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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

QUEEN TO VISIT IN 2012?

Monarchy New Zealand is pleased to hear that The Queen and Prince Philip will be travelling to Perth to attend the biannual CHOGM meeting. At the age of 85, the monarch remains clearly committed to all her realms. The dedication of her husband, who will be 90 on June 10, is also remarkable.

"I hope the announcement of this trip ends any suggestion that the Queen is too old to visit Australia or New Zealand," said Simon O'Connor, Chair of Monarchy New Zealand. "Her trip to Perth proves that she is still fit enough to travel great distances and could come to Aotearoa. The Queen and her family are very committed to this country. Next year she will have served as Queen of New Zealand for 60 years. Her presence here for her Diamond Jubilee is an important opportunity that the government should not miss. Not only would this be an occasion for celebration, but a great boon to our tourism industry which would receive worldwide attention. Prince William's visit last year demonstrated the affection kiwis have for their royal family, and the attention royals can bring to Aotearoa on the world stage."

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