

ROYAL VISIT



SOUVENIR



A Pictorial Record of Her Majesty the Queen's visit to Suffolk on July 21st, 1961.

The scene on the Cornhill, Ipswich, as the royal car arrived from H.M.S. Ganges. Inset: Her Majesty approaching the Civic College for the official opening.

Royal Visit Souvenir, price sixpence



STOWMARKET

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BURY ST. EDMUNDS



Queen Elizabeth II's visit to Suffolk

The Royal Progress

A MEMORY of a slight, dainty, smiling figure wearing a colourful ensemble of bright mimosa yellow will remain long in the minds of all those who saw the Queen when she came to Suffolk.

The day was one of joyous celebration. It was the first occasion for nearly 300 years that a reigning sovereign of England had paid a state visit to Suffolk, and the people of Suffolk responded by turning out in their thousands to welcome the Queen all along her route. Everywhere she went, in Ipswich, in Stowmarket, in Bury St. Edmunds, and in the villages along her route she received the same tumultuous reception.

Then came the drive through the cheering crowds once again as the Queen made her way to Belstead House, on the outskirts of Ipswich, where she was to lunch privately. On her route the Queen passed through the great new Chantry housing estate.

boundary, while the bells of the Norman Tower pealed out merrily.

Probably the densest crowd of the whole visit was gathered in Bury St. Edmunds. From the roundabout at Southgate Green along the winding route to the Angel Hill, the pavements were packed five and six deep. Bury gave the Queen "a welcome with flowers". There were hundreds of hanging baskets and window boxes with gaily coloured blooms.

The Mayor had struck a popular note with his request to the townspeople and visitors to wear roses in their buttonholes for this occasion. Almost everyone responded.

In the Abbey Gardens.

On the Angel Hill the Queen was greeted by a fanfare of trumpets of the 1st East Anglian Regiment, and was received by the Mayor (Mr. Cyril Grange).

She inspected a guard of honour from the 1st East Anglian Regiment who wore red and yellow roses in their caps in memory of the far off day in 1743 when their forebears were led into battle through the rose gardens of Dettingen by the Queen's ancestor, King George II—the last time an English reigning sovereign personally took his army into action.

In the beautiful surroundings of the Abbey Gardens the Queen, in an open reviewing car, inspected a parade of nearly 2,000 representatives of Suffolk's social and welfare services.

Her wish to see completed Cathedral.

Then the Queen toured the Cathedral, where she was received by the Bishop of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich (Dr. A. H. Morris). She displayed great interest in the plan for the Cathedral extensions and expressed the hope that she might come back one day to see the work when it is completed.

Tea with the Mayor and Mayoress in a beautifully decorated pavilion, and the drive out of Bury brought this memorable Royal visit to a close.

It was nearly 6 p.m. when the Royal car passed over the Bury St. Edmunds borough boundary on its outward journey. As it did so the official part of the Queen's visit came to a close.

Farewell to Suffolk.

The great Rolls Royce sped back to Shotley where the Queen re-embarked on board the Royal Yacht. At 7.15 p.m. the Britannia steamed quietly out of Harwich Harbour on her way to Portsmouth.

She carried with her the unspoken wish of the thousands of Suffolk people who had seen their truly gracious Sovereign for the first time—"Come back soon, Your Majesty."

Even the sun, which had been hiding behind the clouds for the previous few days, shone out to welcome the Queen, and throughout her tour weather conditions were perfect.

The early morning mist was just clearing from the waters of Harwich Harbour when the Royal Yacht Britannia, which had brought the Queen from London, steamed past Landguard Point soon after 9.30 a.m.

The sea was glassy smooth, and there was just sufficient breeze to unfold the Royal Standard that flew from her mainmast head.

As the great yacht steamed slowly round the Guard Buoy preceded by the Trinity House ship Patricia, and escorted by the destroyer, H.M.S. Carron, her glossy, dark blue hull, and sparkling white superworks glistened in the morning sunshine.

Arrival at Ganges.

Clear and shrill the sound of bosun's pipes rang out in salute across the water as the Britannia came to her moorings off Shotley. It was a colourful and majestic start to a great occasion.

