

Royalty and Australian society

Records relating to the
British monarchy held in Canberra



Guides to records include the material known to be relevant to their subject area but unless otherwise stated they are not necessarily a complete or definitive guide to all relevant material in the collection. If you become aware of relevant material that is not included in this Guide please advise a reference officer in any office of the National Archives so that appropriate additions to the Guide can be considered.

The National Archives reviews its collection to confirm the value of records for research, evidential and other purposes or to identify, in consultation with agencies, records for destruction. At the time of publication all the records described in this guide were present in the Archives' collection. However, it is possible that some of the records may be destroyed if they are reviewed and considered not to be of enduring value. If this occurs the guide will be revised accordingly.

Records in this Guide which were less than 30 years old at the time of the Guide's preparation are included for the sake of completeness only and will usually be available for public access only when they reach 30 years of age.

At the request of the British Government, some records described in Chapter 4 of this Guide concerning the abdication of Edward VIII in 1936 will not be made available for public access until 2037. Where this applies, the records have been annotated accordingly.

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The assistance of staff of the Access Services section of the National Archives in Canberra, as well as their forbearance, is very much appreciated. The help of David Swift is particularly acknowledged.

Cover: *Young fans welcome the Queen on her arrival at Fairbairn Airport, Canberra, 1954. NAA: A1200, L25136*

CONTENTS

Introduction	5
<hr/>	
The National Archives of Australia	
The impact and meaning of the monarchy	
About this Guide	
Description of the records	
Access to the records	
Charges	
Citing the records	
Where to obtain more information	
1. Queen Victoria	17
<hr/>	
General records about Queen Victoria	
Records relating to the death of Queen Victoria	
2. King Edward VII	23
<hr/>	
General records about Edward VII	
Records relating to the death of Edward VII	
3. King George V	27
<hr/>	
Royal Visit 1901	
Coronation of George V	
General records about George V	
Death of George V	
Death of Queen Mary	
4. King Edward VIII	43
<hr/>	
Royal Visit 1920	
General records about Edward VIII	
Abdication of Edward VIII	
5. King George VI	59
<hr/>	
Royal Visit 1927	
Coronation of George VI	
General records about George VI	
Death of George VI	
6. The Duke of Gloucester	85
<hr/>	
Royal Visit 1934	
The Duke of Gloucester as Governor-General	
Royal Visit 1965	
General records about the Duke of Gloucester	

7. Proposed royal tours	101
<hr/>	
Royal Visit 1936 (King Edward VIII, King George VI)	
The Duke of Kent – Royal Visit 1934 and proposed Governor-Generalship	
Royal Visit 1949 (King George VI, Queen Elizabeth and Princess Margaret)	
Royal Visit 1952 (Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip)	
Royal Visit 1959 (Princess Margaret)	
8. Queen Elizabeth II	121
<hr/>	
Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II	
Royal Visit 1954	
Royal Visit 1963	
General records about Queen Elizabeth II	
9. Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh	155
<hr/>	
Royal Visit 1956	
Proposed Visit 1960	
Royal Visit 1962	
Royal Visit 1965	
Royal Visit 1967	
Royal Visit 1968	
10. Elizabeth, the Queen Mother	165
<hr/>	
Royal Visit 1958	
Proposed Visit 1964	
Royal Visit 1966	
11. Princess Alexandra	175
<hr/>	
Royal Visit 1959	
Royal Visit 1967	
12. Princess Marina	183
<hr/>	
Royal Visit 1964	
13. Prince Charles	187
<hr/>	
Attendance at Geelong Grammar, 1966	
Representative at Memorial Service for Prime Minister Harold Holt, 1967	

Appendixes

1. If you're keen to continue your research	191
2. Bibliography	195
3. Glossary of archival terms	199
4. Guides to the collection	203
5. Addresses and hours of opening	205
6. Addresses of other institutions	207
Notes	209

1. INTRODUCTION

The National Archives of Australia

The National Archives of Australia ensures that full and accurate records documenting Commonwealth government activities are created and kept. From this massive body of information the Archives selects, cares for and makes available to all, those records of continuing value. This collection constitutes the archives of the Commonwealth government – a vast and rich resource for the study of Australian history, Australian society and the Australian people.

The collection spans almost 200 years of Australian history. The main focus of the collection is material which documents Federal government activities since Federation in 1901. There are also significant holdings of nineteenth-century records which relate to functions that were transferred by the colonies to the Commonwealth government at the time of Federation and subsequently. The records described in this Guide are a small but significant part of the collection.

Access to the collection is provided free of charge in public reading rooms located in each capital city. Researchers are assisted by specialist reference staff and also have available to them a range of reference tools to help them identify and use the records in the collection. These reference tools include databases, guides, publications and fact sheets. Researchers unable to visit a reading room may seek information and assistance by telephone, mail, facsimile or e-mail.

More information about the Archives, the collection and the services offered to researchers is provided on the Archives' Internet site. The site contains descriptions of some of the most frequently used records in the collection and includes images of some original documents and photographs. It also provides online access to the Archives' database which contains a detailed description of the entire collection. A visit to the site will help you determine whether the Archives holds records that may assist with your research. The site also provides links to other archives in Australia. It is located at www.naa.gov.au

The impact and meaning of the monarchy

The influence of British royalty upon Australian society and culture is both widespread and profound. The monarchy is not only at the foundation of our major political institutions, it is also a social and cultural phenomenon. Kings and queens affect our dress, our conversation, and the currency in our pockets. We live in streets, towns and states named in their honour and are born and die in hospitals bearing their names. But greater than that, the existence of royalty over the past one hundred years has affected notions of who we are and the responsibilities we have. Do we die for King and Country? Shall God save the Queen?

In contemporary society, the importance of royalty to Australia is often rejected or repudiated. Healthy scepticism for institutions such as the monarchy and the continual run of 'royal scandals' documented in the tabloids make it hard today to believe in the importance of a king or queen.

But to generations of Australians the monarchy and the system it represents have been of profound significance. While the depiction and analysis of royalty are now perceived to be chiefly the domain of women's magazines, this view denies the importance of royalty to Australian society as a whole.

From Prime Minister Robert Menzies, pledging in 1963 to love the Queen until he died, to the reaction of ordinary Australians, the emotional impact of royalty has been widespread:

The expressions on the faces of people as they passed the Prince should indeed have been a field day for the psychologist. Many women came away from the Royal dais with tears streaming down their faces. Others, men and women, came past radiant with smiles bubbling over in laughter with their enthusiasm.¹

Mr Alan Treloar, of Glenferrie Road Malvern and ex Tobruk Rat, cried when he saw the Queen at the MCG ex-service rally yesterday. 'I just couldn't help it,' he said afterwards. 'The sight of our young queen makes you realise that everything you've ever fought for is worthwhile.'²

Polls taken at the time of Queen Elizabeth's royal tour in 1954 indicate that seventy five percent of Australians saw her at least once during the tour.³ For Australia's disparate and widespread population, this huge percentage is indicative of the interest generated by royalty and its importance to the community.

In contemporary Australia, where some now regard the Queen as 'a foreigner with embarrassing children'⁴ these responses may seem difficult to understand. But the devotion to the monarchy felt at the personal level has traditionally been reinforced at the highest official levels.



**Seventy-five percent of
Australians saw Queen
Elizabeth at least once
during her first visit to
Australia in 1954.**

NAA: A1773, RV1283

In 1958 huge crowds again assembled to see the Queen Mother's royal progress along Swanston Street in Melbourne.

NAA: A1766, QMV341



Former Prime Minister Robert Menzies described the importance of the monarchy to the Australian nation in the following manner:

It is a basic truth that for our Queen we have within us, sometimes unrealised until the moment of expression, the most profound and passionate feelings of loyalty and devotion. It does not require much imagination to realise that when eight million people spontaneously pour out this feeling they are engaging in a great act of common allegiance and common joy which brings them closer together and is one of the most powerful elements converting them from a mass of individuals to a great cohesive nation. In brief, the common devotion to the Throne is a part of the very cement of the whole social structure.⁵

Societal change wrought by decades of immigration and the dismissal of the Whitlam Government in 1975 are but two of the factors that have changed dramatically the meaning and significance of the monarchy for many Australians. However, its significance at the Constitutional and political levels endures, as does the emotional attachment which many individuals still feel towards the institution itself, as well as to the reigning Queen.

The records described in this Guide illustrate that while the British monarchy today may mean little to many Australians, for most of the twentieth century the nation has been imbued with a sense of loyalty, devotion and even fervour towards the monarchy the strength of which can only be appreciated by reference to the records which document the nature and closeness of the relationship between Australians and their monarch.

It is through the records described in this Guide that one develops a sense of what it meant as an ordinary Australian, forty, fifty, or ninety years ago, to mourn the death of a monarch, to rejoice at the coronation of new king or queen, or to celebrate the many royal visits to Australia this century.

In particular, it is through the immense popularity that surrounded each royal visit that the popular sentiment of both the individual and the political establishment was most effusively expressed. Through the records it describes, the Guide attempts to create an understanding of the role the monarchy has played in shaping Australia socially, culturally and politically.

About this Guide

THE SCOPE OF THE GUIDE

The breadth of records relating to royalty held by the National Archives shows how significant the monarchy has been to the past one hundred years of Australian history. This guide seeks to document, through describing a selection of relevant records, the impact of the British monarchy on Australia.

This century has seen six monarchs on the British throne:

Victoria (1837– 1901)

Edward VII (1901–10)

George V (1910–36)

Edward VIII (1936)

George VI (1936–52)

Elizabeth II (1952–)

This Guide describes records relating to each of these monarchs and the members of the royal family listed in the table below. This material includes records documenting the preparation for and reaction to royal visits to Australia, and general correspondence relating to events such as royal births, weddings and funerals, as well as correspondence concerning accessions and coronations. The Guide also lists records relating to proposed royal visits to Australia which, for various reasons, never eventuated. Special attention is also given to ways in which the monarchy has affected the Australian political system, such as the abdication of Edward VIII or by the Governor-Generalship of the Duke of Gloucester.

Royal visits to Australia

Between 1901 and 1968, the following members of the royal family visited Australia:

Member of the Royal Family	Date of tour
Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York (later George V and Queen Mary)	1901
Edward, Prince of Wales (later Edward VIII)	1920
Duke and Duchess of York (later George VI and Queen Elizabeth)	1927
Duke of Gloucester	1934
Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh	1954
Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh	1956
Elizabeth, the Queen Mother	1958
Princess Alexandra	1959
Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh	1960
Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh	1962
Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh	1963
Princess Marina, the Duchess of Kent	1964

Duke and Duchess of Gloucester	1965
Elizabeth the Queen Mother	1966
Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh	1968

The records

Major departmental files

Records relating to royalty are concentrated within the collections of four major government departments – the Prime Minister’s Department (today the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet), the Office of the Governor-General, the Department of External Affairs (today the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade), and the Department of Defence.

Since its inception, the Prime Minister’s Department has traditionally taken responsibility for the planning and organisation of royal tours, and the bulk of the records relating to the inception, planning or reaction to any one tour were created by this agency.

Numerous references throughout the Guide are also made to records of a general nature about members of the royal family. These more general records tend to have been created by the Department of External Affairs or the Office of the Governor-General and often concern the birth, death or accession of particular members of the royal family and the change in protocol that this necessitated.

In particular, records relating to the death of a monarch are quite numerous. This is because the death of a king or queen was not only significant at a personal and emotional level, but because the death had a widespread effect administratively. Coinage, oaths, naturalisation certificates, official protocol all had to be altered to accommodate the new monarch. Official mourning periods had to be set and observed and black bordered stationery had to be purchased for use during the official mourning period. Therefore the death of a monarch was significant in terms of Commonwealth administration and this is reflected in the surviving records.

The Department of Defence also had responsibility for many areas of royal visit administration. In particular it took responsibility for arranging transport and staffing for many of the later tours. Records documenting these actions are represented throughout the following chapters.

Miscellaneous departmental files

Royalty, however, has not solely been the preserve of the major government departments. Since its inception, the Commonwealth Government has had responsibility for a wide number of disparate and wide ranging activities, in addition to the more traditional responsibilities such as defence and international relations. Records relating to royalty created by these smaller, specialist agencies are also included in this Guide and provide a different perspective on the history of royalty in Australia.

As an example, from 1907 through to 1968, all applications for artistic and literary copyright in Australia had to be submitted to the Copyright Office. As a result, the National Archives holds a large number of applications for artistic and literary copyright, and among these are numerous applications inspired by royalty or documenting a particular royal visit.

These records reflect the public perception of royalty and are an interesting supplement to the administrative histories represented in the major departmental files.

In a further example, the records of the Commonwealth Film Censorship Board are held by the National Archives' Sydney office. Certain records from this agency's collection are very telling in what they divulge about the official reaction to revelations about King Edward and his relationship with Mrs Simpson. As is discussed in the section of the Guide relating to the abdication, the deletion of film footage concerning the relationship of King Edward and Mrs Simpson was extensive. The Film Censorship Board's records are therefore useful in demonstrating the atmosphere of secrecy and restriction that existed at the time of the abdication.

One final example of the different perspective on royal events provided by the records of smaller agencies comes from the holdings of the Commonwealth security agencies. A number of files involving arrangements for security procedures and security issues of concern to the government are included in the relevant sections of the Guide.

Photographic holdings

The collection of the National Archives includes a vast number of photographic images, many of which document the royal visits to Australia from the early twentieth century.

One of the Archives' most significant photographic collections, the Mildenhall collection of photographs of early Canberra, contains a large number of images of the royal visit by the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York in 1927. The royal couple visited Australia for the purpose of opening Parliament House in Canberra and photographs of the event were taken by the official photographer of the Federal Capital Commission, William James Mildenhall. These images are now held within Mildenhall's larger collection of photographs which documents the evolution of Canberra between 1921 and 1935. Several of Mildenhall's photographs are reproduced though this Guide and reference is made to other relevant items contained within his collection in the appropriate sections of the Guide.

Photographic records of later royal visits are also held by the National Archives. In 1950 the Australian News and Information Bureau (ANIB) was established as the successor agency to the Department of Information. The principal aim of ANIB was to encourage migration to Australia but it also sought to publicise Australia's diversity, growth, achievements and significant activities both within the country and to the overseas community.

ANIB and its successors therefore became responsible for recording photographically the various royal visits to Australia, from 1950 onwards. This agency's records are now held by the National Archives and information about them is included within the appropriate chapters of this Guide. Related captions and images are also available on the Archives' photographic database, available on its Website at www.naa.gov.au (search under the subject heading *Royalty*).

IDENTIFICATION OF THE RECORDS

Although records relating to various members of the royal family are held in the National Archives' offices across the country, the Guide principally describes records held by the Archives in Canberra.

The Guide focuses virtually exclusively on records held by the Archives in Canberra because at the Commonwealth level it was in Canberra that planning and administration of matters and events involving the monarch and the royal family were principally undertaken. The preparation for each royal visit was traditionally co-ordinated by the Prime Minister's Department, and as this Department has long been located in Canberra, the bulk of its records are held there. Consequently, the records provide a good overview of the government's relations with royalty and administration of royal events.

While records relating to royalty are held in each of the Archives' offices, this material has usually been created by the state offices of departments which have their central offices in Canberra. Details of these state office activities is often documented on central office files. In addition, the activities undertaken by departmental state offices in conjunction with a royal visit were often single occurrences within the larger tour.

However, a number of records held in offices other than Canberra are listed in this Guide. These records have been included because they represent an aspect of a tour or a reaction to a member of the royal family that is not documented within the collection in Canberra. In the Guide, where a record held in an office other than Canberra is referred to, reference to its location is made in its item description.

It should also be made clear that although all royal visits were to a large extent co-ordinated at the Federal level, the various state governments across Australia were responsible for the organisation of events occurring within their jurisdiction. Therefore, records relating to each of the royal tours should also be held by the various state archives. Contact details for these institutions are given in Fact Sheet 2.

For the period represented by this Guide, however, both the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory were administered by the Federal Government, and so records relating to royal events in these two Territories are held in Canberra.

This Guide identifies and describes rather than analyses the records. It is for researchers to make their own assessment and to place their own interpretation on the informational content of the records.

THE SELECTION OF RECORDS FOR INCLUSION

The information listed in this Guide is not a complete account of all records held by the National Archives relating to British royalty. Because the Archives' collection of such records is so extensive, what is represented here is often merely an indicator of the variety of material held in the collection.

Given the scope of the task, in compiling this Guide it was decided to list the material which possessed either the greatest significance or potentially the greatest research interest. This has led to the inclusion of a large number of items concerning each significant member of the royal family and each royal tour through to 1968, but it should be remembered that no listing within this Guide is necessarily definitive.

This Guide only documents royal visits from 1901 to 1968 and members of the royal family who were prominent in Australia during this period. As mentioned above, the National Archives holds records created by the Commonwealth Government, and as this government only came into being in 1901, this is the date from which the bulk of the collection dates. Given that the momentous events of 1901 could not have occurred without royal sanction and were commemorated with a royal visit, 1901 therefore seemed a logical place to begin the Guide.

The year 1968 was chosen as an end point because of the restrictions on access to archival material imposed by the thirty year rule. The *Archives Act 1983* which governs access to Commonwealth records only allows public access to this material after thirty years. Material created in 1967 became available on 1 January 1998, and material created in 1968 will become available on 1 January 1999. The vast majority of records described in the Guide are wholly available for public access.

Most of the records that remain withheld from public access are those relating to the abdication of King Edward VIII in 1936. Details of the restrictions still applying to these records are given below under 'Access to the records'.

Description of the records

ARRANGEMENT OF MATERIAL WITHIN THE GUIDE

Information in this Guide is arranged (roughly chronologically) by the names of the members of the royal family who are well documented in the collection. Within this division, the records are arranged chronologically and according to whether they are general files concerning the individual, or records relating to a specific royal visit.

Information about the records in the collection for each individual or each royal tour is arranged hierarchically, in the following fashion. If a government agency was directly involved in the administration of a royal event, a description of this agency appears first. Following this is a description of all the record series, or groups of records, that relate to the person or event. Finally, a description of selected individual items is given.

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

To fully understand a record it is often helpful to know certain things about it in addition to its contents. For example, it helps to know who created the record, when it was created and what other records exist that deal with the same general subject or issue. This information provides the context of the record, which helps researchers to interpret what the record is really about, determine its relevance, and decide how accurate or complete it might be. The National Archives documents this contextual information for each record in the collection using the Commonwealth Record Series (CRS) System.

Under the CRS System records are described and controlled as *series*. A series is made up of *items*, which are the individual files, volumes, maps, cards, diaries, etc that were received into custody by the Archives from the creating department, agency, or individual. Series usually consist of many items, but can occasionally consist of just a few or even a single item.

When the Archives registers a series it gives it a (CRS) series number and describes the creating agency, the subject matter of the series, its date range, the format of the individual items making up the series, their quantity (expressed in shelf metres), where they are held and details of related series.

The records described in each chapter of this Guide are listed in alpha-numeric order according to their series number. Most items also have the original item number allocated by the creating agency, and this, together with the CRS number must be cited in any inquiry about the records. Together the series and item numbers provide a useful shorthand way of referring to a specific record item. Details of how to cite the records described in this Guide are given below under *Citing the records*.

The items and the series to which they belong are described as set out in Figure 1.

SEARCHING FOR ADDITIONAL RECORDS

Most records relating to royalty held by the Archives are listed on the Archives' national database, which is available for online searching in each of the Archives' reading rooms, and at the Australian War Memorial (information about series can be accessed on the Archives' database on the Internet, at www.naa.gov.au)

Any material not listed in this Guide can usually be readily accessed by keyword or series searches via the database. Please ask your reference officer if you have any queries about how to conduct such a search.

1	CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ALPHABETICAL SERIES WITH 'RV' (ROYAL VISIT) PREFIX, 1952-1954	A9708
2	Recorded by: 1953-54 Royal Visit Organisation 1954, Director-General, Sydney (CA 1705)	
3	Quantity: 1.98 metres Location: Canberra	
4	This series consists of correspondence files of the Sydney Office of the Royal Visit Organisation, 1954, relating to general matters.	
5	Fly and Mosquito Control	A9708, RV/CD
6	Control of pests was of concern to visit organisers and a report was commissioned from the CSIRO to advise about the best means of curbing the numbers of flies, particularly while the royal party was in Canberra....	
Key		
1	This information gives the series title and the date range of the records which make up the series. The series number is shown on the right hand side.	
2	This shows the department or agency which created the series, and the period during which this department or agency was in existence. The 'CA' (Commonwealth Agency) number is a unique identifier allocated by the Archives to each agency. This number can be used to retrieve more information about the agency and the records it created from the Archives' online database.	
3	This shows the total volume of records in the series. In some cases only several items within a series will relate to royalty or a particular royal visit, but in other instances, the entire series will be devoted to royal affairs. The location of the series (ie the office of the National Archives where it is held) is also shown.	
4	This gives a brief overview of the contents of the series.	
5	This shows the title given to the item by the creating agency. Sometimes additional information appears in square brackets. This indicates information that has been added by the Archives to clarify the meaning of the title. The dates of the earliest and latest document on the file are also shown. The item's identifying number appears on the right hand side. This number must be quoted if a copy of the record or access to it is requested.	
6	Where included, this describes the main contents of each item. Note that it does not describe every document on the file. Because of the large number of records listed in this Guide, contents description has had to be limited. However, where possible, an attempt has been made to describe those items assessed as having special significance.	

Figure 1. How the records are described

In conducting searches it is most useful to search within the various record series created by the Prime Minister's Department, but because there was no standard terminology used to name records relating to the royal family or royal visits, it is necessary to use a variety of keywords to achieve a comprehensive search result. Some useful keywords include the name of the particular royal person, the terms 'majesty' and 'royal visit'. Departmental index cards are also useful and are listed where appropriate within the Guide.

Access to the records

THE ACCESS STATUS OF THE RECORDS

Most of the records listed in this Guide are available for public access under the *Archives Act 1983*. Access to a significant number of the files, however, have never been sought by researchers, and an access application will need to be submitted before public access to this group of records can be granted.

The records that have been examined have generally been opened without any restrictions. The exceptions are those records relating to the abdication of King Edward VIII in 1936. The British Government has requested that some material concerning the abdication remain withheld from public access until 2037, one hundred years after the abdication itself. This restriction also applies to British Government records held by the UK Public Record Office. The records affected are described in Chapter 4.

OBTAINING ACCESS TO THE RECORDS

Researchers are welcome to visit the National Archives' reading rooms and examine the records described in this Guide. Before you visit, please make sure that the record is held by the reading room you plan to visit. There is no equivalent of the inter-library loan system for archives. To safeguard the records, they are not moved between the Archives' offices and to see the records you will need to visit the reading room in the city shown as the location of the records.

In addition, given that the reading rooms of some of the Archives' offices are separate from the main repository area, it may also be beneficial to preorder any material you wish to see to ensure that it is ready upon your arrival. The turnaround time for the issue of records in each reading room is given in Fact Sheet 20 (Standards of Service). To preorder material please telephone or write to the reading room listed as holding it. Contact details of all offices of the National Archives are given in Appendix 6.

If you cannot visit a reading room you may arrange for a representative to do so on your behalf (see Fact Sheets 40–45 – Research Agents), or alternatively you may wish to obtain a photocopy of the record. To obtain a copy you may telephone or write to the relevant reading room. Staff are happy to give photocopy quotes for specific items, but please be sure you have the specific series and item numbers for the records you wish to have copied.

Charges

No charges apply to the services described above unless photocopies of records are requested. Photocopy charges are set out in Fact Sheet 51.

Citing the records

The correct citation of archival records is important both when requesting them and when referring to them in written and published works. Using proper citations will not only help

staff to more readily locate the records you are seeking, but will help other researchers to find the material you have used if they wish to examine it for themselves.

The correct form of citation for records held by the National Archives is expressed as follows: the name *National Archives of Australia* followed by a colon; the series number followed by a comma; and then the item number. An example is:

National Archives of Australia: A6680, DY38/40

The name *National Archives of Australia* may be abbreviated to 'NAA'.

This form of citation should be used for all records listed in this Guide.

Where to obtain more information

If you are unsure about how to request access to any of the records described in this Guide, or if you have any other questions about the records, please contact the reading room in your State or Territory by mail, telephone, facsimile or e-mail.

All contact numbers and addresses are given in Appendixes 5 and 6.

1. QUEEN VICTORIA (1837–1901)

Queen Victoria was born on 24 May 1819 and ascended the throne in 1837 at the age of eighteen. She married Prince Albert of Germany and bore him nine children before Albert's death in 1861, when the Queen was aged 42.

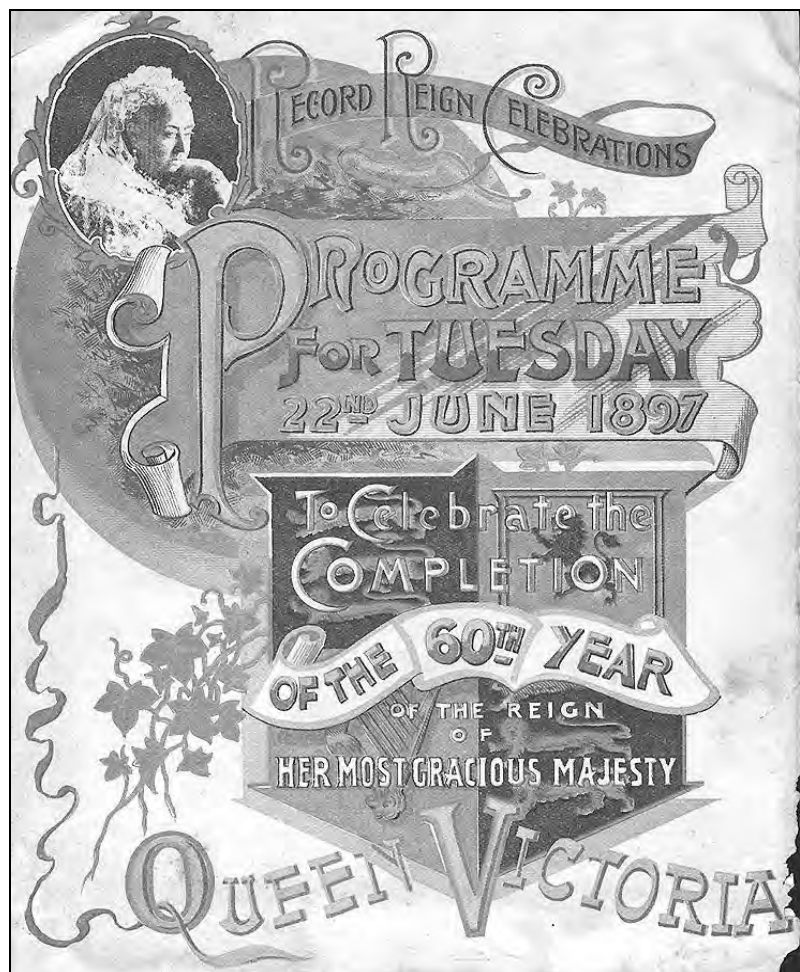
The Australian colonies federated on 1 January 1901 forming the Commonwealth of Australia. Queen Victoria died shortly after this, on 22 January 1901. She had been the reigning monarch for 63 years.

In Australia the most apparent legacy of Queen Victoria's reign is manifested in the names Victoria and Queensland. These names, which were originally given to two colonies during the nineteenth century, were retained when the colonies achieved statehood within the Commonwealth in 1901.

Because the bulk of Queen Victoria's reign predates Federation, the Archives holds few records created during or representing her reign. Most of the records listed below document Australian reaction to her death.

In 1897 Queen Victoria celebrated her 60th year on the throne. In Sydney the event was marked by special commemorative celebrations.

NAA: M3816, 7 Part 1(1)



PROGRAMME.

32

Unveiling of Statue of Governor Phillip in the Garden Palace Grounds, by
His Excellency the Governor, at 3 p.m.

General Illumination of the City by the Government and the Public.

Illumination of the Outer Domain, Hyde Park, and Queen's Statue
will commence at 6.30 p.m.

Bands to Play from 8 to 10 p.m.

7 Bands will be stationed in the Outer Domain.

3	"	"	in Hyde Park.
3	"	"	"

at Lady Macquarie's Chair.

I " " " " in Martin-place.

I " " at Milson's Point.

I " " at Blue's Point.

" " " " "

on Observatory Reserve.

1 " " " at Dawes Point.

I " " " at Fort Macquarie.

1 " on steamer in Harbour, which will be

I , at Government House.

Seven Bands of 250 performers (massed) will be utilised.

Seven Bands of 250 performers (massed) will be utilised.

Salute of 60 Guns to be Fired from Dawes Point. Electric Light will be thrown on to the Battery while the firing is going on.

Harbour Illuminations and Display of Fireworks to commence at 8 p.m.

FULL POWER OF THE MACOUARIE LIGHT will be turned on.

SEARCH LIGHT OF PILOT STEAMER will be thrown on different points of the Harbour.

MEN-OF-WAR ILLUMINATIONS AND FIREWORKS DISPLAY will take place between 8 and 9 p.m. During this period the "Fiery Dragon" will be towed about the Harbour.

PYROTECHNIC DISPLAY ON FORT DENISON, including Mount Vesuvius, shortly after Men-of-War display. Gun on Fort Denison will denote different stages of display.

This does not include the Illuminations, &c., of the different Ships lying at the Wharfs and in the Stream, which are expected to be of an Imposing Character.



QUEEN'S RECORD REIGN.

PROGRAMME:

SUNDAY, 20th JUNE, 1897.

Commemorative Services in the various Churches.

MONDAY, 21st JUNE, 1897.

Demonstration of Public School Children at Sydney Cricket Ground.

General Illumination of the City by the Government and the Public.

Illumination of the Outer Domain, Hyde Park, and Queen's Statue
will commence at 6.30 p.m.

Bands will be Stationed at various places during the Evening.

A Continental will be held in the Outer Domain.

TUESDAY, 22nd JUNE, 1897.

Special Commemorative Service at St. Andrew's Cathedral at 10 a.m.
Review of Troops by His Excellency the Governor at Centennial
Park

Troops will assemble at 11 a.m. Review to terminate about 1 p.m.

March of Troops through the City,

Leaving Centennial Park at 1.15 p.m., proceeding *via* Cleveland-street to Regent-street, then up George-street to Martin-place and Moore-street, turning into Castlereagh-street, down Bligh and Young Streets to Circular Quay, round Quay to Macquarie-street, up Macquarie-street to Queen's Statue.

Examples of records relating to Queen Victoria

Proclamation – Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1900 and Other Acts of the Sovereign on Federation, 1900–1901 A6, 1901/922
Recorded by: 1901 Department of External Affairs (CA 7)

Copyright Registration with exhibit – Greenham and Evans
Photograph of the casket to the Queen, 1897 A1721, 2
Recorded by: 1896–1905 Patent Office, WA (CA 1257)

A national souvenir of Her Majesty's most glorious 'Record Reign', 1896 M3816, 7 Part 1
Collected by: 1860–1966 Rt Hon Sir Eric John Harrison KCMG
KCVO (CP 648)

Record Reign Celebrations – Programme for Tuesday 22 June 1897 to Celebrate the Completion of the Sixtieth Year of the Reign of her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria (shown opposite, and on the preceding page).

Commission, signed by Queen Victoria, empowering the Lords Commissioners to declare Royal Assent to the Bill creating the Commonwealth of Australia, 1900 A5137, Set 3
Recorded by: 1900 Joint House Department (CA 693)

This item consists of photographic viewing copies of the above record. Access to the original Commission is prohibited for preservation reasons.

The commission, signed by Queen Victoria at Windsor Castle on 9 July 1900 declaring her assent to the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Bill. A facsimile copy is on display in Parliament House, Canberra.
NAA: A5137, Set 3



The death of Queen Victoria

The Queen's death, after a sixty year reign, was felt strongly throughout the Commonwealth.

The day before the Queen's death, after news of the severity of her illness had been circulating, crowds began to congregate in the cities:

Public anxious for news. Crowds round the newspaper offices

Since the intimation was first made by cable that Her Majesty was seriously ill, a great deal of anxiety has been manifested by all classes of the community to learn the latest news of her condition. Quite a rush was made for the *Herald* yesterday for that purpose.⁶

The newspapers the next day announced the following:

Queen Victoria has ceased to live. For the last sixty years or more she has been the pivot on which the British Empire has hung, the magic force by which that great machine was stirred into action. For two generations Queen Victoria has sat on the Throne of the greatest Empire in the world and the imagination staggers at the news now brought. There is no more Queen Victoria; no more 'widow of Windsor'; no more gentle and noble lady presiding over the affairs of the British Empire.

Millions who have never seen the face of the dead Queen honour and revere her memory throughout the length and breadth of the entire civilised world. In all stages of her history the imaginations were captured. Whether as Virgin Queen, or happy wife and mother or afflicted widow, Queen Victoria has appealed to us all as a great Queen and a noble woman.⁷

The following are examples of records relating to the death of Queen Victoria.

Queen Victoria Memorial, 1901–1910 Recorded by: 1903–1907 Department of External Affairs (CA 7)	A1, 1911/10954
'The Death of HM Queen Victoria', 1901 Recorded by: 1901 Department of External Affairs (CA 7)	A6, 1901/116
Copy of proclamation by the Queen, dated 1837, requiring all persons being in office of Authority or Government, at the decease of the late King to proceed in the execution of their respective offices, 1901	A6, 1901/181
Changes in certain Dates due to Demise of the Queen, 1901	A6, 1901/777
Memorials Oil Painting of Late Queen Victoria Offer to sell by Mrs Outred, 1928 Recorded by: 1923–1924 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12) Correspondence from a Mrs Outred to the Government offering to sell a portrait of Queen Victoria for 20 guineas. The offer was declined.	A458, AV370/2
In Memorium of the Late Queen Victoria, 1903 Recorded by: 1887–1902 Patent Office, Queensland (CA 1246)	A1716, 258
St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne. Order Of Service. Queen Victoria, 1901 Recorded by: 1870–1907 Registrar of Copyrights, Vic (CA 1400)	A1786, 9568B
Handmade Tinsel Work of Queen Victoria Statue, 1907 Recorded by: 1907–1913 Australian Industrial Property Organisation (CA 555)	A1861, 79

THE CLOSING SCENE.

LONDON, Jan. 23, 6.45 a.m.

The Queen was rather restless throughout Monday night.

The only persons admitted to her room were the doctor, her dresser, two maids, and Under-nurse Soal from the sanatorium on the estate.

On Tuesday morning all the members of the Royal Family were summoned, with the Bishop of Winchester, who held the office of Clerk of the Closet. The Queen recognised all beside her bed.

Her Majesty appeared to be especially gratified by the filial devotion of the Emperor William.

The Queen then slept a while, but at half-past 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon she had a relapse.

The members of the Royal Family were resummoned to her Majesty's bedside. The Bishop of Winchester was already kneeling by the bedside, and the attendants had withdrawn to a corner.

The Prince of Wales and the German Emperor entered the room together. Then followed the Princess of Wales, the Duke and the Duchess of Connaught, the Duke of York, Princess Henry of Battenberg, the Duchess of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, the Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, the Princess Elizabeth of Hesse (Grand Duchess Serge of Russia), and the Duchess of Argyll.

Three hours of intense emotion followed in the room.

Meantime the Queen had occasional returns of consciousness, but her recognition was less clear than in the morning, and as the dull grey day closed her Majesty passed away.

The Duchess of York, the children of the Duke and the Duchess of Connaught, the Duke of Argyll, the Prince of Battenberg, and the Princess Louise of Battenberg, and the Earl of Clarendon, the Lord Chamberlain, arrived in time for the closing scene.

Mr. A. J. Balfour, First Lord of the Treasury, the representative of the Government, did not enter the death chamber.

The death of the Queen was absolutely peaceful and painless.

DEATH

OF

THE QUEEN

THE CLOSING SCENE.

HER MAJESTY RECOGNISES
HER FAMILY.

PAINLESS AND PEACEFUL
END.

WORLD-WIDE SYMPATHY.

UNUSUAL TRIBUTES IN
AMERICA.

SWEARING-IN OF THE KING.

EDWARD VII.

LONDON, Jan. 22, 7.16 p.m.

The death of the Queen is officially announced.

Jan. 23, 1.35 a.m.

The Queen's rooms were in the north-west angle of Osborne, overlooking the landscape to the Solent.

Wearily and expectantly, amid a heavy clinging silence, crowds yesterday watched the lighted window of the wing through the twilight and in the darkness of the night.

A royal servant at a quarter-past 7 o'clock reverently placed a board on the gate with the following medical bulletin:—

"Her Majesty the Queen breathed her last at half-past 6 o'clock this evening, surrounded by her children and her grandchildren."

The crowd, except for a wail of anguish, silently departed to hide their grief.

The bells of Whippingham Church commenced tolling.

Mr. A. J. Balfour telegraphed to the Earl of Pembroke, Lord Steward of her Majesty's household at Buckingham Palace, that the Queen died peacefully.

Extracts from *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 January 1901.

NAA: M3816, 29

Queen Victoria Memorial Act 1905 **A2863, 1905/18**

Recorded by: 1901–1970 Attorney-General's Department (CA 5)

This Act required that £25 000 be paid from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the purpose of erecting a Memorial to Queen Victoria.

Death etc. of HM Queen Victoria, 1901 **A6661, 437**

Recorded by: 1888–1936 Governor-General (CA 1)

Death of Queen Victoria and Accession of Edward VIII, 1901–1902 **A6661, 437A**

Recorded by: 1888–1936 Governor-General (CA 1)

Governor-General's Office – Correspondence – Poetry written in honour of Queen Victoria [Note: includes the Supplement to "The Tasmanian", 1907–08] **A6662, 1161**

Recorded by: 1887–1912 Governor-General (CA 1)

J D Horne of Castlemaine wrote the following poem in the Queen's honour:

Who can recall to memory the life
Of one so loved, so dear –
A devoted mother, Queen and wife
A friend when few drew near –
And not in silent agony
Be melted into tears.
A nation weeps her,
The whole world mourns her...
Dead, did I say? Ah! No! She lives
In every loving heart.
A nation's grief is not assuaged –
No time can heal the smart.
She lives for ever, and her deeds
Will live in memory too,
And history recount her praise
For all the ages through.
For never monarch lived on earth
So worthy of our song...

**Excerpt from the *Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 January 1901
[Death of Queen Victoria]** **M3816, 29**

Collected by: 1860–1966 Rt Hon Sir Eric John Harrison KCMG
KCVO (CP 648)

Contains extracts from *The Sydney Morning Herald* reporting on the death of the Queen.

2. KING EDWARD VII (1901–10)

Edward VII was born on 9 November 1841 and as the eldest son of Queen Victoria, succeeded her upon her death. He was almost sixty when he came to the throne. King Edward's coronation was initially delayed by a bout of appendicitis and later postponed until the conclusion of the Boer War in mid 1902.

Edward VII was king until his death on 9 May 1910. He and his wife Alexandra married in 1863. They had six children. Due to his portly appearance, the King's nickname was 'Tum-Tum'.

