

FRIDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2022 | VOLUME 3 ISSUE 173 | WWW.POINTVILLE.AG

THE END OF AN ERA QUEEN ELIZABETH II HAS DIED



Queen Elizabeth II, who in 2015 became the United Kingdom's longest reigning monarch, died on Thursday at the age of 96. Her son, 73-year-old King Charles III, is the new head of state of Great Britain and the 14 Commonwealth realms.

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To manage Outdoor World Ltd. store and sales team to achieve company objectives, as well as meet performance targets relative to sales, gross profit and expense management. To provide sound merchandising techniques and good housekeeping practices, as well as maintaining efficient inventory levels, executing viable marketing initiatives and providing superior customer service at all times.

Qualifications/Requirements

- Bachelor's Degree in Business Management or related field
- Minimum 5 years' experience in sales and management in the retail industry
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Highly organized with effective time management
- Ability to develop and motivate a strong cohesive team
- Proficiency in Microsoft Suite, particularly Excel.

OUTDOOR WORLD TECHNICIAN

Key Responsibility

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Qualifications/Requirements

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- Two years' experience working with marine engines
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- Working knowledge of Microsoft Office
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Only suitable applications will be acknowledged.



Prime Minister the Hon. Gaston Browne greeted by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II during the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in London in 2018 [PA Images]

Antigua and Barbuda expresses condolences on the death of Queen Elizabeth II

News of the death today [Thursday] of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the Head of State of Antigua and Barbuda, has reached the Prime Minister, the Honourable Gaston Browne M.P.

The Prime Minister expresses his condolences to His Majesty King Charles III and the Royal Family, to the British Government and to the people of the United Kingdom, on behalf of the people and Government of Antigua and Barbuda.

The Prime Minister notes that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth reigned for seven decades, winning the respect and high regard from every corner of the world. Her Majesty's leadership of the Commonwealth of Nations has been superb, joining the hands of the English-speaking states across continents and regions.

"Her Majesty's life personified the simplest of qualities – tolerance and decency. Her ability to inspire and unite has been one of the many remarkable features of her life which we all admire."

Before being accorded the role of Head of the State of Antigua and Barbuda, beginning 1st November 1981, Her Majesty was shown great affection by the people of our country on her visits, and whenever represented by members of the Royal Family.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has had an impactful reign, during which her relations with my State and its people have remained mutually respectful and unchanging. All flags throughout the State will be flown at half-mast up until the day of Her Majesty's burial. God save the King!

Message of Condolence from the Governor General of Antigua and Barbuda His Excellency Sir Rodney Williams GCMG, KGN, KSt.J, DSc, PhD (h.c), MBBS on the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Lady Williams and I are deeply saddened by the news that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II passed away peacefully earlier today [Thursday] at Balmoral in Scotland. We join with citizens of the United Kingdom and wider Commonwealth in celebrating the life and times of the longest serving monarch and Head of the Commonwealth who reigned with dignity, loyalty and grace.

I recall the cordial and engaging meetings we had with Her Majesty as she reflected on her visits to Antigua and Barbuda as well as matters affecting the people of our twin island nation in

whom she had a genuine interest.

As we share with those who grieve today, Lady Williams and I extend sincerest condolences to the heir to the throne and the Head of the Commonwealth, King Charles III and the other members of the Royal Family and pray that the wonderful memories of a beloved monarch and royal family member will be of comfort at this time.

In recognition of the life of distinguished service of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the Governor General's flag will be flown at half-mast during the official period of mourning.



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and Governor General Sir Rodney Williams



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The Queen has died: Long live her legacy

By Sir Ronald Sanders

(The writer is Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the US and the OAS. He was twice High Commissioner in London)

The announcement of the death of Elizabeth II, Sovereign Queen of several realms, including 7 in the Caribbean, plunged the world into deep sadness.

She was not Queen in the far-flung countries in which millions of people now mourn her death, but every person, who shed a tear or felt a tightening in their throat, was painfully aware that a great figure has passed from our lives.

There will never be another like her.

She has been the longest reigning monarch in Britain and all of her realms that stretch from the Pacific to North America and the Caribbean. She also reigned longer than any other monarch in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

But, it is not only the fact of her longevity that caused the spontaneous

outpouring of sadness and regret at her death; it was more so the quality of her reign.

She was dedicated to her duty and obligations and everyone, everywhere knew it. That commitment to executing her responsibilities, whatever personal strain it caused, was no better exemplified than when, just two days before her death and while she knew that her end was near, she received Liz Truss and appointed her as Britain's 15th Prime Minister. Quite remarkably, she did so with a radiant smile on her face.

Every British Prime Minister, every Prime Minister of her realms valued their engagements with the Queen. She possessed a depth of wisdom, born from the breadth of her experience and knowledge.

The value, reposed in her by the leaders of her realms, was shared by Heads of State and Governments of Commonwealth countries. She became Head of the Com-



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and Sir Ronald Sanders [PA Images]

monwealth at the instant that she inherited the monarchy of Britain, thrust on her by her father's death in 1952.

It is a role she has fulfilled for 70 of the modern Commonwealth's 73 years. She had made a commitment to the Commonwealth on her 21st birthday when she declared: "If we all go forward together with an unwavering faith, a high courage, and a quiet heart, we shall be able to make of this ancient commonwealth, which we all love so dearly, an even

grander thing - more free, more prosperous, more happy and a more powerful influence for good in the world".

She lived-up to that declaration. Her devotion to the Commonwealth and its affairs, even to the point of defying the advice of British Prime Ministers in support of wider Commonwealth positions, is well-known and greatly respected, especially in the struggle against apartheid in South Africa.

During her reign, she undertook more than 200 visits to Commonwealth countries and visited every country of the Commonwealth (with the exception of Cameroon, which joined in 1995, Rwanda which joined in 2009, and Togo and Gabon which joined this year) as well as making many repeat visits. She brought star quality to the Commonwealth and, by

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Fri 09 Day		Fri 09 Night	
87°		79°	
37%	ESE 9 mph	18%	E 8 mph
Showers in the morning, then cloudy in the afternoon. High 87F. Winds ESE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 40%.		Partly to mostly cloudy. Low 79F. Winds E at 5 to 10 mph.	
Humidity 73%	UV Index 10 of 10	Humidity 81%	UV Index 0 of 10
Sunrise 5:54 am	Sunset 6:14 pm	Moonrise 6:02 pm	Moonsset 4:59 am
		Full Moon	

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her association, gave it global recognition and regard.

The Headship of the Commonwealth has no functional role, but it is very doubtful that the modern Commonwealth would have survived had it not been for her personal stewardship. She was the glue that kept the group in existence, in her long reign. She made the Commonwealth a personal passion and advocated for it strongly.

In the Commonwealth Caribbean, several countries became Republics; among them Barbados, Dominica, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago. Others, such as Jamaica and St Vincent and the Grenadines, have indicated that they too wish to become Republics.

But, at all times, the governments and peoples of these nations expressed their continuing admiration

and respect for Elizabeth II. Their wish to become Republics was no disrespect to her, or any diminution of their high regard for her worth. It was simply a practicality.

There is as much widespread mourning and sense of loss in the Republics of the Commonwealth as there is in Britain.

No one who encountered the Queen would not have been touched by her humanity, and the sense of personal concern that she showed. I recall many personal instances – her worry that I might catch my death of cold when I turned up for a wreath laying ceremony at the Cenotaph in London without an overcoat on a cold and rainy November day; her insistence, at Windsor Castle that she show me a photograph of a beach in Antigua, the only beach on which she sun-bathed during her reign; and her warm welcome when I returned

to London a second time as High Commissioner.

Above all else was her interest in the country; her questions about the effects of Hurricanes and how people were coping.

Elizabeth II sat on a throne – a heavy weight on her small frame, but she was a colossal human being. Britain and the Commonwealth has lost a treasure that cannot be replaced.

It is right that we should all mourn her passing, and unashamedly shed a tear, joining her family in their deep loss, for it is our collective loss too.

However, she has left us a legacy of committed service that enriched all our lives, and an example of dedication to duty that we can never forget.

The Queen has died. We must preserve her glorious memory.

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Double homicide at Pillar Rock

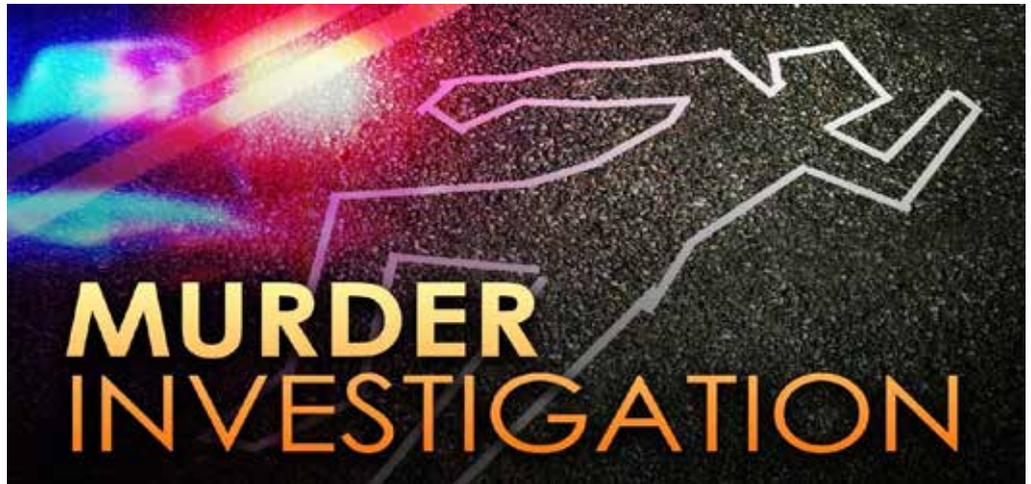
A man has reportedly been detained by the police as they have begun to probe a suspected double murder which took place on Wednesday evening at Pillar Rock.

Information remains sketchy, but police had confirmed that a man was discovered at Pillar Rock Villas with what appeared to be multiple gunshot wounds to his body while a second man had gone missing.

However, new details, which are yet to be confirmed by law enforcement officials, suggest that both suspects are employees of the Royalton Antigua Resort.

A source, who is also an employee at the hotel, indicated that both men, aged 36 and 39, are nationals of Mexico.

One is believed to be the hotel's Human Resource Manager and the



other the company's Accounting Manager.

Royalton Antigua have not confirmed the men's employment status with the company.

It is unclear who made the grim discovery on Wednesday, but unconfirmed reports suggest when police arrived at the gated community, they

discovered a body floating in the swimming pool. The second victim was allegedly found at the bottom of the pool on Thursday morning.

Crime sleuths are now working overtime to uncover a motive.

The latest deaths have pushed the country's murder toll to eight so far this year.

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Gov't easing restrictions on COVID-19 related funerals

On Thursday, the government disclosed its intention to relax restrictions related to the funerals of people who die of COVID-19.

The announcement came from Chief of Staff in the Office of the Prime Minister, Ambassador Lionel "Max" Hurst who said that the new measure will, moving forward, bring relief to families who lose loved ones to the coronavirus.

From the beginning of the pandemic until now, families were required to bury their dead within 24 hours of death.

This already difficult period was made more unfortunate as victims of the disease were buried in closed caskets, and in some instances with graveside funeral rites. This was a stark departure from the tradition of a church service which forms part of the religious, cultural and societal fabric of Antigua and Barbuda.

Hurst reported, however, that changes will come as the government intends to make



amendments to existing law.

