



# Let's Celebrate!



A selection of images from Reepham Archive showing various occasions when the town celebrated a special event, not exclusively connected to royalty.

The series begins with Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887.

Other royal connections have included a visit by Queen Mary in 1945, and a very early record in 1865 of a visit by Edward Prince of Wales, Queen Victoria's son, who became King Edward VII in 1901.

*Compiled by Reepham Archive May 2022*



# Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee

1887



# Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee

1897

The morning broke with every prospect of a lovely day.

Services were held at the Wesleyan Chapel and also at the Hackford & Whitwell churches. A detachment of the E Company Norfolk Volunteer Rifles, under Captain Collyer, fired a feu de joie in the Market Place.

*Feu de joie :- Soldiers are lined up & fire blank rounds into the air sequentially in rapid succession, producing a "rat-tat-tat" effect.*

By the kindness of Mr. J. J. Bishop of Kerdiston House, Reepham school children were provided with a hot dinner & tea. About 2 p.m., the Hackford & Whitwell school children with their teachers assembled in the market & sang some special hymns. Later there were sports on Mr. Brownsell's lawn followed by a substantial tea.

*Norfolk News 26 June 1897*



# Reepham's Velvet Ale

1865

In 1865 the Prince and Princess of Wales – the future King Edward VII & Queen Alexandra - made a visit to Gunton Park, the country home of Lord Suffield. Returning to Sandringham the carriages were stopped, in order to change the horses at the King's Arms Hotel in Reepham.

Whilst the horses were being changed, Lord Suffield introduced Mr. Bircham to the Prince of Wales. His Royal Highness was presented with a tankard of the 'Velvet Ale', for which Reepham has so long been celebrated.

The Prince so much approved of the ale that he expressed a wish to have more of it forwarded to Sandringham.



# Come to Tea ! 1935

The Committee present their Compliments  
and request  
the pleasure of the company of

TO TEA

at 4.30 p.m. on Monday, May 6th,  
at the Reepham Sun Hotel Extension Room.

If the distance is too great, a Bus will call for you and take  
you home, if you will kindly send in your name to Mr. Chapman.



An invitation to tea in the Sun Hotel Extension  
Room to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of  
George V & Queen Mary in 1935.



# George V & Queen Mary



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# Silver Jubilee

1935



George Cocking & his wife outside his shop in the Market Place.  
*(now Bay Tree Interiors)*

