

## 1- Remembering Queen Elizabeth

### The Second Elizabethan Era

Queen Elizabeth was crowned in June of 1953 towards the tail end of England's imperial grasp on the world, as many countries increasingly claimed their independence from the monarchy and shifted towards nationalist movements. Although she entered the regency at a time of growing threats of war from the USSR, she was seen in the public eye as a new, fresh young woman who could bring the aging monarchy out of the past and into the present.

Buckingham Palace made the daring decision to have Her Majesty's coronation filmed for television audiences, which would subsequently be viewed by over 20 million people worldwide, launching her and the royal family into the modern and accessible zeitgeist.

From that point on, the demand from the British people to not only hear Her Majesty on the radio but see her on the television grew. Christmas of 1957 featured another historic moment that saw Queen Elizabeth addressing the citizens of the commonwealth on live TV. Although the royal family began creeping into the limelight, they still remained prominent hierarchical figures who few dared to challenge.

### Queen Elizabeth v. Counter Culture

As the warmth of tradition and regularity faded away, cold war tensions increased and misguided British involvement in foreign affairs stirred anti-war sentiments, the common fair of British citizens began to grow weary of the monarchy as counter-culture began to take hold in the United States as well as Great Britain.

The royal family started to be seen as trivial and selfish as the era of "free love" set in. With continuous scandals breaking from the royal family, their untouchable status began to fall and criticism from artists started to grow. In a 1969 ploy to gain sympathy from the British subjects, Buckingham Palace recorded a documentary entitled "The Royal Family," depicting the day-to-day lives of the Queen and her relatives. This only served to further alienate the crown from the counter-cultural ideology.

Evan Beesley September 14, 2022, [dailyutahchronicle.com](http://dailyutahchronicle.com)

## 2- The Princess and the Paparazzi: How Diana's Death Changed the British Media -1-

It was 9pm on 3 March, 1994, and paparazzi photographers Mark Saunders and Glenn Harvey were sipping coffee in Kensington, west London. The pair had spent the day attempting to photograph the most famous woman in the world, without success. Then Harvey's cell rang; Princess Diana had been spotted by a contact driving into the Chelsea Harbour development with an unidentified male companion. The pair raced to the complex where Saunders gained access by lying to the duty guard about picking up an imaginary girlfriend.

Seconds later they were in hot pursuit, following Diana through red lights, driving down the wrong side of a traffic island and accelerating in front of trucks, until she began turning into the entrance of Kensington Palace. Harvey leapt from the vehicle, camera in hand, and dived across the bonnet of the car, firing his camera at the Audi as it disappeared from sight. "Please, please, let that picture be sharp," he prayed. It was. Harvey's photograph of Diana driving the married millionaire art dealer Oliver Hoare into Kensington Palace at night was sold to the British tabloid *News of the World* in an exclusive deal. It caused a sensation — a good night's work for the paparazzi pair. This was doubtless a scenario Diana experienced on a regular basis — until the moment, in a Paris underpass three years later, the pursuit would turn fatal. The speeding car carrying Diana away from the paparazzi crashed into a pillar, killing her and her then fiancée Dodi al-Fayed. At her funeral in September 1997, her brother Charles Spencer left mourners in no doubt who he blamed, describing his sister as "the most hunted person of the modern age." "She would want us today to pledge ourselves to protecting her beloved boys William and Harry from a similar fate," he said. "We will not allow them to suffer the anguish that used regularly to drive you to tearful despair."

*The Princess and the Paparazzi: How Diana's Death Changed the British Media*, Kate Samuelson, Aug 27, 2017, [time.com](http://time.com)

### 3- “Editors couldn’t get enough of her” A

In 1961, TIME explained the relatively new term “paparazzi” to its readers, comparing them to streetwalkers because “they cling to their place in society.” The article helped popularize the word synonymous today with the invasive photographers who pursue their celebrity quarry by any means necessary. “No one is safe [from them], not even royalty,” the 1961 article explained.

