

Colin Rayner Chapel House High Street Colnbrook Slough Berkshire SL3 OLY

3<sup>rd</sup> June 2016

Dear Colin and The Ground Team

They always say "Family Hold Back" but I bet you didn't think it would take this long to get a thank you letter to the people I have worked so closely with during the planning of this extraordinary event.

My apologies for this delayed letter of thanks but it does come with my huge appreciation and gratitude for the herculean effort, commitment, thought, passion, cheerfulness in adversity, long hours, (mostly unglamorous) and delivery of this epic production.

You are an Amazing Team and I cannot thank you enough.

You can be hugely proud of what you have achieved. The end result spoke for itself. There was a massive amount that could have gone wrong – and nobody was more hugely relieved than I after the last show – but because of your dedication and the trust we have in your ability, it didn't.

I hope that you can now reflect on how the Celebration turned out – a record breaking 7.5 million viewing the ITV broadcast, marshals, equine and foot participants more than happy, a complex and complicated production delivered above expectations and, most importantly, a very content Principal Guest who, I gather, really enjoyed the whole thing.

It doesn't stop here. We will be meeting up again! Annabel will be sending you a 'Wrap Party Invite' and there will be a formal thank you in the Autumn. More later.

In the meantime, bask in glory and please accept my enormous gratitude

Once again, you

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Simon Brooks-Ward CVO OBE TD

12 - 15 MAY 2016 Home Park Private Windsor Castle