

**ALWAYS IN HER  
THOUGHTS  
THE  
QUEEN  
KEEPS HER MOTHER'S  
MEMORY ALIVE WITH  
HER TREASURED  
BROOCHES**



**Queen Victoria's  
jubilee brooch**

This much-loved brooch is a festoon design of diamonds with a pearl centre and pearl drop hanging from a strand of diamonds. It was originally a gift to Queen Victoria in 1897 from members of her household in celebration of her diamond jubilee. The Queen put her own mark on it by having the looped chain of diamond collets and drop pearl removed for this year's Maundy Service (above), making it less elaborate for daytime wear

**Festive Cartier clips**

The Queen arrives at church last Christmas at Sandringham (above) wearing her mother's diamond and ruby Cartier clips brooch on her red wool coat. Memories of celebrating the festive season with her mother would be particularly dear to the Queen – they attended the services together. The Queen Mother wears the same clips at a party at Claridge's in 1999 (right)



This summer marks the 110th anniversary of the birth of the Queen Mother. It is surely no coincidence that in the run-up to this milestone on 4 August, the Queen is wearing more and more of her mother's favourite pieces of jewellery. In the past six months, the monarch has worn more than a dozen of the Queen Mother's brooches at state events and on her tours of the UK, as well as during family gatherings at Christmas and Easter. While previous British queens were famed for their majestic style and were pictured in huge ropes of pearls or festooned with diamonds, both the Queen and Queen Mother were always content to wear simpler items of jewellery with more personal links.

The Queen Mother would often wear brooches

lovingly designed for her by her husband George VI and created by Cartier. Throughout her 50-year widowhood, they were a daily reminder of the man she had known simply as "Bertie". For the Queen, many of her mother's brooches have also become much-loved personal mementoes, much to the delight of her cousin Lady Elizabeth Anson, who tells HELLO!: "I think it's terribly nice the Queen's doing this. I love wearing my own mother's jewellery. It's a very sentimental idea. I know the Queen is very proud of the pieces her father designed for her mother – and they obviously mean a lot to her." There was always a remarkably close bond between the Queen Mum and her daughter. Even when the two were apart they still spoke daily by



### Diamonds, sapphires and grapes

Both the Queen Mother and the Queen have favoured shades of blue or purple for setting off the stunning sapphire bow in this brooch. The Queen's coat (above), which she wore in March at a service at Westminster, is by Peter Enrione, her long-time tailor

telephone; and royal courtiers say the Queen misses her mother's sound advice as well as her exuberant, fun-loving personality. So it's not surprising that some of her treasured pieces are beginning to reappear, some eight years after the royal matriarch's death.

#### A ROSE FOR A ROSE

When the Queen Mother celebrated her 100th birthday in 2000, the Queen had jeweller Harry Collins – now the Crown Jeweller – create a brooch of rock crystal studded with 100 brilliant diamonds. She handed this Centenary Rose Brooch to her mother on the morning of her birthday and she was delighted with the gift. Poignantly, she was last seen wearing it at a family lunch attended by four generations of the royal family at Buckingham Palace, three and a half months before her death in March 2002.

While the rose brooch has been a favourite of the Queen's ever since, it was several years before she decided to wear more of her mother's beloved jewels. Mother and daughter shared a love for rubies and in December 2006, the Queen wore her mother's ruby hibiscus brooch – a gift from the people of Australia – at Prince William's passing-out parade from Sandhurst.

His great-grandmother would have been delighted that she was being thought of that day, since she was very fond of William. He had lunched with her on the way to his first day at the University of St Andrews and, noticing he was full of anxiety, she lightened the mood by joking: "Any good parties, invite me down!" ▶

### The centenary rose brooch

For her mother's centenary in 2000, the Queen commissioned a rose in quartz rock crystal surrounded by 100 brilliant diamonds. Poignantly, the Queen Mother wore it in 2001 on her final visit to Buckingham Palace (below). It holds very special memories for the Queen (right)





**Cartier's diamond leaf**

The Queen wore a Cartier brooch designed by her father at the end of April on a visit to Caernarfon Castle. The curled-leaf diamond brooch was a regular favourite of the Queen Mother's (wearing it in 2001, above)

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William was among the four generations of the royal family who gathered to pay tribute to the Queen Mother when her statue was unveiled by the Queen in The Mall in February last year. That day, as a tribute, the Queen wore one of her mother's favourite art deco brooches – diamonds set in an oyster shell design with a giant pearl at the centre.

This piece appeared again last month when the Queen attended the Easter Sunday service at Windsor, a family occasion her mother always enjoyed – and especially poignant since the Queen Mother died at the Royal Lodge at Windsor.

**JEWEL PURPOSE**

The Queen has clearly inherited her mother's sentimental attachment to jewels. A magnificent diamond brooch she wore for the first time in March at a state banquet for the President of South Africa, Jacob Zuma, had been designed by her father for her mother, and is said to have been one of the most elaborate crafted by Cartier, at almost a foot long.

More memories of her parents were evoked at the end of last month when the Queen wore another Cartier brooch designed by her father, a curled-leaf diamond brooch whose simple elegance – as well as the association with her husband – the Queen Mother had treasured.

In March the Queen chose her mother's diamond and sapphire brooch in the shape of a bunch of

grapes to complement her Peter Enrione turquoise wool coat; a month earlier, the Queen Mother's gold-and-diamond flower brooch proved a similarly lovely accent for another Enrione design, a red cashmere coat, on a visit to RAF Marham near her Sandringham estate.

The Queen's unostentatious nature was apparent last month at the annual Maundy Service when she wore a brooch that had first belonged to Queen Victoria. It was very popular with the Queen Mother, but her daughter must have felt it a little too elaborate for day wear and had it altered, asking Harry Collins to remove its loop of diamonds and teardrop pearl.

Viewers watching the Queen's Christmas broadcast in December would have seen another of Victoria's brooches loved by the Queen Mother – eight perfect pearls set in a diamond mount. For the Christmas church service at Sandringham, the Queen wore her mother's diamond and ruby Cartier clips.

Given the royal provenance of these historic pieces they would fetch millions were they to be sold on the open market. The Queen will, of course, never contemplate parting with them.

They are a reminder of the mother who played such an important part in her life for over 70 years, and as such, their emotional links with the past are completely beyond value. **H**

REPORT: IAN LLOYD



**Down the ages**

This brooch of eight perfect pearls set in diamonds mounted with three pendant pearl drops originally belonged to Queen Victoria. It was another of the monarch's pieces that went on to become much loved by the Queen Mother. Both the Queen and her mother liked to use jewellery as much for sentimental reasons as for decoration

**The oyster shell**

The Queen wears one of her mother's favourite art deco brooches on Easter Sunday – diamonds set in an oyster shell design with an enormous pearl positioned at the centre. The timing was particularly poignant as the Queen Mother – last pictured wearing it in the summer of 2001 at Royal Ascot (below) – died over the 2002 Easter weekend

