

June lived up to its best traditions when two eager Royal children (in the care of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret) set out for Horse Guards Parade.

And from Buckingham Palace

rode Queen Elizabeth - to receive the homage of her Brigade of Guards

Escorted by Prince Philip and the Duke of Gloucester, Her Majesty

(wearing a scarlet tunic and green-plumed tricorne hat) is riding a

newcomer to Trooping ceremonial: Imperial, a chestnut Police horse.

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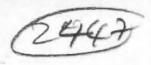
by trirxex their Colonel-in-Chief.

A martial overture heralds the coming ceremonial, as the Massed Bands of the Brigade of Guards begin their incomparable slow-march and counter march.

This year, the Colour to be trooped is that of the First Battalion,
The Irish Guards. The Standard (given into the safekeeping of the
Battalion by the Queen's Father, eight years ago) is handed to the
Ensign, 2nd Lieut. Palmer.

the ranks of Guardsmen. A ceremony dating back to the days when the Colour (the ranks rallying-point in battle), was trooped along the ranks

so that every man should know his Regimental Standard.



In support of their Colour, the First Battalion, Irish Guards lead the whole parade - marching past their Colonel-in-Chief in slow time.

Adding a final sparkle to a lustrous occasion - the Saxiarai Sovereign's Escort of Household Cavalry trot past in review.

The trooping ceremonial is over. Behind the massed bands, and, at the head of her trusted Footguards, the Queen returns to Buckingham Palace. In the forecourt of the Palace, Her Majesty received a final salute after a ceremonial occasion that will truly remain a golden memory.

Finally, the crowds surge forward to acclaim the traditional balcony appearance flight of Valiants roar a modern salute - on this day of age-old pageantry.