

## Unveiling of the Runnymede Memorial

17th October 1953 at 2.30 p.m.

### Programme

- Time
- 2.p.m. Some 25,000 relatives and friends of those whose names are commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial will by now have taken their seats. Of these, rather over 2,000 will have come from the overseas countries of the Commonwealth. (The next-of-kin of every man or woman commemorated on the memorial has had an individual invitation to be present.) A Guard will have been mounted over the Stone of Remembrance within the Memorial.
- 14.05 The Guard of Honour, supported by the Central Band of the R.A.F., will march up the main avenue and take position in front of the Memorial.
- 14.20 The choir of St. George's, Windsor, followed by the Principal Chaplain, United Board (The Reverend J.R.Appleyard, Q.H.C.), the Chaplain in Chief of the Royal Air Force (The Reverend Canon A.S. Giles, C.B.E., M.A., Q.H.C.), and the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury and his Chaplain will move up the Main Avenue in procession.
- 14.26 His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester, President of the Imperial War Graves Commission, arrives at the main entrance to the Memorial Enclosure.
- 14.30 Her Majesty the Queen accompanied by His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, arrives at the main entrance to the Memorial and is received by:-
- His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester.
  - The Lord Lieutenant of Surrey (General Sir Robert Haining, K.C.B., D.S.O.)
  - The Chairman of the I.W.G.C. (Rt. Hon. Antony Head, C.B.E.; M.C. M.P.)
  - The Secretary of State for Air (Rt.Hon. The Lord De L'Isle and Dudley, V.C.)
  - The High Commissioner for South Africa (H.E. Dr.A.L.Geyer)
  - The High Commissioner for Australia (H.E.Group Captain the Hon. Sir Thomas White, K.B.E., D.F.C., V.D.)
  - The High Commissioner for New Zealand (H.E. Sir Frederick Doidge, K.C.M.G.)
  - The High Commissioner for Pakistan (H.E.Mr. M.A.H. Ispahani)
  - The High Commissioner for Canada (H.E. Mr. Norman Robertson)
  - The High Commissioner for India (H.E. Mr.B.J.Kher)
  - The Chief of the Air Staff (Air Chief Marshal Sir William F. Dickson, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., A.F.C.)
  - The Vice-Chairman of the I.W.G.C. (Admiral Sir Martin Dunbar-Nasmith, V.C., K.C.B.)
  - The High Sheriff (Mr.John E. Ferguson)
  - The Chief Constable (Mr.J.Simpson, O.B.E.)
  - The Chairman of the Egham Urban District Council (Councillor R.H. Try, J.P.)
  - The Secretary, I.W.G.C. (Mr.F.Higginson, C.B., C.M.G.)
  - The Architect for the Memorial (Mr.Edward Maufe, R.A.)
- 14.32 Her Majesty, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke of Gloucester and escorted by the Chief of the Air Staff, will walk up the main avenue (which is lined by representative

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contingents from the Commonwealth Air Forces) and will mount the dais to take the Royal Salute.

- 14.34 Her Majesty, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke of Gloucester and escorted by the Chief of the Air Staff, will inspect the Guard of Honour.
- 14.36 Her Majesty, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Gloucester and the Chief of the Air Staff, will return to the dais, followed by the officiating clergy. The Service of Dedication will then take place according to the printed Order of Ceremony.
- 14.43 The Duke of Gloucester, President of the Imperial War Graves Commission, will invite The Queen to unveil the Memorial. Her Majesty addresses the congregation and then unveils the Memorial by pressing a button on the dais.
- 14.58 Towards the end of the Service of Dedication The Queen will lay a wreath, followed by the Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke of Gloucester. Wreaths will then be laid by the Secretary of State for Air, the High Commissioners for South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Canada and India, the Chief of the Air Staff and the Chairman of the Egham Urban District Council.
- 15.03 After the singing of the National Anthem The Queen will be presented with a silver key by the Architect. Her Majesty will unlock the entrance door to the Memorial and will inspect the Interior accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke of Gloucester. During the inspection of the memorial Her Majesty will be escorted by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary of the Commission and by the Architect for the memorial.
- 15.19 On the conclusion of the inspection of the Memorial Her Majesty, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke of Gloucester and escorted by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission, the Secretary of State for Air and the Chief of the Air Staff, will make a tour of the relatives' enclosures.
- 15.34 The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Gloucester and escorted by the Chairman of the Commission and the Secretary of State for Air will remount the dais. The Chairman of the Commission will present to Her Majesty a specially bound copy of the Register of the Memorial. The Royal Salute is then given and Her Majesty will walk down the Main Avenue to the Royal Car at the entrance to the Memorial.
- 15.44 Airmen will take the wreaths laid at the entrance to the Memorial and place them against the Stone of Remembrance within the Memorial.
- 15.47 The Guard of Honour, the Central Band of the R.A.F. and the clergy and choir will leave via the main avenue and the main entrance.
- 15.52 Relatives will be admitted to the Memorial to inspect the names on the panels within the cloister and to lay wreaths. It is expected that about 6,000 wreaths, bunches of flowers or posies will be laid by relatives as they pass through the Memorial.
- 17.00 The Memorial will be flood lit both inside and out.