

Dear Parishioners

Thank you for the opportunity in allowing us to present a report on the Celebrations to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen. I am sorry I am not able to be here in person but by the time you read this I will be hopefully on my way home from Europe. Our village has celebrated Jubilees, Coronations and other events for over a thousand years on the market place of our now village green in the shadow of our ancient royal Castle and I am fortunate to be the seventh generation of my family to help organise such events.

Together with Thirza Shaw and Gerald Brown, we have been organsing a program me of events since May of last year. We have been supported by the Parish Council, Palmers (Haughley) Limited, the Festival of Suffolk, the Church and School and many other local organisations.

We have a Four Day Programme of Events with the main Celebrations focusing on two;

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June we will be holding a Jubilee Fair on the Village Green. Parishioners have been invited to Picnic on the surrounding Greens and events at the Fair will include Stalls, Games, Merry Go Round, Swing Boats, Cream Teas, Stowmarket Concert Band, Punch & Judy, Coconut Shy, Animals, Children's Fancy Dress and Scarecrow Competitions, Refreshments, Music, Ice Cream Face Painting, Bell Ringing, Hot Dogs & Burgers and a Film Show with most events staged by local villagers and organisations. Palmers Bakery, the Old Counting House and The Kings Arms will be also be open

A Children's Fancy Dress, Scarecrow Competition & Queen Victoria Cake Competition will be judged on Bakery Forecourt by local figures followed by the presentation of prizes. All the School and Pre School Children will also receive a special commemorative Jubilee Mug from the Palmer Family as is traditional.

Later that evening there will be a Fireworks Display, preceded by the National Anthem and a Torch lit Procession up Old Street, which will commence at 10pm for approximately 10 minutes and can be viewed from the Safe Vantage point of Haughley Village Green. The Torch lit Procession will assemble at 9.30pm at Cock Corner by the Bus Shelter and will leave off at 9.45pm

On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June at 8pm, Haughley will dedicates its Jubilee Beacon on the Village Green and will join thousands of towns, villages, cities and mountain tops across the United Kingdom & Commonwealth in lighting a chain of Beacons at 9.45pm; following a dedication our two oldest Haughley born residents, Mr. Kenneth Coleman and Mrs. Hazel Leggett have been invited to carry out this honour. There will be a Barbeque from 8pm and the Kings Arms and Old Counting House Restaurant will be open. The Beacon is Haughley's permanent commemoration of the Jubilee and it is hoped it will be used for many events over the coming years.

A Jubilee Church Service will be held at 11am on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June followed by Refreshments and the Haughley Community Choir will be holding a Special Jubilee Concert at the Church on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

Whilst each Household will receive a Commemorative Programme other events are also being held or have taken place; - the planting of Oaks as part of the Queens Green Canopy at Gallowsfield Wood and the Cricket, a Clean for the Queen Litter Pick, Commemorative Display, the Restoration of the Church Clock and a Cascade of Knitted Flowers from the Church Tower by the Haughley Community of Knitters

After a somewhat traumatic few years for the world it will be a chance for people to gather and appreciate their neighbours and the environment; to bring together the community for this momentous occasion and create memories for future generations to come and perhaps encourage everyone to hold future events.

Kieron Palmer





