



THE CORONATION

Londoners and visitors to the capital saw London's transport network mark the Coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla, as celebrations began towards the end of April. TfL's roundel logo was crowned with a likeness of St. Edward's Crown. The St. Edward's Crown was used on Coronation Day to crown His Majesty King Charles III. The celebratory "Crowndels" could be found at various Underground stations around the event area, as well as some Elizabeth Line and London Overground stations, and also at key interchange stations in central London.

A commemorative poster that pays homage to the one created in 1953 to celebrate the Coronation of Elizabeth II was also displayed across the transport network. The poster design featured the Crown, and the TfL Roundel was reimagined using the colours of all TfL services and Underground lines from across the entire network. Special limited edition travel advice leaflets, recreating the 1953 Coronation leaflet, were made available in select London

Photo: Theresa Nice

Underground and bus stations as well as National Rail stations on Saturday 6 May. (Source: *Edited TfL Press Release, 27 April 2023*).

"Crowndels" were planned to be located at the following Underground stations:

Blackfriars, Bond Street, Charing Cross, Covent Garden, Embankment, Euston, Green Park, Hyde Park Corner, King's Cross St. Pancras, Leicester Square, Liverpool Street, London Bridge, Marylebone, Oxford Circus, Paddington, Piccadilly Circus, Pimlico, Vauxhall, Victoria, Waterloo and Westminster.

"Crowndels" were also to be at the Elizabeth Line stations of Paddington, Tottenham Court Road, Farringdon and Liverpool Street and at Hoxton, Shepherd's Bush and White Hart Lane London Overground stations.



Above: Two posters that were produced for the Coronation. That on the right features the Crown and the TfL Roundel and has been reimagined using the various colours of all TfL services and Underground lines.



Left: The Coronation pin badge issued to certain TfL staff to commemorate the event. See also page 430, this issue.

All photos: Kim Rennie

King Charles and Queen Camilla recorded a special message that was played across all 2,570 UK rail stations and all London Underground stations over the Coronation weekend, from Friday 5 May until Monday 8 May. The recording was made at Charles's country retreat at Highgrove earlier this year in conjunction with Transport for London audio engineers. The King said: "My wife and I wish you and your families a wonderful Coronation weekend". The Queen (then the Queen Consort) continues: "Wherever you are travelling, we hope you have a safe and pleasant journey". The King then concluded: "And remember, please mind the gap".

On Thursday 4 May, the Prince and Princess of Wales made their first trip on the Elizabeth Line, named in honour of William's grandmother – as part of the Coronation festivities. They boarded an eastbound train at Acton Main Line and travelled to Tottenham Court Road (see photo, overleaf), before heading to a nearby pub.



The commemorative travel advice leaflet (*Left*) was produced for the Coronation event and published by London Underground, the Mayor of London and National Rail in a limited edition.

When folded this is the size of the tube map, with 12 sides in a 2×6 layout.

One side contains a central London walking map, stretching from Paddington in the west, South Kensington in the south-west, Elephant & Castle south east to Liverpool Street in the east and King's Cross St. Pancras in the north. All roads appear to be shown but only principal ones are named. All National Rail, Elizabeth Line (although that is NR!) and Underground stations in the area appear, with walking times centred on St. James Palace and stretching out to 40 minutes (Paddington and Elephant & Castle) and 50 minutes (Moorgate and London Bridge). The procession route is marked but no scale is given, which is naughty for any map.

The other side has a cover in red, four side of a central London tube map for the day, marking St. James's Park as closed and Hyde Park Corner as exit only. Another red side (rear cover when folded) had three QR codes for up-to-date information on TfL services, National Rail services and how to watch the processions.

The other six sides contain three general sides on a dark blue background on general travel advice, one on a red background with brief information about the coronation event and the remaining two sides are welcome from Andy

Lord, Andrew Haines and Jacqueline Starr to both Londoners and visitors for the weekend, gently reminding people that services might be busy and reminding people about travel ambassadors available to help people with directions and assistance.

Leaflet and text: Stuart Hicks

Below: (*Left*) The Prince and Princess of Wales photographed at Tottenham Court Road station, having travelled from Acton Main Line to Tottenham Court Road.

Photo: Ed Mackintosh



CROWNDELS

Left and Opposite: A selection of crowndels around the Underground network. The crown has, in most cases, been arranged to sit on top of the station name roundel. Sadly, some of the crowns didn't last long because of vandalism and/or itchy fingers ...

All crowndel photos opposite: David Rowe



Overleaf: (Top Left and Right) Crowndels at Piccadilly Circus on two different tiling schemes, taken on 5 May 2023.

Both photos: Alan Blake



Below: (Left and Right) At Elizabeth Line stations, there wasn't sufficient space to fit the crown properly on top of the roundel, as seen at Liverpool Street (Left). At Pimlico (Right) the crown has been placed on top of the normal roundel with its shadow showing through.

Both photos: Kim Rennie



Details of the services on Coronation day may be found in "The Diary" on page 439.