



The Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Supporting notes

Introduction

The purpose of this note is to provide material for Lord-Lieutenants and Lieutenancy offices for any education work they might carry out or disseminate in the course of 2012.

The notes are set out in an order to accompany a PowerPoint slideshow but there are both more slides and more information than appropriate to include in a single presentation.

The aim of the note is to try to explain:

- What The Queen does, what her role is and why it is important to our national life.
- How the institution of Monarchy functions to ensure that its unique contribution continues to be made effectively.
- What developments and challenges lie ahead.

The note concentrate on actual practice, rather than constitutional theory. It focuses on The Queen's role in the United Kingdom, though it touches a little on the wider Commonwealth as well.

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1. The Development of the monarchy

Slide 1 - Diamond Jubilee emblem

Slide 2 - The Queen

Queen Elizabeth II is instantly recognisable. She was born in 1926 and became Queen on the death of her father in 1952.

Slides 3 and 4 - The Golden Jubilee

The Queen celebrated Her Golden Jubilee in 2002 – it marked 50 years as Queen. 2012 is Her Diamond Jubilee – 60 years as Queen.

The monarchy today is the product of over 1,000 years of continuity and change, making it the oldest institution of government in the United Kingdom.

Over time, its purpose and functions have evolved, but there is no single piece of paper setting out its role. In the absence of a codified constitution, the Monarchy and its powers are defined by customs and conventions which have built up gradually over the centuries.

It is this ability and willingness to adapt to change that has secured the continuity of the Monarchy.

The contemporary British monarchy has its roots in the English and Scottish kingdoms of the ninth century. Key moments in its development include:

- The 13th century, when Magna Carta established that a Monarch does not have unlimited power over their subjects.
- The 17th century, when the Stuart Kings of Scotland succeeded to the English Throne. The two countries were later united by the Act of Union in 1707.
- In the same century, the Civil War and the Restoration determined that a Monarch reigns only with the consent of Parliament, which later intervened to determine the succession with the Act of Settlement in 1701.

Slide 5 (Queen Victoria)

- The 19th century brought Britain a global Empire. Massive social and economic change saw political power transfer completely to ministers of the Government, but with the Sovereign retaining great symbolic importance
- Queen Victoria is the only other monarch to have reigned for 60 years and so celebrated a Diamond Jubilee

Slide 6 - George VI and Queen Elizabeth at the bombed Buckingham Palace, 1940

- The 20th century, with its two World Wars and the development of mass communications, led to what has been described as the “Welfare Monarchy”, in which the Sovereign is a symbol of stability, national identity and support for service

Slide 7 - the Prince of Wales and Duchess of Cornwall; the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge

Although this talk is about The Queen, the monarchy should continue well beyond the 21st century. When The Queen dies, her eldest son (Prince Charles) will become King. When he dies, his eldest son (Prince William) will become King

Slides 8 and 9 - the wedding of Prince William and Catherine Middleton, April 2011

Everyone should recognise Prince William and Kate Middleton, now the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, after their wedding in April 2011

2. The Role of The Queen

Key to understanding the present role of the Monarchy is to break The Queen's role into two distinct parts:

- The role of **Head of State**, which is a formal constitutional concept, common to most countries, and involves the duties which The Queen, by constitutional convention, must fulfil.
- The role of **Head of Nation**, a much more symbolic role in the life of the nation, involving duties which are not directed by the constitution, but which The Queen carries out where appropriate or necessary.

3. The Queen as Head of State

Slide 10 - The Queen as Head of State

A. Head of State

Her Majesty is Queen and Head of State of the United Kingdom (and 15 other independent countries - more on that later). Every country has a Head of State with constitutional and representational duties, often laid down in law. The Queen is no different, though the scope of her duties has generally been defined by history rather than by constitutional lawyers.

