



The *LaST* Platinum Jubilee Resource Pack

Part Two

(Sessions 4 to 6 and ideas for extra activities)



Session 4 – Life in Britain in 1952

- i) Session Plan
- ii) Life in Britain in 1952 Factsheet
- iii) Life in Britain in 1952 Quiz and Answers

Session 5 – Life In Britain in 1977

- i) Session Plan
- ii) Life in Britain in 1977 Factsheet
- iii) Life in Britain in 1977 Quiz and Answers
- iv) Life in Britain in 1977 Wordsearch

Session 6 – Looking back over 70 years

- i) Session Plan
- ii) Timeline of world and national events 1952 to 2022
- iii) Then and now – some examples of how life has changed 1952 to 2022

Ideas for extra activities



Session 4 – Life in Britain in 1952

Aim of the session – To think about life in Britain seventy years ago when the Queen came to the throne and to consider how things have changed

Suggested Session Plan

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Take turns to read “The Life In Britain in 1952” Factsheet

Watch 2 short videos

i) New Houses to solve problems ([1:21 minutes](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mHlnCWXAHzg))
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mHlnCWXAHzg>

ii) The Great Smog of London ([2:42 minutes](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xajjmbJrfEM))
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xajjmbJrfEM>

3. Questions and Discussion about the Factsheet and the Videos

e.g. What do the videos tell us about life in 1952? How have things changed? What has stayed the same? Did the factsheet trigger any particular memories for the adults?

4. Adults’ memories of their homes in the 1950’s

Children to ask adults about their homes – see list of suggested questions and look at the photo of the 1950’s front room – does this trigger any memories?

(Before the session you could ask the adults if they have any photos from the early 50’s – As we were meeting on Zoom we put together a Powerpoint presentation with a selection of photos of the adults’ childhood homes, school days and local High Street in the 1950’s)

5. Refreshments – during the refreshments break you could listen to Al Martino singing “Here in My Heart”- No. 1 in first UK Singles Chart in 1952 (3:05 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oCgmhrJtMFI>

6. “Life in Britain in 1952” Quiz

7. Drawing of something you’ve learned today

Life in Britain in 1952



When Elizabeth became Queen in 1952 it was only seven years since the Second World War had ended.

Butter, cheese, margarine, cooking fat, bacon, meat, tea and sugar (including sweets and chocolate) were all still rationed. It would be another two years before rationing ended completely.

The photograph shows a shopkeeper cancelling the coupons in a British housewife's ration book in 1943.

With thanks to United States Office of War Information, Overseas Picture Division, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

Many thousands of homes had been badly damaged or destroyed during the War and many other houses were in need of modernisation. In 1950, for example 500,000 homes did not have an indoor toilet. A major house building programme had begun after the War ended and continued through the 1950's. During the 1950s, more than two million homes were built and two-thirds of these were local authority housing including large-scale new estates.

A new form of construction was pioneered, commonly called 'PRC' (Pre-cast Reinforced Concrete). Pre-cast Reinforced Concrete houses were largely made from concrete panels reinforced with steel then bolted together or constructed with a steel frame. They were quick to assemble and required less skilled labour than traditional build. They were expected to have a 60 year life. The city of Leeds built the highest number of PRCs.



1950s semi-detached PRC houses in Seacroft, Leeds, West Yorkshire



In the 1950's many houses had coal fires and as a result air quality was poor.

The **Great Smog of London** was a severe air pollution event that affected London in December 1952. A period of unusually cold weather, combined with an anticyclone and windless conditions, collected airborne pollutants—mostly arising from the use of coal—to form a thick layer of smog (smoke and fog) over the city. It lasted from Friday 5 December to Tuesday 9 December 1952, then dispersed quickly when the weather changed.

The Great Smog caused major disruption by reducing visibility and even penetrating indoor areas, far more severely than previous smog events, which were traditionally called "pea-soupers". Government medical reports in the weeks following the event estimated that up to 4,000 people had died as a direct result of the smog and 100,000 more were made ill by the smog's effects on the human respiratory tract. More recent research suggests that the total number of fatalities may have been considerably greater, with estimates of between 10,000 and 12,000 deaths.

London had suffered since the 13th century from poor air quality. The Great Smog is thought to be the worst air pollution event in the history of the United Kingdom, and the most significant for its effects on environmental research, government regulation, and public awareness of the relationship between air quality and health. It led to several changes in practices and regulations, including the Clean Air Act 1956.

With thanks to Wikipedia for information

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Smog_of_London

In the early 1950's many people still had Utility furniture in their homes. Introduced in



1942, the Utility Furniture Scheme was a government scheme which was designed to cope with raw material shortages during the War. The Utility Furniture Advisory Committee was set up in order to assure that the available resources were used efficiently. The committee produced approved designs that were published in the *Utility Furniture Catalogue* of 1943. The aim was to ensure the production of strong, well-designed furniture which made efficient use of timber.

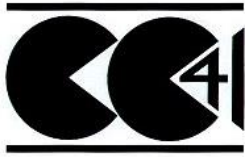
Utility Furniture Exhibition at the Building Centre, London, 1942

With thanks to By Ministry of Information Photo Division Photographer -

<http://media.iwm.org.uk/iwm/mediaLib//42/media-42640/large.jpg>

This is photograph D 11051 from the collections of the Imperial War Museums., Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=24359728>

New furniture was rationed and was restricted to newlyweds and people who had been bombed. The Utility Furniture Scheme was officially closed in 1952, the same year that furniture rationing ceased.



