



CREWE
TOWN COUNCIL
CREWE



Crewe's Royal Visits and Coronation Celebrations

Platinum Jubilee

In February 2022, Queen Elizabeth II celebrated her Platinum Jubilee after becoming Queen of the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries in February 1952.

A Platinum Jubilee is the celebration of the 70th year as a reigning Monarch.

This year, Crewe is celebrating its 185 year history which started with Crewe Station opening on the 4th July 1937.

This was just 2 weeks after Queen Victoria became Queen on the 20th June 1837.

In these 185 years of Crewe existing, there have been a total of 6 Monarchs on the throne.

One of these Monarchs, Queen Elizabeth II, will be the first to celebrate their Platinum Jubilee and has become the longest reigning Monarch in British history.

This also means it is the first Platinum Jubilee ever in British history!

Her Platinum Jubilee will be officially celebrated on the 2nd June- 5th June. This is when there will be a special bank holiday weekend where people will celebrate.

All over the country, there will be people celebrating with dances, parades, pageants and parties!



- **What is a Commonwealth country?**
- **How are you going to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee?**
- **Have you celebrated a Royal event before?**
- **If you have, what did you do?**
- **In the past, there have been other Royal events celebrated like Royal visits to Crewe and Coronations.**
- **Let's take a look at how the people of Crewe in the past have celebrated these events.**
- **See if you can pick up any inspiration for your own Platinum Jubilee weekend celebrations.**

Decorations

In the past, the people of Crewe have welcomed Royal visitors to the town and celebrated Coronations and Jubilees by displaying bunting in the streets and in shops and houses.

A Coronation is when someone officially becomes the King or Queen!

On the 22nd June 1911, King George V was officially Coronated. He was the Grandfather to our current Queen Elizabeth II. Bunting was displayed by all the shops and Crewe Municipal Buildings were covered in 500 fairy lights.

Children also waved flags and banners in the street.

On the 21st April 1913, King George V and Queen Mary visited Crewe. They were met at the train station with flags and streamers waved by the people of Crewe.



- **Take a look below at the pictures of this happening. You can see the decorations used to celebrate Coronations in Crewe and Royal visits to Crewe.**
- **What decorations did they use?**
- **How were they decorated?**
- **How else did they celebrate in the pictures?**
- **What else do you notice?**
- **What decorations will you make for your Jubilee celebration?**



King George V Coronation in 1911

Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



King George V Coronation in 1911

Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



King George V visit in 1913, Victoria Street

Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



King George V visit in 1913, Nantwich Road with the junction of Mill Street

Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



King George V and Queen Mary visit to Crewe on the 21st April 1913.

Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



Waiting for King George and Queen Mary to arrive on the Royal Train at Crewe Station in 1913

Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



King George V and Queen Mary's arrival at Crewe Station in 1913

Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



Chester Bridge, Crewe showing the two cabs used to transport King George V and his Royal party around Crewe when he visited in 1913.

Credit: National Railway Museum



Victoria Street, Crewe before the Royal visit in 1913



Edleston Road, Crewe before the Royal visit in 1913



West Street, Crewe. Children awaiting the Royal Procession during the Royal visit in 1913.



Edleston Road, Crewe before the Royal visit in 1913



Nantwich Road looking towards Crewe Station before the Royal visit in 1913



Nantwich Road looking towards Crewe Station before the Royal visit in 1913



Crewe Station before the Royal visit in 1913



Looking up the High Street towards Edleston Road before the Royal visit in 1913



At the junction of Market Street and Victoria Street before the Royal visit in 1913



Edleston Road looking South from Chester Bridge before the Royal visit in 1913



Victoria Street, Crewe before the Royal visit in 1913



Crewe Arms Hotel before the Royal visit in 1913

Design and make your own Royal Bunting

You've just examined pictures which showed how people celebrated Coronations in Crewe in the past.

Did you notice the bunting?

