

**Town Hall Open Day
July 2nd 2016**

Elizabeth, of course

A leader who leads by example,
Not the stabbing in the back sort,
Or the towel throwing in type,
Not the kind blames others for disasters or setbacks,
An omnipresence - she resides in our pockets,
in our wallets, stamped on birthday cards, and bills.

For decades she has tirelessly toured the country,
and the Commonwealth
bringing the people together,
brightening our lives with her technicolour wardrobe
and sunshine smile,
inspiring the frenetic flapping of flags on sticks,
the purchase of plastic Union Jack hats,
the undertaking of pritt-sticked school projects,
the proffering of posies,
the offering of wonky homemade boxes of fudge.

At thirteen her country went to war again,
She knows the damage division and hatred can wreak.
When she speaks, she seeks to unite,
a rare yet ubiquitous presence
- the image of dignity.

During uncertain times she is a unifying force,
she is Elizabeth of course.