

A letter from the Lord-Lieutenant of Oxfordshire

Date: Tue, 27 Jul 2021

Subject: **Platinum Jubilee Celebrations**

Dear All,

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 will be an historic occasion – the first time any British monarch has ever reigned for 70 years. There will be a range of commemorations and I am sure most of you will have seen the information that is starting to flow with regard to the plans for the Platinum Jubilee weekend. Many of you have possibly already started making plans in your community.

One of the main national projects will be a large-scale tree planting campaign all across the UK, to be known as The Queen's Green Canopy. Put simply, people, voluntary groups, schools and local authorities across the UK are being encouraged to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee" through the QGC initiative. The actual planting programme will need to be in two phases; autumn/winter 2021-2 and then October-December 2022. Every county is being invited to create a network of individual or specimen trees, tree avenues, copses, orchards or woodlands in honour of The Queen's 70 years of service. Please visit the QGC website for further information: www.queensgreencanopy.org. If wished, these trees and woods can be dedicated to QGC by erecting commemorative plaques to identify them and preserve them for the future, and (regardless whether there is plaque or not) each location will be uploaded onto a map of the UK to provide a public record of all the Platinum Jubilee plantings. The campaign hopes to see communities, charities, schools, youth groups, councils and landowners planting healthy native trees that will thrive in their environments and enhance both towns and the wider landscape for generations to come.

Full details of the events for the Jubilee weekend of June 2nd - 5th, 2022 are available at the following address: <https://www.royal.uk/platinum-jubilee-central-weekend>.

While many of these do not directly affect Oxfordshire, there are two events in particular that you need to be aware of:

- The first is the lighting of Platinum Jubilee Beacons on Thursday, 2nd June. This is a nationwide initiative and I attach the extensive instructions and advice we have received with regard to the programme which encompasses not only the lighting of beacons, but town criers reading proclamations, bagpipers, etc. It will be up to local authorities to decide whether they wish to participate and if so, with what elements. Within Oxfordshire, beacons have been previously lit at Henley-on-Thames, Blenheim Palace, Oxford City (at the Castle Mound) and perhaps some others that we were not aware of. If you do have any plans of this sort, we would welcome you keeping the Lieutenancy office informed (lieutenancyoffice@stevenson-oxford.co.uk).
- The second event is the Big Jubilee Lunch on Sunday, 5th June. Communities of all sizes are being encouraged to create street parties, picnics, barbeques, etc. The responsibility for deciding the format and scope of these rests with individual communities. This event will enable people to come together to celebrate and generate connections between different elements of our community. The event is being

supported by the *Big Lunch* which has been coordinating these activities regularly since 2009 and is overseen by Eden Project Communities. They offer advice on how to organise such events at <https://www.edenprojectcommunities.com/blog/the-big-jubilee-lunch> and more information on this will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead. Again we would welcome you keeping us informed of any events your community is planning.

If we receive any further information on Platinum Jubilee celebrations we will forward this to you as we receive it.

Best wishes,

Tim

Sir Tim Stevenson KCVO OBE

Lord-Lieutenant of Oxfordshire

Comment by Whitchurch Web:

The Lord-Lieutenant is the Monarch's personal representative in each of the lieutenancy areas of the country.

Sir Timothy Edwin Paul Stevenson, KCVO, OBE, CStJ (born 14 May 1948) is the current Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire. A qualified barrister, he is also a businessman and current Chairman of Johnson Matthey plc.