The same logo was used for utility furniture as for the utility clothing scheme: two capital 'C's and the figure 41, for "Controlled Commodity 1941" (which soon became known as "the two cheeses")

In 1952 only 14% of households in the UK had a television although by 1954 this had more than doubled to 31% and by 1960 nearly three quarters of homes had a television. Until 1955 BBC1 was the only TV channel. ITV was launched in 1955 and BBC2 in 1964.



A 1950's TV in a cabinet

All broadcasts were in black and white until July 1967 when BBC2 broadcast the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in colour but it was to be another two years before colour broadcasting went live on the other two channels, BBC1 and ITV.

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On the week ending 14 November 1952, New Musical Express (*NME*) published the first ever **UK Singles Chart** with the top 12 singles of the week.

American jazz singer Al Martino had the first ever number one single in the UK with "Here in My Heart", which remains his biggest selling single. The song spent nine consecutive weeks at number one, which continued to be the longest consecutive run at number one until mid-1954. In second place was pop singer Jo Stafford with "You Belong



to Me", and, with the exception of one week, she stayed just one place behind the top spot for nine weeks, until she finally managed to knock Al Martino off the top in 1953. Another record-achiever went to English traditional pop music singer Vera Lynn, who had three singles within the top 10 at the same time with "Forget Me Not" (at number 7), "The Homing Waltz" (at number 9), and "Auf Wiederseh'n Sweetheart" (at number 10).

With thanks to BBS Records Company, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

The first NME Hit Parade, 14 November 1952

1. **Al Martino** Here in My Heart
2. **Jo Stafford** You Belong to Me
3. **Nat King Cole** Somewhere Along the Way
4. **Bing Crosby** The Isle of Innisfree
5. **Guy Mitchell** Feet Up
6. **Rosemary Clooney** Half As Much
7. **Frankie Laine** High Noon
- 7= **Vera Lynn** Forget Me Not
8. **Doris Day & Frankie Laine** Sugarbush
- 8= **Ray Martin** Blue Tango
9. **Vera Lynn** Homing Waltz
10. **Vera Lynn** Auf Wiedersehn
- 10= **Mario Lanza** Because You're Mine

Agatha Christie's murder mystery play "**The Mousetrap**" had its world premiere on 6th October 1952 at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham. It opened later in the year in London's



West End and ran continuously until 16 March 2020, when the stage performances had to be discontinued during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Mousetrap re-opened at St Martin's Theatre on 17 May 2021 after 14 months without performances. To date it has been presented in 27 different languages in more than 50 countries around the world.

Blue plaque on front wall of St Martin's Theatre in Covent Garden, London, 2010

With thanks to Lisa, CC BY-SA 2.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0>
via Wikimedia Commons

The action takes place in a guesthouse called Monkswell Manor in winter time. The play has a twist ending which the audience are traditionally asked not to reveal after leaving the theatre.

When she wrote the play, Christie gave the rights to her grandson as a birthday present. In the United Kingdom, only one production of the play in addition to the West End production can be performed annually, and under the contract terms of the play, no film adaptation can be produced until the West End production has been closed for at least six months.

With thanks to Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Mousetrap

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Here are some questions the children can ask the adults about the 1950's

Whereabouts were you living in the 1950's?

Please can you describe the sort of home that you were living in during the 1950's

How was your home heated?

Did your family have

a car?

a TV?

a washing machine?

a fridge?

a vacuum cleaner?

Did you have a front room like this?



With thanks to Mandy Barrow <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/>

What other differences do you think there are between the 1950's and the 2020's?

Life in Britain in 1952 Quiz (15 possible points)

1. When Elizabeth became Queen which two of the following were **not** rationed? (2 points)

Butter, cheese, bread, margarine, cooking fat, bacon, carrots, meat, tea, sugar

2. Approximately how many new homes were built in Britain during the 1950's? (1 point)

500,000

2 million

5 million

3. What do the initials PRC stand for? (1 point)

4. What was the expected life of a PRC house? (1 point)

5. What was the name of the extreme event that affected London in December 1952? (1 point)

6. How many people were initially estimated to have died as a direct result of this event? (1 point)

7. What was the nickname given to the logo on Utility furniture? (1 point)

8. What was the title of the song that topped the first UK Singles chart and who was the singer? (2 points)

9. Which English singer had three songs in the first UK Singles chart? (1 point)

10. Where and when did The Mousetrap have its premiere? (2 points)

11. What is the name of the guesthouse where the action is said to take place? (1 point)

12. Which of Agatha Christie's relatives has benefitted particularly from the play's success? (1 point)

Life in Britain in 1952 Quiz Answers (15 possible points)

1. When Elizabeth became Queen which two of the following were **not** rationed? (2 points)

Butter, cheese, **bread**, margarine, cooking fat, bacon, **carrots**, meat, tea, sugar

