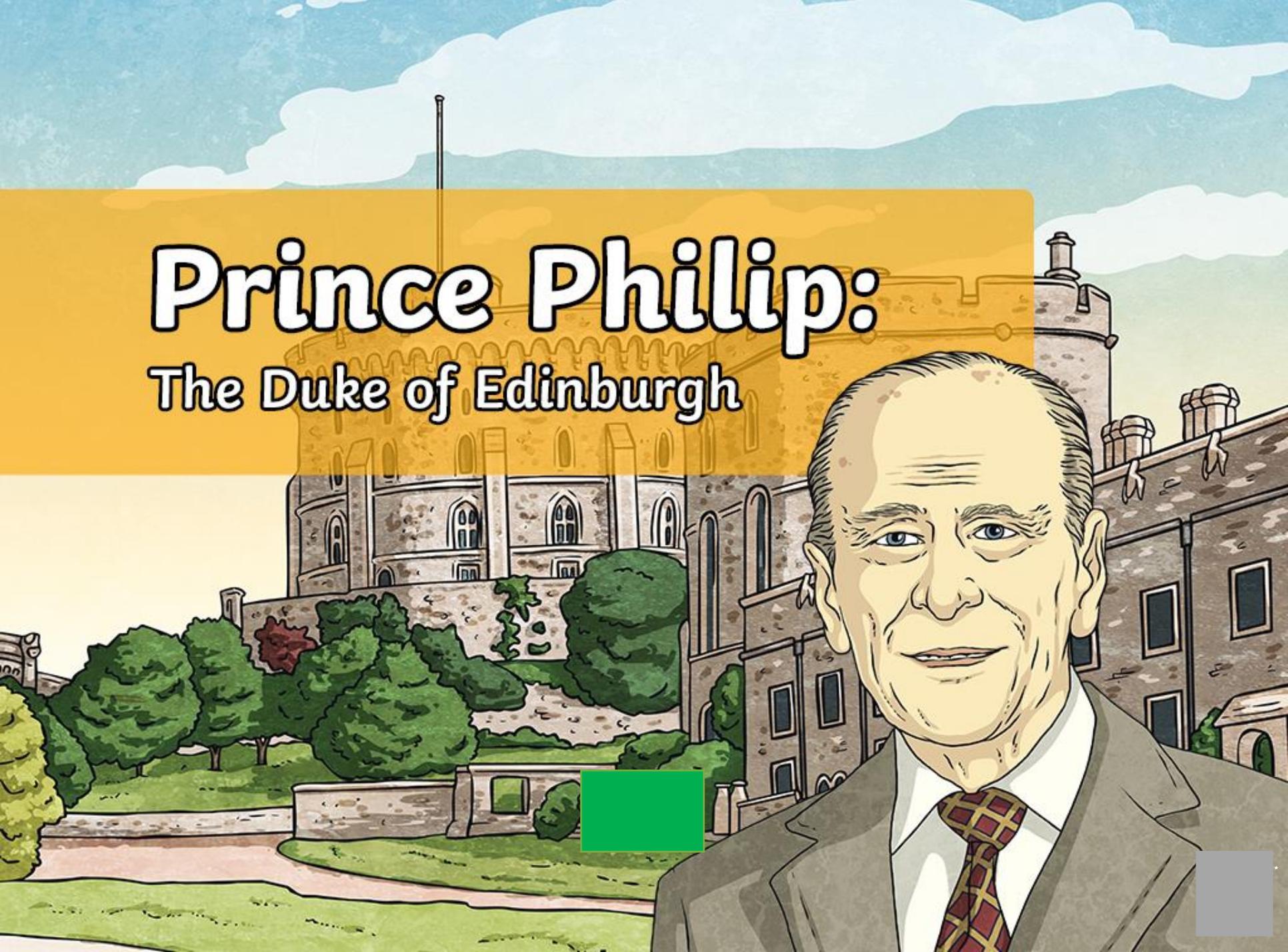


# Prince Philip:

## The Duke of Edinburgh



# Background

Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, was the husband of Queen Elizabeth II. He was the longest-serving, oldest ever spouse of a reigning British monarch, and the longest-lived male member of the British Royal Family.

Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, was born Phillip Mountbatten, Prince of Greece, in Corfu, on 10th June 1921.

His father was Prince Andrew of Greece; his mother was Princess Alice of Battenberg.



