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CELEBRATE A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME ROYAL EVENT ★ JIMMY WEBB ★ BOB GALE ★ KATHLEEN MARSHALL ★ F1 HITS VEGAS ★ SPORTS' PROBLEM GAMBLING ★ BASEBALL IS BACK! ★ BYE BYE NIT TAX ★ FINANCE ★ INTERVIEWS ★ NEWS ★ REVIEWS ★ SOCIAL GROUPS ★ SPORTS

The Special Relationships

The Monarch Who Has Met 14 American Presidents

When Harry (and Herbert and Dwight and Jack and Richard and Gerald and Jimmy and Ronnie and George and Bill and George and Barack and Donald and Joe) Met Liz. By Isabella Burland Sully



1951

In 1951 the then Princess Elizabeth and her husband Prince Philip visited Washington, DC, acting on behalf of her gravely ill father, King George VI. When she touched down in Washington she met her first American president, President Harry S. Truman. Pictured in this photo is the moment the Princess and the President rode in the Presidential limousine to Blair House, where the Truman family hosted Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip. Speaking on behalf of the American people and the people of Washington, the President wrote in a letter to the Royals "we have many distinguished visitors here in this city, but never before have we had such a wonderful young couple that so completely captured the hearts of all of us".

1953



The Queen's Coronation took place on June 2, 1953 following her Accession to the throne on February 6, 1952 after her father King George passed away following a prolonged illness. Coronations are held months after the Monarch's accession to allow for a period of mourning and to enable the large amount of preparation needed for the Coronation ceremony. This picture shows Queen Elizabeth II at her Coronation. Part of the ceremony involves the monarch sitting in King Edward's chair, the "Coronation chair", at the moment of coronation. This was made in the year 1300 and nearly every monarch since the 1300s has been crowned in this chair! The only exceptions are Edward V and Edward VIII who were never crowned - the former died before his coronation and the second abdicated before his - and Mary II who was crowned in a joint ceremony with her husband William III and so she was crowned in a replica coronation chair while her husband sat in *the* chair.

1957



PHOTO COURTESY NARA

Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip stayed with President Dwight D. Eisenhower and First Lady Mamie Eisenhower at the White House for four days during October 1957, when this photo was taken. This was the Queen's first State Visit to America since becoming monarch. Two years later, in August 1959, President Eisenhower visited the Queen at Balmoral, Scotland. The President already had a fondness for Scotland; after the Second World War, the Scottish Kennedy clan (as distinct from the Irish family – see JFK!) gave the top floor of their family seat Culzean Castle to the then General Eisenhower as a thank you from the people of Scotland.

MENU

Date.....

.....
DROP SCONES


Ingredients

- 4 teaspoons flour
- 4 tablespoons caster sugar
- 2 teaspoons milk
- 2 whole eggs
- 2 teaspoons bi-carbonate soda
- 3 teaspoons cream of tartar
- 2 tablespoons melted butter

Beat eggs, sugar and about half the milk together, add flour, and mix well together adding remainder of milk as required, also bi-carbonate and cream of tartar, fold in the melted butter.

Enough for 16 people

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BUCKINGHAM PALACE


Jan 24th
1960.

Dear Mr. President,

Seeing a picture of you in today's newspaper standing in front of a barbecue grilling quail, reminded me that I had never sent you the recipe of the drop scones which I promised you at Balmoral. I was hesitant to do so,

and I do hope you will find them successful. Though the quantities are for 16 people, when there are fewer, I generally put in less flour and milk, but use the other ingredients as stated.

I have also tried using golden syrup or treacle instead of only sugar, and that can be very good, too.


BUCKINGHAM PALACE

I think the mixture needs a great deal of beating while making, and shouldn't stand about too long before cooking.

We have followed with intense interest and much admiration your tremendous journey to so many countries, but feel we shall never again be able to claim that we are being

made to do too much on our future tour!

We remember with such pleasure your visit to Balmoral, and I hope the photographs will be a reminder of the very happy day you spent with us. With all good wishes to you and Mr. Eisenhower,

Yours sincerely
Elizabeth II

However, it wasn't just Scotland he fell in love with on this trip: the Queen wrote to President Eisenhower apologizing for having 'never sent you the recipe of the drop scones which I promised you at Balmoral' and attached the recipe. Read the letter and the Queen's drop scone (aka Scotch pancake) recipe above and left. Why not celebrate Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee by making her scones!

1957

In 1957 Queen Elizabeth II met Former President Herbert Hoover, 24 years after he left the White House, when the Queen and her husband, Prince Philip, took a royal tour of the US. The Queen was given an official welcome at City Hall and a ticker tape parade from City Hall to the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel before speaking at a luncheon there hosted by New York Mayor Robert Wagner in her honor. President Hoover and Queen Elizabeth sat next to each other, however their meeting wasn't widely photographed. This photo, taken in December 1930, is the first photograph of Hoover in the White House and shows the President signing a bill, alongside the first telephone to sit on a desk of a US President!



