

A commemorative edition of the UK's children's newspaper

First News

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“And, when peace comes, remember it will be for us, the children of today, to make the world of tomorrow a better and happier place.”

**THE YOUNG PRINCESS
ELIZABETH IN A RADIO
MESSAGE TO CHILDREN
DURING WW2 IN 1940**

**REMEMBERING
THE QUEEN**

👑 21 April 1926 – 8 September 2022 👑

HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II DIES

THE Queen died peacefully at Balmoral on Thursday 8 September 2022.



The announcement was made as the flag lowered over Buckingham Palace at 6:30pm.

She was 96, the longest-serving monarch in British history.

The Queen's family had gathered at her Scottish estate during the day after concerns grew about her health.

Her eldest son immediately became King Charles III, at the age of 73.

He said: "The death of my beloved Mother, Her Majesty the Queen, is a moment of the greatest sadness for me and all members of my family.

"We mourn profoundly the passing of a cherished Sovereign and a much-loved Mother. I know her loss will be deeply felt throughout the country, the Realms and the Commonwealth, and by countless people around the world.

"During this period of mourning and change, my family and I will be comforted and sustained by our knowledge of the respect and deep affection in which the Queen was so widely held."

Queen Elizabeth became head of state when she was just 25, after the death of her father,

King George VI on 6 February 1952.

Her reign spanned 15 prime ministers from Winston Churchill, born in 1874, to Liz Truss, born 101 years later in 1975 – who was only appointed by the Queen two days before she died. It was her final duty after seven decades of service.

News of the Queen's passing was posted on the gates of Buckingham Palace by two footmen, as is the tradition for important royal announcements.



There were tears, but also cheers, at Buckingham Palace for the Queen as thousands of people gathered following the news of her death



***"I know her loss will be deeply felt throughout the country."
– her son King Charles III***

Tributes poured in on the news of the Queen's death

"Queen Elizabeth II was the very spirit of Great Britain."
– Prime Minister Liz Truss



"Scotland loved, respected and admired her."
– Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon



"Thank you Ma'am, for everything."
– Paddington Bear



"This is our country's saddest day. In the hearts of every one of us there is an ache at the passing of our Queen, a deep and personal sense of loss – far more intense, perhaps, than we expected." – former prime minister, Boris Johnson



"In a world of constant change, she was a steadying presence and a source of comfort and pride for generations of Britons, including many who have never known their country without her."
– US President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden



"As we mourn her loss, we should also treasure her life, our longest-serving and greatest ever monarch."
– Sir Keir Starmer, the leader of the Labour Party



"She was one of my favourite people in the world. I will miss her so much." – Canadian prime minister, Justin Trudeau



"Time and again, we were struck by her warmth, the way she put people at ease, and how she brought her considerable humour and charm to moments of great pomp and circumstance."
– former US president, Barack Obama, and his wife Michelle



Pope Francis paid tribute to the Queen's "unstinting service to the good of Britain and the Commonwealth".



A PRINCESS NOT BORN TO BE QUEEN

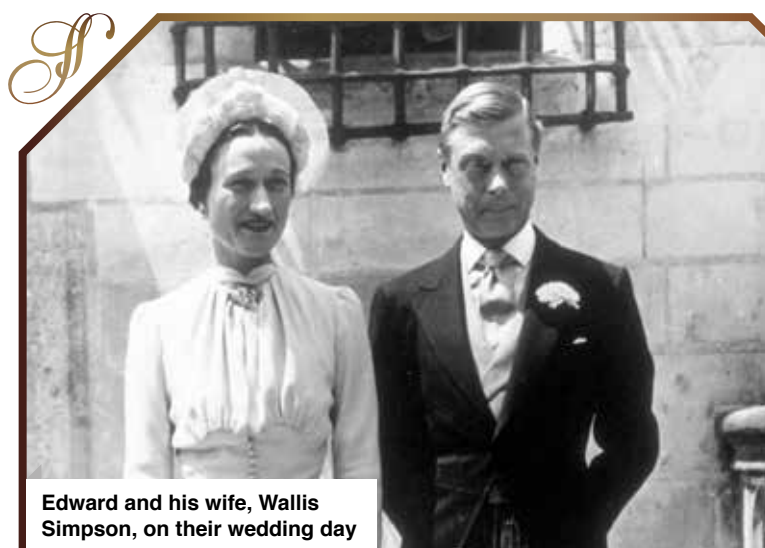
PRINCESS Elizabeth did not expect ever to be Queen, but then her uncle decided he didn't want to be King and her life changed forever.

