

AUSTRALIA'S BEST WEEKEND

FEBRUARY 5, 2022

Saturday Extra

QUEEN ELIZABETH II
REIGN: FEBRUARY 6, 1952 — PRESENT
FOUR PAGES OF MEMORIES

MAGIC MOMENTS



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SEVENTY YEARS OF



The royal couple were embraced by Australians on their 1954 visit.



Words of comfort during her 2020 pandemic speech.



No sign of the royal row that took place on this 1954 tour stopover.



The Queen looked as delighted as her audience on the night she teamed up with James Bond (Daniel Craig) for the 2012 London Olympics.

The first British monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, the Queen has been one of the few constants in all our lives. So, as she reaches her record-breaking 70 years on the throne, we celebrate her phenomenal life and work over the decades.

February 6 is always a poignant date for the Queen – as the day her beloved father King George VI passed away, aged 56, in 1952. Because of this, she doesn't normally celebrate the day she acceded to the throne and official Jubilee celebrations are scheduled for June.

But on this historic day, we commemorate 70 memorable moments that made the Queen the world's favourite great-grandmother.

1 The day she first came to Australia
She was the first reigning monarch to set foot in Australia and stopped the nation. One million Sydneysiders turned out to see the beautiful young Queen arrive in Sydney on February 3 1954, out of a then population of 1.9 million.

2 Her pandemic speech
Forget politicians, it was to the Queen we turned for reassurance when the pandemic hit in 2020. She delivered a message of hope from Windsor Castle, saying: "We should take comfort that while we may have more still to endure, better days will return: we will be with our friends again; we will be with our families again; we will meet again."

3 The time she threw her shoes at Prince Philip
Elizabeth threw shoes and a tennis racquet at Philip while on a break in Victoria, midway through their 1954 Australian tour. It was caught on film, but the Queen reportedly apologised to the crew, saying, "I'm sorry for that little interlude but, as you know, it happens in every marriage," and the footage duly disappeared.

4 Her James Bond moment
She's made many speeches, but "Good evening, Mr Bond," was the most surprising, when the 86-year-old Queen agreed to join Daniel Craig as 007 and "parachute into the Olympic

The Queen's reign began on a day of sorrow and has been marked by her unflinching dedication to duty, writes **Kerry Parnell**



Queen Elizabeth II poses on her Coronation day, June 2, 1953; (right) a huge crowd turned out to watch the long-awaited opening of the Sydney Opera House in 1973.



stadium" for the opening ceremony of the 2012 London Olympics. Best moment, ever.

5 When Windsor burned
When the Queen's beloved Windsor Castle caught fire on November 20, 1992, the sight of her standing guard in her raincoat, wellies and headscarf, was extremely moving.

6 Her heartbreak at Philip's funeral
The image of the Queen, hunched, alone in her pew at the funeral of the love of her life, on April 17, 2021, will stay with us forever.

7 Her post-referendum speech
When the Queen returned to Australia in 2000, post-referendum, she addressed it head-on. "Whatever the future may bring, my lasting respect and deep affection for Australia and

Australians everywhere will remain as strong as ever," she said.

8 The royal wedding
When the beautiful Princess Elizabeth married her handsome war hero prince on November 20, 1947, they were the symbol of hope for the post-war world.

9 Opening the Opera House
The Queen opened Sydney Opera House in 1973, with actor and descendant of Bennelong, Ben Blakeney. "The human spirit must sometimes take wings or sails, and create something that is not just utilitarian or commonplace," she said.

10 The Coronation
It was the start of a new era, as people gathered around TV sets all over the world to watch the 27-year-old



The sorrow clear on her face, the Queen talks to fire crew after the disaster at Windsor Castle.



Alone in her grief, the Queen showed every one of her years as she mourned the passing of her beloved Prince Phillip in April 2021.

GRACE AND GLORY

crowned Queen in her splendid Norman Hartnell coronation gown in Westminster Abbey, on June 2, 1953.

11 Her Diana speech
The Queen spoke honestly following Diana's death in 1997. "What I say to you now, as your Queen and as a grandmother, I say from my heart," she said. "I for one believe there are lessons to be drawn from her life and from the extraordinary and moving reaction to her death. I share in your determination to cherish her memory."