PHOTO COURTESY HERBERT HOOVER PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

1961



PHOTO COURTESY JOHN F. KENNEDY PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM/NARA

Five months after his inauguration, President John F. Kennedy and First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy visited London. When they arrived, half a million people turned out to greet the JFK and Jackie. This photo was taken at Buckingham Palace during a banquet held in the President's honor on June 15, 1961. In 1965, two years after the assassination of President Kennedy, the Queen opened a memorial to the late President at Runnymede, on the spot where the Magna Carta was sealed. The President's wife, two children and brother all attended the ceremony. During her speech, Queen Elizabeth said: "Here at Runnymede, 750 years ago, the Magna Carta was signed. Among our earliest statutes, it has rightly been regarded as the cornerstone of those liberties which later became enshrined in our democratic government under the rule of law. This is a part of the heritage which the people of the United States share with us. Therefore, it is altogether fitting that this should be the site of Britain's memorial to the late President John F. Kennedy. This acre of English soil is now bequeathed in perpetuity to the American people in memory of John Fitzgerald Kennedy, who in death my people still mourn, and whom in life they loved and admired". Later, the Queen also expressed the UK's grief: "The unprecedented intensity of that wave of grief, mixed with something akin to despair, which swept over our people at the news of President Kennedy's assassination, was a measure of the extent to which we recognized what he had already accomplished, and of the high hopes that rode with him in a future that was not to be".

1970

Queen Elizabeth II first met President Richard M. Nixon in 1957 when he was Vice President under President Eisenhower. In 1969 they met again as heads of state when Nixon made an informal visit to the UK soon after becoming President. This photo was taken on October 3, 1970 and shows Prime Minister Edward Heath, Queen Elizabeth II, President Nixon and First Lady Pat Nixon at Chequers, the Prime Minister's official country residence.



PHOTO COURTESY RICHARD M. NIXON PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM/NARA

1976



PHOTO COURTESY NARA

Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip traveled to America in July, 1976 for an official State Visit where they met President Gerald R. Ford and First Lady Betty Ford. This photograph shows the four on the Truman Balcony after the State Arrival Ceremony in honor of the Royal visit. The President and First Lady then hosted a State Dinner in honor of the Queen in the Rose Garden. In her memoir, Betty Ford recounted how they held the event in a tent over the Rose Garden and without her foresight in adding flooring, the event could have been disastrous as "An hour and a half before the Queen's dinner, there was a sudden downpour with torrential rain, thunder, lightning. Three trees on the White House grounds were struck". Despite this, she wrote that "if I hadn't kept mixing up Your Highness and Your Majesty (he's His Highness, she's Her Majesty) I'd give myself four stars for the way that visit went off!"

1977



In 1977, Queen Elizabeth II hosted a Summit Dinner during a G7 Summit at Buckingham Palace attended by members of the Royal Family, President Jimmy Carter and other world leaders. In this photo are, from left-right, Canada's Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, the Queen's younger sister Princess Margaret, Japan's Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda, Britain's Prime Minister James Callaghan, France's President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, Queen Elizabeth II, Prince Philip, the Queen Mother, President Carter, Italy's Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti and Germany's Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. President Carter famously made a faux pas, breaking royal protocol, when he kissed the Queen Mother on the lips. The Queen Mother allegedly made two remarks on the event afterwards, one that "Nobody has done that since my husband died" and the other that "I took a sharp step backwards. Not quite far enough!"

1982



Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip hosted President Ronald Reagan and First Lady Nancy Reagan for formal events, but the Queen is pictured here with the President riding horses during a June 1982 visit to Windsor Castle. They met several times throughout Reagan's presidency having bonded over their love of horses and in 1983 the President invited the Queen to his ranch, Rancho Del Cielo, in Santa Barbara, CA. President Reagan was awarded an honorary knighthood, officially a 'Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath' which is the highest honorary rank the UK can award a foreigner, by the Queen on June 15, 1989. Only two other US Presidents have received this award: President George H.W. Bush in 1993 after he left office (also presented by Queen Elizabeth) and President Eisenhower in 1943 (presented by the Queen's father, King George VI). Presidents Bush and Reagan were given the knighthood from the civil division, however President Eisenhower received his 'Order of Merit' from the military division, due to his role as General during the Second World War.