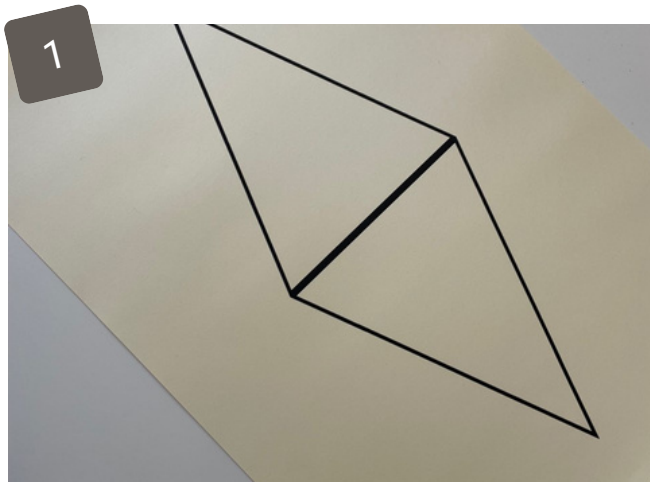
Bunting has traditionally been used in the UK to decorate streets and houses to celebrate different events- the end of the war, royal coronations and summer parties.

Bunting is in the shape of a triangle.

Let's try designing and making our own bunting.



- **Try and show off your creativity!**
- **What story do you want your bunting to show?**
- **Where will you get your inspiration from?**
- **Will your bunting be colourful?**
- **Will your bunting have a pattern?**
- **What reaction do you want to get from people when they see your bunting?**



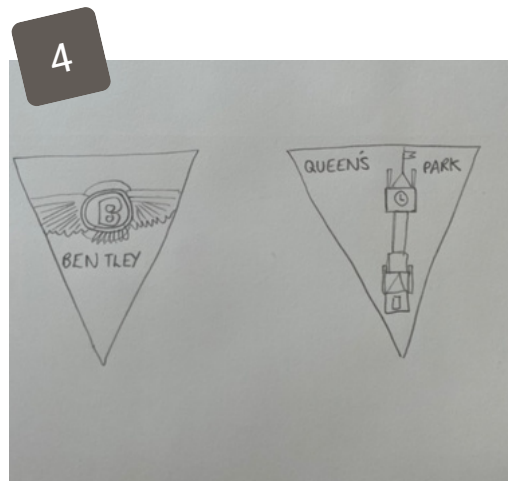
Start by printing out the bunting template on A3 or A2 paper. You can use either of the templates or both. You might want to print them on card.



Cut the shape out with scissors. You can decide if you want to keep the outline or not.



You might want to practice your design first and think about your colours, patterns and designs you want to feature on your bunting.



