



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee 1952 - 2022



In the 1950s, Stonesfield was a quiet, working village that looked rather different from today... much quieter and with more open spaces. Its royal celebrations focused mainly on the Coronation in 1953.

The youngsters had a cycle ride in the morning – up the Woodstock Road, left toward Charlbury and then back down the Ridings. One young lad missed the turn and went halfway to Chipping Norton!

In the afternoon there was a children's party and then a 'social' for the adults at the Old Village Hall in the evening, with refreshments and dancing. Some of the older girls were rather miffed at being just under the cutoff point and having to go with the children.

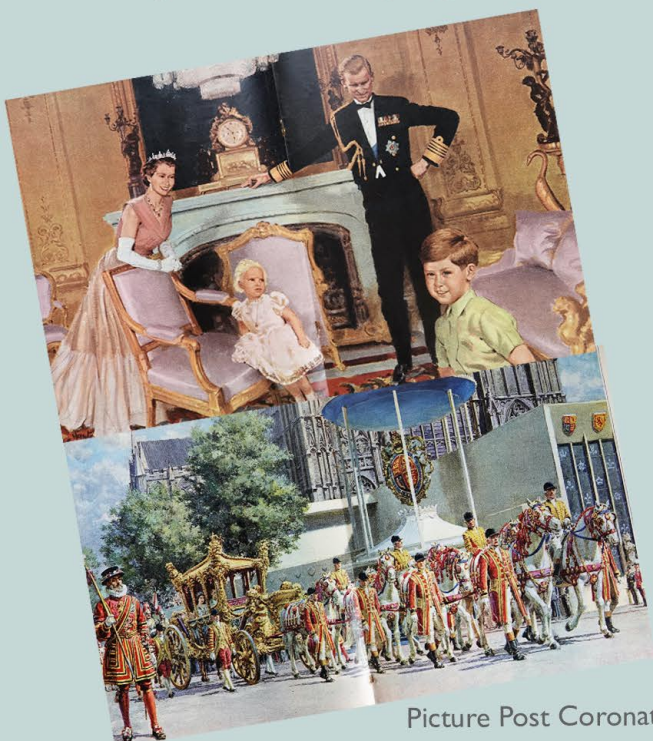


Coronation glass bowl

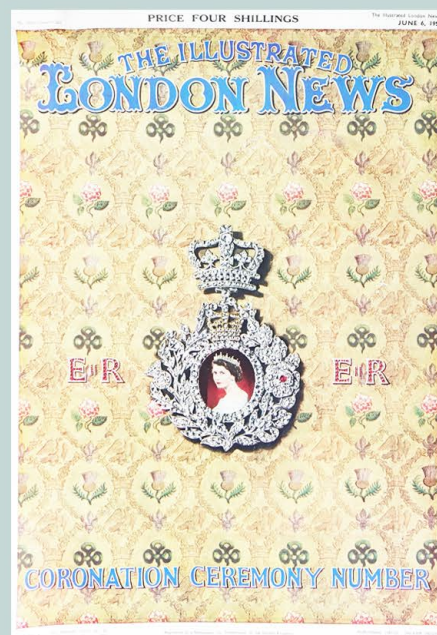
The children's party was in the garden of the head-teacher's house (Mrs Balmaine) in the afternoon. Julie Newell won a race and a bangle with a sceptre, orb and crown, and the royal initials ER.

Very few people in the village had a television. The Queen's Coronation was the first one to be televised in full, and it attracted a lot of interest. Avis Ushaw remembers Miss Phillips who came to watch it on her mother's TV and insisted on standing up in their sitting room every single time the national anthem was played.

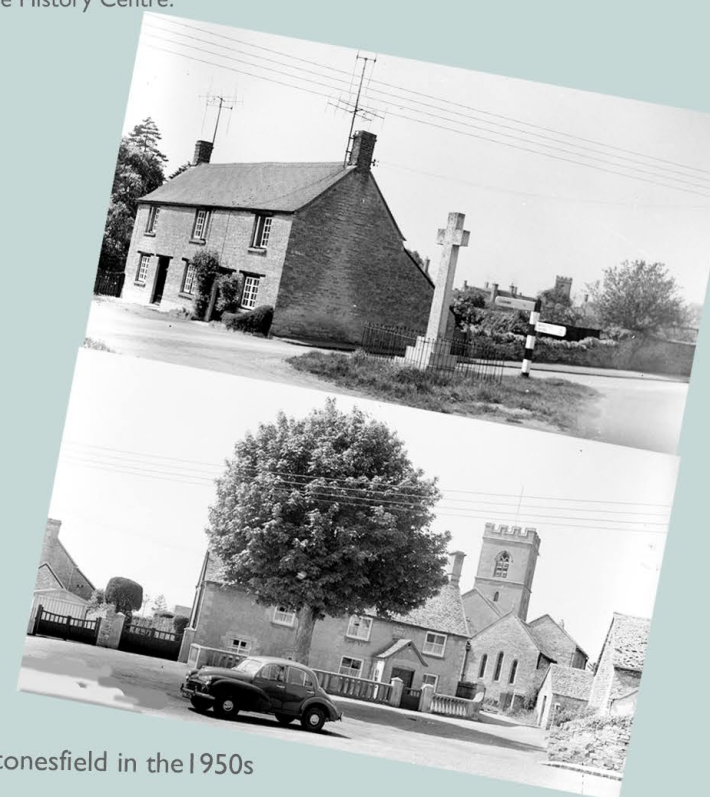
Our thanks for memories, loan of photos and memorabilia to Hebe Godfrey, Julie Newell, Lindsey Thompson, and Avis and Alan Ushaw. The 1950s Stonesfield photos were supplied by Oxfordshire County Council – Oxfordshire History Centre.



Picture Post Coronation issue



Illustrated London News
Coronation issue



Stonesfield in the 1950s