# Coronation of George VI

May 12<sup>th</sup> 1937



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# Queen Mary visits Reepham

1945

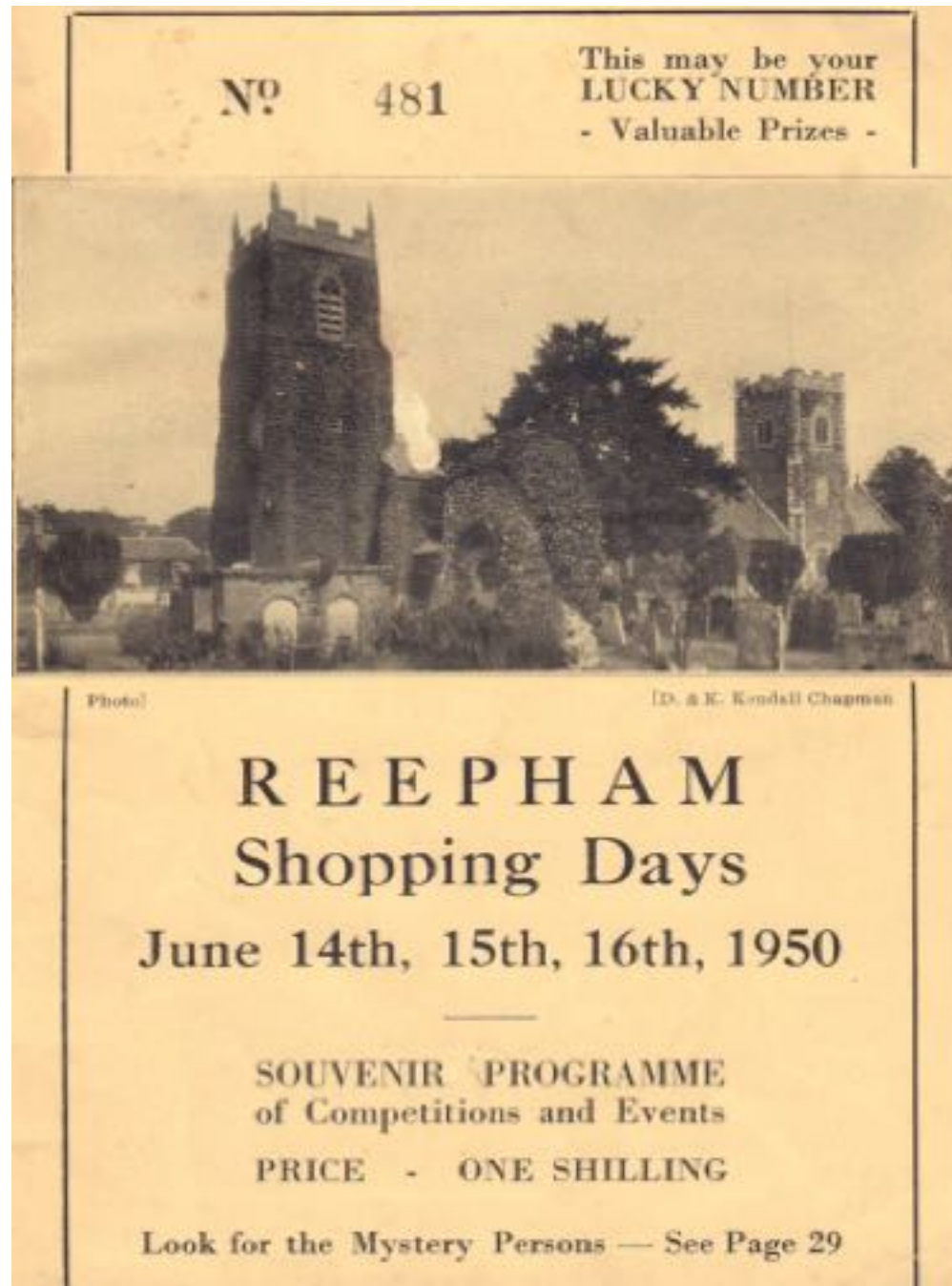


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# Reepham Shopping Week

1950



A few days of festivities to lighten the mood in 1950 when most things were still on ration & queues were a way of life.



# Reepham Shopping Week

1950



Festivities included decorated forms of every kind of transport beginning with a grand parade through the town.



# Reepham Shopping Week

1950



Part of the grand parade passing Gibbs shop

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## Coronation Day

1953



Allen's Coaches made two buses available to transport people into Reepham.

One was for Brandiston & Booton, the second for Kerdiston, Pettywell & Whitwell.

The first pick-up in Kerdiston was at Mr. Wagg's Corner.



# Coronation Day Events

1953

Coronation Day itself began with a service In St. Mary's.

Rain did its best to spoil the day's celebrations and events were frequently interrupted by rain.

At 2 o'clock Stimpson's Piece was the setting for a fancy dress parade followed by an afternoon of sports events,