2. Approximately how many new homes were built in Britain during the 1950's? (1 point)

500,000

2 million

5 million

3. What do the initials PRC stand for? (1 point)

Pre-cast Reinforced Concrete

4. What was the expected life of a PRC house? (1 point)

60 years

5. What was the name of the extreme event that affected London in December 1952? (1 point) **The Great Smog of London**

6. How many people were initially estimated to have died as a direct result of this event? (1 point) **4000**

7. What was the nickname given to the logo on Utility furniture? (1 point)

Two cheeses

8. What was the title of the song that topped the first UK Singles chart and who was the singer? (2 points)

Here in my heart

Al Martino

9. Which English singer had three songs in the first UK Singles chart? (1 point)

Vera Lynn

10. Where and when did The Mousetrap have its premiere? (2 points)

Theatre Royal, Nottingham 6th October 1952

11. What is the name of the guesthouse where the action is said to take place? (1 point) **Monkswell Manor**

12. Which of Agatha Christie's relatives has benefitted particularly from the play's success? (1 point) **Grandson**

Session 5 - Life in Britain in 1977

Aim of the session – To think about life in Britain forty five years ago when the Queen celebrated her Silver Jubilee and to consider how things have changed

Suggested Session Plan

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Take turns to read “The Life In Britain in 1977” Factsheet

Watch a short video about the Silver Jubilee (3:36 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XDiLB2c5WHO>

3. Questions and Discussion about the Factsheet and the Video

This is an opportunity for the children to ask the adults about their memories of the Silver Jubilee and events of 1977

e.g. What was life like for you in 1977?

How is life different now?

When you think back to 1977 does it seem like 45 years ago?

4. Find out some more about the Commonwealth and its theme for 2022
“Delivering a common future” and look at the map [The Commonwealth.pdf](#)

5. “Life in Britain in 1977” Quiz

6. Refreshments – during the refreshments break you could listen to Paul McCartney and Wings singing “Mull of Kintyre”- No. 1 single of 1977 (3:34 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6SEVPR5Ssck>

7. Drawing of something you’ve learned today

8. Wordsearch

Session 5 - Life in Britain in 1977

The Silver Jubilee in 1977 marked the 25th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the throne. The actual anniversary of the accession on 6th February 1952 was commemorated in church services throughout that month. The Queen spent the anniversary weekend at Windsor with her family and the full Jubilee celebrations began in the summer of 1977.

During the summer months The Queen and her husband Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, embarked on a series of tours in the United Kingdom visiting a total of 36 counties. They began in Glasgow, Scotland on 17th May, with greater crowds than the city had ever seen before. The tours continued throughout England, where



in Lancashire over a million people turned out on one day. They continued in Wales and culminated with a visit to Northern Ireland. No other Sovereign had visited so much of the United Kingdom in the course of just three months.

Walkabout by Her Majesty the Queen in Grimsby, July 1977

With thanks to www2.eastriding.gov.uk/leisure/archives-family-and-local-history/

Official overseas visits were also made during the Jubilee year to a number of Commonwealth countries including Western Samoa, Australia, New Zealand, Tonga, Fiji, Tasmania, Papua New Guinea, Canada and the West Indies. During the year it was estimated that The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh travelled 56,000 miles.

The climax of the national celebrations came in early June. On the evening of Monday 6th June, The Queen lit a bonfire beacon at Windsor which started a chain of beacons across the country. On Tuesday 7th June, huge crowds saw The Queen drive in the Gold State Coach to St Paul's Cathedral for a Service of Thanksgiving attended by heads of state from around the world including United States President Jimmy Carter, British Prime Minister James Callaghan as well as all of the living former Prime Ministers (Harold Macmillan, Sir Harold Wilson and Edward Heath). The

service was followed by lunch in the Guildhall, hosted by the Lord Mayor of the City of London. Here the Queen made a speech where she declared, 'My Lord Mayor, when I was twenty-one I pledged my life to the service of our people and I asked for God's help to make good that vow. Although that vow was made in my salad days, when I was green in judgement, I do not regret nor retract one word of it.'

After the lunch, the procession continued down The Mall to Buckingham Palace, where an estimated one million people lined the pavements to see the family wave to onlookers. It is estimated that a further 500 million people around the Commonwealth watched the day's events on live television. Back at Buckingham Palace, The Queen made several balcony appearances. Meanwhile street parties and village parties took place all over the country. 4000 were reported to have been held in London alone.



A Silver Jubilee Street party in Plymouth, Devon

With thanks to Steve Johnson, CC BY-SA 3.0

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The final event of the official celebrations took place on Thursday 9th June with a river progress down the Thames from Greenwich to Lambeth in a re-enactment of the ceremonial barge trips of Elizabeth I. During the trip, the Queen officially opened the Silver Jubilee Walkway and the South Bank Jubilee Gardens, two of numerous places named after the festivities. In the evening, she presided over a fireworks display and was taken subsequently by a procession of lighted carriages to Buckingham Palace,



where she once again greeted cheering onlookers from the balcony.

All sorts of special items were produced to mark the Silver Jubilee, like this Commemorative teapot. Many countries also produced commemorative stamps.

With thanks to Maxwell Hamilton, CC BY 2.0

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UK Commemorative Stamps



Seychelles Commemorative Stamp

With thanks to Seychelles Postal Service, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons



New Zealand commemorative stamps

With thanks to Archives New Zealand, CC BY-SA 2.0

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The Seychelles and New Zealand are both members of the Commonwealth of Nations which is generally just referred to as the Commonwealth. It is a political association of 54 member states, almost all of which are former territories of the British Empire. The current Commonwealth of Nations was formally constituted by the London Declaration in 1949, which established the member states as "free and equal".

Member states have no legal obligations to one another but are connected through their use of the English language and historical ties. Their stated shared values of democracy, human rights and the rule of law are enshrined in the Commonwealth Charter and promoted by the Commonwealth Games which take place every 4 years.