In the late 1960s, media mogul Rupert Murdoch entered the British newspaper industry and bought failing broadsheet the *Sun*. Knowing that the poorly-resourced paper would not beat its competitors on news, it turned its focus to features and, as people were watching television in ever-increasing numbers, centred its attention on the lives of actors both on and off-screen. “The content of his papers shifted towards a fascination with the sex and love lives of the famous,” wrote Kim McNamara in *Paparazzi: Media Practices and Celebrity Culture*. Other papers followed the *Sun*’s lead, including the *News of the World* – shut down in 2011 in the aftermath of Britain’s phone hacking scandal – which transformed from a broadsheet into a tabloid in 1984

Tabloid newspapers, known as ‘red tops,’ developed into a staple in British society, with a unique reputation of being both rude and funny. Over the past half-century or so, tabloids have been credited with holding a great deal of influence over the British public. As well as there being a long tradition of Murdoch’s papers backing the winning side in general elections, tabloids were credited with creating the public mood that led the U.K. to leave the European Union in the Brexit vote last year. However, the influence of tabloids was called into question following the U.K.’s snap election on June 8, when Conservative Prime Minister Theresa May – backed by all but one major tabloid – failed to secure an increased majority. “I think there are questions over the influence the popular newspapers have now and will continue to have in the future,” said Rodgers.

*The Princess and the Paparazzi: How Diana's Death Changed the British Media*, Kate Samuelson, Aug 27, 2017, time.com

### 4- “Editors couldn’t get enough of her” - B

The advent of the tabloid newspaper, kicked off by the *Sun* in the late 60s, created a demand for paparazzi shots and by the mid-1980s – when a recently-married Diana Spencer and Prince Charles began carrying out their first public engagements together – the celebrity image was a staple in U.K. print media. Diana steadily developed into an international style icon, beloved by the British public who christened her the ‘People’s Princess’.

After an estimated 750 million people tuned in to watch Diana’s wedding to Charles, paparazzi began documenting her every move. The Princess of Wales steadily became the most photographed person in the world.

Legal protection for the royal family prior to Diana’s death was feeble. The Princess of Wales sued a media company just once at the height of her fame: Mirror Group Newspapers in 1993, for printing clandestine pictures of her exercising in a gym. “Princess Diana’s decision [to sue] marks a new approach by the royal family, which has traditionally resisted using the law to hit back,” the BBC reported contemporaneously. The case was settled outside of court and Diana avoided testifying.

Even though Diana generally shied away from pursuing legal action against invasive photographers, she was unquestionably distressed and humiliated by the paparazzi’s endless pursuit of her. In the year before her death she would increasingly confront some of her most relentless hunters, famously screaming at one: “You make my life hell!”. But her pursuers, including Saunders and Harvey, who documented their quest in *Dicing With Di*, in which they compare themselves to “big game hunters of another age,” felt no sympathy for her. Some of her most dogged stalkers even nicknamed her tearful confrontations “loon attacks” and would grimly compare and contrast the times that they had been personally “looned”. “A worse kind of loon attack was when Diana just stood dead still, eyes welling with tears, head down, giving the silent treatment.

When Diana died during a car crash in Paris in August 1997, and jurors ruled at her inquest that she was “unlawfully killed” by both the reckless driving of their chauffeur and the paparazzi who were chasing her, it was a wakeup call for Britain’s press. A **Gallup poll** conducted in 1997 found that 43% of the U.K. public held photographers “extremely” responsible for the fatal smash, whereas 33% of the country found the chauffeur to be equally culpable. Rodgers, who was working for the BBC at the time of Diana’s death, described the public displays of emotion at her funeral as “incredible. You saw people weeping openly in the streets in a way I had never seen before and that was a real change,” he said. “If anyone asked me when Britain’s stiff upper lip ended, I would have said then.”

*The Princess and the Paparazzi: How Diana's Death Changed the British Media*, Kate Samuelson, Aug 27, 2017, time.com

## 6- Privacy and protecting the princes – A-

Things changed dramatically for Britain's press and photographers after Diana's death. "People accepted that what happened to Diana was wrong and, as a consequence, new notions of privacy which had been historically alien to us were applied," said Mark Stephens, a media law specialist with the firm Howard Kennedy, who represented James Hewitt when allegations of his affair with Diana first emerged. Laws of personal privacy prior to Diana's death "did not exist, except in exceptional circumstances," he added. "Privacy only existed in places like a doctor's surgery, a confessional, a marital bed or the death bed." The Protection from Harassment Act (PHA) was introduced the year Diana died, and the areas of the act that may have helped her "did not come into force until June 16 1997, two and a half months before her death and, for all practical purposes, too late," said media law specialist and barrister Robin Callender Smith. Only after Diana's death did the PHA become the "go-to celebrity remedy against the paparazzi and the media generally."