Examples of records relating to King Edward VII

International copyright registration with exhibit - photo of His Majesty King Edward VII, 1908

A1714, 22

Recorded by: 1907–1912 Australian Industrial Property Organisation (CA 555)



**Photographic copy of a portrait of Edward VII
submitted for copyright registration by
Mr Arthur Joseph Levi in 1908.**

NAA: A1714, 22

Australia Felix to King Edward VII, 1894**A1786, 7896B**

Recorded by: 1870–1907 Registrar of Copyright, Vic (CA 1400)

This item consists of a 49 stanza poem written in honour of King Edward. The first two and final stanzas are as follows:

Seven in our sacred number
God's own appointed rest
And seven times seven earthly years
A jubilee once blest

O Son of our good Mother
Edward the Seventh thy name
Take up her crown, made glorious
By empire, wealth and fame...

So shall this Daughter of Empire
Distant and small though she be,
Ever be true – true and loyal
To thy throne, thyself and thy seed

**Governor-General's Office – Correspondence – Birthday
congratulations to Edward VII, 1903****A6662, 185**

Recorded by: 1887–1912 Governor-General (CA 1)

**Governor-General's Office – correspondence – congratulations
on the anniversary of the birthday of his Majesty, 1906****A6662, 871**

Recorded by: 1887–1912 Governor-General (CA 1)

**Four Imperial bushmen natives of Norfolk Island, in
Commonwealth contingent sent to London for coronation of
Edward VII, 1902****CP697/96, Photograph No 1**Recorded by: 1857–1933 Chief Magistrate and (from 1913)
Administrator of Norfolk Island (CA 6688)

The death of Edward VII

In its reportage of the death of the King, the *Sydney Morning Herald* claimed, 'death has clutched at the heart of Empire with a grip of ice'.⁸

The King's death on 9 May 1910 was caused by a combination of bronchitis and heart failure. The *Herald* went on to describe his final decline as follows:

In connection with King Edward's illness, trouble was first manifested during his Majesty's visit to Paris [in late April], when he suffered an acute attack of indigestion which compelled him to leave the theatre, where he had been witnessing the production of Rostand's *Chanteleer*. King Edward passed a bad night afterwards, and a chill which he had caught developed bronchitis...

On Thursday afternoon King Edward was seized with violent coughing which necessitated a public announcement of his illness...[On the day of his death] the royal family gathered at the bedside. The King was sinking rapidly but was free from pain. The Archbishop of Canterbury recited special prayers and conducted a short service at the bedside.⁹

The following are examples of records concerning the death of King Edward:

Memorials to King Edward VII, 1912–1915 Recorded by: 1904–1911 Prime Minister's Office (CA 588)	A2, 1915/520
Representation at funeral of late King Edward VII, 1910 Recorded by: 1901 Department of External Affairs, Melbourne (CA 7)	A63, A1910/3590
Provision of wreath for the funeral of King Edward VII, 1910	A63, A1910/5932
Photograph of the memorial service on the death of King Edward VII, Melbourne, 1910 Recorded by: 1907–1913 Australian Industrial Property Organisation (CA 555)	A1861, 1616
The late King Edward VII. Erection of Memorial in Sydney. Financial arrangements with Sir Thomas Brock, 1913–18 Recorded by: 1918–1960 Australian High Commission London (CA 241)	A2910, 427/6/1 Parts 1–3

A statue of King Edward riding a horse was erected in Macquarie Street, Sydney, by the King Edward Memorial Executive Committee of New South Wales. Through public subscriptions and a £1 500 donation from the Municipal Council, the Executive raised £7 500 for the construction of the statue.

In their specifications (included in Part 1 in a letter dated 25 January 1913), the committee stated: 'It being desirable the Sculptor should be a man of British race as well as of high qualifications, it is felt necessary to go to London – the centre of Empire Art.' Sir Thomas Brock was appointed, eventually by the Sydney Executive, in 1915.

Extensive correspondence about the construction and importation of the sculpture is included on parts 2 and 3 of this file. After delays caused by the war, the statue was finally completed and delivered in 1921.



**Mourning the death of Edward VII. Memorial service outside Parliament House
Melbourne, 20 May 1910. NAA: A1861, 1616**

Death of Edward VII – Programme of Memorial service held in Commonwealth Parliament House 20 May 1911, 1910–1911 A2911, 2/1911
Recorded by: 1909–1910 Commonwealth Offices, London
(CA 976)

This file is primarily concerned with the organisation in connection with the funeral of Edward VII, and the ramifications of his death.

It includes a letter from the Colonial Office in London dated 14 May 1910, informing the Government that it will be possible to reserve space in Hyde Park for 60 bona fide Australian visitors to view the funeral procession.

Later correspondence on the file, dated 5 August 1910 includes another letter from the Colonial Office which stated:

His Majesty the King has been pleased to approve that the period of official half mourning [where restrictions imposed on social activities were not as harsh] for his late Majesty may be considered to begin in Australia on 1 October, and after that date all entertainments, except balls, may be given.

This letter indicates the ramifications of the death of a monarch on the general populace. Another example of how widespread grief at the monarch's death was felt is a telegram from a group of pearl-ers in Broome expressing sympathy to Queen Alexandra.

Woollahra Presbyterian Church, Memorial Service in Connection with the Lamented Death of His Most Gracious Majesty, Edward VII, 15 May 1910 M3816, 7 Part 1
Collected by: 1860–1966 Rt Hon Sir Eric John Harrison KCMG KCVO (CP 648)
Contains a copy of the order of service.

Daily Telegraph Sydney, 9 May 1910 – Death of King Edward VII, 1910 M3816, 33
Extract from the newspaper discussing the death of the King.

The death of Queen Alexandra

Souvenir programmes, including programme for the funeral service of Queen Alexandra (wife of Edward VII), 1924 M3633, 5
Collected by: 1918–1940 Sir Joseph Cook (CP 611)
Held by the Sydney office of the National Archives.

3. KING GEORGE V (1910–36)

George V was the second eldest son of Edward VII and was a first cousin to the ill-fated Tsar Nicholas II of Russia. He first visited Australia with his elder brother Prince Albert aboard the *HMS Bacchante* in 1880. They were both midshipmen and George seemed destined for a professional career in the Navy.

All of this changed, however, when his brother, Prince Albert, heir to the throne, died in 1892 after contracting pneumonia. Prince George therefore became heir apparent and went on to marry his brother's former fiancée who later became Queen Mary.

George V visited Australia again with his wife as the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York in 1901. The purpose of the visit was to officially open the first Federal Parliament in the Exhibition Buildings of Melbourne in 1901. Their tour also included visits to New Zealand, South Africa and Canada.

George V ascended the throne on his father's death on 9 May 1910. It was during his reign, which spanned World War I, that the royal house abandoned the title the house of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha (or the house of Hanover or Brunswick) and became known as the house of Windsor. The change was brought about because of wartime opposition to all things German.

George and Mary had six children: Prince Edward, The Prince of Wales and later King Edward VIII and the Duke of Windsor; Prince Albert Frederick Arthur George, later King George VI; Princess Victoria; Prince Henry the Duke of Gloucester; Prince George the Duke of Kent; and Prince John.

The opening of the First Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia in the Exhibition Building, Melbourne, by the Duke of York (later King George V) on 9 May 1901.
NAA: A6180,
4/3/77/5



The King himself was an avid stamp collector, not overly fond of the opera (when asked, he said that *La Boheme* was his favourite because, 'it's much the shortest'), and was inordinately fond of his parrot, Charlotte, who travelled with him whenever possible (it is not certain whether she shared his journeys to Australia)¹⁰.

During their 1901 visit to Australia, the *Daily Telegraph* newspaper described the royal couple in the following manner: The Duke

is extremely pleasant faced and good natured but is apparently not a man of many words. He never displays the slightest sign of being bored, and though he has the capacity for preserving a masterly silence, he appears to take a keen interest in everything about him ... The Duchess has simply captivated everybody. She is one of those women whose photographs don't do them justice. Mr See, our State Premier, who had a long conversation with her at Government House on Tuesday afternoon, says that she is one of the most charming women in the world.¹¹

George V reigned from 1910 to his death on 20 January 1936. Queen Mary died in 1953.

The visit of George V and Queen Mary as the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, 1901

The Duke and Duchess' royal tour of 1901 was, at that stage, one of the most lavish undertaken by the monarchy. An Orient steamship liner had to be specially chartered for the voyage as no royal yacht could span the required distances between coaling ports.¹² The *Daily Telegraph's* 'London correspondent' described the costs associated with the visit as follows:

The tour of the Duke and Duchess of York is likely to cost the British ratepayer a cool quarter of a million...The hire of the ship alone [the *Ophir*] is £70 000 and the cost of fitting her up has been no less than £56 000. Then, her coal bill of the entire tour is £25 000 ...¹³

The main records relating to the visit are:

COMMISSION TO OPEN FIRST COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENT SIGNED BY KING
EDWARD VII, 1901

A4866

Recorded by: 1901 Joint House Department (CA 693)

Quantity: 1.8 metres Location: Canberra

The document is a manuscript commission signed by His Majesty King Edward VII empowering the Duke of Cornwall and York to open the first Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia in Melbourne in 1901. The Commission was originally drawn up during Queen Victoria's reign and had been signed by her.

As the Queen died on 22 January 1901, nearly four months before the opening of the Commonwealth Parliament in May 1901, a new Commission signed by King Edward VII was required. The Commission has Queen Victoria's seal appended.

SOUVENIR INVITATION TO AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH CELEBRATIONS AT
FLEMINGTON, VICTORIA, 10 MAY 1901

A6989

Recorded by: 1901 Department of Defence (CA 6)

Quantity: 0.24 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of an outsize printed invitation to the Commonwealth Celebrations held at Flemington, Victoria, 10 May 1901. It was issued to Mr J McLaughlin and Lady to attend the Royal Review. Printed on cardboard, the invitation is ornate. On the back is written 'Presented by Lt. W B O'Neill AIC' (presumably to the Department of Defence).

PHOTOGRAPH OF OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, FIRST PARLIAMENT 1901

A8465

Recorded by: 1901 Department of the House of Representatives (CA 692)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of one black and white photograph of officers of the House of Representatives of the first Commonwealth Parliament opened in the Exhibition Building in Melbourne on 9 May 1901.

BOUND FACSIMILES OF PROGRAMMES AND INVITATIONS ISSUED TO MR AND MRS P A O'BYRNE ON THE OCCASION OF THE OPENING OF THE FIRST PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

M581

Collected by: Justin Hilary O'Byrne (CP 252)

Quantity: 0.27 metres Location: Canberra

R G CASEY (SENIOR) - INVITATIONS TO EVENTS RELATING TO THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT 1901

M1615

Collected by: 1901 The Rt Hon Richard Gardiner Casey Baron of Berwick, Victoria, PC, GCMG, CH, DSO, MC (CP 24)

Quantity: 0.23 metres Location: Melbourne

This series consists of invitations to events connected with the opening of the first Australian Federal Parliament.

PAPERS RELATING TO THE VISIT OF THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK AND THE DEATH OF QUEEN VICTORIA 1901

MP124/1

Recorded by: 1901-1902 Department of Defence (CA 6)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Melbourne

Bound volume containing manuscript and typed correspondence of Rear-Admiral Beaumont, Commander-in-Chief, Australian station - orders, gazette extracts, telegrams and other papers, in connection with (among other things) the Royal visit to Australia, 1901. This series also contains information about the death of Queen Victoria and the coronation of Edward VII.

INVITATION FROM THE MINISTERS OF STATE FOR AUSTRALIA TO MR AND MRS H LYALL HALL TO MEET THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CORNWALL AND YORK, AT AN EVENING RECEPTION IN CELEBRATION OF THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT AND THE COMMONWEALTH, 1901

PP608/1

Collected by: 1901 Henry Lyall Hall MHR (CP 538)

Quantity: 0.54 metres Location: Perth

The opening of the first Federal Parliament in Melbourne's Exhibition Buildings appears to have been a large and glittering event:

Monday's gathering of thousands and thousands to see the Duke and Duchess drive through Melbourne [after their arrival in the city] has been described as a sea of humanity, a swollen stream seven miles long. Today [the day of the opening of Parliament] one cannot avoid comparing Melbourne to a tossing, seething ocean.¹⁴

Apart from the royal couple, invited international guests at the opening of Parliament included:

The Honourable William Mulocke, his wife and son – Post-Master General of Canada
Major General Sir EH Collen of India and wife
The Honourable W Taylor, Colonial Secretary, Ceylon
The Honourable John Frost, Cape Colony

In addition, over 300 guests from New Zealand were in attendance as well as hundreds of guests from each state of Australia.¹⁵

The Salvation Army was commissioned by the Victorian Government to shoot film footage of the royal visit to Melbourne and the events surrounding the Parliament's opening. Portions of this film are now available on a National Film and Sound Archive video called *Living Melbourne*.¹⁶

The *Daily Telegraph's* description of the atmosphere stated that:

The opening of Parliament was carried out in a manner extremely worthy of the occasion. All the surrounds were magnificent – the crowded streets outside the great Exhibition, with thousands of faces stretching away to the right and left, and in front of the dazzling uniforms of the visitors, the array of brilliant costumes and gorgeous dresses, forming a fitting setting for a celebration so grand, so unique, so essentially patriotic ... The fact that the Duke of Cornwall and York was to perform the ceremony added enormously to the public interest in the function.¹⁷

The strongly 'Australian' publication, *The Bulletin*, however saw the day differently:

The opening of the first Parliament of all Australia was an event large enough to stand alone. It wanted no tawdry trappings, no small accidental prince, no flags, no lank flapping frills and gaily coloured rags to make it memorable ... Amid the circumstances which attended the union of a continent and the beginning of a nation there moved though a thin undersized man who has never done anything save be born, and grow up, and get married and exist by breathing regularly and be the son of his father who did the same things. And in the public eye he was, apparently, about three quarters of the pageant. The men who made the Commonwealth were eclipsed ... by the man who has made nothing of any importance.¹⁸

Examples of files relating to the royal visit and the opening of the first Federal Parliament are:

Painting of the landing of the Duke of York in May 1901, £525, Cabinet approved, 1911–1912	A2, 1912/428
Recorded by: 1904–1911 Prime Minister's Office (CA 588)	
Visit of Imperial troops to Melbourne, 1901	A6, 1901/74
Recorded by: 1901 Department of External Affairs, Melbourne (CA 7)	
The citizens committee re the entertainment to the men of the Royal Navy and the Imperial troops at the Town Hall, Sydney, 1901	A6, 1901/219

Copy of songs by G W Pickering on visit of Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York to Australia, 1901	A6, 1901/463
Arrangement for Military Display at reception of Duke and Duchess of York, 1901	A6, 1901/485
Letter 28 February 1901 to PM from J Bradshaw asking that the Royal Party visiting Australia should include Port Darwin in its itinerary, 1901	A6, 1901/495
Papers relating to the Proposal to open Parliament with Prayer, 1901	A6, 1901/617
Congratulatory letters on opening ceremony of the first Commonwealth Parliament, 1901	A6, 1901/741
Papers in regard to representation of India, Cape Colony, Natal, Ceylon and Canada at Commonwealth celebration of opening of the New Parliament, 1901	A6, 1901/786
Commonwealth Arch, 1901 Decorative arches constructed across city streets have been a prominent aspect of many royal visits. The royal visit in 1901 was no exception. This file contains a letter from Melbourne's Town Clerk requesting that the new Government construct a 'Commonwealth Arch' to symbolise and celebrate Federation along the route to the Exhibition Buildings. The file also contains the Government's response to this request.	A6, 1901/790
Commission empowering HRH the Duke of York to Open Federal Parliament, 1901	A6, 1901/839



The Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York departing after laying the foundation stone of the Museum of Perth, 24 July 1901.
NAA: A1721, 41

Presentation of medals to those who served in South African campaign by the royal highness, 1901	A6, 1901/857
Programme of the cruise of HMS <i>Ophir</i> with Duke and Duchess of York on visit to Australia, 1901	A6, 1901/864
Suggested Creation of Office and Title, Prince of Australia and Purchase of Kerguelen Island, 1901	A6, 1901/869
Proposal to send a detachment of Fijian Armed Native Constabulary on occasion of opening of Federal Parliament, 1901	A6, 1901/888
Suggested creation of title "Prince of Australia" from CWD Goodchap, 1901	A6, 1901/912
Acceptance of Invitations to Federal Functions at Melbourne by State Governors, 1901	A6, 1901/913
Re free rail passes to wives and lady relatives of Members of Parliament attending Melbourne Celebrations, 1901	A6, 1901/939
Suggestions on the procedure of the opening of Parliament, 1901	A6, 1901/999
Royal visit of Duke & Duchess of York, 1901 Contains correspondence regarding the visit of a Man of War (battleship) belonging to the Imperial Russian Navy which was to be in Melbourne in connection with the opening of the first Federal Parliament. Naval representatives were also sent by the French, Indian, German and Netherland governments.	A6, 1901/1009
Despatch of flagships for visit of His Royal Highness, 1901	A6, 1901/1010
Invitation to Prime Minister Barton on visit of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York to the city of Ballarat, 1901	A6, 1901/1024
Opening of the First Parliament, 1901	A6, 1901/1073
Powers of the Governor-General in connection with opening of Parliament, 1901	A6, 1901/1118
Question of holidays dealing with the Royal family, 1901	A6, 1901/1150
The gift of Her Majesty the Queen to the federal government, 1901-1973	A6, 1901/1151
Military Arrangements and Details of Ceremonial Parades at the Commonwealth Celebrations Melbourne, 6 May 1901	A6, 1901/1202
Dr Tom Roberts' painting of the opening of Federal Parliament, 1901 This file contains correspondence regarding the painting of the Parliament's opening ceremony. In a letter dated 29 April 1901, from a Mr Jefferson to Prime Minister Barton, Mr Jefferson asked the following: Regarding the ceremony ... I am respectfully desirous of submitting for your consideration a proposal to have the scene depicted on canvas ... We propose to have a series of photographs taken under the direction of the artist who is to finally execute the work, and also to subsequently obtain individual photographs of members of both Houses and	A6, 1901/1337

distinguished guests: and private sittings where practicable, to enable the artist to do full justice to the picture.

Jefferson informed Barton that J C Waite had been commissioned to paint the picture. However, in a letter to Barton dated 23 May, Jefferson wrote:

I now beg to advise that in consequence of Mr Waite's expressed lack of confidence in his ability to do justice to the subject, we have entrusted the work to Mr Tom Roberts who has undertaken to paint the picture. This gentleman is desirous of getting sittings of the Duke and Duchess of York before they leave Australia, if possible ...

Distribution of Invitations, 1901	A6, 1901/1365
Paper re public school cadets taking part in the official reception of Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, 1901	A6, 1901/1368
Request to Duke of York to view Eden, 1901	A6, 1901/1400
Suggestion of Prayer to open the Parliament, 1901	A6, 1901/1464
Re Quarantining of <i>Ormuz</i> Passengers, 1901 The <i>Ormuz</i> was a vessel carrying Italian dissidents who had allegedly made threats to the safety of the Duke and Duchess during their visit to Australia. The <i>Ormuz</i> was therefore quarantined which meant its passengers were effectively imprisoned for the duration of the royal visit. For further information about this incident, see A6661, 30 listed below.	A6, 1901/1719
Letters, Reports, Press cuttings and statements of Account in connection with Furnishings and supplies at Exhibition Building during the Royal Visit, May 1901	A6, 1901/1784
Papers re Provision and costs of Police Horses for use of visiting Royalty and Staff, 1901	A6, 1901/1835
Re Employment Detectives from WA & SA during Royal Visit to Melbourne, 1901 File primarily discusses whether the detectives' salaries should be paid from the states' or the Commonwealth's royal visit funds.	A6, 1901/1862
Appointment of Detective Inspector TM Christie, 1901 Mr Christie was responsible for many of the security arrangements during the royal visit.	A6, 1901/2010
Charges for telegrams despatched by staff of Duke of Cornwall and York, 1901	A6, 1901/2027
Invitation to attend ceremony to welcome Royal Highness in Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia, 1901	A6, 1901/2034
Letter from His Royal Highness, the Duke of Cornwall and York re inauguration of the first Parliament, 1901	A6, 1901/2062
Historic memorials - Opening of first Federal Parliament - Papers relating, an exhibition of painting of opening of Parliament 1901 during jubilee celebrations, 1926-1948 Recorded by: 1951-1955 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	A462, 778/12

- International Copyright Registration with exhibit – Photograph of painting of HRH Duke of York opening the first Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, 1908** **A1714, 11**
Recorded by: 1907–1912 Australian Industrial Property Organisation (CA 555)
- Copyright Registration with exhibit Alfred John Moulton – Photograph of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, Museum of Perth, plus returned unclaimed letter to F Stringer Esquire, 1901** **A1721, 41**
Recorded by: 1896–1905 Patent Office, WA (CA 1257)
- Copyright Registration with exhibit – Hail Royal Prince, 1901** **A1723, 85**
Recorded by: 1897–1906 Patent Office, WA (CA 1257)
This item is a fully orchestrated musical ode ‘specially composed and respectfully dedicated to Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York on the occasion of their visit to Western Australia by Frederick Miller’.

Lyrics include: ‘Hail Royal Prince, Welcome to our shores, Son of our King, our future King to be, thy gracious Consort too, We greet thee...’
- Victoria Racing Club. Duke of York's Birthday Meeting, 1901, Official Card** **A1786, 9664B**
Recorded by: 1870–1907 Registrar of Copyrights, Vic (CA 1400)
- Victoria Racing Club. Duke of York's Birthday Meeting, 1901 – Official Programme, 1901** **A1786, 9665B**
- Painting of the Landing of the Duke of York in May 1901, 1911** **A6006, 1911/9/19**
Recorded by: 1911 Cabinet
- Presentation of medals by His Royal Highness, the Duke of Cornwall and York, 1901–1903** **A6585, 1903/1718**
Recorded by: 1899–1907 Chief Secretary's Office, Qld (CA 4422)
- Governor-General's expenses during Royal Visit, 1901** **A6661, 29**
Recorded by: 1888–1936 Governor-General (CA 1)
- Visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York, 1900–1902** **A6661, 30**
The file contains numerous pieces of correspondence, principally between the Governor-General (Lord Hopetoun), the State Governors, the Prime Minister (Mr Barton) and the British authorities.

In a telegram dated 15 January 1901 from Chamberlain, the British Colonial Secretary, to Hopetoun, Chamberlain discusses numerous proposals for the royal visit. He suggested that the Duke and Duchess should arrive in Australia in late April and leave no later than mid July.

In discussing particular activities and arrangements in each of the states, the only practical suggestion Chamberlain had to offer was, ‘I understand that good duck shooting is to be had in Queensland’.

The file also contains details of threats to the royal couple allegedly made by ‘Italian anarchists’ aboard the *Ormuz*. These

threats lead to an intensified police presence during this royal tour.

Correspondence relating to the opening of the First Parliament, 1901–1926

A6661, 184

This file contains administrative details about the opening of Parliament. It includes arrangements for the Letters Patent authorising the opening of the Federal Parliament to be signed again by Edward VII after the death of Queen Victoria and also contains telegrams from numerous Australian and international dignitaries accepting the invitation to attend the opening ceremony.

Proceedings at the opening of Commonwealth Parliament, 1901–1910

A6661, 185

Material borrowed re Royal Visit arrangements, 1901–1920

A6678, R5/5/3

Recorded by: 1920–1922 Commonwealth Organizer, Royal Visit (CA 1051)

This item, although it comes from a record series compiled during the royal visit of 1920, principally contains information relating to the royal visit of 1901. The information was used as a guide during the planning stages of the 1920 tour.

Royal Review of Commonwealth Troops. Expression of praise by Duke of Cornwall and York, 1901

B168, 1901/454

Recorded by: 1901–1906 Department of Defence (CA 6)
Held in the Melbourne office of the National Archives.

Pay for troops in connection with departure of Duke of York & Cornwall, 1901

B168, 1901/641

Held in the Melbourne office of the National Archives.

Review of Troops – Hobart – Expression of praise by Duke of York and Cornwall, 1901

B168, 1901/1363

Held in the Melbourne office of the National Archives.

Review of South Australian forces by Duke of York & Cornwall, 1901

B168, 1901/1773

Held in the Melbourne office of the National Archives.

Regulations, Arrangements and Orders to be observed in connection with the public functions of the visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, Sydney, 1901.

M3816, 7 Part 1

Collected by: 1860–1966 Rt Hon Sir Eric John Harrison KCMG KCVO (CP 648)

Booklet contained within the personal records collection of Sir Eric John Harrison (the Minister in Charge of the Royal Visit, 1954), detailing the traffic arrangements made in connection with the royal visit to Sydney in 1901.

The section entitled *City Illuminations* contains the following warning:

Citizens illuminating their premises are enjoined to exercise the utmost care to prevent the lights from setting fire to buildings, also to have appliances to hand to promptly extinguish a fire should such unfortunately take place.

Invitation 'In celebration of the Opening Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, to meet Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, 9 May 1901, 8 o'clock'	M3816 7 Part 1
Programme of celebrations, during the visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, 1901 Collected by: 1904–1958 Sir Kenneth Hamilton Bailey CBE, QC (CP 71)	M1508, 90
Honours for investment by His Royal Highness in May 1901 Recorded by: 1901–1914 Governor-General (CA 1)	CP78/4, Bundle 2/20
Royal visits. Her Majesty's visit in 1901 [Queen Mary], 1920 Recorded by: 1912–1927 Governor-General (CA 1)	CP78/22, 1920/945

The coronation of George V

George V was crowned on 23 June 1911. Australia was represented at the coronation by Prime Minister Fisher and his wife who attended as official guests. In addition, the government sent 12 members of the House of Representatives and 6 members of the Senate as official representatives.

Coronation – King George V, 1910–1936 Recorded by: 1934–1950 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	A461, F396/1/2
Excerpt from <i>Daily Telegraph</i> (Sydney) 23 June 1911 – Coronation of George V, 1911 Collected by: 1860–1966 Rt Hon Sir Eric John Harrison KCMG KCVO (CP 648)	M3816, 38
Coronation of King George V Commemoration Tapestry, 1924 Recorded by: 1923–1934 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	A458, N370/3

Examples of general records associated with the reign of George V

Birthday Greetings to King George V from residents of Norfolk Island, 1915–1918 Recorded by: 1903–1907 Department of External Affairs, Melbourne (CA 7) One of the telegrams on this file read: Erectable Orangemen residents reprovigna their loyalty and devotion gowlhood hindley occubas bedsides. This wartime code translates as 'Executive Council, on behalf of residents, request their loyalty and devotion conveyed to His Majesty the King on the occasion of His Majesty's birthday'.	A1, 1918/14865
Print. George V and Mary Encircled by a Wedding Ring for Sovereign Wedding Rings. Registration and Exhibit, 1910 Recorded by: 1907–1913 Australian Industrial Property Organisation (CA 555)	A1861/1, 1527

HM the King George V Date of Celebration of the Birthday of His Majesty the King, 1911-1914	A6661, 1
Recorded by: 1888-1936 Governor-General (CA 1)	
HM King George V Birthday, 1920	A6661, 6
HM King George V Birthday 1921	A6661, 7
HM the King and Queen (George V) Request for Autographs for Photos, 1920	A6661, 8
HM the King (George V) and Queen - Gifts etc, 1921-1927	A6661, 11
His Majesty King George and Queen Mary - Empire Day Message to boys and girls of Commonwealth (audio tape), circa 1932	C102, RO6
Held by the Sydney office of the National Archives.	

Disapproval over the appointment of Sir Isaac Isaacs as the Governor-General

In 1930, during the reign of George V, Sir Isaac Isaacs, a former Chief Justice of the High Court, was appointed by Prime Minister Scullin's Labor Government as the first Australian born Governor-General. His appointment triggered large scale opposition both within the Government and abroad. George V himself was opposed to the appointment of a 'local man' instead of an appointee from Britain, who could better unite the Empire.¹⁹

The majority of protests emanating from Australia focussed on the fact that an Australian appointee could not be politically impartial and would jeopardise the ties of Empire. A letter from the leader of the Opposition, John Latham, to Sir Josiah Symon, dated 16 December 1930, emphasises this point:

I feel that the present Government has weakened every tie that binds us to the Mother Country and that holds the Empire together, and that it is also making Australia unpopular throughout the world.²⁰

A number of letters from members of the public who wrote to Latham to express their opposition to Isaacs' appointment are contained on the following file which is held amongst Mr Latham's personal papers:

Governor-General (Re appointment of Sir Isaac Isaacs by the Scullin Government)	CP450/3 Bundle 1 / 4
Recorded by: 1929-1931 The Rt Hon Sir John Greig Latham PC, GCMG (CP 148)	

The death of King George V

King George died on 21 January 1936. His death was commemorated by a period of national mourning throughout Australia and the rest of the Commonwealth. A cablegram from the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs sent the day the king died set the following stringent requirements:

Places of entertainment will be closed today, thereafter remaining open until the day of the funeral when they will close until 6pm.

Broadcasting stations will remain closed for the rest of today except for repetition at intervals announcement of the death, announcement of news of outstanding importance, and addresses. Until the day of the funeral a single programme will be given at the usual hour but omitting any lighter material which might offend public opinions. ²¹

Public servants were dismissed early on the day of his death as a mark of respect for the King. *The Gazette Extraordinary No 8* of 22 January 1936 also directed military officers to wear black armbands until 20 July and specified that black mourning crepe should be hung from the trumpets of the cavalry. ²²

Death King George V, 1936

A1, 1936/1807

Recorded by: 1932-1938 Department of the Interior (CA 27)

This file helps to demonstrate the administrative effects of the death of a King: In a letter dated 27 January 1936, the Secretary of the Prime Minister's Department wrote to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior to discuss the issue of the use of black edged notepaper. It was decided that all official international correspondence would require black edged paper.

Death of His Majesty King George V – Effect on Certificate of Naturalisation, 1936

A1, 1936/2091

Again, this file demonstrates the administrative impact of the death of a monarch.

King George V Memorial – Erection of in Canberra Part 1, 1936

A1, 1936/2140

King George V – National Memorial University – Proposed foundation of, Canberra, 1936

A1, 1936/3637

On 3 February 1936 the Territory for the Seat of Government Advisory Council passed the following resolution:

That this council recommends to the Federal Government through the Minister for the Interior, desirability of founding a King George National Memorial University in Canberra as an expression of Australia wide appreciation of a great and illustrious king.

The idea had been promoted before but it was not until August 1946 that legislation was enacted to establish the Australian National University.

Re the death of His Late Majesty King George V, proclamation, 1935-1944

A432, 1936/81

Recorded by: 1901-1970 Attorney-General's Department (CA 5)

King George V – Memorial at Canberra, 1936-1943

A461, O370/1/8

Recorded by: 1934-1950 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

A design by G Raynor Hoff of Sydney was chosen by the National Memorials Committee for the official George V Memorial in May 1936. Mr Hoff undertook to complete the design for £19 444. However, shortly after signing the contract, Mr Hoff died. Mr J E Moorfield, also of Sydney, was therefore engaged by the Committee to complete the project. The completed design which, due to delays caused by the war, was not finished until 1943, was comprised of a large bronze figure of the king and a statue of the King on horseback.

The memorial is situated at the front of Old Parliament House in Canberra.

Death of King George V, 1936 A461, G396/1/2

Territories – Death of George V and accession of Edward VIII, 1936 A518, DU112/1

Recorded by: 1928–1941 Territories Branch, PM's Department (CA 822)

Death of HM King George V, 1936 A664, 486/401/317

Recorded by: 1924–1939 Department of Defence (CA 19)

Condolences – Messages of Condolence on the death of His Majesty King George V, 1936 A981, COND 3

Recorded by: 1927–1942 Department of External Affairs (CA 18)

Death of King George V, 1932–1936 A2910, 416/1/104

Recorded by: 1918–1960 Australian High Commission, London (CA 241)

Death of King George V 20/1/36, 1932–1936 A3522, Box 1/1

Recorded by: 1935–1953 Governor-General (CA 1)

The death of the King is poignantly captured in numerous telegrams attached to this file from Wigram, the Private Secretary to the King, to Sir Isaac Isaacs, the Australian Governor-General:

18 January 1936 – 'The King has a cold which is not severe but there are signs of cardiac weakness which must be regarded with some disquiet. Please inform Governors Australian states. Wigram'

20 January 1936 – 'The condition of the King shows diminishing strength...'

21 January 1936 – 'The King's life is moving peacefully towards its close. Signed Wigram.'

21 January 1936 – 'Profoundly regret to state that his Majesty King George V passed away just before midnight. Please inform Prime Minister...Wigram'

The Governor-General received another telegram on 26 January, this time from the new King, Edward VIII which was to be conveyed to both Houses of Parliament:

...On behalf of Queen Mary and myself I thank you most sincerely for your kind message of sympathy in our great loss. I have received with deep appreciation your expressions of loyalty to myself on my accession to the throne and your prayers for the happiness of my reign. It will always be my earnest endeavour under divine providence to follow the example of duty and devotion of the welfare of the Empire which was set by my dear father.

The *Commonwealth Government Gazette* stated on 23 January that the day of the King's funeral, 28 January, would be declared a public holiday. However a telegram from London on 23 January

lead to the revocation of the proclamation in the next issue of the *Gazette*. The telegram read:

It is announced that Tuesday next, the day of the funeral of the late King, will not be proclaimed as a day of public mourning since it is felt that the suspension of business activities involved would probably cause widespread hardship and loss [as much of the industrialised world was still suffering from the effects of the Great Depression].

King George V Memorial - Exhibition of Designs, 1937

A6006, 1937/04/21

Recorded by: 1937 Cabinet

King George V Memorial at Canberra, 1936

AA1972/341, 198

Recorded by: 1950-1971 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

King George V Memorial, Canberra - Unveiling Ceremony (audio tape), 1953

C102, OC35

Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.

King George V Memorial Canberra. Specification dated November 1939 by Harry Foskett, Architect, Sydney, 1936

CP945/1, 5


Recorded by: 1938-1939 Department of the Interior (CA 27)

King George V Memorial Canberra. Lloyds of London Insurance Policy No SB9/1844 dated 29 Dec 1939 in name of John Edward Moorfield and C'wealth of Australia, 1940

CP945/1, 7

Printed in England. (Sept. 1938.) (Message Form 81-174.)

THE EASTERN EXTENSION AUSTRALASIA & CHINA TELEGRAPH COMPANY, Limited,
(ASSOCIATED WITH CABLE AND WIRELESS LIMITED)
(INCORPORATED IN ENGLAND)



Cable Routes
Wireless Routes

Office of Issue
MELBOURNE
23 JAN. 1936
BRANCH

Circuit: Clerk's Name: Time Received: 11:23

399

XAE4 S BUCKINGHAM PALACE LONDON 65 23 1105 ETATBG -

GOVERNORGENERAL OF AUSTRALIA MELBOURNE

= MY MOTHER AND I ARE DEEPLY TOUCHED BY THE
MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY WHICH YOU HAVE ADDRESSED
TO US AND THE MEMBERS OF OUR FAMILY IN THE NAME
OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE COMMONWEALTH
OF AUSTRALIA PLEASE THANK THEM AND ASSURE THEM
HOW MUCH WE APPRECIATE THEIR KIND THOUGHTS
OF US AT THIS TIME OF OVERWHELMING SORROW =

MAR EDWARD R I * 2

NO ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM CAN BE ATTENDED TO WITHOUT PRODUCTION OF THIS COPY

24/1/36

Telegram from Edward, who succeeded his father. Eleven months later he abdicated. NAA: A3522, Box 1/1

The death of Queen Mary

According to Sir Henry Channon, 'her appearance was formidable, her manner – well, it was like talking to St Paul's Cathedral'.²³ However, Australian expressions of grief at the death of Queen Mary in 1953 were numerous and sincere.

Royalty – Death of Queen Mary – General, 1953–1954 A462, 821/1/114
Recorded by: 1951–1955 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II – Death of Queen Mary – Messages, 1953 A462, 821/1/115

Royalty – Death of Queen Mary – Press cuttings, 1953 A462, 821/1/116

Protocol – Death of Queen Mary, 1953 A1838, 1516/49
Recorded by: 1948–1970 Department of External Affairs (CA 18)
Contains letters of sympathy from numerous diplomatic representatives in Australia to the Australian government. In addition it also contains messages from Australian individuals, councils and organisations, expressing their sympathy.

For example, the Douglas Shire Council of Queensland forwarded the following telegram:

Kindly request His Excellency the Governor-General to humbly convey on behalf of the Douglas Shire Council and their people deepest sympathy to Her Majesty the Queen and members of the royal family on the passing of our honoured and greatly beloved Queen Mary.

Death of Her Majesty Queen Mary, 1953 A2910, 416/1/174
Recorded by: 1918–1960 Australian High Commission, London (CA 241)

Mowll, Most Rev. Dr Howard – Talk – "Tribute to Queen Mary" (audio tape), 1953 C102, REL29
Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.

Prince John

Prince John, the youngest son of George and Mary died in 1919 at the age of fourteen. The two files below dealing with his death contain messages of sympathy to his family from all manner of Australians, from the NSW Graziers' Association to the Municipality of Concord.

Royal Family – Prince John, 1919 A461, G396/1/4
Recorded by: 1934–1950 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Royalty – Death of His Royal Highness Prince John, 1919 CP78/22, 1919/44
Recorded by: 1912–1927 Governor-General (CA 1)

The death of Princess Victoria

Princess Victoria was the only daughter of King George V and Queen Mary and she died in 1935. The following files record official notices of condolence.

Royal Family – The Princess Victoria, 1935 A461, H396/1/4

Recorded by: 1934–1950 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Death of Princess Victoria, 1935

A518, DS112/1

Recorded by: 1928–1941 Territories Branch, Prime
Minister's Department (CA 822)

4. KING EDWARD VIII (1936)

Edward VIII was born on 23 June 1894. He served with the Commonwealth Forces in World War I and later visited Australia as the Prince of Wales in 1920. His was one of the most popular of royal visits to Australia. Journeying on the royal yacht *Renown*, he visited all Australian states in addition to Barbados, California, Honolulu, Fiji, New Zealand, Samoa, Acapulco, the West Indies and Bermuda. The Prince arrived in Australia in Melbourne on 27 May and departed from the country on 18 August 1920.

Edward ascended the throne on 20 January 1936 after the death of his father, George V. Before the end of the year, however, he took the unprecedented step of abdicating so that he could marry a twice divorced American woman, Mrs Wallis Simpson. On 10 December 1936 he made the following broadcast to the Empire:

After long and anxious consideration, I have determined to renounce the Throne to which I succeeded on the death of my father and I am now communicating this my final and irrevocable decision. Realising as I do the gravity of this step, I can only hope that I shall have the understanding of my people in the decision I have taken, and the reasons which have led me to take it.

I will not enter now into my private feelings, but I would beg that it should be remembered that the burden which constantly rests up on the shoulders of the Sovereign is so heavy that it can only be borne in circumstances different from those in which I now find myself.

