

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Prince Philip was born into the Greek and Danish royal families (son of Princess Alice of Battenberg and Prince Andrew of Greece and Denmark), on 10 June 1921 in Corfu, Greece. After being educated in France, Germany, and the United Kingdom, he joined the British Royal Navy in 1939, aged 18.

Following a successful naval career during which he saw active service in the Second World War in the Mediterranean and Pacific Fleets, Prince Philip married Princess Elizabeth on 20 November 1947. He began to focus on his work in support of The Queen following her Accession in 1952. In 2009, he became the longest serving British consort. His Royal Highness also had many interests which he pursued separately to his work with Her Majesty, including conservation, sport, engineering and military appointments.

In the year following the Queen's Coronation, the Royal Couple embarked on the first of 16 tours to New South Wales, visiting 12 New South Wales regional cities and towns including: Armidale, Bathurst, the Blue Mountains including Katoomba and Leura, Broken Hill, Casino, Dubbo, Katoomba, Lismore, Lithgow, Newcastle, Tamworth, Wagga Wagga and Wollongong.

Throughout his career, the Duke had also travelled alone to Australia, in support of the Duke of Edinburgh Awards, which he founded in 1956, in collaboration with German educationalist Kurt Hahn and Lord Hunt, leader of the first successful ascent of Everest. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award has become the world's leading youth achievement award. The Award operates in more than 140 countries and, in over 60 years in Australia, has inspired over 775,000 Australians aged 14-24 and over 400,000 young people in New South Wales to serve their communities, experience adventure and develop leadership skills. The four core elements of this Award are Service, Skills, Physical Recreation and Adventurous Journey.

The Duke of Edinburgh was Patron, President or a member of over 780 organisations, with which he was associated, although his official appearances had been limited since August 2017.

In April 2020, he had released a statement thanking those in the medical and scientific professions, and at universities and research institutions, for working to protect the community from the COVID-19 pandemic.