A Glittering Jubilee



Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee

The Diamond Jubilee in 2012 celebrates 60 years of the Queen's reign. It is only the second time such an event has taken place in Britain, the first being Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897.

Much like our present Queen will do, Victoria travelled to a thanksgiving service in an open carriage before returning to Buckingham Palace through the streets of London. In 2012, festivities and special events are planned up and down the country. The Queen is admired around the world and many people worldwide will be joining the UK to celebrate this incredible milestone.



The official £5 coin to mark Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee



The official emblem for the Jubilee celebrations

A competition held amongst school children to design the official emblem for the Jubilee was won by Katherine Dewar, aged 10, and will be seen all over the country in the lead up to the celebrations.

A Royal Baby is Born

When Elizabeth was born into the Royal Family, she was never expected to one day be Queen. Elizabeth was third in line to the throne behind her uncle, Edward, Prince of Wales, and her father.

Elizabeth was born at 2.40am on 21 April 1926 in London, the first child of the Duke and Duchess of York. She was given the name Elizabeth Alexandra Mary.



Princess Elizabeth



Elizabeth as a child

Her first name was after her mother, the second after her father's grandmother, Queen Alexandra, and the third after her father's mother, Queen Mary.



Elizabeth and her sister, Margaret

When Elizabeth was four, her sister, Margaret Rose, was born. The family were very close and spent many happy times together, often at Royal Lodge, their new home in Windsor Great Park.



The family in the grounds at Windsor Castle, 1936