After Diana's death, the Press Complaints Commission (PCC) beefed up its Editor's Code of Practice to create what it called the "toughest set of press regulations anywhere in Europe." From January 1998, the use of long-lens photography "to take pictures of people in private places without their consent" was deemed "unacceptable." In addition, it defined precisely what constituted private places – "public or private property where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy" – for the first time. The revision also included a clause which stated that an editor would be held responsible for publishing material obtained through persistent pursuit, "regardless of whether the material had been obtained by the newspaper's staff or by freelancers."

The most significant – and the strictest – amendment to the Code concerned the protection of children's privacy, "introduced simply because of the way in which Harry, and particularly William, were being pursued while they were at school," Mike Dodd, the Press Association news agency's in-house media law specialist, told TIME. The protection of the Code was extended to all children while they were in education, rather than just those under the age of 16. A requirement was also added, which stated: "Where material about the private life of a child is published, there must be justification for publication other than the fame, notoriety or position of his or her parents or guardian."

In spite of the colossal public interest following the death of their mother, photo agencies knew better than to take unofficial photographs of William and Harry, then aged 15 and 12, and risk damaging relations with the palace. "We weren't going to jeopardise that relationship. The princes were totally off limits and understandably," said Christian Barrett, the production manager at Rex by Shutterstock who was working at U.K. Press, a small, royal-focused pictures agency, at the time of Diana's death. "It left a huge gap in our market though, and as a company we suffered. Without access to Diana, William or Harry, things changed enormously." As a consequence of the Code tightening, very few unofficial photographs of William and Harry can be found during their teenage years and some of the best-known snaps – William cooking a chicken paella at his Eton boarding school or Harry posing with his housemaster's dogs – are highly staged.

*The Princess and the Paparazzi: How Diana's Death Changed the British Media*, Kate Samuelson, Aug 27, 2017, time.com

## 9- Diana's sons learn to feed the beast

It can appear today as if little has changed. A stern **letter** published in 2015 written by royal communications secretary Jason Knauf thanked “British media organisations for their policy of not publishing unauthorised photos of their children,” but condemned actions of relentless paparazzi. They are “going to increasingly extreme lengths to observe and monitor Prince George’s movements and covertly capture images of him to sell to the handful of international media titles still willing to pay for them,” Knauf wrote in his letter, citing an example of an unnamed paparazzi who waited outside a children’s play area in the hope of snapping the prince, then aged three. Knauf declined TIME’s request for an interview.

At the same time, the media landscape has witnessed a remarkable shift; celebrities are increasingly turning to social media to control their own publicity brand, breaking their own news before the media has a chance to. “Social media has enabled celebrities to gain back control from the press,” said Frith. “It has given them the option to only post things that they want to post, and if they have deals with brands they can do it themselves – they don’t need the help of magazines and newspapers so much.”

The royal family is similarly employing a potent social media strategy, turning to platforms including Twitter (where it has 3.15 million followers) and Facebook (where it boasts 3.8 million ‘likes’) to release new photographs of press favorites including the Queen, Prince George and Princess Charlotte. This redistribution of power has caused tension between the palace and the traditional media. “Kensington Palace thinks they can control it all themselves. They want to ignore newspapers — but the newspapers aren’t going anywhere. We’ll still be here when Twitter’s finished,” the *Sun*’s royal photographer Arthur Edwards told the *Financial Times* last year.

*The Princess and the Paparazzi: How Diana's Death Changed the British Media*, Kate Samuelson, Aug 27, 2017, time.com

## 8- Privacy and protecting the princes -C-

In winter 2009, the royals consulted with Gerrard Tyrrell, a senior lawyer specialising in privacy and media law. Senior aides then told the press that the family would no longer tolerate photographers using telephoto lenses to capture pictures of them in “private” situations, and warned that the royals would be prepared to take legal action against photographers conducting what they viewed to be “intrusive and unacceptable behaviour.” Over the same Christmas period, and following the family’s strict warning, the photo agency Rex agreed to pay £10,000 (\$13,000) to charity in lieu of damages after it syndicated photographs of Middleton – then, William’s girlfriend – playing tennis at Restormel Manor in Cornwall, southwestern England. The pictures were published overseas, but not in the U.K..