The Queen is politically impartial and exercises her constitutional powers on the advice of Government ministers. In the famous summary of the Victorian constitutionalist Walter Bagehot, the Sovereign has “**the right to be consulted, to advise and to warn.**”

B. Constitutional Duties

The Queen’s constitutional duties include:

- The appointment of the Prime Minister
- Regular confidential Audiences with the Prime Minister

Slide 11 - The Queen in Parliament

- The Opening and Dissolution of Parliament
- The approval of Parliamentary legislation
- The approval of official appointments;
- The approval of secondary legislation through the Privy Council

Slide 12 - Edward I (1239-1307) in Parliament

- This is the monarch’s historic role as Head of State and has continued for centuries

Slide 13 - The Queen with President Obama

- Representational duties as Head of State - paying and receiving State Visits to and from other Heads of States
- Receiving the credentials of foreign Ambassadors

C. Other Head of State responsibilities

- The Fount of Honour, and all honours are awarded in her name (although, with notable exceptions, most are awarded on the advice of the Government);
- Head of the Armed Forces;
- Head of the Judiciary;
- Head of the Civil Service;
- Supreme Governor of the Church of England.

In all these roles The Queen provides a focus for loyalty and an assurance of political independence and neutrality for these institutions.

4. Head of Nation

The Queen's role as Head of Nation is as significant these days as her role as Head of State, and can be divided into four key elements – identity, continuity, achievement and service.

Slide 14 - The Queen's Christmas broadcast

A. National Identity and Unity

The Queen has a significant function as a symbol of national identity, unity and pride. One commentator, describing the Monarch's role at expressing the national mood, has put it as "interpreting the nation to itself."

For example, it is/was as Head of Nation and not as Head of State that The Queen:

- Makes the annual Christmas Broadcast.
- Observed two minutes silence in the forecourt of Buckingham Palace following the bombings in London in 2005 and visited survivors and staff in hospital.
- Sends messages of congratulation on national achievements – Olympic Gold medallists in 2008, 2003 Rugby World Cup win etc.
- Sends messages of condolence at times of national tragedy – in 2011, examples of messages of Condolence in 2011 included those in response to the earthquake in New Zealand (22 February), the earthquake in Japan (11 March), storms in the USA (4 May), the death of Garret FitzGerald in Ireland (19 May) and the tragedy at Beslan in Norway (23 July).

Slide 15 - Annual Ceremonies

B. Continuity and Stability

The Monarchy provides an important sense of continuity and stability at a time of rapid social, cultural and technological change.

The regular rhythm of the Monarchy provides reassurance to many people (perhaps particularly older people). This is helped by:

- Annual traditions such as the State Opening of Parliament, Trooping the Colour (on the Queen's official Birthday in June), Garter Day (at Windsor in June), Holyrood Week (in late June/ July).
- Anniversaries marked over the course of The Queen's reign – Silver Jubilee (1977), Golden Jubilee (2002), and family anniversaries to which people can relate - Diamond Wedding Anniversary (2007).
- 2011 was a particularly busy year with high-profile celebrations such as the Duke and Duchess of Cambridges' wedding (in April) and The Duke of Edinburgh's 90th Birthday (in June).
- The Queen's impressive personal continuity – there have been 12 Prime Ministers during her reign and she has met 11 of the last 12 US Presidents.

In this way The Queen and the Monarchy is a stable fixture in people's lives.

Slide 16 - The Queen's Garden Parties

C. Achievement and Success

One of the modern Monarchy's principle purposes is to recognise, on behalf of the nation, achievement, excellence and success in our society. This is not just achieved by the Honours system, but by a more informal range of prizes, events and awards. These include:

Events

- The Queen entertains 50,000 people a year at Garden Parties, receptions, dinners and lunches as a way of acknowledging people's achievements and contributions.
- Themed receptions at Buckingham Palace recognise the achievements and importance of particular sectors and to celebrate and promote aspects of British culture- Healthcare Reception, Hospitality Reception, Emergency Services Reception, Science Day, Poetry Day, Music etc.

Slide 17 - The Queen presenting Honours

Honours, Awards and Prizes

- Presenting Honours (on the recommendation of the Government)
- Anyone can nominate someone for an honour:
www.direct.gov.uk/honours
- Some other awards:
 - The Queen's Awards for Enterprise and Voluntary Service;
 - The Queen's Medal for Music;
 - The Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry.