1991



PHOTO COURTESY LBJ PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

Despite President Lyndon B. Johnson holding office between 1963 and 1969 Queen Elizabeth II and the President never met, making him the only president the Queen has not met since President Truman, taking her tally of Presidents to 14 out of a possible 15 (remember she met President Hoover in 1957)! While the Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library states that “we do not know why” the two never met, they do note how “President Johnson and Queen Elizabeth corresponded from March 1964 to July 1967. Nothing serious - congratulations on births, birthday wishes, and a condolence message after the death of Churchill. Queen Elizabeth never sent an invitation to President Johnson to visit Great Britain. And, President Johnson never sent an invitation to the Queen to visit the United States”. However, this picture shows how even though she never met the President, the Queen did visit the US in 1991 and met the former First Lady Lady Bird Johnson and Texas Governor Ann Richards at the LBJ Presidential Library.

1989

Queen Elizabeth II first met President George H.W. Bush in 1989 when the President and First Lady Barbara Bush visited London. The Queen gave them a tour of Buckingham Palace. Two years later, in 1991, the President hosted Queen Elizabeth and her husband Prince Philip for an official State Visit and took her to a Baltimore Orioles game. This photo captures a moment during this visit where the Queen and the President helped to plant a Little Leaf Linden tree on the South Lawn of the White House Grounds. This was a very symbolic gesture as it replaced one that came down in a storm the year before, that had been planted in the same spot by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in honor of the Queen's father's coronation in 1937.



PHOTO COURTESY GEORGE H.W. BUSH PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM/NARA



PHOTO COURTESY WILLIAM J. CLINTON PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM/NARA

President William J. Clinton made several visits to the UK during his presidency, however he first met the Queen in 1994 at a banquet commemorating the 50th anniversary of D-Day. Queen Elizabeth II, Prince Philip, the Queen Mother, Princess Margaret, President Bill Clinton, First Lady Hillary Clinton, British Prime Minister John Major and leaders from the other 11 nations that took part in D-Day all sailed in a fleet to Normandy from Portsmouth, England, to mark the occasion. On the way, they dropped wreaths in the English Channel and 2,000,000 red poppies were released from a low-flying World War II Lancaster bomber. This photo was taken when the President and First Lady returned to England the following year and toured Buckingham Palace with the Queen and Prince Philip as part of a five day European tour. In 1997 the Clintons returned again, marking President Clinton's first official visit after Tony Blair became Prime Minister just 24 days earlier. Infamously, the President declined an invitation to join the Queen for tea because he instead wanted to “be a tourist”, go shopping and eat Indian food with Hillary. Despite this snub they finally joined the Queen for tea at Buckingham Palace with their daughter Chelsea in 2000.

1995

2007

Queen Elizabeth II first met President George W. Bush in 2001. In 2003, he became the first President to make an official State Visit when he and First Lady Laura Bush stayed the night in Buckingham Palace. This visit wasn't without controversy though, as large protests erupted through London to protest the Iraq War and the President's trip. During the protests an effigy of Bush was toppled, similar to scenes from the fall of Baghdad. In 2007 the Queen made her first visit to the United States since 1991, when President Bush's father was in office. At the event, marking the 400th anniversary of the first English settlement in North America at Jamestown, the President and First Lady hosted the Queen and Prince Philip at a State Dinner in the White House. This photo shows President Bush toasting Queen Elizabeth at this event, following his welcoming remarks in which he accidentally confused dates and implied the Queen was over 200 years old. Two days later the Queen playfully opened her speech with "I wondered whether I should start this toast by saying, "When I was here in 1776..." before everyone burst into laughter.



2009



Queen Elizabeth II and President Barack Obama met several times throughout his presidency, the first being a visit to Buckingham Palace in 2009 when this photograph was taken. Despite First Lady Michelle Obama breaking royal protocol by putting her arm around the Queen this didn't affect their relationship and Michelle expressed in her memoir that she thought the Queen was okay with it "because when I touched her, she only pulled closer, resting a gloved hand lightly on the small of my back". Buckingham Palace also issued a statement denying any ill-blood as they stated "it was a mutual and spontaneous display of affection". President Obama became one of only 3 Presidents to make an official State Visit, after President George W. Bush and before President Donald J. Trump. In 2011 Obama joined the Queen for a State Banquet and stay at Buckingham Palace. On the Queen's 90th birthday in 2016 the President said "she is truly one of my favorite people" and after leaving office the Obamas maintained their close relationship with the Royal Family.