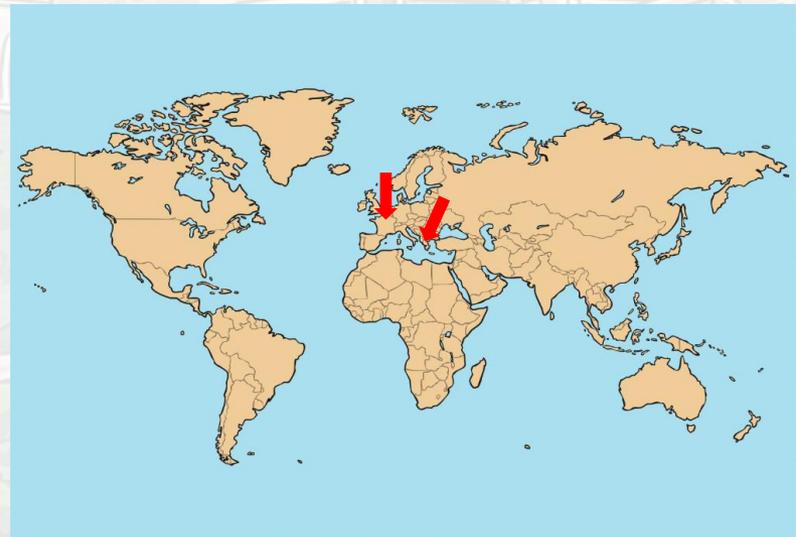
# Early Life

Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, had four older sisters: Princess Margarita (1905-81); Princess Theodora (1906-69); Princess Cécile (1911-37) and Princess Sophie (1914-2001).

In the early 1920s, Greece was politically unstable and in 1922 the King of Greece, Constantine I, was forced to abdicate (leave) the throne.

The British King, George V, ordered that a Royal Navy ship should evacuate the family, and Philip was carried to safety in a cot made from an orange box in December 1922. He was just 18 months old.

Following their departure from Greece, the Mountbatten family settled in Paris.



# Education

Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, started school in France but came to England to attend Cheam Preparatory School in 1928. He left at 12 to spend a year at Salem School in south Germany.

He then went to Gordonstoun School in Morayshire (which all three of his sons also attended); he became Head of the School and Captain of Hockey and Cricket.

He also took part in sailing expeditions around the coast of Scotland, and to Norway.

# Fascinating Fact

One of Prince Philip's teachers wrote in his school report that he was a "rugged, boisterous, full of energy, remarkably polite" boy!



# Naval Career

Joined the Royal Navy as a cadet; he was awarded a prize as the best cadet of his entry.

1939

He was appointed to the destroyer HMS Wallace.

1941

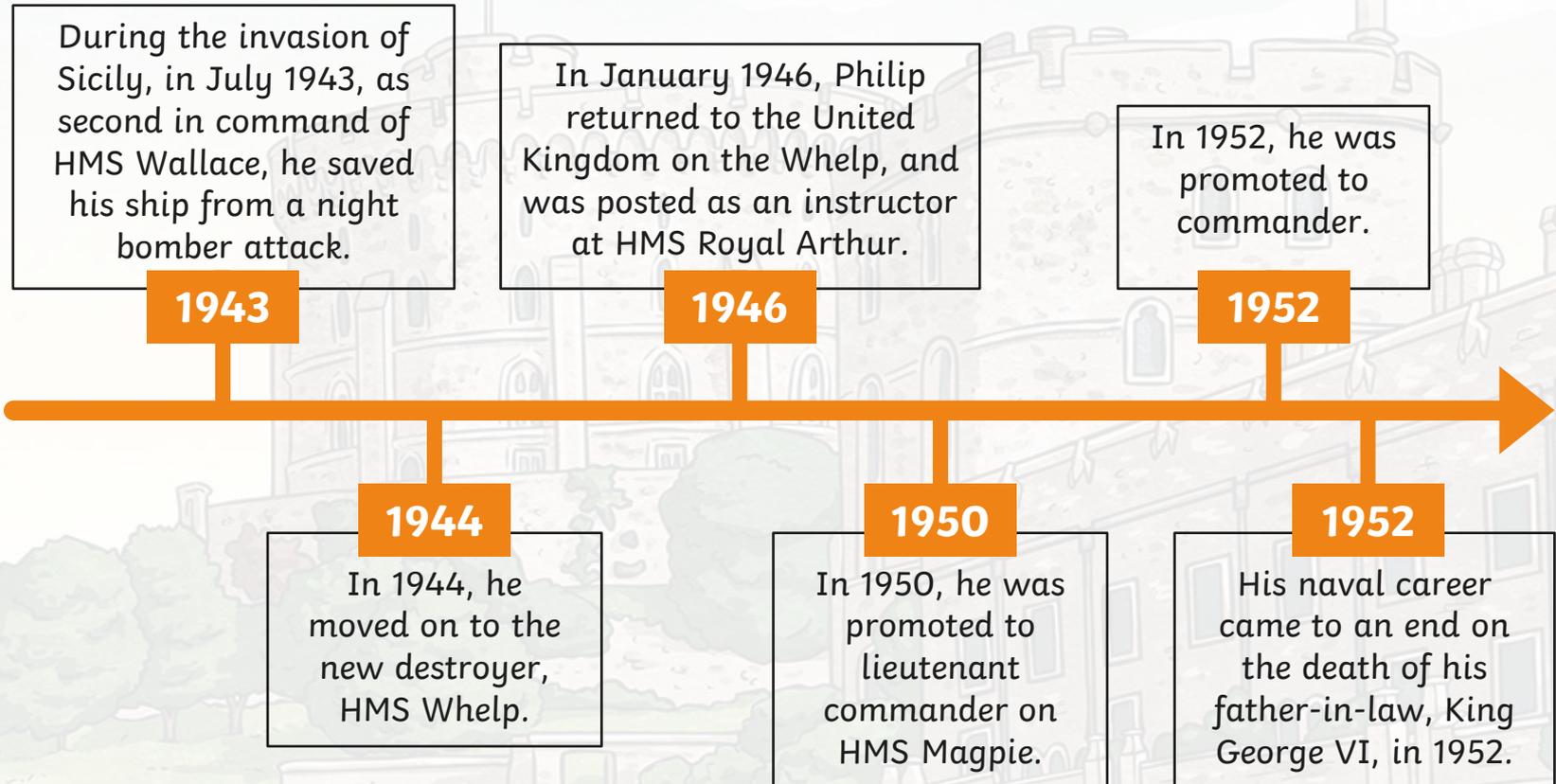
In October, He was appointed first lieutenant of HMS Wallace at the unusually early age of 21.

