

Coronation
2nd June, 1953



Borough of Saffron Walden
Souvenir Programme

One Shilling

Saffron Walden Coronation Celebrations



ON THE 2nd JUNE, 1953, our beloved Queen will be crowned as Queen Elizabeth II. A Coronation is an occasion for all loyal subjects to renew their allegiance to the Crown and to re-dedicate themselves to their Country's service. That is why, in accordance with the expressed wish of Her Majesty, our festivities will be preceded by a Service of Prayer on 31st May.

It is my earnest hope that we in Saffron Walden, especially the young people, will go forward into this new Elizabethan era with fresh hope, with courage renewed and with a determination to do our utmost towards raising this England of ours to the high place in which she used to stand in the world. Let us celebrate the Queen's Coronation with traditional enjoyment and when those rejoicings are over, let us all work with an inspired endeavour to bring Prosperity to our Country once again.

I take this opportunity of thanking all those who are serving on the Committees responsible for arranging the local festivities. May all the Burgesses of the Borough be able to look back with pleasure on a memorable week.

P. L. ALLEN, *Mayor.*

*The Gables,
High Street,
Saffron Walden.*

1st May, 1953



Saffron Walden

THE ORIGIN of any town is often wrapped up in its name. The meaning of the word "Walden" has given those, who are expert in such matters, much cause of argument, and they are undecided whether it should be translated as the "Forest Valley"—which it certainly was,—or the "Britons' Valley"—which again fits the marshy forest hollow to which the Britons retired from their exposed position on Ring Hill, when the Romans established themselves further down the valley of the Cam, at Chesterford.

After the Saxons had replaced the Romans as the predominant power in the land, Walden was under Ansgar, Edward the Confessor's Master of the Horse, who was in command of the Cavalry at the time of the Battle of Hastings.

From that time onwards strands of royalty can be found interwoven in the pattern of Walden's history,—especially connected with some of England's Queens.

Is it not to Queen Matilda that Walden owes its Market, through a licence granted to Geoffrey de Mandeville, the builder of Walden Abbey? The act of a later Queen, Margaret of Anjou (Henry VI's Queen), was less complimentary to the town, for, taking umbrage at the town's neglect to ring a peal on the occasion of her visit to the Abbey in 1452, she fined the bell-ringers. (Perhaps this was less an instance of offended royalty than an excuse for a small addition to the Queen's coffers in aid of the struggle against her Yorkist opponents).

It may not be generally realised that a Walden Guild (of the Holy Trinity) numbered among its members a King and his Queen,—Henry VIII and Katherine,—enrolled on the occasion of the Guild's foundation in 1513, when it was entrusted with the local government of the town.

When Henry's daughter, Queen Elizabeth I, visited Audley End,—which was no longer an Abbey,—the town naturally received her with honour, though possibly with mixed feelings; for was not the fact, that her father at the end of his reign had abolished the Guild, balanced by the fact that through the instrumentality of her Secretary of State, Sir Thomas Smith (himself a Walden man), the right of self-government had been restored to the town, when her brother, Edward VI, was King.

Thereafter it became customary for the Burgesses of Saffron Walden to present a loyal address and a gift of saffron to royal visitors at Audley End, and for a time the Mansion became a royal Palace, under Charles II.

Finally, in the year 1953, when we mourn the passing of one Queen and celebrate the Coronation of her granddaughter, it is fitting to recall that on the one hand Queen Mary was the last royal visitor to Audley End before it ceased to be a private residence, and on the other hand that the Saffron Walden constituency has had the honour of finding a Chancellor of the Exchequer for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

C.B.R.



Children's Entertainments

BOROUGH SOUVENIR

All Children of the Borough up to School-Leaving Age are to receive a gift of a blue glass tumbler (10 oz.) with the Royal Coat of Arms superimposed in gold, red, white and blue; on the reverse side the Town seal in red. Distribution to School children will be made through the Schools of the Borough. (His Worship the Mayor or the Mayoress will be in attendance).

Under Fives

A Distribution Centre will be open at the Town Hall on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (26th—28th May) between the hours of 10—12 a.m. and 2—4 p.m. daily. Persons attending will be required to produce the Child's Green Ration Book for endorsement.

First Child

born in the Borough, on or after Coronation Day, will receive handsome gifts of a decorated Christening Cake and Cheque.

Second Child

born in the Borough, on or after Coronation Day, will receive a handsome gift of a Silver Spoon.

COUNTY SOUVENIR

Children attending Primary and Secondary Schools maintained by the Local Education Authority are to receive a gift of an illustrated Commemorative Book. (Distribution will be made through the Schools).