2019



OFFICIAL WHITE HOUSE PHOTO BY ANDREA HANKS

Queen Elizabeth II only met President Donald J. Trump three times, and they weren't without controversy. The pair first met in 2018 when they had tea at Windsor Castle, just over 20 miles west of London. The meeting wasn't at Buckingham Palace, as is traditional, due to large protests in London over the President's visit and his policies on subjects including LGBTQ+ rights, gender rights, racial equality and migration. In fact, protests erupted throughout the UK in 2018 and again in 2019 when President Trump returned to the UK for an official State Visit, making him one of only three Presidents to have had that honor – first George W. Bush, then Barack Obama, and now Donald Trump. President Trump and First Lady Melania Trump also broke royal protocol several times during their visits. These included the President being late to meet the Queen, walking in front of her and turning his back to her while First Lady Melania Trump put her hand out to shake Duchess of Cornwall Camilla's hand, which is a big no-no according to traditional royal etiquette - instead you are meant to wait for them to start the handshake. Handshakes were a controversial topic for the Trumps, as both the President and First Lady chose to shake the Queen's hand instead of bow and curtsy respectively on both their 2018 and 2019 visits. While protocol documents from the Ford administration suggest that the Queen doesn't always expect Americans to curtsy or bow, especially on informal occasions, it is nonetheless traditional, widely expected, and a State Visit is not informal! This photograph captures a moment from the welcome ceremony for President Trump's official State Visit to Buckingham Palace in 2019.

2021

Covid-19 and President Joe Biden's short time in office so far have prevented Queen Elizabeth II and President Biden meeting more than once as heads of state, so far. Despite being Vice President for eight years between 2008-2016 Biden never met the Queen during this time, although he did meet Prince Charles and Prince Harry. Joe Biden did, however, meet the Queen back in 1982 when he was a US Senator. He recalled his mother's words on the matter later in his life: "Joey, be polite, but do not kiss her ring. Swear to God". When meeting the Queen, President Biden broke royal protocol and refused to bow, like his predecessor. This photograph was taken on the last day of President Biden's first ever trip to the UK as President for the 2021 G7 Summit, an event that occurred just two months after the death of the Queen's husband, Prince Philip, aged 99. It pictures First Lady Jill Biden, Queen Elizabeth II and President Biden in Windsor Castle where they had tea.



OFFICIAL WHITE HOUSE PHOTO BY ADAM SCHULTZ

2022

This year marks the Queen's 70th year on the throne. Not only does this make Queen Elizabeth II the longest reigning British monarch, she is also one of very few people who have met so many US Presidents. To the right is the message Queen Elizabeth II sent out a day before the 70th anniversary of her Accession to the throne. Among other things, Queen Elizabeth remarks that she remembers the day "as much for the death of my father, King George VI, as for the start of my reign". She also thanks her family for their "steadfast and loving support" and us, the public, for our support, loyalty and affection also.



PHOTO COURTESY STEVE PARSONS, POOL VIA AP

These two photographs were released to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The picture above shows Her Majesty enjoying some memorabilia from her Diamond and Platinum Jubilees. The photograph to the right shows the Queen with her red despatch box of official paperwork, a duty she has undertaken nearly every single day of her 70 years as Queen, at her Sandringham Estate which was the location of her father's, King George VI, death and where she traditionally spends Accession Day. In a framed photograph standing pride of place on the table, the King and one of the family's corgis can be seen in the background. Who knows how many more Presidents Queen Elizabeth II may still meet!



PHOTO BY CHRIS JACKSON, COURTESY THE ROYAL FAMILY/INSTAGRAM

SANDRINGHAM HOUSE

5th February, 2022.

Tomorrow, 6th February, marks the 70th anniversary of my Accession in 1952. It is a day that, even after 70 years, I still remember as much for the death of my father, King George VI, as for the start of my reign.

As we mark this anniversary, it gives me pleasure to renew to you the pledge I gave in 1947 that my life will always be devoted to your service.

As I look ahead with a sense of hope and optimism to the year of my Platinum Jubilee, I am reminded of how much we can be thankful for. These last seven decades have seen extraordinary progress socially, technologically and culturally that have benefited us all; and I am confident that the future will offer similar opportunities to us and especially to the younger generations in the United Kingdom and throughout the Commonwealth.

I am fortunate to have had the steadfast and loving support of my family. I was blessed that in Prince Philip I had a partner willing to carry out the role of consort and unselfishly make the sacrifices that go with it. It is a role I saw my own mother perform during my father's reign.

This anniversary also affords me a time to reflect on the goodwill shown to me by people of all nationalities, faiths and ages in this country and around the world over these years. I would like to express my thanks to you all for your support. I remain eternally grateful for, and humbled by, the loyalty and affection that you continue to give me. And when, in the fullness of time, my son Charles becomes King, I know you will give him and his wife Camilla the same support that you have given me; and it is my sincere wish that, when that time comes, Camilla will be known as Queen Consort as she continues her own loyal service.

And so as I look forward to continuing to serve you with all my heart, I hope this Jubilee will bring together families and friends, neighbours and communities – after some difficult times for so many of us – in order to enjoy the celebrations and to reflect on the positive developments in our day-to-day lives that have so happily coincided with my reign.

Yours sincerely