

**ITEM-17 LMM 27/09/2022 - HONOURING THE PASSING OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II**

**MOTION:**

That City of Newcastle:

1. Acknowledges the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at Balmoral Castle in Scotland.
2. Honours Her Majesty's service to the Commonwealth as the longest serving British monarch, and the first monarch to visit Australia.
3. Acknowledges City of Newcastle's connection with the throne, following approval in 1947 by King George VI of its elevation to Lord Mayor, the first Australian non-capital city to receive the honour.
4. Notes Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh visited the City of Newcastle on four occasions, in 1954, 1970, 1977 and 1988.
5. Writes to King Charles III expressing sincere condolences on behalf of the community of Newcastle and congratulating him on his ascension to the throne.

**BACKGROUND:**



The passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will bring deep sadness to the people of the United Kingdom, to our fellow Australians and to countless admirers of Her Majesty around the world.

Amidst our grief, the people of Australia offer our gratitude for a remarkable life lived in service of faith and duty.

We recognise this will be a time of profound personal loss for the Royal Family, who are mourning a beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Over the course of her reign, The Queen visited our shores on 16 occasions, traveling to every

state and territory across our vast continent. Her affection for this country and our people was lasting, real and returned many times over. In particular, we recall the sympathy and personal kindness she extended to Australians afflicted by tragedy and disaster.

Her Majesty The Queen was also Head of the Commonwealth, and today we join together with the extended Commonwealth family of nations in sorrow and mourning for her loss.

At this time, on behalf of all Australians, I send my deepest condolences to our new King and the Royal Family. Like his mother before him, The King has a deep and lasting connection to Australia, a love of our beautiful country and a deep affection for our people.

In the coming weeks, we will commemorate our late Queen with every state honour. I hope all Australians who wish to pay their respects can participate in the gatherings, commemorations and tributes that will be held, as well as share their own reflections and memories.

The Governor-General and myself will be part of Australia's presence at Her Majesty's Funeral. Further details about Australia's remembrance of Her Majesty The Queen will be announced over coming days.

In our parliamentary democracy, the passing of the Crown from one generation to the next is rare but also seamless.

In the coming days, the Governor-General and I will be speaking with The King.

On behalf of all Australians, we will be sharing with The King the sorrow of Australia as well as our best wishes to him as he takes up his duties as Sovereign.

May our Queen rest in peace, and may God bless our King.

### Royal Visit 9<sup>th</sup> February 1954

On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 1954 Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Newcastle Station on the Royal Coach. They had travelled from Sydney and spent the afternoon meeting local dignitaries, members of the public and school children. Starting at City Hall, the Royal Party then travelled to Sportsground No. 1 meeting officers from returned services, then on to the Showground meeting Education officials and delighted school children. The final destination on The Royal Progress was BHP steelworks meeting members of the board and staff. After touring the steelworks Her Majesty and His Royal Highness boarded the Stockton Ferry at Selwyn Street wharf and upon arrival at Stockton Wharf travelled in the Royal car to the aerodrome at Williamtown. After meeting the R.A.A.F. commander the Royal party were farewelled by The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Newcastle, The President of Port Stephens Shire Council and his wife, and the Town Clerk of Newcastle and his wife. Police estimated that between 250,000 and 300,000 people saw the Royal Couple on their tour of the city.

"The Sun momentarily broke through the rainclouds as the Queen alighted from the Royal car at Newcastle City Hall yesterday." - Newcastle Morning Herald, 10/02/1954, p. 1

"In three and a half crowded hours yesterday Queen Elizabeth captivated Newcastle." - Newcastle Morning Herald, 10/02/1954, p. 1

"Forty-four thousand cheering schoolchildren, waving red, white and blue flags, gave the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh a rousing welcome at the Broadmeadow showground yesterday." - Newcastle Morning Herald, 10/02/1954, p. 3

#### Official Program:

- 1.10 pm Arrive at Newcastle Railway Station travelling on the Royal Coach. Met By Hon. F.H Hawkins (State MP for Newcastle and Minister for Lands) and Mrs Hawkins.
- 1.15pm taken by Royal Car along tour route – 'The Royal Progress' - past Newcastle Beach and along Hunter St to City Hall.
- 1.31pm Arrive at City Hall. Met By Hon. F.H Hawkins and Mrs Hawkins and presenting the Lord Mayor Alderman Purdue, Lady Mayoress and Town Clerk. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress escort Her Majesty to the dais.
- 1.34pm The Mayor asks if Her Majesty will take the Royal Salute. National Anthem ('God Save the Queen') is played, Royal Standard is unfurled and troops lining the route nearby will Present Arms.
- 1.35pm Anthem concludes, troops at ease. Mounted Escort moves on to The Showground. The Lord Mayor presents local and neighbouring councillors and Mayors to Her Majesty.
- 1.42pm The Lord Mayor reads an address of welcome and hands it to Her Majesty. Her Majesty reads a reply and hands it to the Lord Mayor.
- 1.45pm A bouquet is presented to Her Majesty by a Legacy Ward. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress take Her Majesty and His Royal Highness into the City Hall and on to the balcony of the first floor. They then sign the Visitor's Book inside City Hall.
- 1.49pm The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress escort Her Majesty and His Royal Highness to their car.
- 1.51pm Cars depart for No. 1 Sportsground.
- 1.54pm Royal Car arrives and proceeds clockwise around the oval to the dais near the Grandstand. Her Majesty is welcomed by Hon. F.H Hawkins and Mrs Hawkins.
- 1.56pm The Hon. F.H Hawkins presents Major General J.D Richardson, D.S.O., V.D. General Richardson asks Her Majesty if she will take the Royal Salute. The Band plays the National Anthem ('God Save the Queen'). At conclusion General Richardson and Her Majesty inspect the parade from the rear of a Land Rover, returning to the dais.

