

Local: WALES

Royal Visit to Wales

9th August 1955

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▲ Royal Visit to Wales is always an inspiring occasion. But when the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh graced the bicentenary Show of the Brecknockshire Agricultural Society - their visit set the seal on the long traditions of the oldest show of its kind, in Britain.

From the vast range of agricultural ^{developments,} the tour passed on to the field of civilic achievement - when the Queen inaugurated the new Usk Reservoir, at Trecastle - by unveiling a commemorative plaque.

The reservoir has cost over three million pounds to build - a triumph of planning and social welfare, of which Swansea Corporation might well be proud.

After the unveiling, the Royal Party made its way along the embankment to the Control Tower...

Then, to complete the inaugural ceremony, Her Majesty pressed an electric switch - and the huge basin began its life of service - supplying fresh water to the great seaport...

The following day, the Royal Visitors trod a path that for nearly a thousand years has led pilgrims to St. David's Cathedral, Pembrokeshire...
At the West Door, the ^{Bishop} ~~Rick~~ of St. David's, Dr Harvard, received his guests - who had come to morning service...

An occasion that made history - for it is believed to be the first visit of a reigning monarch to St. David's - for nearly seven hundred years...

Outside the Cathedral, (which contains the relics of the Patron Saint of Wales), crew-members of the St. David's lifeboat were presented to the Visitors.... Royal recognition for a brave company - who have effected many rescues in dangerous waters.

Finally, it was the turn of Aberystwyth to continue the tremendous welcome that has marked the tour.. Arriving at the Station, the Queen and her husband were received by the Lord Lieutenant of Cardiganshire, The Earl of Lisburne.....and the Mayor, Alderman W.G. Rowlands...

Then came a National greeting - from Miss Janet Jones, the "Miss Wales" of the Welsh Tourist Board ^{she} ~~she~~ was complimented on her work, by the Duke.

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During the day, a visit was made to the National Library of Wales - where Her Majesty was to open the completed building....

This building is the treasure-house of Welsh Literature for it contains millions of ^{PRINTED} ~~printed~~ volumes, deeds, documents and manuscripts..

On arrival, Her Majesty received a bouquet from Miss Margaret Ellis - who seemed rather overwhelmed by the weight of learning, housed in the building..

An Address of Welcome, in Welsh, was read by the Vice-President of the Library.. SOUND

And the Queen declared open - the completed building SOUND

Then - at the head of the main stairway, another ceremony saw the unveiling of two commemorative panels... For over forty years, new portions have been added to the building... Now, co-inciding with a visit from the Queen - this National Memorial to Welsh culture and learning has been completed.. ~~and, no doubt, this important occasion will~~

~~also~~

~~And, no doubt, this~~ ^{An} important Royal occasion for Aberystwyth - ~~will also~~ ^{Wales.} be ~~recorded~~ ^{and} as another landmark in the proud story of ~~the Principality~~