

# Kate charms crowds and then says: Next time I'll bring William

The Duchess of Cambridge enjoyed her visit to Holt so much she promised to bring her husband, Prince William, with her next time.

Her Royal Highness made the revelation while greeting crowds who turned out to meet her on Friday morning.

The Duchess of Cambridge was in town to open the new East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) charity shop in the town's Station Road.

Local support worker Helen Jacobs-McGee took wheelchair-bound Jill Carrette along to catch a glimpse of the Duchess and were thrust to the front of the crowd after Jill broke down in tears when photographers blocked her view.

"We can't believe we got to meet her," Mrs Jacobs-McGee said. "All the cameras were coming in and she was saying: 'You are all getting in my way, I can't see' and she started crying.

"She (the Duchess) asked if she was okay and Jill asked her how her husband and children were and she said: 'Next time I'll bring William with me'."

Crowds gathered in the busy market town from early morning to ensure the best view. And they weren't disappointed as the Duchess took time to speak to those who had waited for more than two hours in the cold.

Naomi Farrow was first to arrive, with her 18-month-old twins Erin and Tess, and presented Her Royal Highness with daffodils picked from their garden near Corpusty.

She said: "We were the first here. We got here nice and early to make



**CROWD PLEASER:** The Duchess took time to meet the public during her visit to Holt.

have we got here?" and I said a set of twins, Erin and Tess. She asked how old they were and said they were really big and 'thank you for coming'."

Pupils from the neighbouring school, Greshams, which overlooks the charity shop, lined the road to welcome the royal visitor and some made special flags to mark the occasion.

Janette Davidson, head of prep at Greshams, said: "It was very exciting because it happened right outside our school.

"We decided, rather than just make Union Jacks, the children wanted to design their own flags, so they all have special inscriptions welcoming Kate and they even got to speak to her - I am so proud of them.

"She asked if they had waited a long time and were keeping warm and said how lovely their flags were. She asked them what year they were in and where they went to school

because, after all, it is their future Queen. They are seven-years-old the moment so as they grow up they will grow up knowing her as the Queen."

It was the first time many in the crowd had seen the Duchess in person, despite her being spotted on shopping trips in the area in the past.

Ella Fairbairn-Day, 13, said: "It was amazing. It was really exciting because we weren't expecting to see her here. We were really lucky to be able to see her and she was a really nice person. It was a great experience."

Mia Bevington, 12, added: "I knew she was coming but I wasn't expecting to (be allowed to) miss school to come and see her. I've seen them on TV before. I've never seen them (royal family) in person before."

The local phone shop hung special Union Jack bunting to celebrate the day.

Carl Rowe, manager at the Dig