When the Queen's grandfather, George V, died in 1936, her uncle Edward, Prince of Wales, was next in line to the throne. He fell in love with an American woman called Wallis Simpson who had divorced one husband and was about to divorce a second. In those days, it was not considered right for the king to marry someone who was not British and who had been divorced. It was a big scandal and the prime minister of the time, Stanley Baldwin, gave Edward the choice – the throne or Wallis. He chose Wallis and, after just 11 months of being king, he abdicated (gave up the throne) on 11 December 1936. He had never even been crowned. The whole country was shocked and it became known as 'the **abdication crisis**'. Elizabeth's father George, Duke of York, became King of England that same day – which meant that Elizabeth, now aged ten, was suddenly next in line after him.

A shy king

George was a quiet man and, as he had never expected to become King, he had no time to prepare. It was not a job he wanted and he said: "This is absolutely terrible. I never wanted this to happen." To make things worse for him, he had a stammer, which made public speaking very hard. On 12 May 1937 he was crowned King George VI in Westminster Abbey. His two daughters, Elizabeth and her sister Margaret, wore robes and coronets (small crowns). Then they stood with their father and mother on the balcony of Buckingham Palace and waved to the crowds gathered below.

George VI turned out to be a good, hard-working king, and led the country through the very difficult time of the Second World War, which started in 1939. Many people think he was one of the most successful kings that England has ever known.



Edward and his wife, Wallis Simpson, on their wedding day



King George VI

Death of our King

7 February 1952

THE nation awoke to the news yesterday morning that King George VI had died suddenly, aged 56.

He was staying at the royal residence of Sandringham House. The official announcement said: "The King, who retired to rest last night in his usual health, passed peacefully away in his sleep early this morning." The monarch, who was in the 16th year of his reign, was suffering from a lung disease.

It is expected that the **accession** of his daughter Princess Elizabeth, aged 25, as the new **sovereign** will be announced very soon. She and Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, are on their way home from Kenya, where they were visiting as part of their **Commonwealth** tour. When she sets foot in England again it will be as Queen Elizabeth II. Her son, Prince Charles, is now **heir** to the throne and his sister Princess Anne is second in line.

DID YOU KNOW?

After his abdication, Edward lived abroad for the rest of his life. Elizabeth II, his niece, went to visit him just before he died.

The rules of succession

Not just anybody can become king or queen. Monarchs usually **inherit** the throne from their parents – this is called **succession** and there are strict rules that have to be followed. Up until recently, the rules stated that when a monarch died or abdicated, the position went to the oldest son, even if he had older sisters – this is called **male primogeniture**. If the monarch had no sons, then the eldest daughter would inherit the throne. So, even though the Queen's daughter Anne is older than her brothers Andrew and Edward, they have always been ahead of her in the line of succession. But, in 2013, the rules changed to apply to those born after 28 October 2011, that the first-born child of a monarch will become heir whether that child is a boy or girl.



Until 2011, Prince George would not have been in line for the throne if he had been born a girl



Now King Charles III is the monarch, who is next in line?

- 1 The King's son**
Prince William
- 2 William's son**
Prince George
- 3 William's daughter**
Princess Charlotte



CORGIS, DORGIS, PONIES AND... PIGEONS!



Young Princess Elizabeth (left) with her mother, sister and their dogs



The Queen loved animals from a very young age. We all knew about those cute corgis, but one or two of her favourite furry (and feathered) friends were rather unexpected!

Ask anyone what pet they associate with the Queen and the answer would be the corgi every time. That's understandable because she owned more than 30 of them! It all started in 1933 when her father, King George VI, brought home a corgi called Dookie from a local kennel, to Princess Elizabeth's delight. Then she was given her very own corgi, Susan, on her 18th birthday in 1944. Many of the Queen's other dogs have been Susan's direct descendants.

What you might not know is that Her Majesty also introduced her very own dog breed called the dorgi! This came about when one of her corgis was mated with Pipkin, a dachshund that belonged to Princess Margaret.

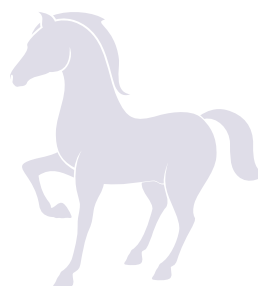
When the Queen's beloved dogs died, they were buried at a pet cemetery on her Sandringham estate.



The Queen's love of corgis continued throughout her life

HER ROYAL HORSE-NESS

The Queen was given her first pony, Peggy, when she was three or four years old and that started a love of horses that was to last a lifetime. She was a keen rider and, as an owner and breeder of thoroughbreds, liked to go to horse shows and racing events to watch her own horses compete. Her horses have won lots of races, particularly at Royal Ascot. In 1957 she had four winners there in one week!