I conceive that I am not overlooking the duties of a Sovereign that rest upon me to place in the forefront public interests, when I declare that I am conscious that I can no longer discharge this heavy task with efficiency or with satisfaction to myself.

I have accordingly, this morning, executed an instrument of abdication...²⁴

Edward (who became the Duke of Windsor after his abdication) and his wife lived the remainder of their lives in exile.

Royal Visit 1920

The Prince of Wales' royal visit of 1920 was extraordinarily popular. The extent of public support for the visit is illustrated by the following story told in Edward's autobiography, *A King's Story: The Memoirs of HRH the Duke of Windsor*.

The unofficial diary kept by my staff...recorded in Melbourne: 'Confetti is appearing in great and unpleasant quantities, and the touching mania has started, only owing to the heartening disposition of the Australians the touches are more like blows and HRH arrived half blinded



Edward, Prince of Wales. A photograph submitted for copyright registration in 1920. NAA: A1861, 4504

and black and blue.

The 'touching mania', one of the most remarkable phenomena connected with my travels, took the form of a mass impulse to prod some part of the Prince of Wales. Whenever I entered a crowd, it closed around me like an octopus. I can still hear the shrill, excited cry, 'I touched him!' If I were out of reach, then a blow to my head with a folded newspaper appeared to satisfy the impulse.²⁵

The organisation responsible for the 1920 visit by Edward, Prince of Wales was the Commonwealth Organizer, Royal Visit. This agency is registered within the Archives as CA 1051.

It was arranged that the Prince should spend nine days in Victoria, eleven days in New South Wales, four days in Tasmania, eleven days in Western Australia, six days in South Australia and eight days in Queensland. The overland journey from South Australia to Queensland via inland New South Wales towns was scheduled to take ten days. Any remaining days were allotted as free days for the Prince.²⁶

The Commonwealth Organizer, Royal Visit was located at Victoria Barracks, Melbourne, but responsible to the Prime Minister's Department. It generated a number of record series which deal specifically with the visit. These are included amongst the record series listed below:

PAPERS RELATING TO ROYAL VISIT TO QUEENSLAND, 1920

A654

Recorded by: 1920 Department of Works and Railways (CA 14)

Quantity: 0.09 metres

Location: Canberra

MAIN SERIES OF CORRESPONDENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE FILES, MULTIPLE
NUMBER SERIES WITH 'R' (ROYAL) PREFIX, 1920-1922

A6678

Recorded by: 1920-1922 Commonwealth Organizer, Royal Visit (CA 1051)
1920-1922 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 1.62 metres

Location: Canberra

This is the principal record series of the Commonwealth Organizer, containing correspondence and administrative files relating to the visit to Australia of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales in 1920.

The files document the work of the Commonwealth Organizer and staff, covering various subjects, eg invitations, suggestions, accounts, accommodation, transport, appointment of organisations and staff, programs, His Majesty's Ship *Renown*, naval arrangements, presentations and commemorations, gratuities, press matters, addresses of welcome, military arrangements, visits, etiquette, dress and precedence. There is one file on expenditure and accounts matters; however, a separate series (CRS A6679 Expenditure files, Royal Visit, 1920-1922), contains most of the accounts matters and statements of expenditure, etc.

The files in this series were perused in 1926 by the Staff of the 1927 Royal Visit Organisation. Some material was at that time destroyed but notes were also added to some files. A few files also contain single folios added after the closure of the agency. [In one case, later action was recorded on a "Royal Visit" file in 1936 by the Prime Minister's Department regarding the sale of

film footage of the 1920 visit to cinema companies]. In such cases explanatory notes have been included in the inventory of items.

EXPENDITURE FILES, ROYAL VISIT, 1920-1922

A6679

Recorded by: 1920-1922 Commonwealth Organizer, Royal Visit (CA 1051)
1920-1922 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.36 metres Location: Canberra

Files detailing the expenditure on the Royal Visit of the Prince of Wales in 1920. The files contain itemised statements of expenditure, warrant authorities, contingencies, correspondence on financial matters, accounts and requests for reimbursements. The files were accumulated for individual states, organisations, and departments. The series includes files created by the District Finance Officer in each state and files detailing the expenditure incurred by numerous Government departments such as Prime Minister's, Defence, Home and Territories, and the Department of Works and Railways in the various states.

UNREGISTERED CORRESPONDENCE FILES RELATING TO THE 1920 ROYAL VISIT, 1920-1924

A6690

Recorded by: 1920-1924 Governor-General (CA 1)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of correspondence to and from the Governor-General's Office in connection with the visit to Australia of the Prince of Wales in 1920.

The files are unregistered and deal with the liaison with the Secretary of State for the Colonies, other Governors-General, State Governors, the Personal Secretary to the Prince of Wales, the Prime Minister, and the Commonwealth Organizer on matters of entertainment, itineraries, etiquette, patronage and precedence.

Derailment of Royal Train in Western Australia, 1920

A6990, 8

Returned soldiers' functions in Australia, 1920

A6990, 10

Governor-General's levee, 1920

A6990, 14

MATERIAL RELATED TO ROYAL VISIT OF HRH, EDWARD, PRINCE OF WALES TO AUSTRALIA IN 1920

A9291

Recorded by: 1920 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.54 metres Location: Canberra

Contains a great deal of ephemera concerned with the Royal Visit of the Prince of Wales to Australia in 1920. The type of material includes menus, timetables for the Royal Train, ball invitations, speeches and commemorative prints etc. These examples came from all the states the Prince visited and illustrate the hundreds of events organised in honour of his visit.

Coming as recently as it did after the conclusion of World War I, the Prince's tour was massive in its scope and intention:

Between 26 May and 19 August he visited 110 cities and towns across Australia. He had undertaken a similar tour through Canada the previous year. His father, King George V, described these tours as an opportunity for his son and heir to become better acquainted with the peoples of the Empire. The visits were also regarded as a royal thank you for the service and the sacrifice given by the Dominions in the war. But the tours were also designed to secure another function entirely – that was, to maintain the spirit of Empire.²⁷

A feature of the Prince's tour were the 'democratic levees' that were held in a number of the cities he visited. At a levee, lines of people would file past the Prince, allowing themselves a view of the Prince, and he a view of his people. The levee held at the Sydney Town Hall on 18 June 1920 was described as follows by the *Sydney Morning Herald*:

It was the meeting between the prince and the great democracy. For hours the people filed past His Royal Highness. Many of them waited for hours in the queue for the opportunity. The queue, in which the people stood about twelve deep, was the longest ever seen in Sydney... The Prince stood for an hour on the dais in the Town Hall, while the people passed at an average rate estimated by the Town Hall Clerk (Mr Nesbitt) at 170 per minute... It is estimated that about 50 000 walked past the Prince and that about 100 000 people were in the streets outside the Hall.

It was almost impossible for the Prince to notice people individually, and some of the crowd who were not as tall as those in front had difficulty in seeing the Prince at all.

The only definite thing that one can say about the people who passed before His Royal Highness is that they were representative of the whole community – Clergy, accountants, journalists and professional men of all descriptions, manual workers, and women and children filed passed.

That the Prince should have gone through the ordeal unaffected was not to be expected. He was raising his hat continually for nearly two and a half hours.²⁸



The Prince of Wales at the Anzac Hotel, Launceston, 21 July 1920. NAA: A1861, 4538

The following are examples of records concerning the royal visit of 1920:

Holidays – Holiday on visit of Prince Wales, 1920 Recorded by: 1904–1911 Prime Minister's Office (CA 588)	A2, 1920/782
Prince of Wales Visit. Initial Arrangements. Appointment of Sir CBB White as Organiser, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 1
Prince of Wales Visit – Expenditure, 1920–1921 Series A6679, described above, contains the bulk of the information about expenditure in connection with this royal visit.	A2, 1920/1113 Parts 2, 3
Prince of Wales Visit Organizers' File, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 4
Prince of Wales Visit Expenses, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 5
Prince of Wales Visit Advances to General White, 1920–1921	A2, 1920/1113 Part 6
Prince of Wales Visit Itinerary, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 7
Prince of Wales Itinerary, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 8

This file, and the one above, detail negotiations for the visit and requests for the Prince's time whilst he was in Australia.

The file also contains a clipping from the *Melbourne Age* which shows the Government was keen on exposing the Prince to real 'Australian experiences':

The Commonwealth Organizer for the Prince of Wales' tour, Sir Brudenell White, has determined that the Prince shall have a real insight into the typical outback life in the Commonwealth. According to official announcements made yesterday, a varied programme of kangaroo and emu hunting, buckjumping, with exhibitions of shearing etc, will be provided for the Prince and his entourage when on the overland journey from Adelaide to Wallangarra.

Prince of Wales – Motor Cars for, 1920–1921	A2, 1920/1113 Part 9
Prince of Wales Visit – Congratulations, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 10
Prince of Wales – Mails for, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 11
Prince of Wales' visit – Message to School children, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 12

This file contains an open letter from the Prince of Wales to the schoolchildren of Australia. The letter, dated 16 August 1920 reads in part as follows:

Girls and boys
My wonderful first visit to Australia is nearly over and I want to tell you before I sail how sorry I am to be going and to give you all my best wishes ...

I should like you all to remember my first visit, which I have enjoyed so much myself, and so I have asked that as a special favour to me you may have an extra week's holiday some time this year.

Australia is a magnificent country and I think you very fortunate to have it for your own. Make up your minds to

serve Australia well, for the future of every country depends before all things on the spirit of its girls and boys...

Prince of Wales Gala Performance at Her Majesty's Theatre, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 13
Prince of Wales' Visit – Flags, 1920–1921	A2, 1920/1113 Part 14
Prince of Wales' Visit – Ministerial Accompaniment, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 15
Prince of Wales' Invitations to State Ministers travelling on Trans-Continental Line, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 16
Prince of Wales – Newspaper Correspondents, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 17
Prince of Wales' Visit – Naval Arrangements, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 18
Prince of Wales' Visit – Loan of blankets for NSW police	A2, 1920/1113 Part 19
Prince of Wales' Visit – Arrangements for viewing foundation stone ceremony, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 20
Prince of Wales' Visit – Arrangements for foundation stone Ceremony – Canberra, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 21
Prince of Wales – Appointment as Captain [of] Australian Navy, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 23
Prince of Wales – Closing of Hotels, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 24
Prince of Wales' Visit. Bands of HMAS <i>Renown</i> and HMAS <i>Australia</i>, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 25
Prince of Wales' Visit Miscellaneous, 1920	A2, 1920/1113 Part 26
Prince of Wales' Visit – Ferry Steamer <i>Bingarra</i>, 1920	A2, 1920/1356
Public Service Salaries – Requests for increased pay during Prince of Wales' visit, 1920	A2, 1920/3353
Material borrowed re Royal Visit arrangements, 1901–1920 Recorded by: 1920–1922 Commonwealth Organizer, Royal Visit (CA 1051) 1920–1922 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12) The visit of the Prince of Wales was the first royal tour since 1901. To draw on knowledge and precedents set by this tour, information was taken from files compiled in 1901 to create this file to assist with 1920 arrangements.	A6678, R5/5/3
Visit of Prince of Wales to Victoria, 1920	A6678, R11/1
Visit of Prince of Wales to NSW, 1920	A6678, R11/2
Visit of Prince of Wales. South Australian Programme	A6678, R11/4
Visit of Prince of Wales. Western Australian Programme,	A6678, R11/5
Visit of Prince of Wales. Tasmanian Programme, 1920	A6678, R11/6
Visit of Prince of Wales. Police file, 1920	A6678, R17
Visit of Prince of Wales – Official report This report by the Commonwealth Organizer Brudenell White is divided into four sections: a general report, 'suggestions for future control and organisation of similar events', a financial statement, and a list of programme and invitations etc for the official record.	A6678, R96

Arrangements re royal visit, 1920	CP103/11, 883
Recorded by: 1921–1932 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	
Expenses re royal visit, 1921	CP103/11, 884

As a part of his tour of regional New South Wales, the Prince travelled to Canberra where he laid the Foundation stone in the centre of Canberra for what was to be the Capitol Building. The *Sydney Morning Herald* wrote the following about the Prince's visit to the future capital:

The Prince of Wales, on his first country tour of New South Wales, was accorded everywhere magnificent receptions by cheering crowds right along the [rail] line and at the towns visited.

With the journey will always be associated an epoch making ceremony – the laying by the Prince of a commemoration stone – the first stone – of the Capitol at Canberra. In this building will be enshrined the records of Australian achievement and the archives of the nation.

'I think,' said the Prince in performing the ceremony, 'that at the present moment Canberra consists chiefly of foundation stones'. His Royal Highness added when the laughter had subsided, 'That is the fault of the war and I know you are going to build a very fine city here.' ²⁹

The Capitol building was never constructed, but the commemorative stone laid by the Prince is now located at the new Parliament House in Canberra. Listed below are four souvenir items connected with the Prince's visit to Canberra located within the personal papers of Percy Sheaffe, the first surveyor of Canberra.

Also listed is an invitation to a Melbourne based royal visit function, issued to former Prime Minister of Australia Sir Joseph Cook.

Invitations, 1920 – Royal progress at the Commonwealth Bank, Parliament House (Melbourne) to meet and welcome the Prince of Wales, 1920	M3610, 3
Collected by: 1918–1940 Sir Joseph Cook (CP611)	
This item is held by the Sydney office of the National Archives.	
Sheaffe Papers. An invitation from the Ministers of State to Mr and Mrs Sheaffe 'to be present at Canberra on Monday 14th day of June 1920 to witness the laying of a Foundation Stone of the Capitol by HRH the Prince of Wales'.	M4071, 53
Collected by: 1902–1963 Percy Lampriere Sheaffe (CP 53)	
Sheaffe Papers. Seven 'Entree Cards' [one personalised to Mr Sheaffe, the others blank] to the trains and luncheon, for Foundation Stone ceremony, 1920	M4071, 54
Sheaffe Papers. 'Itinerary. Ceremony of laying a Commemoration Stone (the First Stone) of the Capitol, Canberra, by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Monday, 21st June 1920'.	M4071, 55
Sheaffe Papers. Menus for 'Luncheon. Given by Ministers of State for the Commonwealth on the occasion of the Laying of a Commemoration Stone of the Capitol, Canberra by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, KG, 21st June 1920.	M4071, 56

ITEMS SUBMITTED FOR COPYRIGHT IN RESPONSE TO THE PRINCE'S VISIT

The popularity of this visit is perhaps evidenced by the large number of items submitted for copyright registration at the time of the Prince's tour. The Prince of Wales had served in World War I, and this can help account for some of the public support shown for his visit which took place two years after the conclusion of the war. Shouts of 'Digger' accompanied him throughout his visit.

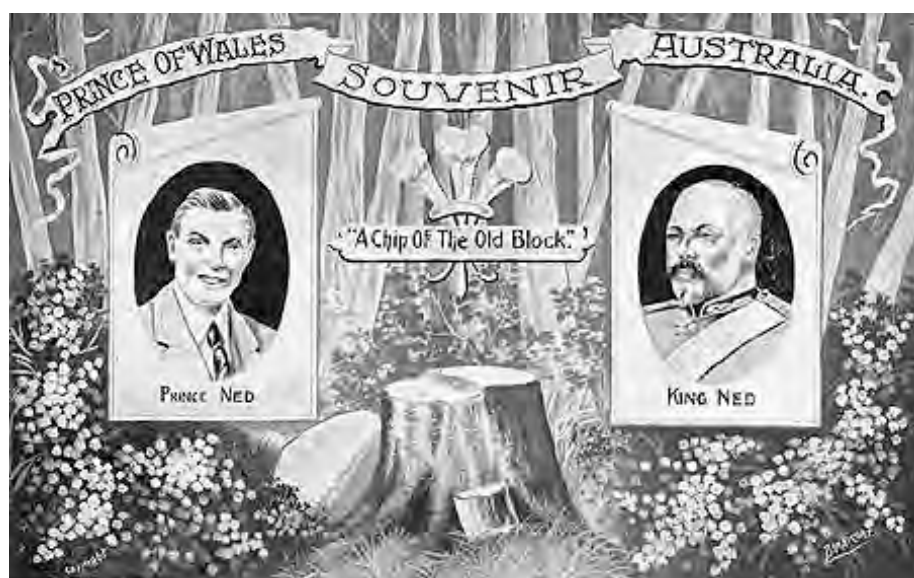
The visit was also designed as a means of thanking the Commonwealth nations for their contribution to the British war effort. At a State Banquet in Sydney, the Prince said:

I particularly want...to congratulate all the people of the State on their magnificent effort in the Great War. You contributed in proportion to your very large population to the fine Australian Corps, and I know that there were no better troops than New South Welshmen in that splendid body of men.³⁰

Such sentiments were repeated at public occasions across the country and helped to cement his popularity and perceived identification with his people.

Items held within the copyright collections are:

Photograph, "HRH Prince of Wales", 1920	A1861, 4490
Recorded by: 1907-1913 Australian Industrial Property Organisation [AIPO], Central Office (CA 555)	
Photograph of Card. Souvenir of the Prince of Wales Visit. "Chip of [sic] the Old Block". Registration and Exhibit, 1920	A1861, 4514
Photograph. Unveiling Ceremony of Statue of King Edward VII by Edward, Prince of Wales. Registration and Exhibit, 1920	A1861, 4523
Photograph. Adelaide Illuminated in Honour of the Visit of the Prince of Wales. Registration and Exhibit, 1920	A1861, 4524



A postcard souvenir of the Prince of Wales' visit designed by a Brisbane artist. NAA: A1861, 4514



Another souvenir of the Prince's 1920 visit, submitted by a Melbourne artist. NAA: A1861, 4582

Photograph. Royal Visit. Australia. 1920. Welcome HRH the Prince of Wales. Registration and Exhibit	A1861, 4526
Photographs. HRH Prince of Wales at Cataract Gorge, Launceston. Registration and Exhibit, 1920	A1861, 4548
Photograph. Souvenir of Visit of HRH Prince of Wales. 1920	A1861, 4582

Examples of general records associated with Edward, Prince of Wales, later Edward VIII and the Duke of Windsor

Records in this section relate to the accession of Edward VIII, include references to an attempted assassination of the King in 1936, birthday and general greetings from his Australian subjects and reports of his alleged allegiance to the Nazi party.

Royal Family. The Prince of Wales, 1935 Recorded by: 1934–1950 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	A461, B396/1/4
King Edward VIII General, 1936 This file discusses an assassination attempt made on the life of the King on 16 July 1936. It contains letters of thanks for the safety of the King from many Australians as well as letters and telegrams documenting rumours of the abdication.	A461, I396/1/2
HM King Edward VIII – Birthday, 1936	A461, R396/1/12

Accession to the throne – Edward VIII, 1936	A461, J396/1/2
Press cuttings – Edward VIII and Germany, 1962–1963 Recorded by: 1937–1971 Sir Frederick Geoffrey Shedden KCMG, OBE (CP 320) Contains copies of news reports alleging Edward's allegiance to Nazi Germany.	A5954, 1131/9
Wales, His Royal Highness Prince of – Talk – "Sportsmanship" (audio tape), 1927 Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.	C102, RO1
Wales, His Royal Highness Prince of – Speech on Armistice Night (audio tape), 1927 Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.	C102, RO2
His Majesty Edward VIII. Proclamation of the accession of (audio tape), 1936 Recorded by: Australian Broadcasting Commission (CA 251) Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.	C102, RO18
Photograph depicting Henry Duke of Gloucester, Joseph Cook, William Hughes, Edward Prince of Wales, George Duke of Kent, Andrew Fisher and Sir George Pearce outside Australia House, London, on Armistice Day Collected by: 1918 The Hon Edward John Russell (CP 679) Held in the Melbourne office of the National Archives.	M4063, 1
King Edward VIII. Accession. Spare copies of cables, proclamation etc, 1936 Recorded by: 1921–1932 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	CP103/11, 438

The abdication of Edward VIII

The abdication of Edward VIII was an unparalleled event. No monarch had abdicated since Richard II in 1399. Edward VIII had been astoundingly popular and had been on the throne for less than one year when he made the irrevocable decision.

The decision, however, was not taken lightly. Edward was reluctant to relinquish his position and suggested that he engage in a morganatic marriage whereby Mrs Simpson be recognised as his consort, but she would be deprived of the 'status, rights and privileges' of a Queen.³¹

However, according to British constitutional rule, in any conflict of power, the Parliament has authority over the monarch and ultimately the monarch must accept the advice of Parliament on everything that affects public policy and the public interest.³² The British Cabinet could not prevent the King from marrying, but Prime Minister Baldwin made it clear to the King that Cabinet could not approve a marriage in which Mrs Simpson, 'necessarily becomes Queen [and therefore] enjoys all the status, rights and privileges... [that are attached] to that position'.³³

Because the Statute of Westminster (written in 1931) declared that 'Any alteration in the law touching the Succession of the Throne or the Royal Style and Titles shall hereafter require the assent as well of the Parliaments of all the Dominions as of the Parliament of the United Kingdom', Australia was involved in the international discussions that ensued after news of the proposed marriage spread.³⁴

The Dominions Office in London asked the Prime Ministers of Australia, Canada, South Africa, India and New Zealand to nominate which of the following options they favoured:

- a marriage in which Mrs Simpson would become Queen
- a morganatic marriage
- the abdication of the King

According to Alistair Cooke's *Six Men*, India and New Zealand had no firm views about which of the positions they preferred. However, the governments of Australia, Canada and South Africa were adamant in their opinion that they would not have Mrs Simpson as Queen, and nor would they allow a morganatic marriage.

The issues at stake were summarised most accurately in an article by Harold Laski printed in the *New York Times* on 7 December 1936, three days before the abdication. Laski wrote:

This issue is independent of the personality of the King. It is independent of the personality of the Prime Minister. It does not touch on the wisdom or unwisdom of the marriage the King has proposed. It is not concerned with the pressure, whether of the churches or the aristocracy, that is hostile to this marriage. It is the principle that out of this issue no precedent must be created that makes the Royal authority once more a source of independent political power in the State.

35

Ultimately, the views of the Australian, Canadian and South African governments were in keeping with the opinion of the British government and the combined pressure of his various political representatives lead to the King's abdication on 10 December 1936.

Prime Minister Lyons announced in a public broadcast on 10 December,

I feel sure that I am voicing the sentiments of every Australian when I express the most profound regret at the step which His Majesty King Edward has taken. We must all wish most heartily that he had acted otherwise.

It is sad that a reign begun in such auspicious circumstances should end so soon in such a manner...It was against the expressed wish of the representatives of his people that he took this course. When the Commonwealth Government urged him to reconsider his decision, I spoke, I knew, for every Australian. ³⁶

Cooke concludes, however, by saying,

All in all, few disasters in the history of the English kings were more fortunate than the appearance in the Prince's social set of the divorcee from Baltimore. When the war came, and the social tone of royal life had hardly recovered from popular suspicion, Britain found herself with a modest and dutiful King, a devoted Queen, and two bright children – a microcosm of middle class dependability that saw the country through when the going was bad. The most damning epitaph you can compose about Edward – as a prince, as a king and as a man – is one that...he was at his best only when the going was good. ³⁷

Examples of records associated with the abdication of Edward VIII

Please note that not all of the records described in the section below are entirely open for public access. The British Government has requested that some records relating to the abdication remain closed for one hundred years after the event, that is, until 2037. The records that have had closures imposed on them are referred to below as being 'open with exception'.

Films – Newsreel. Duke of Windsor's Wedding – Action taken to withhold release, 1936–1937**A425, 1937/4095**

Recorded by: 1935–1956 Department of Trade and Customs, Central Office (CA 10)

The Department of Trade and Customs was of the opinion that:

Taking all things into consideration, the possible ill-effects [of releasing the footage of the Duke's wedding] are more apparent than the advantages which are likely to accrue if films of the nature mentioned are shown publicly, and it is suggested that the exhibition thereof is undesirable in the public interest.

This official attitude, which made the display of film of the Duke and Duchess illegal, met largely with public disapproval. The *Labour Daily* accused the Government of bowing to British pressure. The *Daily Telegraph's* editorial on 8 June 1937 stated:

England's ban on films of the Duke of Windsor's wedding is a foolish piece of timidity...The nation's loyalty to the present King cannot be questioned. Surely it would not be imperilled by the screening of a few 100 feet of film...To ban anything is the best way of exciting interest in it.

Royalty Abdication of King Edward VIII General, 1936–1937**A461, V396/1/1**

Recorded by: 1934–1950 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

This file is open with exception under s.33(1)(a)(b) of the *Archives Act* 1983.

Imperial. Proposed Marriage of King Edward VIII & Accession of George VI, 1936–1937**A981, Imp 23**

Recorded by: 1927–1942 Department of External Affairs (CA 18)

Abdication of King Edward VIII, 1936–1937**A3522, File 1**

Recorded by: 1935–1953 Governor-General (CA 1)

This file is open with exception under s.33(1)(a)(b) of the *Archives Act* 1983.

The open portions of this file contain Australian government correspondence regarding the abdication and includes a 20 page cablegram from London detailing Baldwin's speech to the English Parliament

Press cuttings. Special. Box file No.3. "The Windsor Story" by the Duke of Windsor, 1967**A5954, 1131/2**

Recorded by: 1937–1971 Sir Frederick Geoffrey Shedden KCMG, OBE (CP 320)

A collection of newscuttings compiled by Sir Frederick Shedden giving the Duke of Windsor's perspective on the events that led to his abdication.

Edward VIII and his abdication**A5954, 1131/8**

Newspaper clippings of the story as told by Lord Beaverbrook, advisor to the King during this period.

The first line of this telegram contains the following particulars in order named:—

No.	Office of Origin	No. of Words	Date	Time	Official Instructions
BS892	LONDON	54	6TH	95PM	COLLECT...

ABCOM SYDNEY...

9 DEC 1938
8.06 AM
2 BL
Let Mr

A SURPRISE CABINET MEETING THIS MORNING REPORTED B ALDWIN
^{had} RECEIVED LETTER KING, THEN VISITED MARY RETURNED MEETING
^{from H.M.H. to} ^{Queen} ^{to the}
^{announced that Her} ^{that the} ^{am}
 STOP BBC BROADCAST TONIGHT NO FOUNDATION GOVERNMENT TRYING
 FORCE KING MAKE DECISION, NO ADVICE WITH THREAT RESIGNATION
 ADVICE ONLY REFERENCE KINGS REQUEST RE QUESTION MORGANATIC
 MARRIAGE STOP MUCH EXCITEMENT LONDON TODAY CROWDS BESIEGING
 WHITEHALL THIS EVENING.

MASON

Via Beam

The first line of this telegram contains the following particulars in order named:—

No.	Office of Origin	No. of Words	Date	Time	Official Instructions
BS151	LONDON	49	7	749P	

ABCOM SYDNEY

not used

BALDWIN STATEMENT COMMONS EARNEST DESIRE GOVERNMENT GIVES
 KING FULLEST OPPORTUNITY MAKING DECISION NO ADVICE TO KING
 EXCEPT QUESTION MORGANATIC STOP WHEN KING ARRIVES DECISION
 HE NO DOUBT COMMUNICATE IT GOVERNMENTS BRITAIN DOMINIONS
 THOSE GOVERNMENTS THEN DECIDE WHAT ADVICE TENDER STOP
 EXPRESSED HOUSES DEEP R RESPECTFUL SYMPATHY KING

MASON

Via Beam

The first line of this telegram contains the following particulars in order named:—

No.	Office of Origin	No. of Words	Date	Time	Official Instructions
BS482	D LONDON	7	10TH	9 28AM	COLLECT.

URGENT ABCOM SYDNEY

STRONG RUMOURS ABDICATION

MASON

Via Beam

Some of the many telegrams from London in the days leading up to the King's abdication. NAA: SP286/16, Box 1

Secret and personal speech notes [re announcement of the abdication of Edward VIII]**M2270, 3**

Recorded by: 1931–1939 The Rt Hon Joseph Aloysius Lyons PC, CH (CP 254)

Speech notes of Prime Minister Joseph Lyons. According to his notes, the Prime Minister, who was very much opposed to the abdication, intended to tell the Parliament the following:

Of his own will, he steps down from the throne of this mighty empire. I say of his own will, because it was against the expressed wish of the representatives of his people that he took this course...

With the deepest sadness in our hearts, we bid King Edward the Eighth farewell...

Main file – Abdication [of King Edward VIII], 1936**CP4/10, 1**

Recorded by: 1936 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

This file is open with exception under s.33(1)(a)(b) of the *Archives Act* 1983.

The open portions of this file contain correspondence from the Australian government to Britain expressing the nation's support for the new King. It also contains a copy of British Prime Minister Baldwin's speech regarding the abdication, made in the House of Commons.

Included on the file is a copy of the *Gazette Extraordinary* issued on 14 December 1936 on behalf of the new King:

I meet you today in circumstances which are without parallel in the history of our country. Now that the duties of sovereignty have fallen to me, I declare to you my adherence to the strict principles of constitutional government and my resolve to work before all else for the welfare of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

With my wife as helpmeet by my side, I take up the heavy task which lies before me. In it I look for the support of all my peoples.

Constitutional – [Abdication of King Edward VIII], 1936**CP4/10, 3**

This file is open with exception under s.33(1)(a)(b) of the *Archives Act* 1983.

Expenditure on printing of Edward VIII stamps, 1937**MP1/1, 1937/6923**

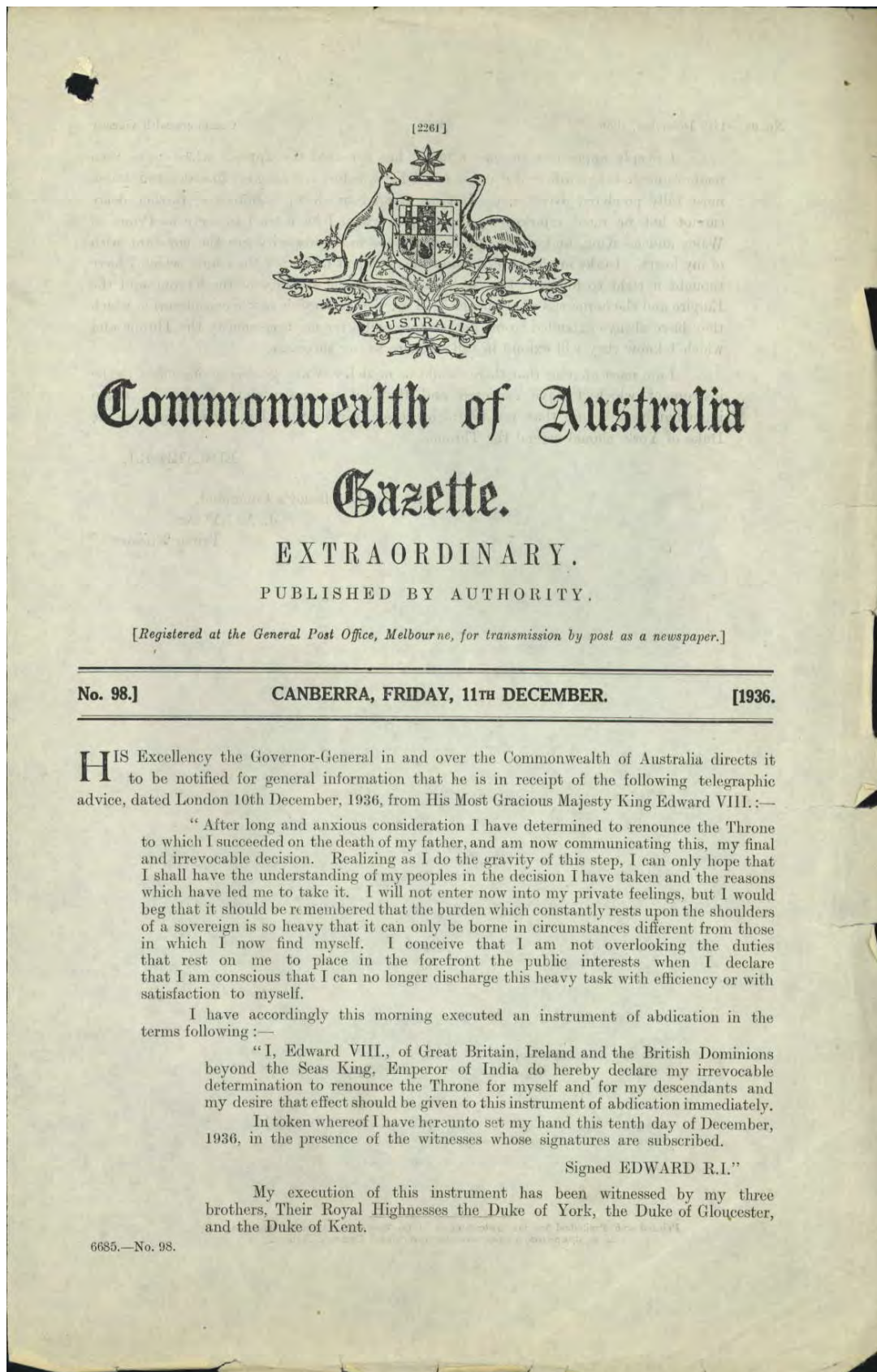
Recorded by: 1941–1945 Department of War Organisation of Industry (Central Office) (CA 45)

Due to the abdication of the King, newly printed stamps bearing his image had to be replaced. Held in the Melbourne office of the National Archives.

Edward VIII stamps and coins, 1936**MP341/1, 1936/2240**

Recorded by: 1901–1939 Postmaster-General's Department, Central Administration (CA 9)

Held in the Melbourne office of the National Archives.



The abdication notice published in the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette of 11 December 1936. NAA: A3522, File 1

King Edward Abdicates, 1936**SP6/1, A1936/1994**

Recorded by: 1929–1940 Film Censorship Board II (CA 144)
Paramount Films submitted a newsreel entitled 'King Edward's Abdication' for registration in late 1936. For the film to be registered it had to be passed by the Censorship Board. Before it could be distributed, the Board said that distributors had to 'delete portions directly dealing with the ex-King and Mrs Simpson'. As a result, 185 of the film's 385 feet had to be deleted. Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.

Fox News Items, 1936**SP6/1, A1936/2001**

Recorded by: 1929–1940 Film Censorship Board II (CA 144)
This record shows that on 30 December 1936 Fox Film Corporation was ordered to delete the 6 feet of their news footage which showed a sign reading 'Stand by the King'. Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.

Fox News Items, 1936**SP6/1, A1936/2003**

Recorded by: 1929–1940 Film Censorship Board II (CA 144)
On 5 January 1937, the Film Censorship Board ordered Fox Film Corporation to delete shots in the newsreel showing two women kneeling and all close-up images of Edward and Mrs Simpson. Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.

The King and the Chorus Girl**SP6/1, A1937/665**

Recorded by: 1929–1940 Film Censorship Board II (CA 144)
After considering this Warner Bros film for registration, the Censorship Board decided on 23 April 1937 that 'total rejection [was] considered necessary'.
Specifically, the Board was of the opinion that:

... this film would be offensive to British people.
Deliberately, or by unusual coincidence, the ex-King of the film bears a striking resemblance to the Duke of Windsor, and this is emphasised by mannerisms and dress to such an extent that it is hard to believe that it has not been done deliberately. In morning dress and in naval uniform, even the angle at which the bowler and cap are worn emphasises the likeness, and the introduction of the American element would also appear to be with intent.

A reference to abdication, the line of British portraits, reproductions of postage stamps and coins, the yacht in the Mediterranean, Gibraltar, in fact the whole atmosphere and its suggestiveness, can leave an audience with but one impression, and the Board is unanimous in the belief that the release of such a film in Australia would be both offensive and dangerous.

The distributors appealed against the Board's decision, but the appeal was turned down by the Board on 17 December 1937. This was despite the film's release in England, subject to some minor restrictions.

The file contains a still from the film, some pages of dialogue, newspaper clippings and correspondence between the Board and the distributors. Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.

5. KING GEORGE VI (1936–52)

George VI was born on 14 December 1895. He was King from 10 December 1936 until his death on 6 February 1952. He was succeeded by his daughter who became Queen Elizabeth II.

George became the King when his brother Edward VIII abdicated. Upon ascending the throne he said 'With my wife [Elizabeth] as helpmeet at my side, I take up the heavy task that lies before me. In it I look for the support of all my peoples.'³⁸ The new King felt unprepared to assume this role. He was untrained in matters of state and suffered from a pronounced stutter that made public speaking difficult. To combat the latter problem, he started work with an Australian speech therapist, Lionel Logue. 'He gave the Duke tongue twisters to practise on, and both men laughed over the patient's variable successes with...' 'She sifted seven thick stalked thistles through a strong, thick sieve'.³⁹ The treatment was ultimately successful.

In addition to the royal visit of 1927, other tours of Australia by the couple were planned in 1949 and then again in 1952. Both of these tours however had to be cancelled due to the King's ill health. Information about records relating to these proposed tours can be found in Chapter 7.



The future King George VI is shown here with his wife the Duchess of York (later the Queen Mother) at the opening of Parliament House Canberra in 1927.
NAA: A3560, 3058

Royal visit 1927

King George and his wife visited Australia as the Duke and Duchess of York in 1927. They were the royal representatives at the opening of the provisional Parliament House in Canberra on 9 May 1927. The couple arrived in Australia on 26 March and departed the country on 23 May.

According to the itinerary, it was decided that the Duke and Duchess would spend twelve days of their tour in New South Wales, seven days in Queensland, four days in Tasmania, eleven days in Victoria, six days in South Australia, three days in the Australian Capital Territory and six days in Western Australia. The remaining ten days of the tour were either to be spent travelling or used as recreation days by the couple.⁴⁰

In his report to the Prime Minister, Brudenell White, the Director-General in charge of the 1927 royal visit remarked that 'the outstanding feature of the tour was unquestionably the remarkable display, by all sections of the community, of loyalty and affection to the representatives of His Majesty the King. It would be difficult even in imagination to picture a welcome of greater warmth or more sincere respect and affection than was everywhere in Australia accorded to Their Royal Highnesses.'⁴¹

The royal visit of 1927 was organised by the Commonwealth Director of the Royal Tour 1927 (CA 1052). This agency was a part of the Prime Minister's Department. It created three series of records in the custody of the National Archives. Details of these and several other record series relating to the tour are as follows:

GLASS LANTERN SLIDES OF THE 1927 OPENING OF PARLIAMENT HOUSE, 1927 A3348

Recorded by: 1927 Department of the House of Representatives (CA 692)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

Glass Lantern Slides of the opening of Federal Parliament, Canberra in 1927 and other contemporary scenes.

The slides are in excellent physical condition, housed in a polished wooden partition box with dovetails, brass hinges and slide catches. They were presented in 1947 to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Hon Mr John Solomon Rosevear, in whose private vault the slides had been housed. Their functional origin and creator are unknown but it would appear from the system of control symbols (several and disassociated) that the slides are a selection from a much larger collection.

ADDRESS PRESENTED ON THE OCCASION OF THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT HOUSE 9 MAY 1927

A4867

Recorded by: 1927 Joint House Department (CA 693)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

The series consists of one document, a manuscript of the address delivered by Prince Albert (later King George VI), on the occasion of the opening of Parliament House Canberra.