Queen Elizabeth II is the "Head of the Commonwealth" and is also the "head of state" of 15 member states which are known as the Commonwealth realms. 34 other members are republics and 5 have different monarchs. The 2018 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting appointed Charles, Prince of Wales, to be the Queen's designated successor, although the position is not hereditary.

Commonwealth Day is an annual celebration observed by people all over the Commonwealth. This year it is celebrated on Monday 14th March. Each year a theme is chosen for Commonwealth Day. This year's theme is "Delivering a Common Future: Connecting, Innovating, Transforming".

With thanks to <https://thecommonwealth.org/theme>



The Commonwealth Flag flying above the Foreign and Commonwealth Office
on Commonwealth Day 2017

With thanks to Foreign and Commonwealth Office, CC BY 2.0
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What else was happening in Britain in 1977?

Here are just some of the other things that were in the news in Britain in 1977

January The United Kingdom held the Presidency of the Council of the European Union for the first time. The United Kingdom had joined the European Union in 1973.

1st March – The Prime Minister James Callaghan threatened to withdraw state assistance to the car manufacturer British Leyland unless it put an end to strikes.

14th March – The Government revealed that inflation had pushed prices up by nearly 70% within three years.

29th March - Income tax was cut from 35p in the pound to 33p in the pound

April - Red Rum won the Grand National for the third time.

15th May - Liverpool Football Club became the English League Champions for the tenth time.

21st May – Manchester United won the FA Cup for the fourth time by defeating Liverpool 2–1 at Wembley Stadium.

25th May - Liverpool won their first European Cup by defeating the West German league champions Borussia Mönchengladbach 3–1 in the final in Rome.

July - English tennis player Virginia Wade won the Women's Singles title at Wimbledon.

July - The tenth James Bond film – *The Spy Who Loved Me* – had its premiere in London.

August - 26-year-old striker, Kenny Dalglish became Britain's most expensive footballer in a £440,000 transfer from Celtic to Liverpool.

November - Firefighters went on their first ever national strike, in the hope of getting a 30% wage increase.

22nd November - British Airways launched its regular London to New York City supersonic Concorde service.

25th December – The Morecambe & Wise Christmas Show on BBC 1 television attracted an audience of more than 28 million viewers, one of the highest ever in UK television history.

27th December The first *Star Wars* film was screened in British cinemas, having been a massive hit in the United States.

During the year

Inflation fell slightly during the year to 15.8%, but it was the fourth successive year with double-digit inflation.

The number of colour television licences exceeded black and white ones for the first time in the UK.

The best-selling single of 1977 was Mull of Kintyre by Wings.

Wings were a British-American rock band that had been formed in 1971 by former Beatle Paul McCartney.

With thanks to https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1977_in_the_United_Kingdom for information

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Suggestions for questions for the children to ask the adults

Who remembers the Silver Jubilee or any of these events from 1977?

What was life like for you in 1977?

When you think back to 1977 does it seem like 45 years ago?

Life in Britain in 1977 Quiz (20 possible points)

Here are five pictures – can you explain why each one was in the news in 1977?
Bonus point if you can also give the month for pictures 1 to 4.



6. In which month and in which city did the Queen begin her UK Jubilee tour?
(2 points)
7. How many member states are there in the Commonwealth?
8. Who was the Prime Minister in 1977?
9. Where did the Queen have lunch on June 7th 1977 and who was the host?
(2 points)
10. Approximately how many miles did the Queen travel in 1977?
11. Who won the FA Cup in 1977 and what was the score? (2 points)
12. Which team won the European cup in 1977 and what was the score? (2 points)

Photo acknowledgements

1. By Rick Weston from UK - Red Rum at Castle Park, Bristol 1980
Uploaded by oxyman, CC BY 2.0,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=11262027>
2. Eduard Marmet, CC BY-SA 3.0 GFDL 1.2, via Wikimedia Commons
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<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=5355926>
5. Jim Summaria, CC BY-SA 3.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0>,
via Wikimedia Commons

Life in Britain in 1977 Quiz Answers (20 possible points)

1. In April Red Rum won the Grand National for the 3rd time
2. British Airways launched its regular London to New York City supersonic Concorde service in November
3. Firefighters went on their first ever national strike in November
4. In December the first Star Wars film was released in British cinemas
5. Paul McCartney and his band Wings had the number one single of 1977
6. Glasgow in May
7. 54
8. James Callaghan
9. The Guildhall and the Lord Mayor of the City of London was the host
10. 56,000
11. Manchester United beat Liverpool 2 - 1
12. Liverpool won 3 - 1

Life in Britain in 1977 Wordsearch

G B W H V S E K P M E Y P O A H I
F E U Z T W N M S R W B J O H A S
Q I T C P L F O H T C F P T J S Y
U O R E K F A R I B A R G M E L Q
G J I E D I V E A T O R T Y J R V
F Y A D W O N L W C A O W L N Y N
G T Y M T O C G E N P R A A D V W
L F U V E O R S H A O G B M R M G
H Z P M N S S K E A V M C E U S M
X S N Y Z I B T S Y M S M R L T T
Q M S Z O T U O U G E P D O T E T
V Z G N H R U A N K Q E A Z C H C
J D N S B W W Y C D R E U L E W V
M Z I Z I I C L C Z G O C M A A I
M G W B E A C O N R F O A B F C S
T X L L A H D L I U G L I X Y R E
Q F E A U K F I N F L A T I O N Q

