

Tea with the Queen

Earlier in the year we were asked if we would be available to go to tea with the Queen should we be invited. "Yes please" was our reply. Our invitation duly came and all arrangements were made for the 22nd June 2010.

Magic Moments

It was a beautiful, sunny day; we dressed up and ventured to London by train. We stopped for lunch in a lovely, air-conditioned restaurant and then walked to a taxi rank to be taken to The Mall. From there we joined the long queue outside Buckingham Palace. Outside the Palace, an official photographer took our picture and at 2:30pm, amidst very high security, we went through the Palace gates. We walked through the Palace, which is magical with large portraits of Prince Albert and Queen Victoria either side of the doors. Passing through the Bow Room, which has walls lined with glass-fronted china cabinets and out onto the Terrace, overlooking the 44-acre gardens complete with Lake, all laid out with tea tents. Two bands on the Band Stands - one playing Glen Miller favourites and *Because I'm a Londoner*.



The grounds quickly filled with guests taking tea, iced coffee, and cucumber sandwiches of course and many more delights. The Yeoman of the Guard created pathways through the crowds and the playing of the National Anthem heralded the arrival of the Queen and her Royal Party.

All Oxfordshire!

For over an hour the Queen, dressed in yellow and looking lovely, was introduced to selected guests, talking to each of them for several minutes as she made her way to the Royal Tea Tent. There were lots of military uniforms, national costumes and very fashionable outfits everywhere. We met the Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire and others from Oxford, including Hilary Hibbert-Biles and Ivan Puschnik's brother-in-law Stewart Peate from Woodcote. The day passed far too quickly and it was soon time to make our way home.

We both feel it was a great privilege to be invited to take part in such a lovely experience and it was definitely a day to remember.

John and Edna Naish

Wychwood Wild Garden Calendar for 2011



The Charity Ball committee are producing a limited-edition high quality Calendar featuring scenes of the Wild Garden photographed by Terry Wigley. The Calendar, with an envelope, will be available from the **end of August**, so will make a wonderful Christmas gift to send to all your friends, families and business contacts. Get your pre-order in now, by contacting **Jeremy Huntingford** on: **01993 831140**.