Old People's Entertainments

BOROUGH GIFT

Over 600 applications for the Borough Souvenir gift were received from old-age pensioners and persons eligible for this pension. The gift, which is a souvenir caddy containing half-pound of tea, will be distributed to the applicants at the Town Hall on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (26th—28th May) between the hours of 10—12 a.m. and 2—4 p.m. daily.

Special arrangements will be announced in the Local Press for the distribution to applicants, who, through age or infirmity, are unable to attend.

COUNTY GIFT

Those persons in residential accommodation under the control of the Welfare Committee of the County Council are to receive a treat by way of special fare and refreshments.



SAFFRON WALDEN AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY
SAFFRON WALDEN AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB
THE SAFFRON PLAYERS

and the
HOT - SPOTS

present a



Coronation Rebut

IN THE
TOWN HALL, SAFFRON WALDEN

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY
3rd, 4th & 5th JUNE

At 8 p.m.

::

Doors open 7.30 p.m.

TICKETS 3/6, 2/6 & 1/6

Advance Booking Office open from 19th May at Messrs Harts Bookshop,
18 King Street, Saffron Walden



Programme

SUNDAY, 31st MAY

3.00 p.m. UNITED SERVICE IN THE PARISH CHURCH—
followed by Short Service of Dedication in the Market Square.
The Mayor and Council, together with representatives of Local
Organisations, will attend the Services.

MONDAY, 1st JUNE

8.30 p.m. EVE OF CORONATION BALL IN THE TOWN HALL
TO Stanley Bloomfield's Band :: M.C. Mr E. F. Watson
2.00 a.m. Licensed Bar :: Buffet :: Tickets 15/-

CORONATION DAY

3.30 p.m. ATHLETIC SPORTS ON THE COMMON
Novelty Events for Adults and Children — Entries to be made
on the Ground

5.30 p.m. CHILDREN'S TEA-PARTY IN THE MARKET SQUARE
(Community Singing conducted by David Coe)

7.30 p.m. MODEL AIRCRAFT DISPLAY ON THE COMMON
(Organised by the Saffron Walden Model Aircraft Club)

8.15 p.m. MUSIC & DANCING IN THE MARKET SQUARE
John Goddard's Band :: Betty Nowne's Orchestra

9.00 p.m. THE QUEEN'S SPEECH
will be relayed in the Market Square

At Dusk FIREWORK DISPLAY & BONFIRE ON THE COMMON
Continuing till 12 m.n. MUSIC AND DANCING IN THE MARKET SQUARE
(Community Singing conducted by Jimmy Overall)

WEDNESDAY, 3rd JUNE

7.30 p.m. SWIMMING GALA IN THE MUNICIPAL BATHS
(Organised by the Saffron Walden Amateur Swimming Club)
Admission 1/- Children 6d.

8.00 p.m. WHIST DRIVE IN THE CORN EXCHANGE
M.C.: Mrs H. Porter :: Tickets 1/6

8.00 p.m. CORONATION REVUE IN THE TOWN HALL



THURSDAY, 4th JUNE

8.00 p.m. OLDE-TYME DANCE IN BRIDGE END GARDENS
Admission 1/- M.C.: Mr A. J. O. Cook Betty Nowne's Orchestra

8.00 p.m. CORONATION REVUE IN THE TOWN HALL

FRIDAY, 5th JUNE

8.00 p.m. MODERN DANCE IN BRIDGE END GARDENS
Admission 1/- :: M.C: Mr J. Mann :: John Goddard's Band

8.00 p.m. CORONATION REVUE IN THE TOWN HALL

SATURDAY, 6th JUNE

5.00 p.m. PROCESSION TO ASSEMBLE ON THE COMMON
Distribution of Prizes by His Worship the Mayor and the Mayoress

5.30 p.m. GRAND CARNIVAL PROCESSION
Route: Chaters Hill, East Street, Audley Road, South Road, Mount Pleasant Road, Borough Lane, The Hospital, London Road, High Street, Church Street, Common. :: Decorated Vehicles, Bicycles, Perambulators, Tableaux, and Fancy Dress.

6.45 p.m. GYMKHANA :: P.T. DISPLAY :: TUG-O-WAR
Football Ground, Catons Lane :: Admission 1/- Children 6d.

