

Local-Scotland

The Queen in Scotland

6th July 1956

2349

The seaport of Troon, gay with bunting, was the proud gateway for ~~the~~ Royal visit to Ayrshire, the first by a reigning Monarch for nearly four centuries.

Following his yachting holiday ^{ON} ~~in~~ the Clyde, the Duke of Edinburgh came ashore in the Royal Barge from the yacht "Britannia" - to be welcomed by the Vice-Lieutenant of Ayrshire, and Provost McColl.

Meanwhile, excited crowds had gathered at Troon Station, and a warm Scottish welcome greeted the Queen (who had been joined by the Duke on the Royal train) after her overnight journey from London.

Leaving the train, Her Majesty was received by the Lord Lieutenant, Commander Hughes-Onslow, the Sheriff Principal and the Provost...for a visit that Troon will long remember.

On now to ^{ARROSSAN -} ~~Arrossan~~, where the Lord Lieutenant presented local dignitaries who had all spent many years in the service of the Community.

After the Royal ^{Couple} ~~Visitors~~ had signed the Distinguished ~~Visitors~~ Visitors Book, there was a big moment for little Muriel Johnstone. Then followed a ~~several mile tour by road, bringing renewed cheers from every town, village and hamlet.~~ ^{Continuing their tour by road} At Alloway, the Royal Visitors ^{later} paid homage at the birthplace of Scotland's ~~greatest poet -~~ Robert Burns - and visited the treasured Museum ^(Plaque).

~~xxi~~ So to the arrival in the Capital and time-honoured ceremonial at Princes St. Station, as the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Sir John Banks, presents the keys of the City to Her Majesty - in the traditional act of allegiance to the Crown.

Guides

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The following day forged a Royal link with one of the intellectual centres of Scottish life, when the Queen performed the opening ceremony of the National Library of Scotland, in Edinburgh. (Sound) Before leaving, ~~the Queen~~ Her Majesty unveiled an inscription, commemorating her visit, and rejoiced in the news that the library has acquired the famous Bute Collection of English Plays. Later, the Queen, accompanied by the Duke, arrived at the Meadows, to watch a shoot by members of the Royal Company of Archers- her trusted Bodyguard in Scotland.

And ~~the Queen~~ Her Majesty presented the prizes, which included the Edinburgh Arrow- a silver and gold trophy ~~which~~ instituted nearly 250 years ago.

A link with their glorious past, as ^{that} celebrated Cavalry Regiment- the Royal Scots Greys- carried off their ^{OLD} colours at the Palace of Holyrood House.

The occasion was the presentation of a new ^{Guidon by} ~~which~~ their Colonel-in-Chief, the Queen.

Finally- the Greys proudly marched past Her Majesty- carrying high the new Colour- (a red pennant trimmed with gold), which bears the names of battles in which ~~this~~ the Regiment has fought.