



THE READING OF THE WEST HORSLEY PROCLAMATION
4.30pm, Sunday 11th September 2022 outside the Village Hall

Welcome
Chairman of the Parish Council

We come together this afternoon following the passing of our beloved late Sovereign, Queen Elizabeth the Second. Our sadness at this time is shared by many people in this Country, this County, our Village and across the globe as we remember with great affection and gratitude to a lifetime dedicated to duty and service so steadfastly and unfailing given by our longest reigning Monarch.

The basis on which our monarchy is built has ensured that through the centuries the Crown has passed in an unbroken line of succession. Here, today marks the formal Proclamation to the people of the Parish of West Horsley of the beginning of our new King's reign.

Yesterday the Accession Council met at St James's Palace to proclaim our new Sovereign. The flags which have flown at half-mast since the Queen's death were raised briefly to their full height to mark the start of His Majesty's reign.

The proclamation of the new Sovereign is a very old tradition which can be tracked back over many centuries. The ceremony does not create a new King. It is simply an announcement of the ascension which took place on the death of the reigning monarch. In an age where modern communication is instant, it is no longer the means by which people learn for the first time they have a new monarch. How times have changed. Today, however, is one of the first occasions when our Village has an opportunity to come together and reflect on the moment in our nation's history when the reign of Queen Elizabeth of over 70 years came to an end and our new Sovereign succeeded.

Ladies and Gentlemen. The Proclamation of the Accession.

A PROCLAMATION

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God to call to His Mercy our late Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth the Second of Blessed and Glorious Memory, by whose Decease the Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is solely and rightfully come to The Prince Charles Philip Arthur George: We, therefore, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal of this Realm and Members of the House of Commons, together with other members of Her late Majesty's Privy Council and representatives of the Realms and Territories, Aldermen and Citizens of London, and others, do now hereby with one voice and Consent of Tongue and Heart publish and proclaim that The Prince Charles Philip Arthur George is now, by the Death of our late Sovereign of Happy Memory, become our only lawful and rightful Liege Lord Charles the Third, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of His other Realms and Territories, King, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, to whom we do acknowledge all Faith and Obedience with humble Affection; beseeching God by whom Kings and Queens do reign to bless His Majesty with long and happy Years to reign over us. Given at St. James's Palace this tenth day of September in the year of Our Lord two thousand and twenty-two.

GOD SAVE THE KING

The National Anthem