12 Having fun with Harry
The Queen showed what a good sport she is by appearing in an Invictus video with Prince Harry and the Obamas in 2016. "Boom? Really, please ..."

13 Winning at Ascot
If ever you want to see the woman behind the crown it's when the Queen's horses win, like at 2013's Ascot Gold Cup when she romped home with Estimate.

14 Comforting survivors of Grenfell
In June 2017, the Queen and Prince William turned up unannounced to Grenfell Tower, after the London tower block caught fire, killing 72 residents. She was close to tears and onlookers burst into applause for her showing up.

15 21st birthday pledge
On her 21st birthday, the princess set out her personal manifesto: "I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong."

16 When she met Paul Hogan
It's one of her most memorable meetings – when the Queen greeted Hoges in his trademark Stubbies at the Sydney Opera House in 1980. "She had a sense of humour," he later said.

17 Her evacuees speech
In 1940, aged 14, Princess Elizabeth made her first public broadcast for child evacuees in Australia, New Zealand and Canada. "My sister Margaret Rose and I feel so much for you, as we know from

experience what it means to be away from those we love most of all," she said on the radio.

18 Dancing at Charles and Diana's wedding
The Queen was so happy to see Prince Charles marry Diana in 1981, biographer Robert Lacey says she did a little jig at the after-party at Claridge's.

19 Falling in love with Philip
When 13-year-old Elizabeth clapped eyes on 18-year-old naval cadet Philip, there was never anyone else. It still melts our hearts how romantic it was.

20 Her love of corgis
We love that the Queen bred a whole dynasty from corgi Susan, who also accompanied her and Philip on their honeymoon.

21 First walkabout in Oz
It was on her 1970 Australian and New Zealand tour that the Queen began her first walkabouts, getting in among the crowds and causing a frenzy.

22 Joining the ATS
She didn't want to just sit in Windsor Castle rolling bandages, so in 1945, the princess joined the Auxiliary Territorial Service and learned how to service and maintain army vehicles.

23 First televised Christmas speech
In 1957, the Queen made her first televised Christmas speech. "I cannot lead you into battle. I do not give you laws or administer justice but I can do something else, I can give you my heart and my devotion," she said.

24 Shirking off Paul Keating
When PM Paul Keating broke protocol and put his arm around the Queen in 1992, it earned him the nickname the Lizard of Oz. The Queen remained unruffled.

25 Remaining calm during a break-in
When in 1982, the Queen woke up to find intruder Michael Fagan at her bedside, he later said she simply stated, "What are you doing here?", before walking out.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



Young and in love, the royal wedding in 1947 was a symbol of hope in a post-war world.



Words of comfort for the weary firefighters and paramedics during an unannounced visit in the wake of the Grenfell fire tragedy.



Princess Elizabeth in her mechanics uniform in World War II. Her dab hand with cars continued all her life.



The Queen shared a good laugh with a Stubbies-clad Paul Hogan during their meeting in 1980. Picture: National Archives.



PUBLIC SMILES & PRIVATE PAIN



The Queen with youngest son Edward in 1964.



Greeting Prince Andrew on his return from the Falklands in 1982. His recent scandal has been a heavy burden for the Queen.



Riding tall during the Trooping the Colour procession in June 1981. The Queen's horse was startled when shots were fired but she remained calm and in control. Behind her are Prince Charles (left) and Prince Philip.

31 Thinking nobody would come to V.E. Day

Biographer Ingrid Seward said the Queen didn't think anyone would turn up to the 50th anniversary of V.E. Day in 1995 and was almost in tears when she, the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret went onto the balcony of Buckingham Palace and saw a huge crowd.

32 Riding into her 90s

The Queen once said she had envisaged herself as a lady living in the country with dogs and horses. She was a keen rider right up until last year, when she stopped, aged 95.

33 Friendship with Nelson Mandela

After travelling to South Africa in 1995, the Queen formed a deep friendship with Nelson Mandela and signed her letters to him: "Your sincere friend, Elizabeth R."

