

St. David's Residents' Memories of 70 years ago –

prompted by the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Glimpses of the Royal Family

Brian remembers the Queen's Silver Jubilee -
My wife Daphne, son Philip & I went on a train trip on the DELTIC 55 diesel engine from King's Cross London to Edinburgh on a day trip.



Jenny described her visit to the Trooping of the Colours and the planes flying over - it was "just wonderful."

I was going out with an Irish Guardsman who played the bagpipes that day, they were magnificent, we had wonderful times in London. Some of the men toppled over as they stood to attention.



Noel told us about visiting Hamleys, in London as a small boy with his mother. I liked to visit the trains displayed on the first floor but that day my mother had taken me to an upper floor of the store, I think that she may have been getting ready for Christmas! I was standing with my mother at one counter and at another counter I noticed two girls with a lady. As I looked at them some more, I realised that it was the Queen Mother with Princess Elizabeth & Princess Margaret. I whispered to my mother that the girls looked like the princesses. She looked over and realised that there was no one else on the floor and she was as shocked as I was. My mother curtsied and I doffed my cap, as it was the only thing that I could think to do. The Queen Mother turned round and smiled kindly at us.

Winn said,

"When Princess Elizabeth was 8 years old, she and her family lived at 145 Piccadilly at the entrance to Hyde Park.

At this time, I worked as an under-nanny for a family whose garden ran alongside theirs.

I would often see Elizabeth playing hide and seek in the garden with her younger sister, Margaret Rose sitting in her pushchair who was 3 years old."



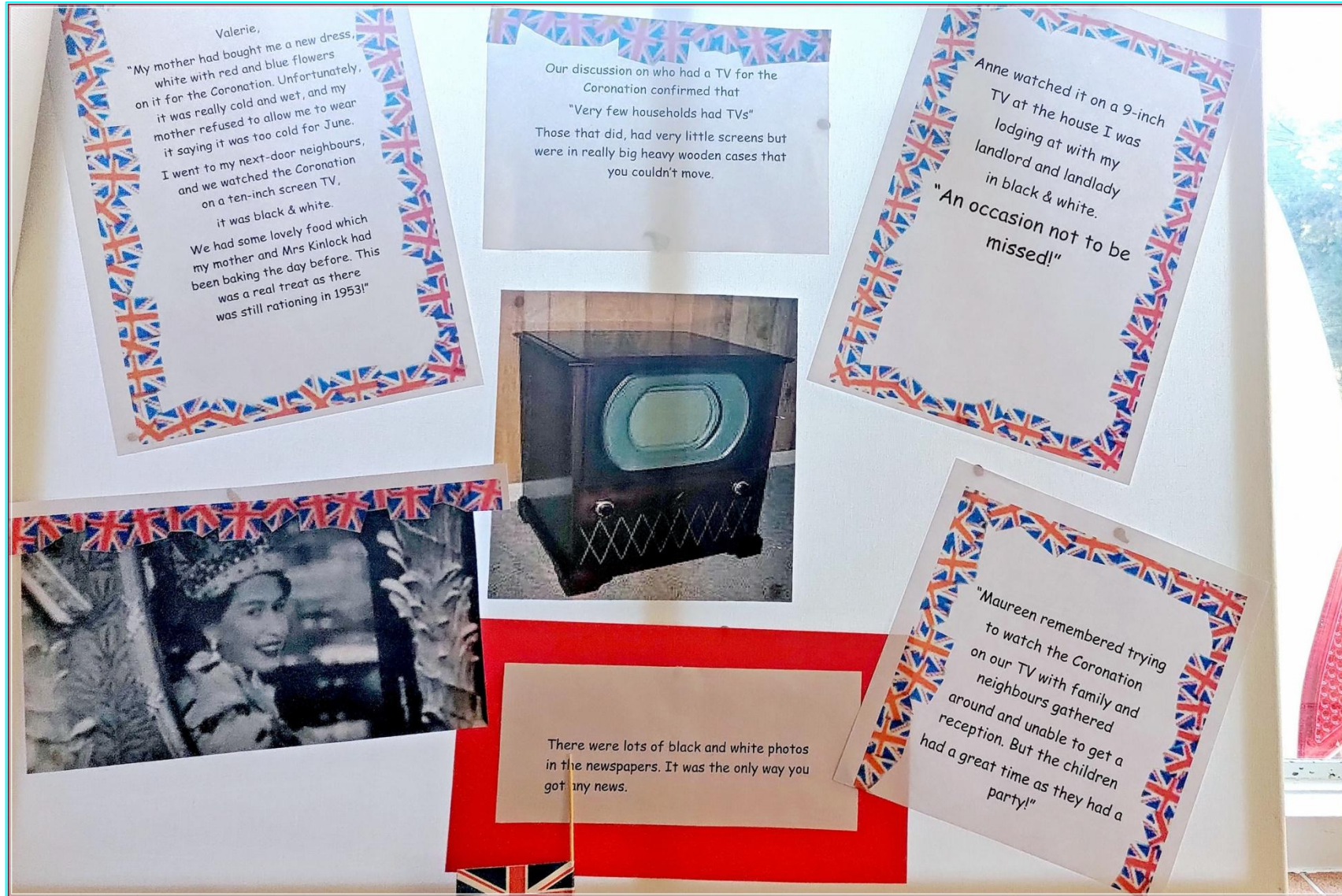
Beryl,
On Whit Sunday I always had a new summer dress

Marigold said that when I was a child about 5 years old, I had the day off school because it was George V's Jubilee.

