

# Celebrating Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee

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## (New Zealand Parliament, 2022c)

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Queen Elizabeth II wearing Royal Crown jewels. Whites Aviation Ltd: Photographs. Ref: WA-32987-G. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand. /records/23505758

Source: Alexander Turnbull Library

“ At the same time I want to show that the Crown is not merely an abstract symbol of our unity but a personal and living bond between you and me.

*Her Majesty The Queen, December 25 1953*

”

This year marks the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, New Zealand's head of State. She will be celebrating 70 years of sovereignty on Sunday 5 June, alongside the Commonwealth nations. New Zealand is a constitutional monarchy, so the Sovereign is our head of state. She is the source of all executive legal authority in New Zealand, and acts on the advice of the Government in all but the most exceptional circumstances. The Sovereign is represented in New Zealand by the Governor-General. There have been 16 people in this role since the start of Queen Elizabeth's reign.

(<https://platinumjubilee.gov.uk/event/platinum-pageant/>) On 9 February, Parliament **passed a motion to congratulate her on the 70th anniversary of her coronation** ([https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/hansard-debates/rhr/combined/HansDeb\\_20220209\\_20220209\\_08](https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/hansard-debates/rhr/combined/HansDeb_20220209_20220209_08)).

Former Governors-General The Rt Hon Sir Anand Satyanand and Lt Gen The Rt Hon Sir Jerry Mateparaea hosted a beacon lighting ceremony at the summit of Tangi Te Keo Mt Victoria on Thursday 2 June, at 9pm. The ceremony can be streamed on the **Governor-General's website**

(<https://gg.govt.nz/office-governor-general/queens-platinum-jubilee/livestream-queens-jubilee-beacon>). On Friday 3 June, a Service of Celebration was held at the Cathedral of St Paul in Wellington. The recording of this service is **available to be streamed here** (<https://gg.govt.nz/node/9444>). In London, a contingent from NZDF will also march at the Queen's Jubilee pageant, which begins at 1.30 am New Zealand Time on

Monday 6 June. **For more information on the Jubilee pageant, click here.** (<https://platinumjubilee.gov.uk/event/platinum-pageant/>)

### Visits to New Zealand

The Queen has visited New Zealand 10 times since she acceded to the throne.

- **23 Dec 1953 - 31 Jan 1954:** Following her coronation in June 1953, the Queen visited New Zealand for over a month, during which she opened a special session of Parliament, laid the foundation stone of the Anglican Cathedral, and visited numerous cities.
- **5th February 1963:** During this tour the Queen attended celebrations at Waitangi and the Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council. A gift was published as New Zealand's gift to the Queen.