34 Queen Mother speech

When she lost her sister Margaret, then her mother in 2002, the Queen made a heartfelt speech. "I have been deeply moved by the outpouring of affection," she said. "It was the warmth and affection of people everywhere which inspired her resolve, dedication and enthusiasm for life."

35 Her sense of humour

Well-known for her sense of humour, when she was once congratulated for writing a diary with a pen instead of a computer, she replied, "Well I can't write any other way."

36 Queen as Gan-Gan

We love that Prince George calls the Queen Gan-Gan, although secretly wish Prince William's toddler name of Gary had stuck.

37 Her resilience after Philip's death

The Queen's quiet resilience after Prince Philip's death last April, coming back to work swiftly, was inspiring.

38 Her speech at Charles and Camilla's wedding

As wedding speeches go, this was a cracker. Charles and Camilla's wedding in 2005 was on the same day as the Grand National horse race. "They have overcome Becher's Brook and The Chair and all kinds of other terrible obstacles. My son is home and dry with the woman he loves," the Queen said.

39 At William and Catherine's wedding

The Queen loves a good wedding and looked jolly in buttercup yellow at William and Catherine's 2011 nuptials. Afterwards, she declared, "that was excellent" to Philip.

40 Her joke in Balmoral

Former protection officer Richard Griffin once revealed the Queen played a prank in Balmoral after American tourists spotted her walking and asked her if she had ever met the Queen. She replied, "No, but this policeman has."

41 Her longest love

The Queen and Prince Philip



The Queen with Prince Philip by her side delivers her 'Annus Horribilis' speech reflecting on the sorrows of 1992.



The future Queen with her beloved Peggy.

were married for 73 years. Considering three of her four children's marriages failed, this deserves an award.

42 Her love for Peggy the pony

The Queen's first love was her Shetland pony called Peggy, which she received for her fourth birthday. The Madame Tussauds waxwork of her riding Peggy was one of the most popular exhibits in 1930.

43 Handing over her handbag to Mia

One of our favourite photos was taken by Annie Leibovitz in 2016, to mark her 90th birthday. The Queen, surrounded by her great-grandchildren, told Mia Tindall to hold her handbag in order to keep her quiet.

44 Batty for Balmoral

The Queen adores Balmoral, with all its ageing interiors. One of her favourite pastimes is catching the colony of pipistrelle bats that live there, with nets.

45 Betting on her hats

The Queen loved the annual punt on the colour of her hat at Ascot – so much so, her team plants dummy designs in the palace as decoys.

46 Wearing bright colours so people can see her

She once said, "I can never wear beige because nobody will know who I am," but we love that she wears bright colours to make sure people see her in the crowd, often matching a hue from head to toe.

47 Golden wedding speech

When the Queen celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary in 1997, she gave one of her most moving speeches about Philip. "He has, quite simply, been my strength and stay all these years, and I, and his whole family, and this and many other countries, owe him a debt greater than he would ever claim, or we shall ever know," she said. It was a sentiment echoed by many observers in the wake of the Prince's passing last year.

48 Her frugal side

She might own the Crown Jewels, but there's no need to waste money. The Queen reportedly gets about 25 years out of her frocks and has her Barbour jackets re-waxed rather than replaced.

49 Enjoying things going wrong

The Queen particularly enjoys it when special events suffer mishaps. At her 1977 Silver Jubilee, organiser Major Sir Michael Parker told the Queen, "Your Majesty, I'm afraid it's all going terribly wrong", to which she replied, "Oh good. What fun!"

50 Comforting victims of the Manchester Arena bombing

In 2017, the Queen donned a cheerful outfit and headed to the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital to comfort young victims of the Manchester Arena bombing. She told them she thought Ariana Grande, who had been performing on that tragic night, was a "very good singer".



Part two:
DON'T MISS
MORE ROYAL
MEMORIES
The Sunday Telegraph
TOMORROW

Queen Elizabeth II with Nelson Mandela at Buckingham Palace on May 3, 2000. The pair became firm friends after their meeting in South Africa in 1995 and would exchange letters over the years.



The Queen at Balmoral in October 1972.



A lonely return to public duty in June 2021.



Comforting Millie Robson, 15, after the Manchester bombing in 2017.