I went to the pet shop with my mother to buy some goldfish food.

I saw a basket of puppies in the shop window - there's was a chocolate and white one that was lovely, my mother bought it for me. We named it "Jubilee" and it cost five shillings.

How many TVs?



Coronation Day Memories

Winn remembers the Coronation,

"At the time of the Coronation I was 35 years old. My husband, children and I watched it on our TV which we had managed to buy with some money my husband had been left by his aunt. We were the only household in the area who had a TV. On the day, our neighbours knocked on our door asking if they and their children could come and watch it. We had a house full!"

Most people said that it was very wet and raining!



Jessie said,

"I watched the Coronation on the TV at home with my parents. She looked beautiful and we had a little party."



Beryl remembers watching an interview with Princess Anne when she was asked why she wasn't at the Coronation she was only two at the time. Princess Anne said that "she was throwing a strop and they said I wouldn't behave long enough. I did go on the balcony though."

Beryl's memory of the Coronation Day was that I was 18 years old, and I watched the Coronation at my friend's house. She lived about 10 minutes away from my house. I had to carry my chair all the way to hers so that I had a seat that day. Her house had so many people in it. It was a

"Once in a lifetime event"!

Noel explained that you could purchase seats to watch the event all around London. I watched the Coronation on the TV down in Surrey, but my sister came from Nottingham with a relation as they had reserved seats.

More Coronation Day Stories



Jenny said

"Princess Elizabeth when she was given the news of her Father's death was in Africa at Treetops with her husband Prince Philip, just finishing a Royal Tour."



The significance of this news was that "She" was now Queen. We saw her on television arriving back to Britain coming off the plane, being met by Winston Churchill."

Noel said that he worked in the "City," so did Jenny, quite a few of us did!



Ted remembered the day he travelled from Diss to Norwich on the train to visit the dentist. As he got off the train at Norwich station one of the boards there proclaimed that the "King is Dead"



Jenny said that when she was crowned, we were all standing in rows watching, I can remember the soldiers marching up the Mall and I can remember seeing Princess Margaret and the Queen.



I can remember the plane bringing her back from a foreign visit.

...allowed off the plane first ... Queen. I thought that it ... as she was his wife!

...the lady presenters ... gowns and the men ... ties. Everyone

...ents described ... Queen of Tonga in ... at the ... remember ... being ... tall and ... her large!

Margaret

with

... lined the street

...ore the

...could be

...ion being

... we



Street Parties

Phyllis described their street party on the day. They had a "bring and share" party as there was still rationing and everyone provided what they could as food was still hard to get. There wasn't much money, chairs were brought out of the houses to sit on.

John remembered when sweet rationing was stopped in 1957 as a relation had a sweet shop!

Barrie said,
"On the Coronation Day my parents dressed my younger sister Linda's pram up as a Coronation Carriage and I was dressed up as an Ice-cream vendor with my bike, I was 5 years old"



these were rationed to.

We remember utility marks on clothes as



Margaret talked to us about "faith suppers" and the fact that everyone was relied upon to bring something.

Jenny remembers rationing and that everyone had ration books, which were so important to keep safe. She remembers being in the Co-op with her mother when she shot out of the shop, chased a bus, and managed to get the woman off the bus. Her mother asked the woman to open her bag and there were their ration books!

"We wouldn't have eaten for a week if my mother hadn't got them back!"



We had a street party for the Coronation. There was lots of food, but you knew which children were really hungry as they were eating as much as they could, really quickly.

Pam remembered that the streets were really busy, all of the neighbours got together, there was lots of food but there was still rationing.

War Time Memories

Residents discussed their war time memories and can remember the King and Queen coming up to London to see the devastation for themselves.



Beryl told us that she has met Prince Charles five times. She thinks that he will be a very good King, as he is so nice and works so hard!



John described the day he met the Queen before she was the Queen. It was 1952 and Princess Elizabeth came to Worthing to open the hospital. I was on the streets waiting.

I looked up the events that day recently and she went onto a reception in Worthing after opening the hospital.

I also saw the Duke of Edinburgh once when I was serving in the RAF in Germany. I was given a new uniform in preparation, and we spent 2 weeks being bussed to another base to rehearse. On the day he didn't walk past me, but I still made sure that my uniform and shoes were immaculate.