At 10.08 a.m. the Queen stepped ashore at H.M.S. Ganges pier, at Shotley, to be greeted by the First Sea Lord (Admiral Sir Caspar John) and the Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk (the Earl of Stradbroke).

It was the first visit ever paid to H.M.S. Ganges by a sovereign of England, and the junior ratings of the Royal Navy's training establishment put on a sparkling show in honour of their Queen with all the arm swinging swagger that the Royal Navy reserves for great occasions such as this.

21-Gun Salute.

After spending an hour and a quarter at H.M.S. Ganges the Queen left on her drive to Ipswich at 11.23 a.m. She travelled in an enormous maroon coloured Rolls Royce with a transparent rear section, and was accompanied by her Lady in Waiting, the Countess of Euston.

As the Queen crossed the Ipswich borough boundary at Bourne Bridge, a 21-gun Royal Salute boomed out. It was fired by Suffolk's oldest territorial army unit, the 308 (Suffolk and Norfolk Yeomanry) Field Regiment, who were formerly the Loyal Suffolk Hussars of which the Queen's grandfather was once Colonel in Chief.

It was the first time a reigning monarch of England had set foot in

Ipswich since King George II paid a fleeting visit 225 years ago.

Sea of Waving Flags.

The drive through the town was made through a sea of waving flags in the hands of thousands of children, and to the accompaniment of a swelling volume of cheering and clapping from the dense throngs who lined the streets.

And so the Queen came to Ipswich's proud new £1,000,000 Civic College, which she was to open officially.

Civic College Opened.

Here she was received by the Mayor (Mrs. Charlotte Green), as the silver trumpets of the Royal Artillery sounded a fanfare. It was a memorable occasion for the 7,000 full and part-time students, many of whom, together with staff and special guests, were packed into the Assembly Hall and foyer of the building, or banded outside in grandstands.

In a short speech the Queen congratulated the Education Committee on their foresight in providing this fine modern building.

After formally declaring the College open, the Queen then proceeded to the foyer where she unveiled a commemorative plaque.

On to Portman Road.

It was here that she paused to talk to two of the men representing all those whose skill and labour had gone into the construction of the College. They were Mr. William Matthews, a bricklayer, and Mr. Stanley Sherman, a joiner.

Outside the College the Queen kept her retinue of cars waiting for five minutes while she chatted to the Principal of the College, Mr. Frank Metcalfe, about the students and the new building.

And so once again through the cheering, flag waving crowds to Portman Road football ground. Here were gathered 16,000 school children and 740 ex-service men and women, and old-age pensioners, who symbolised the debt of service owed by one generation to another.

Deafening Cheers.

None of those who were at Portman Road will ever forget the enthusiastic reception accorded to the Queen by the young people of Suffolk as she drove around the ground in an open reviewing car. The cheers were deafening.

Through the Villages.

After lunch the Queen set out at 2.42 p.m. for Stowmarket. So enthusiastic was the reception that she received in the villages along the road, Sproughton, Bramford, Great Blakenham, Baylham and Needham Market, that the Royal car was nearly ten minutes behind schedule when it arrived at Stowmarket Recreation Ground, where the Queen was received by the Chairman of Stowmarket Urban District Council, Mr. B. G. Quinton.

Stowmarket itself was festooned with bunting, and the Queen's route through the town was lined with schoolchildren, Guides, Brownies, Scouts and other youth organisations.

Insight to Suffolk Industry.

On the Recreation Ground, in three enormous open sided marquees, was arranged a comprehensive exhibition designed to give the Queen some idea of Suffolk's contribution to the National economy.

Here were mirrored Suffolk's agriculture and agricultural products, its industries, and its fisheries. During her 20-minute tour of the exhibits the Queen showed a keen interest in many of the displays and stopped repeatedly to speak to exhibitors about items that particularly attracted her attention.

Cricket Bat for Prince Charles.

She laughed gaily when a cricket bat, made of Suffolk willow, was presented to her for Prince Charles, and asked "Isn't it too big for him?" She was assured that it was exactly the right size for a boy of his age.

When she accepted a head scarf hand woven from Suffolk wool she commented: "How nice it is."

In a replica of a fishing trawler's wheelhouse she received a loyal message on the radio telephone sent to her on behalf of the fishermen of Suffolk by the skipper of a Lowestoft trawler at work on the North Sea fishing grounds 200 miles away.