In a similar case, six people went on trial accused of invasion of privacy and complicity in May this year after a French magazine published topless photos of Middleton on holiday in Provence, France, in 2012. William’s declaration, which was read out in court by the couple’s lawyer, said the images were “all the more painful” in light of his mother’s public battle with invasive photographers. A statement from St James’s Palace said the photos were “reminiscent of the worst excesses of the press and paparazzi during the life of Diana, Princess of Wales.”

Since 2009, the royals have annually issued an anti-harassment notice to the press and media photographers, reminding them of their right to privacy (last year, Harry’s communications secretary issued a **strongly-worded statement** regarding the harassment of his girlfriend, Meghan Markle). “I’ve seen a lot of changes during my time in the industry,” said David Taylor, CEO of Back Grid photo agency, formerly known as Xposure. “These legal rottweilers now come at us and say things like ‘we want this,’ ‘we want that,’ ‘we want to make sure you don’t publish this picture.’ You now have to be really careful that you’re not doing things deemed as harassment or surveillance.”

*The Princess and the Paparazzi: How Diana's Death Changed the British Media*, Kate Samuelson, Aug 27, 2017, time.com

## 7- Privacy and protecting the princes -B-

When William and Harry left school, media attention towards the princes became frenzied again, reaching a hysterical climax when William began dating Kate Middleton in 2003. Clandestine photos of the royals in private places began to make front pages around the world. In 2005, when Harry was photographed at a friend's costume party wearing a swastika armband, the press did not hold back. "Harry the Nazi," read the *Sun's* exclusive front page, and the palace swiftly issued a statement saying the prince "apologized for any offence or embarrassment he has caused." In 2012, Harry was involved in an equally notorious scandal when U.S. site TMZ.com published two pictures of him playing strip billiards in Las Vegas with six young women. "Well, they do call it close protection: Prince Harry pictured in Las Vegas pool party jacuzzi with a VERY relaxed bodyguard (who failed to stop girl taking naked snaps)" read MailOnline's **contemporaneous headline**.

This media attention towards the younger royals hotted up, the palace upped their game in the fight for their right to privacy. On one occasion, this culminated in a literal fight; when Harry was 20 he was involved in a scuffle with photographers outside a London nightclub which left one with a cut lip. "Harry was constantly ambushed outside nightclubs," Dickie Arbiter, royal commentator and author of *On Duty With the Queen: My Time as a Buckingham Palace Press Secretary*, told TIME. "He was looked upon as fair game, which was a great pity. There was a new breed of photographers and they certainly hadn't learned any lessons from what happened to Diana in 1997."

*The Princess and the Paparazzi: How Diana's Death Changed the British Media*, Kate Samuelson, Aug 27, 2017, time.com

## 5- British royal family documentary, 'banned' for decades, is leaked onto YouTube

An infamous 1969 fly-on-the-wall documentary about the British royal family, supposedly banned by Queen Elizabeth II for decades for giving the public an overly intimate view of the royals, has been mysteriously leaked onto YouTube.

The film provided an unprecedented look inside the royal households and was watched by millions when it first aired on the BBC. But it was subsequently stashed in the corporation's archives, reportedly at the request of Buckingham Palace, and hasn't been aired since the 1970s. It isn't known how the program, titled "Royal Family," was unearthed or who posted it to YouTube. The video was swiftly removed from the video-sharing platform after a copyright request was made.

In the film, the monarch reportedly compares the US ambassador to a gorilla. "There was a gorilla. I had the most terrible trouble ... he had short body, long arms," the PA Media news agency quoted her as saying. Other, more mundane scenes, showing the royals eating together and the Queen rummaging in her purse to buy six-year-old Prince Edward candy in a shop, were considered groundbreaking for showing the famously opaque family in a new light.

The 110-minute film was watched by 30 million people in 1969, and remains one of the UK's most-viewed television broadcasts. The BBC estimates more than 350 million watched it worldwide. Its production was more recently depicted in Netflix series "The Crown," which portrayed the royals' displeasure at having TV cameras inside their premises.

