



A Celebration of The Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Plumley with Toft and Bexton Parish Council

Highlights from the Plumley Village Diamond Jubilee Picnic and Mini Olympic Games
Tuesday 5th June 2012

In this Souvenir Edition:

- ◆ Highlights from the Plumley Village Diamond Jubilee Picnic and Mini Olympic Games, Tuesday 5th June - Report by Sharon Jones, Parish Clerk.
- ◆ The BIG Lunch at the Golden Pheasant, Sunday 3rd June



Picnic Tea on the Lawn



"Families enjoying the festivities in the Village Hall"

I arrived at Plumley Village Hall a little after 1.30pm. The weather was dull and overcast and a little breezy, but I was immediately cheered by the flurry of red white and blue bunting which adorned the Village Hall and tennis courts, accompanied by a brilliant scarecrow in the image of Usain Bolt to watch over the proceedings and ensure fair play in the mini Olympics. A crowd was already gathering some with picnic baskets and blankets whilst others sat at tables both inside and outside the hall, more people arrived from Lower Peover on bicycles, on foot and one on a penny farthing (Roger Turner) in readiness for the festivities.

The main events were to be on the lawn at the rear of the Village Hall but inside there was a video playing, showing highlights of the Jubilee Celebrations that had taken place in London at the weekend. A beautiful Diamond Jubilee Celebration cake created by Sheila Jamieson of the Plumley WI was also on display. Refreshments were available

for anyone not able to bring their own picnic, these were provided by the ladies of the Plumley WI.

I spoke to Sybil Crossman, Chairman of Plumley with Toft and Bexton Parish Council, and principal organiser of the event, who indicated that she had planned to hold an inclusive event as possible for all ages and all abilities. This was achieved and the wonderful support she procured from Plumley WI and local businesses brought the community together.

Sybil explained that Lower Peover and Plumley co-ordinated their celebrations so that they did not clash. She went on to say "My idea of holding a mini Olympics flowed from my membership of Knutsford LAP's Embrace the Games group. I am grateful to CEC's Stephen Baldwin and Keith Rogers for their informal guidance and loan of quick cricket equipment. The Olympic Flame was carried through Knutsford, only three miles away, just two days before the start of



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the Diamond Jubilee long weekend".

At 1.45pm, David Nichols, Chairman of the Village Hall Committee and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council, opened the event with an introduction of the afternoon's entertainment which included, music from Mereside Brass (band), mini Olympic Events (three legged race, egg & spoon race), cutting of the Diamond Jubilee cake, followed by best decorated Jubilee bike, wheelchair, scooter etc and lastly a Tug of War competition. Prizes for all events had been donated by members of the local community. "Quick Cricket", was also available on the tennis courts, supervised by local cricket coach Nigel Aston.



Mini Olympics & Best Dressed Bicycle, Wheelchair, Scooter Competition

The band played whilst we all tucked in to our picnic tea and preparations were made for the first event, the three legged race. Jane Richardson organised eager athletes into heats and checked the security of their elastic bindings. Each heat had 3 or 4 pairs of runners, mostly children but there was one heat for adults. The winners of each heat were to be put forward to the final. Stephen Wharfe kept a keen eye on the race as finish line judge.

Katy and Thea streaked to victory in the first heat. Penny and Harry Allen

made a brave start but they were overtaken by Brandon and Ted who stormed home to win with Katy and Thea taking 2nd place, Jake and Devyn 3rd and in last place Dominic and Cody who had fallen in the latter stages of the race.

Prizes were awarded to the winners by Gloria & Eddy Robinson from Holly Tree Riding School who also donated the beautiful rosettes, gold, silver and bronze with red white and blue ribbons. There were cheers of admiration for all the finalists from the crowd.

The final was very exciting but there was some interesting interpretation of the rules (holding on to eggs!) and the race had to be re-run, however the result remained the same; in 1st place Ted (renamed Super Ted because he won in 3 legged race and egg & spoon); in 2nd place Louis and in 3rd place Katy. This event was closely followed by the Best Dressed Jubilee Bicycle, Wheelchair, scooter etc competition.

There were eleven fabulous entries, the judges Gloria an Eddy Robinson from Holly Tree Riding Stables really had their



The winners of the three legged race (from left to right, Thea & Katy(2nd), Ted & Brandon(1st), Devyn & Jake (3rd)

Richardson, Eve Peacock and Isabel Gall on a penny farthing! Gloria and Eddy awarded the medals for the egg & spoon race and the Best Dressed Jubilee Bicycle etc competition, to the sound of Mereside Brass playing the National Anthem and the sound of applause and cheers from the crowd.

"The final was tense, the whistle blew and they were off....."

won the adults heat and were deemed adult champions as there were no more adults in the competition. Dominic and Cody won the 3rd heat, Jake and Devyn the 4th and Brandon and Ted won the final heat.

