Leighton Houghton, of Bassingbourn.

In spite of cold rain showers, a grand number of children and adults turned out for the fancy dress parade through the village. Shortly after 2.30 the procession left the Queen Adelaide and paraded round the village to the end of Bridge Street. Everyone agreed that it was a grand effort for such a small village.

Shortly after 4 p.m. the school was filled to capacity for the meat tea. Everyone in the village was invited and over the two sittings, 175 persons enjoyed the good things prepared for them by the Committee. Mr. T. Coningsby said grace and proposed a toast to the health of The Queen.

After tea, although the weather was cold, the Sports took place in New Close as arranged, and while they were going on, the tea tables were cleared and a stage was erected in the School ready for the evening.

At approximately 8 p.m., the proceedings were started by Miss Andrews presenting the sports prizes. This was followed by a very good hour's entertainment by the children under the direction of Mrs. Frey and Miss Diver.

After the children had done their bit, local entertainers kept the crowded hall in good humour with songs, monologues, sketches, community singing etc. During the evening there were refreshments of all kinds. Shortly after midnight, a happy but tired crowd of Whaddon folk rose and sang the National Anthem and went home to bed.

Royston Crow June 12th 1953

The Jubilee Crown 1977

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Silver Jubilee

A Jubilee Committee was set up early in the year to discuss what money could be raised to provide for the celebrations and something permanent for the village. A seat which is situated outside the Village Hall was bought.

WHADDON JUBILEE FUND RAISING EVENTS AND PROGRAMME 1977

March 5th  
Bring & Buy Whaddon W.I.  
(Contribution to fund £140).
April 30th  
Bring & Buy. Mrs. Butler & Mrs. Jarman  
Jarman Village Hall 2.00 p.m.
May 12th  
Whist Drive  
Whist Drive Hall 7.30 p.m.
June 9th  
Display by The Band of The Queen's Division. Recreation Ground 7.00 p.m.
June 25th  
Presentation of Jubilee Crowns.  
Wine & Cheese Party Village Hall 8.00 p.m.
October 1st  
Barn Dance & Barbecue.
Musical Evening Whaddon Church.

As many visitors were away from Whaddon on Tuesday, the 7th, the main event was on Thursday when the Junior Band and Drums of the Queen's Division at Bassingbourn marched through part of the village to the playing field where they performed the "Beating Retreat Ceremony".

This was made possible by kind permission of the Commanding Officer, Lt. Col H du V Lohan and though the weather was rather unkind many attended to witness this stirring ceremony.

The Commanding Officer with Mrs. du V Lohan, came along and presented the children with Jubilee Crowns which the organising committee had been able to purchase. The chairman of Whaddon Parish Council, Mr. J Law, welcomed the Colonel and Mrs. du V Lohan and thanked him for allowing this fine spectacle to be seen in Whaddon. Everyone then made their way to the Village Hall where ample supplies of tasty food were served - helped down by good supplies of wine and beer. The hall had been tastefully decorated in red, white and blue and all this very impressive occasion to mark the Queen's Silver Jubilee.

Mr. B. Cook, the chairman of the Jubilee Committee thanked everyone who had worked so hard in providing the food and making everything such a success for the evening.

Royston Crow 17th June 1977
1953 CORONATION

Fancy Dress Parade

Outside Home Cottages

Passing Town Farm

In Bridge Street