"The Cabinet is considering making changes to the law governing the burial of persons who died of communicable diseases, such as COVID. The existing law requires burial within 24 hours of death and no funeral.

"The amended law will allow for seven days before burial could take place and also an open casket for a very short period of time; no

touching of the body is to be allowed," the Chief of Staff noted.

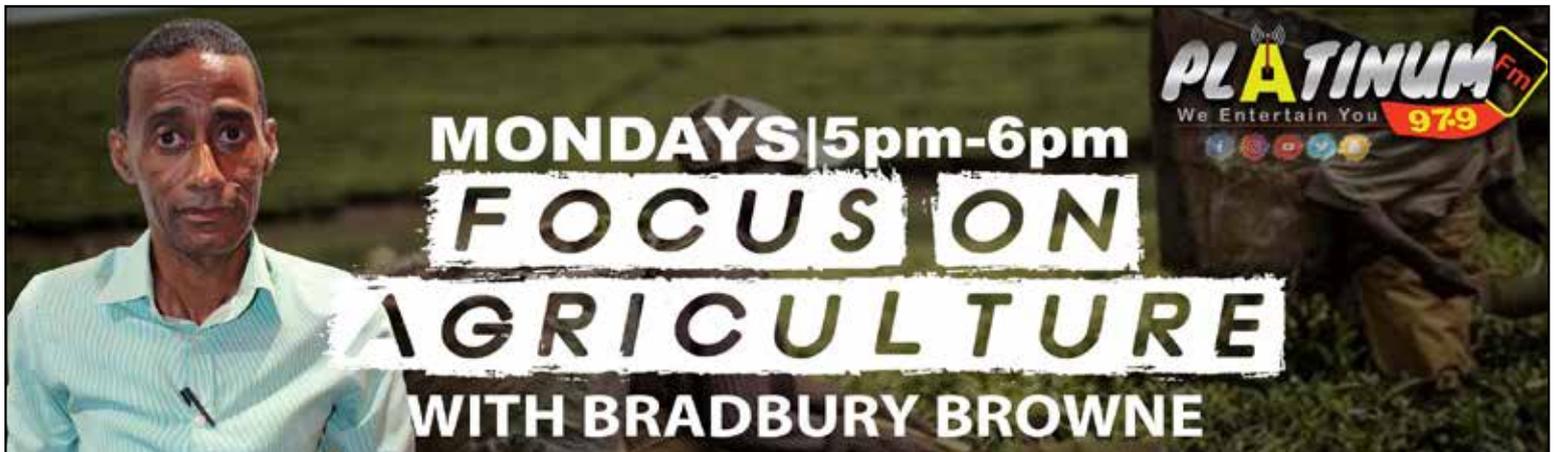
Since the outbreak of COVID-19, 145 persons have died from the disease in Antigua and Barbuda.

Families were compelled to make hasty funeral arrangements and settle for graveside last rites.

Closed caskets were decided upon to prevent the spread of the disease as the

virus is proven to remain in the body for several days, and even weeks after death has occurred.

Two weeks ago, the government removed most of the travel restrictions on visitors to Antigua and Barbuda. This country has led the way in the management of COVID-19 which allowed it to return to normalcy well ahead of its Caribbean counterparts.



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Another significant drop in CSEC Mathematics

The struggle with mathematics continues to plague local and regional candidates who sit the Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC) examinations.

This year, Antigua and Barbuda recorded a 26.3 percent pass rate in the core subject area, a notable fall from last year's 29.5 and 2020's 44.5.

When compared to the region, that figure is lower than the regional pass rate which this year sat at a discouraging 36.9 percent.

These statistics were shared with the public on Thursday morning.

Director of Education Clare Browne admitted that this subject area continues to present a challenge for the ministry and remains one which they will continue to take action to improve.

There were in fact nine subjects, including mathematics, which fell below the regional average.

Additional Math (local passes 47.6 percent, regional 62.8 percent), Agriculture Science (local 79.1 percent, regional 89.6 percent), Economics (local 54.8 percent, regional 65.9 percent), EDPM (local 86.7 percent, 88 percent), English B (local 67.4 percent, regional 71.8 percent), Geography (local 51.2 percent, regional 61.4 percent), Technical Drawing (local 58.2 percent, regional 75.3 percent) and Visual Arts (local 71.5 percent, regional 73.7 percent) also fell below the regional averages.

This, Browne added, is another cause of concern.

"We have always had a problem with mathematics. We will continue to come up with strategies as we look at and assess what has happened and analyse what had happened in math.



Director of Education, Clare Browne

"Any subject that we have dipped below the region is a concern for us and we will pay attention to all those subjects, but math in particular, we have struggled with over the years. We are not going to come and pretend otherwise. We have been having a royal challenge with mathematics.

"We have been looking at teacher quality. The bottom line is it can't be a problem with the students, it can't be a problem with the subject itself, so, we have to continue to find the right approaches to somehow motivate the students and the only way we are going to do that is through teacher competence. So, we will continue to focus on building up the quality of math teachers here," Browne said.

Although there were some subjects that dipped below the regional average, Antiguan and Barbudan students recorded an overall pass rate above the regional rate.

Antigua and Barbuda had a 72.4 percent pass rate in the CSEC subject areas as compared to the region's 66.5

percent.

Meanwhile, in the other subject areas, Biology had an 85.6 percent pass rate, History 76.7 percent, Chemistry 66.3 percent, English A 72.3 percent, Food and Nutrition 84.4 percent, French 63 percent, Human and Social Biology 77.5 percent, Building Tech 97.9 percent, Electrical 89.1 percent, Mechanical Engineering 93.8 percent, Information Technology 86.8 percent, Integrated Science 76.3 percent, Music 85.1 percent, Office Administration 89.8 percent, Physical Education 99.7 percent, Physics 70.8 percent, Principles of Accounts 81.7 percent, Principles of Business 89.7 percent, Social Studies 63.8 percent, Spanish 58.8 percent, Clothing and Textile 81.7 percent and Theatre Arts 98.4 percent.

Browne commended the students overall for their hard work and perseverance throughout their final three years of secondary school as they had to deal with various barriers brought on by the pandemic.

Considering these facts, Browne is adamant that students, teachers, principals, and parents should be commended for their efforts as the road to CSEC was not easy.

Echoing the director's sentiments was Deputy Director of Education, Jonah Greene, and Education Officer for Secondary Schools, Denise Mills.

They encouraged those students who may not have performed as well as they had hoped to apply themselves, refocus and retake those exams.

A total of 1,911 candidates registered for this year's exams; 1,283 from schools and 628 from private institutions. This represents an increase from last year's total of 1,275 candidates.

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RETAIL SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Key Responsibility

To provide quality consultative service to all customers, including prompt acknowledgment of and assistance to customers, providing product advice and soliciting sales through use of approved franchise selling techniques.

Qualifications/Requirements

- At least 5 CXC subjects including Maths and English
- Good interpersonal and communication skills
- Self-motivated with desire to excel in sales
- Willingness to learn and continuously build product knowledge
- Computer literate
- Previous experience in retail sales would be an asset

VAN SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Key Responsibility

To drive, sell and provide the full merchandising service of the selected range of products represented and distributed by the company to our wholesale (resellers) and customers.

Qualifications/Requirements

- At least 5 CXC subjects including Math and English
- Possess a valid "D" driver's licence
- Good verbal and written communication skills
- Strong organizational and customer service skills
- Computer literate
- Able to work independently with effective time management skills
- Previous experience in this or similar field would be an asset

WAREHOUSE PORTER

Key Responsibility

To perform the daily physical duties of the warehouse operations, storing all incoming inventory, maintaining orderly stock shelves, keeping the warehouse clean, picking and packing of goods to fulfill wholesale and customer pick-up requirements.

Qualifications/Requirements

- At least 5 CXC subjects including Math and English
- Good verbal and written communication skills
- Computer literate
- Able to work independently with effective time management skills
- Able to lift weight of 50 pounds or more
- Possessing a valid "D" driver's licence would be an asset
- Ability to operate a forklift would be a plus

BRAND MANAGER – TYRES

Key Responsibilities

To manage and develop a portfolio of brands for the tyre department as identified by the Company, and ensure that the marketing objectives that have been set for each brand are achieved. To monitor and control the sales and profitability of the product portfolio, develop and implement promotional strategies and rationalize the latter investments in terms of meeting sales growth and market share objectives.

Qualifications/Requirements

- Bachelor's Degree in Business Management or related field
- Minimum 3 years' experience in sales and management in the retail industry
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Highly organized with effective time management
- Proficiency in Microsoft Suite
- Strong analytical skills

SERVICE CENTRE TECHNICIAN

Key Responsibility

To install, repair and service tyres, wheels and/or batteries on customer's vehicles, balance wheels and perform wheel alignments as assigned by the Service Centre Manager, according to established procedures and practices in a safe, prompt and professional manner.

Qualifications/Requirements

- At least 5 CXC subjects including Math and English
- Relevant certification in auto mechanics
- Working experience in this field would be an asset
- Good written and verbal communication skills
- Must have valid "C1" driver's licence; a D would be a plus
- Willingness to learn

BROKERAGE CLERK

Key Responsibility

To prepare warrants for Outdoor World Limited and its divisions; to clear goods from ports of entry and ensure delivery to the businesses

Qualifications/Requirements

- At least 5 CXC subjects including Maths and English
- Good interpersonal and communication skills
- Must be familiar with the tariff codes, laws, rules and regulations of Customs
- Proficient in the use of Microsoft Office
- Must possess a valid driver's licence (having a "D" licence would be a plus)
- Previous brokerage experience would be a plus

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Opinion



OAS plays significant role for democracy in elections

By Sir Ronald Sanders

(The writer is Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the United States of America and the Organization of American States. He is also a Senior Fellow at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London and Massey College in the University of Toronto)

There are intermittent squabbles in the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States (OAS), concerning the controversial general elections of October 20, 2019 in Bolivia.

The President, Evo Morales, resigned after these elections amid a storm of protests, by groups within the country, charging that they were not free and fair. The conclusion that the election process was improper and not credible came from electoral observer missions of the European Union (EU) and the OAS, whose presence was requested by the Morales government.

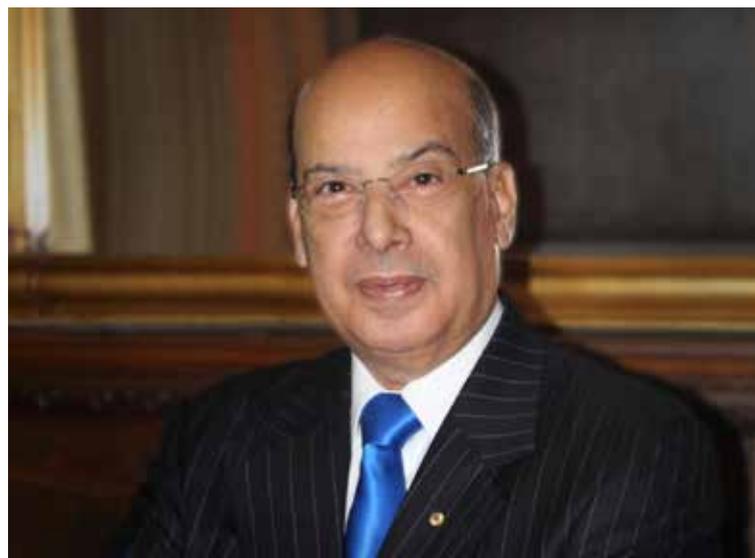
However, in the post-elections period, and a subsequent audit of the result conducted by the OAS - again at the request of the Morales government - allegations have been made that somehow the process was a coup d'état orchestrated by Luis Almagro, the OAS Secretary-General. Twice, so far, in the Organization's Permanent Council, representatives of the MAS government,

which was returned to power in October 2020, in elections also observed by the OAS, have repeated suggestions that irregularities in the October 20, 2019 elections, which were pointed out by the OAS electoral observation mission, are wrong. No mention is made of the findings of the EU observation mission which came to the same conclusions as the OAS mission.