James Bond Inflation Red Rum Star Wars Wings
Fireworks Balcony The Mall Buckingham Palace Teapot
Procession Beacon Celebrations Commonwealth Guildhall

Life in Britain in 1977 Wordsearch Answers

G	B	W	H	V	S	E	K	P	M	E	Y	P	O	A	H	I
F	E	U	Z	T	W	N	M	S	R	W	B	J	O	H	A	S
Q	I	T	C	P	L	F	O	H	T	C	F	P	T	J	S	Y
U	O	R	E	K	F	A	R	I	B	A	R	G	M	E	L	Q
G	J	I	E	D	I	V	E	A	T	O	R	T	Y	J	R	V
F	Y	A	D	W	O	N	L	W	C	A	O	W	L	N	Y	N
G	T	Y	M	T	O	C	G	E	N	P	R	A	A	D	V	W
L	F	U	V	E	O	R	S	H	A	O	G	B	M	R	M	G
H	Z	P	M	N	S	S	K	E	A	V	M	C	E	U	S	M
X	S	N	Y	Z	I	B	T	S	Y	M	S	M	R	L	T	T
Q	M	S	Z	O	T	U	O	U	G	E	P	D	O	T	E	T
V	Z	G	N	H	R	U	A	N	K	Q	E	A	Z	C	H	C
J	D	N	S	B	W	W	Y	C	D	R	E	U	L	E	W	V
M	Z	I	Z	I	I	C	L	C	Z	G	O	C	M	A	A	I
M	G	W	B	E	A	C	O	N	R	F	O	A	B	F	C	S
T	X	L	L	A	H	D	L	I	U	G	L	I	X	Y	R	E
Q	F	E	A	U	K	F	I	N	F	L	A	T	I	O	N	Q

James Bond	Inflation	Red Rum	Star Wars	Wings
Fireworks	Balcony	The Mall	Buckingham Palace	Teapot
Procession	Beacon	Celebrations	Commonwealth	Guildhall

Session 6 – Looking back over 70 years

Aim of the session – To build up a picture of how life has changed over the seventy years of the Queen’s reign, by learning about a variety of world and national events and by reflecting on the changes in our own lives and/or our families’ lives over this time.

The events in the timeline are just a small selection of what could be included – you can of course add or delete events as you choose. You will probably find there is enough material here for more than one session.

Suggested Session Plan

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Children take turns to read one of the events from the “Seventy Year Timeline”. After about six or seven events, stop and ask the adults what they remember of any of these events **and/or** if they have a particular memory of something that was happening in their life at the time. Do write down these recollections and personal memories alongside the appropriate event or year.
3. Some of the events may also have particular significance for some of the children – do encourage them to ask questions or to add information themselves, perhaps from their family’s experience.
4. To break up the session you could show some video clips e.g.
 - i) Climbing Everest <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zvOXn5mKNEE> (Approx. 2 ½ minutes)
 - ii) Moon landing <https://edition.cnn.com/videos/us/2019/07/18/apollo-11-moon-landing-scn-orig.cnn> (Approx. 2 minutes)
 - iii) “James Bond” and The Queen at the London Olympics Opening Ceremony <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SOZFBun4WMs> (Approx. 1^{1/2} minutes)
5. Refreshments – during the refreshments break you could listen to the Beatles’ first number one hit “Please please me” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q3NTVkJHwD5I> (Approx. 2 ½ minutes)
6. Then and Now – children and adult can take turns to read the examples of how life has changed over the last 70 years. Adults could complete the “Prime Minister Quiz” whilst children are drawing something they’ve learned about today.

1952 to 2022 A Seventy Year Timeline

This is a selection of national or world events that have taken place over the last 70 years.

What do you remember about any of them? What important things were happening for you at the time of these events?

Year	National or World Event	Personal Event or Memory of the time
1952	Accession of Queen Elizabeth II - Elizabeth was proclaimed Queen throughout the Commonwealth after her father, King George VI, died in the early hours of 6 February 1952.	
1953	Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in Westminster Abbey on 2 nd June 1953.	
1953	On 29 th May 1953 Edmund Hillary and Tensing Norgay became the first people to reach the summit of Mount Everest, the world's highest peak. Edmund Hillary was a mountaineer from New Zealand and Tenzing Norgay was a Nepalese Sherpa. News of their success reached London in time to be released on the morning of the Coronation.	
1954	Roger Bannister, a 25 year old medical student at Oxford University, became the first person to run a mile in under four minutes.	
1954	Fourteen years of food rationing in Britain ended on 4 th July when restrictions on the sale and purchase of meat and bacon were lifted.	
1954	The British Medical Journal published a report on the link between cigarette smoking and lung cancer.	
1954	The first truly successful kidney transplant took place in Boston, Massachusetts. The technique has since saved over 400,000 lives worldwide, and more than 3,000 kidney transplants are now carried out in the UK each year.	

