

HER MAJESTY
Queen Elizabeth II
1926 – 2022



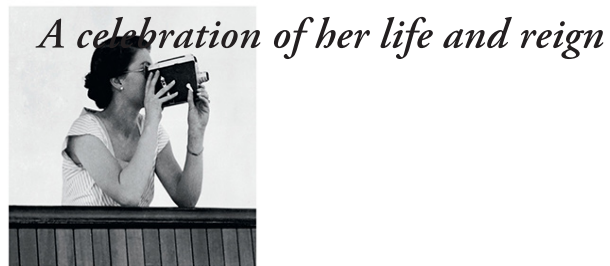
A celebration of her life and reign

HER MAJESTY
Queen Elizabeth II
1926 – 2022



A celebration of her life and reign

HER MAJESTY
Queen Elizabeth II
1926–2022





HER MAJESTY

Queen Elizabeth II

1926–2022

A celebration of her life and reign

Brian Hoey

PITKIN

Contents

The Woman Who Was The Queen

Early Days16

The Accession24

The Coronation28

The First Decade: 1952–1961

The Second Decade: 1962–1971

The Queen’s Working Days

The Third Decade: 1972–1981

The Fourth Decade: 1982–1991

The Fifth Decade: 1992–2001

The Sixth Decade: 2002–2011

The Seventh Decade: 2012–2021

Epilogue88

Acknowledgements96







LEFT: Baby Princess Elizabeth with her parents: her mother the Duchess of York, who was Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon before her marriage, and her father the Duke of York, who would later become George VI.

OPPOSITE: Her Majesty The Queen in France in 2014, attending a State Banquet hosted by President François Hollande, part of the ceremonies marking the 70th anniversary of D-Day.

The Woman Who Was The Queen

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II performed her role as sovereign with flawless professionalism and an unrivalled dedication for more than seven decades. During that time she served longer than any Pope (of whom there were seven in her lifetime), Archbishop of Canterbury (also seven), US President (14) or British Prime Minister (15, or 16 if counting Harold Wilson's two terms), and never once did she put a foot wrong, either in her private or her public life.

The Queen enjoyed the immense affection of the British people and most of those from Commonwealth countries – including those that did not recognise her as Head of State. And she was admired and respected throughout the world, by leaders from countries on every continent, even those to whom the very idea of monarchy was anathema. She was without doubt an accomplished stateswoman whose store of knowledge was unrivalled. She became Head of the Commonwealth by acclamation,

