

## *The Queen's 90th Birthday Beacons*

There is a long and unbroken tradition in our country of celebrating Royal jubilees, weddings, coronations and special birthdays with the lighting of beacons - on top of mountains, churches and castle battlements, on town and village greens, farms, country parks and estates, and along the beaches surrounding our shores. The last major beacon celebration was on Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee on Monday 4th June 2012.

There is a further opportunity to celebrate on Thursday 21st April 2016, when beacons will be lit throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK Overseas Territories in celebration of Her Majesty The Queen's 90th Birthday that day.

Many local communities, including town and parish councils, local authorities, youth groups and organisations such as the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution, the Crown Estates, Windsor, Historic Houses Association, English Heritage, National Trust, Country Land and Business Association, Trinity House, the Royal Air Force, National Association of Local Councils, Local Government Association, Once Voice Wales, National Association of Civic Officers and the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities have agreed to take part. Manchester Cathedral is proud to join with others nationwide to celebrate by lighting a beacon on Thursday 21st April 2016 at 8.30pm.

The Beacon Project, by agreement with The Royal Household, will form an important part of The Queen's 90th birthday celebrations, and Her Majesty The Queen has graciously agreed to light the Principle Beacon on Thursday 21st April 2016.



## *The Queen's 90th Birthday Beacon*



**Thursday 21st April 2016**

**8.30pm-9.15pm**

## Programme

- ◆ Welcome by The Dean of Manchester
- ◆ The Lighting of the Beacon
- ◆ Letter written by the Prince of Wales read by the Vice Lord-Lieutenant, Mrs Edith Conn
- ◆ Prayer by The Dean of Manchester
- ◆ National Anthem
- ◆ A 90th Birthday Toast to Her Majesty The Queen led by The Lord Mayor of Manchester



## **The National Anthem**

**God save our gracious Queen!  
Long live our noble Queen!  
God save the Queen!  
Send her victorious,  
Happy and glorious,  
Long to reign over us,  
God save the Queen.**

**Thy choicest gifts in store  
On her be pleased to pour,  
Long may she reign.  
May she defend our laws,  
And ever give us cause,  
To sing with heart and voice,  
God save the Queen.**



CLARENCE HOUSE

I am delighted that so many people throughout the United Kingdom are coming together to light beacons in celebration of my mother, The Queen's, ninetieth birthday. It is a wonderful gesture which I know has deeply touched Her Majesty.

Beacons are to be lit on mountaintops, on beaches, in farmyards and on church towers, uniting us all in our heartfelt appreciation of The Queen's lifetime of service to the United Kingdom and other Realms, and to the Commonwealth.

Since time immemorial, the light of beacons has relayed important messages across the land. This message we proclaim with the greatest pride and affection:

Your Majesty, we all wish you a very Happy Birthday!

**Please visit the refreshments stand for a glass of bubbly  
or a soft drink to toast The Queen's 90th Birthday**