Dusk TORCHLIGHT CARNIVAL PROCESSION

8.15 p.m. MUSIC AND DANCING IN THE MARKET SQUARE
till

11.55 p.m. John Goddard's Band :: Betty Nowne's Orchestra





GYMKHANA

presented by the
CHELMSFORD AUTO-CLUB
THE MOTORCYCLE SHOW OF THRILLS
Trick Riding—Humour—Team Riding
Entertainment at its best for young and old

P.T. DISPLAY

by the pupils of the
Saffron Walden Technical and Modern School

TUG-O-WAR

First Prize: Nine Gallons of Beer
Second Prize: Four and a half Gallons of Beer
TEAMS OF EIGHT—ONE COACH (No Weight Limit)
MATCHES—BEST OF THREE PULLS
Entry Form and full particulars from
Mr W. J. Finch, "Beeleigh," Borough Lane, Saffron Walden

on the

Football Ground, Catons Lane, Saffron Walden

SATURDAY, 6th JUNE

Commence 6.45 p.m. :: Admission: Adults 1/-, Children 6d.



**Coronation Events
at Audley End Mansion**

(By kind permission of H.M. Ministry of Works)



SAFFRON WALDEN MUSICAL SOCIETY

with the support of the Arts Council of Gt. Britain

presents

HANDEL'S

"Acis and Galatea"

in period costume with orchestral accompaniment

in the

GREAT HALL

on

THURSDAY, 28th MAY, 1953

Performances at 6.30 p.m. and 8.15 p.m.

Soloists: Betty Dolemore (Soprano), Alexander Gillis (Tenor), Talfryn Phillips (Tenor)
Scott Joynt (Bass)

Conductor: George Barker

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Producer: Kathleen Beer

TICKETS (LIMITED): GREAT HALL 10/-

BUCKET ENTRANCE HALL 5/-

obtainable from Messrs Harts Bookshop, 18 King Street, Saffron Walden



**East Anglian Archery Championship
Meeting**

open to archers in the Counties of Bedford, Cambridge, Essex, Huntingdon, Norfolk & Suffolk
arranged by the

SAFFRON WALDEN ARCHERY CLUB

on behalf of the

SOUTHERN COUNTIES ARCHERY SOCIETY

on

SATURDAY, 20th JUNE, 1953

at 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

GENTLEMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP over a St. George's Round

LADIES CHAMPIONSHIP over an Albion Round

CORONATION TROPHY for TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

(presented by the Saffron Walden Archery Club)

No Charge other than the Ministry of Works charge for admission to the Mansion

Adults 2/-

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Programmes available

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Children 1/-

from

Hon. Secretary of the Archery Club, 169 Thaxted Road, Saffron Walden





In the Event of Wet Weather . . .

the following alternative arrangements will apply:

CORONATION DAY Children's Tea-Party will be held in the Town Hall, Corn Exchange and East Street School
MUSIC & DANCING WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE TOWN HALL & CORN EXCHANGE

Olde-Tyme Dance in the Town Hall Admission 2/6 **Modern Dance in the Corn Exchange** Admission 2/-

THURSDAY, 4th JUNE

OLDE-TYME DANCE

Admission 2/-

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BOTH DANCES

will be held at the

SAFFRON WALDEN TECHNICAL & MODERN SCHOOL

FRIDAY, 5th JUNE

MODERN DANCE

Admission 2/-

SATURDAY, 6th JUNE

Music & Dancing will take place in The Town Hall & Corn Exchange

Olde-Tyme Dance in the Town Hall Admission 2/6 **Modern Dance in the Corn Exchange** Admission 2/-



Souvenir Programme No. 98

A Surprise Gift will be presented to the holder of the Lucky Programme. The Winning Number will be announced in the Market Square on Saturday night, June 6th

Enquiries relating to the Events and Announcements included in the Official Programme should, unless otherwise stated, be addressed to the Coronation General Secretary, 5 Market Hill, Saffron Walden

Coronation Officials

Chairman: HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(Councillor P. L. Allen)

Honorary Secretary: W. K. BIRCHALL, Esq.

Hon. Treasurer: H. C. STACEY, Esq.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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H. C. FRANKLIN, Esq. ... Secretary		
Coun. A. W. ANDREWS...Chairman	}	CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENTS
A. E. D. NORMAN, Esq....Secretary		
L. S. DARKINS, Esq. Chairman	}	DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENTS
A. W. OVERALL, Esq. ... Secretary		
Ald. C. B. ROWNTREE ... Chairman	}	OLD PEOPLE'S ENTERTAINMENTS
I. F. GLOVER, Esq. Secretary		
Ald. E. ROOKE, M.B.E. ... Chairman	}	PUBLIC BUILDINGS & STREET DECORATIONS
T. W. CLOUGHTON, Esq. Secretary		
W. J. FINCH, Esq. Chairman	}	SPORTS ENTERTAINMENTS
W. F. C. HERBERT, Esq. Secretary		

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