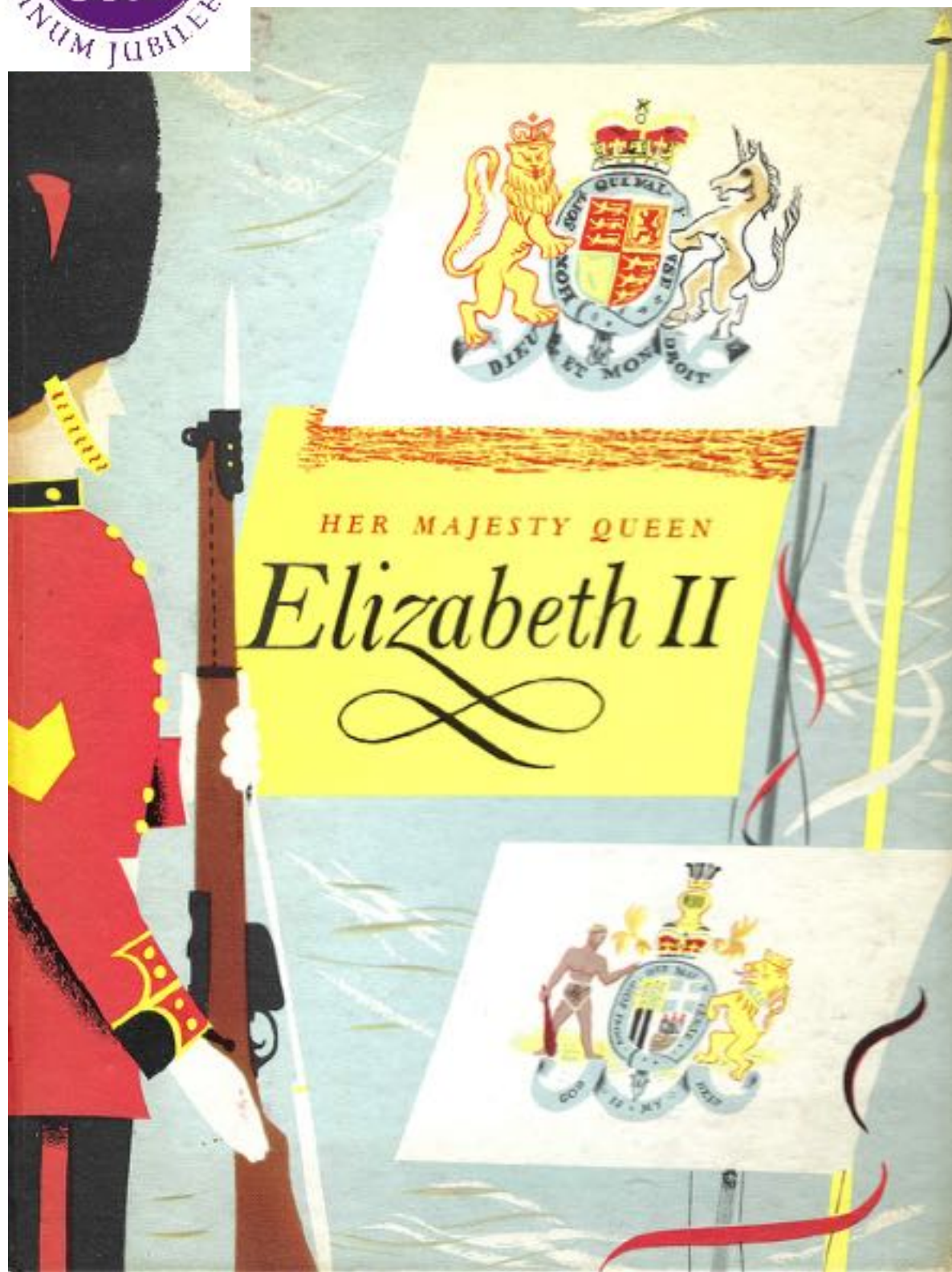
A children's tea at the Sun Hall was in two sittings with children asked to bring their own spoon!

## Tuesday, 2nd June, CORONATION DAY :

- 10.0 a.m. United Service at St. Mary's Church, followed by the Presentation of the Seat in the Market Place, and selections by the Reepham Town Band.
- On Stimpson's Piece, unless otherwise stated, at
- 2.0 p.m. Children's Fancy Dress and Decorated Pram and Bicycle Parade.
- 3.0 p.m. Children's and Adults' Sports—Programme opposite ;
- 3.0 p.m. onwards Buffet Canteens at the Pavilion and Town Hall, for grown-ups between the ages of 15 and 65. A charge of 2d. for each article taken will be made.
- 4.30 p.m. Children's Tea at the Sun Hall, in two sittings. The system of grouping will be announced at the Schools the previous day. Under 50 will form part of the first sitting. *Will children please bring their own spoon.*
- 5.15 p.m. Old Folks' Tea at the Band Hall. For detailed transport arrangements see back page. (Chairman, Mr. G. F. Faircloth)
- 6.15 p.m. Decorated Vehicles Parade, and continuation of Sports ;
- 7.15 p.m. Free Whist Drive for adults in the Town Hall, with prizes ;
- 9.0 p.m. onwards, Free Dancing in the Town and Band Halls, with prizes.