PRINCIPAL RECORD SERIES OF THE COMMONWEALTH DIRECTOR OF THE
ROYAL TOUR OF 1927, 1926-1928

A6680

Recorded by: 1926-1928 Director of Royal Tour (CA 1052)

Quantity: 3.96 metres Location: Canberra

Correspondence and administrative files arranged in a multiple number sequence according to general subject headings. The files document the work of the Commonwealth Director and his staff in organising the Royal Visit. Although correspondence was being received as early as July 1926, notations made on folios suggest that the filing system was not commenced until September 1926. The series continued after the successful completion of the Royal Tour, until finalisation of financial and administrative matters related to the Tour.

REGISTRATION BOOK FOR A6680, CORRESPONDENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE
FILES, 1926-1927

A6681

Recorded by: 1926-1927 Director of Royal Tour (CA 1052)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of an incomplete index booklet for the correspondence and administrative files relating to the 1927 Royal Visit (series A6680). Only two pages of the booklet have been written on and only include entries for files up to DY7 of the correspondence file series which has files up to DY73/1.

FILE OF DEFENCE LIAISON OFFICER, 1926-1927

A6682

Recorded by: 1926-1927 Director of Royal Tour (CA 1052)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

Single file kept by the Defence Liaison Officer on the staff of the Commonwealth Director for the 1927 Royal Visit. It details financial procedures to be followed in connection with this Royal Visit and duplicates material in the main correspondence file series of the Commonwealth Director.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ROYAL VISIT 1927

A6976

Recorded by: 1926-1927 Federal Capital Commission - Royal Visit Section (CA 226)

Quantity: 0.90 metres Location: Canberra

Records the planning and arrangements made by the Federal Capital Commission for the ceremonial opening of Parliament House on 9 May 1927, along with other functions associated with the visit of the Duke and Duchess of York to Canberra.

UNREGISTERED CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ROYAL VISIT 1927

A6977

Recorded by: 1926-1927 Federal Capital Commission - Royal Visit Section (CA 226)

Quantity: 0.36 metres Location: Canberra

Working papers with a small amount of correspondence, relating to the Royal Visit of the Duke and Duchess of York to Canberra in May 1927 for the purpose of opening Parliament House.

ROYAL VISIT 1927, OPENING CEREMONY FILE INDEX, 1926-1927 A6978

Recorded by: 1926-1927 Federal Capital Commission - Royal Visit Section (CA 226)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

The series consists of multiple copies of an index of files, one card, marked "File schedule", two cards detailing the extra (A, B, C) files, one card marked "Marking Register" and two cards with the file lists pasted on to them, all inside a Federal Capital Commission folder.

ROYAL VISIT 1927 - ACTIONS OUTSTANDING REGISTER A6979

Recorded by: 1927 Federal Capital Commission - Royal Visit Section (CA 226)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

This is a handwritten register of 20 large format sheets attached to a Federal Capital Commission file cover. It is ruled into columns from left to right: Name or No of file; matters outstanding; date referred; to whom referred; remarks. It appears to have served as a check list to ensure completion of outstanding tasks prior to the arrival of the Royal visitors.

FEDERAL CAPITAL COMMISSION RECORDS RELATING TO THE ROYAL VISIT CP325/6

Recorded by: 1927 Federal Capital Commission - Royal Visit Section (CA 226)

Quantity: 0.30 metres Location: Canberra

Contains papers of various committees charged by the Federal Capital Commission to oversee different aspects of the royal visit to Canberra. Committees whose records are held include: Tree and Tree Planting Committee, Housing and Provisioning Committee, Public Entertainment Committee, Stands and Decorations Committee, Cinematography Committee, School Children Committee, State Luncheon and Public Reception Committee, Medical and Sanitary Committee, Official Cars Committee

CARDS, PROGRAMMES, INVITATIONS AND PAMPHLETS RELATING TO OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS IN CANBERRA IN HONOUR OF THE ROYAL VISIT 1927 M88

Collected by: 1927 Charles Lydiard Aubrey Abbott (CP 30)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

PHOTOGRAPH OF CARS (HEADED BY A CROSSLEY) FUELLING WITH SHELL AT SKIPPER BAILEY LTD, SERVICE STATION, ST GEORGE'S TERRACE, PERTH DURING THE VISIT OF THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK TO WESTERN AUSTRALIA, 18 MAY 1927 M411

Collected by: 1927 Len Searles (CP 127)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Perth

This photograph was taken during the visit of the Duke and Duchess of York to Western Australia in 1927. The photograph has the following legend on the border: *Visit of the Duke & Duchess of York to Western Australia, May 18th, 1927 and Fuelling with Shell at Skipper Bailey Ltd, Service Station, St George's Terrace, Perth and Illustrations Ltd Photo.*

The first car in the queue is a Crossley car. Twelve of these cars were imported for use during the Royal Visit especially fitted out. There were six 7-seater tourers, four limousines and two landaus all maroon and decorated with the royal seal on the rear doors. They also had metal seals on the bonnet front.

All the cars were lent to the Australian Government by the Crossley manufacturers in England and, when the tour was completed they were returned to the company's representatives and sold from the shop floor.

Mr Len Searles, who took the photograph, worked for the Skipper Bailey Ltd, Service Station, St George's Terrace, Perth.

NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS, PHOTOGRAPHS, LETTERS AND PRINTED MATERIAL
RELATING TO THE WORK OF P L SHEAFFE IN CANBERRA, 1902-1963

M4071

Collected by: 1902-1963 Percy Lampriere Sheaffe (CP 53)

Quantity: 0.54 metres Location: Canberra

Many of the items, such as photographs and invitations, are related to projects in Canberra such as the original survey of the city and area (1910), the hammering of the first pegs (1913), the laying of the foundations for the Commencement Column (1913), the laying of the foundation stone for the Capitol (1920) and the building and opening of Parliament House (1927). Some of the photographs in particular show what the area was like before major construction work was undertaken and indicate what life in the early years of Canberra was like.

Many of the newspaper articles and pamphlets show the changing attitudes to Canberra, its development and growth and the changing face of Australian society as a whole.

Amongst other royal paraphernalia, this series also contains an invitation to the opening ceremony of Parliament House.

CABINET RECORDS RELATING TO THE ROYAL VISIT OF 1927

Cabinet considered a number of matters in connection with the 1927 royal visit and the opening of Parliament. The following records are available on microfilm in all state and territory offices of the National Archives:

Visit of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York	A6006, 1926/07/26
Royal Visit Expenditure, 1926	A6006, 1926/11/05
Laying of War Memorial Foundation Stone by the Duke of York, 1926	A6006, 1926/12/31

Representatives of Dominions to be invited to opening of Parliament House, Canberra, 1926	A6006, 1926/12/31
Visit of Duke and Duchess of York	A6006, 1927/02/16
Public Holiday Arrangements in connection with Royal Visit	A6006, 1927/03/07
Opening Ceremony at Canberra	A6006, 1927/06/01
Royal Visit Finance Authority – Illumination and Decoration of Commonwealth Buildings, 1927	A6006, 1927/12/31
Cost of Royal Visit to Canberra, 1927	A6006, 1927/12/31
Royal Visit to Canberra – Holidays, 1927	A6006, 1927/12/31
Royal Visit – Temporary Telephone Facilities	A6006, 1927/12/31

THE MILDENHALL COLLECTION OF IMAGES OF EARLY CANBERRA

MILDENHALL COLLECTION OF GLASS PLATE NEGATIVES A3560

Recorded by: 1921–1924 Department of Works and Railways, (Central Office) –
Accounts Branch, Federal Capital Territory (CA 14)

1925–1930 Federal Capital Commission (CA 226)

1921–1935 William James Mildenhall (CP 491)

Quantity: 82.80 metres Location: Canberra

Many images of the opening ceremony and the new Parliament House itself are included in series A3560, the Mildenhall collection of glass plate negatives of early Canberra. James Mildenhall was the official photographer employed by the Federal Capital Commission to record the growth and development of Canberra. Photographs relating specifically to the opening ceremony and royal visit to Canberra include:

Bands passing the saluting base in Royal Review	A3560, 2991
Royal Visit, May 1927 – King George Terrace and Parliament House looking East showing flagpoles and young trees	A3560, 2992
Troops, spectators and army band outside Parliament House and official guests	A3560, 2993, 2994
Six aeroplanes in flight during Royal Review	A3560, 2995
Troops assembling outside Parliament House for opening ceremony	A3560, 2996
The dais at the Royal Review	A3560, 2997
Returned servicemen passing the saluting base at the Royal Review	A3560, 2998
Canberra citizens passing the steps of Parliament House at the Civic Reception	A3560, 2999, 3000
Part of the crowd at Duntroon for the royal parade	A3560, 3001
Royal Visit, May 1927 – Military parade	A3560, 3002



Part of the crowd outside Parliament House for the opening ceremony. NAA: A3560, 3096

Royal Visit, May 1927 - The Royal party seated in the dais	A3560, 3003
Royal Visit, May 1927 - The Duchess of York receiving a bouquet from a young girl	A3560, 3004
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Casket containing the gold key to Parliament House	A3560, 3006
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Crowd scene	A3560, 3007
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Unidentified group of Army officers and civilians, 1927	A3560, 3008
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Entrance to Parliament House from the roof showing spectator's stands	A3560, 3009
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Aeroplanes flying over the dais	A3560, 3010
Royal Visit, May 1927 - A party of ladies and nurses being welcomed by an Army officer	A3560, 3011
Royal Visit, May 1927 - View of the crowds at the front of Parliament House from the roof	A3560, 3012
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Military display	A3560, 3013
Royal Visit, May 1927 - The Duke of York with Prime Minister Bruce arriving at the royal review	A3560, 3014
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Military display at Duntroon	A3560, 3015
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Part of the Military Parade	A3560, 3016
Duntroon RMC cadets being received by the Duke of York	A3560, 3017

Troops and spectators at the Royal Review	A3560, 3018
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Military display	A3560, 3019
Duntroon RMC cadets saluting the Duke of York	A3560, 3020
Arrival of Duke and Duchess of York at Parliament House	A3560, 3021
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Military display	A3560, 3022
Part of the crowd at Parliament House for the opening ceremony	A3560, 3023
Canberra citizens passing the steps of Parliament House at the Civic Reception	A3560, 3024
Official party arriving at the Royal Review	A3560, 3025
Saluting base at the Royal Review with Hotel Kurrajong in the background	A3560, 3026
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Official vehicles arriving outside Parliament House	A3560, 3027
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Official vehicles arriving outside Parliament House	A3560, 3028
Royal Visit, May 1927 - View from front of Parliament House looking east at troops, band, spectator stands and tents	A3560, 3029
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Unidentified army officers outside Parliament House	A3560, 3030
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Hon Littleton Groom standing at the Speaker's Chair	A3560, 3031
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Official vehicles arriving outside Parliament House	A3560, 3032
The dais at the Royal Review showing Duchess of York and Hon SM Bruce	A3560, 3033
Arrival of Duke and Duchess of York at Parliament House	A3560, 3034
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Unidentified crowd	A3560, 3035
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Casket and Gold Key of Parliament House	A3560, 3036
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Hotel Canberra, Commonwealth Avenue and Albert Hall from West Block	A3560, 3037
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Group of clergy and choir at the Hotel Canberra	A3560, 3039
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Arrival of Duke and Duchess of York at Parliament House	A3560, 3040
Royal Visit, May 1927 - General view of troops at Royal Review with aeroplanes overhead	A3560, 3041
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Arrival of Duke and Duchess of York at Parliament House	A3560, 3042
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Canberra citizens passing the steps on Parliament House at the Civic Reception	A3560, 3043

Royal Visit, May 1927 – Duntroon Royal Military College cadets cheering the Duke of York at Duntroon, 1927	A3560, 3044
Royal Visit, May 1927 – The Dais and part of the crowd at the Royal Review	A3560, 3045
Royal Visit, May 1927 – General view of the Parade at Duntroon	A3560, 3047, 3048
Royal Visit, May 1927 – General view of Royal Review with aircraft in flight [Published in Lionel Wigmore, <i>The Long View</i>]	A3560, 3049
Royal Visit, May 1927 – Ceremony inside Parliamentary Chamber [Copy photograph]	A3560, 3050
Royal Visit, May 1927 – The Official Party [Copy photograph]	A3560, 3051
Royal Visit, May 1927 – The Duchess of York receiving a bouquet [Copy photograph]	A3560, 3052
Royal Visit, May 1927 – Saluting base for the Royal Review	A3560, 3053
Royal Visit, May 1927 – The Duke and Duchess of York with the staff of Duntroon Royal Military College	A3560, 3054
Royal Visit, May 1927 – Decorations on J B Young's Store at Kingston	A3560, 3055
Royal Visit, May 1927 – Parkes Place and Parliament House from spectator's stands	A3560, 3056
The Duke of York inside the Senate Chamber	A3560, 3057



Citizens of Canberra passing the steps of Parliament House during the civic reception for the Duke and Duchess of York, 1927.

NAA: A3560, 3059

Royal Visit, May 1927 - The Duke and Duchess of York arriving at Parliament House, Canberra	A3560, 3058
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Canberra citizens passing the steps on Parliament House at the Civic Reception	A3560, 3059
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Duntroon Royal Military College Co-Delson parade	A3560, 3060
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Ceremony inside Parliamentary Chamber	A3560, 3061
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Unidentified group of Army officers and civilians, 1927	A3560, 3062
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Arrival of Duke and Duchess of York at Parliament House	A3560, 3063
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Troops, spectators and Army Band outside Parliament House and official guests clustering the house	A3560, 3064
Royal Visit, May 1927 - View from the steps of Parliament House down the entrance walk showing troops	A3560, 3065
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Steps of Parliament House from the east	A3560, 3066
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Front of Parliament House showing boy scouts, ex-servicemen and Light Horsemen	A3560, 3067
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Troops, spectators and Army Band outside Parliament House and official guests clustering the house	A3560, 3071
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Procession of clergy at Cathedral ceremony	A3560, 3073
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Part of crowd at Anglican Cathedral ceremony	A3560, 3074
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Crowd at Railway Station	A3560, 3075
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Part of crowd at Anglican Cathedral ceremony, 1927	A3560, 3076
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Part of crowd at Anglican Cathedral ceremony, 1927	A3560, 3077
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Cadets cheering during Royal Review at Royal Military College, Duntroon, 1927	A3560, 3081
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Scene outside Railway Station	A3560, 3082
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Unidentified group of Army officers and civilians, 1927	A3560, 3083
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Unidentified crowd, 1927	A3560, 3084
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Rt Hon S M Bruce speaking to the Duke and Duchess of York on the steps of Parliament House	A3560, 3085
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Band and police officers on parade outside tents with motor cycles	A3560, 3086

Royal Visit, May 1927 - Three unidentified police officers, two in uniform and one in plain clothes, outside Parliament House, 1927	A3560, 3087
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Unidentified mounted military officer with civilian in bowler hat and frock coat [see also 3083], 1927	A3560, 3088
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Duke and Duchess of York with Rt Hon S M Bruce at Canberra Railway Station	A3560, 3089
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Copy photograph of scene outside Parliament House	A3560, 3090
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Hon Littleton Groom presiding as Speaker with the Clerk of the House in front	A3560, 3091
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Rt Hon S M Bruce with Sir John Butters and Lady Butters	A3560, 3092
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Part of the crowd at Canberra Railway Station awaiting the arrival of the Duke and Duchess of York	A3560, 3093
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Troops, spectators and Army Band outside Parliament House and official guests clustering the house	A3560, 3095
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Troops, spectators and Army Band outside Parliament House and official guests clustering the house	A3560, 3096
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Troops on parade at the Royal Review, 1927	A3560, 3097
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Sir John Butters and a military officer on the steps of Parliament House, 1927	A3560, 3099
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Sir John Butters and another man, 1927	A3560, 3100
Royal Visit, May 1927 - RAAF aeroplane taking off	A3560, 3102
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Mounted police practising riding evolutions	A3560, 3103
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Game of bowls in progress, 1927	A3560, 3104
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Mounted police practising riding evolutions in Parkes Place	A3560, 3105
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Front of Parliament House probably during a rehearsal	A3560, 3106
Royal Visit, May 1927 - Sir John Harrison with motor car, 1927	A3560, 3107
Duke and Duchess of York and Mr Bruce on Parliament House steps	A3560, 7113

OFFICIAL REPORTS AND THE DAY'S PROCEEDINGS

An extensive report of the visit is provided in the *Parliamentary Papers*, Volume II of Session 1926-27-28. This report, prepared by the Federal Capital Committee, describes the persons assembled for the opening of Parliament as follows:

The ... ceremony took place at the main entrance of Parliament House in the presence of Their Excellencies the Governor-General of the Commonwealth and the Governors of the States, the Prime Minister, representatives from the Parliaments of several of the Dominions, the Foreign Consuls-General, Members of Parliament, and over 500 guests specially invited by the Government. [Guests included representatives of the British, New Zealand, Canadian, South African and Indian Governments, State Governors, Judges of the High Court, State Premiers, widows of former Prime Ministers, members of both Houses of Federal Parliament, representatives of the church and mayors of the capital cities. Other notable guests included Dame Nellie Melba who sang *God Save the Queen* and Walter Burley Griffin and his wife, Marion Mahoney. Fifty four members of the Press were also in attendance.⁴²] Guards of Honour representing the Navy, Army and Air Services, were provided for Their Royal Highnesses and the ceremony was witnessed by many thousands of the general public.⁴³

However, the crowds who came to Canberra to view the ceremonies proved to be no where near as large as expected. Five thousand visitors were invited to sit in the stands near Parliament House and 30 000 parking spaces were allotted for the anticipated volume of public visitors. Provision for camping grounds, water, sanitary and catering arrangements were also made. But as the memorandum overleaf shows, if the sales of the catering organisations are any indication, the crowd in attendance was dramatically less than anticipated.

The event was filmed by the Department of Markets and Migration. Mr EP Robinson, the Publicity Officer of this department, assumed responsibility for the filming. He also supervised the activities of the numerous press photographers.

In addition,

Complete arrangements were made by the Postmaster-General's Department, in association with Australasian Film Ltd, for broadcasting and amplification of public addresses, the former being relayed throughout Australia, and the latter enabling perfect audibility of the several speeches by the whole of the large assembly which congregated round Parliament House, both on the stands and adjacent eminences.⁴⁴

Other arrangements in celebration of the event included a chess game between members of the Australian Parliament versus members of the British Parliament, conducted by wireless. (See file A6680, DY16/44 listed below.)

According to a report by the Director-General of the royal visit, Cyril Brudenell White, 'the Royal Visitors had expressed the wish that when travelling through the States they might have opportunities of seeing and of being seen by, the greatest number of the general public. They especially desired to meet Returned Soldiers, New Settlers and School Children.'⁴⁵

Therefore, in particular, much planning went into the arrangements for school children to view the event. The Duke and Duchess also 'expressed the wish that every school in Australia may be given an extra weeks holiday at Easter to commemorate the royal visit'.⁴⁶ From the areas around Canberra, 738 children came to watch the festivities. Given that the School Children's Committee established by the Federal Capital Commission had specified that only children over nine years of age were able to attend, this was quite a large proportion of the school-age population.⁴⁷

The School Children's Committee also decided in a meeting on 28 February

that flags be purchased for distribution to the school children, if possible from royal visit funds. Flags would be available at 1/6d a dozen. This recommendation was based upon an apprehension that otherwise not all of the children would buy flags and an indifferent spectacular effect might ensue.⁴⁸

In the afternoon of the 9th May, the Duke reviewed over 2000 troops. As he did so, representatives of various air squadrons manoeuvred overhead. The plane of Flying Officer Francis Charles Ewen crashed during the display, near the present site of the National Library. Flying Officer Ewen died later that evening. A photograph of the wreck of his SE5 fighter is included in the Mildenhall collection of photographs.

Plane wreck at Canberra, 1927

A3560, 440

EXAMPLES OF RECORDS RELATING TO THE ROYAL VISIT OF 1927

Opening of Parliament at Canberra, 1927

A1, 1927/199

Recorded by: 1903–1907 Department of External Affairs (CA 7)

Catering arrangements during the opening of Parliament House, 1926–1927

A1, 1927/4412

This file describes the tenders received from companies hoping to secure the public catering rights at the opening ceremony. The file ultimately goes on to illustrate the lack of public attendance at the event and the effects of this financially on the government, as a Federal Capital Commission memorandum dated 27 May 1927 illustrates:

It will be remembered that the Government's first instructions in regard to the general public for the Royal Visit were that arrangements were to be made for 5 000 guests in the stands outside Parliament House and for approximately 100 000 of the general public...

The result of the public advertisements for caterers in the vicinity of Parliament House was very disappointing ... not a single satisfactory tender was received; one was from a Mr E P May of Nature's Own Production Company who talked about light lunches for 20 000 people with special emphasis on things known as Crispets and Crackerjack Popcorn and so forth ... it was quite clear he had no conception of what was required for providing 20 000 lunches...

It was left to negotiate with Messrs Sargeants Ltd ... they undertook after a lot of negotiation to cater provided we guaranteed them to the extent of 5 000 lunches. Unfortunately 5 000 lunches were not sold owing to the smallness of the crowd and the fact that the bulk of the crowd apparently brought their own meal, with the result that we shall have to stand up to the guarantee, the amount of which is the subject of negotiation at the moment. It may be mentioned here that several tons of food such as meat pies etc had to be buried by the Company as useless for return to Sydney or local disposal...

Duke of York's visit, 1926–1927 Recorded by: 1927 Department of Works and Railways (CA 14)	A281, 27/787
Western Australia – Duke of York's Visit, 1926–1927	A281, DGW27/1622
South Australia – Duke of York's Visit, 1926–1927	A281, DGW27/1689
Canberra Community News, Volume 2 No 8 – 9 May 1927 Recorded by: 1925–1927 Federal Capital Commission (CA 226)	A429, 20
Canberra Community News, Volume 9 No 8 – 11 June 1927	A429, 21
Aviation; Appointment of the Duke of York as Honorary Group Captain, Royal Australian Air Force, 1927 Recorded by: 1923–1934 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	A458, U314/7
Expenditure in connection with Royal Visit. Statement by Dr Watson, 1927	A458, 748/3/41
Visits. Duke of York. Itinerary – General, 1925–1927	A458, D748/3
Visits. Duke of York. 1927. Financial, 1926–1928	A458, E748/3
Federal Territories Opening of Federal Parliament, Canberra. Invitations to Ceremony, Official, 1926–1927	A458, J120/7
Visits – Duke of York. Loan of pictures from Melbourne National Gallery, 1926–1930	A458, K748/3
Visits – Duke of York. Press Representation, 1926–1927	A458, M748/3
Duke of York. Cables Miscellaneous, 1927	A458, R748/3
Royal Visit. Broadcasting Arrangements, 1927	A458, AA748/3/27



The Duke arriving at the royal review with John Butters, Chief Commissioner of the Federal Capital Commission.
NAA: A3560, 3014

Visits – Duke of York. Phono films, 1927–1928	A458, AL748/3
Visits. Duke of York. Letters of Appreciation, 1927	A458, AM748/3
Opening of Parliament by HRH The Duke of York – 9 May 1927	A463, 1957/1056
Recorded by: 1956– Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)	
Royal Visit 1927 – Instructions and details, 1927	A705, 34/2/67
Recorded by: 1922–1939 Air Services Branch (CA 778)	
Opening of Federal Parliament in Canberra by HRH Duke of York, May 1927	A1200, L13361
Recorded by: 1950–1971 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)	
This item is a photograph taken from inside the House of Representatives at the opening of the first Parliament in Canberra.	
Visit of Duke of York, 1926–1930	A1606, B40/1
Recorded by: 1926–1939 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	
Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York. Invitation to perform ceremony of the official opening of Canberra in May 1927	A1606, B40/1 Attachment
A telegram from the Governor-General to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs dated 16 July 1926, read as follows:	

On behalf of Government and people of Australia most loyally and respectfully request Your Majesty to permit Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York to visit Australia on the occasion of the official opening of Canberra in May 1927, and to perform the opening ceremony.

In making this request we recall with pleasure and pride Your Majesty’s own visit in 1901 when you graciously consented to open the first Federal Parliament.

We would regard it as singularly appropriate if your son were permitted to represent you at the establishment of the Federal Capital which marks another important phase in the development of this great British Commonwealth and is regarded by our people as an event of deep national significance and importance. We feel that the presence of His Royal Highness on such an occasion would evoke the strongest possible expressions of loyalty and enthusiasm and further strengthen the bonds which unite us to the Mother Country and to your Royal House.

The king consented to the visit on 16 July. However the practical arrangements associated with the tour proved bothersome. The Duke and Duchess wished to visit both Australia and New Zealand but problems arose over the scheduling of the respective

visits. A suggestion that the Duke and Duchess visit New Zealand prior to coming to Australia prompted the following telegram from the Governor-General to RG Casey in London (dated 4 August):

If HRH coming of own volition visit Dominions in Pacific, Australia, as Senior Dominion would resent bitterly if New Zealand visited before Australia. With additional factor introduced that HRH coming at invitation of Australia to perform historic ceremony, if New Zealand visited first that feeling even more intense. Trend public sentiment not matter for argument but a fact...Considerable feeling exists between New South Wales and New Zealand and this factor must be taken into account.

The Australian Government, however, eventually conceded that it was more practical for the tour of New Zealand to be conducted prior to the Duke and Duchess' arrival in Australia. It was finally decided that the royal couple should visit Wellington, New Zealand and also Perth, Adelaide, Hobart Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. Their tour would culminate in Canberra after which they would return to England via the Panama Canal.

Another factor influencing the organisation of the tour was the Duchess of York who had only recently given birth to Princess Elizabeth, the future Queen on 21 April 1926. In a telegram dated 29 July 1926, the Governor-General was informed, 'The main consideration dominating the situation is the King's anxiety that the Duchess' health should not be tried too severely either during the visit itself or by the return journey'.

Parliament House. Lighting arrangements for filming of opening ceremony, 1926-1927

A6270, E2/27/724

Recorded by: 1925-1930 Federal Capital Commission (CA 226)

Main committee file and copies of decisions (with index), 1926-1927

A6680, DY3

Recorded by: 1926-1928 Director of Royal Tour (CA 1052)

A Cabinet committee was appointed on 7 May 1926 to prepare for both the opening of Parliament House and the royal visit. Two conferences were held on 21 June and 23 July 1926 to determine the main framework for the opening ceremony and to arrange aspects of the royal visit. This file contains copies of all the decisions made by this committee.

Entertainment for crew of His Majesty's ship *Renown*, 1926-1927

A6680, DY6/1

This item lists many of the personnel serving on the *Renown* during its tour of Australia.

Representation of states at opening of Parliament, 1926-1927

A6680, DY16/20

This file contains a request by the Commonwealth Director to the State Director, Royal Visit 1927 to allow him to peruse any records which show the steps taken to ensure adequate representation of the states at the opening of Federal Parliament in 1901.

Chess match by wireless, 1926–1927 Match by wireless held 9 May 1927 between members of the House of Commons, London, and members of the Federal Parliament, Canberra as a part of the opening celebrations of the new Parliament House. Correspondence chiefly relates to the recruiting of players, broadcasting arrangements and organising invitations to opening the ceremony.	A6680, DY16/44
Export Central Boards, Department of Markets and Migration – Tickets to Canberra ceremony for selected members, 1927 The Department of Markets and Migration was responsible for filming the opening ceremony at Parliament House.	A6680, DY16/104
General programme file, 1926–1927	A6680, DY18
New South Wales general programme file, 1926–1927	A6680, DY19
Victorian programme file, 1926–1927	A6680, DY20
Queensland general programme file, 1926–1927	A6680, DY21
South Australian general programme file, 1926–1927	A6680, DY22
Western Australia programme file – General memo to State Director etc, 1926–1927	A6680, DY23
Western Australia working programme file, 1927	A6680, DY23/8
Tasmanian general programme, 1926–1927	A6680, DY24
Canberra programme file and general arrangements at Canberra, 1926	A6680, DY25A
Canberra programme file and general arrangements at Canberra, 1926–1927	A6680, DY25B
Canberra programme file and general arrangements at Canberra, 1926–1927 This file includes plans of the interior of Parliament House which were used for planning purposes.	A6680, DY25C
Overseas press representatives, 1926–1927 Contains administrative detail concerning overseas press representatives. Matters dealt with include travel, accommodation and expenses and the appointment of Mr C E Sayers as ‘press representative’ to assist visiting and Australian pressmen and to coordinate press matters in relation to the royal visit.	A6680, DY27F
Arrangements with press, Canberra, 1926–1927	A6680, DY27/11A–11C
Royal trains – Press representatives to join trains, 1927	A6680, DY27/15
Phonographic records of speeches at Canberra, 1926–1927	A6680, DY28/2

National anthem, Australianised versions – Lamb, Miss, 1927 Miss E Beaufile Lamb suggested the following verse be added to the national anthem, God Save the King, in honour of the royal visit: <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Long Live the Royal pair – Duke and the Duchess fair, Come to entwine White Rose and Wattle Flower, Emblems of Empire's power, Crowning great Canb'ra's hour.</p>	A6680, DY28/26
Gifts – From school children to infant Princess [note – includes 'policy' papers on this matter taken from file DY38/18], 1926–1927	A6680, DY38/19
Princess Elizabeth was only eight months old when her parents left on their 1927 tour.	
Maloney, Doctor W, Member of Parliament – Various questions asked in the House by, 1928	A6680, DY38/38
Parliamentary questions were raised concerning officials who received royal favours in connection with the opening of Parliament by the Duke of York. The file includes an unofficial list of those officials.	
Jules, Mr C, hairdresser – Fares Sydney to Melbourne return to attend Royal couple, 1927	A6680, DY38/40
Accommodation – State Governors & Wives. Dame Nellie Melba, 1927	A6976, 3A
Recorded by: 1926–1927 Federal Capital Commission – Royal Visit Section (CA 226)	
Programme – Official opening Parliament House, Part 1, 1926	A6976, 39 Part 1
Programme – Official opening Parliament House, Part 2, 1927	A6976, 39 Part 2
Duke of York's Visit, Accounts in Connection With, 1927	B300, 6945/1
Recorded by: 1917–1975 Commonwealth Railways Commissioner (CA 265)	
Sheaffe Papers. Invitation to Miss Isabel Sheaffe to the establishment of the seat of government at Canberra, 9th May 1927. Invitation has 'Visit of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York' on the front	M4071, 74
Sheaffe Papers. Synopsis of Programme of Official Opening of Parliament House, Canberra by HRH the Duke of York, KG. 9th May 1927	M4071, 75
Collected by: 1902–1963 Percy Lampriere Sheaffe (CP 53)	
Visitors – Duke of York – Accounts, 1927	CP211/2, 77/7
Recorded by: 1926–1930 Development and Migration Commission CA 243	

Federal Capital Commission – Royal Visit – Newspaper Criticism	CP325/6, Bundle 1
Recorded by: 1927 Federal Capital Commission (CA 226) The organisers of the visit were criticised in the Press for making the opening of Parliament too inaccessible for members of the general public.	
Royal Visit – General – Correspondence of the Canberra Social Services Association, 1927–1928	CP698/9, 53/1
Recorded by: 1925–1929 Federal Capital Commission – Canberra Social Service Association, a division of the (CA 226)	
Canberra Social Services Association – correspondence regarding the royal visit by the Duke and Duchess of York to open Parliament House, 1926–1927	CP698/9, 53/2
Royal Visit – Public Entertainment Committee, 1927	CP698/9, 53/3
Radio Broadcasting Programmes – Tenders Broadcast of official opening of Parliament Canberra by HRH the Duke of York, 1927–1929	MP341/1, 1927/1053
Recorded by: 1901–1939 Postmaster-General's Department, Central Administration (CA 9) Held in the Melbourne office of the National Archives.	
Brass plates for trees planted by HRH the Duke of York at Garden Island, 1927	SP339/1, 205/1/54
Recorded by: 1926–1938 Captain Superintendent, Sydney, and Captain-in-Charge, New South Wales (CA 4338) Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.	
Royal Visit 1927 – His Royal Highness the Duke of York – Committees, 1926–1927	SP339/1, 256/4/7
Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.	
Royal Visit (1927) – Letter of appreciation from HRH the Duke of York, 1927	SP339/1, 256/4/144
Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.	

RECORDS ABOUT CYRIL BRUDENELL BINGHAM WHITE, ORGANISER OF THE ROYAL VISITS OF 1920 AND 1927

General Sir Cyril Brudenell Bingham White had a long and distinguished military career both prior to and after his periods as Commonwealth Director of the royal visits of the Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke of York. Records relating to his military service are principally held by the Australian War Memorial and details of the items within his collection can be identified on the National Archives' item level database.

Brudenell White, who had been appointed as Chief of Staff of the Australian Imperial Force in August 1914, planned and supervised the evacuation at Gallipoli and later served on the Western Front. He received five foreign decorations for his services during World War I, was appointed as aide-de-camp to George V and was mentioned in despatches five times. Brudenell White retired from the Public Service in 1928, but due to the death of E K Squires, the Chief of the General Staff in early 1940, White was asked to return to the position. He therefore served again with the army until his death on 13 August 1940.⁴⁹

Brudenell White was described by CEW Bean as the greatest man he ever knew. A small amount of Cyril Brudenell White's personal papers are held by the National Archives, as is

his World War I personal dossier. Records relating to the air crash in Canberra in 1940 which caused the death of Brudenell White and several other prominent members of the government and the military, are also held by the Archives. Their deaths in the early stages of World War II and the resulting loss of experience and expertise, caused a crisis for the government and the war administration.

The following series was compiled by Brudenell White:

DIARIES OF SIR CYRIL BRUDENELL WHITE AS (1) CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF AND (2) CHAIRMAN OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD, 1923–1927

A1241

Recorded by: 1923–1927 Major General (Cyril) Brudenell Bingham White CB, KCB, KCVO, CMG, DSO (CP 10)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

Volumes 4 and 5 cover 1926–1927, the period of the royal visit of the Duke and Duchess of York.

The following items relate to Brudenell White's military career and his death in 1940.

Correspondence with Sir Brudenell White, 1940

A5954, 54/21

Recorded by: 1937–1971 Sir Frederick Geoffrey Shedden KCMG, OBE (CP 320)

[Newspaper cutting] *Two Men I Knew : William Bridges and Brudenell White : Founders of the AIF* by CEW Bean – Press review by John Hetherington, 1961

A5954, 1248/33

World War I Personal Dossier Lieutenant General Cyril Brudenell White

B2455/1, White CBB

Recorded by: 1914–1920 Australian Imperial Force, Base Records Office (CA 2001)

Aeroplane crash at Canberra on 13 August 1940

A1378, P8903

Recorded by: 1927–1943 Investigation Branch, Central Office, Melbourne and Canberra (CA 747)

The plane exploded on impact. Those killed were: Geoffrey Austin Street, Minister for the Army and Minister for Repatriation; James Valentine Fairbairn, Minister for Air and Civil Aviation; Sir Henry Somer Gullett, Vice-president of the Executive Council; General Sir Cyril Brudenell Bingham White, Chief of the General Staff; Lieutenant Colonel Francis Thornthwaite, Staff Officer to General White; Richard Edwin Elford, Private Secretary to Mr Fairbairn; and RAAF crew, Flight Lieutenant Richard Edward Hitchcock, Pilot Officer Richard Frederick Weisner, Corporal John Frederick Palmer and Aircraftman Charles Joseph Crosdale, 1940–1941

Inquest into the death of Hon G A Street, Hon J V Fairbairn Sir Henry Gullett, Sir Brudenell White, Colonel F Thornthwaite, R E Elford, R E Hitchcock, R F Weisner, J F Palmer, C J Crosdale, 1940

A6079, MO 625

Recorded by: 1936–1945 Crown Solicitor's Office (CA 554)

Coronation of George VI

The coronation of the King on 12 May 1937 met with the usual pomp and ceremony. Australia sent a contingent of eighteen representatives and several of their wives to London to view the ceremony. The representatives included Prime Minister Lyons (who attended as an official guest of the King), Lord Casey and Frederick Shedden. John Curtin, as leader of the Opposition, was also invited as an official guest of the King but was unable to attend. The fact that no other Labor Party official was able to go in his place caused considerable consternation at the time.⁵⁰

Also included amongst the Australian representatives were a contingent of boy scouts and members of the Coronation Choir. In addition, a contingent of 150 Australian troops including 75 veterans of World War I was also sent to London under the leadership of Sir Henry Chauvel. An emergency ration of two lumps of sugar was issued to all troops participating in the coronation to guard against fatigue. In addition the troops also received a cheese roll, a bar of chocolate, a rock cake and two apples. People back in Australia were awarded a public holiday on 12 May to celebrate the coronation.⁵¹

The coronation itself was a suitably splendid event:

Led by a brilliant procession, Their Majesties drove to the Abbey along streets lined by cheering multitudes. It is estimated that more than 1 000 000 watched the cavalcade.⁵²

An Australian news article captures the air of British pride prompted by tradition and the monarchy:

Journalists of the world – Awed by noble ceremony

From the high, eerily lit north triforium, the world's Press surveyed the glittering theatre in which the climax of the world's greatest ceremonial drama was enacted beneath flickering golden candle flames and on a golden carpet. The thunderously crashing music heightened the emotional tension.

A Chinese said to me, 'The colours are like those on a brilliant lacquered screen. Everyone here is a spectacular actor or actress.'

A German exclaimed, 'The splendour of England.'

A Frenchman said, 'What would the world do without such stabilising brilliance?'

An American said, 'Every American mother adores them,' as the Princess royal and the little princesses walked to their places amid the swell of music.⁵³

The King was sent many congratulatory telegrams in honour of his coronation. The following was reprinted in the *Sydney Morning Herald* under the banner, 'Hope of World Peace':

Herr Hitler sent the following telegram to the King: 'May your Majesty be granted a long and happy reign for the welfare of Britain, Ireland, and the overseas British dominions and India, as well as in the interest of the preservation of world peace.'⁵⁴

The crowning of the new King also meant that Australian coinage had to be changed. The confusion created by the sudden change in monarch contributed to the fact that no Australian penny was minted in 1937.

