



The Arbroath 'Royal Observer Corps Post' Museum's Beacon Lighting

The Arbroath 'Royal Observer Corps' Post Museum opened their gates at 1930 on the evening of Thursday 02 June 2022 when the first of our Team arrived to set up bunting, flags, tables and chairs for the eighteen people who attended, mostly ROCA 28 Group members.

Underground was opened up for a few youngsters that attended and a tour was given by Joe Yearly.

We couldn't have asked for better weather - calm and dry and even a little warm after a full day of sunshine.

The tables and chairs at the edge of the beacon lighting area were laden with food including coronation chicken wraps, celebration cake, biscuits and soft drinks. Pride of place on the table was Johan Brown's handcraft tribute of a beautiful knitted and jewelled crown tea cosy. 'Her Majesty' in attendance with her corgi and mini crowns completed her clever knitting work.

The beacon was perfectly lit by Joe Yearly of 24 Group dead on time at 2145 after he had called us to attention in his usual formidable manner! Peter Blockley proposed a Toast to The Queen and we raised our glasses containing non alcoholic fiz in response.

Ran Macdonald treated us to a firework display ably lit and controlled by Bert Harper one of our local helpers, as darkness fell we were treated to a lovely sunset. There were lots of oos and ahs! The same as when we celebrated the Diamond Jubilee ten years ago - as the loud rockets exploded the sky filled with seagulls roosting on the adjacent factory roof!

It turned a little chilly later but the incinerator fire stocked with wood from Arwen's damage last winter served to dispose of the wood and to keep our colder members warm in the process - a lovely heat.

The beacon was still burning well at 2300 when we finally locked up in almost darkness.

A lovely evening with friends who, judging from the messages I have received since, thoroughly enjoyed the evening celebrating HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

All participating venues were entitled to a Certificate of Grateful Recognition - The 'ROC Post' Museum is already proudly displaying theirs in Arbroath.