



# Platinum Jubilee: A Queen's Nurse for every Decade

# 20 10s

'A Queen's Nurse for Every Decade' is a series celebrating Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee featuring Queen's Nurses who started their nurse training during one of the decades of Her Majesty's reign, 1952 - 2022.

## Community Nurse details

Name: Reuben Collings, Queen's Nurse

Nurse title: Specialist Health Team Manager and Clinical Lead for Learning Disabilities,

Location: Wiltshire



Reuben Collings

### 1. When and where did you start nursing in the community?

I moved straight into the community following a destination placement as a student nurse with the community nursing team. I started work in a small care home as a Deputy Manager supporting individuals with a Learning Disability and have worked in the community ever since.

### 2. What memories do you have of HM The Queen during this time period?

One of my favourite memories of HM The Queen, was her cameo appearance in the London 2012 Olympics. Her Majesty and Daniel Craig as James Bond filmed a spectacular sketch, where of course she insisted on a speaking role. Mr. Bond escorted Her Majesty out of the palace with her two corgis, getting into a helicopter. The whole scene culminates in Her Majesty jumping out of the helicopter supported by a Union Flag parachute before making her official entrance into the Olympic stadium. To me this really demonstrated her sense of humour and fun.

### 3. What has been your proudest nursing moment so far?

My proudest moment is working as a Clinical Nurse Manager for the COVID-19 vaccination programme. The sheer scale and size of the operation, if I stopped to think about it at the time was daunting, and to be honest still terrifies me a little on reflection. Having teams of professionals and volunteers who are ready to give up their spare time to keep the nation safe and work all hours of the day to ensure everyone receives their vaccination has been the biggest encouragement I needed in my career. I am so proud to have led a team who have delivered such a successful programme with compassion and care.

### 4. Any tips for aspiring community nurses?

Do it! Community nursing is so varied, the breadth and wealth of experience you can get is comparable if not better than that you would get in an acute hospital. You will quickly learn the tools of the jobs, to become an autonomous practitioner.

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