- 2.07pm General Richardson presents dignitaries from the Defence Forces and Returned Services.  
2.08pm His Royal Highness addresses the assembly.  
2.12pm Her Majesty and His Royal Highness enter their car and depart for the Showground.  
2.26pm Cars enter showground and circle the oval.  
2.32pm Her Majesty met by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress. The Area Director of Education is presented to Her Majesty and they tour the ranks of assembled school children from the rear of a Land Rover.  
2.38pm Her Majesty returns to the dais and is presented several Education Officials and their wives.  
2.40pm A child presents Her Majesty with a bouquet. Her Majesty addresses the school children. Children then sing the National Anthem.  
2.46pm Her Majesty farewelled and Royal Car proceeds to BHP.  
3.05pm Her Majesty arrives at the administrative offices of BHP, welcomed by Hon. F.H Hawkins and Mrs Hawkins. Chairman of Directors and his wife Mrs Syme is presented. Mr Syme presents several senior members of the BHP board and staff. Her Majesty and His Royal Highness retire to private suite.  
3.15pm Her Majesty rejoins her car and begins a tour of the steel works.  
3.53pm On Completion of her tour Her Majesty will arrive at Selwyn Street Wharf farewelled by Mr Syme. Her Majesty will depart for Stockton Passenger Wharf.  
4.10pm Her Majesty will arrive at Stockton Passenger Wharf greeted by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress.  
4.14pm Her Majesty will depart for Williamtown Aerodrome.  
4.40pm Her Majesty will arrive at Williamtown Aerodrome met by the Hon. F.H Hawkins and Mrs Hawkins. Hon. F.H Hawkins will present the commanding officer R.A.A.F Station.  
4.45pm Her Majesty will depart on the Royal Aircraft farewelled by The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Newcastle, The President of Port Stephens Shire Council and his wife, and the Town Clerk of Newcastle and his wife.



### **Royal Visit 10<sup>th</sup> April 1970**

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 1970 Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh accompanied by Princess Ann arrived at Williamtown R.A.A.F base. They had travelled from a tour of Wollongong and started their tour of Newcastle at the State Dockyard at Carrington. The subdued reception at the dockyard was in contrast to the welcome from children at the International Sports Centre at Broadmeadow – their next stop - who mobbed the Royal car. Her Majesty and their Royal Highnesses then travelled to Civic Park where the Royal Party spent 20 minutes meeting some of the large crowd that had gathered. The final event of the Royal visit was a formal reception at City Hall with various dignitaries, officials and volunteers. At the conclusion of the reception the Royal party travelled to Throsby Wharf and boarded the Britannia where a crowd of 5000 people surged forward, waving goodbye. Another 15,000 where at the back of the wharf and on Nobbys breakwater waving and signing along to the Navy Band.

"The arrival of the Royal group at the State Dockyard was quiet. Thousand of workers lining the route and hanging from cranes and machines seemed unsure of how to greet them" - Newcastle Morning Herald, 11/04/1970.

"Queen Elizabeth became the first reigning monarch to name an Australian-built ship when she christened the Darwin Trader at the State Dockyard yesterday" - Newcastle Morning Herald, 11/04/1970, p. 3

"Hundreds of cars packed the Stockton foreshores... Nobbys reported that, as if they had been synchronised, practically all the cars switched on their headlights together as the Britannia steamed up the harbour toward the sea" - Newcastle Morning Herald, 11/04/1970

#### **Official Program:**

- 2.10pm The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh accompanied by Princess Ann arrive at Williamtown R.A.A.F base.
- 2.15pm Royal Party leave for visit to the State Dockyard at Carrington.
- 3.05pm Arrival at State Dockyard, visit the apprentice training centre. Her Majesty names an ore container ship of the Australian National Line.
- 3.45pm Royal Party departs for Broadmeadow by coal loader area.
- 4.10pm Arrival at International Sports Centre where Her Majesty will open Stage 1 of the centre. Followed by a parade of sporting and recreational groups.
- 4.40pm Depart for Civic Park.
- 5.10pm The Royal Party arrive at the Laman Street entrance to Civic Park. Her Majesty and their Royal Highnesses will walk through Civic Park to attend a reception in City Hall with representatives of official and voluntary organisations.
- 6.10pm Leave for No.1 Throsby Wharf
- 6.15pm The Royal Party board H.M.Y Britannia
- 6.30pm Britannia sets sail for the next port of call Coffs Harbour.