King George VI – Coronation Policy, 1937 Recorded by: 1934–1950 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)	A461, A396/1/12
King George VI – Coronation. Parliamentary delegation, 1936–1952	A461, D396/1/12
King George VI – Coronation. Presentations to His Majesty The King, 1937	A461, P396/1/12
King George VI – Coronation – Use of royal emblems – Coat of Arms, flags, etc, 1936–1937	A461, Q396/1/12
Visit of contingent of ex-soldiers – Applications for inclusion, 1936–1937	A461, AB396/1/12
Coronation of King George VI – Official coronation colours – Policy, 1937–1953 Recorded by: 1951–1955 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)	A462, 821/1/29
Accession to the throne of HM King George VI, 1936–1937 Recorded by: 1935–1953 Governor-General (CA 1)	A3522, File 2
Letters between HM King George VI & Rt Hon J Lyons, re presentation of an oil painting of the coronation, 1938 Recorded by: 1938 The Rt Hon Joseph Aloysius Lyons PC, CH (CP 254)	CP144/1, Whole series
Invitations, including invitation to the coronation of Their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, 1936 Collected by: 1918–1940 Sir Joseph Cook (CP611) This item is held by the Sydney office of the National Archives.	M3610, 11
Coinage and proclamation re changing of effigy of late King on Australian coins, 1935–1944 Recorded by: 1901–1970 Attorney-General's Department (CA 5)	A432, 1936/94
Coins King George VI Coinage, 1936–1939 Recorded by: 1930–1952 Australian High Commission, United Kingdom [London] (CA 241)	A2908, C39
<p>The accession of King George to the throne coincided with the decision by the Australian government to redesign the national currency. Robert Johnson of London’s Royal Mint wrote to Prime Minister Bruce on 6 January 1937 saying:</p> <p>Perhaps you might also think it well to remind the Commonwealth authorities that the delay which is necessarily incurred in the preparation of the new King’s head, seems to afford to Australia an opportunity to issue a completely new series of Australian coinage.</p> <p>The new currency that the Government brought into circulation in 1938 included the distinctive kangaroo design on the penny and half penny.</p>	
Coin designs, 1937–1939 Recorded by: 1935–1941 The Rt Hon Richard Gardiner Casey Baron of Berwick, Victoria, PC, GCMG, CH, DSO, MC (CP 24)	CP4/5, 21

Shortly after the Australian coronation contingent arrived in London, one of its members, Gunner Arthur Sullivan VC, died. According to Cabinet discussion of the incident, Gunner Sullivan 'died from injuries accidentally received in the street, he apparently having slipped when stepping from the footpath to the roadway'.⁵⁵

The Cabinet decided not to send another Victoria Cross winner to London to take Gunner Sullivan's place in the procession. Reporting on the day of the coronation, the *Sydney Morning Herald* noted that:

when the Australian contingent was marching in the procession, a blank file was left in the memory of the late Gunner AP Sullivan VC ...⁵⁶

Condolences – Sullivan, Gunner, 1937	A461, 700/1/300
Recorded by: 1934–1950 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	
Death of Gunner Arthur Sullivan VC, 1937	A6006, 1937/04/20
Recorded by: Cabinet: 1937	
World War I Personnel Dossier: Sullivan, Arthur Percy 1914–1920	B2455, Sullivan A P
Recorded by: 1914–1920 Australian Imperial Force, Base Records Office (CA 2001)	
Service / Regimental Number: 56133; Place of birth: Prospect, South Australia; Place of enlistment: Port Pirie SA; Next of kin: Father, Arthur Monks Sullivan.	

Exhibition of Coronation Robes in Australia

Coronation – Exhibition of coronation robes in the Dominions, 1937–1938	A461, AS396/1/12 Parts 1–2
Recorded by: 1934–1950 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	

A display of the coronation robes of the King, Queen and two princesses toured Australia in early 1938. The exhibition cost a little over £1 000 (a portion of which was used to engage the services of Mr L B Thomas from the Department of Defence, 'an expert in packing and folding') to mount and was displayed in all state capitals and Canberra. It met with great success with 540 000 people coming to view the exhibition from across the country.

Examples of general records associated with George VI and Queen Elizabeth

Visitors' Book – Australian National Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux (contained in Red Book Case), 1938	A2909, AGS6/1/18/7 Attachment F
Recorded by: 1918– Australian High Commission, United Kingdom [London] – War Memorial Section, Australian Graves Services (CA 241)	
The War Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux, France was constructed by the Australian Government and the Imperial War Graves Commission to commemorate the 10 866 Australian soldiers who died during World War I on the Western Front.	
After years of controversy surrounding its construction, the Memorial was opened by George VI and Queen Elizabeth on 22	

July 1938. This visitors' book, although never used, was signed by the royal couple when they opened the Memorial.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth [later the Queen Mother] - Message on 85th Anniversary of YWCA (audio tape), 1940 C102, RO39
Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.

HM King George VI - Christmas Day message (audio tape), 1941 C102, RO47
Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth [later the Queen Mother] - speech to the women of the Empire (audio tape), 1943 C102, RO48
Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.

"Tribute to the King" message from the Empire (audio tape), 1945 C102, RO57
Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.

Invitations 1923 - Includes invitation to the wedding of the Duke of York to Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon M3610, 6
Collected by: 1918-1940 Sir Joseph Cook (CP611)
This item is held by the Sydney office of the National Archives.

The death of George VI

The following records discuss the death of George VI and document its effects on official protocol, foreign relations, Cabinet and the Australian currency.

Royal family - General constitutional matters - Death of the sovereign, 1952-1953	A462, 821/1/4
Recorded by: 1951-1955 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	
Death of HM King George VI - Messages of sympathy to HM The Queen, 1952	A462, 821/1/6
Death of His Majesty King George VI - Memorial service Sunday 17 February 1952 - Parliament House, Canberra, 1952	A462, 821/1/8
Death of His Majesty King George VI, 1936-1952	A462, 821/1/10
Memorial services - HM King George VI - Commonwealth representation at State services, 1952	A462, 821/1/11
Accreditation of Diplomatic Representatives after Death of His Majesty King George VI & Notification of Queen's Accession, 1952-1963	A1838, 1516/34/1
Recorded by: 1948-1970 Department of External Affairs (CA 18)	
Protocol - Death of King George VI - Order & Forms for Royal Toast, 1952-1957	A1838, 1516/34/3
Protocol - Death of King George VI - Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, 1952-1961	A1838, 1516/34/4
Death of King George VI and Proclamation of Queen Elizabeth, 1952	A2027, 911/4/P2
Recorded by: 1951- RAAF Victorian Squadron Air Training Corps (CA 1343)	

Death of King George VI, 1952 Recorded by: 1958–1967 Cabinet Secretariat (CA 3)	A4940, C500
Death of the Monarch – King George VI – March 1952 Recorded by: 1937–1971 Sir Frederick Geoffrey Shedden KCMG, OBE (CP 320)	A5954, 2075/3
Osborne, Lt. Gen. Rev. – Talk on death King George VI (facing the week) (audio tape), 1952 Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.	C102, REL24
Fisher, Dr. G. F. – Talk on death King George VI (audio tape), 1952 Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.	C102, REL25
Dalton, Father Leo – "Reflections on passing of the King" (plain Christianity), 1952 Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.	C102, REL26
Invitation from the Right Hon the Lord Mayor of Brisbane to attend a service in memory of King George the Sixth, 15 February 1952 Collected by: 1948–1974 The Hon Dame Annabelle Jane Mary Rankin DBE (CP 137)	M2130, 71
Personal papers of Sir Robert Menzies – Mostly British matters Recorded by: 1949–1966 The Rt Hon Sir Robert Gordon Menzies PC, KT, CH, QC (CP 54) A letter from the Australian High Commissioner in London, Sir Thomas White, to Menzies dated 13 February 1952, discusses the death of the King. It also mentions the cancellation of the tour of Australia by Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip, due to the death of the King and guesses at prospective dates for a new tour. In this letter Sir Thomas also discusses the impact and ramifications of the death of the King: For the Lying-in-State ... some 70 000 people a day are filing through and even although there has been snow some have stayed at the doors all night to pass by in the early hours ... There is no doubt whatever though that above it all is a spirit of elation that in the new Queen they have one who has all the attributes and training and the personality to carry the heavy responsibilities that will face the country. So that with the present political leadership and the second Elizabethan age starting, Britain can face a new and encouraging future.	M2576, 111
The Sphere – Memorial edition to King George VI, 1952 Collected by: 1918–1940 Sir Joseph Cook (CP611) This item is held by the Sydney office of the National Archives.	M3795, 7

6. THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER

Royal visit 1934

Prince Henry, the Duke of Gloucester was the younger brother of Edward VIII and George VI. He visited Australia on a royal tour in 1934. The major purpose of this tour was to participate in the centenary celebrations of the state of Victoria. He also unveiled and dedicated Melbourne's Shrine of Remembrance and the Anzac Memorial in Hyde Park Sydney.

Prime Minister Lyons first announced news of the tour in Parliament:

I have great pleasure in intimating that since the last meeting of this Parliament His Majesty the King has graciously given his consent to the visit to Australia of a member of the royal family on the occasion of the centenary of the state of Victoria. As honourable members are probably aware, His Majesty in the first instance approved of his son, Prince George [the Duke of Kent], visiting Australia. Later however, advice was received to the effect that His Majesty felt that Prince George, after a strenuous tour of South Africa, should not, in the same year, undertake another tour. Consequently, His Majesty approved of the substitution of His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester.⁵⁷

The Duke of Gloucester arrived in Australia on 4 October and left to return to Britain on 11 December. From the *Courier Mail's* reporting of the event, it would appear that the Duke's visit to Queensland at least was a wild success:

A dignified figure in a cavalcade of pomp and pageantry that struck an Imperial note, the Duke, his face browned with Queensland's sunshine, made a truly Royal progress through bannered streets that echoed with the crash of band music and the skirl of bagpipes, and in which cheering thousands formed living colonnades, so densely packed that they seemed a solidified mass, vital and vivid with its pulsating loyalty, pouring forth with mighty voice its affection for the King's son.⁵⁸

The Duke's reaction to the acclaim was described in the Press as follows:

Generally, the people found him, as they found his brother the Duke of York, a little shy and somewhat embarrassed at the overwhelming nature of his reception.⁵⁹

ADMINISTRATION OF THE DUKE'S VISIT

The organisation charged with administering the Duke's tour was the Minister-in-Charge, Royal Visit 1934 (CA 4477).

His Majesty the King in a cable dated 14 January 1934, formally gave his approval for his son, His Royal Highness Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester to visit Australia. As a result, the Prime Minister appointed Major the Hon. C W Marr, Minister for Health and Repatriation, to act on behalf of the Commonwealth in the organisation of the Royal Visit on 20 January 1934.

As the primary purpose of the Duke of Gloucester's visit was to take part in the centenary celebrations for the state of Victoria, Major Marr was to work in cooperation with the Victorian Cabinet in so far as the Victorian arrangements were concerned and with the other governments regarding arrangements for the various states. An Assistant Secretary of the Prime Minister's Department, Mr F S Strahan was also appointed to the organisation as Secretary to assist Major Marr.

Preparation for the Royal visit as far as the Commonwealth was concerned commenced in February 1934 and staff were engaged for the organisational work until the departure of the Royal tourists in December 1934. The organisational work was carried out in collaboration with the Royal Visit organisations in each state with the initial drawing up of the program being the responsibility of the Commonwealth. The cost of the visit was apportioned between the Commonwealth and the States. Much of the ceremonial part of proceedings was carried out by the Department of Defence.

The organisation making the arrangements for this Royal visit was not as complex as for previous occasions. For earlier Royal visits the channels of communication with the authorities in London were through the Governor-General or the Secretary of State. However, on this occasion the Royal visit organisers communicated directly with the High Commissioner in London, thus saving much time.

Staff appointments under Major Marr were along the same lines as the previous Royal visit organisations and included:

Secretary: Mr F S Strahan

Assistant Secretary: Mr J L Malrooney

Officer in Charge, Canberra Ceremonies: Mr H R Waterman

Transport Officer: Captain F Coldwell-Smith

Master of Horse: Lt Colonel L C Whitfeld

Commonwealth Press Representative: Mr I Douglas

Defence Liaison Officers: Commander J Esdaile, Brigadier O F Phillips, Commodore S J Coble

Postmaster-General's Department: Mr P Vanthoff

Railway Liaison Officer: Mr G A Gahan

Major Marr made his final report to the Prime Minister in January 1935, although some financial matters were still being finalised for a short while after this report had been submitted. Very few records of the agency still exist and the precise duration of its existence is difficult to determine.

The Duke's time was apportioned as follows: six days were to be spent in Western Australia, six days in South Australia, twenty two days in Victoria, two days in the Australian Capital Territory, five days in Tasmania, thirteen days in New South Wales and nine days in Queensland. Any remaining time was to be used as recreational time by the Duke. He was to depart Australia from Brisbane aboard the HMAS *Australia*, bound for New Zealand.⁶⁰

It would seem that the only negative incident of the Duke's tour took place during his visit to Toowoomba:

A remarkable incident was associated with the Duke of Gloucester's final hour in Toowoomba, when, at supper at the Citizen's Ball, he was requested by a fireman to cease smoking a cigarette! The Duke was momentarily dismayed by the unusual nature of the request...

The incident, which was witnessed by a number of people near the principal table, was exceedingly regretted, as it was the only unfortunate happening in what was regarded as the most brilliant social gathering ever held in Toowoomba...When seen later, the Mayor said it was the most monstrous incident of which he had ever heard.⁶¹

Record series created by the Minister-in-Charge of the Royal Visit, as well as other related record series are:

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ROYAL FAMILY SERIES, (BIRTHS, DEATHS, SUCCESSIONS, CORONATIONS, JUBILEES), 1935-1953

A3522

Recorded by: 1935-1953 Governor-General (CA 1)

Quantity: 1.98 metres

Location: Canberra

These files concern the major events surrounding the British royal family between 1935 and 1953: births, deaths, successions to the Throne, coronations and jubilee celebrations. The records comprise background information to these events insofar as they involve the Commonwealth, both officially and through members of the public.



HRH Prince Henry Duke of Gloucester with Prime Minister Lyons and Mrs Lyons at the PM's residence in Canberra, 24 October 1934. NAA: A1861, 6590

CORRESPONDENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE FILES

A6683

Recorded by: 1934–1935 Minister-in-Charge, Royal Visit 1934 (CA 4477)

Quantity: 0.18 metres

Location: Canberra

This series consists of a single file from the main correspondence and administrative series of the 1934 Royal Visit organisation. Other files from the series no longer exist and may have been top-numbered into records of the Prime Minister's Department or other agencies. This file contains the final report to the Prime Minister by the Minister-in-Charge of the Royal Visit.

The index to the administrative files is incomplete as it only records files up to 68 whilst 237 items were known to have been registered.

FOLDER CONTAINING UNREGISTERED COPIES OF CABLES AND CYPHERS
RELATING TO THE 1934 ROYAL VISIT

A6685

Recorded by: 1934 Minister-in-Charge, Royal Visit 1934 (CA 4477)

Quantity: 0.18 metres

Location: Canberra

This series consists of typed copies of Prime Minister's Department cables, decoded cyphers and press releases which have been collected and arranged chronologically into a single folder. These cables and cyphers record correspondence between the Prime Minister, the Governor-General's Private Secretary, the Australian High Commissioner in London, and the newly appointed Minister-in-Charge and the Secretary of the Royal Visit organisation relating to the establishment and early arrangements made by the Royal Visit organisation.

SOUVENIRS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS OF THE 1934 ROYAL VISIT

A6686

Recorded by: 1934 Minister-in-Charge, Royal Visit 1934 (CA 4477)

Quantity: 0.18 metres

Location: Canberra

Four printed items relating to the Royal Visit to Australia in 1934. They were haphazardly collected and are either souvenir publications or official publications concerning the visit. A single number system of arrangement and control has been imposed by the National Archives.

INDEX TO GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE (RVC SERIES) ROYAL VISIT CANBERRA

CP789/1

Recorded by: 1934–1935 Department of the Interior (CA 27)

Quantity: 0.18 metres

Location: Canberra

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE (RVC SERIES) ROYAL VISIT CANBERRA, 1934

CP789/2

Recorded by: 1934 Department of the Interior (CA 27)

Quantity: 0.54 metres

Location: Canberra

Two bundles of files containing correspondence, copies of official addresses, schedules, lists, telegrams, accounts and costing statements, maps, sketches and working programs relating to arrangements for the royal tour to Canberra.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO THE ROYAL VISIT, CANBERRA,
1934-1935

CP789/3

Recorded by: 1934-1935 Department of the Interior (CA 27)

Quantity: 0.36 metres

Location: Canberra

One bundle of correspondence, schedules, lists, maps, replies to invitations etc, relating to accommodation, transport and other facilities pertaining to the various programs proposed during the royal visit to Canberra.

The following extract from a publication compiled to celebrate the visit of the Duke of Gloucester to South Australia places the royal visit in a very Australian context and helps to demonstrate the anticipated reaction to his arrival:

South Australia, a member of a great Commonwealth, joins with her sister States in extending to His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, a very hearty welcome.

In the cattle country of the north stockmen have turned their horses out to graze, saddles and stockwhips have been oiled and hung up.

The station natives have left for their 'walk-about' and so to the hills to tell their tribesmen that the 'White fella boss all go down to see Big King's son.'

In the farm houses scattered throughout the rich agricultural districts, the question of who is to stay home and tend the cows has long been debated, each and all are eager to journey citywards to catch a glimpse of our Royal Visitor.

The town dweller watches with critical eye the erection and 'putting together' of the decorations, and readily gives vent to his feelings if any plan may not be in accordance with his idea of a royal and fitting welcome.

The spirit prevails; the bond of affection between the Royal family and the people encircles the whole British Empire; we are proud to offer welcome to HRH the Duke of Gloucester.⁶²



The Band of His Majesty's Grenadier Guards toured Australia in conjunction with the 1934 royal visit. NAA: A6686, 2

In Queensland, the *Courier Mail* compiled a list of hints for citizens planning to celebrate the Duke's arrival in the city. The newspaper stated, 'Police and ambulance officers, remembering incidents of other royal visits and experiences in southern capitals, have issued these 'Don'ts' to Brisbane citizens who will be in the city to welcome the Duke today.'

The list of 'Don'ts' included the following suggestions:

- Don't let your pet dog follow you to town where he may be hurt or lost in the crowd
- Don't let your youngsters wander away from you – if you can help it
- Don't go out without your hat
- Don't expect the conductors to change a pound note ⁶³

Examples of records relating to the royal visit of the Duke of Gloucester

Royal Visit to Canberra (Prince Henry 1934), General Recorded by: 1932–1937 Department of the Interior (CA 27)	A1, 1934/1085
Royal Visit to Australia 1934	A1, 1934/2007
Royal Visit to Canberra 1934. Visit of John Masefield and other distinguished visitors from Overseas, 1934	A1, 1934/4720
Royal Visit to Canberra 1934. Camping and Parking Areas	A1, 1934/5047
Royal Visit to Canberra 1934. Police Arrangements, 1934	A1, 1934/5756
Royal visit to Canberra, 1934. Attendance of Schoolchildren at Ceremonies	A1, 1934/8146
Royal Visit to Canberra. 1934. Proposed Illumination of Buildings by Neon Signs, 1934	A1, 1934/8154
City Progress Association – Lighting and Decorations at City During Royal Visit, 1934	A1, 1934/9078
Royal Visit – 1934 – Rally of Youth at Capitol Theatre (Canberra), 1934	A1, 1934/9745
Royal visit 1934 [includes C5977], 1934–1940 Recorded by: 1932–1938 Works and Services Branch (CA 740)	A292, C5948
Royal Visit. His Majesty's Grenadier Guards Band, 1934 Recorded by: 1901–1970 Attorney-General's Department (CA 5)	A432, 1934/879
Holidays. Visit of the Duke of Gloucester, 1934 Recorded by: 1934–1950 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	A461, B3/1/10
Communists in Queensland – Plan for Disturbance during Royal Visit, 1934 Recorded by: 1905–1951 Attorney-General's Department (CA 5)	A467, Bundle 94/SF42/46 34/1052
Visit of HRH the Duke of Gloucester – General File, 1934 Recorded by: 1922–1939 Air Services Branch (CA 778)	A705, 34/3/114
Visit to NSW HRH [New South Wales by His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester], 1934	A705, 34/3/146
Federal Capital Territory Royal Visit 1934, 1934–1935 Recorded by: 1925–1949 Department of Health, (CA 17)	A1928, 355/105
Movement of Duke of Gloucester to and from Australia, 1934	A2217, 133/3/AIR Parts 1–2

Recorded by: 1941–1956 Overseas Headquarters RAAF United Kingdom (CA 1366)

Royal visit. Warships, 1934

A6006, 1934/04/18

Recorded by: 1934 Cabinet Office

Royal Visit, 1934, and Centenary Celebrations, 1934–1935

AA1972/341, 237

Recorded by: 1950–1971 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Royal visit 1934 – Contingencies – travelling and other allowances, 1934–1935

CP103/11, 923

Recorded by: 1921–1932 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Royal visit 1935 – Expenses of Sir Charles Marr

CP290/1, Bundle 1/22

Recorded by: 1901–1939 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Royal Visit, 1934

CP450/7, 375

Recorded by: 1934–1939 The Rt Hon Sir Robert Gordon Menzies PC, KT, CH, QC (CP 54)

Duke of Gloucester as Governor-General

In 1945 the Duke of Gloucester returned to Australia with his wife and two young sons, William and Richard, to become the Governor-General. The Duke replaced Lord Gowrie as Governor-General and after being sworn in on 30 January 1945, he served in the position for a period of two years. Announcing his appointment, Prime Minister Curtin said:

Australians will be deeply appreciative of his Majesty's action in appointing a member of the Royal Family to be Governor-General of Australia. All in the country will look forward with affectionate and loyal interest to the arrival again in Australia of His Royal Highness.⁶⁴

The editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald* concurred with the Prime Minister's view. In the editorial of 16 November 1943 he stated, 'In acceding to the Curtin Government's request that the Duke might be appointed to Canberra, his Majesty at once gives immense gratification to the peoples of Australia and reaffirms the supreme importance of the Crown as the centre and symbol of Empire unity.'

However the plan was not without its opponents. In particular E J Ward, the member for East Sydney and both Minister for Transport and Minister for External Affairs in Curtin's Ministry was opposed to the plan, preferring an Australian in the position. Mr Ward's views as stated in a Cabinet meeting on 23 November 1943 are recorded in the Cabinet minutes as follows:

The Minister for Transport spoke at length on the matter...he held strongly that the Governor-General should be an Australian citizen. He suggested that it was dangerous for a member of the Royal Family to be even remotely connected with political affairs...He also referred to expenditure which would be incurred when the new Governor-General arrived...He held the opinion that...it was against the policy of the Labor movement and, moreover, that it was not in the best interests of the country.⁶⁵

The first Australian-born Governor-General had been appointed by Prime Minister Scullin's earlier Labor administration and Ward thought it a dangerously retrograde step for the current Labor leaders to appoint a member of the royal family to the position. His views, however, were not supported by the majority of Ministers in either the Cabinet or the War Cabinet and were denounced in the Press. The Duke duly arrived in Australia in late January 1945.

Due to the fact that he travelled during wartime, tight security surrounded all news of his voyage to Australia. A telegram from the Federal Censor to all state censors dated 9 January 1945 set the following guidelines for the media coverage of the journey:

Until official announcement of arrival of Duke of Gloucester and party on Australian mainland no publication is permissible of any material which would indicate:

1. Movements or whereabouts of the party
2. Mode of transport to Australia
3. Imminence of party's arrival in Australia

For censors' guidance, this prohibits at present any further stories associating Duke with next Parliamentary session, special Canberra preparations and arrangements for his reception.⁶⁶

The concern for security was heightened when it was discovered the boat carrying the Duke and his party was being followed by a German U-Boat. The submarine was eventually sunk by the royal escort ship and the Duke's party arrived safely in Australia.

The following are examples of records relating to the Duke of Gloucester's period as Governor-General of Australia:

Governor-General – arrangements in Canberra for Reception and Farewell, 1946

A431, 1946/3081

Recorded by: 1946–1972 Department of the Interior (CA 31)

Visit of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester to the NT, 1946–1947

A431, 1947/313



The Duke of Gloucester with the second ministry of Prime Minister Ben Chifley. NAA: A1200, L60722A

Police Guards for Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, 1935–1944 Recorded by: 1901–1970 Attorney-General's Department (CA 5)	A432, 1944/643
Commission appointing His Royal Highness and Duke of Gloucester as Governor-General of Australia and documents concerning swearing in ceremony, 1935–1944	A432, 1944/1394
Governor-General Movements of Part 4, 1943–1948 Recorded by: 1934–1950 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12) This file, part of a collection of Prime Minister's Department records referring to the movements of the Governor-General, relates to the Duke of Gloucester's period as Governor-General.	A461, B7/1/1 Part 4
Governor-General and Governors. (His Royal Highness) The Duke of Gloucester. Appointment, 1945–1947 This file contains a Commission, signed by Prime Minister John Curtin on 4 April 1944, appointing the Duke of Gloucester as Australia's Governor-General. It also contains the proclamation of the Duke as Governor-General, signed by both the Duke and Curtin. The file also holds an amount of correspondence between Curtin and Lord Gowrie, the Duke's predecessor regarding the appointment, and correspondence with Britain concerning the Duke's appointment. Letters expressing thanks to the Duke at the end of his term are also contained on the file.	A461, B7/1/8
Governor-General. His Royal Highness – The Duke of Gloucester. Expenditure, 1944–1947	A461, I7/1/8
Governor-General and Governors. Governor-General, His Royal Highness, The Duke of Gloucester. Arrival in Australia., 1944–1945	A461, N7/1/8
Governor-General His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester. Publicity arrangements on arrival in Australia, 1945	A461, R7/1/8
Departure of Duke & Duchess of Gloucester, 1946–1950	A461, V7/1/8
Museum collections – Commissions appointing members of royal family as Governor-General of Australia, 1947	A461, Q370/1/2
Provision of police guards for their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, 1944 Recorded by: 1939–1945 Department of the Interior (CA 31)	A659, 1944/1/2202
Great Britain. Appointment of HRH the Duke of Gloucester as Governor-General of Australia – Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1943 Recorded by: 1943–1944 Department of External Affairs (CA 18)	A989, 1943/365/5/2/2
Instruction to Governor-General, 1946 Recorded by: 1946 Department of External Affairs (CA 18)	A1067, IC46/36/1
Appointment of Governor-General [War Cabinet Agenda], 1943 Recorded by: 1939–1946 War Cabinet Secretariat (CA 1468)	A2676, 3127/A
Cabinet Meeting 23 November 1943 [at which appointment of Governor-General was discussed], 1943 Recorded by: 1941–1949 Secretary to Cabinet/Cabinet Secretariat [I] (CA 3)	A2703, Volume 1D

Appointment of HRH the Duke of Gloucester as Governor-General, 1939-1952 Recorded by: 1918-1960 Australian High Commission, United Kingdom [London] (CA 241)	A2910, 404/5/254
Personal correspondence with Rear-Admiral Bracegirdle. File No 2. (Following arrival of His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester), 1945-1947 Rear-Admiral Leighton Bracegirdle, a decorated former military officer, was the Official Secretary to the Governor-General.	A5954, 48/19
Speech by the Governor-General (His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester) on the occasion of the opening of the Eighteenth Parliament. 6th November, 1946 Recorded by: 1937-1971 Sir Frederick Geoffrey Shedden KCMG, OBE (CP 320)	A5954, 98/13
Governor-General. Appointment of Duke of Gloucester 1943-1947	A5954, 398/11
Press File. Governor-General. Appointment of Successor to His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, 1946-1953 The Duke of Gloucester departed from Australia after his term as Governor-General on 19 January 1947. Sir William John McKell was appointed as the Duke's successor. McKell was unable to begin his term immediately and so the Duke was replaced by Major-General Sir Winston Dugan who acted in the position from 19 January 1947 to 11 March 1947. Dugan was replaced by Sir William on 11 March and McKell occupied the position through to 8 May 1953.	A5954, 2154/2
Governor-General's Staff - Bracegirdle L S Part 2, 1944-1955 Recorded by: 1916-1953 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12) Personnel file of Rear-Admiral Leighton Bracegirdle, official secretary to the Governor-General during the Duke of Gloucester's incumbency.	CP268/1, Bracegirdle LS Part 2
Duke of Gloucester - Governor-General, 1945 Recorded by: 1940-1945 Department of Information (CA 34)	CP439/1, Bundle 2 Part 2 1/1/130
Photographs - JA Beasley - Unveiling of commemorative plaque, King George V Hospital - Duke and Duchess of Gloucester at Australia Club luncheon Collected by: 1922-1949 The Rt Hon John Albert Beasley (CP 84)	M1409, 44

Although due to remain in the position until 11 March 1947, the Duke and his family were recalled earlier than anticipated to England. The Duke therefore resigned from the Governor-Generalship on 19 January 1947. Major-General Sir Winston Dugan acted as administrator until the Duke's appointed successor, Sir William John McKell assumed the position of Governor-General on 11 March 1947.

ASSESSMENT OF HIS TERM AS GOVERNOR-GENERAL

The Duke of Gloucester's Governor-Generalship was assessed by Max Harris in the *Bulletin* in 1983. Harris' verdict was that 'the Duke of Gloucester was our greatest Governor-General'. He justified his opinion with the following examples which illuminate the Duke's activities whilst serving in the position:

It was the Gloucester concept of the office that differed from any other of the incumbents before or since. He believed that the Governor-General had to make himself visible to ordinary Australians ... And it was up to him to go to them ... Within two of Australia's grimmest years, 1944 and 1945, by land and a problematical little aircraft, he covered 63 000 bush miles...

The Australians were hostile because Britain had repaid tens of thousands of Australian lives with sweet-nothing in our hour of military need. The only way the Duke could sell back the idea of Empire unity to the recalcitrant Aussie natives was face to face...[For example] on the occasion of the Japanese capitulation, Gloucester managed to be in three state capitals within the day, flying in a York and Anson aircraft.

Harris concluded his assessment

'What a pity he had to be a Pom. And royal to boot.' ⁶⁷

Royal visit 1965

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester visited Australia again in 1965. Their visit began on 20 March and concluded on 26 April. Whilst in Australia they visited Canberra (and the Snowy



The Gloucesters (L) at a picnic in Beerburrum state forest, Queensland.
NAA: A1767, RVDD398

Mountains Hydro-Electric Scheme where the Duke opened a power station), Tasmania (for the purpose of opening the Tasman Bridge), New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland. They also spent time privately with friends at Beaufort in Victoria and Bungendore and Palm Beach in New South Wales.

There was some fear that the visit would have to be cancelled because of a car accident suffered by the couple shortly before their departure for Australia. The tour went on, but due to a broken arm sustained in the accident, the Duchess wore her arm in plaster and a sling for the duration of the visit.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SERIES RELATING TO THE VISIT OF THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER

PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVES, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES WITH RVDD (ROYAL VISIT DUKE AND DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER) PREFIX, 1965

A1767

Recorded by: 1965 Australian News and Information Bureau (CA 219)

Quantity: 0.18 metres

Location: Canberra

PHOTOGRAPHIC COLOUR TRANSPARENCIES, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES WITH 'KRVDD' [COLOUR, ROYAL VISIT OF DUKE AND DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER] PREFIX

A2755

Recorded by: 1965 Australian News and Information Bureau (CA 219)

Quantity: 0.18 metres

Location: Canberra



The Gloucesters with Prime Minister Menzies marching up Anzac Parade, Canberra, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli, 1965.
NAA: A1767, RVDD422

EXAMPLES OF RECORDS RELATING TO THE 1965 VISIT OF THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER

Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester Royal visit to Australia 1965 Recorded by: 1901-1970 Attorney-General's Department (CA 5)	A432, 1965/4023
Visit of Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester 1965 - Negotiations with York House, St James Palace, prior to announcement Recorded by: 1956- Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	A463, 1965/2
Visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester - Press announcements, 1965	A463, 1965/3
Itinerary and overall program	A463, 1965/4 Parts 1-2
Visit of Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester 1965 - Visit to ACT - Program	A463, 1965/5
Visit of Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester 1965 - Visit to NSW - Programme, 1965	A463, 1965/6
Visit of Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester 1965 - Visit to Victoria - Programme, 1965	A463, 1965/7
Visit of Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester 1965 - Visit to Queensland - Programme, 1965	A463, 1965/8
Visit of Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester 1965 - Visit to Tasmania - Programme, 1965	A463, 1965/9



The Gloucesters outside Canberra House. NAA: A1767, RVDD30



**The Duke inspecting cattle
at Camden.**

NAA: A1767, RVDD315

Visit to Snowy Mountain Hydro-Electric Authority **A463, 1963/10**

**Visit of Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of
Gloucester 1965 - Guide for planning** **A463, 1965/11**

Composition of royal party **A463, 1965/12**

**Visit of Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of
Gloucester 1965 - Royal standard and cypher** **A463, 1965/14**

**Visit of Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of
Gloucester 1965 - Gift** **A463, 1965/15**

**Visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of
Gloucester - Commonwealth organisation including
appointment of Director** **A463, 1965/17**

**Visit of Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of
Gloucester 1965 - Meetings of State Directors** **A463, 1965/33**

The principal meeting of state directors of this tour was held at the Prime Minister's Department in Canberra on 17 November 1964. Included on this file are drafts of the itinerary decided upon on this date and minutes of the meeting itself.

During the meeting it was mentioned that the Duke was particularly interested in cattle judging. Arrangements were accordingly made for him to participate in the cattle events at Sydney's Royal Easter Show, the dates of which coincided with his visit.

Visit of Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester 1965 – Presentation of the Duke of Gloucester Cup A463, 1965/39

Visit of Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester 1965 – Appointment of equerries A463, 1965/44

Possible changes in program due to accident A463, 1965/48

Just prior to her departure for Australia, the Duchess broke her arm and there were concerns that this may jeopardise plans for the tour of Australia. However, in spite of her injury, the tour went on as planned.

Visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester – ACT – Anzac Jubilee Ceremony at Australian War Memorial A463, 1965/71

This file details arrangements for the Duke and Duchess to attend the ceremony at the Australian War Memorial that commemorated the fiftieth anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli.

Visit of Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester 1965 – ACT – Visit to ACT school A463, 1965/72

Visit to Australia by Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, 1965 A1945, 234/3/5

Recorded by: 1957–1974 Department of Defence (CA 46)

Visit to Australia of Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester A2908, V88 Parts 1–3

Recorded by: 1930–1952 Australian High Commission, United Kingdom [London] (CA 241)

Photo albums, Royal Visit 1965 A8281, 23 and 39

Recorded by: 1954–1973 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)



The Duke and Duchess visiting Brisbane. NAA: A1767, RVDD384



The Gloucesters departed Australia on 26 April. Here the Duchess is farewelled at Canberra airport by Dame Pattie Menzies.
NAA: A1767, RVDD439

EXAMPLES OF RECORDS ABOUT DUKE AND DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER

Royal family - The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester , 1934-1936

A461, D396/1/4

Recorded by: 1934-1950 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Royal Marriage of HRH Duke of Gloucester to Lady Alice Scott, 1935-1936

A2910, 427/1/95

Recorded by: 1918-1960 Australian High Commission, United Kingdom [London] (CA 241)

The Duke and Lady Alice Scott married on 6 November 1935. Australia's wedding gift to the couple was a £150 writing desk made of various Australian timbers.

For the wedding, Australian and other Commonwealth visitors to London could apply for seating in the Dominions Stand in Whitehall, from which they could view the wedding procession. However, it was reported to the Australian Government that 'in view of the large number of applications already received, it will be necessary to allot the seats by ballot'.

Supply of WRANS Officers Uniform items for HRH Duchess of Gloucester, 1945

MP151/1, 434/201/3726

Recorded by: 1939-1950 Navy Office, Department of the Navy (CA 38)

7. PROPOSED ROYAL TOURS

Royal visit 1936

Another Royal Visit was proposed in 1936 as the culmination of the New South Wales sesquicentenary celebrations in 1938. The idea was first raised by the Premier of New South Wales and was strongly supported by all other state premiers and Prime Minister Lyons.

The new king, Edward VIII, however, refused to commit himself to a tour. Lord Wigram wrote to Governor-General Gowrie on the matter on 9 September 1936 saying:

I spoke to the King about this, and His Majesty says that at the present time it is quite impossible to say whether any members of the Royal Family will be able to be present at this ceremony. It is quite useless to put forward this question now and I would suggest your Prime Minister taking soundings when he is over here for the Coronation.⁶⁸

Edward VIII abdicated three months after this advice and Lyons was therefore unable to put his request to the new monarch, George VI until after his coronation in May of the following year. After this meeting Lyons reported to Acting Prime Minister Page on 21 June 1937,

I deeply regret am now advised that His Majesty has reluctantly come to the conclusion that at this early stage of reign there is so much to be done at home he cannot very well spare one of few available relatives.⁶⁹

Any plans for a potential tour were therefore subsequently cancelled.

RECORD RELATING TO THE PROPOSED TOUR OF 1938

NSW Sesquicentenary. Royal Visit, 1936–1937

A461, G317/1/3

Recorded by: 1934–1950 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Duke of Kent

ROYAL VISIT 1934

It was initially intended that Prince George, the Duke of Kent visit Australia in 1934 to participate in Victoria's centenary celebrations. Prince George however withdrew in mid 1934 and his place on the tour was taken by his brother, the Duke of Gloucester.

Few files appear to exist that relate specifically to plans made for Prince George's visit, however records initially relating to his visit were used in the organisation of the Duke of Gloucester's subsequent visit. A number of these files are listed above in the section relating to the 1934 tour of the Duke of Gloucester. Several files however, that were originally used to plan the Duke of Kent's visit are:

Royal family – The Duke and Duchess of Kent, 1934–1936

A461, E396/1/4

Recorded by: 1934–1950 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Prince George – Visit to Australia 1934 – Arrangements in connection with

A664, 486/403/1

Recorded by: 1924–1940 Department of Defence (CA 19)

Transport Staff. Prince George's Visit 1934

A664, 486/403/18



One of two drawings of the Duke of Kent submitted for copyright registration by Mr Frank Hedley Sanders. NAA: A1861, 6517

A second drawing of the Duke submitted by Mr Sanders. When it was announced that the Duke of Gloucester would visit instead, Mr Sanders submitted two further drawings, this time of the Duke of Gloucester (opposite).