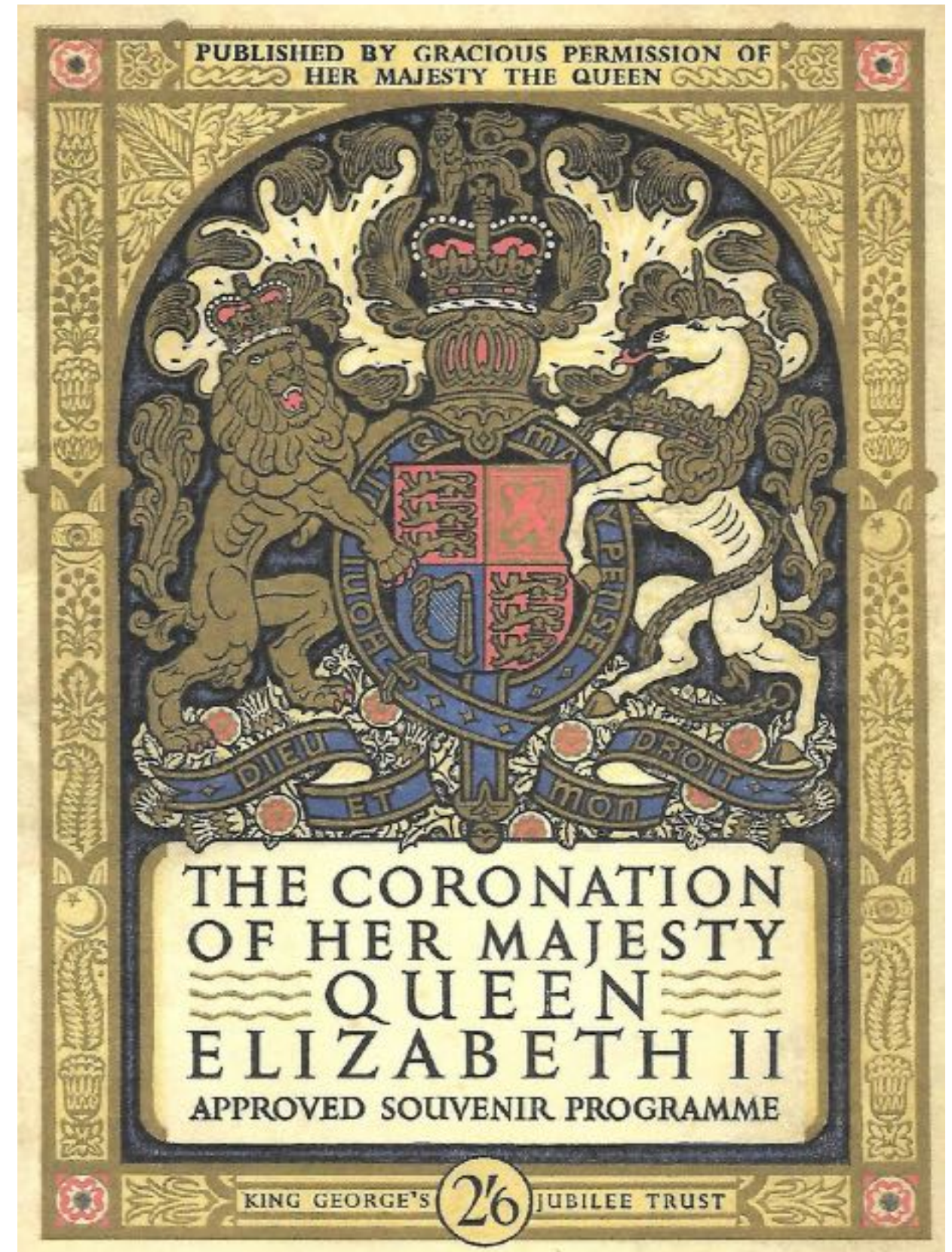


# Cover & Picture from Children's Souvenir Book 1953





# Cover & Portrait from Official Programme 1953





# Coronation Souvenirs

1953







# Strawberry Fayre

1975

A Royal British Legion event with the promise of an appearance by Lady Godiva, a stage coach hold-up & a tussle between Roundheads & Cavaliers.