A BBC spokesperson declined to comment to CNN on the video's sudden re-appearance, but the corporation did not dispute reports that it had submitted the copyright claim that led to its removal from YouTube. "When a copyright claim is filed we remove the content immediately, as is the case with this upload," YouTube told CNN.

Buckingham Palace declined to comment.

The film was made after the royals granted the BBC unique access to film their everyday lives. The family was increasingly seen as being out of touch with regular society in the 1960s, and the program was considered an attempt to regain relevance.

Princess Anne, the Queen's daughter, later spoke of her unhappiness with the program. "I never liked the idea of the royal family film. I always thought it was a rotten idea," she said. "The attention that had been brought on one ever since one was a child, you just didn't want anymore. The last thing you needed was greater access," Anne added.

## 11- Tony Blair: Meeting with Queen 'Difficult' After Princess Diana's Death

In an exclusive interview with "This Week's" Christiane Amanpour, former UK prime minister Tony Blair said it was difficult for him to convince the Queen of England to acknowledge the wave of loss and anger following Princess Diana's sudden death in 1997, the year Blair became prime minister.

"Partly because of the loss, but partly because of the circumstances in -- in which she died, there was also a sense of anger. Now, some of that anger was directed at the paparazzi, but some of it, I think, was -- was directed at the establishment that people felt had let her down in some way," Blair told Amanpour. "In the end, the queen did that (honored Diana), I think, magnificently," but he added that the task to talk to her was difficult. "It was difficult for me because I was a new prime minister and I didn't really know the queen. And, you know, it was -- I was very nervous in and around her, as you would be."

In his new autobiography, "A Journey: My Political Life," Blair defines Diana as a person who "captured the essence of an era and held it in her hand. ... She was extraordinarily captivating," he wrote. "She'd almost become such public property -- I mean if you read the accounts of press pursuing her and paparazzi and so on, you know, I get a certain amount, or a political leader gets a certain amount, a film star gets a certain amount," Blair said. "I don't think we had any idea what it was like for her. It was just a constant pursuit."

Huma Khan *September 1, 2010*, abcnews.go.com

## 10- The Princess and the Paparazzi: How Diana's Death Changed the British Media – 2 -

Stephens believes the request of the royal family for privacy has in some ways gone too far. "We've experienced a pendulum effect in Britain," he said. "We went from a position where there was no privacy law in effect in this country, to going completely the other way after Diana's death. People realized the media had overdone it [and we've ended up] with highly restrictive privacy laws." The U.K. has some of the strictest privacy laws in the world, Stephens added, especially in comparison to the U.S. "Pictures of celebrities on the Côte d'Azur appear regularly in American publications which can't appear here," he said. "There is this ridiculous double standard where you can turn up at a Hudson news stand at the British Airways terminal in New York and buy American editions of publications with images that are not compatible with English law.

In the 20 years that have passed since Diana's death an unseemly culture of media invasiveness still exists, but the battle lines have been redrawn. British press generally respect what Stephens dubbed the 'red carpet rule': an unofficial agreement that photographing the royals is fair game on official engagements, but an expectation of privacy reigns during the interim periods. Stringent privacy laws mean paparazzi are wary of snapping the younger royals for risk of receiving an IPSO warning or fine, so much so that unofficial photos of the family no longer have a market, according to Rooke. "These days, picture desks will ask photographers and newspapers will ask agencies certain questions about celebrity photos; the circumstances of how the pictures were taken, where the photographer was standing, what lens they were taken on," said Down. "This process didn't necessarily start immediately after Diana's death, but evolved because of it."

But the regular warnings released to the media by the palace, insisting that they respect the family's privacy – whether that is George at school or Harry spending time with Markle – suggest things have not moved on as far as the press would like to believe. A source close to the palace told TIME that while the relationship between the media and the royal family "is obviously much better than it was in the 90s," there remain "some things that haven't changed as much as people think."

At the same time, the proliferation of social media has indelibly altered the notion of privacy. When people independently choose to broadcast their most intimate moments, the lines between what is and is not acceptable media access becomes increasingly blurred. The media must operate within this ambiguous territory, without overstepping perceived notions of privacy, yet also serving the appetite of editors and consumers.

In his eulogy, Charles Spencer pledged that Will and Harry's "blood family" would do all they could to protect the boys, and by repeatedly fighting for their privacy, the royals have adhered to that promise. Although certain members of the press and media law community may argue that the extent of the family's expectation of privacy is unrealistic, by repeatedly demanding respect and decorum from photographers and taking action against those individuals who take advantage of their high status, the royals have helped impose a collective conscience on the press. That amongst many other things, is Diana's legacy.

