

A MEDALLION

dated June 28, 1838

commemorating the

**Anniversary of Queen Victoria's
Ascension to the Throne on June 20, 1937**



*Distributed to school children in Sutton Coldfield
on the anniversary of the coronation*

Janet Jordan
Sutton Coldfield Local History Research Group
June 2020

With thanks to Jim Whorwood, who is the owner of this medallion. It was initially given to one of his ancestors and has been handed down to him through his family.

The Whorwoods have lived in Sutton Coldfield for around 250 years.

(expanded view)



DATE OF MEDALLION: JUNE 28, 1838

COPY OF A SIMILAR MEDALLION TAKEN FROM THE INTERNET*



VICTORIA D:G:
BRITANNIAR REGINA F:D:



BORN MAY 24, 1819
ASCENDED THE THRONE
JUNE 20, 1837
CROWNED JUNE 28, 1838

**www.ebay.ie/itm/Britain-Victoria-1838-White-Metal-Coronation-Medal-PCGS-SP63-BHM-1832-W-E-118-1*

Events in Sutton Coldfield

on June 28, 1838*

The coronation festivities were organised not by the Corporation, but by a meeting of the parishioners on June 15th, although several members of the corporation were present. The programme for the day was agreed - meet at the Town Hall (then sited at the top of Mill Street) at 11.00, set off in procession at 12.00, dinner in Coleshill Street at 1.00, to the Park for 3.00, fireworks at 9.00.

Dinner was provided for 800 people on twenty tables, the meat (one pound per person) to be carved by forty of the Sutton gentry - the meat cost £23.6s.8d., while £50 was spent on ale - the beer stewards were respectable tradesmen. The entertainment in the Park consisted mainly of children's sports, including sack races and "collar grinning" (A horse-collar was procured, and the swains vied with one another in putting their heads through it and making grimaces, the prize being adjudged to that one who made the most hideous contortion).

A band had been engaged, so there may well have been country dancing in the park - the weather was fine - but it is not clear whether the £10 earmarked as "ball expenses" was for an open-air ball or a more formal affair. Funds raised by donations, which included £10 from the High Steward, Lord Aylesford, amounted to £144. 18s. 6d. A special version of the National Anthem was sung, the second verse beginning "Let then our Royal Town/True to its old renown/This day be seen..."

**Taken from this website (www.sclhrg.org.uk), under History Spot, Coronation 1838 [481] by Roger Lea.*