

Queen Elizabeth II retrospective



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Prince Philip, Prince Andrew, Prince Edward, Queen Elizabeth II, Prince Charles and Princess Anne at Frogmore, Windsor, ***MUST INCLUDE
Exclusive Jubilee Special: Queen of Diamonds
A magazine has laid bare its unique relationship with the Queen as she approaches her 2012 Diamond Jubilee.

In a special edition of Reader's Digest, the magazine has drawn from its archives and uncovered their fascinating and unique relationship with the Queen.

The favoured publication reveals their personal letter from the Queen, which thanks them for "responsible and entertaining journalism".

Highlights also include two portraits of Queen Elizabeth II, commissioned by the Reader's Digest, known as "Corgi and Bess" painted by Michael Leonard for her 60th birthday and the other a double portrait with the Duke of Edinburgh painted by Tai-Shan Schierenberg to celebrate the couple's Golden Wedding anniversary.

Presenting her as a monarch and a mother extracts from the Reader's Digest October 1957 article: 'Elizabeth II: The Commonwealth's Queen' gives a sense of quiet dedication to her regal duties while on the other hand bringing up four children.

Unlike most 20-something parents; Her Majesty was also saddled with advising Cabinet and maintaining international relations when her children were mere toddlers. The Reader's Digest endeavoured to find out how she coped.

"Everyone likes to see their children before they go to bed," the Reader's Digest royal correspondent pointed out in February 1977. "But not everyone has had to ask the Prime Minister to delay coming round for half an hour or so to do so."

When Charles and Anne were small, the young Queen scheduled in a slot of time after breakfast,

described by our royal correspondent in October 1957 as "a high spot with which nothing was allowed to interfere". She then enj...
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