## **15- Intimate BBC documentary banned by furious Queen and banished to its vaults**

The Royal Family's every move was recorded over 12 months in the 1960s and made into a BBC documentary which, after being shown once, was ordered to be hidden in the BBC's vaults

Since the moment Princess Elizabeth arrived at Westminster Abbey at the tender age of 25 for her coronation, beginning her life's work as monarch, her every public move has been recorded. With television in its infancy, the idea of beaming the moment the new Queen was to be crowned live to people's homes was unheard of before June 2, 1953. The first coronation to be shown on telly was a massive success with 27million people in the UK gathering around sets - many of which were hired for the occasion, with many more watching abroad.

Four years later and the Queen's Christmas address switched from radio to television for the first time as her majesty embraced the technology She said to those watching at home: "It is inevitable that I should seem a rather remote figure to many of you. A successor to the Kings and Queens of history; someone whose face may be familiar in newspapers and films but who never really touches your personal lives. But now at least for a few minutes I welcome you to the peace of my own home."

However the Queen was not always as welcoming to cameras as on that day. In the 1960s the BBC proposed to the monarch a fly on the wall documentary showing the Royals as they are behind closed doors. Initially uncertain, the Queen eventually allowed the cameras to roll and for 12 months a film crew followed the family's every move. The vast amount of film roll was eventually compressed into a two-hour documentary created by Richard Cawston and simply entitled Royal Family.

People watching at home saw the Queen, Prince Philip and other members of the family chatting at the breakfast table, relaxing together in the living room and even her majesty buying her then four-year-old son Edward an ice cream. Another clip shows the family having a barbecue, with Charles chopping lettuce for a salad. A massive 37million people watched the documentary on June 21, 1969, to great review - except for the Royals themselves. Shortly afterwards the Queen changed her mind about the film, deciding it was too "too intrusive" and ordered for it to be kept hidden in the BBC vaults.

The royals reportedly did not enjoy the experience of being filmed and that same year there was no recorded Christmas message. [Princess Anne](#) was also among those not to enjoy the experience, saying: "I never liked the idea of Royal Family, I thought it was a rotten idea. The attention which had been brought upon one ever since one was a child, you just didn't need any more."

In the ABC documentary, *The Story of the Royals*, a number of royal experts debated why the footage was banished. Royal biographer Hugo Vickers said: "Some people say that this would open the floodgates, and therefore after that all the sort of tabloid interest in them [would come after] They would want to know more, and more, and more."

Snippets of the film have been released for special occasions, including Prince Philip's 90th birthday and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The Queen also allowed the National Portrait Gallery to play a small clip.

Despite the royals appearing to want to forget the documentary was ever shown, a whole new audience was introduced to it in 2019 thanks to *The Crown*.

In the same year the whole documentary was leaked on YouTube , with thousands of fans tuning in to watch.

However, the video was swiftly removed with the page showing a message from YouTube explaining that it had been taken down following a copyright complaint from the BBC.

Antony Thrower, 9 Sep 2022, *The Mirror*

### 13- Why Princess Diana's 1995 BBC Interview Shocked the World

The interview, in which Princess Diana talked about her struggles with mental health and her marriage, rocked the royal family and generated empathy among the public.

Princess Diana's BBC interview with Martin Bashir, "An Interview with HRH The Princess of Wales," aired on November 20, 1995 on the documentary series "Panorama." Filmed in Diana's sitting room at Kensington Palace, the explosive interview made history because of the frank way Diana divulged intimate details of life as a royal and her marriage, including her struggles with postnatal depression, bulimia, and, most shockingly, her husband's affair with Camilla Parker Bowles.

It was the final blow to Charles and Diana's troubled relationship. In 2021, revelations about the deceitful way Bashir obtained the interview made headlines, bringing Diana back into the spotlight 24 years after untimely death, her and raising new questions about the media's role in the tragically short life of "the people's princess."