The latest rumpus in the Permanent Council occurred on September 7 under an agenda item that had nothing to do with Bolivia. The Council was receiving a report on municipal elections in Paraguay, when the Bolivian Ambassador raised his governing party's grievance over the OAS electoral mission's report of the 2019 elections. Secretary General Almagro, displaying frustration with the allegations against the OAS, its Department for Electoral Cooperation and Observation, and himself, responded with some agitation to point out that the OAS Secretariat rejected them totally.

All this had led to this commentary in order to explain the process of electoral observation and the purpose of the missions that conduct them.

To begin with, no elections observation mission can take place without an invitation from the Government. In 2019, the Morales government invited both the EU



Sir Ronald Sanders

and the OAS to observe the elections. Notwithstanding the singling out of the OAS, both organizations reached the same conclusion. The EU said in a statement that partial preliminary results on the night of the election with 83.8 per cent of votes counted, "the gap between Morales and Mesa was 7.87 per cent" and "If the results had continued to follow this pattern there would have been a second round, but an order was given "to stop processing the preliminary results right after this announcement". The EU went on to say that on October 21, the process suddenly re-started and within minutes Morales' lead was over 10 per cent, meaning no second round would be needed". The EU concluded that the decision to interrupt the count "generated great concern among interlocutors, who feared that the government intervened to stop the

process, in order to manipulate the results. Other suspicious incidents came to light, such as hundreds of boxes of electoral materials being found in a house in Potosí. The EU election expert mission (EEM) believes that the TSE's decisions, combined with their failure to provide explanations for them, irrevocably damaged trust in the results process".

Despite the clear statement by the EU, no representation is made that the EU was wrong or has an ulterior motive; such representations have been reserved for, and focussed on, the OAS and particularly the Secretary General.

However, it was the Morales government, in the face of the statements by international observers of "damaged trust" in the elections result, that invited the OAS to conduct an audit of the re-

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sult. The OAS did not offer to do so, or to invite itself. Further, the Morales government confirmed, in a signed agreement with the OAS Secretariat, that “the audit findings would be binding”. The electoral observation mission was headed by the former Costa Rican Foreign Minister, Manuel González (who, incidentally, also led the observation mission to the 2020 elections at which the MAS Presidential candidate, Luis Arce, was declared the winner) and the four audit teams comprised independent technical experts from various countries including Argentina, Mexico and Spain.

None of these teams were subject to any direction by the OAS Permanent Council, the Secretary General or the Secretariat.

On November 10, 2019, stating significant IT security vulnerabilities that could have been used to manipulate the results and pointing out the findings of international observers of a sudden change in the trend of the vote, the preliminary audit report recommended a new electoral process with a new electoral authority. On the same day, Morales resigned, and his government collapsed.

In the aftermath of this electoral commotion, an interim government assumed office, failing twice to hold the new elections that were mandated. During the course of a brief and arrogant period in office, the interim government presided over human rights violations, particularly

against indigenous people – the main supporters of MAS.

The powerful OAS member governments at the time did not once protest the behaviour of the interim government, or its failure to hold scheduled elections. It took a group of CARICOM countries to advance a resolution, drafted by Belize and Antigua and Barbuda, to insist on protections for indigenous people.

The point is that the Secretaries General or Chief Executive Officers of regional organisations, such as the EU,

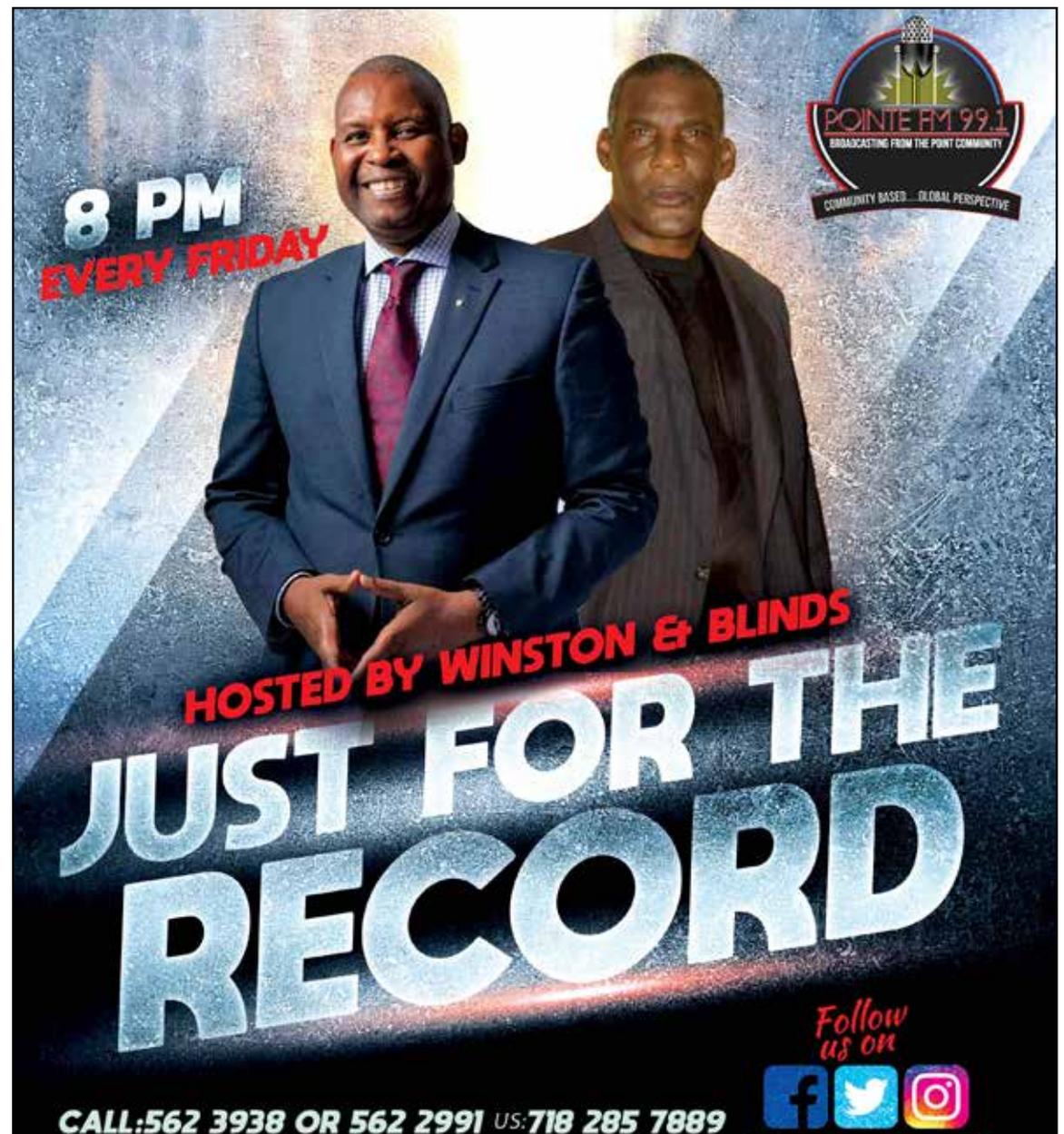
the Commonwealth and the OAS, organise electoral observer missions at the request of governments; independent persons of high reputation – usually a former head of government or foreign minister – lead the mission with no interference from Secretariats or Secretaries General in the conduct of their work.

The OAS secretariat did not manufacture the flaws in the 2019 Bolivian elections any more than did the EU.

No ruling political party that is criticised for a flawed electoral process welcomes

such criticism, but their unhappiness does not negate the flaws or the lack of fairness in an elections process. Democracy is served by such criticism. As, incidentally, it was served in Guyana in 2020 where, were it not for the vigilance of the electoral observer missions from CARICOM, the EU the OAS and the Commonwealth, the party in power at the time would have snatched the election.

Response and previous commentaries: www.sirronaldsanders.com



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Queen Elizabeth II – A brief biography

Elizabeth Alexandra Mary, officially Elizabeth II, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of her other realms and territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, (born April 21, 1926, London, England—died September 8, 2022, Balmoral Castle, Aberdeenshire, Scotland), queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from February 6, 1952, to September 8, 2022. In 2015 she surpassed Victoria to become the longest-reigning monarch in British history.

Early life

Princess Elizabeth

Elizabeth was the elder daughter of Prince Albert, duke of York, and his wife, Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon.

As the child of a younger son of King George V, the young Elizabeth had little prospect of acceding to the throne until her uncle, Edward VIII (afterward duke of Windsor), abdicated in her father's favour on December 11, 1936, at which time her father became King George VI and she became heir presumptive.

The princess's education was supervised by her mother, who entrusted her daughters to a governess, Marion Crawford; the princess was also grounded in



history by C.H.K. Marten, afterward provost of Eton College, and had instruction from visiting teachers in music and languages. During World War II she and her sister, Princess Margaret Rose, perforce spent much of their time safely away from the London blitz and separated from their parents, living mostly at Balmoral Castle in Scotland and at the Royal Lodge, Windsor, and Windsor Castle.

Early in 1947 Princess Elizabeth went with the king and queen to South Africa. After her return there was an announcement of her betrothal to her distant cousin Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten of the Royal Navy, formerly Prince Philip of Greece and Denmark. The marriage took place in Westminster Ab-

bey on November 20, 1947.

On the eve of the wedding her father, the king, conferred upon the bridegroom the titles of duke of Edinburgh, earl of Merioneth, and Baron Greenwich. They took residence at Clarence House in London. Their first child, Prince Charles (Charles Philip Arthur George), was born November 14, 1948, at Buckingham Palace.

Accession to the throne

In the summer of 1951 the health of King George VI entered into a serious decline, and Princess Elizabeth represented him at the Trooping the Colour and on various other state occasions. On October 7 she and her husband set out on a highly successful tour of Canada and Washington, D.C. After Christmas in England she and the duke set out in January 1952 for a tour of Australia and New Zealand, but en route, at Sagana, Kenya, news reached them of the king's death on February 6, 1952.

Elizabeth, now queen, at once flew back to England. The first three months of her reign, the period of full mourning for her father, were passed in comparative seclusion. But in the summer, after she had moved from Clarence House to Buckingham Palace, she undertook the routine duties of the sovereign and carried out her first state opening of Parlia-

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ment on November 4, 1952.

Her coronation was held at Westminster Abbey on June 2, 1953.

Beginning in November 1953 the queen and the duke of Edinburgh made a six-month round-the-world tour of the Commonwealth, which included the first visit to Australia and New Zealand by a reigning British monarch. In 1957, after state visits to various European nations, she and the duke visited Canada and the United States.

In 1961 she made the first royal British tour of the Indian subcontinent in 50 years, and she was also the first reigning British monarch to visit South America (in 1968) and the Persian Gulf countries (in 1979).

During her "Silver Jubilee" in 1977, she presided at a London banquet attended by the leaders of the 36 members of the Commonwealth, travelled all over Britain and Northern Ireland, and toured overseas in the South Pacific and Australia, in Canada, and in the Caribbean.

On the accession of Queen Elizabeth, her son Prince



Charles became heir apparent; he was named prince of Wales on July 26, 1958, and was so invested on July 1, 1969.