Year	National or World Event	Personal Event or Memory of the time
1957	The European Economic Community was created in 1957 with six members initially - Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and West Germany. The United Kingdom, Denmark, and Ireland joined in 1973.	
1960	The first episode of the British television soap opera “Coronation Street” was broadcast live on ITV on 9th December 1960.	
1960	The first Paralympic games were held in Rome, Italy, featuring 400 athletes from 23 countries. At the time they were known as the International Stoke Mandeville Games. They were the vision of Sir Ludwig Guttmann, a German neurologist who had come to England at the start of the Second World War. In 1943, at the request of the Government, he set up the National Spinal Injuries Centre at the Stoke Mandeville Hospital in Buckinghamshire. Guttmann was a great believer in the importance of sport in rehabilitation and in 1948 had organised the first Stoke Mandeville Games for wheelchair athletes.	
1960	On December 31 st the last 18 year olds received their National Service call up notices. The National Service Act had come into force in January 1949 and meant that all physically fit males between the ages of 17 and 21 had to serve in one of the armed forces for an 18-month period. They then remained on the reserve list for another four years. During this time they were liable to be called to serve with their units on up to 3 occasions, for 20 days maximum. Students and apprentices were allowed to defer their call-up until they completed their studies or training. National Service ended in 1960, though periods of deferred service still had to be completed.	

Year	National or World Event	Personal Event or Memory of the time
1961	A Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin was the first person to go into space. On 12 th April 1961 he orbited Earth once in 108 minutes and landed back in the Soviet Union.	
1963	The Beatles had their first number one hit in February with “Please please me”.	
1963	In the early hours of 8th August a Royal Mail train heading from Glasgow to London was ambushed by a gang of men as it travelled through Ledburn in Buckinghamshire. The robbers escaped with over £2.6 million in what quickly became known as “The Great Train Robbery”. Whilst much of the stolen money was never recovered the majority of the gang were eventually caught and the ringleaders were sentenced to 30 years in jail.	
1963	On 22 nd November the American President John F Kennedy was assassinated as he travelled in a car in Dallas, Texas. The event left a lasting impression on many people around the world who would always remember where they were when they heard the news.	
1964	In February the British and French governments agreed a deal for the construction of a Channel Tunnel. It would be another 30 years before it opened.	
1964	Violence broke out over the Easter weekend between groups of Mods and Rockers. The riots on Brighton beach and other seaside resorts attracted the attention of the press in the UK and abroad and the two groups became widely regarded as violent and unruly troublemakers.	

Year	National or World Event	Personal Event or Memory of the time
1966	In July 1966 England won the Football World Cup beating West Germany in extra time by 4 goals to 2.	
1966	On 21 st October 1966 there was a terrible disaster in Aberfan, near Merthyr Tydfil, in South Wales. 116 children and 28 adults died when a hillside coal tip collapsed onto a primary school and a row of houses below.	
1967	Francis Chichester, in his yacht Gypsy Moth IV, became the first person to sail single-handedly around the world. A few months later he was knighted by the Queen. For the ceremony, the Queen used the sword used by her predecessor Queen Elizabeth I to knight Sir Francis Drake, the first Englishman with his crew to complete a circumnavigation.	
1967	On 1st July colour television was launched in Britain when BBC2 showed the Wimbledon tennis championships in colour.	
1967	The first human heart transplant was performed by Dr Christian Barnard in Cape Town, South Africa.	
1969	In February a new aeroplane the Boeing 747, made its first flight. It was the first plane to be known as a Jumbo Jet. The Boeing 747 entered service with Pan Am the following January on the New York to London route. Manufacture of the 747 is scheduled to end in 2022 after a 54-year production run.	

Year	National or World Event	Personal Event or Memory of the time
1969	On 20 th July 1969 Commander Neil Armstrong and lunar module pilot Buzz Aldrin, both American, landed the Apollo Lunar Module <i>Eagle</i> on the moon. Six hours later Armstrong became the first person to step onto the lunar surface and said the now famous words "That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind." Aldrin joined him 19 minutes later. They spent about two and a quarter hours together outside the spacecraft and collected 47.5 pounds (21.5 kg) of lunar material to bring back to Earth. Command module pilot Michael Collins flew the command module <i>Columbia</i> alone in lunar orbit while they were on the Moon's surface. The astronauts left a sign on the moon which said "Here men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the moon July 1969, A.D. We came in peace for all mankind."	
1969	Drilling for North Sea Oil began in December 1969. The first crude oil came ashore in Britain in April 1976.	
1970	The British voting age was lowered from 21 to 18.	
1971	Decimal currency was introduced to the UK on 15 th February 1971. Prior to 1971, there were 12 pennies to the shilling and 20 shillings to the pound. There were also guineas, half crowns, threepenny bits, sixpences and florins.	
1972	Miners went on strike in UK for 7 weeks; resulting in the introduction by the Government of the 3 day week to conserve electricity. Television companies were required to cease broadcasting at 10.30pm during the crisis to conserve electricity.	

Year	National or World Event	Personal Event or Memory of the time
1973	Britain officially joined the European Economic Community on 1 st January 1973.	
1975	On 16 May 1975, Junko Tabei became the first woman to reach the summit of Mount Everest. She was a Japanese mountaineer, author, and teacher.	
1976	The driest summer in the UK since 1727. An emergency powers bill was announced on 3rd July 1976 and the resultant Drought Act came into force on 6 August. Besides banning hosepipes, the Act had serious emergency powers to reduce or turn off domestic and industrial supplies. Outdoor taps known as standpipes were in use in many districts, one for every 20 houses. The slogan "Save Water, Bath with a Friend" appeared everywhere to the amusement of many!	
1976	On 21 st January Concorde's first commercial flight took place from London Heathrow to Bahrain. Flights between London and New York started the following year. Built by Britain and France, Concorde was the first commercial supersonic aircraft and could fly at about 2,100 kilometres per hour. Concorde operated from 1976 until 2003.	
1977	The celebrations for Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee began on February 6th, 1977. This was 25 years from the day that she acceded to the throne. The celebrations continued throughout the year.	
1978 - 1979	The months from November 1978 to February 1979 became known as the Winter of Discontent with widespread strikes across the country. As a result, streets filled with rubbish, hospitals turned some patients away and ITV went off the air for three months.	