#### **Diana Reveals Mental Health Struggles**

In the interview, Diana discussed the lack of support she received from the royal family when she was experiencing postpartum depression: "Well maybe I was the first person ever to be in this family who ever had a depression or was ever openly tearful," she said. "And obviously that was daunting, because if you've never seen it before how do you support it?" She said her struggles quickly led to her being written off: "It gave everybody a wonderful new label: Diana's unstable and Diana's mentally unbalanced. And unfortunately, that seems to have stuck."

Diana admitted to cutting herself and openly discussed her bulimia. She blamed her heartache on her failing relationship: "It was a symptom of what was going on in my marriage. I was crying out for help, but giving the wrong signals, and people were using my bulimia as a coat on a hanger: They decided that was the problem—Diana was unstable."

Her candor was revolutionary for a royal: "No one had ever heard of a royal talking about bulimia or self-harm. This was Diana smashing taboos in these shocking revelations," says Katie Nicholl, author of *The New Royals Queen Elizabeth's Legacy and the future of The Crown*.

Both Charles and Diana had engaged with the press about the breakdown of their marriage. Diana had provided information to Andrew Morton for his biography *Diana: Her True Story* and Charles confessed to adultery when questioned by Jonathan Dimbleby, author of *The Prince of Wales: A Biography*. But this was the first time Diana had directly named Camilla Parker Bowles as the "third person" in her marriage.

Diana told Bashir: "There were three of us in this marriage, so it was a bit crowded." She went on to admit her own affair with former army officer James Hewitt, who had served as her and her sons' riding instructor. She told Bashir she was "very let down" when Hewitt contributed to a tell-all book about their affair, *Princess in Love*. "It was shocking because this was Diana in her own words and what she was saying was incredibly explosive," says Nicholl. "It was Diana taking control of the narrative in front of the camera for the very first time."

#### **Diana on Her Husband's Future As King Charles III**

When asked if Charles wanted to rule, Diana told Bashir, "there was always conflict on that subject with him when we discussed it," and that "being King would be a little bit more suffocating. And because I know the character, I would think that the top job, as I call it, would bring enormous limitations to him, and I don't know whether he could adapt to that."

"Her casting doubt on Charles's ability to be a good king was hugely damaging to the institution," says Nicholl. "There is a fine balance between using TV as a medium to royal advantage and not letting too much daylight into the mystique of monarchy."

*Why Princess Diana's 1995 BBC Interview Shocked the World*, Jessica Pearce Rotondi, November 11 2022, <https://www.history.com>

## 14- Fallout From Diana's BBC Interview

Though Charles and Diana had been separated since 1992, the 1995 BBC interview was the final blow to the marriage. “There were both personal and political considerations,” says Carolyn Harris, historian, author, and royal commentator. “On a personal level, there was a strain on the queen’s grandsons Williams and Harry. On the political level, Diana was critiquing Charles’s suitability to be king.”

A month after it was filmed, Queen Elizabeth II sent letters to Charles and Diana urging them to finalize their divorce. “The Queen could see the damage it was causing to the monarchy as an institution. It was a case of Elizabeth II putting the reputation and preservation of the monarchy above all else,” Nicholl says.

It also deeply upset Diana’s family and those closest to her—including Prince William. “It was one of the few times she fell out with William,” Nicholl says. In 2021, Prince William issued a public statement about the interview, saying “it was a major contribution to making my parents’ relationship worse and has since hurt countless others.” He requested it never air again.

### Bashir Used 'Deceitful Methods' to Obtain Interview

The interview was conducted with the upmost secrecy, with equipment smuggled into Kensington palace and the Board of Governors of the BBC strategically left in the dark about its planning and execution. In 2020, The BBC hired Judge Lord Dyson to conduct an investigation into allegations that Bashir misled Diana in order to get the interview. The Dyson Report found Bashir employed “deceitful methods” to gain Diana’s trust, including forging bank statements that fueled her paranoia that she was under surveillance: “Diana was being encouraged to believe that the palace was carefully monitoring her conversations and her movements,” says Harris.

In 2021, Prince William condemned the way the interview was obtained, saying: “The BBC’s failures contributed significantly to her fear, paranoia and isolation that I remember from those final years with her.”

“While she always wanted to talk, the way Bashir booked the interview is so discredited that his actions have to be taken into account,” says Nicholl. “We don’t know how much the fears he instilled in her led her to doing the interview or whether she would have gone as far as she went had she not been deceived—that is the big question.”