The queen's other children were Princess Anne (Anne Elizabeth Alice Louise), born August 15, 1950, and created princess royal in 1987; Prince Andrew (Andrew Albert Christian Edward), born February 19, 1960, and created duke of York in 1986; and Prince Edward (Edward Anthony Richard Louis), born March 10, 1964, and created earl of Wessex and Viscount Severn in 1999. All these children have the surname "of Windsor," but in 1960 Elizabeth decided to create the hyphenated name Mountbatten-Windsor for other de-

scendants not styled prince or princess and royal highness.

Elizabeth's first grandchild (Princess Anne's son) was born on November 15, 1977.

The modern monarchy

The queen seemed increasingly aware of the modern role of the monarchy, allowing, for example, the televising of the royal family's domestic life in 1970 and condoning the formal dissolution of her sister's marriage in 1978. In the 1990s, however, the royal family faced a number of challenges.

In 1992, a year that Elizabeth referred to as the royal family's annus horribilis, Prince Charles and his wife, Diana, princess of Wales, separated, as did Prince Andrew and his wife, Sarah, duchess of York.

Moreover, Anne divorced, and a fire gutted the royal residence of Windsor Castle.

In addition, as the country struggled with a recession, resentment over the royals' lifestyle mounted, and in 1992 Elizabeth, although personally exempt, agreed to pay taxes on her private income.

The separation and later divorce (1996) of Charles and the immensely popular Diana further eroded support for the royal family, which was viewed by some as antiquated and unfeeling.

The criticism intensified following Diana's death in 1997, especially after Elizabeth initially refused to allow the national flag to fly at half-staff over Buckingham Palace.

In line with her earlier
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Feature

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er attempts at modernizing the monarchy, the queen subsequently sought to present a less-stuffy and less-traditional image of the monarchy. These attempts were met with mixed success.

In 2002 Elizabeth celebrated her 50th year on the throne. As part of her “Golden Jubilee,” events were held throughout the Commonwealth, including several days of festivities in London. The celebrations were somewhat diminished by the deaths of Elizabeth’s mother and sister early in the year.

Beginning in the latter part of the first decade of the 21st century, the public standing of the royal family rebounded, and even Charles’s 2005 marriage to Camilla Parker Bowles found much support among the British people.

In April 2011 Elizabeth led the family in celebrating the wedding of Prince William of Wales—the elder son of Charles and Diana—

and Catherine Middleton.

The following month she surpassed George III to become the second longest-reigning monarch in British history, behind Victoria. Also in May, Elizabeth made a historic trip to Ireland, becoming both the first British monarch to visit the Irish republic and the first to set foot in Ireland since 1911.

In 2012 Elizabeth celebrated her “Diamond Jubilee,” marking 60 years on the throne. On September 9, 2015, she surpassed Victoria’s record reign of 63 years and 216 days.

In August 2017 Prince Philip officially retired from public life, though he periodically appeared at official engagements after that. In the meantime, Elizabeth began to reduce her own official engagements, passing some duties on to Prince Charles and other senior members of the royal family, though the pool of stand-ins shrank when Charles’s younger son, Prince Harry, duke of Sussex, and



his wife, Meghan, duchess of Sussex, controversially chose to give up their royal roles in March 2020.

During this period, public interest in the queen and the royal family grew as a result of the widespread popularity of *The Crown*, a Netflix television series about the Windsors that debuted in 2016.

Having dealt with several physical setbacks in recent years, Philip, who had been Elizabeth’s husband for more than seven decades, died in April 2021. On their 50th wedding anniversary, in 1997, Elizabeth had said of Philip, “He has, quite simply, been my strength and stay all these years.”

Because of social-distancing protocols brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, the queen sat alone in a pew in St. George’s Chapel (in Windsor Castle) at Philip’s funeral. The widely disseminated images of her tragic isolation were heartbreaking but emblematic of the dignity and courage that she brought to her reign.

In June 2022 Britain celebrated Elizabeth’s 70 years on the throne with the “Platinum Jubilee,” a four-day na-

tional holiday that included the Trooping the Colour ceremony, a thanksgiving service at St. Paul’s Cathedral, a pop music concert at Buckingham Palace, and a pageant that employed street arts, theatre, music, circus, carnival, and costume to honour the queen’s reign.

Health issues limited Elizabeth’s involvement. Concerns about the queen’s health also led to a break in tradition when, in September, she appointed Boris Johnson’s replacement as prime minister, Liz Truss, at Balmoral rather than at Buckingham Palace, where she had formally appointed more than a dozen prime ministers.

Elizabeth was known to favour simplicity in court life and was also known to take a serious and informed interest in government business, aside from the traditional and ceremonial duties. Privately, she became a keen horsewoman; she kept racehorses, frequently attended races, and periodically visited the Kentucky stud farms in the United States. Her financial and property holdings made her one of the world’s richest women.





Queen Elizabeth II and Sir Shridath Ramphal

Sir Shridath Ramphal on The Queen

Queen Elizabeth was a queen beyond Britain. As Head of the Commonwealth, in particular, her sense of caring for its unifying principles and her dutiful commitment in advancing their discharge, made her a global asset. For that Commonwealth of 54 countries her leadership rested not in allegiance but affection.

Having served closely as Commonwealth Secretary General for 15 years, I attribute the Commonwealth's survival over the years of UDI in Rhodesia and apartheid in South Af-

rica greatly to the Queen's deep caring for the new Commonwealth she had inherited, and her unqualified sense of duty.

Few remember that it was the Queen who gave Marlborough House - her Grandmother's home - as a Commonwealth Centre. Such was her caring for her new wider family where his week there will be remembrances of friendly country visits on every continent.

The whole world has benefited from Queen Elizabeth's life being 'long', in the context of her vow of service as her reign began.



Antigua Cruise Port

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Maintenance and Engineering Manager

JOB SUMMARY

Maintenance and Engineering Manager shall perform duties related to the operational requirements of GPH (Antigua) Ltd./Antigua Cruise Port under general direction of the Director of Operations and Projects.

Essential Skills and Knowledge

1. Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering or a closely related field.
2. 5 years' experience as a Maintenance Manager or Engineering Manager.
3. Previous responsibilities for design, construction and maintenance of complex public facilities.
4. Knowledge and experience in planning and managing port-related projects
5. Knowledge of contract management.
6. Knowledge of public procurement processes.
7. Knowledge of building code regulations of Antigua and Barbuda.

Director of Operations and Projects

JOB SUMMARY

The Director of Operations and Projects is primarily responsible for the management of the entire operations team and for the smooth operation of the various processes that contribute to the services provided by Antigua Cruise Port. The role is very wide and encompasses many operational areas including Project Management.

Essential Skills and Knowledge

1. Bachelor's Degree in Port Management, Project Management Engineering or related field.
2. Proven ability to work and thrive within fast paced start-up environment.
3. Experience of reporting for government or grant funded projects with multiple partners.
4. Business process analysis, development, implementation re-engineering experience.
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What will Happen now Queen Elizabeth II has died

By **Roisin Kelly**

Queen Elizabeth II, Britain's longest-serving monarch—and the second-longest serving monarch in world history—died Sept. 8 following weeks of declining health.

On Thursday, the BBC cut into its regular broadcasting to cover the monarch's death as members of the royal family gathered at Balmoral Castle, where the queen died peacefully.

Now that the reign of Queen Elizabeth II has come to end, here is what will happen following her passing.

1. Will Prince Charles become king when the queen dies?

Charles immediately became king upon the Queen's death. His coronation ceremony, during which he will take the coronation oath and be anointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, won't take place until at least a year later, but new currency with his portrait replacing the queen's will immediately start being printed.

Apparently, Charles has already sat for the portrait that will appear on British banknotes and coins.

2. Will he be King Charles III?

Yes, King Charles III has announced that he will



Queen Elizabeth II

keep his name, however, he could have chosen another name altogether. His full name is Charles Philip Arthur George, so it's more than possible he'll use one of his other names. Whatever his decision, his new name will be announced immediately.

This evening, Charles will make his first-ever address as Britain's head of state.

3. Will Camilla be queen?

In the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Message in early February 2022, Queen Eliz-

abeth announced that Camilla will be Future Queen Consort. In her message the queen said, "When, in the fullness of time, my son Charles becomes King, I know you will give him and his wife Camilla the same support that you have given me; and it is my sincere wish that, when that time comes, Camilla will be known as Queen Consort as she continues her own loyal service."

4. What happened immediately after the Queen died?

The public is never

among the first to find out. The queen's death will trigger a complex set of procedures with the codename 'London Bridge.' These plans encompass everything from breaking the news of the queen's death to the public to the funeral itself 10 days later.

'London Bridge is down,' the British prime minister will be told on a secure phone line, and at that moment he or she will know that the age of Queen Elizabeth II is over and a new reign about to begin.

Shortly afterwards, the Press Association is informed and a black-bordered notice is pinned to the gates of Buckingham Palace by a footman dressed all in black.

Staff at the BBC receive regular training in the event of being faced with the death of a major royal figure, and a cold-war era alarm known as Rats (radio alert transmission system) will alert them to the fact that something serious is unfolding.

Meanwhile, at British radio stations flashing blue lights on their boards will tell DJs and presenters that either a major catastrophe is unfolding or that someone hugely important in British society has died. Most likely, they will guess what has happened.

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Pilots will also announce the news to passengers on planes.

5. Will the queen lie in state?

Normally, the Queen would lie in state in the throne room at Buckingham Palace at first and later in Westminster Hall. Her coffin will be piled with the glittering crown jewels.

On the day of her funeral, ten pallbearers will be entrusted with the immense weight of the queen's coffin, lead-lined in the royal tradition (Princess Diana's coffin a quarter of a tonne) for her funeral service in Westminster Abbey.

While she lies in state, it's expected that more than a million people will line up to pass her coffin and pay their respects, although because of COVID there may be restrictions.

Because the queen died at Balmoral in Scotland, she will lie in state at Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh before a funeral service in St. Giles Cathedral. Her coffin will then be put on the Royal Train to be conveyed back to London for burial.

6. What will Charles do in the 10 days between the queen's death and her funeral?

The new king will embark on a tour of the four nations of the United Kingdom—England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland—to receive pledges of allegiance from members

of their respective governments, to meet members of the public, and to attend memorial services for the queen.

7. Will the queen's funeral be televised?

Yes, but it is forbidden to film royal family members during the service.

8. Where will the queen be buried?

The queen is expected to be laid to rest in a private burial at St. George's Chapel, on the grounds of Windsor Castle, where she spent many of her final years.

Prince Philip is currently buried in the royal vault below St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle. It's been suggested that his coffin will later be moved when his wife dies so that their coffins can be interred together in a special tomb in the chapel itself, where the queen's father King George VI, the Queen Mother, and Princess Margaret are all at rest.

However, other reports say that Philip is likely to someday be buried in the grounds of Frogmore Castle on the Windsor Estate in keeping with his wishes.

If this is the case, it's possible that the Queen and Philip's ultimate resting place will be similar to that of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, a 13th-century-Italian-style mausoleum in Frogmore Gardens.

9. Will Prince William become Prince of

Wales?

Prince William will take on his father's former title following a ceremony called the Investiture of the Prince of Wales. Meanwhile, the line of succession will change. William's son Prince George will become second in line to the throne, followed by Princess Charlotte and Prince Louis. Prince Harry will be fifth in line to the throne, and his son Archie and daughter Lili will be sixth and seventh respectively.