Visits across the UK

- Visits in The Queen programme to places and projects help to acknowledge their success, importance or uniqueness.

Slide 18 - The Queen on Royal visits

D. Support of Service

The Queen endeavours to recognise and support the service given by others to the nation, whether in the voluntary or charitable sector, in public life, in the armed forces or emergency services, and at a national level or in the community. The Queen's programme brings contact with all sections of society, at all levels and across the country. In this unique way the Monarchy can bring recognition and distinction to the individuals and organisations that so deserve it.

The Queen has a direct connection to many charities and organisations through her patronages (she is Patron of well over 600 charities).

The Royal Family - supporting The Queen

Slide 19: The Prince of Wales inspecting the Mercian Regiment on their return from Afghanistan; The Duke of York at the Caterham sports car factory; The Duke of Edinburgh receiving HH Pope Benedict XVI at Edinburgh airport; Prince Harry in Merseyside after the August 2011 riots; the Princess Royal opening the world Headquarters of Speedo; the Duke of Gloucester presenting The Queen's Club tennis cup

In this role The Queen is greatly assisted by other Members of the Royal Family and by the traditional political neutrality of the Monarchy.

Members of the Royal family have their own charities: for example, The Duke of Edinburgh Awards; The Prince of Wales has set up a number of charities focused on business responsibility, environmentalism and opportunities for young people; there is a Foundation of Prince William and Prince Harry.

Members of the Royal Family also make visits across the country, to recognise achievement and service. Together, Members of the Royal Family complete almost 3,000 engagements a year, across the UK – many more than The Queen could undertake alone. The activities of the wider Royal Family are vital in bringing the institution of Monarchy into direct and personal contact with all sections of society, including the disadvantaged and the marginalised.

The different generations of the Royal Family help to make the work of the Monarchy relevant or accessible to people at every stage of life.

Official engagements are undertaken by:

(The Queen's Husband)

- The Duke of Edinburgh

(The Queen's Children and Grandchildren)

- The Prince of Wales, The Duchess of Cornwall, Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, Prince Harry
- The Duke of York
- The Earl and Countess of Wessex
- The Princess Royal

(The Queen's Cousins)

- The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester
- The Duke of Kent
- Princess Alexandra, the Hon. Lady Ogilvy

Members of the Royal Family, including The Queen, are Patrons of almost 2,000 charities and organisations, many of them reflecting their own particular areas of interest or expertise. For instance:

- The Duke of Edinburgh's Award
- The Prince's Trust
- The Princess Royal's Trust for Carers

Despite having no formal constitutional role, The Duke of Edinburgh's support of The Queen in particular has shaped our perceptions of the way in which the Monarchy works. His contribution includes:

- Accompanying The Queen on all 250+ of her visits overseas.
- Making 650 overseas visits of his own.
- Patron of 800 organisations.
- Typically carries out a number of engagements a year on his own.

5. The Commonwealth

Slide 20 - The Queen at the opening of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, Perth, Australia, 2011

The Queen became Head of the Commonwealth in 1952 when she succeeded to the throne. The role brings with it no special powers, but The Queen is considered by the member nations to be the symbol of their free association.

The Commonwealth of Nations is an intergovernmental organisation of 54 independent countries from every continent, many of which have a historical link to the United Kingdom or to the British Empire. The Commonwealth promotes democracy, good government, liberty, education and global peace.

As Head of the Commonwealth, The Queen formally opens Commonwealth Heads of Government Meetings, which are held in a different country every two years (most recently in Perth, Australia, in October 2011). She also issues a Commonwealth Day Message in March every year and is connected to many Commonwealth organisations and charities.

The Queen receives advice and support from the Commonwealth Secretariat, based in Marlborough House in London.

Due to the special relationship between Commonwealth countries, Ambassadors from one member country to another are called High Commissioners.

