

# Her Platinum Jubilee



photo courtesy Buckingham Palace

A big event is coming up in the United Kingdom June 2 to 5: Queen Elizabeth II's platinum **jubilee**. (A jubilee honors a certain period of time in a ruler's **reign**, or time in office.) It celebrates her 70 years on the throne.

This week, The Mini Page learns more about the queen and the **monarchy**, or system of government.

## A young queen

In early 1952, when Princess Elizabeth was only 25 years old, her father, King George VI, died. She immediately became the queen, but the **coronation**, or ceremony, was held more than a year later, in June 1953. Her crown was made in 1661 for the coronation of King Charles II.



photo by Cecil Beaton, © V&A Images

The new queen suddenly had to take over all the duties her father had performed. She became Queen Elizabeth II. (Queen Elizabeth I reigned from 1558 to 1603.)

## What does a queen do?

Although Queen Elizabeth II is the head of state in the United Kingdom, that country also has a constitution, and laws are made by the **Parliament**, or legislature. She represents the United Kingdom at formal events and in ceremonies. She meets with the prime minister once a week, and she opens each new session of Parliament in a special ceremony.

## Mini Fact:

Queen Elizabeth, 96, is the longest-reigning monarch in England's history. Queen Victoria served for 63 years.

## The queen's family

In November 1947, when Princess Elizabeth was 21 years old, she married Lt. Philip Mountbatten. He became known then as the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Philip.

Prince Philip died in April 2021 at age 99.

## The heir apparent

The first person in line to be monarch is Prince Charles, the first son of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip.

**Heir** (air) **apparent** means Prince Charles will inherit the title of **sovereign** (SAH-ver-un), or leader, from his mother when she dies or gives up the throne.



Prince Charles

Although Prince Charles has a sister and two brothers, next in line for the throne is his first son, Prince William, the Duke of Cambridge.

Prince William is the son of Prince Charles and Princess Diana, Prince Charles' first wife. He is 39 years old.

His younger brother, Prince Harry, now lives in the United States.

Prince George, 8, is third in line to the British throne. George is the son of Prince William and his wife, Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge.



Prince William

## Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of Queen Elizabeth II are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:

APPARENT,  
CELEBRATION, CHARLES,  
CROWN, ELIZABETH,  
FAMILY, GEORGE, HEIR,  
JUBILEE, MONARCH,  
PARADE, PARLIAMENT,  
PHILIP, PLATINUM,  
QUEEN, REIGN, ROYAL,  
SOVEREIGN, WILLIAM.

H	C	R	A	N	O	M	X	R	O	Y	A	L	P	G
Q	R	R	V	H	T	E	B	A	Z	I	L	E	I	E
U	I	S	O	V	E	R	E	I	G	N	R	R	L	O
E	E	U	E	W	A	P	P	A	R	E	N	T	I	R
E	H	Y	H	W	N	J	U	B	I	L	E	E	H	G
N	O	I	T	A	R	B	E	L	E	C	G	H	P	E
E	D	A	R	A	P	R	T	W	I	L	L	I	A	M
C	C	H	A	R	L	E	S	H	F	A	M	I	L	Y
W	P	L	A	T	I	N	U	M	N	G	I	E	R	E
V	P	R	P	A	R	L	I	A	M	E	N	T	A	R



## Cook's Corner

### Chocolate Chip Cake Cookies

#### You'll need:

- 1 package cake mix, flavor of your choice
- 1 (8-ounce) package semisweet chocolate chips

- 2 1/2 tablespoons water
- 1/2 cup cooking oil
- 2 eggs



#### What to do:

1. Grease a cookie sheet.
2. Combine ingredients and mix together well.
3. Place batter on cookie sheet in spoonfuls spaced about 2 inches apart.
4. Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for 10 minutes.
5. Remove from oven and let cool. Makes 2 dozen cookies.

\* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

## ROOTONYM®

by Jan & Carey Orr Cook



Study the definition. When you know the missing word, fill in the letter boxes and the sentence blanks.

1. Woman who rules a country or kingdom (5-letter noun)

□ □ □ □ □

2. A royal headpiece usually worn by a king or queen (5-letter noun)

□ □ □ □ □

3. Home of someone who rules; a beautiful and large house (6-letter noun)

□ □ □ □ □ □

4. To mark a holiday or important time in a special way (9-letter verb)

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

1. Pairs of horses pulled the \_\_\_\_\_'s carriage down the road.
2. The princess wore a \_\_\_\_\_ with many colored jewels.
3. When Donny saw the huge \_\_\_\_\_, his mouth fell open.
4. Men, women and children will \_\_\_\_\_ in the streets.

Answers: Queen, Crown, Palace, Celebrate.

## Mini Jokes



**Elizabeth:** What is the queen's favorite butterfly?  
**Edward:** The monarch!

## Eco Note



A study of orangutans in Borneo and Sumatra reveals that groups of the apes use slang terms to show off their "coolness." Writing in the journal *Nature Ecology and Evolution*, scientists say that the "kiss squeak" alarm calls are sometimes altered in pitch and duration by some in the simian social groups in the same way teenage humans come up with new slang terms. While some of the so-called slang becomes adopted by others in the group, other sounds quickly become "uncool."

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## For later:

Look through your newspaper for articles about the queen's platinum jubilee.

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