

The Life of Prince Philip

Prince Philip was the husband of Her Majesty The Queen. He would have been celebrating his 100th birthday in June 2021. Sadly, he died in April 2021.

Early Life

Prince Philip was born on the island of Corfu, Greece on 10th June 1921. When he was born, his title was 'Prince of Greece and Denmark'. His parents were Prince Andrew of Greece and Princess Alice of Battenberg and he had four older sisters. When he was 18 months old, Prince Philip and his family had to leave Greece because of political problems that were affecting his uncle, Constantine I, King of Greece.

Prince Philip went to several different schools around Europe before completing his education in Scotland.

In 1939, Prince Philip became a **cadet** in the Royal Navy. He served onboard several ships during the Second World War.

Marriage to The Queen

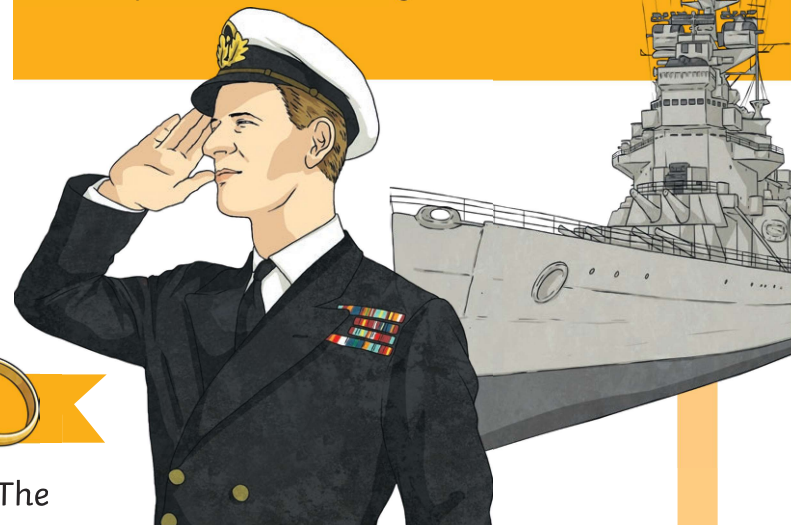
Prince Philip and Princess Elizabeth, as The Queen was previously titled, had known each other since childhood. After the Second World War, Prince Philip proposed to the princess and they were married at Westminster Abbey in 1947.

The royal couple went on to have four children: Prince Charles, Princess Anne, Prince Andrew and Prince Edward. The prince carried on serving with the Royal Navy until Princess Elizabeth's **coronation** in 1952.



Did You Know... ?

A Royal navy ship was sent to collect Prince Philip and his family. The young prince was transported to safety in a cot made from an old orange box.



Prince Philip gave up his Greek titles and became a British citizen so that he could marry The Queen. After they were married, he was given new titles of Duke of Edinburgh, Earl of Merioneth and Baron Greenwich.

Interests and Charity Work

Prince Philip was the longest-serving **consort** and had accompanied The Queen for over 60 years. As well as his royal duties, Prince Philip enjoyed sport, the environment, engineering and technology. In 1961, the prince was the first member of the royal family to take part in a television interview.

Prince Philip was involved with around 780 organisations throughout the world. He was a president of the World Wildlife Fund since it was first set up in 1961.

In 1956, the prince created the Duke of Edinburgh's Award for young people to help them to improve their life skills. Over 3.1m DofE Awards have been given out so far.

Glossary

cadet: A young trainee in the armed forces, such as the British Navy.

consort: A royal companion, usually the husband or wife of a king or queen.

coronation: The ceremony of crowning a new king or queen.

Did You Know... ?

Prince Philip enjoyed flying and could fly most types of planes.

Later Life

In 2017, Prince Philip retired from public duties at the age of 96. He has eight grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. His eldest son, Prince Charles, is the next in line to the throne followed by his grandson Prince William and his great-grandson, Prince George.



Questions

1. **Prince Philip was the longest-serving consort and had accompanied The Queen for over 60 years.**

A 'consort' is a royal _____. Tick one.

- ☐ visitor
☐ companion
☐ performance
☐ advisor

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.

- ☐ Prince Philip became a cadet in the Royal Navy.
☐ The prince created the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.
☐ Prince Philip and his family had to leave Greece.
☐ Prince Philip retired from public duties

3. Who was Prince Philip's uncle?

4. Fill in the missing words.

In 1961, the prince was the first member of the royal _____ to take part in a television _____.

5. Find and copy a word from the text that means 'to have left a job'.

6. Discuss why you think the cot used to transport a young Prince Philip was made from an orange box.

7. Why do you think that Prince Philip stopped serving with the Royal Navy?

8. Summarise what you have learnt about Prince Philip in 30 words or fewer.