10. Will Duchess Kate become the Princess of Wales?

It will be up to Kate as to whether she drops her Duchess of Cambridge title and inherits Princess Diana's former title, the Princess of Wales. Camilla has the right to go by that title but goes by the Duchess of Cornwall instead because the Princess of Wales title is still inherently associated with Diana. It is unlikely Camilla will take the title however, as she has now become the Queen Consort.



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Regional leaders pay tribute to Queen Elizabeth II

Loop – Queen Elizabeth II has been remembered as a pillar of strength and inspirational stateswoman by leaders of the Caribbean following news of her death.

Her majesty passed away this afternoon at Balmoral Castle in Scotland where she was being observed by a medical team after her health took a turn for the worse.

She was 96.

The Queen, who has recently celebrated her 70th anniversary as monarch, was the head of state of eight countries and five colonies in the Caribbean.

Premier David Burt of Bermuda was the first leader of the Caribbean colonies to send his condolences to Queen Elizabeth II.

“A life of undimmed duty, a model of strength and devotion to country... On behalf of the Government and people of Bermuda, I express sincere condolences to the Royal Family and the people of the United Kingdom,” Burt said.

Cayman Islands Premier Wayne Panton said: “I, on behalf of the Cayman Islands, join others from around the world in offering our condolences to the Royal Family. It is our prayer that God grants them the grace and peace to get through this difficult time. May God be with and comfort us all.”



Queen Elizabeth II

Panton also acknowledged Prince Charles' ascension to the throne as King Charles III.

President Dr Mohammed Irfaan Ali sent his condolences to the Royal Family and people of the UK saying Guyanese people will always remember Her Majesty's visits to the country.

“I join all Guyanese in expressing our profound and deepest sorrow at the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. Her passing marks the end of an era in the history of the British Monarchy, the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth of Nations,” he said

“Queen Elizabeth's

place in history is assured and her legacy is intact. Her long and impactful reign has helped to shape the post-World War II world. Her Majesty has been a source of stability for her country. She will be long remembered for her sterling leadership of the Commonwealth of Nations.”

Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit said the people of Dominica are saddened at the news of Her Majesty's death.

“Our prayers are with the Royal Family during this period of grief. Her passing ends an iconic 70-year reign and is a profound loss for the Commonwealth of Nations and the world.

May she rest in peace,” he said.

St Lucian Opposition Leader Allen Chastanet said: “For the last 70 years, Queen Elizabeth reigned with honour and distinction. My thoughts and prayers are with the royal family and all those across the globe who mourn her passing. May she Rest in Peace eternally.”

Jamaican PM Andrew Holness sent condolences to the Royal Family saying that he has them in his prayers.

T&T Prime Minister Dr Keith Rowley remembered the Queen for her dedication and service to the people of the UK and wider Commonwealth of Nations.

Rwandan President to pay historic visit to Belize

CMC - The President of Rwanda, Paul Kagame is to pay a state visit to Belize later this month, according to an official statement.

It said the president of the Republic of Rwanda will visit September 14-15 and “the visit will be historic as it will mark the first such visit to Belize by a head of state from Africa”.

The statement said President Kagame was invited to visit the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) country by Prime Minister John Briceño during the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Kigali, Rwanda in June.



Rwandan president, Paul Kagame

“Impressed with the president’s visionary leadership and complete transformation of Rwanda, from a country devastated by genocide in 1994 to one of the fastest growing economies in Africa, the Government

of Belize recognizes H.E. Kagame’s stellar accomplishments. As such, he will be conferred with the Order of Belize on September 14, 2022,” the statement said.

It said President Paul Kagame will sign agreements aimed at strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries on September 15 and will also address members of the House of Representatives and the Senate at a joint special sitting as well as students at the University of Belize.

In April, President Kagame visited Jamaica and Barbados.

Harbour Master vessel leaves Grenada

CMC – The Trinidad and Tobago registered vessel, the “Harbour Master” which had been at the centre of a police investigation into a matter involving Grenada’s world-class athlete, Anderson Peters, was allowed to leave the island on Wednesday.

The vessel was in Grenada for Carnival festivities in August, but it was detained following the August 10 brawl involving the Trinidad crew and the World Champion javelin gold medalist Peters and his brother Kiddon Peters.

The captain and three crew members – Noel Cooper, 42, deckhand, John Alexander, 55 and sailors, Mikhail John, 35 and Sheon Jack, 28, had last month pleaded guilty to the charges of causing harm and grievous harm to the brothers and were each fined a total of EC\$5,500



Director of Public Prosecutions Christopher Nelson later stopped a private criminal matter being filed against the brothers after former attorney gen-

eral, Cajeton Hood, who is representing the Trinidadian crew members of the Barbados-owned Harbour Master

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Dominican president bars Haitian ex-leader from his country

AP – The president of the Dominican Republic has barred Haiti’s former interim prime minister — who is now an aspiring presidential candidate — from entering the country, a move that further heightens tensions between two nations that share the island of Hispaniola.

The order against Claude Joseph that was signed Wednesday by Dominican President Luis Abinader also bans 12 Haitian gang leaders from entering the country. It comes as Haiti is becoming increasingly unstable following the July 7, 2021, assassination of its president, Jovenel Moïse.

Joseph welcomed Abinader’s ban on Thursday.

“He ranks me as enemy No. 1 of the Dominican racists. It is not a sanction. It’s an honour. I receive it in the name of fathers Dessalines, Toussaint and Christophe,” he tweeted, referencing Hai-

tian revolutionary heroes.

Abinader’s order, which authorises the president to ban anyone from entering the country if they have a criminal record or pose a threat to national security, is the latest tussle between Joseph and Dominican officials.

Joseph, who was foreign affairs minister when Moïse was slain, became interim prime minister for a brief period with the backing of police and the military.

When Ariel Henry was installed as Haiti’s prime minister nearly two weeks after Moïse’s killing, Joseph reverted to being minister of foreign affairs. He stepped down following an acrimonious exchange with Dominican officials following a tweet in November 2021 in which Joseph suggested that the Dominican Republic wasn’t a safe country.

Dominican officials bristled at the allegation,



Then Interim Prime Minister Claude Joseph speaks during a memorial service for the late Haitian President Jovenel Moïse, in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, July 20, 2021. Dominican President Luis Abinader signed an order on Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2022, that has barred Joseph, now an aspiring presidential candidate, from entering the country. (AP Photo/Matias Delacroix, File)

and ties between the two countries have since soured, especially given a spike in Haitian migrants crossing over to the Dominican Republic as they flee deepening poverty and a spike in

gang-related kidnappings and killings since Moïse’s assassination.

The influx of migrants also has led to an increase in racist and xenophobic incidents in the Dominican Republic against Haitians and those born in that country to Haitian parents.

In February 2022, Abinader announced his administration would build a multimillion-dollar, 118-mile (190-kilometre) wall along the Haitian border. The announcement came months after Abinader warned at the United Nations’ General Assembly that “there is not and will never be a Dominican solution to the crisis in Haiti.”

cont’d from pg 19

vessel, announced plans to file the private charges.

In a statement Wednesday, the lawyers representing the Peters said the “arrest of the ship was related to civil proceedings brought by the Peters brothers in the High Court of Grenada against the owners of the ship regarding the said harm and grievous harm.

“The arrest was effected through the Admiralty Division of the Court, on application by the lawyers on record, Derick F. Sylvester & Associates,” and that the “departure of Harbour Master was the fruit

of intensive negotiations between lawyers for the Peters brothers and lawyers for the ship”.

The statement said the issue was the posting by the ship of proper security in the event of the ship being found liable in the High Court civil case.

The statement quoted one of the lawyers for the brothers as saying that “constructive, cordial and focused professional legal talks between the two teams of lawyers produced a mutually satisfactory conclusion to this stage of the matter”.

It said that the High Court case will continue “in the normal way”.

Queen Elizabeth II has died

BBC – Queen Elizabeth II, the UK's longest-serving monarch, has died at Balmoral aged 96, after reigning for 70 years.

Her son King Charles III said the death of his beloved mother was a "moment of great sadness" for him and his family and that her loss would be "deeply felt" around the world.

Senior royals had gathered at her Scottish estate after concerns grew about her health earlier on Thursday.

The Queen came to the throne in 1952 and witnessed enormous social change.

King Charles said: "We mourn profoundly the passing of a cherished sovereign and a much-loved mother.

"I know her loss will be deeply felt throughout the country, the realms and the Commonwealth, and by countless people around the world."

He will lead the country in mourning as the new King and head of state for 14 Commonwealth realms. Camilla, his wife, becomes Queen Consort.

During the coming period, he said he and his family would be "comforted and sustained by our knowledge of the respect and deep affection in which the Queen was so widely held".

In a statement, Buckingham Palace said: "The Queen died peacefully at Balmoral this afternoon.

"The King and the Queen Consort will remain at Balmoral this evening and will return to London tomorrow."

All the Queen's children travelled to Balmoral, near Aberdeen, after doctors placed the Queen under medical supervision.

Her grandson and now heir to the throne, Prince William, is also there, with his brother, Prince Harry, on his way.

Prime Minister Liz Truss, who was appointed by the Queen on Tuesday, said the monarch was the rock on which modern Britain was built, who



had "provided us with the stability and strength that we needed".

Speaking about the new King, she said: "We offer him our loyalty and devotion, just as his mother devoted so much, to so many, for so long.

"And with the passing of the second Elizabethan age, we usher in a new era in the magnificent history of our great country, exactly as Her Majesty would have wished, by saying the words 'God save the King'."

Queen Elizabeth II's tenure as head of state spanned post-war austerity, the transition from empire to Commonwealth, the end of the Cold War and the UK's entry into - and withdrawal from - the European Union.

Her reign spanned 15 prime ministers starting with Winston Churchill, born in 1874, and including Ms Truss, born 101 years later in 1975.

She held weekly audiences with her prime minister throughout her reign.

At Buckingham Palace in London, crowds awaiting updates on the Queen's condition began crying as they heard of her death. The Union flag on top of the palace was lowered

to half-mast at 18:30 BST and an official notice announcing the death was posted outside.

On the Queen's death, Prince William and his wife, Catherine, became the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Cornwall.

The Queen was born Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor, in Mayfair, London, on 21 April 1926.

Few could have foreseen she would become monarch but in December 1936 her uncle, Edward VIII, abdicated from the throne to marry the twice-divorced American, Wallis Simpson.

Elizabeth's father became King George VI and, at age 10, Lilibet, as she was known in the family, became heir to the throne.

Within three years, Britain was at war with Nazi Germany. Elizabeth and her younger sister, Princess Margaret, spent much of wartime at Windsor Castle after their parents rejected suggestions they be evacuated to Canada.

After turning 18, Elizabeth spent five months with the Auxiliary Territorial Service and learned basic motor mechanic and driving skills. "I began

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The official notice read: "The Queen died peacefully at Balmoral this afternoon. The King and Queen Consort will remain at Balmoral this evening and will return to London tomorrow."

cont'd from pg 21

to understand the esprit de corps that flourishes in the face of adversity," she recalled later.

Through the war, she exchanged letters with her third cousin, Philip, Prince of Greece, who was serving in the Royal Navy. Their romance blossomed and the couple married at Westminster Abbey on 20 November 1947, with the prince taking the title of Duke of Edinburgh.

She would later describe him as "my strength and stay" through 74 years of marriage, before his death in 2021, aged 99.

Their first son, Charles, was born in 1948, followed by Princess Anne, in 1950, Prince Andrew, in 1960, and Prince Edward, in 1964. Between them, they gave their parents eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Princess Elizabeth was in Kenya in 1952, representing the ailing King, when Philip broke the news that her father had died. She immediately returned to London as the new Queen.

