



PRESS RELEASE

Romsey Coronation Bank Holiday Celebrations

What are your plans for celebrating the Coronation over the Bank Holiday Weekend? Romsey have it all covered with a jam-packed agenda over weekend to cover all ages and open to everyone to attend.

Flags will be flying at full mast over Romsey Abbey, Romsey Town Hall and through-out the Town over the weekend and there are rumours the Palmeston statue will be dressed up for the occasion!

Saturday 6 May - The Romsey Carnival Committee kicks off the celebrations inviting everyone to come and celebrate the King's Coronation from 1pm until 8pm on Saturday 6 May by creating a street party throughout the centre of Town. In line with town criers across the land, the Romsey Town Crier will cry the Proclamation for Romsey at 2.15pm, marking the Coronation with a call to the town to join in celebrations.

Thanks to Test Valley Borough Council and Romsey Town Council sponsorship the event will have a large triple-sided screen in the centre of the town to follow the days events. Screening of the Coronation will be live from mid-morning, with Romsey Old Cadets kicking off the afternoon entertainment at 1pm which continues into the early evening.

Sylvia Finch, Treasurer of Romsey Carnival said: 'We are so excited to be given another chance to celebrate with a street party in the Town. Last years Jubilee Celebrations were amazing, and we had such a great response from the public even making the national newspapers! So, this year can we do better?! Dress



up, bring your picnic, tables and chairs, and deck out your area to win the best dressed table. We can't wait to celebrate with you!

The Coronation Street Party is a free event but please bring change to help support the Romsey Carnival with all the free events they do for the Town. There will also be a chance to enter the Mayor's Big Grand Draw with prizes from all the local major attractions such as Hospitality tickets for Southampton Football Club, free tickets for Paultons Park, Bombay Sapphire Discovery Experience, Leckford Estate Golf, The Attic Romsey, Plaza Theatre, Dogstival, Romsey Show, Beaulieu, Broadlands House, Golden Gecko, Army Flying Museum and complimentary meals at The Duke on the Test, Chewton Glen and Limewood plus Champagne gifted from local businesses such as Barclays and Parker Bullen to name just a few! All proceeds will be given to the Mayors Charities.

For a more serene viewing of the King's Coronation, Romsey Abbey are screening it live from 10.30am. The Coronation Service screened is conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury at Westminster Abbey and promises to reflect the Monarch's role today and look towards the future, whilst being rooted in longstanding traditions and pageantry. From 11am – 1pm there are children and family Coronation activities in the Church Rooms including the screening of the Coronation Service. Don't forget to listen out for the full peal of Abbey Church Bells from 2.30pm.

Sunday 7 May - Romsey Abbey is the place to be with three events over the day starting with the Parish Coronation Service with Eucharist at 10.30am. Honouring the Royal request of a national Coronation Big Lunch the Abbey invites you to bring a picnic and share from midday in the South Garth where there will be drinks and strawberries and cream on sale. The Romsey Coronation Commemoration Service will then commence at 3pm.

Vicar of Romsey Abbey, Revd Thomas Wharton, said: 'The Coronation will be a historic moment in the life of our nation, and we invite you to capture and experience the Coronation service from the unique and beautiful setting of Romsey Abbey. At its centre is a service, rooted in longstanding tradition and Christian symbolism in which His Majesty will be anointed as King.'



The King's Coronation Market will be in the centre of town between 10am and 3pm with fun for all the family. Come down and join in with crown decorating and enter the 'Find the Crown' competition to be in with the chance to win a gorgeous hamper of goodies from the South Central Makers.

The Michelmerch Silver Band will also be playing a Coronation Concert from 2.30pm at the bandstand in Romsey Memorial Park, so grab your picnics and wave along your flags to join in with a bit of pomp and circumstance!

Bank Holiday Monday 8 May - the King has asked members of the public to take part in The Big Help Out, which encourages people to try volunteering for themselves and join the work being undertaken to support their local areas.

Romsey Town Council and Unity Online invites you to the Royal Coronation Big Help Out Volunteer Market, situated in the centre of the town from 10am until 1pm. There will be local charities and organisation showcasing their work in the area and giving you the opportunity to find out ways you can support them. Volunteering can help you gain more skills, meet new people as well as giving something back and supporting something you believe in.

Judith Giles, Chief Officer at Romsey Town Council said: 'We have a tremendous community in and around Romsey and the weekend of celebrations planned will be a great way of coming together to celebrate that as much as the Royal Coronation itself. It is great our Town has come together to reflect the King's wishes over the weekend; a chance to party, eat and drink, reflect, and offer your time to support your community.'

If your charity or organisation would like a stall on the day, please contact suzishilling@romseytc.org.uk.

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