FACTS ABOUT QUEEN ELIZABETH II

**TITLE:** Queen of the United Kingdom and Head of the Commonwealth of Nations

Nations that belong to the Commonwealth of Nations are Antigua and Barbuda; Australia; Bahamas; Barbados; Belize; Canada; Grenada; Jamaica; New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; Saint Kitts and Nevis; Saint Lucia; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; Solomon Islands; Tuvalu; United Kingdom and Great Britain (with its Dependent Territories, including the Cayman Islands) and Northern Ireland.

**REIGN:** 6 February 1952 to Present * She has ruled longer than any other king or queen in the history of the United Kingdom and longer than any other living king or queen in the world.

**CORONATION:** 2 June 1953 at Westminster Abbey. The queen wore a dress that was decorated with the national flowers of the Commonwealth of Nations.

**BORN:** 21 April 1926 in London at 2:40 am. She is 95 years old now

**HUSBAND:** Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, who died in 2021.

**CHILDREN:** Charles, Prince of Wales; Anne, Princess Royal; Prince Andrew, Duke of York; Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex

**EARLY LIFE AS A PRINCESS**

Princess Elizabeth's nickname is ‘Lilibet’. She had one sister, Princess Margaret. The two young princesses were taught at home. Princess Elizabeth was 13 years old when World War II started and when London was bombed, Elizabeth and Margaret were moved to Windsor Castle for their safety.

Princess Elizabeth joined the British army in 1945. She drove a truck and was a mechanic. In 1947, she made her first official trip with her parents to South Africa. She made a speech on her 21st birthday and said that her whole life would be devoted to the service of the British commonwealth and Empire.
CORONATION AND LIFE AS A QUEEN

When Princess Elizabeth was 27, her father, King George VI, died and she became queen. She is not a ruler in the usual way. She is interested in the running of her countries, but she does not tell the governments what to do. She has regular meetings with people from her governments around the world, but it is they who run the countries. She performs ceremonies for the governments, gives out Queen's honours, and visits and supports many charitable organisations.

In some countries where she is queen, a person is chosen to represent her. This person may be known as the Governor General. Here in the Cayman Islands, we refer to this person as the Governor.

Ever since she became Queen, Elizabeth has spent about three hours every day “doing the boxes”. Two large red boxes are brought to her from Parliament full of state papers sent to her from her various government departments, embassies, countries. Because she has been doing this since 1952, she knows a great deal about the peoples under her rule. Her promise to serve her people all her life has been very important to her.

Source: Elizabeth II Facts for Kids Kiddle Encyclopedia

The Queen's Personal Standard

The Queen's Coronation, 1953
QUEEN ELIZABETH’S VISITS TO THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

1983
After 300 years of British rule, Queen Elizabeth II made her first visit to the Cayman Islands on 16 February 1983 for just one day. The queen and Prince Philip arrived at Owen Roberts International Airport on board a VC10 aircraft. Elected officials and top senior civil servants welcomed the royal couple as they exited the aircraft. It was a historic moment for Annie Huldah Bodden, a member of the Legislative Assembly at that time, who told the queen that the people of Cayman did not want to ‘ever, ever, ever’ change from being a British colony.

They were also welcomed by a crowd of more than one-quarter of the island's population and school children greeted them with flags, flowers and applause. During the tour of Grand Cayman the queen was welcomed in every district.

1994
In February 1994, Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip returned to Cayman on a Royal Air Force jet for their second visit. A historic first for the Cayman Islands was the knighting of Sir Vassel Johnson by the Queen. He is considered to have been a driving force in creating Caman’s financial services industry.

During that visit, the queen also officially opened the Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park.

Source: Cayman Compass, 60 Years of Royal Welcomes by Jewel Levy, March 2019

Cayman Islands commemorative stamps of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II and her Golden and Diamond jubilees
THE QUEEN ELIZABETH II BOTANIC PARK
SCRAPBOOK PAGE

Botanic Park Heritage House Dining Room

Botanic Park Heritage House Girl's Bedroom

Botanic Park Heritage House Corner Wall with Trunk and Basket

Botanic Park Heritage House Storage Cabinet

Botanic Park Heritage House Exterior Wattle Wall of Outdoor Kitchen

Botanic Park Heritage House Outdoor Caboose

Photos: V. Foster
MAKE A QUEEN ELIZABETH II SCRAPBOOK

Scrapbook – a book to place a collection of newspaper or magazine clippings, photos, information and other small items of interest about a special person or topic

Directions: Check local thrift shops for a used scrapbook or buy a new one. Glue in photos and information about the queen that you’ve just seen and read here and continue adding more photos and information as you follow the life of the Queen from now on.

ART ACTIVITY

Queen Elizabeth II

Elizabeth Alexandra Mary
Born 21 April 1926
She is Head of the Commonwealth and Supreme Governor of the Church of England.

Served for 63 years on the throne.

Longest-serving monarch in Britain’s history.

"I cannot lead you into battle. I do not give you laws or administer justice but I can do something else – I can give my heart and my devotion to these old islands and to all the peoples of our brotherhood of nations."

-Queen Elizabeth II
St Edward’s Crown is the most important and sacred of all the crowns and is part of the Crown Jewels collection. It is only used at the moment of crowning itself.

Source: www.TheImaginationBox.com
5 FUN FACTS ABOUT THE QUEEN

Impress everyone with these fun facts that you know about the queen.

ียว The Queen’s favourite dogs are corgis. She even invented a new breed of dog when her corgi mated with a dachshund belonging to her sister, Princess Margaret, creating a “dorgi”!
ียว The queen celebrates two birthdays: Her actual birthday – 21 April and her official birthday. In the Cayman Islands this is a public holiday on the 2nd Monday in June every year!
ียว The queen sent her first email in 1976 and published her first Instagram post in 2019!
ียว The Queen has sent over 50,000 Christmas cards and she's still sending more every year!
衒 The Queen owns an elephant, two giant turtles, a jaguar and a pair of sloths which are gifts to her from other countries and all of them live at the London Zoo! Maybe she would like a pair of blue iguanas or a Cayman Brac parrot and a Grand Cayman parrot?

Source: http://www.natgeokids.com

BOOKS ABOUT THE QUEEN

Written by Colin Banks
Discover fascinating facts and captivating photos about the Royal Family of England.

Written by Richard Brassey
This eye-catching book provides insight into the life of the woman who is our longest-reigning monarch with fun facts, hilarious anecdotes and fascinating info!