Diana died in a car crash just two years after the BBC interview, making her words loom even larger in public remembrances of “the people’s princess.”

“Diana was able to connect to the public because of the combination of glamour and vulnerability,” says Harris. “One of the reasons many people felt they could relate to Diana was that they felt as though they knew her because she spoke quite openly of the challenges she faced.”

*Why Princess Diana’s 1995 BBC Interview Shocked the World*, Jessica Pearce Rotondi, November 11 2022,  
<https://www.history.com>

## 12- Tony Blair says the queen ‘responded perfectly’ after Princess Diana’s death

Tony Blair was only a few months into his tenure as British prime minister in 1997 when he got a close look at how Queen Elizabeth II responded to a tragedy that reverberated around the world when Princess Diana was killed in a car crash. Blair, 69, recalled to Savannah Guthrie on TODAY Tuesday how he urged the queen to speak out in the wake of Diana's tragic death, and how she handled the nationwide turmoil. He shared his memories as the late monarch's coffin was set to be transported to London on Tuesday following her death last week at 96.

"It was difficult, but here's the thing, she was trying to balance what she had to do as a queen and what she had to do as a grandmother," Blair said. "And she was acutely aware that she had two young, young children who had lost their mother in terrible circumstances, and who were grieving and who needed to be looked after." In addition to consoling her grandsons, Prince Harry and Prince William, the queen also worked to comfort the nation. "In the end she understood, because always her duty came first, that she had to respond to this extraordinary outpouring of grief about Princess Diana, but grief, and unlike her own passing now, mixed with — maybe anger's too strong a word — but a sense that something had happened that shouldn't have happened, and that Diana had been taken from people who really did love her," Blair said.

"She really didn't need me to tell her. She sensed it, and then she responded. And when she responded, she responded perfectly. She got the tone absolutely right."

That ability to have her finger on the pulse of the country lasted right to the end of her 70-year reign, according to Blair. He had lunch with her only a few months ago.

Scott Stump, Sept. 13, 2022, [today.com](https://www.today.com)



Diana Infamous BBC interview, 1995



Camilla Parker Bowles in her garden, 1995



Wedding Camilla and Charles, 2005



Prince Harry and Meghan Markle engagement picture, 2017



Christmas card, 2019



Princess Diana, 1993



Diana and Kate's engagement pictures (1981 and 2010)



Diana last's holiday with Mohamed Al Fayed, 1997



Princess Diana, 1991



Netflix Documentary, Harry and Meghan, 2022



Charles 70Th Birthday picture, 2018



Ski Holidays, 2016



Mustic Holidays, Kate and William 2019



Last Day of the Jubilee, Last Balcony 2022



Trooping the Colors, balcony picture, 2023



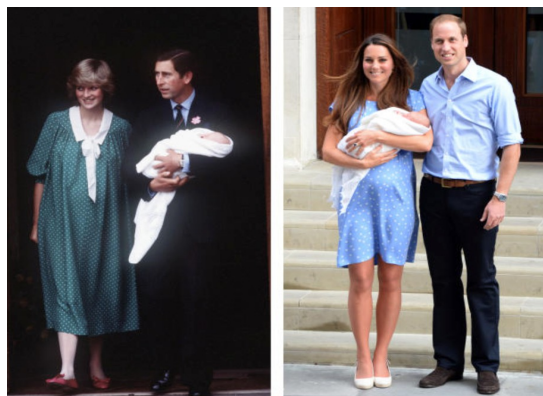
Trooping the Colors, 1<sup>st</sup> day of the Jubilee, 2022



Introducing the Royal Babies  
 Prince Arche May 2019, Prince Louis April 2023, Princesse Charlotte May 2015, Prince George July 2013



Trooping the colors, balcony picture, 2019



Prince William (1980) and Priince George introduction (2013)



Presentation of Prince Harry (1980) and Prince Louis (2018)



William and Kate wedding Kiss, 2010



Trooping the colors, balcony, 2023



William and Kate, Ski Holidays, 2008



King Charles III and Queen Camilla, 2023



Meghan and Harry wedding Kiss, 2018



Christmas Card, 2019



Wedding day, William and Kate, 2010



Wedding day, Harry and Meghan, 2018



Wedding portrait, William and Kate, 2010



Wedding portrait, Harry and Meghan, 2018