

The Life and Times of Queen Elizabeth II

As the peoples of the world mourn the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, it also is an opportunity to recall the grace and dignity with which she lived her life, from a young Princess addressing the British nation during the Blitzkrieg in World War II through the 70 years she served as the symbolic leader of Great Britain and the Commonwealth.

Throughout her many decades on the Royal Throne, the Queen has witnessed major political change and engaged some of the most influential World Leaders, including thirteen United States Presidents. (See below.)

Her passing also offers us an opportunity to celebrate her accomplishments and to assemble a record of her life and times. For stamp collectors as well as all followers of the Royal Family that can come in the form of a Queen Elizabeth II Collection that will also be a record of the history of the world for the 96 years of her lifetime.

The first stamp issues in what is expected to be a wonderful Collection have already been announced by the Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corporation, which represents scores of postal administrations around the world.

The first nations to honor the Queen after hearing the sad news of her passing are the Caribbean Island Nations of Antigua & Barbuda, Grenada, St. Kitts, Nevis, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, the Pacific Island Nations of The Marshall Islands, Tuvalu, Papua New Guinea, the Central American Nation of Guyana and the African Nation of The Gambia.

Shown here are photos of a few of these issues. Stamp collectors and Royal Family followers can purchase these stamps from the local Post Offices of the issuing government or from their local stamp dealer.

Additionally, stamps issued by the many nations IGPC represents will all be available directly from one source, the IGPC website at www.igpc.com.



Queen Elizabeth II and the U.S. Presidents

Worldwide coverage of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II has included mention of a fact that we reported in our November 26, 2021 *Mekeel's & STAMPS Magazine*, that being that she met with thirteen of the fourteen American Presidents during her lifetime. Those historic meetings were recorded for posterity through a stamp release by the Marshall Islands, a former U.S. Trust Territory, consisting of souvenir sheets depicting the Queen with every President with whom she met, the only one with whom she did not have the

opportunity of meeting being Lyndon Johnson.

Every other President is included, from Harry Truman when she was a Princess to current President Joe Biden, and each souvenir sheet describes the Queen's meeting with that President.

We only had room for eight here. For the rest, as well as for scores of other issues on the subjects of the British Royal Family, U.S. Presidents or other worldwide leaders, please go to www.igpc.com.



More photos, next page.



Photos, courtesy the Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corp., at IGPC.com