The final was tense, the whistle blew and they were off, Katy and Thea



Sybil Crossman, Gill Barker (WI President), Sheila Jamieson and Betty Jones cutting the Jubilee Cake

David Nichols introduced the cutting of the Diamond Jubilee Cake and also announced that there were a small number of a special Jubilee Edition of the New Testament available in the Hall, which had been donated by Jonathan Royle from the Village Stores. Mereside Brass played another set of rousing tunes.

Then it was time for the next mini-Olympic event, the egg & spoon race with real eggs! (hard boiled of course). There were 5 heats all for children and then a final. The winners of the heats that went forward to final were Katy Richardson, Louis Wright, Olivia, Devyn and Ted.



Everyone joined in the fun! Scarlet enjoying the race

work cut out to pick the winners. After some deliberation the winners were announced as follows; 1st place, Mimi Rankin with a very patriotic wheelchair belonging to her grandfather Jim Rankin; 2nd place Scarlet Broadbent with her Jubilicious wheelchair and in 3rd place Louie Wright with his Olympic Flame themed bicycle. Other entrants were Katy and Daniel Richardson, Rafferty and Isabel Smith, Amy Richardson, Alex



Some of the entries in the Best Dressed Bicycle, Wheelchair, Scooter Competition



The winning entry was Jim Rankin's Wheelchair entered by his granddaughter Mimi



Pub Challenge - Tug of War!

Mereside Brass played their last set including Land of Hope and Glory, Rule Britannia, Jerusalem and the National Anthem.

The Tug of War was the last event of the day, there was one match (best of 3 pulls) for the children, then the adult teams, men's and women's teams for the Smoker and the Golden Pheasant.

After taking the strain and a lot of pulling this way and that the first match was won by the men's team for the Smoker and the 2nd was won by the Ladies team for the Golden Pheasant. Two crates of beer were awarded as prizes to the winning teams.

All in all it was a great afternoon out for all who attended and took part. There was a true spirit of fair play and a sense of community which brightened up an otherwise dull and windy afternoon.

Sybil said "I am delighted that well over twenty guests from Lower Peover and other nearby villages joined us for our successful celebrations of both the Diamond Jubilee

of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the 2012 Olympic Games to be held in London".

The rain had been threatening for most of the day but it held off for the festivities and then just as the picnic ended the rain started!



The Golden Pheasant Ladies team pulling to victory!

"The rain held off for the festivities and then just as the picnic ended the rain started!"

A BIG Thankyou

Our special thanks go to a number of local businesses for their contributions to the success of the event:

- Eggs donated by Ben Wharfe's Egg Farm
- Prizes of Beer from the Smoker Inn
- Rosettes from the village Riding Stables
- Sponsorship of Mereside Brass Band by the Golden Pheasant Inn who also hosted Plumley's Big Lunch on Jubilee Sunday
- Prizes and Diamond Jubilee editions of the New Testa-

ment from Plumley Village Stores and Post Office

- Cheshire Community Foundation, Cheshire East Council £100 funding towards Queen's Diamond Jubilee Events.
- Plumley Village Hall Committee for free use of the Village Hall facilities.

And last but not least, a big thank you to Sybil Crossman for organising such a wonderful family and community event!

Celebrate the 2012 Olympic Games in Plumley

Join us in the Village Hall on 27th July 2012 to see the Opening Ceremony for the London 2012 Olympic Games on our BIG screen live!

The main event takes place at 9.00pm but why not bring along a picnic and join us earlier in the evening (6pm) to watch a recording of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Con-

cert held at Buckingham Palace on 4th June, while you enjoy your food.

A licensed bar will be available.

We will also hold a similar event for the Closing Ceremony on Sunday 12th August at the Village Hall.



The BIG Lunch at The Golden Pheasant 3rd June 2012

Proprietor of the Golden Pheasant, Viscount Christopher Wright, agreed to host a BIG Lunch the Sunday of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Weekend, and to use some of the proceeds from the lunch to fund the Mereside Brass performance at the Diamond Jubilee Picnic, Plumley Village Hall on 5th June 2012.

The Golden Pheasant is a stunning venue for any occasion and the staff really did themselves proud with the flags and bunting decorating the dining area, and the beautifully laid tables.

Lunch was a choice of a traditional Sunday roast, fish or vegetarian dish, with some mouthwatering starters to begin and luscious sweets to finish.

Local residents had purchased their tickets for the BIG Lunch in advance which offered great value for money.

We all took our seats for lunch and enjoyed the meal immensely. After we finished we all sang the "God Save the Queen".

We would like to thank everyone at the Golden Pheasant for their

efforts in making the BIG Lunch a great success!



Enjoying the festivities

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations Picture Gallery