## Queen Elizabeth II

## Silver Jubilee 1977

Station Stores  
decorated with  
bunting, flags &  
souvenirs.



*(now The Cutting  
Station)*





# Ben Stimpson meets the Queen at the Norfolk Show

1986





# Reepham Gala

1991



Nancy Taylor  
&  
Billy the Clown



# Reepham Gala



Pram Race 1990

In the rain!

1992





## Charter Day 1998

The Lord of the Manor of Hackford, Sir John de Vaux, obtained a charter to hold a weekly market and annual fair in the fifth year of Edward I, 1276-7, making Reepham one of the oldest market towns in Norfolk.





**2000** 

**'IT'S ABOUT TIME'**

**Celebration 2000**

A Millennium Festival for  
Reepham

from an original idea by  
*Reepham Churches Together*

**St Mary's Church, Reepham**  
**Saturday 8th January**  
**at 2.30 pm & 5.30 pm**  
**and Sunday 9th January**  
**at 3.00 pm**



The Millennium banner being rescued by  
the Fire Brigade!





# Queen's Diamond Jubilee

2012



3 June 2012  
Bring & Share Lunch  
in the Town Hall

4 June 2012  
Traditional Village Fete  
at Stimpson's Piece

4 June 2012  
Barbecue & Bar  
at the Scout Field  
Lighting of the Beacon





## Modern celebrations

Reepham continues to find occasions to gather and celebrate :-

- Festival of Light in December
- Food Festival
- Summer Music Festival
- Classic Car & Bike Festival

Now in 2022, as well as numerous events to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee, the food & the music festivals are back!



# Reepham Classic Cars & Bikes Show





# Festival of Light





# Reepham Music Festival Returns in August 2022

**Reepham Summer Festival**  
Saturday 14th August  
0247  
ACCESS ALL FESTIVAL AREAS 11am-10pm

FEATURING  
**Boomtown Rats**  
Garry Ro...

From 11.00am Boomtown Rats • Buster James  
Arcadia Lake • The Proposition • The Div  
The Waveney String Quartet • Celeste Lovick and Chris Ellis  
• Brollyfolk + More to be confirmed...

MUSIC VENUES

UP TO 20 ACTS  
over the day  
of the festival

THE SQUARE

FREE  
ADMISSION  
from 1.00pm  
and around  
THE SQUARE

- Arts and Crafts Stalls
- Trade Stands
- Street Entertainers
- Buskers
- Food & Drink Stalls
- Local Shops
- Children's Areas
- + MORE

SUPPORTED BY  
Renadland  
Reepham

PLEASE NOTE  
TICKET ONLY ACCESS TO MUSIC VENUES  
Visit the website for more details

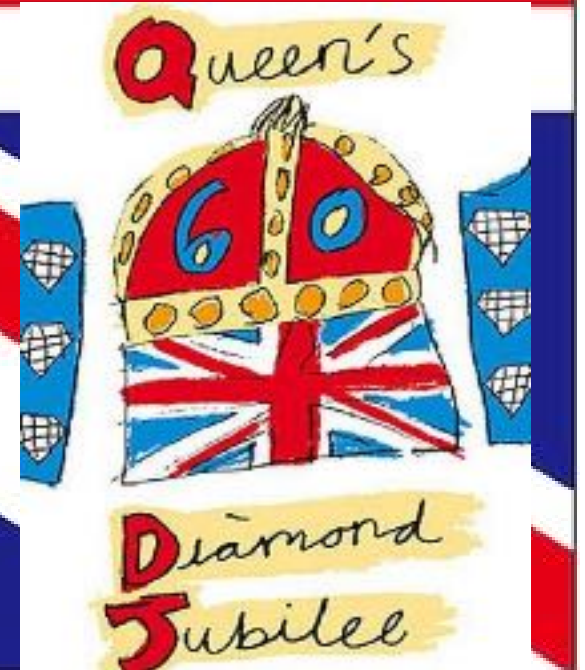


**Virtually**  
**Reepham20**  
THE MUSIC FESTIVAL FOR EVERYONE



# Reepham Food Festival returns in May 2022





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