



News of his arrival was practically unknown in the district, and along the journey through Boroughbridge the only spectators were a few land girls, farm workers on their way to lunch, and a number of German prisoners of war. The King returned by road to Dishforth after the funeral.

The new Queen won many hearts during her brief visit to Harrogate in 1949. Her marriage in 1947 to the Duke of Edinburgh was a gala day in Knaresborough, marked by a fireworks display from the Castle.

10 An illuminated message, signed by Coun. G.A. Holch, then chairman of the Urban Council, on behalf of the townspeople was dispatched to the Royal bride and the Duke of Edinburgh. The cover bore a reproduction of the Knaresborough crest.

Conveying the greetings and good wishes of the "people of the ancient town of Knaresborough in the County of York" the message contained sentiments which will be echoed in every household today.

It ran: "We pray you may be fortified in love and happiness to fulfil your Royal endeavours for many years to come.

"May you be strengthened in the pursuit of your noble tasks by the invocation of Divine guidance. Our earnest wish is that you may be long speared to enjoy our sincere and warm affection."

20 QUEEN Elizabeth was born on April 21, 1926, at a time when there were neither immediate nor likely prospects that one day she would become Queen. It was the abdication of her uncle, Edward VIII, and the accession of her father, then Duke of York, to the throne, which brought the then 11 year old Princess next to the succession.

Years of quiet and sensible preparation followed for the duties that would probably one day fall to her lot. The princess's girlhood, shared with her sister Princess Margaret, four years her junior, coincided with the years of the second world war.

Her beautifully clear and modulated voice had been heard in a broadcast she made in 1940 to the children of the Empire, but in subsequent years the Princess's education and training went almost uninterrupted by public duties.

30 The nation, however, was well aware that a delightfully happy child was gradually changing into a teen-age girl of great charm, and in 1943 this awareness was amply confirmed.

In April of that year, within a few days of her 17<sup>th</sup> birthday, the Princess performed her first wholly independent public duty when she made an inspection of the Grenadier Guards, of which she was Colonel. Her quiet dignity and pleasantness made a deep impression.

### **21<sup>st</sup> birthday**

The Princess spoke to the youth of the Empire once again on her 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, which she spent in Capetown during the tour with her parents and her sister of the Union of South Africa.

On that occasion, the princess who was one day to be Queen said:

“I declare before you all, that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service, and to the service of our great Imperial family to which we all belong.”

The months following that tour with the King and Queen and Princess Margaret were momentous ones indeed for Princess Elizabeth.

10 In July 1947, it was announced from Buckingham Palace that the King and Queen had gladly given their consent to the betrothal of the Princess to Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten, and on November 20<sup>th</sup> came their wedding in Westminster Abbey. Lieut. Mountbatten was created Duke of Edinburgh before the wedding.

### **King's deputy**

These early years of the Princess's marriage and motherhood coincided with the gradual deterioration in the King's health, and so it has been that as Heir Apparent she has necessarily undertaken an unusually large number of public duties, many of them as deputy for the King.

20 A son was born to the young Royal couple on November 14<sup>th</sup>, 1948, and christened Charles Philip Arthur George. Prince Charles is now next in succession to the throne. A daughter was born on August 15<sup>th</sup>, 1950, and named Anne Elizabeth Alice Louise.

The Princess Anne is second in succession to the throne, and the new Queen's sister, Princess Margaret, is third in succession.

It is interesting that in their choice of names for their children, the Royal couple have revived the names of Stuart kings and a Stuart queen.

### **Knaresborough Post**

**9 February 1952**

### **Incorrect Spelling**

30 Coun. Henry also revealed that the original complaint about an inaccuracy on the 1939-45 plaque related to Flying Officer J. L. Rowe who was killed on a Royal Air Force raid over Essen in 1942. On the plaque this officer's name is incorrectly spelled Wroe.

A resolution, moved by Coun. Henry, that when completed the list of names should be published for two weeks in the local Press, was defeated, only the proposer voting in favour.

**Knaresborough Post**

**16 February 1952**

**QUEEN ELIZABETH II IS PROCLAIMED IN MARKET PLACE**

**Hundreds cheer Her Majesty**

**WATCHED BY A CROWD OF SEVERAL HUNDRED PEOPLE STANDING IN CLOSE PACKED RANKS ROUND THE SIDES OF THE MARKET PLACE, THE CHAIRMAN OF KNARESBOROUGH URBAN COUNCIL (COUN. F. BROADBELT) READ FROM THE BALCONY OF THE TOWN HALL ON MONDAY THE PROCLAMATION OF THE ACCEDSSION TO THE THRONE OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II.**

10 The short simple ceremony was heard in solemn silence until voices were raised to give three cheers for the new Queen. A short prayer led by the Vicar of Knaresborough (Rev. R. A. Talbot) was followed by a sincere unaccompanied rendering of "God Save the Queen."

Earlier councillors, officials, magistrates, police, British Legion and Chamber of Trade representatives walked in procession to the Market Place from Knaresborough House. Clergy present were the Rev. C.A. Atherley (Vicar of Holy Trinity), Rev. J. Paterson, Rev. E. Naylor, superintendent minister of Knaresborough Methodist circuit, Rev. W. H. Alton, and Father L. A. Spiller.

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