Slide 21 - Queen Elizabeth II of Australia

In addition to being The Queen of the United Kingdom, Her Majesty is also separately Monarch in 15 other independent countries, which are members of the Commonwealth and are known as the Commonwealth Realms. They are:

Former Dominions

- Canada, Australia, New Zealand

Caribbean & Central America

- Jamaica, Antigua & Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Grenada, St Kitts & Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent & the Grenadines

Pacific

- Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu

The Queen is the Monarch in these countries separately and equally - as Queen of Australia, Queen of Jamaica, Queen of Papua New Guinea etc -

and is thus formally advised on her constitutional duties by the Governments of those countries, and not by the British Government.

In each Realm, The Queen is represented by a Governor-General, who exercises the Monarch's powers and prerogatives on The Queen's behalf. Every Governor-General is appointed on the recommendation of the relevant Realm's Prime Minister.

The Queen is also supported in her roles by the Royal Household in London, which processes the accreditation of diplomats, approval of appointments and honours for each Realm.

Ever since the Statute of Westminster in 1931, any changes to the Line of Succession in one Realm need to be approved by the parliaments of all 16 Commonwealth Realms, including the United Kingdom.

7. The Queen's Reign and Previous Jubilees

Slide 22 – Silver Jubilee Street Party, Woodford Bridge, Essex, 1977

Her Majesty became Queen on the death of her father, King George VI, on 6th February 1952.

Her Majesty celebrated her Silver Jubilee in 1977, with the celebrations characterised by street parties up and down the country.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh undertook overseas Tours to Australia, New Zealand, the South Pacific and Canada. In addition Her Majesty and His Royal Highness travelled throughout Britain for their regional Jubilee Tours. In addition large-scale celebrations took place in June 1977, with a special River Progress and Pageant on the Thames in London, a chain of Bonfires throughout the UK and a Thanksgiving Service at St. Paul's Cathedral.

Slides 23 and 24 – The Golden Jubilee on the Mall

The Queen's Golden Jubilee celebrations in 2002 had many of the same features as those for the Silver Jubilee. Her Majesty again undertook a Realms and Commonwealth Tour and visited every county in the United Kingdom as part of her Regional Tours. A central Jubilee weekend with a double Bank Holiday allowed communities to celebrate together. A classical and pop concert were staged at Buckingham Palace with the 'Queen' guitarist Brian May famously playing the National Anthem from the roof. Beacons were lit across the UK and the Commonwealth and The Queen lit the National Beacon in the Mall. A Thanksgiving Service was held at St. Paul's Cathedral followed by a lunch at the Guildhall and a Ceremonial Procession, back to Buckingham Palace. Her Majesty and other Members of the Royal Family made a balcony appearance and there was flypast, including Concorde, over the Mall and Buckingham Palace.

Five new cities (Preston, Stirling, Newport, Newry and Lisburn) and one new Lord Mayoralty (Exeter) were created for the Golden Jubilee.

The Queen's reign has seen extensive social, technological and economic changes, both in the UK and beyond.

8. Plans for the Diamond Jubilee

Slides 25 and 26 – Diamond Jubilee emblem

The Diamond Jubilee marks 60 years of Her Majesty's reign, and will entail celebrations locally, nationally and internationally:

The official emblem for The Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012 is the winning design following a national competition for children aged between 6 and 14. It was drawn by 10-year-old Katherine Dewar, from Chester, who won a Blue Peter competition, to which there was nearly 35,000 entries.

The official emblem is available, free of charge, for download from the British Monarchy website. It is available for use for activities associated with the Diamond Jubilee celebrations including community and national events, publications, retail and merchandising.

Slides 27 and 28 – the national, central weekend

The central weekend to celebrate The Queen's Diamond Jubilee takes place from Saturday 2nd June to Tuesday 5th June 2012, with celebratory activities throughout the United Kingdom and across the Commonwealth.

The Jubilee Weekend features an extra Bank Holiday for the Diamond Jubilee, with the late May Bank Holiday moved one week later, thereby making a 4-day long weekend. The government announced the extra Bank Holiday for the Diamond Jubilee on 5th January 2010.

Buckingham Palace is responsible for the coordination of the central weekend, and the outline of the main programme is as follows:

Saturday 2nd June, 2012

The Queen will attend the Epsom Derby.