For some time the Queen paused in admiration of a magnificent champion Suffolk Punch, and stroked the huge animal's muzzle appreciatively.

It was 4 p.m. when the Queen left Stowmarket for Bury St. Edmunds, where she arrived just over half-an-hour later.

Bury's Floral Welcome.

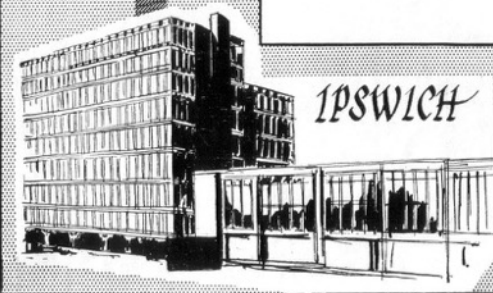
Once more the guns of the Suffolk and Norfolk Yeomanry field regiment boomed forth in a Royal salute as the Queen's car crossed the borough



Bramford



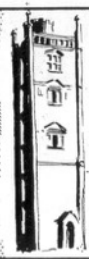
Sproughton



IPSWICH



Freston



SHOTLEY



Royal Salute



A 21-gun Salute was fired in Alexandra Park as the Queen entered Ipswich.



Miles of Cheering Crowds

Top: Her Majesty arriving at the Civic College for the Opening Ceremony.

Above: Some of the children at Portman Road cheering farewell to the Queen as she left for lunch at Belstead House.

Right: The Royal car passing along gaily decorated Fore Street, Ipswich.



Tumultous



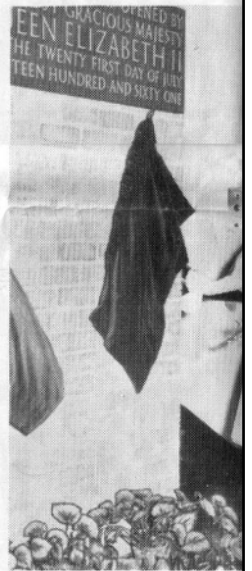
Thousands lined the Ipswich streets. Here the Royal Procession is about to cross over White Horse Corner.

Right: Leaving the College after the opening with Sir Clavering Fison (left) and the Principal Mr. Frank Metcalfe.

Bottom: Eager schoolchildren lined the Cornhill anxious for a glimpse of the Queen.



Sixteen Thousand schoolchildren greeted Her Majesty at Portman Road added more colour to a gay scene as the Queen drove round in her L.



Above: (Centre): Unveiling the commemorative tablet at the Civic College.

Right: Catherine Dell reciting her "Ode of Welcome" at Portman Road.



Welcome at Ipswich



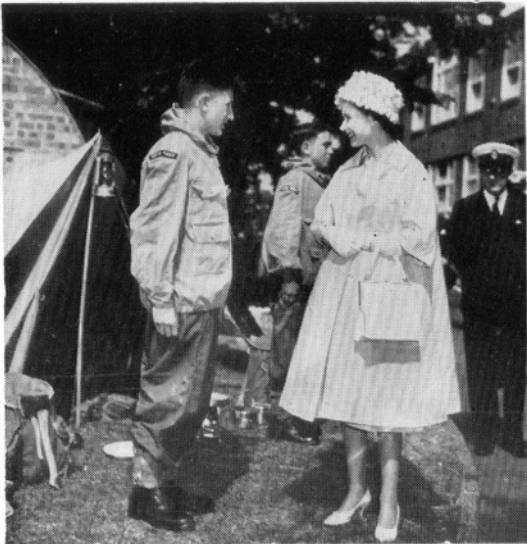
...d. The banners of the British Legion
and Rover.



Above: Major's Corner was packed
to capacity as the Royal procession
passed.

Bottom: A happy picture of Her
Majesty in conversation at the
Civic College.

Arrival at H.M.S. Ganges



Her Majesty met senior officers and their wives on the Wardroom lawn, and (top) took a keen interest in the naval training routine.



Top: With Britannia moored in mid-stream the Queen's barge approaches the landing stage, and (above) Presentations to Her Majesty on the Ganges Pier and (left) a final farewell to Suffolk as the Royal Barge took her Majesty back to Britannia.