WHAT WILL YOU NEED

Bunting templates

Paper

Pens and colouring pencils

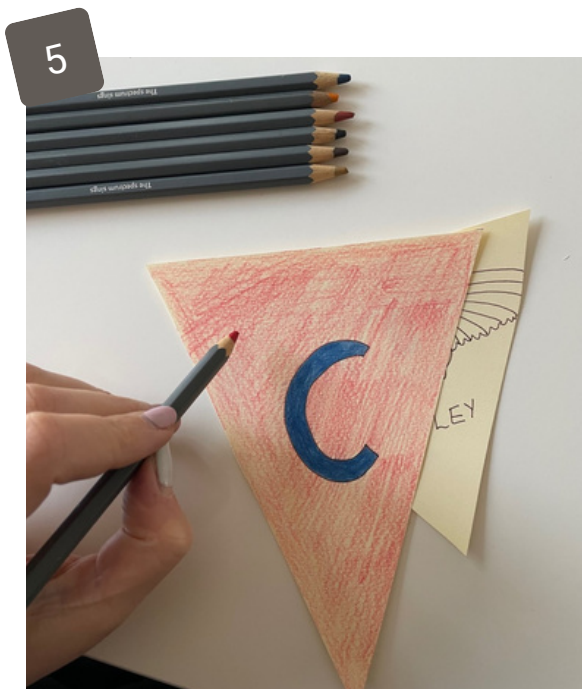
Scissors

String or ribbon

Pencil

Rubber

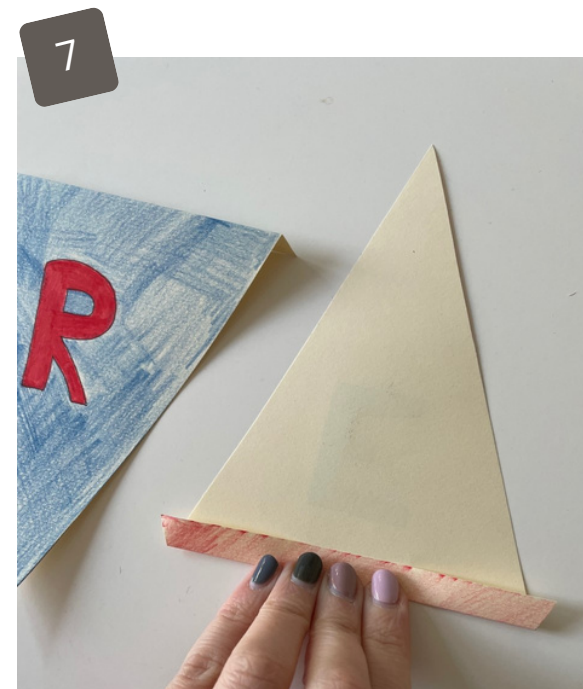
Tape



When you feel comfortable with your design, you can begin to draw your designs onto your bunting.

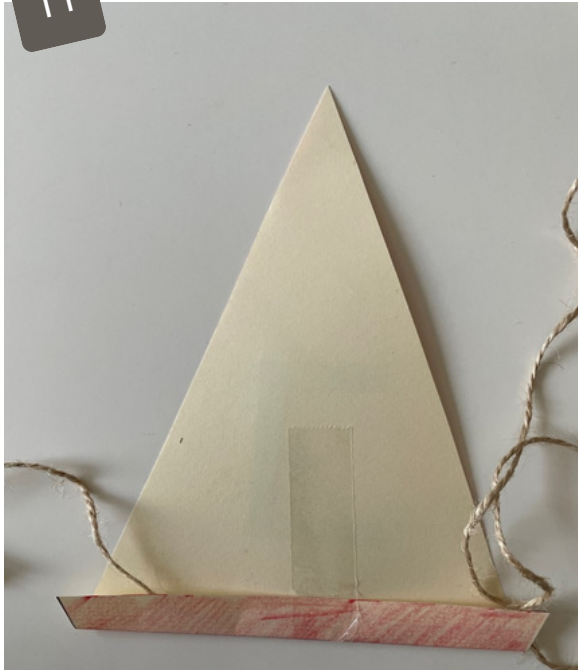


You can cut smaller triangles out of the template if you want too.



Turn your triangle over and fold over the top part.

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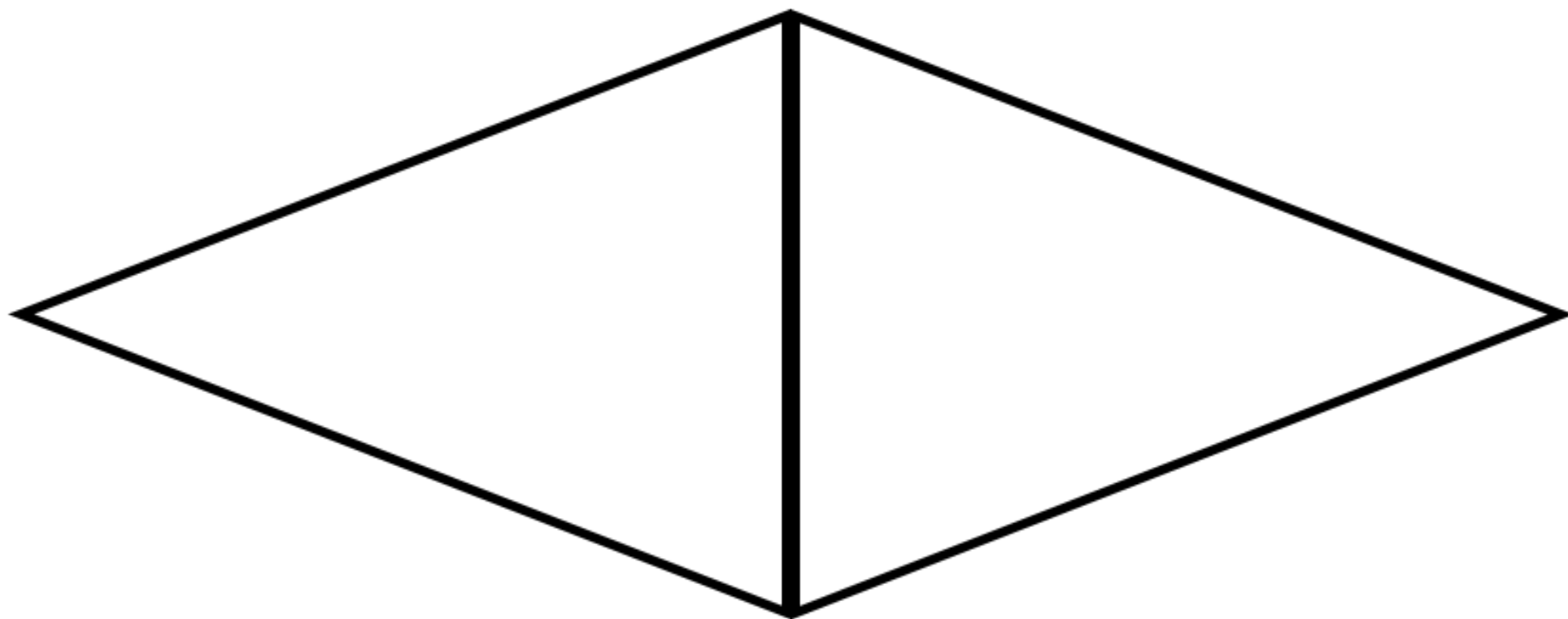