"It was all a very sudden kind of

taking on and making the best job you can," she later recalled.

Elizabeth was crowned at Westminster Abbey on 2 June 1953, aged 27, in front of a then-record TV audience estimated at more than 20 million people.

Subsequent decades would see great change, with the end of the British Empire overseas and the swinging '60s sweeping away social norms at home.

Elizabeth reformed the monarchy for this less deferential age, engaging with the public through walkabouts, royal visits and attendance at public events. Her commitment to the Commonwealth was a constant - she visited every Commonwealth country at least once.

But there were periods of private and public pain. In 1992, the Queen's "annus horribilis", fire devastated Windsor Castle - a private residence as well as working palace - and three of her children's marriages broke down.

After the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, in a car accident in Paris in 1997, the Queen drew criticism for ap-

pearing reluctant to respond publicly.

There were questions about the monarchy's relevance in modern society.

"No institution... should expect to be free from the scrutiny of those who give it their loyalty and support, not to mention those who don't," she acknowledged.

As a 21-year-old princess, Elizabeth had vowed to devote her life to service.

Reflecting on those words decades later, during her Silver Jubilee in 1977, she declared: "Although that vow was made in my salad days, when I was green in judgement, I do not regret nor retract one word of it."

That same commitment to serving was made 45 years later in a thank you letter to the nation on the weekend of her Platinum Jubilee in June.

The milestone was celebrated with a mix of state ceremonies and a colourful festival of all things British, as well as lively street parties.

Although the Queen's health kept her from some events, she said: "My heart has been with you all."

Queen Elizabeth II: World leaders remember a 'kind-hearted Queen'

BBC – World leaders and dignitaries have paid tribute to Queen Elizabeth II, who has died at the age of 96.

They have honoured her deep sense of duty and her resilience, as well as the Queen's sense of humour and kindness.

France's Emmanuel Macron led the tributes, remembering "a kind-hearted queen" who was "a friend of France".

And former US President Barack Obama said the Queen had "captivated the world" with a "reign defined by grace, elegance, and a tireless work ethic".

"Time and again, we were struck by her warmth, the way she put people at ease, and how she brought her considerable humour and charm to moments of great pomp and circumstance," Mr Obama, who met the Queen on several occasions, said in a statement.

Current US President Joe



Then-President Barack Obama and Her Majesty at a State Banquet at Buckingham Palace in 2011

Biden described the Queen as "more than a monarch - she defined an era".

Describing his visit to the UK in 2021 as president, Mr Biden said "she charmed us with her wit, moved us with her kindness, and generously shared with us her wisdom".

Queen Elizabeth II met

14 US presidents during her reign.

Former US President Donald Trump said he will "never forget Her Majesty's generous friendship, great wisdom, and wonderful sense of humour".

"What a grand and beautiful lady she was - there was nobody like her!" he wrote on his online platform, Truth Social.

The Queen also reigned during the leadership of 12 Canadian prime ministers. Speaking shortly after the news of her passing was announced, an emotional Justin Trudeau said she had "an obvious deep and abiding love for Canadians".

"In a complicated world her steady grace and resolve brought comfort to us all," Mr Trudeau continued, adding that he would miss

their "chats" where she was "thoughtful, wise, curious, helpful, funny and so much more".

"She was one of my favourite people in the world, and will miss her so," he said, holding back tears.

King Willem-Alexander of The Netherlands - who is Queen Elizabeth's fifth cousin - said he and Queen Maxima remembered the "steadfast and wise" monarch with "deep respect and great affection".

And Belgium's King Philippe and Queen Mathilde said she was "an extraordinary personality... who, throughout her reign, showed dignity, courage and devotion".

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi recalled his "memorable meetings" with *cont'd on pg 24*



THE HULK SHOW
 HOSTED BY: MAN HUNTE
 Time : 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
 Mondays

International

AROUND THE WORLD



cont'd from pg 23

the monarch during two UK visits.

"I will never forget her warmth and kindness," he tweeted. "During one of the meetings she showed me the handkerchief Mahatma Gandhi gifted her on her wedding. I will always cherish that gesture."

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz paid tribute to the Queen's "wonderful humour" and said in a statement that "her commitment to German-British reconciliation after the horrors of World War II will remain unforgotten".

As monarch for seven decades, Queen Elizabeth lived through times of extraordinary change, and this was reflected in several tributes.

As Barack Obama noted - she lived "through periods of prosperity and stagnation - from the moon landing, to the fall of the Berlin Wall".

Irish President Michael D Higgins honoured the Queen's "extraordinary

sense of duty" which will "hold a unique place in British history".

"Her reign of 70 years encompassed periods of enormous change, during which she represented a remarkable source of reassurance to the British people," he said in a lengthy statement.

"This was a reassurance based on a realism of the significance of present events, rather than any narrow conception of history."

Ireland's Taoiseach Micheál Martin spoke of her reign as one of "historic duration" and described the Queen's passing as "the end of an era".

"Her dedication to duty and public service were self-evident and her wisdom and experience truly unique," Mr Martin said in a statement. He also recalled her "many gracious gestures and warm remarks" during a state visit to Ireland in 2011.

António Guterres, the UN's secretary-general, said Queen Elizabeth was

"a reassuring presence throughout decades of sweeping change, including the decolonization of Africa and Asia and the evolution of the Commonwealth".

In a statement he paid tribute to "her unwavering, lifelong dedication to serving her people. The world will long remember her devotion and leadership".

Israel's President Isaac Herzog also acknowledged the enormous change the Queen saw throughout her reign, but said throughout this she "remained an icon of stable, responsible leadership, and a beacon of morality, humanity and patriotism".

While the Queen did not visit Israel, Charles, Edward, William and the late Prince Philip - whose mother is buried in Jerusalem - did.

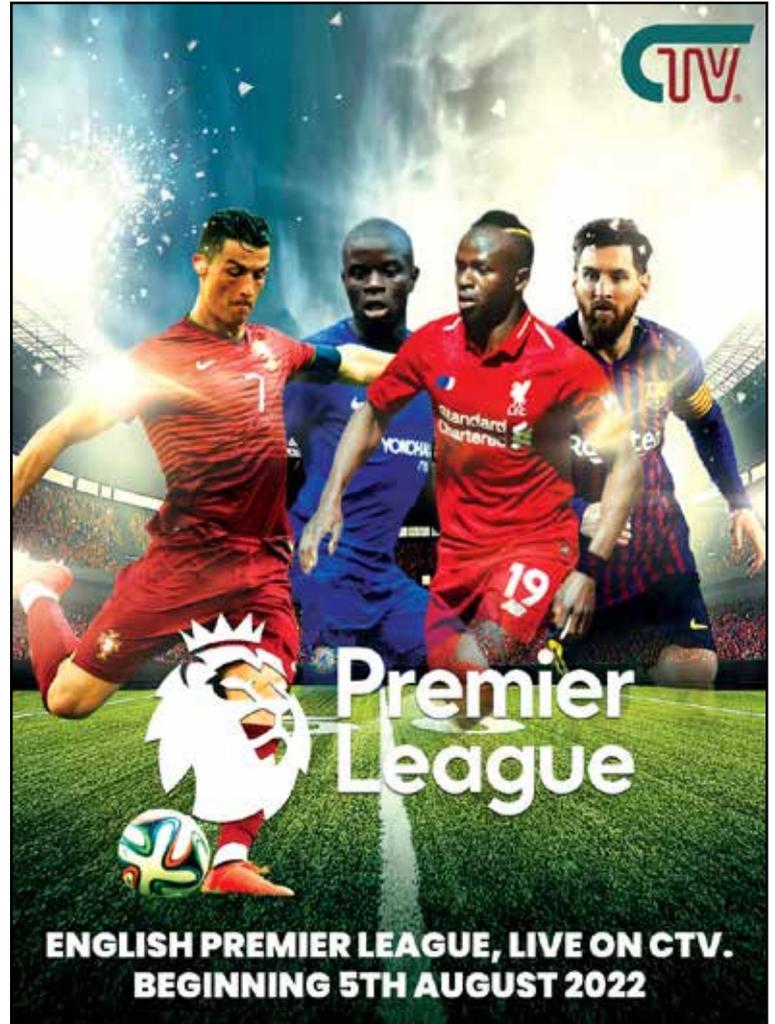
"Queen Elizabeth was a historic figure: she lived history, she made history, and with her passing she leaves a magnificent, inspirational legacy," President Herzog wrote.



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After a lifetime of preparation, Charles takes the throne

AP – Prince Charles has been preparing for the crown his entire life. Now, at age 73, that moment has finally arrived.

Charles, the oldest person to ever assume the British throne, became King Charles III on Thursday following the death of his mother, Queen Elizabeth II. No date has been set for his coronation.

After an apprenticeship that began as a child, Charles embodies the modernization of the British monarchy. He was the first heir not educated at home, the first to earn a university degree and the first to grow up in the ever-intensifying glare of the media as deference to royalty faded.

He also alienated many with his messy divorce from the much-loved Princess Diana, and by straining the rules that prohibit royals from intervening in public affairs, wading into debates on issues such as environmental protection and architectural preservation,

“He now finds himself in, if you like, the autumn of his life, having to think carefully about how he projects his image as a public figure,” said historian Ed Owens. “He’s nowhere near as popular as his mother.”

Charles must figure out how to generate the “public support, a sense of endearment” that characterised the relationship Elizabeth had with the British public, Owens said.

In other words, will Charles be as loved by his subjects? It’s a question that has overshadowed his entire life.

A shy boy with a domineering father, Charles grew into a sometimes-awkward, understated man who is nevertheless confident in his own opinions. Unlike his mother, who refused to publicly discuss her views, Charles has delivered speeches and



In this Monday, March 9, 2020 file photo, Britain's Prince Charles and Camilla the Duchess of Cornwall, in the background, leave after attending the annual Commonwealth Day service at Westminster Abbey in London. Prince Charles has been preparing for the crown his entire life. Now, that moment has finally arrived. Charles, the oldest person to ever assume the British throne, became king on Thursday Sept. 8, 2022, following the death of his mother, Queen Elizabeth II. (AP Photo/Kirsty Wigglesworth, File)

written articles on issues close to his heart, such as climate change, green energy and alternative medicine.

His accession to the throne is likely to fuel debate about the future of Britain’s largely ceremonial monarchy, seen by some as a symbol of national unity and others as an obsolete vestige of feudal history.

“We know the monarch and certainly the monarch’s family – they’re not meant to have political voices. They’re not meant to have political opinions. And the fact that he’s been flexing, if you like, his political muscle is something that he will have to be really careful with ... lest he be seen as unconstitutional,” said Owens, who wrote “The Family Firm: Monarchy, Mass Media and the British Public, 1932-53.”

Charles, who will be the head of

state for the U.K. and 14 other countries, including Australia, Canada, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea, has defended his actions.

“I always wonder what meddling is, I always thought it was motivating,” he said in “Prince, Son and Heir: Charles at 70,” a 2018 documentary. “I’ve always been intrigued if it’s meddling to worry about the inner cities, as I did 40 years ago and what was happening or not happening there, the conditions in which people were living. If that’s meddling, I’m very proud of it.”

In the same interview, however, Charles acknowledged that as king, he wouldn’t be able to speak out or interfere in politics because the role of sovereign is different from being the Prince of Wales.

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Charles has said he intends to reduce the number of working royals, cut expenses and better represent modern Britain.