NAA: A1861, 6519

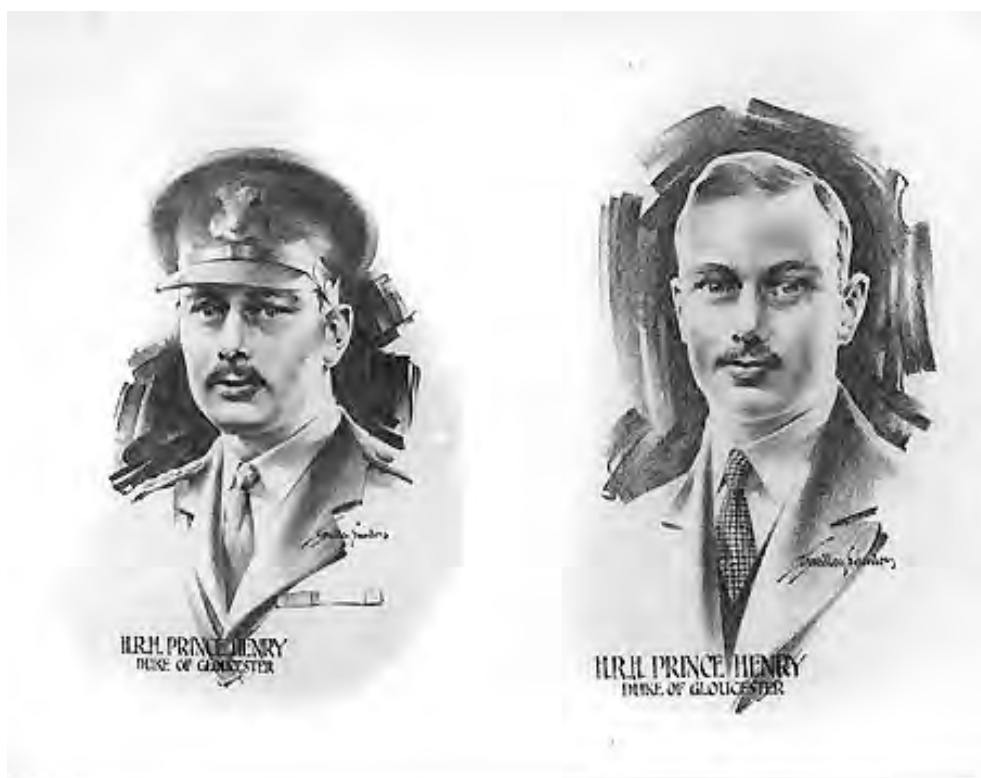


Visit of HRH Prince George to confer with Commonwealth Authorities**MP124/6, 462/204/3**Recorded by: 1923–1938 Navy Office, Department of Defence
(CA 2456)

A keen artist, Mr Frank Hedley Sanders, was eager to copyright images of the proposed royal visitor. He accordingly submitted two drawings of the Duke of Kent for copyright in early 1934. However, when it was announced that Prince George was no longer coming, Mr Sanders wasted no time in drawing and registering for copyright two images of the Duke of Gloucester.

Photograph. "Crayon Drawing of Prince George". Registration and Exhibit.**A1861, 6517**

Recorded by: 1907–1913 Australian Industrial Property Organisation (CA 555)

Photograph. "Portrait of Prince George in Naval Costume and Including Battleship". Registration and Exhibit.**A1861, 6519****Photograph. Drawings. "Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester". Registration and Exhibit.****A1861, 6531**

**Prince Henry Duke of Gloucester in civil dress and military uniform.
Drawings by Mr Frank Hedley Sanders of Melbourne, 1934.
NAA: A1861, 6531**

Some members of the Government were also angered when sectors of the press made light of the Duke of Kent's decision not to come to Australia. In particular, it was suggested that journalists at *Smith's Weekly* should be charged with sedition for printing the cartoon opposite. However, Mr Latham, writing to the Honourable R G Casey about the issue said that although 'the article is a form of low class humour which is very objectionable', pursuing a prosecution 'would give the proprietors an opportunity to pose as defenders of the freedom of the press and liberty of speech'.⁷⁰ The publishers of the cartoon were therefore never charged.

"Smith's Weekly" - Cartoon of Royal Family **A432, 1934/1029**
Recorded by: 1901-1970 Attorney-General's Department (CA 5)

After the Duke of Kent's marriage on 29 November 1934, he sought to restrict commercial use of his new wife's name, Marina.

Trade Marks - use of the work 'Marina', 1935-1944 **A432, 1939/587**
Recorded by: 1901-1970 Attorney-General's Department (CA 5)

His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent. Use of name "Marina", 1939 **A461, AT7/1/7**
Recorded by: 1934-1950 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Registration of Brands "Marina", 1935-1940 **A601, 8/4/397**
Recorded by: 1935-1943 Department of Commerce (CA 28)

THE DUKE OF KENT AS GOVERNOR-GENERAL

With Lord Gowrie's term as Governor-General due to come to an end in 1939, it was proposed that the Duke of Kent be appointed as his successor. This appointment was finalised in early 1939 but was suspended when the Second World War began.

Cabinet discussion about expenditure in connection with the accommodation of the Kents was quite extensive. A telegram from Lord Bruce about the Kents' purchases (at Government expense) even before their arrival in Australia, was particularly examined. It read:

Goods selected by Duke or Duchess and on order are curtains with interlinings, linings and trimmings and furniture covers at £1212, carpets at £1109, dressing table cover(s) and mirror(s) at £60, celanese net voile at £260. All figures in sterling. In addition, cables from Bracegirdle to Lowther invite selection of teaset, glassware, linen etc, now in process of selection but no prices except for one afternoon teaset at £52.⁷¹

Eventually, the Cabinet sub-committee convened on 7 July 1939 to discuss arrangements for the Kents decided to

send a cablegram to Mr Bruce ... (explaining) that in view of the heavy Defence programme every effort was being made to curtail avoidable expenditure. An examination of the costs indicate that the amount for the work at Government House had now reached a considerable sum. The Committee was apprehensive lest this may provoke criticism which would prove embarrassing to Their Royal Highnesses after they took up residence on Australia. It was not desired that formal representations be made to His Royal Highness, and it was agreed that the matter be left entirely in the hands of the High Commissioner.⁷²

Some of the files dealing with the appointment of the Duke contain examples of public disapproval at his appointment and objections to the expense the government was prepared



'Royal Family arguing the toss as to who'll have to do Australia'. Cartoon from *Smith's Weekly*, 12 May 1934.

NAA: A432, 1934/1029

to accept in order to accommodate the Duke as Governor-General. A letter from Milicent Smith to Prime Minister Lyons, dated 6 November 1938 exemplifies some of the public opposition:

Like many ... citizens in this fair land, I am wondering where the money is coming from to entertain the Kents while they are here ... The people are not interested in the sartorial splendour of the Kents. He is only a London playboy (receiving £25 000 per annum of the British taxpayers' money) ... Ye Gods – this is what is to be the future Governor-General of Australia, I wonder? ⁷³

As it turned out, however, the Duke never assumed the position of Australian Governor-General as he was killed in an air accident over Scotland whilst on active service in 1942. The pilot of the Sunderland aircraft he was aboard was an Australian serving with the RAF, Flight Lieutenant Frank McKenzie Goyen. Mr Goyen was also killed in the accident.

When the Duke of Kent's brother the Duke of Gloucester became Australia's Governor-General in 1945, his demeanour and attitudes were contrasted strongly by the media with those of his brother:

Simplicity likely in Canberra ... At the request of the Duke and Duchess themselves, all that has been done has been to ensure that Government House and its grounds are in order and provide adequate accommodation for their family and staff. Except for slight renovations and installation of a few new pieces of furniture, Government House has been left almost untouched.⁷⁴

Examples of records relating to the appointment of the Duke of Kent as Governor-General are:

Governor-General, Office of – Appointment of a Member of the Royal Family, 1934–1947

A461, L7/1/1

Recorded by: 1934–1950 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

This file contains a petition drafted by the right wing organisation the New Guard in 1934. The petition read:

We venture to ask that Your Majesty may be graciously pleased to cause to be appointed a Prince of the Royal Household, one of your Majesty's beloved sons, as the next Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia ...

The letter covering the petition, sent to Prime Minister Lyons on 4 December 1934, was written by the Chief Commander of the New Guard, Eric Campbell. The letter praises Sir Isaac Isaacs' efforts in the position: 'We are all deeply conscious of the magnificent manner in which His Excellency the present Governor-General has fulfilled his high office.' However:

Our earnest desire to see a member of the Royal Household accept the appointment in due course is actuated by a realisation of the necessity for still greater Imperial unity and by the belief that solutions of a number of our major economic problems [caused as a result of the Depression] will flow from the consummation of such a policy.

Subsequent portions of this file relate to both the Duke of Kent and the Duke of Gloucester.

Governor-General His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent - Arrival in Australia, 1938-1939	A461, A7/1/7
Governor-General His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent - Appointment, 1939	A461, B7/1/7
Governor-General His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent - Address of welcome, 1939	A461, D7/1/7
Governor-General His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent - Arrival in Australia, 1938-1939	A461, E7/1/7
Governor-General His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent - Expenditure, 1934-1939	A461, L7/1/7
Governor-General. His Royal Highness - the Duke of Kent- Patronage, 1939-1948	A461, P7/1/7
Governor-General His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent - Press statements, 1939	A461, T7/1/7
Governor-General - His Royal Highness - the Duke of Kent Publicity and Press arrangements	A461, AA7/1/7
His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent - Specification for decorative work at Government House Canberra, 1939	A461, AB7/1/7 Attachment
Duchess of Kent Shooting Incident, 1939-1943 On 8 June 1939, the Duchess of Kent, Princess Marina, was shot at by Ledwidge Vincent Lawlor, a former member of the AIF. The Duchess was not injured in the incident. The shooting incident occurred shortly after it was announced that the Duke of Kent would be coming to Australia to assume the position of Governor-General. Lawlor was returned to Australia and imprisoned.	A461, T7/1/2
Special Postage Stamp. Their Royal Highnesses the Duke & Duchess of Kent, 1939 Recorded by: 1918-1960 Australian High Commission, United Kingdom [London] (CA 241)	A2910, 436/1/132
Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Kent, 1939 Recorded by: 1939 Cabinet Office Cabinet discussion concerning costs associated with relocating the Kents to Australia.	A6006, 1939/07/07

THE DEATH OF THE DUKE OF KENT

Death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, 1942 Recorded by: 1937-1971 Sir Frederick Geoffrey Shedden KCMG, OBE (CP 320)	A5954, 398/3
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Tour of 1949

A visit by King George VI, Queen Elizabeth and Princess Margaret was proposed for 1949, but as the commencement of the tour grew near, it became apparent that the King's ill health would preclude any possible visit. By the time the cancellation was announced extensive plans had already been made and records documenting these are contained within the

records described below. The records were retained within the Prime Minister's Department to act as a guide for the planning and administration of any future visits.

In announcing the cancellation to the public Prime Minister Chifley said the following regarding his communications with the United Kingdom:

I said that, although we in Australia were bitterly disappointed that we would not have the privilege of having their Majesties and the Princess Margaret with us as planned, that was of a very secondary consideration when compared with the King's well-being ...

We know that their Majesties and Her Royal Highness shared with us the most pleasurable anticipation of the opportunity the Royal visit would have given them to make personal contact with so many Australians.

I am sure I speak for every citizen of the Commonwealth when I say that we, on our part, deeply regret that we will be unable to show directly and personally to their Majesties the loyalty and devotion to the Crown and the person of His Majesty which characterises the feelings of the people of Australia.⁷⁵

The two agencies in charge of the 1949 royal tour were the Commonwealth Directorate of the Royal Visit 1949 (CA 1054) and the Minister in Charge of the Royal Visit 1949 (CA 1055).

The Commonwealth Directorate was responsible to the Minister in Charge of the Royal Visit and both agencies were formed within the Prime Minister's Department. The Commonwealth Directorate was headed by Lieutenant-General Frank Berryman, who was later also responsible for the organisation of the 1952 and 1954 royal visits. At the time of his appointment, Berryman was the General Officer Commanding Eastern Command. Senator J I Armstrong, the Minister for Munitions, was appointed by Prime Minister Chifley as Minister in Charge of the royal visit.

Record series relating to this proposed visit, primarily created by the above two agencies are:

REPORT BY THE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER ON THE POSTPONED ROYAL VISIT, 1949

A1265

Recorded by: 1948 Minister in Charge of the Royal Visit 1949 (A1055)

Quantity: 0.04 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of the signed Report by the Public Relations Officer on the postponed Royal Visit 1949. It is an original typescript Report with Appendices A, B, and C.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, RV [ROYAL VISIT] SERIES

A1267

Recorded by: 1948 Commonwealth Directorate of the Royal Visit 1949 (CA 1054)

Quantity: 0.54 metres Location: Canberra

Correspondence on advance arrangements and preparations for the Royal Visit 1949 which, due to the illness of His Majesty King George VI, was cancelled on 23 November 1948.

INDEX BOOKLET FOR CORRESPONDENCE FILES, RV [ROYAL VISIT] SERIES A1268

Recorded by: 1948 Commonwealth Directorate of the Royal Visit 1949 (CA 1054)

Quantity: 0.04 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of a booklet which acts as an index to the correspondence files (A1267, above), which were raised for filing correspondence on advance arrangements and preparations for the Royal Visit 1949.

REGISTRATION BOOKLET FOR CORRESPONDENCE ON PUBLIC RELATIONS, ROYAL VISIT 1949 A1269

Recorded by: 1948 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.05 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of one booklet recording correspondence received on Public Relations matters associated with the Royal Visit 1949.

PRESS CUTTING BOOK – POSTPONED ROYAL VISIT 1949 A1274

Recorded by: 1948 Commonwealth Directorate of the Royal Visit 1949 (CA 1054)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of one bound volume of numbered pages to which press cuttings, relating to the postponed Royal Visit 1949 and dating from 24 January to 27 December 1948, have been added.

The visit of 1949 was scheduled to start in Sydney on 4 April 1949 and conclude in Western Australia on 13 June. It was intended that the royal party visit all states and territories with the exception of the Northern Territory. Examples of records relating to the proposed tour of 1949 are:

Royal visit 1949 – Announcement of, 1948	A461, A396/2/1
Recorded by: 1934–1950 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	
Royal visit 1949 – Fireworks – Displays during royal visit, 1948	A461, C396/2/1
Royal visit 1949 – Flying arrangements, 1948	A461, J396/2/1
Royal visit 1949 – Railway arrangements	A461, K396/2/1
Royal visit 1949 – Security of the royal party	A461, R396/2/1
Royal visit 1949 – Itinerary, 1948	A461, U396/2/1
Royal visit 1949 – Meetings of Cabinet committee, 1948–1952	A461, W396/2/1
Royal visit 1949 – Conference of Minister and Director with State Directors, 1948	A461, X396/2/1
Royal visit 1949 – Publicity	A461, Y396/2/1
Royal visit 1949 – Representatives of foreign countries, 1948	A461, AC396/2/1

Royal visit 1949 – Organisation – General, 1948	A461, AE396/2/1
Royal visit 1949 – General – Organisation of communications, 1948	A461, AH396/2/1
Royal visit 1949 – Finance, 1948	A461, AK396/2/1
Royal visit 1949 – Addresses of welcome and speeches – Policy, 1927–1949	A461, AL396/2/1
Royal visit 1949 – General – Supply of goods from the United Kingdom, 1948	A461, AP396/2/1
Royal visit 1949 – Supplies of flags and bunting, 1948–1949	A461, O396/2/1
Royal visit 1949 – Postponement of visit, 1948–1949	A461, BQ396/2/1
Royal visit 1949 – Commonwealth Director's report, 1949	A461, BU396/2/1
Royal visit 1949 – Renewal of invitation 1951, 1949–1951	A461, BW396/2/1
Royal visit 1949 – New South Wales – Invitations to visit municipalities, shires, etc in New South Wales, 1948	A461, A396/2/2
Royal visit 1949 – New South Wales – Arrangements in New South Wales, 1948–1949	A461, C396/2/2
Royal visit 1949 – Victoria – Arrangements in Victoria, 1948–1949	A461, D396/2/3
Royal visit 1949 – Tasmania – Arrangements in Tasmania, 1948–1949	A461, A396/2/4
Royal visit 1949 – South Australia – Arrangements in South Australia, 1948	A461, A396/2/5
Royal visit 1949 – Western Australia – Arrangements in Western Australia, 1948–1949	A461, A396/2/6
Royal visit 1949 – Queensland – Arrangements in Queensland, 1948	A461, A396/2/7
Royal visit 1949 – Australian Capital Territory – General, 1948	A461, B396/2/8
Royal visit 1949 – Newspaper and radio arrangements, 1948	A461, C396/4/1
Royal visit 1949 – Film on Great Barrier Reef, 1948	A461, I396/4/1
Royal visit 1949 – Canberra – Press committee, 1948	A461, R396/4/1
Royal visit 1949 – Conferences with Commonwealth and state officials, 1948	A461, V396/4/1
Royal visit – Conferences of Commonwealth officials, 1948	A461, W396/4/1
Royal visit 1949 – Transport arrangements, 1948	A461, Y396/4/1
Royal visit 1949 – General, 1948	A461, AA396/4/1
Royal visit 1949 – General, 1949	A461, AA396/4/1 Attachment 1
Royal visit 1949 – General, 1948	A461, AA396/4/1 Attachment 2
Papua – Miscellaneous – Suggested Visit of a Papuan Contingent during Royal Tour 1949, 1948	A518, AI918/4
Recorded by: 1928–1941 Territories Branch, Prime Minister's Department (CA 822)	

Norfolk Island – Miscellaneous Royal Visit – 1949 Invitation by residents of Norfolk Island to visit Territory	A518, DR618/3
Royal Visit, Canberra. Press and Newsreel Photographers' Stands, 1948 Recorded by: 1946–1959 Works Director, ACT (CA 743) Consists of architectural plans for the construction of press stands.	A2617, ACT17994
Royal Tour in 1949, 1948 Recorded by: 1937–1971 Sir Frederick Geoffrey Shedden, KCMG, OBE (CP 320)	A5954, 2075/1
Royal Visit 1949 – General File, 1948 Recorded by: 1945–1951 Flag Officer-in-Charge, New South Wales, and Admiral Superintendent, Sydney (CA 4341)	SP338/1, 927/1/4
Royal Visit (1949) – Itinerary, 1948 Recorded by: 1945–1951 Flag Officer-in-Charge, New South Wales, and Admiral Superintendent, Sydney (CA 4341)	SP339/1, 256/6/4
Royal Visit (1949) – Landing and Reception Committee, 1948	SP339/1, 256/6/6
Royal Visit (1949) – Construction of glass-bottomed boat, 1948–1949	SP339/1, 256/6/7
G6/4 – Progress summaries Royal Visit 1949 Recorded by: 1946–1961 Headquarters, Eastern Command, Australian Military Forces (CA 1878) This file contains a record of all decisions and actions taken in connection with the tour to 5 April 1948. These actions include the organisation of the itinerary, and security and transport arrangements.	SP1008/1, 447/11/4 Part 12
G6/5 – Commonwealth Directors' Conference Sydney 17–18 June 1948 re Royal Visit 1949 This file describes the proposed itinerary and includes suggestions as to how this can be improved or altered.	SP1008/1, 447/11/4 Part 13
G6/7 – Conference of Commonwealth Director and staff Sydney re Royal Visit 1949 In this item, Frank Berryman's recent visit to the United Kingdom is discussed, as are the King and Queen's requirements and requests for the structure of the tour.	SP1008/1, 447/11/4 Part 15
G7 – Correspondence re Royal visit 1949 – general	SP1008/1, 447/11/4 Part 19
G8 – Finance Royal visit 1949	SP1008/1, 447/11/4 Part 20
G22 – Press and radio – Royal Visit 1949	SP1008/1, 447/11/4 Part 31
G24 – Security Royal Visit 1949	SP1008/1, 447/11/4 Part 41
G25 – Staff appointments Royal Visit 1949	SP1008/1, 447/11/4 Part 42
G26 – Visits and functions Royal Visit 1949	SP1008/1, 447/11/4 Part 43

Royal visit 1952

In August 1950 the Private Secretary to His Majesty King George VI advised Australian authorities that the King, Queen Elizabeth and Princess Margaret would tour Australia in early 1952. This tour would be in place of the postponed tour of 1949 and was to have been a more limited and less demanding tour due to the state of the King's health. Prime Minister Menzies stated on 5 September 1950 that 'the fact that the King's health has improved to such an extent as to enable His Majesty even to contemplate a visit to Australia is in itself a matter for intense satisfaction and rejoicing'.⁷⁶

However, on 10 October 1951 Palace authorities announced that due to the King's ill health, he, the Queen and Princess Margaret would not be able to tour Australia. The tour would instead be undertaken by Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip. It was decided that the programme already approved was still to be followed wherever possible. The visit was scheduled to begin in Fremantle on 1 March and conclude in Townsville on 1 May 1952. However the proposed tour was cancelled whilst the couple was in Kenya due to the death of the princess' father, King George VI, on 6 February 1952.

The Director-General of the Royal Tour, Lieutenant-General Berryman wrote of the cancellation:

The sudden death of His Majesty the King and the consequent postponement of the Royal Tour of Ceylon, Australia and New Zealand during the period of the stay of Their Royal Highnesses in Kenya, was reflected in the poignant grief of the Australian people in the passing of the Sovereign and in the widespread disappointment at the non-fulfillment of hopes of the royal visit so near at hand.⁷⁷

Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip would visit Australia in 1954 as Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE VISIT

The agency responsible for the proposed 1952 tour was the Royal Visit Organisation 1952, Director-General, Sydney (CA 654).

On 12 December 1950 the Prime Minister advised Lieutenant-General F H Berryman CB, CBE, DSO, of his appointment from 7 February 1951 as Director-General of the Commonwealth Jubilee in 1951 and of the Royal Tour in 1952. On completion of his duties as Director of the Royal Tour, Lt-Gen Berryman was to resume his appointment as General Officer Commanding Eastern Command.

The Prime Minister further advised that the Royal Visit Organisation would be housed at Victoria Barracks in Sydney, would have the use of the Army Organisation and the Minister of the Army would offer every assistance.

After the tour was finally cancelled, and in order that those charged with arranging any future royal visit would benefit from the experience of the 1952 organisation, the Director-General arranged for the preparation of a detailed report which was submitted to the Commonwealth Government.

The records created by this organisation are as follows

ROYAL VISIT CAR COMPANY CORRESPONDENCE FILES, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES WITH 'SO' [STAFF OFFICER] PREFIX, 1951-1952

A5524

Recorded by: 1951-1952 Royal Visit Organisation 1952, Director-General, Sydney (CA 654)

Quantity: 0.18 metres

Location: Canberra

On 8 January 1951, the Secretary of the Prime Minister's Department advised the Secretary, Department of the Army, that the Prime Minister had authorised in principle the raising by Army Headquarters of a Royal Car Company. The file series commenced early in 1952 when the preparations for the Royal Visit were in their final stages.

Major R Sutton was the Staff Officer in charge of the Company and was stationed with the Director-General of the 1952 Tour, Lieutenant-General F H Berryman CB, CBE, DSO, at Victoria Barracks, Paddington, NSW. There are seven files in the series prefixed 'SO' [Staff Officer] and they deal principally with Major Sutton's coordination of transport arrangements with various State Transport Officers responsible for assisting the Royal Car Company in each State and Territory.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, MULTIPLE NUMBER AND LETTER SERIES WITH 'RV' [ROYAL VISIT] PREFIX, 1951-1952

A5525

Recorded by: 1951-1952 Royal Visit Organisation 1952, Director-General, Sydney (CA 654)

Quantity: 1.80 metres

Location: Canberra

Main correspondence file series for the proposed Royal Visit of 1952. The files in this series document the major administrative operations undertaken by the Director-General of the 1952 Visit, Lieutenant-General F H Berryman.

The first number of each file number designates the file subject as either General (1) or Public Relations (2). Further numerical divisions indicate 'general' or the state or territory concerned, and the letters indicate the particular subject area. A number of the files have been added to by the staff of the 1954 Royal Visit Organisation. Also, a number of the files were used in producing the annexures to the Director-General's Report (A6688).

REGISTRATION BOOKLET FOR CRS A5525, CORRESPONDENCE FILES, MULTIPLE NUMBER AND LETTER SERIES WITH 'RV' [ROYAL VISIT] PREFIX, 1951-1952

A5526

Recorded by: 1951-1952 Royal Visit Organisation 1952, Director-General, Sydney (CA 654)

Quantity: 0.09 metres

Location: Canberra

This canvas covered booklet (labelled 'Index Book') lists files registered in the main correspondence file series (A5525 above) in preparation for the proposed 1952 Royal Tour which was abandoned following the death of His Majesty King George VI.

NAME AND SUBJECT INDEX CARDS FOR CRS A5525, CORRESPONDENCE FILES,
MULTIPLE NUMBER AND LETTER SERIES WITH 'RV' [ROYAL VISIT] PREFIX A6687

Recorded by: 1951–1952 Royal Visit Organisation 1952, Director-General,
Sydney (CA 654)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of name and subject index cards for the correspondence file series of the Royal Visit Organisation of 1952. These index cards are arranged lexicographically according to subject, and detail the date of correspondence relating to the subject, relevant file number and an explanatory note giving the nature of the correspondence.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S REPORT AND ANNEXURES, ROYAL VISIT 1952 A6688

Recorded by: 1952 Royal Visit Organisation 1952, Director-General, Sydney
(CA 654)

Quantity: 0.36 metres Location: Canberra

Three files containing a draft report and two copies of the final report and files containing 21 annexures to the report made to the Minister-in-Charge by the Director-General of the cancelled Royal Visit of 1952.

SOUVENIRS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS, ROYAL VISIT 1952 A6689

Recorded by: 1951–1952 Royal Visit Organisation 1952, Director-General,
Sydney (CA 654)

Quantity: 0.20 metres Location: Canberra

Printed items relating to the proposed Royal Visit of 1952. The items are either souvenir or official publications concerning the visit, and include souvenir programs, a guide for planning the Royal Tour, invitation cards, and colour souvenir photographs.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, COMMONWEALTH JUBILEE AND ROYAL VISIT 1952,
ALPHA-NUMERIC SERIES, 1950–1952 A9645

Recorded by: 1950–1952 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 2.52 metres Location: Canberra

This series was created by the Prime Minister's Department, to record and commemorate the Commonwealth Jubilee and the Royal Visit 1952. It contains such things as inward and outward letters, pictures, programs and publications.

THE CANCELLED ROYAL VISIT OF 1952

Examples of records include:

Royal Visit to Commonwealth of Australia – General A452, 1956/1184 Part 1
Recorded by: 1951–1968 Department of Territories (CA 60)

Royal tour 1952 – Flags and bunting – Supply position, 1951 A462, 824/3/2
Recorded by: 1951–1955 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Royal tour 1952 – Press representations – Accompanying royal tour in *Gothic*, 1948–1952**A462, 824/7/3**

The *Gothic* was the royal yacht that was to have been used to transport the royal party around Australia.

Report by Director-General to Minister in Charge, Royal Visit 1952**A6688, Report Part 2**

Recorded by: 1952 Royal Visit Organisation 1952, Director General, Sydney (CA 654)

Contains a detailed history of the royal tour and a complete report to the Minister about the planning and arrangements for the visit. Some of the numerous annexures to this report are listed below.

Draft Programmes**A6688, Annexure 1**

Contains draft programs for the itineraries in each Australian state and territory.

Conferences of State Directors**A6688, Annexure 2**

Contains minutes of the numerous meetings with the directors of the visits to each state and territory. These give detailed arrangements for prospective activities in each state.

Financial Review**A6688, Annexure 5**

In all, by the time of the cancellation, the Government had spent £84 040 on the visit. This sum was principally spent on salaries, printing of commemorative publications, cars and flags.

State Publications**A6688, Annexure 7**

Contains copies of the published and bound programs issued for each state.

Royal Visit 1952, Guide for Planning**A6688, Annexure 9**

This document was classed as 'Restricted' and bears the following warning on its cover – 'The information given in this document is not to be communicated, either directly or indirectly, to the Press or to any person not authorised to receive it'.

The Guide contains guidelines that should be adhered to when planning a tour. For example, in Part III, *Sequence of events for the first day of a visit to a capital city*, the section under *Salutes* reads 'The Salute will never be fired when the Royal Highnesses are in the Immediate vicinity of the gun area'.

The Guide also lists other procedures and standard arrangements for transport, accommodation, dress, press details, security etc.

This guide was the first such publication designed in the Commonwealth and was deemed to be of inestimable use in the organisation of all future royal visits.

Commonwealth Movement and Accommodation Plan**A6688, Annexure 11**

Details transport arrangements to and from each state.

Movement by Land**A6688, Annexure 13**

Principally documents transport arrangements for the royal visit. It documents the type of vehicles that are to be used, the transport arrangements for each of the official engagements and the selection criteria to be used to find suitable transport personnel. In addition, the file includes photographs of the construction of the official Daimler cars to be used during the course of the visit.

Press arrangements**A6688, Annexure 16**

Contains details of official press representatives, notes provided to editors and details of the conditions imposed on the press.

Security**A6688, Annexure 18**

Explains security issues generally and describes how adequate security measures should be implemented.

0396, Group Captain, Cowan, Michael George, DSO, MVO, 1938–1973**A9300, Cowan MG**

Recorded by: 1939–1959 Department of Air (CA 35)
RAAF personnel dossier of Group Captain Michael Cowan (born 18/10/1916; retired 18/10/1968), who had been appointed as RAAF equerry for the 1952 royal visit. As the 1952 tour never eventuated, Cowan was proposed as the official equerry again in 1954. He was subsequently appointed as Equerry-in-Waiting to the Queen for the duration of the royal visit in 1954.

This file contains letters of commendation for his service during the 1954 royal visit and details about the rest of his Service career.

Service dossiers for all persons who have served in the RAAF are available through the National Archives in Canberra.

Canberra programme for 'Visit to Australia of Their Royal Highnesses the Princess Elizabeth, Duchess of Edinburgh and the Duke of Edinburgh, April 1952'**M2128, 48**

Collected by: 1934–1973 The Hon Dame Annabelle Jane Mary Rankin DBE (CP 137)

Princess Margaret

In addition to the cancelled tours of 1949 and 1952, it had also been suggested that Princess Margaret visit Australia in 1958 and then in 1959, the latter visit for the purpose of celebrating Queensland's centenary. These visits also failed to eventuate.

Queensland centenary celebrations 1959 – Invitation to HRH Princess Margaret, 1957–1958**A463, 1958/89**

Recorded by: 1956– Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
To help celebrate the centenary of European settlement in Queensland in 1959, the then Premier Gair wrote to the Prime Minister and Governor-General to ask that the Queen or a member of her family acting as her representative, come to Australia for the celebrations (correspondence dated 25 February 1957).

This request was forwarded to the Queen who responded through her Private Secretary, Michael Adeane on 21 September 1957:

Her Majesty desires we to say that she fears that neither she nor the Duke of Edinburgh are likely to be able to visit Queensland on the occasion of the centenary celebrations of that State in 1959 ...

I am not in a position to speak for any other member of the royal family, who all make their arrangements through their own staffs, but I conclude that as Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother is visiting Australia in 1958, it would, perhaps, not be appropriate to ask her to return in 1959.

In effect, this leaves the following, any of whom may well be free in 1959:-

The Princess Margaret
The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester
The Princess Royal
The Duchess of Kent

Press speculation lead to the suggestion that Princess Margaret would come to Queensland. It prompted the Queensland Premier Frank Nicklin to write the following in a letter to Menzies dated 9 January 1958, 'A visit from our beloved and charming Princess would be the coping stone of what we aim to make and hope to be a wonderful year.'

However, Princess Margaret was forced to turn down Menzies official invitation and eventually it was Princess Alexandra who visited Australia for the Queensland centenary. Records relating to this royal visit are discussed later in this guide.

Protocol – Visit to Australia of Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret, 1958

A1838, 1516/88

Recorded by: 1948–1970 Department of External Affairs (CA 18)

Suggested visit of HRH Princess Margaret to Australia, 1958

A2908, V70

Recorded by: 1930–1952 Australian High Commission, United Kingdom [London] (CA 241)

Official correspondence in this file states that Princess Margaret could not come to Australia in 1959 as she already had prior arrangements to tour both the Carribean and Canada in this year.

Aside from records relating to these visits which never eventuated, the National Archives holds a number of other records relating to Princess Margaret. For example, a number of records were created about the liaison and rumoured nuptials between Princess Margaret and Group Captain Peter Townsend.

Press Cuttings. Special. Box file No.3. Princess Margaret and Group Captain Townsend and the Snowdens, 1955–1965

A5954/1, 1131/10

Recorded by: 1937–1971 Sir Frederick Geoffrey Shedden, KCMG, OBE (CP 320)

Controversy arising from proposed marriage of HRH Princess Margaret to Group Captain Peter Townsend A5954, 2196/5

Royalty – Princess Margaret and Group Captain Townsend; Mr Nehru's views on a formal position for Prince Philip, 1953 A6706, 60

Recorded by: 1950–1966 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

This file contains a letter marked 'Secret and personal' from British Prime Minister Anthony Eden to Prime Minister Menzies. The letter states that Princess Margaret had not yet made up her mind as to whether she was going to marry Peter Townsend. Eden stated that until she had made up her mind, the Queen would not be seeking the opinions of the other Commonwealth countries on the issue.

Princess Margaret married Anthony Armstrong-Jones (later Lord Snowden) in 1960. Records relating to this event include:

HRH Princess Margaret – Gift on marriage, 1960 A463, 1960/3705

Recorded by: 1956– Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

For her marriage, the Princess was to receive a Hans Heysen painting from the Commonwealth Government but Robert Menzies, when he was in London, purchased and presented the couple with an antique silver punch bowl instead.

The *Daily Telegraph* of 28 April 1960 reported that the people of Gibraltar intended to present the couple with a solid gold model of the Rock of Gibraltar as a wedding gift.

Wedding of HRH Princess Margaret 1960 – Souvenir Policy A463, 1960/4001

The normally stringent rules governing the use of reproductions of portraits of members of the royal family was to be relaxed during the period of the wedding to allow for the sale and marketing of related souvenirs.

Wedding of HRH Princess Margaret 1960 A463, 1960/4404

Contains policy advice concerning the broadcasting of Princess Margaret's wedding. A file note dated 4 May 1960 reads:

Commercial stations in Australia have been advised by their own association that it would be permissible to interrupt the programme for announcements and advertisements during the Procession to and from Westminster Abbey but the actual Wedding Ceremony within the Abbey is not to be broken at any point.

Mr Budds of the ABC Board said that under normal circumstances the Board would not allow any form of advertising during the broadcast and televising of the Wedding but they understood that the Palace authorities had indicated that restrained and dignified advertising would be permissible.

The concept of inserting advertising during the broadcast raised some government debate because at the time the Post-Master General's Department had a standing rule that there should be no

television or radio advertising two minutes before or after the appearance of a member of the royal family.

GENERAL RECORDS ABOUT PRINCESS MARGARET

Examples of general records about Princess Margaret include:

Portrait – Princess Margaret Rose, 1948 Recorded by: 1934–1950 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	A461, BF370/1/7
College of Nursing – Conferring of honorary fellowship on HRH Princess Margaret, 1958–1959 Recorded by: 1956– Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	A463, 1958/4411
HRH Princess Margaret, Colonel-in-Chief – WRAAC, 1953 Recorded by: 1918–1960 Australian High Commission, United Kingdom [London] (CA 241)	A2910, 427/16/857
Princess Margaret : Profile Re. Article in the "New Statesman" – 30th April 1960 Recorded by: 1937–1971 Sir Frederick Geoffrey Shedden, KCMG, OBE (CP 320)	A5954, 1923/19

8. QUEEN ELIZABETH II (1952–)

Queen Elizabeth II was born on 21 April 1926 and as the eldest child of George VI and Queen Elizabeth (later the Queen Mother), succeeded her father after his death in 1952.

The Queen has made numerous tours of Australia, several of which are described below. In addition, records relating to her coronation and general records about the Queen are also listed through the following pages.

Coronation 1953

The Queen was crowned on 2 June 1953. This event was the focus for major pageantry and celebrations in Britain and throughout the Commonwealth. The files listed below illustrate some of the arrangements made by the Australian government in association with the event. Australia was invited to have representatives present at the ceremony itself and many celebrations in honour of the coronation occurred concurrently throughout Australia.

Amidst the official celebrations and ceremonies in London, 7 000 seats with a view of the coronation procession were allocated to Australians who would be in London for the event. Within Westminster Abbey itself, 250 seats were reserved for official Australian representatives. Within its official contingent, the Australian Government sent 250 representatives of the armed forces and seven parliamentary delegates to the coronation festivities.⁷⁸



**The Queen during
her first visit to
Australia in 1954.**
NAA: A1773, RV1262

A press conference held by Earl Marshal on 5 March 1953 made the following announcements in connection with the official ceremony itself:

- The Abbey doors would be closed by 8.30am
- The Queen was scheduled to arrive at 11am
- Just fifty per cent of those in the Abbey will be able to see a 'reasonable amount' ⁷⁹

PERSONAL ACCOUNT OF THE CORONATION BY HAROLD HOLT

Coronation Diary, 9th May to 23rd July 1953

M2608, 3

Recorded by: 1962–1965 The Rt Hon Harold Edward Holt, PC,
CH (CP 27)

Harold Holt and his wife Zara were in London for the duration of all the festivities arranged in conjunction with the coronation. On Wednesday, 27 May 1953, at one of the official pre coronation functions, Holt, the President of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association made a speech addressed to the Queen. At the function itself, Holt sat to the right of the Queen, with the Duke of Edinburgh to her left. Despite his anxieties about his speech ('I had to say [everything] ... all in five minutes. An agony of the spirit for a politician accustomed to our own windy speech making.') Holt called it 'an unforgettable experience for me'.

In his diary entry for Tuesday 2 June, Holt goes on to describe the intricacies of the coronation ceremony itself.

It was a coldish, grey morning, with the threat of showers to come. Zara had prevailed on me to wear full evening dress – after a long struggle in which I'd fought for the greater comfort of a morning suit. I felt like some Minister from a middle European principality attending a wedding, but I was to discover there were many more in the same rig – and the morning suit would most certainly have clashed with Zara's glittering embroidered cream and gold satin.

Guests to the ceremony were seated by 7.40am and were unable to leave until the formalities were concluded at approximately 3pm. In his diary entry, Holt describes portions of the ceremony and comments at length on the toilet facilities available. He also lists the various methods employed by those assembled to secrete food into the ceremony. He then adds:

The oddest incident in the whole ceremony was the appearance, just before the Queen's procession arrived and after the other royal processions had moved through, of two aproned maids – one pushing a hand operated carpet sweeper around the Throne area, the other doing her bit of cleaning, broom in hand.

On 5 June, the Holts were invited to a reception at Buckingham Palace to celebrate the coronation. To Holt, it was 'quite fabulous, and, as a spectacle, even more impressive to me than the Abbey service ... it was quite unforgettable, and for sheer spectacle I never expect to see the setting and the people in it surpassed in a lifetime.'

After numerous visits to various European cities, Holt concludes his diary entries on 23 July with the following:

Thus we returned from this memorable Coronation journey to what, I imagine, will be the rightful envy of our friends and the understandable malice of our enemies. Bless them all – for whatever the price, it will have been cheaply paid.