Year	National or World Event	Personal Event or Memory of the time
1979	On 4 th May 1979 the Labour Government were beaten by the Conservatives and Margaret Thatcher became Britain's first female Prime Minister. She was to be the longest serving Prime Minister of the 20th Century.	
1981	Home computers such as Amstrad and Commodore were introduced.	
1982	On 2 nd April 1982 Argentina invaded the British overseas territory of the Falklands Islands and Britain responded by sending a naval task force. A ten week conflict followed ending with an Argentine surrender on 14 June, returning the islands to British control. In total, 649 Argentine military personnel, 255 British military personnel, and three Falkland Islanders died during the hostilities.	
1985	In the scientific journal <i>Nature</i> on 16 th May 1985, three scientists from the British Antarctic Survey announced their detection of abnormally low levels of ozone over the South Pole. Within two years, in direct response to the <i>Nature</i> article and corroborating studies, 46 nations signed the Montreal Protocol, pledging to phase out substances known to cause ozone depletion. All 197 members of the United Nations eventually ratified the treaty, and as a result scientists now predict that the ozone layer will return to its pre-1980 levels before the end of the 21st century.	
1985	In 1985 the comedian Ernie Wise made the first “public” mobile phone call in the UK from outside the Dicken’s Pub in St Catherine’s Dock in London to Vodafone’s HQ. Initially mobile phone were large, extremely expensive and were only used by businesses.	

Year	National or World Event	Personal Event or Memory of the time
1985	On 13th July the Live Aid benefit concert was held simultaneously at Wembley Stadium in London and JFK Stadium in Philadelphia, USA. The event was organized by Bob Geldof and Midge Ure to raise further funds for relief of the 1983–1985 famine in Ethiopia, a movement that had started with the release of the successful charity single "Do They Know It's Christmas?" in December 1984. On the same day, concerts inspired by the initiative were held in other countries, such as the Soviet Union, Canada, Japan, Yugoslavia, Austria, Australia and West Germany. It was one of the largest satellite link-ups and television broadcasts of all time; an estimated audience of 1.9 billion, in 150 nations, watched the live broadcast, nearly 40 percent of the world population.	
1987	On the night of the 15th/16th October 1987 parts of England suffered the worst storm of the 20th Century. 18 people were killed and about 15 million trees were lost. Many trees fell onto roads and railways, causing major transport delays. Other trees took down electricity and telephone lines as they fell, leaving thousands of homes without power for more than 24 hours. Many buildings were also damaged by winds or falling trees and many small boats were wrecked or blown away.	
1990	Nelson Mandela was freed after 27 years as a political prisoner in South Africa. 4 years later he was elected as South Africa's first black President.	
1992	The world's first ever SMS message was sent in the UK. SMS stands for Short Message Service and it's the most common form of text messaging used today. A single text message is limited to 160 characters including spaces.	

Year	National or World Event	Personal Event or Memory of the time
1993	On 30 th April 1993, four years after publishing a proposal for “an idea of linked information systems,” British computer scientist Tim Berners-Lee released the source code for the WorldWideWeb. This became the first royalty-free and easy-to-use means of browsing the emerging information network that developed into the internet as we know it today.	
1994	On 6 th May the Channel tunnel was officially opened by the Queen and President Mitterand of France. At its lowest point, it is 75 metres (250 ft) below the sea bed and 115 metres (380 ft) below sea level. It has the longest undersea portion of any tunnel in the world.	
1994	On 19 th November the UK’s first National Lottery was held. The first numbers drawn were 30, 3, 5, 44, 14 and 22 and the bonus was 10. Seven jackpot winners shared a prize of £5,874,778.	
1997	Hong Kong passed back to Chinese control after over 100 years of British rule.	
1997	150 countries drew up an agreement to tackle climate change. Known as the Kyoto Protocol it committed more countries than ever to internationally binding targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	
1997	On 31 st August 1997 Diana, Princess of Wales, died in a car crash in Paris. Diana was the first wife of Prince Charles, the heir to the throne, and she was the mother of Prince William and Prince Harry.	
2002	The Queen’s Golden Jubilee – celebrations were held across the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth marking 50 years since her accession to the throne. It was the Queen’s wish that the Jubilee should be both a commemoration of her 50 years as monarch and an opportunity for her to officially, and personally, thank her people for their loyalty.	

Year	National or World Event	Personal Event or Memory of the time
2007	In January 2007 Steve Jobs, chief executive of Apple, unveiled the iPhone, which he described as a “revolutionary and magical product that is literally five years ahead of any other mobile phone”.	
2012	2012 saw celebrations across the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth for the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee. The only previous British monarch to have celebrated a diamond jubilee was Queen Victoria in 1897.	
2012	In the summer of 2012 The Olympics and Paralympics were held in London.	
2016	A referendum was held in the UK on 23 rd June 2016. 52% voted to leave the European Union and 48% voted to remain.	
2020	The UK left the European Union on 31 st January 2020.	
2020	On 23 rd March 2020 the UK went into lockdown for the first time due to the Covid Pandemic.	

