As a child， I never imagined that one day a man would walk on the moon。

当我还是个孩子的时候，我从没想过有一日人会在月球上行走。

Yet this year we marked the 50th anniversary of the famous Apollo 11 mission。

然而，今年我们纪念了著名的阿波罗11号登月任务50周年。

As those historic pictures were beamed back to Earth，millions of us sat transfixed to our television screens，as we watched Neil Armstrong taking a small step for man and a giant leap for mankind，- and， indeed， for womankind。

当那些历史性的照片被传送回地球时，数百万人呆坐在电视机前，我们看到尼尔·阿姆斯特朗迈出那一小步，对全人类却是一大步，当然，对全体女性也是。

It‘s a reminder for us all that giant leaps often start with small steps。

它提醒我们所有人：巨大的飞跃往往始于微小的进步。

This year we marked another important anniversary： D-Day。

今年我们还迎来了另外一个重要的纪念日——诺曼底登陆纪念日。

On 6th June 1944， some 156，000 British， Canadian and American forces landed in northern France。

1944年6月6日，约15.6万英加美联军在法国北部登陆。

It was the largest ever seaborne invasion and was delayed due to bad weather。

这是有史以来规模最大的海上登陆战役，却因为恶劣天气而延迟了。

I well remember the look of concern on my father‘s face。

我清楚记得当时父亲脸上担忧的神情。

He knew the secret D-Day plans but could of course share that burden with no one。

他知道诺曼底登陆的秘密计划，但他肩上的重担却无法与旁人分担。

For the 75th anniversary of that decisive battle， in a true spirit of reconciliation， those who had formally been sworn enemies came together in friendly commemorations either side of the Channel， putting past differences behind them。

为了纪念这场决定性战役75周年，本着真正的和解精神，那些曾经是死敌的人团聚在一起，在英吉利海峡两岸友好地举行纪念活动，将过去的分歧抛在脑后。

Such reconciliation seldom happens overnight。

这种和解难以在一夜之间实现。

It takes patience and time to rebuild trust， and progress often comes through small steps。

重建信任需要耐心和时间，进程往往是在一小步一小步中推进。

Since the end of the Second World War， many charities， groups and organisations have worked to promote peace and unity around the world， bringing together those who have been on opposing sides。

自从第二次世界大战结束以来，许多慈善组织和团体致力于促进世界各地的和平与团结，将对立的人团聚在一起。

By being willing to put past differences behind us and move forward together， we honour the freedom and democracy once won for us at so great a cost。

我们放下过去的分歧、共同前进，以此纪念我们曾以巨大代价赢得的自由和民主。

The challenges many people face today may be different to those once faced by my generation，but I have been struck by how new generations have brought a similar sense of purpose to issues such as protecting our environment and our climate。

今天许多人面临的挑战，可能与我们这一代所面临的有所不同，但令我惊叹的是，新一代在保护环境和气候等问题上也有类似的使命感。

My family and I are also inspired by the men and women of our emergency services and armed forces； and at Christmas， we remember all those on duty at home and abroad， who are helping those in need and keeping us and our families safe and secure。

我和我的家人也从应急人员和军队中受到鼓舞；在圣诞节，我们记得那些在国内外坚守岗位的人们，是他们帮助了那些需要帮助的人，保障我们和家人的安全。

Two hundred years on from the birth of my great， great grandmother， Queen Victoria， Prince Philip and I have been delighted to welcome our eighth great-grandchild into our family。

我曾曾祖母维多利亚女王出生的200年后，菲利普亲王和我很高兴迎来了我们的第八个曾孙。

Of course， at the heart of the Christmas story lies the birth of a child： a seemingly small and insignificant step overlooked by many in Bethlehem。

当然，圣诞节故事的核心就是一个孩子的出生：看似微不足道的一小步，被伯利恒的很多人所忽略。

But in time， through his teaching and by his example，Jesus Christ would show the world how small steps taken in faith and in hope can overcome long-held differences and deep-seated divisions to bring harmony and understanding。

但随着时间的推移，通过他的教导和示范，耶稣昭示世人，在信仰和希望中所迈出的一小步，能破解长期存在并且根深蒂固的分歧，带来和睦与理解。

Many of us already try to follow in his footsteps。

我们中的许多人已经开始追随他的步伐。

The path， of course， is not always smooth， and may at times this year have felt quite bumpy， but small steps can make a world of difference。

当然，这条路并不总是平坦的，可能在今年某些时刻会感到非常坎坷，但是小小的进步也能给世界带来改变。

As Christmas dawned， church congregations around the world joined in singing It Came Upon The Midnight Clear。

随着圣诞节的到来，世界各地的信徒唱响同一首《圣诞夜歌》。

Like many timeless carols， it speaks not just of the coming of Jesus Christ into a divided world， many years ago， but also of the relevance， even today， of the angel‘s message of peace and goodwill。

和许多永恒的颂歌一样，它不仅讲述了多年前耶稣降临到了一个分裂的世界，天使所传达的和平与善意也同样重要，即使在今天也一样。

It‘s a timely reminder of what positive things can be achieved when people set aside past differences and come together in the spirit of friendship and reconciliation。

它适时提醒我们，当人们放下歧见、本着友谊和和解的精神走到一起的时候，好事就会发生。

And， as we all look forward to the start of a new decade， it‘s worth remembering that it is often the small steps， not the giant leaps， that bring about the most lasting change。

在我们对新十年的到来满怀期待的时候，应当铭记，带来最持久变化的往往是一小步，而不是大飞跃。

And so， I wish you all a very happy Christmas。

祝大家圣诞快乐。