



Tenterden residents toast the Queen's 90th birthday

Pictures: Lewis Brockway

# Mayor helps shine a light on town's celebrations

As beacons burned brightly around the country to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday, so Tenterden's lit the night skies across the town.

Mayor of Tenterden Cllr Pam Smith had the honour of igniting Tenterden's gas beacon at the Recreation Ground, where around 100 people had congregated last Thursday evening to join the nation in a heartfelt tribute to Her Majesty.

The lighting-up at 8.30pm was preceded by a toast to the Queen, and Cllr Smith also read out a message that Prince Charles had written to those attending one of the 1,000 ceremonies up and down the country.

It said: "Since time immemorial, the light of beacons has relayed important messages across the land. This message we proclaim with the greatest pride and affection: Your Majesty, we all wish you a very happy birthday!"

Tenterden town clerk Phil Burgess said the town's ceremony had been "a relaxed, but fitting tribute".



Right, town councillors Henry Edwards and Sue Ferguson, Tenterden mayor Cllr Pam Smith and her escort Terry Smith toast the Queen's