REPRESENTATION OF AUSTRALIA AT THE CORONATION

Examples of records include:

Accession of Queen Elizabeth – General, 1952 Recorded by: 1951–1955 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)	A462, 821/1/12
Coronation – Gifts to the sovereign on the occasion of the coronation – Policy, 1936–1953	A462, 821/1/13
Coronation – Representation of Australian armed forces at the celebrations – Policy, 1936–1953	A462, 821/1/14 Parts 1–2
Royalty – Coronation – Representations re contingent of Australian ex-servicemen attending coronation ceremony, 1952–1954	A462, 821/1/15
Coronation – Parliamentary delegation at ceremony – Policy, 1953–1956	A462, 821/1/17 Parts 1–2
Royalty – Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth the 2nd – Arrangements for Australian visitors, 1952–1953	A462, 821/1/20
Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second – Applications for seats – Policy, 1952–1953	A462, 821/1/23
Royalty – Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second – Policy, 1952–1954 This file contains details of official guests, programme details and information about official coronation committees. It also sets out the extent of Australian involvement in the event.	A462, 821/1/27
The file also contains a bound copy of the publication <i>The Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II</i> which was produced by the Coronation Commission of the United Kingdom. It also contains a booklet called <i>Background to the Coronation</i> compiled by Earl Marshal’s Press Bureau.	
Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second – Royal and official guests, 1952–1955	A462, 821/1/46 Part 1
Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II – Visit of contingent of Australian youth to London, 1952–1953	A462, 821/1/50
Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II – Financial, 1952–1953	A462, 821/1/52
Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II – Coronation dress, 1952–1953	A462, 821/1/66
Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II – Visit of Australian VC winners, 1952–1953	A462, 821/1/77
Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II – Invitation to Prime Minister to walk in procession in West Minister Abbey, 1953	A462, 821/1/93
Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II – Representation of Australian Aborigines at coronation, 1953	A462, 821/1/95
Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II – Visit of State Premiers to United Kingdom for coronation, 1953	A462, 821/1/101
Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II – Visit of Dame Enid Lyons, 1953	A462, 821/1/117

Dr Evatt and Party – Visit to the United Kingdom for Coronation, 1952–1954 Recorded by: 1956– Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)	A463, 1958/3668
Coronation of Queen Elizabeth, 1952–1953 Recorded by: 1948–1970 Department of External Affairs (CA 18)	A1838, 1255/140 Part 1
Her Majesty’s invitations to Australian representatives to visit England for Coronation Ceremonies, 1953 Recorded by: 1935–1953 Governor-General (CA 1)	A3522, 3
Protocol – Coronation, 1952–1954 Recorded by: 1947– Australian High Commission, New Zealand [Wellington] (CA 2781)	A4534, 39/2/3
Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, 1952 Recorded by: 1958–1967 Cabinet Secretariat (CA 3)	A4940, C619
Australian Coronation contingent, 1936–1953 Recorded by: 1937–1971 Sir Frederick Geoffrey Shedden, KCMG, OBE (CP 320)	A5954, 1552/7
Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II – June 1953, 1952–1953	A5954, 2075/4
Review of Papuan/ New Guinea police contingent for coronation of Queen Elizabeth II (audio tape), 1953 Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.	C102, NG8
Coronation – Representation of territories, 1952–1953 Collected by: 1951–1974 The Rt Hon Sir Paul Meernaa Caedwalla Hasluck, KG, GCMG, GCVO, KStJ (CP 115)	M331, 193
Coronation programmes, 1952–1953 Recorded by: 1934–1965 Australian Broadcasting Commission (CA 251) This item is held by the Sydney office of the National Archives.	SP724/1, 8/17/3 Parts 1–3
ABC Commentator, coronation, 1953 Recorded by: 1934–1965 Australian Broadcasting Commission (CA 251) This item is held by the Sydney office of the National Archives.	SP724/1, 8/17/4

THE AUSTRALIAN CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

The files listed below relate principally to festivities organised in Canberra. Celebrations in other areas were the responsibility of the various state governments.

The crowning of a monarch is a prolonged, complicated and highly ritualistic affair. One of the main problems associated with the 1953 coronation, however, had nothing to do with these three factors. The issue, which arose because of technical advances and the public’s increasing desire to remain informed, was whether the coronation should be televised.

There were members of the Coronation Joint Committee [in London] who were genuinely concerned about the burden which live television might impose on the Queen during the long service. There were also participants in the ceremony who feared that their slightest slip would be instantly transmitted to the watching millions. Finally, there were a few who were horrified by the idea that chaps in pubs would watch the Coronation over their third pint.⁸⁰

It was initially decided that there would be no television coverage of the event. However, as this decision provoked huge public outcry, it was ultimately decided that portions of the ceremony should be televised across the world.

Coronation celebrations in immigration centres, 1952–1954 Recorded by: 1951–1955 Department of Immigration (CA 51)	A445, 112/1/33
Coronation – Official souvenirs (children), 1952–1954 Recorded by: 1951–1955 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	A462, 821/1/22
Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II – Fireworks display, 1952–1953	A462, 821/1/30
Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II – Televising of ceremony, 1952–1953	A462, 821/1/31
Coronation celebrations 1953 – Canberra programme, 1952–1953	A462, 821/1/33
Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II – Public holiday, 1952–1953	A462, 821/1/40
Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II – Decoration and illumination of Commonwealth and state buildings	A462, 821/1/48
Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II – Australia's coronation plans – Information for the London Daily Mail	A462, 821/1/111
Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II – Remission of prison sentences, 1953	A462, 821/1/120
Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II – Coronation celebration in Canberra – Payment of travelling allowance to Members of Parliament, 1953	A462, 821/1/127
Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II – Canberra arrangements – Levee – Ceremony at Parliament House 2 June 1953	A462, 821/1/132
Coronation souvenir booklet for school children, 1952–1953 Recorded by: 1958–1967 Cabinet Secretariat (CA 3)	A4940, C2636
Programme for Salvation Army Eastern Australia Territory State Coronation Congress, 4–9 June 1953 Collected by: 1934–1983 The Hon Dame Annabelle Jane Mary Rankin DBE (CP 137)	M2128, 44
Official Programme for Coronation celebrations, Canberra The festivities in honour of the coronation detailed in this programme were scheduled to take place in Canberra from Sunday 31 May to Thursday 4 June 1953.	M2128, 50

Royal visit 1954

In 1954 Queen Elizabeth II became the first reigning monarch to tour Australia.

The royal visit of 1954 was perhaps the most popular of all royal visits. Aside from being the first tour of a reigning monarch, it was also the first royal tour to Australia for twenty years and its scale was immense:

Her Majesty travelled approximately 10 000 miles by air, occupying a period of approximately 57 hours and made approximately 33 flights. (His Royal Highness made 35 flights.)

The civil air lift, which was the greatest civil air operation in history, comprised 257 separate flights covering 1 307 459 passenger miles and carried 3 200 passengers with 20 tons of freight representing more than 1 000 000 pieces. This does not include 363 flights made by the RAAF of more than 600 hours duration ...

Her Majesty travelled approximately 2 000 miles by road, spent 130 hours in motor cars, made 207 separate trips, and the cars of the Royal Visit Car Company registered some 500 000 miles.

Her Majesty visited approximately 70 country towns [in addition to all capital cities except Darwin] and made approximately 100 speeches.

This remarkable transport movement was carried out without one accident in which a car of the Royal Visit Car Company was involved, and there was not one moment's delay in the air through any mechanical fault, nor was one piece of baggage lost, and Her Majesty and His Royal Highness discharged the whole of the functions set out in the royal visit itinerary without the need to postpone or abandon any engagement.⁸¹

According to the official report of the visit completed by Sir Frank Berryman, the Director-General of the Royal Visit Organisation, the tour came about as follows:

Following negotiations in London between the Australian Prime Minister and the British Government, the Prime Minister presented a note to the United Kingdom authorities which indicated that, taking into consideration the Federal elections in 1954, February/March would be the most appropriate period for the royal visit to Australia.⁸² [The elections, held in the wake of the visit on 29 May, were won by Menzies' Coalition party.]

The Queen arrived in Australia in Sydney on 3 February and departed the country from Fremantle on 1 April. She and the Duke of Edinburgh visited the following towns and cities during their tour⁸³:

Sydney	3–18 February	Echuca	5 March
Newcastle	9 February	Rochester	5 March
Lismore	9–10 February	Bendigo	5 March
Casino	10 February	Castlemaine	5 March
Dubbo	10 February	Maryborough	5 March
Wollongong	11 February	Ballarat	6 March
Bathurst	12 February	Geelong	6 March
Lithgow	12 February	Warburton	6 March
Katoomba	12 February	Brisbane	9–18 March
Wagga Wagga	13 February	Bundaberg	11 March
Canberra	13–18 February	Toowoomba	11 March
Hobart	20–23 February	Cairns	12 March
Wynyard	23 February	Townsville	13 March
Burnie	23 February	Mackay	15 March
Ulverstone	23 February	Rockhampton	15 March
Devonport	23 February	Broken Hill	18 March
Cressy	23–24 February	Adelaide	18–26 March
Launceston	24 February	Whyalla	20 March
Melbourne	24 February – 9 March	Port Lincoln	20 March
Mount Gambier	26 February	Woomera	22 March
Hamilton	26 February	Renmark	23 March

Flinders	2 March	Mildura	25 March
Sale	3 March	Kalgoorlie	26 March
Traralgon	3 March	Perth	26 March
Yallourn	3 March	Busselton	30 March
Warragul	3 March	Albany	30 March
Benalla	5 March	Northam	31 March
Shepparton	5 March	York	31 March
		Fremantle	1 April

ADMINISTRATION OF THE VISIT

The organisation charged with organising and administering the visit was called, Royal Visit Organisation 1954, Director-General, Sydney (CA 1705).

This agency was created within the Prime Minister's Department to handle all arrangements for the Royal Tour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, which commenced in February 1954.

On 16 January 1953 the Prime Minister appointed the Right Hon E J Harrison, MP, Vice-President of the Executive Council and Minister of State for Defence Production as Minister-in-Charge of the Royal Visit and Lieutenant-General F H Berryman CB, CBE, DSO, as Director-General. Other staff positions were filled from within the Commonwealth Public Service, the armed services and statutory authorities – for example one member was seconded for a short period from the Joint Coal Board. Mr A J Kenny of the Prime Minister's Department was appointed Secretary to the Royal Visit, commencing duty on 3 February 1953.

The headquarters of the organisation was established in Sydney at Victoria Barracks, Paddington. Records created by the organisation included correspondence files relating to administrative arrangements – for example, state tours, functions, publicity, and transport, all of which are controlled by a combined Register/Subject Index.

Officers ceased duty with the Commonwealth Royal Visit Organisation from April 1954 and on 17 May 1954 the Minister-in-Charge advised the Prime Minister that the Director-General would cease duty with the Royal Visit Organisation on 17 May 1954. It seems that Mr. Kenny, in his capacity as Secretary, still dealt with some financial matters until September 1954.

THE QUEEN'S ARRIVAL IN SYDNEY

Sydney was the Queen's first stop on her tour of Australia. The city was most enthusiastic about the visit, even prior to the Queen's arrival. The *Sydney Morning Herald* reported on activities in Sydney's streets, two days before the Queen's arrival:

An estimated 200 000 people and 20 000 cars choked city streets last night when all of Sydney's royal tour decorations were illuminated for the first time.

The crowds were so great by 8pm that all available police in the metropolitan area were called by radio to control traffic. The police had to travel by train as road traffic was so heavy...

The Deputy Commissioner of Police, Mr W R Lawrence, said last night: 'It was the greatest crowd in the city since VJ Day. I have never seen anything like it.'⁸⁴

As the day of her arrival drew closer, excitement grew:

People arrived early to reserve a spot to see the Queen. Mr Geoffery Cromack and his friends reserved a position at Farm Cove: 'I know we are a bit early, but we are determined to not miss seeing the Queen when she first sets foot on Australia ... We are quite well organised and the time flies. I play the guitar and Les accompanies me on the mouth organ. When we get fed up with that we turn on the gramophone.'

... Ice cream, peanut and souvenir vendors did brisk business. One ice cream salesman said he expected to earn £1 pound an hour for the next few days.⁸⁵

The *Herald* described her arrival on 3 February as follows:

Her Majesty the Queen landed at Farm Cove at 10.33am yesterday and received the most tumultuous greeting Sydney has given any visitor...Police estimated that 1 000 000 people lined the city streets and Farm Cove. At least another half million manned every foreshore vantage point from the Heads to the Bridge in perfect weather.

The 'Editress of Our Women's Section' added this description of the event:

... Her dress was simplicity itself, a flutter of champagne chiffon printed in gold which had a tinge of green ... Her little hat was a pretty conceit which showed her softly waved hair ... The Queen's complexion is flawless, and paler than the impression gained from paintings and colour photographs. Many a suntanned woman yesterday must have regretted the extra hours on the beach.⁸⁶

On the evening of the 3rd, celebrations in honour of the Queen's arrival were conducted on the Harbour.

A portrait in fireworks [50 feet high] of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh provided a brilliant end to the display ... So precise were the details [of the fireworks] that the crowd could even see the Queen's earrings.⁸⁷

The following record series relate to the 1954 royal visit:

PHOTOGRAPHIC COLOUR TRANSPARENCIES, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES WITH 'RC' [1ST ROYAL VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II AND THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH] PREFIX, 1954

A1686

Recorded by: 1954 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)

Quantity: 0.18 metres

Location: Canberra

Photographic colour transparencies recording events of the Royal Visit of 1954, in the mainland states other than Western Australia and in Tasmania.

PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVES, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES WITH 'RV' (ROYAL VISIT) PREFIX

A1773

Recorded by: 1954 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)

Quantity: 0.54 metres

Location: Canberra

PHOTOGRAPHIC TRANSPARENCIES, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES WITH 'RVK' [1ST ROYAL VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II AND THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH, 1954, COLOUR] PREFIX

A2756

Recorded by: 1954 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

Photographs taken during the 1954 Royal Tour. Subjects include: official functions in Canberra, Melbourne, Brisbane and elsewhere: processions, civic receptions, at the races etc.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ALPHABETICAL SERIES WITH 'RV' (ROYAL VISIT) PREFIX, 1952-1954

A9708

Recorded by: 1953-1954 Royal Visit Organisation 1954, Director-General, Sydney (CA 1705)

Quantity: 1.98 metres Location: Canberra

Correspondence files of the Sydney Office of the Royal Visit Organisation, 1954.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ALPHA-NUMERIC SERIES WITH 'RV' (ROYAL VISIT) (ACT AND STATES) PREFIX, 1952-1954

A9709

Recorded by: 1953-1954 Royal Visit Organisation 1954, Director-General, Sydney (CA 1705)

Quantity: 0.36 metres Location: Canberra

Correspondence files of the Director-General of the Royal Visit Organisation, Lieutenant-General F H Berryman, relating to the organisation and administrative arrangements for the Royal Visit of 1954, in the ACT and States.

The filing system allocated single numbers for each state as follows: (2) New South Wales; (3) Australian Capital Territory; (4) Tasmania; (5) Victoria; (6) Queensland; (7) South Australia; (8) Western Australia.

The files were accumulated in the Sydney Office which was the Headquarters for the Royal Tour. The series is a companion series to A9708, Correspondence files, alphabetical series with 'RV' (Royal Visit) (General) prefix.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES WITH 'PRO' (PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE) PREFIX, 1953

A9711

Recorded by: 1953 Royal Visit Organisation 1954, Director-General, Sydney (CA 1705)

Quantity: 1.08 metres Location: Canberra

Correspondence files of the Public Relations Office of the Royal Visit Organisation, Sydney relating to the press arrangements for the Royal Visit. The Public Relations Officer was Mr Oliver Hogue, from the staff of Sydney's *Sun* newspaper.

- CORRESPONDENCE FILES, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES WITH RV/CT (ROYAL VISIT/COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORT) PREFIX, 1953–1954 A9712
- Recorded by: 1953–1954 Royal Visit Organisation 1954, Director-General, Sydney (CA 1705)
- Quantity: 0.36 metres Location: Canberra
- Correspondence files of the Commonwealth Transport Staff Officer of the Royal Visit Office, Sydney, relating to the arranging, controlling and financing of the hire of vehicles used for the Royal Visit.
- VOLUMES OF CONTROL RECORDS FOR THE ROYAL VISIT 1954 CORRESPONDENCE FILE SERIES, 1952–1954 A9713
- Recorded by: 1953–1954 Royal Visit Organisation 1954, Director-General, Sydney (CA 1705)
- Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra
- SUBJECT INDEX CARDS TO CRS A462, CORRESPONDENCE FILES, MULTIPLE NUMBER SYSTEM (PRIMARY HEADING 825, ROYAL VISIT 1954) A9714
- Recorded by: 1953–1954 Royal Visit Organisation 1954, Director-General, Sydney (CA 1705)
- Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra
- Subject index cards for a portion of A462 (relating to primary heading 825 for the Royal Visit, 1954) within the Prime Minister's Department general correspondence series in operation between 1950 and 1956.
- INVITATIONS TO, PROGRAMMES, TICKETS, AND ORDERS OF SERVICE FOR, VICE-REGAL, OFFICIAL, COMMEMORATIVE AND ROYAL FUNCTIONS, 1937–1977 M1593
- Collected by: 1937–1957 Hilda Blanche Jackson MVO, MBE (CP 395)
- Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra
- Includes invitations to various functions arranged to celebrate the 1954 visit.
- RADIO NEWS BULLETINS OF THE ROYAL TOUR, HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II SP1311/3
- Recorded by: 1954 Australian Broadcasting Commission, Head Office (CA 251)
- Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Sydney
- These records were created by the ABC and are held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.

The personal impact of the 1954 royal visit was undeniable. An example of this is the following account from Melbourne:

Mr Alan Treloar, of Glenferrie Road Malvern and ex Tobruk Rat, cried when he saw the Queen at the MCG ex-service rally yesterday.

‘I just couldn’t help it,’ he said afterwards. ‘The sight of our young Queen makes you realise that everything you’ve ever fought for is worthwhile.’⁸⁸

Examples of records relating to the 1954 Royal Visit are:

Royal Visit 1954 – Arrangements All States, 1953–1954 Recorded by: 1946–1972 Department of the Interior (CA 31)	A431, 1953/1551
Royal Visit Holiday Ordinance (ACT), 1953–1954	A431, 1954/36
Royal Visit – Civic Ball (Albert Hall on the 16th February, 1954), 1953–1954	A431, 1954/183
Royal Visit 1954 – Entertainment of Queen’s personal staff	A431, 1954/185
Royal Visit – Film Distribution, 1954–1956	A431, 1954/197
Royal Visit 1954 – Meteorological Programme, 1954	A431, 1954/452
Royal tour 1954 – Canberra arrangements – State banquet – Invitation list, Tuesday, 16th February, 1954 Recorded by: 1951–1955 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)	A462, 825/2/10
Royal tour 1954 – Canberra arrangements – State ball – Invitation list 17/1/54, 1953–1954	A462, 825/2/11

**At the State
Banquet given in
her honour.**
*NAA: A1773,
RV1403*



Royal visit 1954 – Unveiling by Her Majesty the Queen of the Australian National Memorial to America, 1953–1955	A462, 825/2/19
Royal visit 1954 – Display by school children in Canberra, 1953–1954	A462, 825/2/21
Royal tour 1954 – Canberra arrangements – Meeting with departmental heads in Canberra, 1953–1954	A462, 825/2/36
Royal tour 1954 – Canberra arrangements – Route and route timings, 1953–1954 Detailed plans were made of the travel routes the tour would take. A standard motor speed was then decided on and travel along the routes timed so that the visit could be organised and arrivals scheduled down to the exact minute.	A462, 825/2/38
Royal tour 1954 – Canberra arrangements – Catering in ACT, 1953–1954	A462, 825/2/39
Royal tour 1954 – Canberra arrangements – Decoration of buildings, ACT – General representations, 1953–1954	A462, 825/2/47
Royal tour 1954 – Canberra arrangements – Medical and dental arrangements and ambulance, 1953–1954	A462, 825/2/49
Royal tour 1954 – Canberra arrangements – Open air concert, Parliament House lawns, 1953–1954	A462, 825/2/50
Royal tour 1954 – Canberra arrangements – Policy, 1953–1954	A462, 825/2/51
Royal tour 1954 – Canberra arrangements – Postal and telecommunications services, 1953–1954	A462, 825/2/73
Royal tour 1954 – Canberra arrangements – Engagements for Minister-in-Charge E V Harrison and Mrs, 1953–1954	A462, 825/2/76
Royal tour 1954 – Canberra arrangements – Visit of Flag officer, Royal yacht and staff to Canberra, 1953–1954	A462, 825/2/88
Royal tour 1954 – Canberra arrangements – Brooch presented by Commonwealth government, 1954–1983	A462, 825/2/99
Royal tour 1954 – Canberra arrangements – Press cuttings of Canberra functions, 1954	A462, 825/2/103
Royal tour 1954 – Canberra arrangements – Queen's brief, 1954	A462, 825/2/104
Royal tour 1954 – Canberra arrangements – Road signs, 1954	A462, 825/2/106
Royal tour 1954 – Canberra arrangements – Transport maps showing Royal progress, 1954	A462, 825/2/107
Royal tour 1954 – Canberra arrangements – General arrangements at hotels, guest houses, airport etc for Canberra invitees,	A462, 825/2/109
Royal visit 1954 – Canberra arrangements – Story of organisation & programme	A462, 825/2/111
Royal visit 1954 – Canberra arrangements – Representations by Hon E J Ward, MP, 1953–1954	A462, 825/2/112
Royal tour 1954 – Decorations for towns and cities (excluding Canberra), 1953–1954	A462, 825/3/2

Royal tour 1954 – Issue of stamps, medals, coins, flags, booklet, etc – Supply position, 1953	A462, 825/4/3
Royal tour 1954 – Issue of stamps, medals, coins, flags, booklets, etc – Booklet – Review of life of Jesus Christ, 1953	A462, 825/4/7
Royal tour 1954 – Issue of stamps, medals, coins, flags, booklets, etc – Medallion to commemorate the royal visit – Representations by Lecmill (Export) Limited, London, 1953	A462, 825/4/8
Royal tour 1954 – Medals for school children – General representations, 1954 This item contains two examples of the medals issued to school children inside the front cover.	A462, 825/4/6
Royal Tour 1954. Royal visit car company movement and accommodation plan, 1953–1954	A462, 825/5/2 Attachment
Royal tour 1954 – Press representatives accompanying royal tour and on <i>Gothic</i>, 1953–1954 The <i>Gothic</i> was the royal yacht used to transport the royal party on much of their visit.	A462, 825/7/2
Royal Tour 1954 – Notes for planning the Royal Visit, 1952–1954	A462, 825/14/3
Royal tour 1954 – Songs for the Royal tour – General representations, 1953–1956	A462, 825/14/15
Royal tour 1954 – Attendance of the Prime Minister and Commonwealth ministers at the arrival of Her Majesty at Sydney and Melbourne, 1953	A462, 825/14/19
Royal tour 1954 – Miscellaneous – Movement and accommodation plan – Royal party, Commonwealth staff, press and ABC, 1953–1954	A462, 825/14/40
Royal tour 1954 – Film <i>King of the Coral Sea</i> – Representations by Mr Chips Rafferty, 1954 On 29 January 1954, actor Chips Rafferty applied to W R Cumming, the Director of the royal visit to Canberra to have a film he produced screened for the royal couple. In a letter he wrote:	A462, 825/14/42

In 1946, whilst I was in London for the exploitation of the Australian film *The Overlanders*, I had the honour to be presented to her Majesty, together with Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret ... At that time, I was most impressed by the interest her Majesty displayed both in Australia and the Australian film industry and, as she will probably be attending a screening at some time during the tour, I feel that this – the only Australian film produced in Australia last year – would be a suitable choice.

The film is set against the backdrop of the pearling fleets of the Torres Straits, a location I do not think has been included in the tour itinerary and which would present an authentic visual of both the Torres Strait and the diving methods which, of course, are unique and are carried on against the background of one of the last remaining large fleets of sailing ships in the world...

Mr Rafferty's request was forwarded to the Governor-General but ultimately it was decided to screen a British film for the couple instead. However, when the Queen and Duke were in Brisbane, the Queensland State tour officials screened *King of the Coral Sea* for the royal party.

Royal tour 1954 – Minister and Director- General's reports, 1954–1956

A462, 825/14/49

This file contains quite detailed reports of the Commonwealth organisation and activities in connection with the 1954 royal visit. These reports were submitted to the Prime Minister for his consideration.

In the initial drafting of the tour schedule and procedures, Sir Eric Harrison, the Minister in Charge of the visit stated in a letter covering the report to Menzies:

We were fortunate ... in having created a Commonwealth staff of highly skilled officers in key sections of the tour administration, and evolved a procedure based upon *A Guide for Planning, Royal Visit 1952* [located in A6688, Annexure 9], which provided a uniform and authoritative basis for planning, and incidentally, is the first such publication in the British Commonwealth. This was the basis for the needs and requirements of both Commonwealth and State tour officials ...

Menzies later wrote to Frank Berryman:

Let me offer you my congratulations on the magnificent service you gave as Director-General Royal Visit ... I am very conscious of the many difficulties that beset you ... [But] as I said when the Tour commenced and repeated during the Tour, I did not think we in Australia with our limited experience could achieve such perfection of detailed organisation.

This file also discusses some of the financial costs of the tour. It states that the Commonwealth Government contributed £200 000 towards the cost of using the yacht *Gothic* for the royal visit. It also states that the Government decided that all Commonwealth buildings along royal progress routes should be decorated. The amount spent across Australia on such decorations and illuminations was £96 475. Excluding its contribution to the *Gothic*, the Federal Government estimated it spent £310 000 on the 1954 royal visit.

First and final editions of Commonwealth Programme [Royal Visit 1954]

A462, 825/14/49 Annex 6

Royal Visit, 1953–1954

A1533, 1957/758B

Recorded by: 1953–1960 Commonwealth Investigation Service (CA 650)

This file explains the duties of Commonwealth security officers in relation to the royal visit and details the security arrangements made in connection with the tour. Details of security procedures, such as those in connection with loading cargo onto the royal

yacht *Gothic* and for flights involving the royal couple are also included.

According to this file, the following foods were loaded onto the *Gothic* in Australia:

- 10 000 cartons of canned fruit
- 3 237 bags of milk powder
- 1 500 cases of canned meat
- 5 000 cartons of tomato juice

It was decided that the royal couple should eat as much pre-packaged food as possible aboard the *Gothic*, particularly in the Western states, due to the polio scare.

The following extract from the official report on security arrangements found on this file, details the strict arrangements for the delivery of these goods to the yacht and is indicative of the strict security measures overall:

Typical of the security measures applied to cargo is the action taken in the case of a consignment of 10 000 cartons of tinned fruit from Shepparton Fruit Preserving Co. In this case, one officer from this Service and a police officer proceeded to Shepparton and there, in conjunction with the Company's Manager, made satisfactory arrangements for the safe handling of the consignment. The goods were loaded into a louvered truck in the yard of the Company, were sealed and then transported to Port Melbourne, under the supervision of the Railway Department, by special arrangement made with that department. At the wharf the seals were checked and loading onto the *Gothic* made from within the barricaded area.

Protocol – Royal Visit, 1948–1954

Recorded by: 1948–1970 Department of External Affairs (CA 18)

A1838, 1516/11 Part 1

Protocol – Royal Visit, 1954–1966

A1838, 1516/11 Part 2

Royal Victorian Order – Awards in Australia, Royal Visit 1954 (also contains New Zealand list), 1954–1955

Recorded by: 1945–1975 Governor-General (CA1)

A2880, 5/4/1

In addition to the above file, series A2880 contains many other files relating to royal visits and royal protocol in Australia. A complete listing of all the material in this series is available in the Canberra office of the National Archives.

Protocol. Precedence – Royal Visit (Australia), 1948–1954

Recorded by: 1947– Australian High Commission, New Zealand [Wellington] (CA 2781)

A4534, 37/4

Press cuttings– Special– Box file No 3. Reviews on the Royal Tour of Australia, 1954

Recorded by: 1937–1971 Sir Frederick Geoffrey Shedden KCMG, OBE (CP 320)

A5954, 1131/11

Royal visit 1954 – Itinerary, 1953–1954

A5954, 1552/3

Her Majesty The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh – Assumption of substantive rank in the Australian Defence Forces, 1953–1954 A5954, 1552/5

Government Heads of State – Royal Visit 1954 – ASIO file, 1953–1958 A6122, 1861

Recorded by: 1949– Australian Security Intelligence Organization (CA 1297)

This file contains discussion of security issues associated with the royal visit. It holds details of security checks made on mail delivery staff and journalists who were to be associated with the royal party, and reports on communist activities in the period. It also contains details of the controversy that arose after reports circulated indicating that some Communist Party members would be invited to Sydney's Royal Ball.

The file also contains a report on the mechanical failures that occurred with the Queen's aircraft's engines. Security staff investigated the incidents to determine whether neglect or sabotage was the cause of the failures.

Government Heads of State Royal Visit 1954 – Vetting – ASIO file, 1953–1954 A6122, 1862

Recorded by: 1949– Australian Security Intelligence Organization (CA 1297)

Contains details of security checks conducted on employees of QANTAS and Trans Australia Airlines involved in the transportation of the royal party.

The file also contains details about the security vetting of journalists covering the tour. This vetting gave rise to great controversy in Victoria when, as a result of security checks, twelve journalists had their official accreditation revoked.

Royal Visit 1954 – Souvenir Book, 1953–1954 A6895, N56/329

Recorded by: 1956–1973 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)

This file relates to the publication of a book which would commemorate the royal visit. Much of the file concerns aspects of the actual publication and design. It also contains copies of pages used in the publication. The finished book, compiled, written, photographed and designed by the Australian News and Information Bureau, was called *Royal Visit to Australia of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh*.

Matters relating to dress A9708, RV/T

Recorded by: 1953–1954 Royal Visit Organisation 1954, Director-General, Sydney (CA 1705)

This file contains copies of advice provided to the royal party and officials about the clothes that should be worn to particular functions.

Entertainment of Boer War and pre Boer War Veterans A9708, RV/U

Lunches were held in each state capital to honour Boer War and pre Boer War veterans on the occasion of the royal visit to the state. All veterans who had fought in a war prior to 1902 were eligible to attend. The oldest veteran in attendance at the Sydney

function was Harold Wearne, 91, who fought in the 1885 Sudan War.

Meteorological information**A9708, RV/AV**

Contains details of the standard temperatures in each state for the period of the royal visit.

Music, songs, poetry etc**A9708, RV/BF**

Contains copies of songs and poems forwarded to royal visit organisers by interested members of the public for inclusion in the official programme.

Fly and Mosquito Control**A9708, RV/CD**

Control of pests was of concern to visit organisers and so a report was commissioned from the CSIRO to advise about the best means of curbing the numbers of flies, particularly while the royal party was in Canberra.

The report submitted by CSIRO recommended, amongst other precautions, spraying selected buildings and the surrounding vegetation with DDT.

Laundry and Dry Cleaning and Pressing Arrangements**A9708, RV/CQ**

This file details the organisation within each state and territory of the laundry arrangements for the royal party.

Programme – Royal Gala Performance, Tivoli Theatre, 6 February 1954**A9708, RV/DD Annexure 1****Minutes of conferences with State Directors****A9708, RV/DD Annexure 2**

This file contains copies of the detailed discussions about state planning meetings between state and Commonwealth officials, 22 January 1953 to 14 January 1954.

State Publications**A9708, RV/DD Annexure 3**

Contained within this file are bound copies of the official royal visit programs for each Australian state and the ACT.

Report by Public Relations Officer**A9708, RV/DD Annexure 15****Report by Senior Security Officer****A9708, RV/DD Annexure 17****New South Wales – Programme****A9709, RV/A/2**

Recorded by: 1953–1954 Royal Visit Organisation 1954, Director-General, Sydney (CA 1705)

Canberra – Programme**A9709, RV/A/3****Tasmania – Programme****A9709, RV/A/4****Victoria – Programme****A9709, RV/A/5****Queensland – Programme****A9709, RV/A/6****South Australia – Programme****A9709, RV/A/7****Western Australia – Programme****A9709, RV/A/8****Visit of His Royal Highness to Woomera, 1952–1954****A9709, RV/B/7**

During the royal visit of 1954, the Duke of Edinburgh toured the defence installation at Woomera where the Edinburgh airfield was named in his honour.

Publication 'The Royal Visit and You', 1953–1954 Recorded by: 1953 Royal Visit Organisation 1954, Director-General, Sydney (CA 1705)	A9711/1, PRO 40
Royal Tour – Speech by Queen Elizabeth II in Hobart [audio tape], 1954 Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.	C102, RO99A
The Queen in Australia (Audio tape), 1954 Recorded by: 1946–1973 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219) This item contains an hour of Australian compositions composed in honour of the royal visit. It is held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.	C4765, FP819
Royal Salute (Audio tape), 1954 This item contains official music played to the Queen during her visit to Australia. It is held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.	C4765, FP910
State Ball in Honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh – Menu [17 February 1954] Collected by: 1948–1974 The Hon Dame Annabelle Jane Mary Rankin DBE (CP 137)	M2130, 6
Invitation to attend the official welcome to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh	M2130, 33
Invitation from the Australian-American Association to the unveiling ceremony of the Australian National memorial to the United States of America	M2130, 35
Invitation to the departure of Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh	M2130, 36
Brisbane City Council – The Royal Ball, 1954 – Invitation	M2130, 37
Souvenir publication issued by Eveready Australia to commemorate the royal visit Collected by: 1860–1966 Rt Hon Sir Eric John Harrison, KCMG KCVO (CP 648)	M3816, 8
Commonwealth and Australian Capital Territory programmes, guides and menus for Royal Visit, 1954 Includes the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Commonwealth Programme for the royal visit • the ACT Programme for the royal visit • seating plans for a State banquet held at Parliament House on 16 February 1954 • the commemorative menu for the above banquet. The meal consisted of: paw paw cocktail, grilled Murray River cod with butter sauce, roast breast of chicken with asparagus tips, and ice pudding 'Royal Style'. 	M3816, 9
ABC Scripts of Royal Tour, 1954 Recorded by: 1939–1964 Australian Broadcasting Commission, Queensland Branch (CA 2920) Held in the Brisbane office of the National Archives.	BP257/1, Box 5

Royal Music Festival, 1954**SP724/1, 10/7/21**

Recorded by: 1934–1965 Australian Broadcasting Commission
(CA 251)

This item is held by the Sydney office of the National Archives.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN POLIO SCARE**Royal Visit 1954 – Poliomyelitis Outbreak During
tour of WA****A462, 825/14/48**

Recorded by: 1951–1955 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

The bulk of these cases were registered in February and March of
1954 and led to alterations to the tour plans for the state.

The course of the 1954 royal visit was altered when an epidemic of polio struck Western Australia. According to statistics prepared by the Poliomyelitis Committee of the National Health and Medical Research Council, 206 cases of polio were registered in Western Australia between 11 September 1953 and 12 March 1954. As the Queen was intended to tour Western Australia from 26 March to 1 April, the worst incidence of the disease coincided with the scheduled arrival of the Queen in the state. This led to a sudden revision of the plans for the tour in Western Australia so as to prevent infection of the royal party and



The numerous public events during the royal tour were designed to give as many Australians as possible the opportunity to view the Queen and the Duke. NAA: A1773, RV970

to minimise the risk of transmission amongst the thousands of people who would gather to watch the royal party. A number of people infected during the major epidemic in Western Australia in 1948 were believed to have caught the disease whilst attending the Royal Show. Medical authorities were thus wary of crowds and sought to avoid large clusters of people in the revised arrangements.

In the amended schedule, a number of engagements were cancelled or transferred to outdoor venues. In addition, the shaking of hands was forbidden and the presentation of bouquets to the Queen strictly curtailed. All food presented to the royal party was to be imported from the Eastern states and the party itself would stay aboard the Queen's yacht, the *Gothic*, instead of staying at Government House. Prime Minister Menzies announced in a press statement at the time:

If there is the slightest risk of infection to Her Majesty or a risk of added danger to the people, and in particular the children, of Western Australia, and the medical authorities say there is, then it is unthinkable that any Government should not act immediately on medical advice. That is what I have done.⁸⁹

There was some concern amongst the population of Western Australia that they would miss out on the complete tour as originally scheduled. However Menzies promised that the royal tour would run its full course and stated that there were even some benefits to the new plans in that the accommodation plans 'may well result, in consequence of the added travel to and from the ship, in extending the opportunities of the general public to see the Royal Visitors'.⁹⁰

The following year, the Salk vaccine which immunises against polio became available in Australia.



Prime Minister Menzies and the official party farewelling the royal visitors.
NAA: A1773, RV1605



The royal couple's departure from Fremantle, 1 April 1954.
NAA: A1773, RV1246

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL FRANK HORTON BERRYMAN, DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE 1952 AND 1954 ROYAL VISITS

As with previous Directors of royal visits, Lieutenant-General Frank Berryman came into the position following an outstanding military career. Records relating to his period in the military and military command are primarily held by the Australian War Memorial. These records can be identified using the National Archives' item database. In addition, the Australian War Memorial holds Berryman's personal papers, identified as AWM92, PR 84/370. These personal papers include records relating to his periods as Director-General of the royal visits of 1952 and 1954.

The National Archives holds several records relating to the career of Lieutenant-General Berryman:

Royal visit 1952 – Appointment of Lieutenant General F H Berryman, 1950 Recorded by: 1951–1955 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	A462, 824/1/1
Decorations. US Awards to Australian Nationals – Lt Gen Frank H Berryman, 1946 Recorded by: 1946 Department of External Affairs (CA 18)	A1067, IC46/35/1/66
Personal correspondence – Australia. Lieutenant-General Sir Frank Berryman, KCVO CB CBE DSO, 1954 Recorded by: 1937–1971 Sir Frederick Geoffrey Shedden, KCMG, OBE (CP 320)	A5954, 59/10
Lieutenant-General Sir Frank Berryman – Pension entitlement, 1954	A5954, 1517/4

THE RT HON SIR ERIC JOHN HARRISON (CP 648), MINISTER IN CHARGE OF THE 1954 ROYAL VISIT

Prior to his appointment as Minister in Charge of the 1954 royal visit, Mr Harrison had been Minister for the Interior, Repatriation, Defence and Defence Production.

Mr Harrison's personal papers are held by the National Archives and a portion of these relate to his work in 1954. A description of these records follows:

COLLECTED PAPERS, INCLUDING PROGRAMMES, GUIDES, AND INVITATIONS RELATING TO THE ROYAL VISIT, 1954; NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS RELATING MAINLY TO ROYAL EVENTS; AND COPIES OF PUBLISHED ARTICLES AND ANNUAL REPORTS FOR THE TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND THE MANDATED TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 1860-1966

M3816

Collected by: 1954 Rt Hon Sir Eric John Harrison, KCMG KCVO (CP 648)

These records relate to some of the ministerial functions undertaken by the Rt Hon Sir Eric John Harrison. The papers can be divided into three broad groups: papers concerning the Royal Visit, 1954; papers relating to Papua New Guinea; and, miscellaneous newspapers and newspaper clippings, mainly referring to major Royal events (such as the death or coronation of a monarch) and other celebratory events (such as the end of World War I, and the opening of Parliament House in Canberra).

The majority of the material relates to Sir Eric's duties as Minister in charge of the Royal Visit, 1954. This material includes: invitations issued to Sir Eric and his wife to attend events associated with the visit; the working programs of the Royal party; state guides issued for the information of the Royal party; seating arrangements at various functions; special passes (such as police passes) issued to Sir Eric; honorary memberships to clubs and societies given to the Harrisons for the duration of the tour. These items are mostly arranged according to state, thus there is a file for New South Wales material.