1942

1940  
Joined the battleship HMS Ramillies as a midshipman.

1942  
In July, he was promoted to lieutenant.

# Naval Career

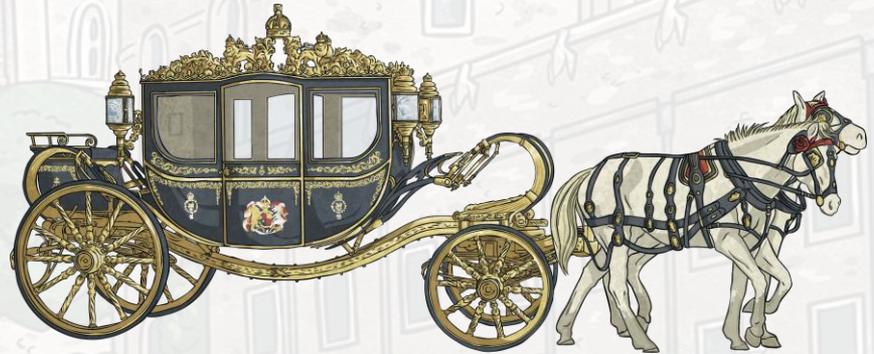


# Marriage and Family

The engagement of Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten to Princess Elizabeth was announced in July 1947 and the marriage took place in Westminster Abbey on 20<sup>th</sup> November.

Shortly before the wedding, the bridegroom was made Duke of Edinburgh and appointed a Knight of the Garter by King George.

The Queen and Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, have four children: Prince Charles; Princess Anne; Prince Andrew and Prince Edward.



# The Duke of Edinburgh Award

- The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a youth award, founded in 1956 by Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh that has since expanded to other countries.
- The award recognises young adults for completing a series of tasks which help develop skills for life and work.
- Participation in the award has grown every year since 1956.
- As of 2019, roughly 450,000 young people were taking part in Duke of Edinburgh's Award.
- Over 5 million young people in the UK have taken part in the award in the UK since 1956 and 8 million worldwide!



# Activities and Interests

- Prince Philip was president of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) from 1981 to 1996.
- The Duke of Edinburgh served as chancellor of the Universities of Cambridge (1976-2011), Edinburgh (1952-2011), Salford (1967-91) and Wales (1948-76).
- He is also a Life governor of King's College, London and patron of London Guildhall University.
- The Prince took up polo while serving in Malta and played regularly until 1971. He has also represented Great Britain at several European and World Four-in-Hand Driving Championships.
- He was president of the International Equestrian Federation from 1964 to 1986.
- The Duke was president of Central Council of Physical Recreation (CCPR), admiral of the Royal Yacht Squadron, and has twice served as president of the Marylebone Cricket Club (the MCC).
- He was also the Grand Master of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators of the British Empire, and Master of Trinity House.

