



BEACON LIGHTING TO COMMEMORATE HER MAJESTY'S PLATINUM ANNIVERSARY, 2ND JUNE 2022

From Edwina Holden MBE National Heritage Officer

Below is the response I received from Bruno after copying him the email I sent to National Committee requesting support for the project, he also telephoned saying that as we were the original Beacon Lighters of course we should be involved.

Dear Edwina,

Thank you for that. Let us hope they wish to pay their 'tribute' to Her Majesty The Queen using one of the oldest traditions of celebrating Royal Occasions such as these, by lighting a Beacon whether it be a private or public occasion.

My warmest regards for your generous support.

Bruno Peek LVO OBE OPR, Pageant Master, The Queen's Jubilee Beacons.

The following are the Beacons notified to me, there may be others, details of which have been notified to Bruno direct.

Elaine Norris, Preston.

Beacon location: Goosnargh, Preston, PR3 2JQ.
Public event.



Gavin Saxby, Dundee.

Beacon: **Brazier**
Beacon Location: On the top of the 28 Group HQ bunker,
59A Craigebarn Road, Dundee, DD4 7GB.
Private occasion.



Cheryl Stewart, Arbroath.

Beacon Location:
The Arbroath 'Royal Observer Corps Post' Museum.
Private event.



Mary Bruce, Aberdeen.

Members will gather at the site of the former
29 Group Headquarters, Quarry Road, Aberdeen, AB16 5UU.
Nothing elaborate but wished to participate.
Private event.



Aberdeen City is participating with a celebration at Council Headquarters, Marischal College, Aberdeen.

Clare Forrester, Llandudno

Beacon Location:- Just off North Wales Golf Course –
Trinity Crescent.
Private event.



Clare let us know that she intended to shine a high-powered torch into the air as a Beacon would not be allowed. I explained how appropriate this would be as when we were at Llandudno the First RAF Officer for Wales sent his assistant to find us remembering the ROC had tried so hard during WWII to shield Liverpool from the bombing.

John Kinder, Holbeach

Beacon location: Hallgate and Spalding Road junction.
Beacon lit by ex Chief Observer David Hagen, representing
15 Group Holbeach in association with Holbeach Parish Council
and 2430 Holbeach Air Cadets, other branch members will be present.
Public event.



Paddy Malone, Northern Ireland Nigel Crockard.

Location: Lisburn. A bonfire in his garden at 9.45pm and
raise Queen's Standards in both the front and back garden.
The following two Members will light torches while on holiday: Private event.



Valerie Miskimmon and Henry Miskimmon in Crete.

Public. In precincts of Hotel.
Powerful Torch will be shone at 9.45 pm.

Alan Lawley in Torquay.

Will shine a powerful Torch at precisely 9.45pm to celebrate
H.M The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Public in precincts of Hotel.



Tony Maasz, Winchester

14 Group ROCA have been invited to attend a Beacon Lighting ceremony on Otterbourne Common, a few miles south of Winchester. I have been invited to light the Beacon. There will be a party of eight ROCA members with 14 Group Standard, carried by Brian Harries. Map reference of the Beacon site is SU455222. This is assumed to be a public event.

Edwina Holden, St Paul's Walden, Hertfordshire

Beacon location: Dovehouse Close field, 1/2 mile north of Whitwell, near St Paul's Walden Bury SG4 8BP.

A piper will play the new tune Diu Regnare at 9.35pm, just before the Beacon is lit.
I dedicate this to a Seaborne member who lived in the Parish and also Kimpton Post.
Public event (on the Bowes Lyon Estate).



Stan Robinson, South Wales

Location: Festival Fields, Llanelli, SA15 4DN followed by singing.
Public event.



Nick Garside, Rushton Spencer.

Private event.

Paul Thompson, Blyth Garrison

Location: Shelter at Blyth Garrison, NE24 3PQ from 8.30pm.
Public event.



Further information: in 1977 Her Majesty was presented with a Silver Beacon Lighter on the occasion of her Silver Jubilee, the inscription on the plinth reads:

“Presented to Her Majesty the Queen Air Commander in Chief by the Commandant and Members of the Royal Observer Corps as a mark of their devoted loyalty on the occasion of Her Majesty’s Silver Jubilee 6th February 1977. “

The accompanying Certificate reads:

“May it please Your Most Gracious Majesty for Your Royal Observer Corps to present their warmest greetings, to offer a dutiful assurance of their devoted loyalty and to tender their good wishes and congratulations on the celebration of Your Majesty’s Silver Jubilee.

In offering this gift to Your Majesty they humbly affirm their strong feelings of patriotism and vigilance and associate themselves with the volunteer spirit of the Elizabethan beacon lighters who worked part time to care for and to light the warning beacons in time of national danger.

On behalf of the Royal Observer Corps, I have the honour to be your loyal and obedient servant. (Signed) M H Miller, Air Commodore. Commandant, Royal Observer Corps. 6th February 1977.”

We may not be able, as an Association, to present Her Majesty (our Patron) with such a gift but we can hopefully put up a good show around England, Scotland and Wales to show our continued loyalty.

The photograph below left shows an Elizabethan Beacon Lighter, presumably used at some time as a trophy – does anyone know the provenance?



Edwina J Holden. May 2022.