DID YOU KNOW?

Queen Elizabeth II was so involved in the world of horses that, in 2014, she was presented with a lifetime achievement award from the International Equestrian Federation.

OOH, FANCY THAT!

The Queen was also a pigeon fancier (someone who breeds pigeons). This unusual royal hobby began in 1886 when King Leopold II of Belgium gave Queen Victoria some racing pigeons. The royal family have kept the birds ever since. The royal pigeon lofts are based at Sandringham, the royal residence in Norfolk, where the royal loft manager cares for over a hundred mature pigeons and squabs (baby pigeons). Many of the birds are used for racing and they often win.

BATWOMAN RETURNS

Every autumn, when the Queen stayed at her Balmoral residence in Scotland, she is said to have enjoyed a rather unexpected pastime of bat-catching. Using a net on a long pole and with the help of a footman, she caught the bats that flew around the ceiling of Balmoral's great hall. She always let them go afterwards, of course!



DID YOU KNOW?

Birds from the royal pigeon loft were used as carrier pigeons during the First and Second World Wars. One bird even won a medal for helping to report a lost aircraft in 1940.

SO MUCH TO KNOW ABOUT THE QUEEN

AND there is still so much more to know about the Queen, including...

STAMP APPROVAL

The image of the Queen that appears on UK postage stamps now was originally created as a sculpture by the artist Arnold Machin. The stamp was issued first in June 1967 and has not changed since. It's thought that this design is the most reproduced work of art in history!



SPECIAL DELIVERY

Queen Elizabeth used to send a telegram (a bit like an old-fashioned email) to every subject in the UK and the Commonwealth who reached the age of 100. More recently, they got a card with a message and a photo. The Queen sent more than 175,000 'Happy 100th' messages during her reign. She also sent cards for 105th birthdays (and every one after that) and for 60th wedding anniversaries. Obviously she couldn't do this all herself – the mammoth task fell to the Anniversaries Office at Buckingham Palace.



MA'AM, YOU ARE NOT UNDER ARREST!

The Queen was above the law, so civil and criminal legal proceedings could not be taken against her. What's more, she was the only person in Britain who could drive without a driving licence or a registration number on her car – and she didn't have a passport either!



YOUR MAJESTY!

You were supposed to start a conversation with the Queen by calling her 'Your Majesty', and, after that, address her as 'Ma'am' (rhyming with spam). To formally greet her, men should have performed a neck bow (from the head only), while women needed to make a small curtsy.



HER FISHY FAMILY

Here's a very strange old law – any sturgeon (the fish whose eggs make caviar) found in her realm were deemed to be the Queen's personal property. Other 'royal' creatures are whales, porpoises and dolphins!



KEEP CALM AND CHAT!

In 1982, an intruder broke into the Queen's bedroom at Buckingham Palace. The Queen is believed to have calmly chatted to the man, Michael Fagan, for ten minutes before a footman arrived to help.

DID YOU KNOW?



The Queen with Daniel Craig as James Bond

The Queen's corgis are famous. Not only have they appeared in royal works of art but three of them – Monty, Willow and Holly – featured in the 2012 Olympic opening ceremony when James Bond arrived at Buckingham Palace to escort the Queen to the Games!

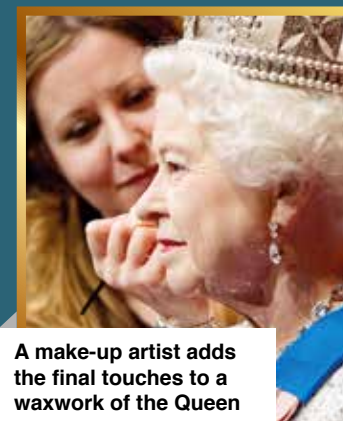


'The Queen' parachutes in!

Former British prime minister, David Cameron, is her fifth cousin twice removed!

As part of the opening ceremony for the 2012 Olympic Games, the Queen arrived at the Olympic Park by parachute. Okay, it wasn't her, it was a body double!

Queen Elizabeth II travelled more, and made more state visits, than any monarch in history. This is because travel is so much easier and quicker than it was for her ancestors.



A make-up artist adds the final touches to a waxwork of the Queen

There have been 23 mannequins of Queen Elizabeth in Madame Tussauds, the famous waxwork museum in London. The latest was added in 2012 for her Diamond Jubilee.



The Queen's coronation in 1953

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