But tradition matters, too, for a man whose office previously described the monarchy as “the focal point for national pride, unity and allegiance.”

That has meant a life of palaces and polo, attracting criticism that Charles was out of touch with everyday life, being lampooned for having a valet who purportedly squeezed toothpaste onto his brush.

But it was the disintegration of his marriage to Diana that made many question his fitness for the throne. Then, as he aged, his handsome young sons stole the limelight from a man who had a reputation for being as grey as his Saville Row suits.

Biographer Sally Bedell Smith, author of “Prince Charles: the Passions and Paradoxes of an Improbable Life,” described him as being constantly overshadowed by others in the family, despite his destiny.

“I think the frustrations are not so much that he’s had to wait for the throne,” Smith told PBS.

“I think his main frustration is that he has done so much and that ... he has been sort of massively misunderstood. He’s sort of been caught between two worlds: the world of his mother, revered, now beloved; and Diana, the ghost of whom still shadows him; and then his



In this Dec. 22, 1982 file photo, Britain's Prince William, the 6-month old son of British Prince Charles and Princess Diana, the Prince and Princess of Wales interacts with his parents during a special photo call at Kensington Palace in London. Prince Charles has been preparing for the crown his entire life. Now, that moment has finally arrived. Charles, the oldest person to ever assume the British throne, became king on Thursday Sept. 8, 2022, following the death of his mother, Queen Elizabeth II. (AP Photo/David Caulkin, File)

incredibly glamorous sons.”

It took years for many in Britain to forgive Charles for his admitted infidelity to Diana before “the people’s princess” died in a Paris car crash in 1997. But the public mood softened after he married Camilla Parker Bowles in 2005 and she became the Duchess of Cornwall.

Although Camilla played a significant role in the breakup of Charles and Diana, her self-deprecating style and salt-of-the-earth sense of humour eventually won over many Britons.

She helped Charles smile more in public by tempering his reserve and making him appear approachable, if not happier, as he cut ribbons, visited houses of worship,

unveiled plaques and waited for the crown.

Her service was rewarded in February 2022, when Queen Elizabeth II said publicly that it was her “sincere wish” that Camilla should be known as “Queen Consort” after her son succeeded her, answering questions once and for all about her status in the Royal Family.

Prince Charles Philip Arthur George was born Nov. 14, 1948, in Buckingham Palace. When his mother acceded to the throne in 1952, the 3-year-old prince became the Duke of Cornwall. He became Prince of Wales at 20.

His school years were unhappy, with the future king being bullied by class-

mates at Gordonstoun, a Scottish boarding school that prides itself on building character through vigorous outdoor activities and educating his father, Philip.

Charles studied history at Cambridge University’s Trinity College, where in 1970 he became the first British royal to earn a university degree.

He then spent seven years in uniform, training as a Royal Air Force pilot before joining the Royal Navy, where he learned to fly helicopters.

He ended his military career as commander of the HMS Bronington, a minesweeper, in 1976.

Charles’ relationship
cont'd on pg 27

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with Camilla began before he went to sea, but the romance foundered and she married a cavalry officer.

He met Lady Diana Spencer in 1977 when she was 16 and he was dating her older sister. Diana apparently didn't see him again until 1980, and rumours of their engagement swirled after she was invited to spend time with Charles and the royal family.

They announced their engagement in February 1981. Some awkwardness in their relationship was immediately apparent when, during a televised interview about their betrothal, a reporter asked if they were in love.

"Of course," Diana answered immediately, while Charles said, "Whatever 'in love' means."

Although Diana giggled at the response, she later said that Charles' remark "threw me completely."

"God, it absolutely traumatised me," she said in a recording made by her voice coach in 1992-93 that was featured in the 2017 documentary "Diana, In Her Own Words."

The couple married on July 29, 1981, at St. Paul's Cathedral in a globally televised ceremony. Prince William, now heir to the throne, was born less than a year later, followed by his brother, Prince Harry, in 1984.

The public fairytale soon crumbled. Charles admitted to adultery to a TV interviewer in 1994. In an



In this March 5, 2019 file photo, Britain's Queen Elizabeth II is joined by Prince Charles, the Prince of Wales, and at rear, from left, Kate, Duchess of Cambridge, Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, Prince William, Prince Harry and Meghan, Duchess of Sussex during a reception at Buckingham Palace, London to mark the 50th anniversary of the investiture of the Prince of Wales. Prince Charles has been preparing for the crown his entire life. Now, that moment has finally arrived. Charles, the oldest person to ever assume the British throne, became king on Thursday Sept. 8, 2022, following the death of his mother, Queen Elizabeth II. (Dominic Lipinski/Pool via AP, File)

interview of her own, Diana drew attention to her husband's relationship with Camilla, saying: "There were three of us in this marriage."

The revelations tarnished Charles' reputation among many who celebrated Diana for her style as well as her charity work with AIDS patients and landmine victims.

William and Harry were caught in the middle. While the princes revered their late mother, they said Charles was a good father and praised him as an early advocate for issues like the environment.

Tensions persist inside the royal family, underscored by the decision of

Harry and his wife, Meghan, to step away from their royal duties and move to California in 2020. In a televised interview, they later said a member of the royal family had raised "concerns and conversations" about the colour of their baby's skin before he was born. The explosive revelation forced William to publicly declare the family wasn't racist.

Charles soldiered on, increasingly standing in for the queen in her twilight years. In 2018, he was named the queen's designated successor as head of the Commonwealth, an association of 54 nations with links to the British Empire. The process accelerated after the

death of her husband, Prince Philip, on April 9, 2021.

As Elizabeth declined, he sometimes stepped in at the last moment.

On the eve of the state opening of Parliament on May 10, 2022, the queen asked Charles to preside, delegating one of her most important constitutional duties to him -- evidence that a transition was underway.

Camilla said in a 2018 documentary that Charles was comfortable with the prospect of being king.

"I think his destiny will come," she said. "He's always known it's going to come, and I don't think it does weigh heavily on his shoulders at all."

The queen's sporting fascination was racing: 'I love horses'

AP – It was a classic and comforting sight on the British sporting calendar, Queen Elizabeth II smiling and waving from inside a horse-drawn carriage leading other members of the royal family in a procession along the racetrack at Royal Ascot.

The monarch would then spend the day watching the races from the Royal Enclosure, cheering on her horses — win or lose.

And she won plenty.

Horse racing was the big sporting fascination of the queen, who died on Thursday at the age of 96. She first rode a horse at the age of 3 — and was immediately besotted with them — and would inherit the breeding and racing stock of her father, King George VI, when she acceded to the throne in 1952.

She became one of the biggest faces of British and global horse racing.

The queen was also present at some of the most famous occasions in British sporting history.

She handed the Jules Rimet Trophy to England captain Bobby Moore when the national soccer team won the men's World Cup by beating West Germany at Wembley Stadium in 1966.

She was in the Royal Box on Centre Court at Wimbledon when British player Virginia Wade won the women's singles title in 1977, the championship's centenary year.

And, more recently, she had a cameo in the opening ceremony of the London Olympics in 2012, filming a comedy sketch with James Bond actor Daniel Craig where the queen — well, a stunt double, anyway — jumped out of a helicopter and parachuted into the Olympic Stadium.

She allowed Danny Boyle, who directed the ceremony, and his crew access to her quarters at Bucking-



Britain's Queen Elizabeth II arrives on the third day of the Royal Ascot horse race meeting, which is traditionally known as Ladies Day, in Ascot, England, Thursday, June 21, 2018. Horse racing was Queen Elizabeth II's big sporting love. She first rode a horse at the age of 3 and would inherit the breeding and racing stock of her father, King George VI, when she acceded to the throne in 1952. (AP Photo/Tim Ireland. File)

ham Palace for a one-day shoot a few months earlier.

Horse racing was her big love, though, and she was often seen visiting The Royal Stud at her estate at Sandringham, patting her horses tenderly.

"My philosophy about racing is simple," she said in a BBC documentary, *The Queen's Racehorses: A Personal View*. "I enjoy breeding a horse that is faster than other people's."

"And to me, that is a gamble from a long way back. I enjoy going racing but I suppose, basically, I love horses, and the thoroughbred epitomizes a really good horse to me."

The queen had approaching 2,000 winners as a racehorse owner, with her jockeys always wearing purple, gold and scarlet — the colors of the storied royal racing silks also used by father

and great grandfather, King Edward VII.

Her first winner was a horse called Monaveen, at Fontwell in 1949, and she went on to win all of the so-called "classics" in British horse racing except for The Derby, another event she attended for most of her life.

One of the queen's most famous wins came at Royal Ascot in 2013 when Estimate became the first horse owned by a reigning monarch to win the prestigious Gold Cup.

It was her first win in an elite race since 1989 and she was seen clapping enthusiastically as jockey Ryan Moore powered through to finish first by a neck in front of 61,000 racegoers.

Michael Stoute, who trained the queen's horses, said winning races gave her a "special thrill."

"She really loves this game," he
cont'd on pg 29

Chelsea hires Graham Potter as manager, replacing Tuchel

AP – Chelsea’s new American owners took a gamble with the first managerial appointment of their tenure, hiring Graham Potter from Premier League rival Brighton on Thursday despite his lack of experience coaching at soccer’s highest level.

The 47-year-old Potter agreed to a five-year deal as the replacement for Thomas Tuchel, who was fired on Wednesday after an apparent breakdown in his relationship with Chelsea’s recently installed ownership team fronted by Los Angeles Dodgers part-owner Todd Boehly.

While Tuchel won the Champions League with Chelsea last year and previously ran a locker room of soccer superstars — such as Kylian Mbappé and Neymar — at Paris Saint-Germain, Potter has a more obscure coaching past and has won only one trophy, the Swedish Cup in 2017.

That came during a seven-year stint at remote Swedish club Ostersund (2011-18), which he led



Brighton's head coach Graham Potter during the English FA Cup third round soccer match between West Bromwich Albion and Brighton & Hove Albion at the Hawthorns, West Bromwich, England, Saturday, Jan. 8, 2022. Chelsea announced on Thursday, Sept. 8, 2022, the appointment of Graham Potter as their new head coach. (AP Photo/Rui Vieira, File)

from the country’s fourth tier to the first division and then into the Europa League for the first time.

Since then, he has coached Swansea for one season in English soccer’s second division, guiding the team to the FA Cup quarterfinals, before taking over at Brighton in 2019. Brighton is currently in fourth place in the Premier League, having finished last season in ninth — the highest in the club’s history.

Chelsea said Potter would bring “progressive

football and innovative coaching” to the club, while Boehly said the new coach “fits our vision.”

“Not only is he extremely talented on the pitch,” Boehly said of Potter, “he has skills and capabilities that extend beyond the pitch which will make Chelsea a more successful club.”

Potter, who played mostly for lower-league English teams in an undistinguished career from 1992-2005 before retiring at the age of 30 and going into higher education, is

widely admired as one of the country’s best tacticians and has a brave, entertaining style of play that has won plaudits if not trophies. Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola has said he is a “big fan” of Potter because of the way his “players move with freedom and ... have the courage to play everywhere.”

And Boehly, the face of Chelsea’s ownership, has been convinced that Potter is the man to instill a long-term soccer ethos and identity throughout the club at the start of the new era.

The demands Potter will face at Chelsea will contrast sharply with those at his previous clubs, however, unlikely giving him as much time to cultivate a team as he has had so far in his career.

“He’ll be expected to win every week, to challenge for trophies,” said former Chelsea player and assistant coach Jody Morris. “It’s totally different to being in a club where you are expected to be midtable and can go a couple of months without winning a game. You go a couple of games without winning at Chelsea and it’ll be totally different.”

