

21 September 2022

Mayoral Message

Dear Residents



'Grief is the price we pay for love.'

And love we have for Elizabeth Alexandra Mary, or, as we all fondly know her, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Her Majesty served her people selflessly with kindness, loyalty and dignity over seven remarkable decades. She was an institution and a pillar of strength over many years. Her grace and dignity brought nations together, no matter their religious beliefs or economic circumstances.

The devastating news of her passing shocked us all and her loss is being widely felt, not only throughout the UK, but across the world. For many, the news took us on a trip down memory lane and was tinged with fond memories.

You might recall the Queen's visit on May 27 1980 to proclaim Bankstown a City. Thousands turned out to welcome the Queen, and her late husband Prince Phillip, as they walked through a cheering crowd, and streets lined with old Holdens and Valiant cars.

It has been wonderful to see locals share their memories of the visit, one sharing that she remembers sitting on her father's shoulders and "seeing her green hat".

During her trip, Her Majesty signed the Civic Tower's visitors' book; a piece of history we will always treasure, but not the only mark the Queen has left on our City. She will continue to inspire us all and her legacy will live on.

As many gathered to bid Her Majesty goodbye early this week, including our own Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, it is only fitting that our country takes the time to mourn the loss of the woman who touched so many people's lives. In tomorrow's (Thursday 22 September) national day of mourning, I hope that we can all take a moment to reflect on the difference she has made to our world.

Council will be broadcasting the National Memorial Service at 11am on social media, and as a further mark of respect, a dedicated area at the Bankstown Library and Knowledge Centre with photos and headlines of her visit, including the official visitors' book she signed all those years ago.

A loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother. Rest in Peace Ma'am.

Yours sincerely,



Cllr Khal Asfour
MAYOR