**Royal Visit 11 March 1977**



On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March 1977 Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Williamtown R.A.A.F base as part of the silver jubilee tour of Australia. This visit to Newcastle was the briefest of the Royal visits lasting barely 2 hours but was less formal and allowed the public more time to interact with the Royal Couple. The highlight of the visit was the opening of the Art Gallery, followed by a walk through Civic Park to the delight of well-wishers. As in 1970 crowds lined the foreshore to watch Britannia leaving the harbour and parked cars hooted their horns in farewell.

"On our visits in 1954 and 1970 we saw something of the industries which are the foundation of the life of this community. This time you are showing us another side of Newcastle, its cultural life." Queen Elizabeth II, Newcastle Morning Herald, 12/03/1977, p. 1

"The Queen stopped frequently to talk to well-wishers at Williamtown, outside Newcastle Art Gallery and during her walk through Civic Park. The frequent chats by the Queen delayed her departure from the Port of Newcastle on board the Britannia by about 15 minutes." Newcastle Morning Herald, 12/03/1977, p. 1

"Royal visits have changed from occasions of awed adulation to occasions of more personal welcome. Still a young country Australia has matured in this quarter-century. The Queen herself has encouraged this change by replacing much of the stiffness and distance of regality with a

refreshing informality that brings her closer to the hearts of her subjects." Newcastle Morning Herald, 11/03/1977

**Official Program:**

- 4.30pm Her Majesty and His Royal Highness arrive at Williamtown R.A.A.F base welcomed by President of Port Stephens Shire Cr Freeman, Mr Punch MLA Gloucester, the officer commanding Williamtown Air Commodore Boast, and their wives.
- 4.35pm The Royal party leave Williamtown R.A.A.F base for Newcastle.
- 5.15pm Arrive at Newcastle Art Gallery met by Lord Mayor Anderson and Lady Mayoress. The Lord Mayor presents the Town Clerk Mr Burgess, and Mrs Burgess. The party proceeds to the main entrance of the Gallery where the Lord Mayor will presents the Minister for Sport, Recreation and Tourism Mr Booth, and Mrs Booth, and Mr Wade MLA and Mrs Wade.  
One verse of God Save the Queen is played by the Newcastle Police Boys Club Band and the Lord Mayor makes an address of welcome and invites the Queen to open the Gallery. After declaring the gallery open the Queen unveils a plaque at the main entrance. The official party then proceed to the first floor where Mr Anderson presents Gallery Director Mr A Fergusson, and Mrs Fergusson. They then view the art on exhibition and pause for an official photograph in front of 'Mountains' by William Delafield Cook. The Queen and Prince Philip sign the Visitors Book.
- 5.45pm The Royal party proceed through Civic Park and are farewelled at the Northern Boundary departing for Throsby Wharf via Burwood Street, Hunter Street, Merewether Street and Wharf Road.
- 6pm Her Majesty and Prince Phillip board Britannia.
- 6.15pm Britannia leaves Newcastle harbour for Sydney followed by its escort HMAS Vampire.

### Royal Visit 4 May 1988



On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 1988 Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh arrive on HMY Britannia in Newcastle Harbour. This Royal visit is to commemorate Australia's Bicentenary and officially open some of the city's Bicentennial developments. The tour starts at Queens Wharf and proceeds to Customs House to unveil a plaque opening the Newcastle Foreshores Bicentennial Development. The Royal couple proceed to City Hall for a Civic luncheon, leaving in the early afternoon to officially open the newly completed Newcastle Regional Museum. From there the Royal party proceeds to Williamtown departing for Canberra.

"Despite the hectic pace, the Queen appeared more relaxed than on her previous two visits, as she chatted with people in the park, and spoke to the then-Lord Mayor Joy Cummings who she addressed as 'Joy', having conferred Membership of the Order of Australia upon her just a few days earlier." - Newcastle Morning Herald, 7/5/1988.

"When the Queen steps on to Newcastle soil for the fourth time she will see yet another aspect of the city's character – its young and thriving tourist industry." - Morning Herald, 7/5/1988.



**Official Program:**

- 9.50am HMY Britannia arrives in Newcastle Harbour berthing at Throsby Wharf No. 1.
- 11.15am The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will disembark and proceed by Royal Barge to the newly completed Queens Wharf.
- 11.30am Disembarking the Royal Barge the Queen and Duke are met by the Premier of N.S.W. Mr Greiner and Mrs Greiner, and the Lord Mayor of Newcastle Alderman McNaughton and Mrs McNaughton. Party moves to Custom House Plaza to be met by other dignitaries and for the Queen to unveil a plaque to open the Newcastle Foreshores Bicentennial Development.
- 12.15pm Her Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh leave for City Hall where they will attend a Civic Luncheon with 300 guests.
- 2.05pm Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh leave for the Newcastle Regional Museum where Her Majesty will officially open the museum. The royal Signature will commence the Museum's visitors book.
- 2.35pm The Royal Entourage leaves for the R.A.A.F Base at Williamstown to board a Boeing 707 aircraft for Canberra.