

Royal Maundy

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- Maundy coins.Royal Maundy

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Queen says she's 'sad' to cancel Royal Maundy service for second year as she sends gifts to pensioners

Robert Patterson, , while at a conference of Anglican bishops, had invited the Queen to for Maundy services; he received word that this would be too difficult, but that his diocese could nominate recipients.

What is the Royal Maundy?

Six wandsmen, whose original function is uncertain, guide the recipients to their places and render any other help which is needed.

Queen Elizabeth Hands Out Easter Maundy Money

In 1572, disliking the scenes as each woman tried to secure a piece of the royal gown, Elizabeth granted a sum of £1 to each recipient in lieu of the gown, giving it in a red purse.

Queen Elizabeth Hands Out Easter Maundy Money

Jesus Washing Peter's Feet by The word Maundy derives from the command or mandatum by Christ at the Last Supper, to love one another.

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The ceremony, first practised in the 17th century, once saw a reigning monarch wash the feet of chosen poor people. The designer is unknown Richard Lobel, in his catalogue of British coins, suggests the artist was George Bower, an employee of the Royal Mint whose medals bear similar characteristics but his work has endured, in a revised form, for over 300 years.

Royal Maundy

In 1843, described a Maundy ceremony: On the day alluded to a certain number of poor men and women, of each the exact number of our sovereign's age, attends divine worship in the Royal Chapel, Whitehall in the morning and afternoon.

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In common with all British silver coins, the fineness was reduced to 0. At times when little silver was being struck by the , the coins distributed might bear a previous year's date. Until the joint reign of and , the recipients were of the same sex as the monarch.

Royal Maundy Service, 1952

From 1954 to 1970, it was held in even-numbered years at Westminster, and in odd-numbered years at provincial cathedrals; since then it has, in most years, been held outside London. Henry's son, , was the first monarch to keep the Maundy only on or about Maundy Thursday; before Edward, additional Maundys might be kept during the year.

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