Sunday 3rd June, 2012

The Big Jubilee Lunch: Building on the already popular Big Lunch initiative, people will be encouraged to share lunch with neighbours and friends as part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. This may take the form of a traditional street party or a picnic lunch in small or larger groups, in communities all over the UK. Street parties have been a traditional part of previous Royal occasions, most notably the Silver Jubilee celebrations in 1977. This project is being organised by the Big Lunch, <http://www.thebiglunch.com>

The Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant: This event will take place on the Thames and consist of up to 1,000 boats assembled from across the UK, the Commonwealth and around the world. The Queen will travel in the Royal Barge which will lead the flotilla. This event is being

organised by the Thames Diamond Jubilee Foundation,
<http://www.thamesdiamondjubileepageant.org/>

Monday 4th June, 2012

BBC Concert at Buckingham Palace: There will be a televised Diamond Jubilee Concert at Buckingham Palace with tickets being available to UK residents by public ballot. The musical programme for the concert is still being planned and is expected to feature British and Commonwealth musicians. Details on how to apply for the concert will be available in due course. This event is being organised by the BBC.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons: A network of 2,012 Beacons will be lit by communities and individuals throughout the United Kingdom, as well as the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and the Commonwealth. As in 2002, The Queen will light the National Beacon. The beacons project is being organised by Diamond Jubilee Beacons Ltd. - <http://www.diamondjubileebeacons.co.uk/>

Tuesday 5th June, 2012

Service of Thanksgiving and Carriage Procession: There will be a Service of Thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral and a formal carriage Procession by The Queen.

Regional tour of the United Kingdom

The Queen, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, will mark the Diamond Jubilee with a series of regional visits and engagements throughout the United Kingdom during 2012. Her Majesty and His Royal Highness, supported by other Members of the Royal Family, will be travelling as widely as possible across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Details of the programme include:

- 29th March – North London
- 26th - 27th April – Wales
- 1st - 2nd May – South West England
- 15th May – South London
- 16th - 17th May – North West England
- 2nd - 5th June – Central Weekend
- 13th - 14th June – East Midlands and East Anglia
- 25th June and 25th July – South East England
- 2nd - 6th July – Scotland (Holyrood Week)
- 11th - 12th July – West Midlands
- 18th - 19th July – North East England

Overseas visits by Members of the Royal Family

Members of the Royal Family will travel overseas representing The Queen throughout the Diamond Jubilee year, visiting every Realm as well as undertaking visits to Commonwealth countries, Crown Dependencies and British Overseas Territories. Her Majesty has asked that these visits include the following:

- The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall: Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea
- The Prince of Wales: Channel Islands, Isle of Man
- The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge: Malaysia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu
- Prince Harry: Belize, Jamaica, The Bahamas
- The Duke of York: India
- The Earl and Countess of Wessex: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Gibraltar, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago
- The Princess Royal: Mozambique, Zambia
- The Duke of Gloucester: British Virgin Islands, Malta
- The Duke of Kent: Falkland Islands, Uganda

UK Government-led Aspects

City Status Competition

A competition is taking place for towns to bid for city status and for a Lord Mayoralty (or Lord Provostship in Scotland). These are 'civic honours', granted by The Queen under the Royal Prerogative, acting on the advice of Ministers.

Jubilee Medal

An official medal has been commissioned to mark Her Majesty The Queen's 60 years on the throne. Those in the Armed Forces, emergency services and prison service personnel, are among those eligible for The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal.

Royal Borough Status for Greenwich

The Queen has agreed to confer the honour, on Ministerial advice, to mark the Diamond Jubilee in 2012, in recognition of the very close links between Greenwich and the Monarchy as well as Greenwich's global significance.

Naming of buildings

As in 2002, there is a relaxation of the guidelines for naming of buildings for the Jubilee. This will allow communities and local authorities the opportunity to mark the Jubilee in a tangible way.

Jubilee Activities and Projects:

There are a number of charitable projects which are also national in scope.