Turn your triangle over and fold over the top part. Secure in place with tape.

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Hang your bunting somewhere for everyone to see!



Street Parties

In the past, people in Crewe have had street parties to celebrate Royal visits, Coronations and Jubilees.

King George VI was officially coronated in 1937. He was Queen Elizabeth II's father. People celebrated by holding tea parties at school and in the street and having a competition for the best decorated party! The Crewe Chronicle in 1937 commented that "few towns of its size and character celebrated the Coronation more loyally than Crewe. The entire population gave itself to rejoicing."

When Queen Elizabeth II was officially Coronated in June 1953, people in Crewe had tea parties on the street with sandwiches, jellies and ice cream!



- **Take a look at the pictures below to see how people in Crewe celebrated Royal events with street parties.**
- **What else do you think they are eating?**
- **What would you like to eat at a street party?**
- **How have they decorated their party?**
- **How has this inspired you to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's Jubilee?**
- **Do you have any relatives who celebrated the Coronation in 1953. Ask them what they did and how they celebrated.**
- **What food will you eat at your Jubilee celebrations?**



CORONATION DAY TEA PARTY MAY 12TH 1937.
BOROUGH GIRLS SENIOR SCHOOL CREWE.

King George VI's Coronation being celebrated at Borough Girls Senior School in Crewe in 1937.

Credit: Crewe Library



Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation Street Party in 1952

Credit: Robert Slinn

A Royal Welcome

People in Crewe have welcomed Royal visits in different ways in the past.

King George V and Queen Mary visited Crewe in April 1913 and they were welcomed with people lining the streets on their way to visit Crewe Works, The Webb Orphanage and the Railway Hospital. They were met by Foden's Band who played the National Anthem.

King George VI and the Queen Mother visited Crewe in 1940 along with the then Princess Elizabeth, who was visiting Crewe for the first time. It was 1 year into World War 2 and it was a strange and uncertain time for Britain. The trip was part of a wider country tour to boost the country's morale and give encouragement. They were welcomed by people at Crewe Alexandra as well as the Rolls- Royce shadow factory where they observed engineers making Merlin engines for war planes. Most of the workers there were women and the Queen was interested in their work. They were greeted by Foden's Band who played songs for them.

Queen Elizabeth II has also visited Crewe a number of different times as the reigning Monarch. She visited in 1977 and took a look around Leighton Hospital as well as in 1987, opening the Crewe Heritage Centre. She was welcomed at the station by the people of Crewe waving flags and banners.



- **Take a look at the pictures below.**
- **How have royalty been welcomed to Crewe in the past?**
- **How would you welcome Queen Elizabeth II to Crewe now?**



Foden's Band welcoming King George and Queen Mary in 1913

Credit: fodensbandheritage.co.uk



King George and Queen Mary at Crewe Hall in 1913

Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



King George VI and the Queen Mother meeting Fred Mortimer of Foden's Band in 1940.

Credit: fodensbandheritage.co.uk



King George VI and the Queen Mother meeting Fred Mortimer of Foden's Band in 1940.

Credit: fodensbandheritage.co.uk



King George VI, the Queen Mother and Princess Elizabeth greeting Foden's Band in 1940.

Credit: fodensbandheritage.co.uk



Queen Elizabeth II visiting the Crewe Heritage Centre in 1987

Credit: Crewe Heritage Centre



Queen Elizabeth II visiting the Crewe Heritage Centre in 1987

Credit: Crewe Heritage Centre


Write a letter to the Queen

We want you to write a letter to Queen Elizabeth II telling her about Crewe and inviting her to visit.

Queen Elizabeth II reads almost all of her letters every day, shown to her by her Private Secretaries.



- **Plan the different paragraphs in your letter- the introduction, the main text and the final paragraph.**
- **Begin by congratulating her on her Platinum Jubilee. This means she will have been Queen of England for 70 years.**
- **Invite her to Crewe.**
- **Why should she visit?**
- **What should she see in Crewe?**
- **Who should she meet in Crewe?**
- **What will happen once the Queen arrives in Crewe?**
- **What else do you think she should do on her visit?**
- **How will this help Crewe?**
- **How will this help the Queen?**
- **How do you plan on welcoming the Queen? Will you use inspiration from past celebrations?**
- **How will you sign off on your letter?**



**Her Majesty The Queen
Buckingham Palace
London SW1A 1AA**

Events in Crewe

Crewe has celebrated Royal events in the past with celebrations going on for days.

There have been concerts, competitions and performances.



- **Read the programmes below.**
- **How did Crewe celebrate King George V's coronation?**
- **How did Crewe celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's coronation?**
- **Think about Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee.**
- **Can you plan the Jubilee celebration events for your class or group?**
- **How long will your celebrations last for?**
- **What celebrations and events will you include?**
- **Can you make a programme for all of these events?**

CORONATION CELEBRATIONS IN CREWE & DISTRICT.

DECORATIONS AND ILLUMINATIONS.

11,000 CHILDREN ENTERTAINED & 600 OLD PEOPLE.

PROCESSIONS THROUGH THE STREETS.

SCENES AT THE QUEEN'S PARK.

TREE PLANTING BY THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN BADGER.

HUGE BONFIRE.

INTERESTING PRESENTATIONS.

The Crewe Chronicle advertising King George V's coronation celebrations in 1911.

THE DECORATIONS.

In addition to the main streets of the town, many of the side streets were very prettily decorated. There was hardly a business house or a private residence without some decorative display.

High-street, which lends itself to the art of decorations more than most of the thoroughfares, was most attractive, and the streamers from either sides of the road produced a pretty effect.

In Eaton-street streamers of flags spanned the thoroughfare along the entrance to the Works. The L. and N.W. Ry. Co.'s offices on Chester Bridge were exquisitely decorated, and had as a centre piece the initials of the King and Queen. Various coloured electric lights illuminated the decorations in the evening and provided a very pretty spectacle. Coppenhall-terrace with its crescent of trees was also a scene of much colour, and the shopkeepers vied with one another in producing the most effective display. The Mayor's residence had not been overlooked. In the trees were fairy lamps, and these were very pretty with the reflection of illuminations. The Manchester, Liverpool and District Bank wore its loyal garb of flags and streamers, and turning round into Earle-street, the Municipal Offices came in for admiration. In the centre of the decorations were handsome pictures of the King and Queen, and Mr. H. H. Denton, the borough electrical engineer, had very tastefully arranged the electrical illuminations. They reflected great credit upon him and his assistant, Mr. Hooley. At night the building with its different coloured lights presented a pleasing spectacle. Victoria-street was not behind in its manifestations of loyalty, and the decorations were most elaborate. The same remark applied to Hightown and West-

street. Coming back to the Co-operative Society's establishment in Market-street, there were hundreds of small flags festooned across from their various departments and electric lights were everywhere displayed. Among the other principal thoroughfares tastefully decorated were Nantwich-road, Mill-street, and Edleston-road. The Police Station in Edleston-road compared favourably with any of the public buildings of the town in the matter of decoration, and looked exceedingly neat and pretty, a large photo of the King being surrounded with evergreens. Last but not least was the brave show of flags and streamers along Wistaston-road and Victoria-avenue to the Queen's Park. The Park entrance was rich in its show of streamers and other decorative material. It is many years since the town looked so pretty. The Royal Hotel and Parr's Bank were profusely bedecked with streamers, and in many of the streets were congratulatory notices and photos of the King and Queen.

The Crewe Chronicle advertising King George V's coronation celebrations in 1911.

Borough of
Crewe



Coronation
Souvenir
Programme



May 12th, 1937

Borough of Crewe



G R

Coronation
Of His Majesty
King George VI
12th May, 1937.

SF/CREW/04



K. B. EDWARDS, Esq.
Town Clerk.

Borough of Crewe

OFFICIAL SOUVENIR PROGRAMME

MONDAY, MAY 10th, 1937

A CHILDREN'S FANCY DRESS BALL

(Organised by the Mayor of Crewe's Charity
Committee)

will be held at the **TOWN HALL, CREWE**

BLUE KITTENS BAND

Dancing 6 p.m. until 11 p.m. Tickets 2/6 each (inclusive).
PROCEEDS IN AID OF THE CREWE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

TUESDAY, MAY 11th, 1937

PRIZES WILL BE OFFERED FOR THE BEST DECORATED STREETS

and the Street Judging will take place at 2.30 p.m.

JUDGES:

North Ward:

Alderman W. R. Foulkes
H. Probert, Esq.
A. E. Wooldridge, Esq.

West Ward:

Councillor F. Farr, J.P.
Councillor Mrs. E. L. Mossford
Powell, J.P.
Councillor H. Jones, J.P.

South Ward:

His Worship The Mayor
The Mayoress
Councillor Mrs. F. E. White

Central Ward:

Alderman Mrs. E. Powell
Councillor Mrs. E. Thewlis, J.P.
Councillor A. Whitney

A CORONATION CARNIVAL MASKED BALL

(organised by the Mayor of Crewe's Charity Committee)

will be held at the

TOWN HALL, CREWE

BLUE KITTENS BAND

Dancing 9 p.m. until 3 a.m. Tickets 6/6 each (inclusive).
PROCEEDS IN AID OF THE CREWE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

CORONATION DAY

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12th, 1937

In case of inclement weather, the Coronation Day celebrations, with the exception of the United Religious Service, will be postponed until Saturday, May 15th, 1937, in which event the Band Concert arranged for that evening on the Market Square will be cancelled. The programme in Queen's Park, if postponed until Saturday, May 15th, 1937, will be slightly modified.

9.45 a.m. A PUBLIC RELIGIOUS SERVICE

will be held on the

MARKET SQUARE, CREWE.

(or if wet in the Trinity Methodist Church, Mill Street, Crewe)
commencing at 9.45 a.m.

The Service which will be attended by His Worship The Mayor (Alderman Frank Bott), the Corporation and other public bodies, will be conducted by the Mayor's Chaplain (Rev. Bruce H. White), assisted by the Revs. Sydney T. Stevens, and W. W. Evans.

11 a.m. (approximately).

A BROADCAST OF THE

CORONATION SERVICE

from Westminster Abbey, will be relayed on the
MARKET SQUARE at 11 a.m.

2.30 p.m.

A BAND CONCERT

by the

CREWE TEMPERANCE SILVER PRIZE BAND

(Conductor: A. W. Truman)

will be given on the

MARKET SQUARE at 2.30 p.m.

CORONATION DAY CELEBRATIONS IN QUEEN'S PARK, CREWE

2.30 p.m.

A DISPLAY OF

PHYSICAL TRAINING and COUNTRY DANCING

will be given at 2.30 p.m. in Queen's Park, by
Senior School Children

3.30 p.m.

THE OFFICIAL OPENING of the

CORONATION WALK

by **HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN FRANK BOTT)**

will take place in Queen's Park, at 3.30 p.m.

CORONATION DAY CELEBRATIONS IN QUEEN'S PARK—Contd.

3.45 p.m. (Approximately)

CORONATION TREE PLANTING CEREMONY
will be performed by MEMBERS of the CREWE TOWN COUNCIL
in commemoration of the Coronation of
Their Majesties **KING GEORGE VI & QUEEN ELIZABETH**

2.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. **BAND CONCERT**

THE CREWE WEST END SILVER BAND
(Conductor: J. H. Cowdall)
will play selections of Light Music
from the Bandstand, Queen's Park, Crewe, between 2.30 p.m. and 5 p.m.

4.30 p.m. **GRAND TUG-O'-WAR MATCH**

in the Queen's Park, Crewe, between
THE CREWE TOWN COUNCIL and
THE CREWE CORPORATION OFFICIALS

6 p.m. **TUG-O'-WAR COMPETITION**

in Queen's Park, Crewe, comprising teams from the
CHESHIRE COUNTY CONSTABULARY (Crewe Division)
CREWE CORPORATION ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT
CREWE CORPORATION HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
CREWE CORPORATION PARKS DEPARTMENT

6.20 p.m. **GRAND AMBULANCE DISPLAY**

(including Life Saving from a Burning Building)
in Queen's Park, Crewe, at 6.20 p.m., by
THE L.M.S. MACHINE SHOP AMBULANCE TEAM

7 p.m. to 10.15 p.m. **BAND CONCERT**

THE CREWE TEMPERANCE SILVER PRIZE BAND
(Conductor: A. W. Truman)
will play selections of Light Music
from the Bandstand, Queen's Park, Crewe, between 7 p.m. and 10.15 p.m.

7.20 p.m. **A BROADCAST OF THE ADDRESS OF
HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE VI**
and of the
EMPIRE ADDRESSES

will be relayed in the Queen's Park, Crewe, between 7.20 p.m. and 8 p.m.

CORONATION DAY CELEBRATIONS IN QUEEN'S PARK—Contd.

8.15 p.m. **SINGING BY MASED CHOIRS**

and

COMMUNITY SINGING

under the Conductorship of W. Dunning, Esq., A.R.C.O., Hon. R.C.M.,
accompanied by the CREWE WEST END SILVER PRIZE BAND,
will take place near the lake, Queen's Park.

9.15 p.m. **ILLUMINATIONS**

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN FRANK BOTT)
will switch on the Illuminations in Queen's Park, Crewe, at 9.15 p.m.
The illuminations will be continued during the remaining evenings in
the week.

10.15 p.m. **God Save the King**

THURSDAY, MAY 13th, 1937

A BAND CONCERT

THE CREWE TEMPERANCE SILVER PRIZE BAND

(Conductor: A. W. Truman)

will play selections of Light Music on the Market Square, Crewe,
between 8 p.m. and 10.15 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 14th, 1937

A BAND CONCERT

THE CREWE WEST END SILVER PRIZE BAND

(Conductor: J. H. Cowdall)

will play selections of Light Music on the Market Square, Crewe,
between 8 p.m. and 10.15 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 15th, 1937

CORONATION TREAT

for the old people, the blind, and disabled ex-servicemen
will take place in the

BOROUGH SCHOOLS, CREWE

Tea at 4.30 p.m.

A BAND CONCERT

THE CREWE WEST END SILVER BAND

(Conductor: J. H. Cowdall)

will play selections of Light Music on the Market Square, Crewe,
between 8 p.m. and 10.15 p.m.



Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



PROGRAMME OF CORONATION EVENTS

Friday and Saturday, 29th and 30th May.

Market Hall—Best Dressed Stall Competition.

Sunday, 31st May.

3 p.m., Religious Service, Queen's Park.

Monday 1st June.

7 p.m., Dancing Display by the Roycroft School of Dancing, on stage, Queen's Park.

8 p.m. to 11.30 p.m., Open Air Dancing outside Municipal Buildings, Earle Street.

Fun Fair, King George V Playing Fields.

Tuesday, 2nd June, Coronation Day.

His Worship the Mayor and the Mayoress will visit Street Parties throughout the Borough.

8 p.m. to 11.30 p.m., Open Air Dancing, Earle Street.

Fun Fair King George V Playing Fields.

Wednesday, 3rd June.

2.30 p.m., Baby Show, Corn Exchange sponsored by the Crewe Chronicle.

7.15 p.m., **Swimming Gala** and the Choosing of Swimming Queen, Municipal Baths.

6.30 p.m., Dancing Display by the Hancock School of Dancing, on stage, Queen's Park.

8.15 p.m., Merlin Male Voice Choir, on stage, Queen's Park.

