

## **Press Release**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE USE**

**The Queen, Accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall will light the Principal Beacon to Celebrate Her Majesty's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April.**

To celebrate The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday, His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales will invite Her Majesty The Queen to light the Principal Beacon on 21<sup>st</sup> April at Windsor Castle. This will be followed by the lighting of a number of Beacons along the Long Walk, Windsor Great Park, including one at the Copper Horse, and then over 1,000 beacons will be lit throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, UK overseas Territories and a Commonwealth Country to celebrate this landmark birthday.

Many different organisations are taking part from all areas of the local community by lighting Beacons, including Town, Parish and Community Councils and Youth Organisations. Beacons will be lit at churches, on farms, country parks, village greens and on country estates. Lighthouses, National Trust and English Heritage properties are also taking part.

The Army Cadet Force are taking special gas fuelled Beacons to the top of the Four Highest Peaks in the UK:

- . Ben Nevis – Scotland (1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Highlanders Army Cadet Force)
- . Mount Snowdon – Wales (Clwyd and Gwynedd Army Cadet Force)
- . Scafell Pike – England (Cumbria Army Cadet Force)
- . Slieve Donard – Northern Ireland (2<sup>nd</sup> NI Battalion Army Cadet Force)

Bruno Peek, LVO, OBE, OPR, Pageantmaster, The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Beacons said, "It has been a enormous privilege to be able to organise this amazing community event to celebrate the 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Her Majesty The Queen. I am delighted to see so many different organisations playing their part."

The Beacons on top of the Four Peaks will be lit at 7.15pm with all other Beacons being lit later that evening.

### **Note to Editors:**

Examples of places Beacons being lit are:

- \* Chapel Carn Brea, Cornwall – Far Westerly Beacon location in England.
- \* Unst – Shetland Islands – Most Northerly Beacon in Great Britain.
- \* St Macartin's Cathedral, Enniskillen, Northern Ireland – Most Westerly Beacon in the United Kingdom.

- \* Cardiff Bay, Cardiff, Wales.
- \* The Royal Hospital, Chelsea, London.
- \* 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> West Haddon Brownies, West Haddon, Northamptonshire.
- \* Virgin Islands – lighting 4 Beacons.

There will be a limited media facility on the morning of 21<sup>st</sup> April with Bruno Peek in Windsor Great Park.

For further information, email [david.pogson@royal.gov.uk](mailto:david.pogson@royal.gov.uk) - subject title – Beacon media facility.

The Prince of Wales has written a message which may be read out at Beacon lighting ceremonies. It has been placed here on [www.brunopeek.co.uk](http://www.brunopeek.co.uk) and [www.princeofwales.gov.uk](http://www.princeofwales.gov.uk)

Her Majesty The Queen has lit the Principal Beacon on all the Following Occasions:

The Queen's Silver Jubilee - 1977  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day - 1995  
Beacons for the Millennium – 1999  
The Queens Golden Jubilee – 2002  
The Trafalgar Weekend Beacons – 2005  
The Queen's Diamond Jubilee – 2012  
75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day – 2015

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#### **NOTE TO EDITORS:**

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