The Jubilee Woods Project (The Woodland Trust)

The Jubilee Woods Project, run by The Woodland Trust, aims to plant six million trees across the UK and to involve millions of people. As part of this project, 60 'Diamond Woods' of at least 60 acres each will be planted to mark each year of the Queen's reign. The planting will begin in autumn 2011 and run to the end of 2012. It's Patron is HRH The Princess Royal.

The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge

The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge is an initiative to protect create hundreds of playing fields throughout the country in honour of The Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The public are able to vote for their favourite outdoor recreational space to be protected and become a Queen Elizabeth II Field. The project is run by Fields in Trust (of which The Queen is Patron and The Duke of Edinburgh is President). HRH The Duke of Cambridge is the Patron of the campaign.

Jubilee People's Millions

The Jubilee People's Millions is a partnership between ITV and the Big Lottery Fund, the largest distributor of national lottery good cause funding. As a result of this, and to mark The Queen's Diamond Jubilee, 60 grants of up to £60,000 are being rolled out to projects which improve local communities. The shortlisted projects were announced in June 2011.

A number of exhibitions are planned to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee.

The Queen: Art and Image (National Portrait Gallery)

The National Portrait Gallery is staging The Queen: Art and Image, and touring exhibition bringing together 60 resonant images of The Queen spanning the 60 years of her reign. The exhibition is touring Edinburgh, Belfast and Cardiff being opening in London in May 2012.

Queen Elizabeth II by Cecil Beaton (Victoria and Albert Museum)

The V&A is holding an exhibition of portraits of Her Majesty by photographer Cecil Beaton (1904-1980). "Queen Elizabeth II by Cecil Beaton: A Diamond Jubilee Celebration" opens in London in February 2012, and also tours in Dundee, Leeds, Norwich and Newcastle.

Royal River: Power, Pageantry and the Thames (The National Maritime Museum)

This exhibition explores the relationship between the monarch, the City and the people as it was brought to life on the Thames - London's greatest thoroughfare.

The **Royal Collection** has an extensive exhibition programme for 2012 including:

The Queen: Sixty Photographs for Sixty Years The Drawings Gallery, Windsor Castle, 4 February 2012 – January 2013

Royal Treasures: A Diamond Jubilee Celebration The Queen's Gallery, Palace of Holyroodhouse, 16 March – 16 September 2012

Leonardo da Vinci: Anatomy The Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace, 4 May – 7 October 2012

Diamonds: A Jubilee Celebration The Summer Opening of Buckingham Palace, August and September 2012 (Additional dates will be added)

Ten Drawings by Leonardo da Vinci: A Diamond Jubilee Celebration

A Royal Collection touring exhibition: Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, 13 January – 25 March 2012; Bristol Museum & Art Gallery, 30 March – 10 June 2012, Ulster Museum, Belfast, 15 June – 27 August 2012; The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery & Museum, 31 August – 4 November 2012; Ferens Art Gallery, Hull, 10 November 2012 – 20 January 2013.

How you can take part now

Slide 29 - Jubilee Time Capsule

The Royal Commonwealth Society (of which The Queen is Patron) has organised a special Jubilee Time Capsule, a digital archive of each day of The Queen's reign. People can contribute to this online archive by picking a day and adding their memories and stories of that day.

Slide 30 - Face Britain (The Prince's Foundation for Children and the Arts)

Face Britain, the UK's largest ever art project, gives children and young people aged 4-16 years throughout the UK the opportunity to create self-portraits which will be publicly displayed across the country. All portraits from the online gallery will be combined to create a montage portrait of HM The Queen, to be projected onto the frontage of Buckingham Palace in the Spring of 2012. The project is run by one of The Prince of Wales' charities, The Prince's Foundation for Children and the Arts.

Slide 31 - events in Blankshire

Further Information:

British Monarchy Official Website: www.royal.gov.uk

Twitter: www.twitter.com/BritishMonarchy

Flickr: www.flickr.com/britishmonarchy

Youtube: www.youtube.com/theroyalchannel

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheBritishMonarchy