

£5.00

A photograph of Queen Elizabeth II smiling, wearing a bright red coat and a blue hat with a red band and a red floral ornament. She is also wearing a patterned scarf and a pearl earring. In the background, a person in a dark blue uniform with white stripes is visible. The Queen is holding a bouquet of flowers, including a red rose and a blue and white striped flower.

# *Golden Jubilee Weekend Festival*

Official  
Weekend Programme



## 50 Years Parade

**Conceived & directed by**  
**Hilary Westlake**  
**Producer**  
**Helen Marriage**  
**Design**  
**Jonathan Park**  
**at Studio Park**

**Production manager**  
**Jonathan Bartlett**  
**Costume design**  
**Katy McPhee**  
**Sculpted figures**  
**Keith Payne**

**Director's assistant**  
**Emma Stewart**

**Assistant directors**  
**Rosemary Allen**  
**Simon Corder**  
**Phillippa Donnellan**  
**David Gale**  
**Frank Millward**  
**Mark Murphy**  
**Geraldine Pilgrim**  
**Valerie Renay**  
**Diane Sherlock**  
**Helen Statman**  
**Trevor Stuart**

**Associate designer**  
**Mark Maxwell**

**Design team**  
**Holly Park**  
**Wendy Swift**  
**Alex Lemonis**  
**Anthony Waterman**  
**Alex Quero at 4i Group**

**Sculpted figure costumes**  
**Joanna Pratt**

**Costume assistant**  
**Kelly Frost**

**Senior stage manager**  
**Maz Bryden**

**Stage managers**  
**Charlotte Ainsworth**  
**Andrew Eastcott**  
**Barbara Egervary**  
**Wendy Griffin-Reid**  
**Adam Harrison**  
**Ingrid Haskal**  
**Pip Horobin**  
**Carrie Hutcheon**  
**Andrew Killian**  
**Jenny O'Connell**  
**Lucy Serjeant**  
**Lyndsey Stephenson**  
**Helen Wilding**

**Runners**  
**Heloise Donnelly**  
**Jackson**  
**Jenny Lockyer**  
**Jack Payne**  
**Katie Reynolds**

**Prop buyers**  
**Jane Stattery**  
**Gaby Bridges**

**Performers**  
**Arts Educational School, Fulham**  
**Young Generation theatre company, Croydon**  
**Team Extreme – skateboards/in-line skating/bmx**

**Lilian Baylis Arts Club**  
**Doug Pinkerton – bicycles**  
**The Generating Company – stilt walkers**

**Cars supplied by**  
**Gerry Acher**  
**George Douglas**  
**Tim Hodgkinson**

**Acknowledgements**  
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**Roger Cresswell**  
**Gerry Judah**  
**Peter Rush**

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**Chris Hocking (Arts Educational School)**  
**Jeni Mudge of Team Eclipse**  
**Peter Noble of Team Extreme**  
**Doug Pinkerton – bicycles**  
**Diane Rexstrew – Young Generation Theatre Company**  
**Mike Smith of Team Eclipse**





# 50 Years Parade

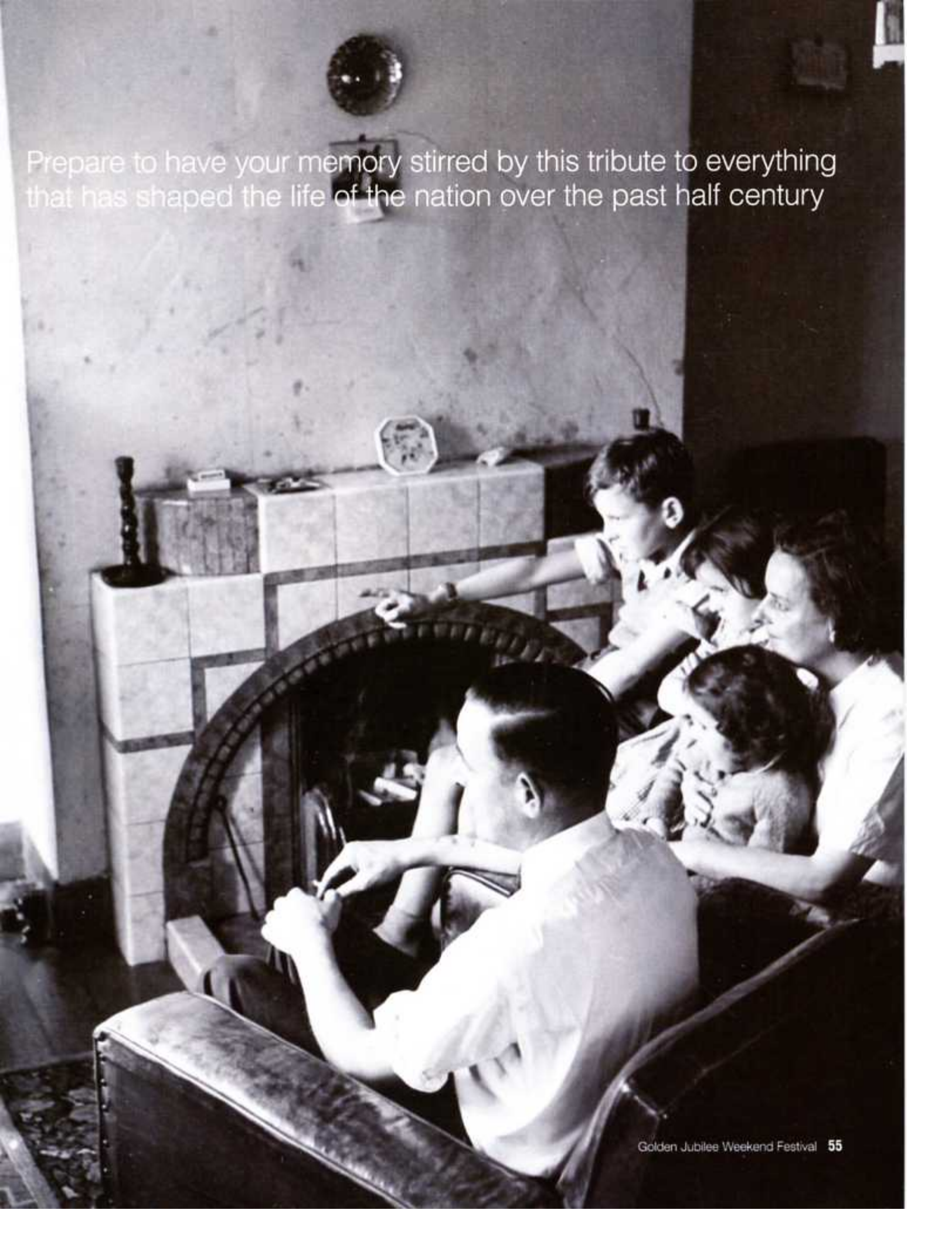
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e cannot journey back in time. But as a nation we seem to relish the next best thing – re-living our recent past through nostalgia TV. The winning formula for these programmes is simple: pick a theme and a decade, and dig into the archives. Tapping into our passion for the past, the 50 Years Parade offers an original and inspired twist on the popular TV formula. The parade's 18 floats and other vehicles (from 1950s buses to modern day scooters, from bikes to skateboards) bedecked with 500 performers will animate key events and images in our collective memory of the past five decades.

The themes of fashion, arts, lifestyle, news and science will be linked across the half century, and each decade will be separately chronicled. As the parade makes its way down the Mall towards Buckingham Palace the celebration will bring the public closer to their shared social and cultural history. 'It's a celebratory journey back through time that aims to surprise and delight the crowds,' says Hilary Westlake, the parade director. Westlake, a theatre director who specialises in large-scale site-specific performance, has spent the past 10 months working with a team of researchers and designers. Together they have sifted through hundreds of books about the past five decades to help them decide on the parade's form and content. 'The themes and events are juxtaposed in an entertaining way to highlight how varied British life has been, while at the same time tracing some of its changes,' says Westlake. >



Prepare to have your memory stirred by this tribute to everything that has shaped the life of the nation over the past half century





Think how TV, telephones and teenagers have changed – and yet remained fundamentally unchanged – over the years. 'TV is a good case in point. For The Queen's coronation in 1952 a whole street might have gathered around one box set; these days people even have TVs in their car.

'It should appeal to people who have lived through the times as much as it does to those who haven't,' adds Westlake.

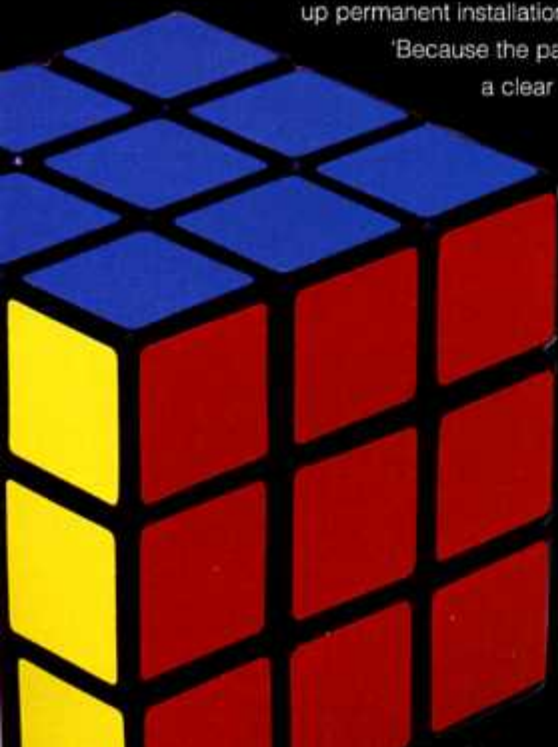
The Queen's Golden Jubilee Weekend Trust, which is organising the parade, is keeping the exact content of the floats under wraps, but warns people to expect the unexpected. One scenario links the musical *My Fair Lady* with Royal Ascot – a reference to a much-loved scene from the former, but no doubt all will be revealed on the day.

The parade passes by the crowds at 2mph, offering a prime viewing time of about 15 to 20 seconds. This time limit has proved to be quite a challenging factor for Westlake who is more used to setting up permanent installations.



'Because the parade is mobile each float has to offer a clear and evocative picture of the era it's

portraying. I have three audiences in mind: the people on the Mall, TV viewers and The Queen. For the first it's important that the performances are staged at a height at which everyone can see.' There is not a specific regal theme to the 50 Years Parade, but The Queen will have a choice position from which to view the proceedings on the afternoon of June 4, where other parades will include celebrations of the Commonwealth and Services to >



Icons of the century: The Queen, with one of her corgis, photographed in 1962. Facing page: Cliff Richard, Joan Collins, *Blue Peter*, the Slinky, Rubik's fiendish cube





**Making an impact: England's World Cup victory in 1966 will be featured, as will the humble, but vital, telephone**



The Queen. Her Majesty The Queen will be seated in a specially constructed royal box in front of the Victoria Memorial looking down the Mall towards Admiralty Arch.

'Trying to encapsulate 50 years of British history in 20 minutes has been a big challenge,' says producer Helen Marriage, who began production work on the parade last summer.

The larger-than-life parade is one of the biggest projects that Marriage has worked on. 'The scale is pretty impressive. This is not a normal carnival, the floats are huge and designed in a very funny and imaginative way.

'We wanted the parade to be a changing panorama of the people's history. Making the editorial choices was interesting when you have a whole bunch of icons to choose from each decade. It came down to an artistic choice about whether it looked and felt right.'

Parade designer Jonathan Park has just that job. Park is no stranger to staging spectacular shows. While he was working as an architect in 1977 he received a call out of the blue asking him to create an inflatable family for Pink Floyd's Animals tour of the US. He has since designed some of the most > (p60)

# Cars on parade

'An eclectic selection of classic British cars from the past 50 years – ranging from the very fast and beautiful to the beautifully plain and functional,' is how organiser Major George Douglas describes the variety of cherished motor cars that will accompany the



parade of floats. Ranging from an Aston Martin Vanquish to a Ford Capri, from a Bentley Continental to a Reliant Robin three-wheeler, they will all be there.

The 1950s was a revolutionary era for British automotive engineering, as many of the talented designers and engineers previously involved with military applications during World War II applied their expertise to our car industry.

Fighter-bomber manufacturer Bristol, for example, diverted its post-war production surplus into the manufacture of luxury GT cars. Bristol's car firm still exists today (its aeronautical parent subsequently absorbed by British Aerospace) and will launch an innovative 200mph two-seater, the Fighter, later this year. Jaguar and Aston Martin's

## Driving past...

### Alvis

TD21

### Aston Martin

DB2/4; DB4; DB5; DB7 and V12 Vanquish

### Austin

Somerset; A110; Westminster and Metro

### Austin-Healey

Frog-Eye Sprite; 3000

### Bentley

R-Type Continental, Series 1, Continental R

### Bristol

403

### Daimler

SP250 ('Dart')

### Ford

Popular; Anglia; Consul; Cortina Mk I; Capri and Granada

### Jaguar

XK150; Mk IX; Mk II; E-type; XJS; XK8; S-type (current) and X-type

### Jensen

541 and Interceptor Mk III

### Land Rover

Series-1 (ragtop); Range Rover Series-2 and Series-3

### Lotus

Elan Series 3, 340

### MG

TD; A; Magnette; C; 1100; BGT; ZTT and TF (current)

### Morgan

Plus-8

### Morris

Minor 1000, convertible, estate and GPO van; Mini Minor and Cooper-S

### Reliant

Scimitar GTC and Robin

### Rolls-Royce

Silver Seraph

### Rover

3-litre; P6 and SD1

### Standard

Eight and Vanguard

### Sunbeam

Tiger

### Triumph

Mayflower; TR2; TR5; Herald; Spitfire; Stag, TR7, Dolomite Sprint

### TVR

Cerbera, Tuscan

### Vauxhall

Cresta

fortunes also flourished during the 1950s, on the road and the racetrack. Jaguar won the Le Mans 24 Hours in 1951, 1953, 1955, 1956, and 1957, while Aston Martin scored a one-two finish in 1959.

Examples of less costly 1950s two-seaters are the Triumph TR2 and MGA, both of which caused quite a stir when launched. The public was more familiar with designs carried-over from the 1930s so the flowing body-styles of this new breed were a radical departure.

Of course, 1950s Britain was not only famous for its sports cars. Don't forget saloons such as the Morris Minor, Triumph Mayflower and Rover P4-series. The original Mini arrived in 1959, with a groundbreaking design that consequently registered over five million sales and was voted Car of the Century in 1996. Sadly, many familiar marques, such as Triumph,



Sunbeam and Armstrong-Siddeley, have either been swallowed by giants such as General Motors or gone to the great breaker's yard in the sky. Yet, AC, Morgan and TVR are quietly thriving, Jensen has made a recent return, while MG-Rover produces a spirited range of cars. And during the past 12 months we have seen cutting-edge hi-tech in the form of Aston Martin's V12 Vanquish and Land Rover's new Range Rover, both widely acclaimed.





TV classics: shows such as *Only Fools and Horses*, *Z-Cars* and *Coronation Street* have all made an impact. Floats will also recall the popular foods of past decades (above)



memorable sets for events including the Rolling Stones' Voodoo Lounge world tour and Nelson Mandela's 70th birthday tribute. Will he be bringing his rock and roll pedigree to the parade design?

'Yes, it is big, bold and colourful like my rock and roll sets, but it is also much more than that. It is a moving series of snapshots in a grand manner that will wow onlookers.' For Park, who relishes working on a large scale, the challenge has been creating a three-dimensional picture whose message can be read in detail within the short time that the float takes to pass the crowds. 'The parade is exuberant and bright like a carnival float, but the content is larger, more lively and informative. Spectators will be able to peek into the living rooms of the past and watch the performers interact with the sets.'

Performers have been drawn from across the country and range from children to octogenarians.

Naturally, there is a limit to what you can fit onto the back of a semi-articulated truck, and Park will be taking his designs to their limits – 44ft long and 25ft high. On this scale spectators should have no problem seeing the parade and nor should its premier guest. A lot of thought has gone into how the parade will approach The Queen as it moves down the Mall. 'We have tried to dress up and disguise the cabs of the lorries to present an intriguing picture from the front, then as the floats turn at the Victoria Memorial statue The Queen will see the broader tableau of the years.'

For children who wonder about their grandparents' youth or for those just wishing to review some of the vital moments of their own life, what better way of celebrating landmark events of our shared history than by enjoying an occasion as significant as The Queen's Golden Jubilee. According to Park, it will knock spots off nostalgia TV.