8 p.m. to 11.30 p.m., Open Air Dancing, Earle Street.

Fun Fair, King George V Playing Fields.

Thursday, 4th June.

7 p.m., Punch and Judy Show, Queen's Park (at intervals).

7.30 p.m., Show by combined Scouts and Girl Guides, on stage, Queen's Park.

8 p.m. to 11.30 p.m., Open Air Dancing, Earle Street.

9 p.m. to 2 a.m., **Coronation Ball**, Town Hall.

Fun Fair, King George V Playing Fields.

Friday, 5th June.

Flag Day for the Mayor's Charity Committee.

7 p.m., Punch and Judy Show, Queen's Park (at intervals).

7 p.m., Dancing Display by the Ratigan School of Dancing, on the Stage, Queen's Park.

8 p.m. to 11.30 p.m., Open Air Dancing, Earle Street.

Fun Fair, King George V Playing Fields.

Saturday, 6th June.

Flag Day for the Mayor's Charity Committee.

2 p.m., **Grand Procession** of King and Queen of Carnival, Miss Crewe, Swimming Queen, Dancing Troupes, Jazz Bands, Fancy Dress Characters, Tableaux, Trade Displays, etc.

Carnival and Fete, Queen's Park and King George V Playing Fields

12.45 p.m., Park Opens to the Public.

1.0 p.m., Bowling Tournament (Final Rounds).

50 Class Open Dog Show (Benched).

Cage Birds Show.

2.0 p.m., Tennis Tournament (Finals).

2.30 p.m., Children's Sports.

2.30 to 8.0 p.m., (approx.) Continuous entertainment including Dancing Displays, Choirs, Alsatian Dog Displays, Magicians, Ventriloquists, etc.

3.0 p.m., (approx.) Arrival of Carnival Procession.

Official Opening by His Worship the Mayor.

3.30 p.m., Jazz Band and Dancing Troupe Competition.

Judging of Fancy Dress Characters, etc.

4.30 p.m., approx. } Display of Motor Cycle Trick Riding.

7.30 p.m.

7.15 p.m., Amateur Boxing.

8.0 p.m., Dancing in Arena near Bandstand.

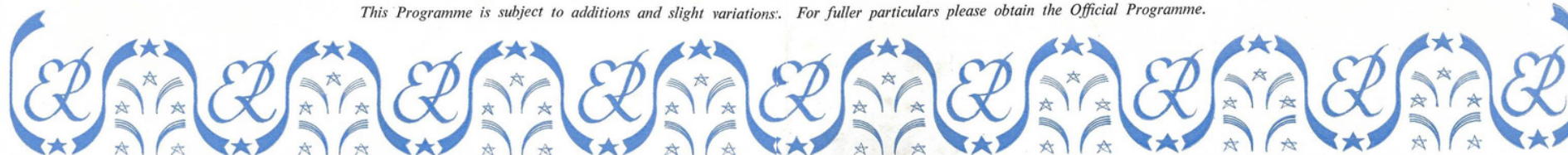
Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 15th, 17th and 19th June.

7.0 p.m., Performances of "Merrie England" on the Stage, Queen's Park.

9th, 11th, 16th and 30th June.

4.0 p.m., Ward Coronation Parties for Old People.

This Programme is subject to additions and slight variations. For fuller particulars please obtain the Official Programme.



Competitions

To celebrate Royal events, people in Crewe have held competitions as part of their celebrations.

When Queen Elizabeth II was officially coronated in 1953, people in Crewe had dressing up as the Queen competitions, egg and spoon races, sports races and best dressed street competitions.



- **Take a look at the pictures below.**
- **They show people in Crewe in 1953 holding competitions to celebrate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.**
- **Can you do an egg and spoon race? Who won?**
- **What other competitions can you do?**
- **Will you sing?**
- **Will you dance?**
- **What will you wear?**
- **What music will you play?**



Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation Street Party in 1952

Credit: Robert Slinn



Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation Street Party in 1952

Credit: Robert Slinn



Watch the videos on our website from British Pathé to see:

- **King George VI and Queen Elizabeth visit Crewe in 1940.**
- **Princess Margaret visiting the Rolls- Royce Factory in Crewe in 1962.**
- **Princess Mary visiting Crewe Memorial Hospital in 1928.**