Potter’s time in Sweden offers an interesting insight into why he is lauded as a good man-manager and a thinker of the game.

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said after Estimate’s victory, “and it’s a great recreation for her.”

She was the champion owner in British flat racing on two occasions, in 1954 and ’57.

The queen even attended America’s greatest horse race, the Kentucky Derby, in 2007 while visiting the heart of U.S.

racing in Kentucky bluegrass country.

Following the announcement of the queen’s death, the British Horseracing Authority said racing in Britain for the rest of Thursday and Friday would be suspended “as we begin to grieve Her Majesty’s passing and remember her extraordinary life and contribution to our sport and our nation.”

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Matthews to lead WI women against Kiwis in Antigua & Barbuda

The West Indies women's team, under new captain Hayley Matthews will start the first ever International Cricket Council (ICC) Women's Future Tours Programme (FTP) for the period 2022-2025 with an eight-match home series against New Zealand in Antigua & Barbuda later this month.

Matthews will take over the women's side from Stafaine Taylor, who was at the helm for seven years.

Antigua and Barbuda's Sir Vivian Richards Stadium will host the start of the ODI Series on the 16th of September and conclude with a five-match T20 International Series on the 6th of October, followed by England Women in December of 2022.

Matthews, 24, made her debut for West Indies in 2014 and played a leading role in her side's 2016 T20 World Cup triumph. She was named Player of the Match in the final against Australia where she made a 45-ball 66.

She has so far scored 1,764 runs and captured 78 wickets in 69 ODIs, and accumulated 1,055 runs and bagged 58 wickets in 61



New West Indies women's team captain Hayley Matthews, will start the first ever ICC Women's Future Tours Programme for the period 2022-2025 with an eight-match home series against New Zealand in Antigua & Barbuda later this month. (Photo courtesy CWI)

T20s for the West Indies.

The recommendation by the women's selection panel to make Matthews the captain was ratified at the Cricket West Indies (CWI) Board of directors meeting on 24th June, 2022.

The West Indies women will play 66 international matches at home and away across the three-year period, plus there will be a major ICC Women's World Cup tournament each year.

West Indies start the 2023 year with a tri-series in South Africa, which will

also include India, as the teams build up to the ICC Women's T20 World Cup in Bangladesh from September to October 2024 and the Women's Cricket World Cup India from September to October 2025.

All of the One Day International Series from 2022 to 2025 will form part of the ICC Women's Championship (IWC) which will feature 10 teams with the inclusion of Bangladesh and Ireland as the profile of women's cricket grows around the world.

Each team will play eight series, four at home and four away, with the top five teams in the IWC table qualifying automatically for the 2025 ICC Women's World Cup.

In addition to the aforementioned England and New Zealand tours, West Indies will play Bangladesh and Ireland in a home ODI series for the first time ever.

West Indies' four-away series will be against India, Australia, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

Flyballers hope for increase in male netball players

Founder Ropheleen Samuel said the Flyballers Netball Club will be seeking to get more males to play the sport in Antigua and Barbuda.

“I hope when I extend an invitation for more players that the guys out there who are interested in playing netball will come out and attend the practice.

“My objective is not to get all the men playing for my club, I want to get a lot more men in Antigua and Barbuda start playing netball because we need more male players,” Samuel said.

“I want every male player to play at a high level so that when the next men’s tournament comes around, we will have a lot more people, not only from Flyballers but other clubs, to choose from in selecting a national team to represent Antigua and Barbuda in overseas tournament.”

Flyballers, who represented Antigua and Barbuda at the Americas Netball Men’s Championship in St. Vincent and the Grenadines from 1-4 September, lost all four matches to finish in the cellar position of the five-team round-robin competition that was won by Jamaica Suns at the Arnos Vale Sporting Complex.

Samuel, who also served as the team’s assistant coach, said Flyballers competed in the tournament that utilized rules unfamiliar to her team and allowed the teams to play more aggressively with a lot more contact, which was a totally new experience for her and her players.

She said her team was not prepared for the experience in St. Vincent and the Grenadines because due to the small pool of men currently playing the sport in Antigua and Barbuda, members of the Flyballers male team



Assistant coach Ropheleen Samuel, second right, and the Flyballers Netball team on arrival at the inaugural Americas Netball Men’s Championship in St. Vincent and the Grenadines on Thursday, 1 September, 2022. (File photo)

had to practice amongst themselves and with other female teams in preparation for the overseas tournament that also included male teams from South Africa, Grenada and the host nation.

“When the Flyballers men’s team was preparing for the tournament in St. Vincent, it was some women teams they had to practice against. Sometimes they had practice matches against members of the Antigua national women’s team. Sometimes they also practiced with the female players of Flyballers, so they never had no real aggression in their practice session,” Samuel said.

“You know when the guys are practicing with the women teams, they are not going to play aggressively or go hard with the ladies, so now that they have gotten a new experience by playing against the men at the tournament in St. Vincent, we have to do something about the development of male netball in Antigua and Barbuda.”

Samuel feels the local governing body of the sport, the Antigua and Barbuda Netball Association (ABNA), should play a role in getting more males to play the game in the twin-island nation.

“The Antigua and Barbuda Netball Association should think about joining Flyballers in trying to get more men to play the sport in Antigua and Barbuda. We need to come together and think about it,” Samuel said.

“I now have over 60 members in the Flyballers Netball Club and most of them are males. That is how I actually started Flyballers because when I started my drive to create a netball club, more males showed interest than the females, so that is how I know that there are guys out there who are interested in the sport.”

The Flyballers netball team, who returned home to Antigua and Barbuda from St. Vincent yesterday (Thursday),

cont’d on pg 33

ABBA business league to commence on Sunday

Following a two-year hiatus due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Cool and Smooth Business League will get on the way this weekend.

Coordinator Carl "Bolie" Knight said the event will commence at the JSC Sports Complex on Sunday at 6: 30pm with a brief opening ceremony that will be followed by three opening nights matches at the same venue.

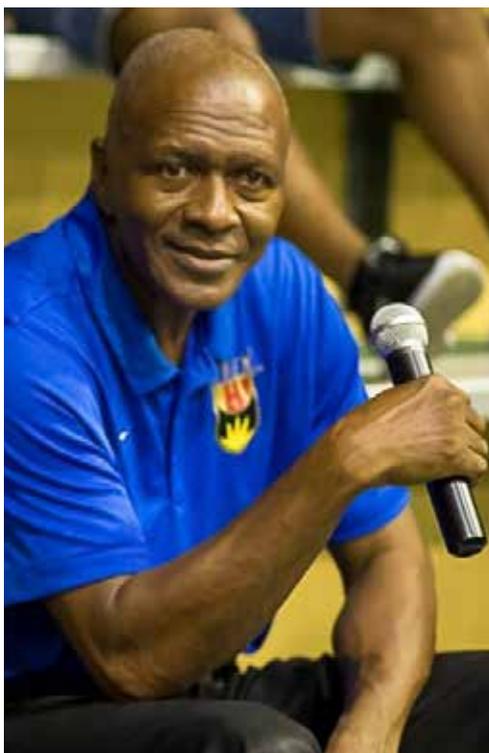
Knight said 14 teams will be participating in this year's tournament, including defending champions, the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board, and everyone is looking forward to the 2022 competition.

"Hopefully, we should have about 14 teams that will be participating in this year's tournament and everybody is just looking forward to the basketball action again after a two-year absence," Knight said.

"Transport Board were probably the second team to register for the competition and they are just ready to hit the road.

"The feeling right now is everybody missed basketball and everybody just wants to play.

"So business league 2022 is go-



Coordinator of the ABBA Cool and Smooth Business Basketball League, Carl 'Bolie' Knight. (Photo courtesy ABBA)

ing to be fantastic and I am just hoping that the support comes from all the teams because we just want to have a beautiful time at JSC."

Starting on Sunday, triple headers will be played at the JSC Sports Complex each night, except on Fridays, until the competition concludes at the end of November this year.

"We are going to play three games each night. We are going to play at

6:30, 7:30 and 8:30 each night. It will be 25 minutes running clock because in business league basketball, our aim is to let them play as much games as possible," Knight said.

"We will not be dividing the teams into any zones, which would limit the amount of games. So each team will play each other so each team will have at least 13 games to play."

Knight said the business league All-Star team, which is selected at the end of the competition, will embark on its customary goodwill tour, which will be a trip to St. Maarten in December this year.

"We are hoping to conclude the league by the end of November because the Cool and Smooth Business League, we like to travel to take our All-Star team on an overseas trip," Knight said.

"We have already been to several Caribbean islands in the past and so we are looking forward to having one this year and we are hoping to travel to St. Maarten.

"We have made some contacts there already and so we are hoping to get down to St. Maarten sometime around the 7th to the 12th of December."

cont'd from pg 32

day), will be taking a break before resuming training.

"Upon our return home, we will be taking a little break and then we will get back together again on the court and we will be extending invitations to other guys who want to be a part of the team to come and train with us," Samuel stated.

"We are going to train. We are going to put what we would have learnt in St. Vincent into the training. We are hoping that other guys will come out and train with us so that when another opportunity comes for us to participate in another overseas tournament, we will have a lot more players available to choose from."

Samuel said Flyballers also had to turn down an invitation from World Netball Inc., which is based in Atlanta, Georgia, to participate in its 2022 Male Netball Championships in Fort Myers, Florida, from 7th to 9th October.

She said Flyballers got the invitation a bit late and there is not enough time for

her team to make sufficient preparations to travel to Florida after participating in the recent Americas Netball Men's Championship in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

But Samuel said Flyballers will be making an effort to attend the 2023 Male Netball Championships in Florida.

Dave Cameron would only consider another run for CWI presidency under the right conditions

By Leighton Levy

Former Cricket West Indies president Dave Cameron would only consider another bid for the leadership of the sport's regional governing body under the right conditions because leading the CWI is too difficult.

Cameron, 51, was a director of the then West Indies Cricket Board between 2002 and 2019 and was elected president in 2013.

Cameron's tenure as president was tinged by controversy and conflict with several West Indies players and he lost the presidency to former West Indies team manager Ricky Skerritt in 2019.

However, in recent months the Skerritt administration has come in for criticism and the West Indies teams have had a poor run of form in all formats, prompting discussion as to whether Cameron would consider another run at the presidency.

"The first time I ran for a cricket office was 2013 for president of Cricket West Indies. Prior to that my work was what put me forward and persons would come and say we need your help here or we believe you can lead here and there," Cameron told Sportsmax. TV.

"If I am asked then obviously I would consider it but it would be under different circumstances and the situation is that we would have to find a way to get everybody in agreement because what you don't want is the fragmentation of the boards, the



Former Cricket West Indies president Dave Cameron

issues, it's very difficult."

He admitted that there isn't much appeal to stepping back into the hot seat, especially with the myriad of issues affecting the region and sports administration.

"To be honest, West Indies cricket is very difficult. It's difficult to organize. You're talking about 16 different countries, different parishes, different views, different races, all those things play a significant role and it's the challenge we have in the CARICOM," Cameron reasoned.

LIAT (the airline) has died because the governments of the OECS

couldn't get it together and agree. There is no silver bullet. There is no one man or one woman who can change the fortunes but it's really a message that everybody could buy into, and that is kind of what I was trying to do."

He did offer a solution to the issues that ail regional cricket.

"My view is that a merit-driven system is what works," he said.

"As a region, full of talent, very bright people let us try and focus on a merit-based system, get the best people in all the areas and I think we will start seeing success."