

Immediate Release

MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL FAMILY JOIN THE NATION IN CELEBRATION AT CORONATION BIG LUNCH COMMUNITY STREET PARTIES, PICNICS AND FETES!

Members of the Royal Family have today (7 May) joined the nation in celebration at Coronation Big Lunch community events taking place to mark a moment in history following the Coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen.

Their Royal Highnesses The Prince and Princess of Wales, The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, The Princess Royal and Princesses Beatrice and Eugenie of York were among the many millions of people who took to streets, parks, gardens, halls and churches to come together in friendship in villages, towns and cities UK-wide.

On a day set out during the special Coronation bank holiday weekend for communities to come together to share friendship, food and fun, Royals joined in festivities at Windsor, Cranleigh in Surrey, Chalfont St Giles in Berkshire and in Swindon. They took part amid Coronation Big Lunches stretching across the length and breadth of the country, in all shapes and sizes showcasing the warmth of UK communities.

Traditional street parties were everywhere, exemplified by a West London community's event where special guest Coronation Big Lunch ambassador Mel Giedroyc popped up. At the Eden Project in Cornwall, home of The Big Lunch, a whole weekend of activities took place across the world-famous landscape, including talks, activities and the unveiling of a giant Coronation Quiche to be shared.

It was a day focused on community togetherness. From Abraham Moss Warriors in Manchester where generations came together in their sports hall for a Coronation Big Lunch which featured a food sharing table and talent show, to Rossendale Rays, Lancashire a charity for SEND families who invited locals to enjoy a big BBQ and bike rides, to a cream tea extravaganza with scones served on paddleboards at Bude Sea Pool, to Morecambe where 900 tables stretching across the seafront brought thousands together to celebrate.

Peter Stewart, Eden Project Chief Purpose Officer – where the idea for The Big Lunch originated said:

"North, South, East and West – from Orkney to the Isles of Scilly, East to Lowestoft and West to Enniskillen - 7 May 2023 will be remembered as a Coronation celebration day all about community. A day when people came together over a bite to eat, a glass of bubbles or a cuppa, to raise a toast and just share a moment of togetherness where they live."

More than 67,000 Coronation Big Lunch events took place in all four corners of the UK as part of the celebrations for His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen. It was a chance to be part of history, boosting community spirit, helping to reduce loneliness and supporting charities and good causes.

The Big Lunch is the UK's annual celebration for neighbours and communities that has been bringing millions of people together in a nationwide act of community friendship every year since 2009. It's an idea from the Eden Project made possible by The National Lottery that's all about friendship and getting to know people better where you live.

Following last year's Big Lunch, more than eleven million people said that it helped them to feel less lonely, 92% of organisers reported it had a positive impact on their community, and almost two thirds of those who took part said it encouraged people to get more involved in voluntary work. Since 2015 Big Lunch organisers



have raised an incredible £70 million for good causes. Her Majesty The Queen has been Patron of The Big Lunch since 2013.

For more information, or to look at some of the events that have been place near you on the Coronation Big Lunch interactive map, visit www.CoronationBigLunch.com or join the conversation @edencommunities on Twitter, Facebook or Instagram using #CoronationBigLunch

ENDS

For media enquiries contact: Sarah Boniface Sboniface@edenproject.com 07904723277 or Josje Praamstra Jpraamstra@edenproject.com

Editors Notes

About The Big Lunch

The Big Lunch is the UK's annual community celebration for neighbours and communities bringing millions of people together in a nationwide act of community friendship on the first weekend in June every year since 2009. It's an idea from the Eden Project made possible by The National Lottery and is supported by PG tips, Iceland and The Food Warehouse and the Julia and Hans Rausing Trust.

To find out more go to www.CoronationBigLunch.com or follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram @edencommunities

About The National Lottery

The National Lottery is the largest community funder in the UK and proud to award money raised by National Lottery players to communities across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. National Lottery players raise £30 million each week for good causes throughout the UK. Since June 2004, they have made over 200,000 grants and awarded over £9 billion to projects that have benefited millions of people.

About PG tips

PG tips uses only 100% Rainforest Alliance Certified™ tea and was the first tea brand in the UK to carry the Rainforest Alliance Certified™ seal, and it has continued to make positive changes, switching to biodegradable tea bags and removing plastic from the products. PG tips is not only passionate about making tasty cuppas but is also committed to ensuring our tea keeps building communities, improving people's livelihoods and respecting the environment.

About Iceland and The Food Warehouse

Iceland is recognised as the UK's leader in frozen food and operates over 1,000 stores across the country and it prides itself on being a convenient and friendly place to do the family's weekly shop. In 2018 it committed to becoming the first major retailer, globally, to eliminate plastic packaging from all of its own label products by the end of 2023, and to remove palm oil as an ingredient from its own label range by the end of 2018.

About The Julia and Hans Rausing Trust

The Julia and Hans Rausing Trust is a charitable fund supporting organisations and initiatives that provide benefits to society across the UK. Since its formation, it has provided over 1,000 grants totalling more than £330 million.