



Overstone Scout Campsite & Activity Centre



A Royal Reflection for HM The Queen

Overstone Scout Campsite & Activity Centre Chapel

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Welcome

I've packed you a marmalade sandwich for your journey said Paddington

Will I ever see you again Your Majesty?

No said the Queen, I'm going for a long sleep, but you can hold my hand whenever you need to.

Oh, thank you said Paddington, you are a very nice Queen

Good night Your Majesty

We are gathered here today at Overstone as a mark of respect and to reflect on the life of HM The Queen, who has very sadly passed away on Thursday 8th September. As well as being our Queen for over seventy years, she was a Mother, Grandmother and a Great Grandmother as well as being the Patron of Scouts.

Personally, I find it hard to believe that it was only 3 months ago that many of us sat in the Campfire Circle and celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Yes, we knew she was 96 years old and showing some frailty following the loss of her husband the Duke of Edinburgh, but did we honestly think this day would come so soon.

I don't think so.

Thursday afternoon to me was like time standing still, from hearing the initial news at about 12:30 regarding concerns for her health until the announcement of her passing at about 6:30 I couldn't bring myself to do anything.

In my relative short life (63 years) there have been many changes in this world and very few constants, The Queen was one of those constants. She has, always been there.

My first recollection, presenting Bobby Moore with the World Cup at Wembley in 1966.

There are numerous stories in the press and on TV about her role as Queen and mother to her family, today we will primarily remember her as our Patron.

Being our Patron meant that she took care of us, supported us and encouraged us to do our best. It has been great to look at the many pictures of her attending Scouting events and in particular the St Georges Day Awards at Windsor.

Bear Grylls our Chief Scout states “As a family of Scouts, we are united in sorrow for the loss of our Patron, HM The Queen. She leaves a bright legacy of hope and promise for future generations. Together, we will honour her memory.

We will remember her and give thanks for her kindness, her service, and the unwavering support she showed our movement over many decades. She was truly a friend to Scouts everywhere.

Let's not be downhearted at this difficult time but extend our sincere sympathies to her family and many friends.

Let's take great solace and comfort in her warm-heartedness towards young people, her devotion to her duty and most of all her kindness.

In memory of our great Patron, let's show that same sense of kindness and respect to each other. A great book has closed - not just a chapter - and a new one now begins.

On behalf of every Scout, we thank HM The Queen for her service. We will never forget her.

Reflection

Your Majesty,

Thank you for all you've done for us,
For your kindness and for your service.

Thank you for giving so much time to help others
And inspiring us to do the same.
Thank you for your encouragement
To do our best and to do our duty.
Thank you for showing us the way
By being our shining light.

We'll never forget you, and promise
To carry on your good work by
showing kindness in all we do
and supporting our communities.

Thank you for being our Queen, our Patron
And a friend to Scouts everywhere.

Minute Silence

Prayer

Gracious God, we give thanks
for the life of your servant Queen Elizabeth,
for her faith and her dedication to duty.
Bless our nation as we mourn her death
and may her example continue to inspire us.
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading

I will do more than belong, I will participate.
I will do more than care, I will help.
I will do more than believe, I will practice.
I will do more than forgive, I will forget.
I will do more than teach, I will inspire.
I will do more than dream, work.
I will do more than give, I will serve.
I will do more than earn, I will enrich.
I will do more than live, I will grow.
I will do more than be fair, I will be kind.
I will do more than be a citizen, I will be a patriot
I will do more than be friendly, I will be a friend

Blessing

God grant to the living, grace.
to the departed, rest.
to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth,
and all humankind,
peace and concord.
and to us and all his servants, life everlasting.
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among us and remain with us always.

Amen