Then and now – here are just a few examples of how life has changed over the last 70 years

In **1952** men in the UK earned an average of £9 a week and women received just £5. By **2022** average weekly pay has increased to about £550.

In **1952** the average house price was £2,750. In **2022** it is £274,000.

In **1952** only 14% of households in the UK had a television . By **2022** almost 97% of households have a television.

In the **1950's** it was only a minority of households in the UK that had a home telephone. Until **1958**, when the Subscriber Trunk Dialling (STD) service was introduced if you wanted to make a long distance call you had to call the operator who would manually connect you. The first STD call in the UK was made by Queen Elizabeth II, who called the Lord Provost of Edinburgh on 5th December 1958.



Even at the end of the **1970's** the UK telephone network did not have enough capacity for everyone to have a phone line of their own and so it was not unusual to have to share a “party line” with another household.

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In **1950** there were about 4 million licensed vehicles in the UK and less than 20 per cent of households had a car. By **2022** there were about 34 million licensed vehicles in the UK and about 80 per cent of households have a car.

In **1955** more than 95 per cent of the cars on British roads were made in the UK. In **2022** less than 20 per cent of all new cars sold in the UK are British-built.

The Ford Popular was built in England between 1953 and 1962. When launched it was Britain's lowest priced car.



The Ford Popular 103E

With thanks to Chris Sampson, CC
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In **1958** Britain's first motorway, the Preston by-pass, was opened. It was just 8 miles long and is now part of the M6 motorway. The following year the M1, Britain's first long distance motorway, opened with a 73 mile stretch between Hertfordshire and Warwickshire. Over the next 10 years hundreds more miles of motorway were built. By **2020** there was an estimated 2,300 miles of motorway in the UK.

Initially there was no speed limits on motorways and cars were not fitted with seat belts. It was not until **1967** that the 70 miles per hour speed limit was introduced.

From **1968** it became compulsory for front seat belts to be fitted in all new cars registered in the UK but it did not become compulsory to wear them until **1983**. It was compulsory for rear seat belts to be fitted to new cars from **1986** but it did not become compulsory for them to be worn until **1991**.

From **1952** to **2022** there have been 14 Prime Ministers in the UK. Here is a list of them in alphabetical order. Can you put them in date order?

Tony Blair

Gordon Brown

James Callaghan

David Cameron

Winston Churchill

Alec Douglas Home

Anthony Eden

Edward Heath

Boris Johnson

Theresa May

Harold Macmillan

John Major

Margaret Thatcher

Harold Wilson (He had 2 periods in office with a 4 year gap in between them)

Years	Prime Minister
1951 to 1955	
1955 to 1957	
1957 to 1963	
1963 to 1964	
1964 to 1970	
1970 to 1974	
1974 to 1976	
1976 to 1979	
1979 to 1990	
1990 to 1997	
1997 to 2007	
2007 to 2010	
2010 to 2016	
2016 to 2019	
2019 to date	

British Prime Ministers during the Queen's reign to date

1951 to 1955	Winston Churchill
1955 to 1957	Antony Eden
1957 to 1963	Harold Macmillan
1963 to 1964	Alec Douglas Home
1964 to 1970	Harold Wilson
1970 to 1974	Edward Heath
1974 to 1976	Harold Wilson
1976 to 1979	James Callaghan
1979 to 1990	Margaret Thatcher
1990 to 1997	John Major
1997 to 2007	Tony Blair
2007 to 2010	Gordon Brown
2010 to 2016	David Cameron
2016 to 2019	Theresa May
2019 to date	Boris Johnson

Suggestions for additional activities

1. Find out about the celebrations that have taken place in your town or village for the Coronation or previous Jubilees
(Visit your local Library and/or contact your Council's Archives Department for information and old photographs. Or perhaps you have a local history group or heritage society who will be able to help)
2. Celebrate your local trees – could you plant a tree for the Jubilee?
Perhaps you could write poems or stories about a favourite tree
(Do you have a local tree trail or wood or park where you could meet for a walk or a picnic?)
3. Create an Intergenerational Recipe Book
4. Craft activities – e.g. make crowns or bunting
5. Organise a street party or other Jubilee themed celebration
6. Create extra word games – crossword puzzles, word searches etc.
We used Wordmint <https://wordmint.com/>
7. Jubilee themed acrostic poems





*Thank you for your interest in The **LaST** Platinum Jubilee Resource Pack.*

We do hope that you find our resources helpful. We would love you to use all or some of them as the basis for a special Jubilee Intergenerational Project of your own.

All we ask is that you acknowledge **LaST** learningandsharingtogether.org.uk in any publicity about your project and, if you find our resources useful, **please** do let us know via enquiries@learningandsharingtogether.org.uk

You can also find us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/lastburnham> and Twitter <https://twitter.com/lastburnham>

If you have found these resources useful we do hope you will visit the **LaST** website learningandsharingtogether.org.uk to find out about all the other modules that are available in the **LaST** Toolkit.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information included in this Resource Pack. If you are aware of any inaccuracies, please do bring them to our attention via enquiries@learningandsharingtogether.org.uk.

Thank you

Shirley Shaw, Founder of **LaST**
March 2022

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