There is some material relating to Papua New Guinea in the collection. These items are predominantly copies of published geographical articles and annual reports of the two territories. There are, however, some typescript notes for a speech delivered by Sir Eric, dated 1939. It seems likely that this material was collected whilst Sir Eric was a Minister without Portfolio in 1938 and 1939.

The newspapers and newspaper clippings collected by Sir Eric relate mainly to Royal and other celebratory events. They are overwhelmingly culled from Australian newspapers such as the *Daily Telegraph* and the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

All items in this series are described on the National Archives' item database.

REPERCUSSIONS OF THE 1954 ROYAL VISIT

After the vastness of the 1954 tour by the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh, Menzies proposed in Parliament in April of 1954 that future royal visits should be 'less formal'. He feared that

if the 1954 tour was used as a standard, 'it might be difficult to have such visits very frequently' due to the work and effort involved for the organisers and participants.⁹¹

Therefore in contrast to the 1954 royal visit and its predecessors, a less formal structure and arrangement was a feature of all royal visits to come.

In conclusion, the following is an extract from an article written by Prime Minister Robert Menzies on 24 January 1954 for the *Sydney Morning Herald*. This article helps to explain the public response to the royal visit of 1954, and is illuminating because of the perspective it gives on the Government that was responsible for the visit's organisation. Royalty was important to Menzies and this was reflected in his administration of the country.

It is a basic truth that for our Queen we have within us, sometimes unrealised until the moment of expression, the most profound and passionate feelings of loyalty and devotion. It does not require much imagination to realise that when eight million people spontaneously pour out this feeling they are engaging in a great act of common allegiance and common joy which brings them closer together and is one of the most powerful elements converting them from a mass of individuals to a great cohesive nation. In brief, the common devotion to the Throne is a part of the very cement of the whole social structure.⁹²

1963 royal visit

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh returned to Australia for another royal visit in 1963. They visited all Australian states and territories, but the primary purpose of the visit was to attend Canberra's jubilee celebrations which commemorated the fiftieth anniversary of the naming of the capital. The tour lasted from 18 February to 27 March.

As alluded to by Menzies in 1954, the 1963 visit differed vastly from the royal tour of 1954. Much was made of the 1963 visit's air of 'informality'. This aroused parliamentary questions from vocal Minister E J Ward, who asked the Prime Minister the following question on notice on 21 May 1963:

Was it stated in the preliminary announcements that the recent visit to Australia of Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh was to be, unlike the earlier tour in 1954, conducted in an air of informality?

In what material respect did the recent tour differ from the earlier royal visit?

Prime Minister Menzies responded:

Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness Prince Philip asked in the course of the initial discussions about the 1963 Visit that arrangements should permit them to visit Canberra and each state briefly, and that the visit to each place should centre around a notable event at that place. This meant that the 1954 pattern of an extensive tour state by state and the long series of formal occasions which that involved would not be repeated.

The programme which was arranged, including the happy arrangement for the utmost use of the royal yacht *Britannia*, secured the result which was in mind.⁹³

The only real concern from a security point of view during the 1963 visit occurred during the tour of New South Wales. This incident was reported in the following manner in the *Official Report* for the tour:

Our detective force was very active. There was ... one incident where a New Australian family was intercepted whilst trying to deliver a letter to His Royal Highness. The New Australian did manage to pass the letter to his small daughter who then ran along the Royal route and threw the letter into the open car. The man and his wife considered they had a grievance concerning a



The Queen and Duke arriving in Australia at the start of their 1963 visit.

NAA: A1777, R64

hire purchase agreement and had no intention of harming the Royal Party. They later were committed to Kenmore Hospital and the two children were taken care of by the Child Welfare Department.⁹⁴

The over zealous nature of Australian security arrangements was commented on in the report of R W Whitrod, the Commonwealth Security Officer. He stated:

My overall impression, gained during actual observations of the Visit and from conversations with Her Majesty and His Royal Highness, and with the two Royal Detectives, is that in Australia we tend to introduce a more intensive screen than is customary in England.⁹⁵

Government financial estimates placed the cost of the visit to the Commonwealth Government at £178 645. This figure included £132 000 for transport and car company costs and £11 807 to cover the salaries and incidental expenses of royal visit staff.⁹⁶

Vice Admiral Sir Roy Dowling was appointed Australian Secretary to the Queen for the duration of the 1963 visit and was in charge of planning for the event. He operated from within the Prime Minister's Department. As with all other tours, the bulk of the records relating to the visit are held in Canberra within Prime Minister's Department records. A large number of records relating to this tour are also held in the Darwin office of the National Archives. These records deal with the administration of the 1963 visit to Darwin which was the first ever royal visit to the Northern Territory.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORDS OF THE 1963 ROYAL VISIT

PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVES, SECOND VISIT OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II AND
DUKE OF EDINBURGH, 1963

A1777

Recorded by: 1963 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA
219)

Quantity: 0.36 metres

Location: Canberra

Honi Soit, the student newspaper of the University of Sydney, reported the Queen's arrival in Sydney on 3 March 1963 as recorded below. Its report highlights some of the aspects of the tour for which the Government was criticised at the time – lack of public response, over officiousness and the guise of 'informality' surrounding the visit:

Demonstration of loyalty by students

A large and enthusiastic group of five gaily coloured students gave the Queen a riotous welcome as she stepped off the royal yacht on her arrival in Sydney last Saturday. Laughing joyfully, they joked as they scuffled with a small group of 87 uniformed policemen. One loyal student attempted to present the Queen with a small, ripe Australian tomato. He was restrained by 18 secret service agents who had not been told that the keynote of the royal tour is informality ... One student was arrested and charged with naughtiness during the welcome.⁹⁷



In 1963 vast crowds again turned out to see the Queen.

NAA: A1777, R477

In 1963, republicanism was also more of a force in Australia than it had been in earlier years. A month prior to the Queen's arrival in the Northern Territory, a republican recruitment drive was initiated in Darwin:

Territory politics have acquired a new 'ratbag' fringe with the formation of a Republican Party branch in Darwin. Less than a week after party organiser Mr Jeff Keegan arrived in Darwin he had the worthy burghers of the town enraged and even won from the Government the ultimate accolade of a Security Police investigation ...

Wildest of all was Mr Ron Taylor, President of the local branch of the Royal Commonwealth Society, who said: 'People like this should be deported to Russia!' ...

While verbal storms raged about his head Keegan went on quietly signing up members. By week's end he had 25, a figure he hopes to at least double in the next fortnight ...⁹⁸

The following are examples of records relating to the 1963 royal visit:

Royal visit 1963 - Royal yacht "Britannia", 1963	A463, 1963/5 Parts 1-2
Recorded by: 1956- Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	
Royal visit 1963 - Announcement, 1962-1963	A463, 1963/7
Royal visit 1963 - Appointment of Sir Roy Dowling as Australian Secretary to Her Majesty, 1962	A463, 1963/10
Royal visit 1963 - Meetings with State Directors, 1962-1963	A463, 1963/12 Part 1



Guests at the State Ball at Parliament House, Canberra.
NAA: A1777, R96

Royal visit 1963 – Commonwealth royal visit – Organisation, 1962–1963	A463, 1963/15
Royal visit 1963 – Negotiations with Palace prior to announcement	A463, 1963/16
Royal visit 1963 – Climatological information	A463, 1963/19
Royal visit 1963 – Public relations office – Press, radio, newsreel and television coverage, including accreditation	A463, 1963/24 Part 1
Royal visit 1963 – Press statements (copies only) (attachment file), 1962–1963	A463, 1963/42
Royal visit 1963 – Opening of the Australian National University, 1963	A463, 1963/47
Royal visit 1963 – Suggestions re children's gatherings, 1962–1963	A463, 1963/52
Royal visit 1963 – Overall programme – Policy, 1962–1963	A463, 1963/79 Part 2
Royal visit 1963 – Dress, 1962–1963	A463, 1963/86
Royal visit 1963 – Visit by Her Royal Highness the Queen to a migrant reception centre This file contains a letter from Alexander Downer, then Minister for Immigration, to Sir Roy Dowling pressing for the inclusion of a visit to a migrant hostel on the tour agenda. In the letter, dated 4 October 1962, he wrote: 'It would seem to me quite imperative that the Queen's visit include a specific contact with migrant activities in view of their transcending importance in our economic and social development.'	A463, 1963/99
Royal visit 1963 – Press relations with the Royal party	A463, 1963/116
Royal visit 1963 – Public relations office – Guide notes for press, 1962–1963	A463, 1963/141
Royal visit 1963 – Official report, 1963 This file contains amongst other correspondence an 88 page report compiled by the Prime Minister's Department on all aspects of the visit. Each working group that was established to oversee certain aspects of the tour is represented by a report which describes its activities and overall effectiveness. The Manager of the Royal Car Unit, for example, reported that 'from a transport viewpoint, the royal visit was an outstanding success'. Other activities such as security, communications and press arrangements are also represented. The file also contains a report by A J Kenny, the Assistant Director of the royal visit to Canberra.	A463, 1963/142
Royal visit 1963 – Leakage of information on State programmes, 1962	A463, 1963/166
Royal visit 1963 – Public relations office – Meetings of press liaison officers, 1962	A463, 1963/175
Royal visit 1963 – Inspection tour by Sir Roy Dowling and Major Cubis, January 1963, 1962–1963	A463, 1963/236
Royal visit 1963 – Overall press arrangements – Report by public relations officer, 1963	A463, 1963/350

Royal visit 1963 – Amnesty to prisoners, 1963	A463, 1963/1727
Parliamentary question – Re "informality" of 1963 Royal visit to Australia, 1963	A463, 1963/1938
Royal Visit 1963 – Visit of Sir Roy Dowling to London, 1962–1963	A1209, 1963/11
Recorded by: 1957– Prime Minister's Department (CA 12) Dowling was appointed as Australian Secretary to the Queen for the period of her visit. This file details the results of his visit to London in 1962 to discuss preliminary arrangements for the tour with the Queen.	
Royal Visit 1963 – Northern Territory Programme – Policy	A1209, 1963/41
Royal Visit 1963 – Queensland Programme – Policy	A1209, 1963/62
Royal Visit 1963 – New South Wales Programme – Policy	A1209, 1963/63
Royal Visit 1963 – Overall Programme – Policy	A1209, 1963/79
Royal Visit 1963 – ACT Programme – Policy	A1209, 1963/80
Royal Visit 1963 – Victorian Programme – Policy	A1209, 1963/81
Royal Visit 1963 – South Australian Programme – Policy	A1209, 1963/82
Royal Visit 1963 – Western Australian Programme – Policy	A1209, 1963/83
Royal Visit 1963 – Tasmanian Programme – Policy	A1209, 1963/84
Health Hints for Royal Party	A1209, 1963/160
The royal couple was warned to be 'dentally fit' for their trip and inoculations against polio were recommended. They were consoled, however by the fact that the 'tap water supply is wholesome and safe everywhere'.	
Sir Roy Dowling, the Queen's Australian Secretary for the visit was also warned about Northern Territory mosquitoes. It was possible that these could cause some discomfort to the royal party and Dowling was warned, 'You could be placed in an extremely embarrassing situation if the Queen's skin was marked and if the press published pictures and stories about those marks'.	
Visit by the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh to Australia, 1962–1963	A2908, V81 Parts 1–5
Recorded by: 1930–1952 Australian High Commission, United Kingdom [London] (CA 241)	
Royal visit – Miscellaneous enquiries, 1962–1963	A2908, V81/1
Visit by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh to Australia, 1963 – Sir Roy Dowling, 1962	A2908, V81/2
Recorded by: 1930–1952 Australian High Commission, United Kingdom [London] (CA 241)	
Advertising in connection with royal visit 1963 – <i>Sunday Times</i>	A2908, V81/3
Film of Royal Visit to Australia, 1963	A2908, V81/5
Royal visit 1963 – Policy, 1962	A4940, C3624
Recorded by: 1958–1967 Cabinet Secretariat (CA 3)	

Gifts for the Queen on the occasion of the Royal Visit, 1963	A4940, C3749
Royal Tour of Australia, 1963 Recorded by: 1937–1971 Sir Frederick Geoffrey Shedden, KCMG, OBE (CP 320) Contains press cuttings about the 1963 visit.	A5954, 1131/3
Government Heads of State – Royal Tour 1963 – ASIO file, 1962–1966 Recorded by: 1949– Australian Security Intelligence Organization (CA 1297) This file contains press cuttings relating to security aspects of the royal visit. It also holds reports of rumoured industrial action in the Northern Territory which was intended to coincide with the arrival of the royal party in Darwin. In addition, the file contains details of security checks conducted on staff of the Post-Master General's Department and Trans Australia Airlines who would be involved in mail delivery for and transportation of the royal party.	A6122, 1865
Programme for the Royal Visit to Australia, 18 February – 27 March, 1963 Recorded by: 1956– Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	A7359, 1
Royal Visit 1963 – Working programme for ACT, 1962–1963	A7359, 2
Photo albums of Royal Tour 1963 Recorded by: 1954–1973 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)	A8281, 20 Parts 1,2 and 3
Menzies, Sir RG – speech to Her Majesty the Queen in Parliament – recorded in Canberra 18 February 1963 [audio tape – ABC radio broadcast], 1963 Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.	C102, POL106
The Queen Returns (Audio tape), 1963 Recorded by: 1946–1973 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219) This tape contains recordings of music composed in honour of the 1963 royal visit.	C4765, FP1625
Sheaffe Papers. Printed matter. 'Canberra Jubilee. Official Order of Ceremony, March 12, 1963. Celebrated in the presence of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II' Collected by: 1902–1963 Percy Lampriere Sheaffe (CP 53)	M4071, 91
ABC Scripts of Royal Tours, 1959 and 1963 Recorded by: 1939–1964 Australian Broadcasting Commission, Queensland Branch (CA 2920) Held in the Brisbane office of the National Archives.	BP257/1, Box 6
Royal Visit 1963 General Correspondence, 1962 Recorded by: 1931–1973 Administrator, Northern Territory (CA 1070) This and the following items in series F1 are examples of the numerous records relating to the 1963 royal visit held by the Darwin office of the National Archives	F1, 1962/3017
Royal Visit – 1963 Financial Arrangements, 1962–1964 Held by the Darwin office of the National Archives.	F1, 1962/3168



Awaiting the Queen's arrival at Alice Springs airport.

NAA: A1777, R815

Royal Visit - 1963 - Katherine itinerary, 1962-1963	F1, 1962/3314
Held by the Darwin office of the National Archives.	
Royal Visit 1963 - Programmes - Northern Territory Itinerary, 1962	F1, 1962/3695
Held by the Darwin office of the National Archives.	
Royal Visit 1963. Press Clippings, 1962-1963	F1, 1962/3696
Held by the Darwin office of the National Archives.	
Royal Visit 1963. Transport Arrangements, 1962-1963	F1, 1962/3700
Held by the Darwin office of the National Archives.	
Royal Visit 1963 - Royal Flying Doctor Base - Alice Springs, 1962-1963	F1, 1962/3818
Held by the Darwin office of the National Archives.	
Royal Visit 1963. - Tmara Mara Art Gallery - Alice Springs, 1962-1963	F1, 1962/3820
Held by the Darwin office of the National Archives.	

The 'dollar' or the 'royal'?

It was during the period of the 1963 royal visit that the change in currency from the imperial to the decimal system was being planned. Potential coin designs were being considered, as was the name for the future currency. Perhaps inspired by the royal visit, or perhaps because of traditional ties and associations, Menzies and many of his fellow Liberal Cabinet members favoured the name 'royal' for the new currency. However, their suggestion was eventually overruled in favour of the more standard terminology, 'dollar'. Cabinet discussion of the naming of the new decimal currency, occurring four months after the 1963 royal tour, is contained within the following item:

**Reaction to "Royal" as the Name for the Major Decimal
Currency Unit. Decision 943, 1963****A5819, Volume 21/
Agendum 843****Recorded by: 1961–1963 Cabinet Office (CA 1472)**

On 24 July 1963, the then Treasurer Harold Holt presented a submission to Cabinet concerning the Government's choice of 'Royal' as the name for the new major unit in decimal currency. Regarding this choice of name, Holt stated to the Cabinet:

There can be no doubt that we made a very unpopular choice of name ... We selected 'Royal' because it was distinctive, euphonious, met the technical considerations and had an interesting historical association with the British currency.

I am sure we all hoped that after the first flurry of argument criticism would fade and the public would settle down to an acceptance of it. None of us, as I recall the discussion, judged that there would be so widespread and hostile reaction to the name as has occurred ...

Some critics have resented what they regard as an archaic quality about it. Some find it unsuitable for a comparatively young country looking forward optimistically and confidently to an expanding future. Some profess an uncomfortable feeling that it is out of harmony with Australian sentiment ...

Whatever the causes ... the effect has been to produce an opposition of a strength certainly not anticipated by me ...

Of the choices open to us the least unsatisfactory – uncomfortable and embarrassing though it may be – is to admit that we have misjudged the public acceptability of 'Royal', that we recognise the controversy surrounding it has greatly strengthened public support for 'Dollar', and that in a matter where members of the public are so directly and personally involved, we should meet what we have gathered to be a wish for a change to 'Dollar'.

Examples of general records relating to Queen Elizabeth II

During the royal visit of 1954, the *Australian Women's Weekly* described the lot of the Queen as follows:

She has a job; it's a regal job, but, nevertheless, a job. She has a husband and children. She is Queen, wife, and mother to perfection – yet she is completely feminine. This is what the world now demands of women.⁹⁹

The records described below document several of the significant events in the life of Queen Elizabeth II, such as her marriage and the birth of her children.

**Proclamation by the Governor-General in Council of the
Accession of Queen Elizabeth II, 1952****A1215, 1****Recorded by: 1952 Federal Executive Council (CA 2)**

Royalty – Princess Elizabeth, 1944–1948**A461, J396/1/4**

Recorded by: 1934–1950 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
Discusses the presents that should be bought for the 21st birthday and wedding of Princess Elizabeth. For their wedding, the royal couple was presented by the Government and people of Australia with two silver comports and two silver salvers valued at £266.

The Queen's Bounty for Multiple Births**A463, 1962/4485**

Recorded by: 1956– Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
This file contains applications from members of the public requesting to be considered for payment of the Queen's Bounty. It also contains a letter from the Privy Purse Office, Buckingham Palace to the Governor-General detailing the scheme:

When the Bounty was instituted by Queen Victoria in 1849, the grant was designed 'to enable the parents to meet the sudden expenses thrown upon them' by the birth of triplets, and was conditional upon the parents being 'in necessitous circumstances'.

In 1938, this condition was abolished, and the Bounty was then recognised as having become not so much a payment of money to help the parents meet the expense, but as an honour which they were privileged to receive from the Sovereign.

Now, more than ever, in view of changes which have occurred and of the fact that the true financial value of the Bounty has so greatly declined, the Queen has decided that the money payment shall cease, but that instead, a message of congratulations shall be sent from Her Majesty to the parents in recognition of the occasion. The rules which will apply as a qualification for the despatch of a congratulatory message from Her Majesty are as follows:

- a) Infants must be born alive
- b) An assurance has to be obtained of the 'Reputable character' of the parents.
- c) Both parents must be British subjects or naturalised British subjects
- d) Notification must be made within twelve months of the birth of the children.

The congratulatory message should take the following form, and I should be grateful if you would send, in future, such a message to parents who qualify under the above rules:

'In accordance with the Queen's commands, the Governor-General is desired to convey Her Majesty's congratulations to Mr and Mrs (Name in full) on the occasion of the birth of their (triplets/quadruplets).'

When it is known that all the children are still alive, the following words may be added to the message: 'and her good wishes for the future welfare of the children.'

Protocol: Marriage of Princess Elizabeth, 1947**A1068, IC47/16/7**

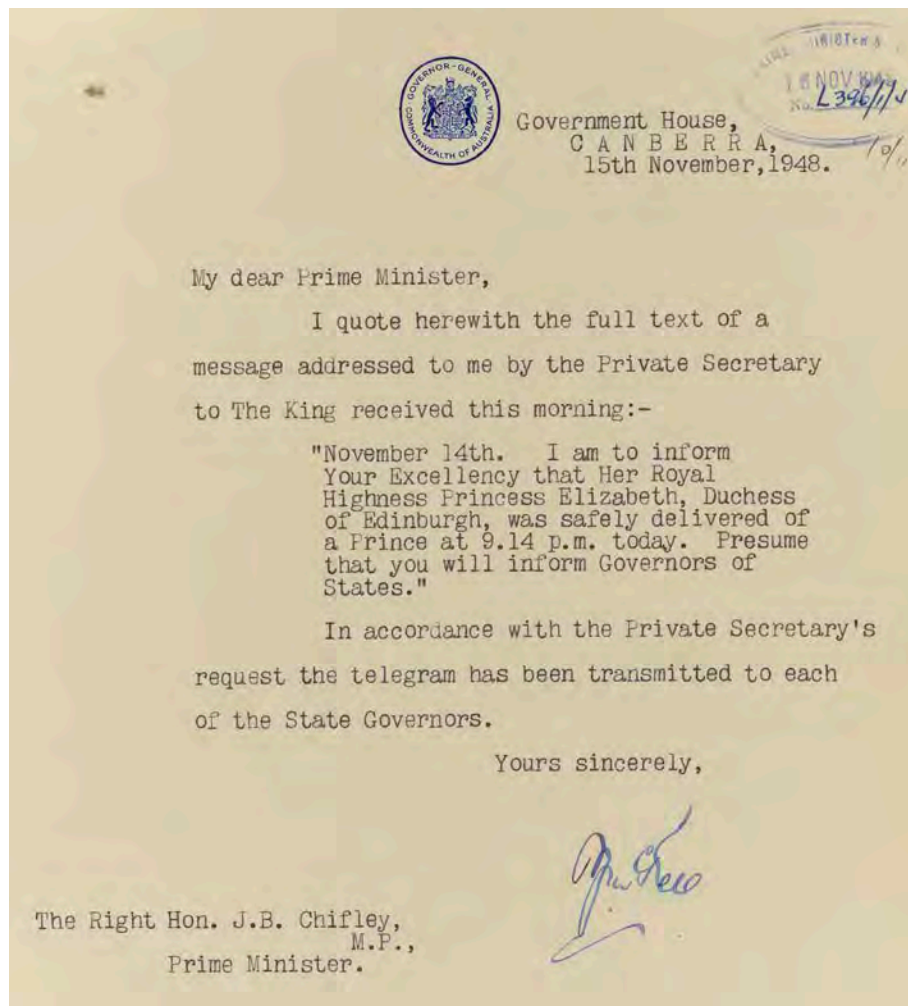
Recorded by: 1947 Department of External Affairs (CA 18)

The Queen and Prince Philip married at Westminster Abbey on 20 November 1947. According to historian Peter Spearritt

The Melbourne Age reported that the largest radio audience in Australian history listened to the wedding at Westminster Abbey on 20 November 1947. By 9pm the city was deserted, and teachers the following morning received a record number of 'please excuse' notes from parents of children who had been allowed to stay up late 'to hear the solemn ceremony broadcast from the Abbey'.¹⁰⁰

Her Royal Highness Princess Elizabeth. Birth of Royal Prince Charles of Edinburgh 14.11.48.**A3522, Box 3/1**

Recorded by: 1935-1953 Governor-General (CA 1)

Congratulatory messages - birth of royal prince, 1948-1949**A3522, Box 3/2****Gifts - birth of royal prince, 1948-1949****A3522, Box 3/3****Official notification of the birth of Prince Charles.**

NAA: A461, L396/1/4(1)

Birth of Royal Princess to Her Royal Highness Princess Elizabeth, 1950

A3522, Box 3/4

Gift for Prince Andrew, 1960

A4940/1, C3086

Recorded by: 1958-1967 Cabinet Secretariat (CA 3)

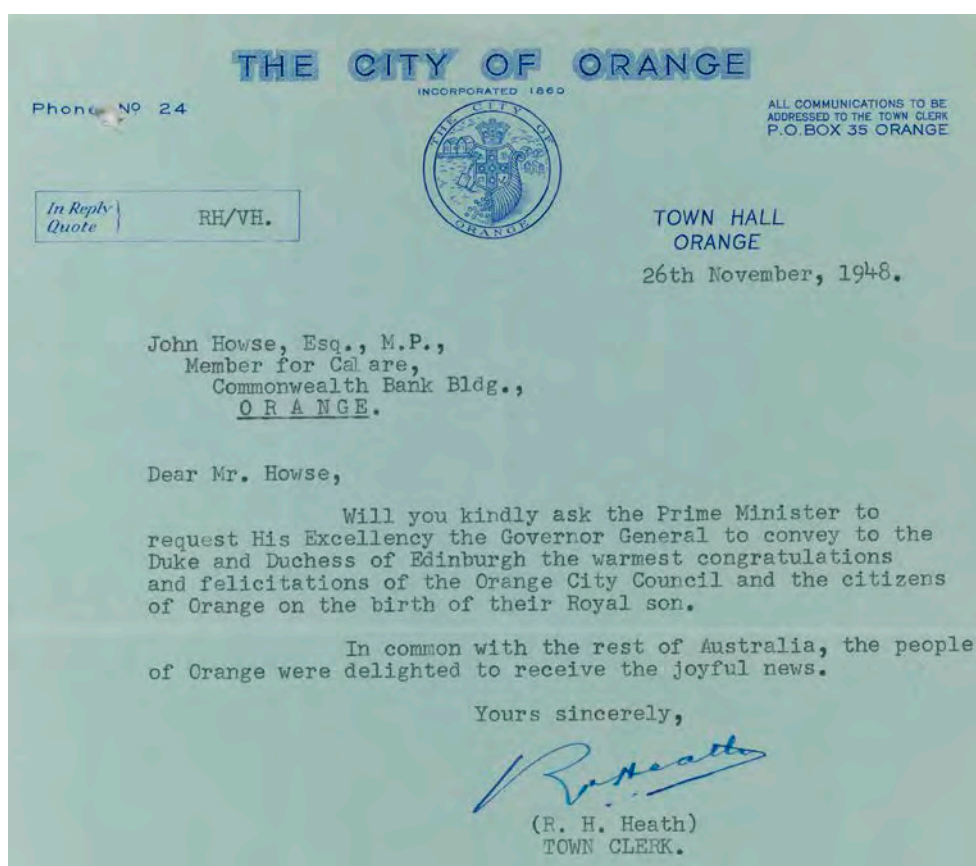
Press cuttings - Special - Box No 2. The Sovereign and Royal Family (No 1), 1950-1960

A5954, 1130/1

Recorded by: 1937-1971 Sir Frederick Geoffrey Shedden, KCMG, OBE (CP 320)

Press cuttings - Special - Box file No 2. The Sovereign and Royal Family (No 2), 1960-1967

A5954, 1130/2



One of the many messages of congratulation from throughout Australia on the birth of Prince Charles.

NAA: A461, L396/1/4(2)

9. PRINCE PHILIP, DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh was born in Greece on 10 June 1921. He is the only son of Prince Andrew and Princess Alexandra of Greece.

The Duke of Edinburgh has made several tours to Australia. He was the royal representative who opened the Melbourne Olympics in November 1956, and he visited again in 1962 to open the Empire (Commonwealth) Games in Perth. He returned to Australia in 1965 to open the Royal Australian Mint in Canberra and visited again in 1968 to open the third Duke of Edinburgh Study Conference. A proposed tour in 1960 was cancelled.

The Duke also visited Australia very briefly in 1967 to help prepare for the Study Conference scheduled for the following year. However, the Duke's first association with Australia predated even his 1947 wedding. The Duke of Edinburgh served in the British Navy during World War II and during his period of active service, made two visits to Australia. The first was in 1940 as a midshipman aboard the battleship *Ramilles* and the second was in 1945 aboard the Royal Navy destroyer *Whelp*.¹⁰¹ No records concerning these wartime visits are held by the National Archives.

1956 visit of the Duke of Edinburgh

The Melbourne Olympics began on 22 November 1956. It was the Duke of Edinburgh's responsibility to declare the Games open and the royal presence was intended to lend pageantry to an already impressive event.



The Duke arriving at Melbourne Town Hall during his 1956 visit.
NAA: A1771, E52/11

In reporting the Opening Ceremony the headlines read:

Spectacular Games Opening – 103 000 cheer Duke at Melbourne Olympics Ceremony ...
Australians and visitors agreed that no city had staged the Games more magnificently ...

There was some comment, however, as

Not all the teams had been well coached in the salute to the Sovereign's representative. But where it was neglected it seemed to be due not to disrespect, but rather to inadvertence, preoccupation with precise marching or the distance to the royal box. Some teams from the great democratic fraternity marched past looking straight ahead as intensely as some from the communist countries.¹⁰²

PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVES, TWO NUMBER SERIES WITH 'E' (EDINBURGH)
PREFIX

A1771

Recorded by: 1956 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

Pictures include flag waving crowd lined streets with the Duke standing in the back of a jeep driving along, watching a helicopter in action, greeting people and visiting sites.

REGISTER FOR "OLYMPIC GAMES" SERIES ('O', 'OG', 'OGA', 'OGC' 'OGO' PREFIXES); VISIT OF DUKE OF EDINBURGH SERIES ('E' PREFIX); VISIT OF QUEEN MOTHER SERIES ('QMV' PREFIX); VISIT OF GENERAL NASUTION SERIES, ('CN') PREFIX; ANTARCTIC TREATY – OPENING DAY SERIES ('AT' PREFIX)

A7134

Recorded by: 1956–1961 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of a book titled "Olympic Games – Melbourne 1956". On the other cover is written "E – Duke 1956", "QM – Queen Mother 1958", "AT – Antarctic Treaty Meeting July 1961".

This series is the main control record for two Australian News and Information Bureau photographic series documenting the Duke's 1956 visit and the Olympic Games, A1771 and A7135.

PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVES AND PRINTS, SINGLE AND TWO NUMBER SERIES WITH 'O' (OLYMPIC), 'OG' (OLYMPIC GAMES), 'OGA' (OLYMPIC GAMES ACCOMMODATION), 'OGC' (OLYMPIC GAMES CURRENT) AND 'OGO' (OLYMPIC GAMES OPENING) PREFIXES, 1956

A7135

Recorded by: 1956 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)

Quantity: 0.90 metres Location: Canberra

The series consists of photographs and negatives representing the Olympic Games in Melbourne, 1956.

The subjects include the torch relay and opening ceremony of the games; various events of the games, for example running, hurdling, boxing, hockey, yachting; sights around Melbourne and the Olympic Village; prominent people, such as the Duke of

Edinburgh and Bob Hope; medal winning; accommodation map; the Olympic Stadium; crowds; the Olympic Pool and swimmers; athletes, for example Betty Cuthbert, Ron Clark, John Landy; teams of different countries; the Olympic Marathon; gymnastics; soccer; and press conferences.

The series is an attempt to give the broadest possible coverage of the Games from beginning to end.

PHOTOCOPIES OF MAPS SHOWING ROUTE TAKEN BY HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH DURING ROYAL TOUR OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA IN 1956

A9362

Recorded by: 1956 Department of Territories (CA 60)

Quantity: 0.09 metres

Location: Canberra

This series consists of photocopies of 24 maps showing the various routes taken during the tour of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh to New Guinea in 1956.

Apart from his visit to Melbourne to open the Olympic Games, during his 1956 tour the Duke also visited the Northern Territory, New South Wales and the ACT. The Duke arrived in Australia on 10 November and departed on 14 December.



The Duke is greeted by the Lord Mayor of Melbourne, 1956.

NAA: A1771, E9/2A

Examples of records relating to the Duke's 1956 tour are:

Duke of Edinburgh's visit 1956 – ACT Tour Briefs Recorded by: 1956– Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	A463, 1956/1273 Parts 1–4
Visit of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, 1956 – Programme – Other than Canberra, 1956–1957 Recorded by: 1953–1960 Commonwealth Investigation Service (CA 650)	A1533, 1956/1518A
Visit of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh to Australia 1956 Olympic year – Vetting file	A1533, 1956/1518C
Photograph of Painting 'A Representation of the Duke of Edinburgh, Who Opens the Olympic Games, Melbourne', 1955 Recorded by: 1907–1913 Australian Industrial Property Organisation (CA 555)	A1861, 7672
Press cuttings. Special. Box file No. 3. Articles on the Duke of Edinburgh, 1956–1969 Recorded by: 1937–1971 Sir Frederick Geoffrey Shedden, KCMG, OBE (CP 320) The press cuttings in this item reflect the Duke of Edinburgh's long relationship with Australia. They also show that he has always been a man who speaks his mind. During his visit in 1967, the following news item was reported by <i>The Age</i> on 3 March: Prince Philip said yesterday that Australia should dispense with the monarchy and become a Republic if it felt it was getting nothing out of the monarchy and would be better as a Republic. 'If the monarchy is of value, retain it,' he said. 'If not, get rid of it.'	A5954, 1131/6
Government Heads of State – Visit of the Duke of Edinburgh 1956 – Vetting – ASIO file, 1956 Recorded by: 1949– Australian Security Intelligence Organization (CA 1297) Contains details of security checks conducted on members of the Press Corps appointed to cover the Duke's tour, and employees of Bulolo Gold Dredging Limited, a company the Duke was scheduled to visit during his tour of Papua New Guinea.	A6122, 1863
Visit of the Duke of Edinburgh, 1956–1957 Recorded by: 1956–1973 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219) This is a very substantial file (approximately 500 pages) dealing with many of the aspects of the Duke's visit. In particular it contains extensive details about the schedule of his visit to the ACT. It also includes press working plans for the visits to the Australian states and territories, including Papua New Guinea. As with all other royal visits, very detailed arrangements for the Duke's visit were made. According to the <i>Minutes of final meeting between Director and Officials, held at Prime Minister's Department</i>	A6895, N1956/311

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

TELETYPE
"ADULTERY" CANBERRA.

SECRET

4837

ASIO 33/16/17. (35)
33/16/1

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.
"D" BRANCH.
BOX [REDACTED] P.O.
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 24/10

24 October, 1956,

MEMORANDUM for:
Regional Director, N.S.W.

Copy to: Headquarters A.S.I.O.,

VISIT OF H.R.H. THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH TO
PENILQUIN AND COOMA, N.S.W. - NOVEMBER
1956

please refer to your memorandum 33/16/4 (5514) dated
19th October, 1956.

2. Enquiries in the Cooma district referred to in
paragraph 3 of the attachment to the abovequoted memorandum
provided no information concerning communists or Communist
activity in the area. A report concerning these enquiries
was forwarded to your office under cover of our memorandum
2/8/46 (55479) dated 7th September, 1956. The relevant
section of this report reads as follows:-

"Cooma - visited on 15th August 1956, where
detective HOLMES and plain-clothes
constable ELISSET were interviewed.

Both of these police officers considered that
there were no Communist activities in Cooma and
stated that they had not seen any literature in
the area.

They advised that the New Australians in the
area caused no trouble and that, as far as they
were aware, there were no extremist groups among
them.

Neither knew very much of union activity in
the area".

3. All of the information held concerning this area has
been received either from your office or as a result of local
enquiry, in which case, it has been forwarded to you.

4. There is no information held in this office concerning
the penilquin area.

5. It is regretted that it is not possible to assist
further in this matter.

RECD. 30 OCT 1956
ASIO
HEADQUARTERS

Distribution:
Copy No.1. - R/D, N.S.W.
No.2. - H.Q. A.S.I.O.
No.3. - 33/16/1
No.4. - 12/16/4
No.5. - Box file.

Regional Director, A.C.T.

PA 1/11/56

SECRET

From the ASIO security vetting file for the Duke's 1956 visit. Certain portions of the document of continuing sensitivity to ASIO remain withheld from public access.

NAA: A6122, 1863

Canberra on Tuesday, 6 November 1956 these included obtaining the services of a 'Door Opener' for the Duke's tour of the Australian National University and arranging for the Duke to be able to make phone calls:

Mr Tyrrell said that HRH would most certainly want to contact The Queen while he was in Canberra and would like to be sure that there would be no delays. Mr Dale advised Mr Tyrrell to ring X1183 to book the calls.

The file also contains details about a film of the Duke's tour to New Guinea made by the News and Information Bureau.

Photo album – Royal Visit 1956

A8281, 4

Recorded by: 1954–1973 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)

His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh. Speech at Parliamentary dinner, Canberra [audio tape], 1956

C100, 73/5/4563

Held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.

In addition to the records listed above, the National Archives holds a number of other files relating to the 1956 Melbourne Olympics. Information about these records is available on Fact Sheet No 57 or via the Archives' computer databases.

Proposed visit in 1960 by the Duke of Edinburgh

This proposed royal visit to Australia never eventuated, for reasons described in part in the following records:

HRH the Duke of Edinburgh. Proposed visit to Australia 1960

A1209, 1960/258

Recorded by: 1957– Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Personal Papers of Sir Robert Menzies – Mostly British Matters

M2576, 111

Recorded by: 1949–1966 The Rt Hon Sir Robert Gordon Menzies PC, KT, CH, QC (CP 54)

This file contains correspondence between Prime Minister Menzies and Prince Philip about a prospective tour in 1960. For various reasons, the tour did not eventuate. The following extracts from correspondence between Menzies and the Duke partially explain the postponing of the visit and the nature of the Duke's subsequent visits.

Prince Philip wrote to the Prime Minister on 13 February 1960:

I am afraid that I have caused a bit of confusion by asking Eric Harrison to find out your reaction to my proposed visit to Sydney for the Easter Show and a meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth.

I gather from your reply that for several reasons, including the expense, you think it is a bad idea. That is all I wanted to know.

The Duke went on to add:

I have held for some time now that long and full scale royal visits at long intervals are getting rather out of date. With modern transportation it is quite possible to make more frequent and shorter trips for specific rather than general purposes.

In Menzies' reply dated 27 February he stated he regretted the confusion regarding the Duke's suggested tour but agreed with his opinion about the shape of future royal tours. This view influenced the Duke's subsequent visits to Australia and the rest of the Commonwealth.

1962 visit of the Duke of Edinburgh

During his tour of 1962, apart from his visit to Perth to open the Empire Games, the Duke also visited New South Wales and the ACT. He was in Australia from 20 November to 2 December. The Government estimated the financial cost of this visit to be £26 826, including £17 775 for the charter of an aircraft to transport the Duke.¹⁰³

Visit of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh – Empire Games 1962 – Presentation of competitors and visitors from Papua and New Guinea	A463, 1962/5477
Recorded by: 1956– Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	
British Commonwealth and Empire Games – Perth 1962	A463, 1962/6458
Visit by HRH Duke of Edinburgh to Australia 1962. Air aspects, 1960–1963	A703, 581/1/7
Recorded by: 1959–1973 Department of Air (CA 35)	
Visit to Australia of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh, 1962 – Security arrangements	A1209, 1962/916
Recorded by: 1957– Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	
Duke of Edinburgh – Visit to Australia 1962 – Overall programme, 1962–1963	A1209, 1962/5689
Civil Aviation Non-Scheduled Flights – Flight of the Duke of Edinburgh, 1962	A1838, 716/21/119
Recorded by: 1948–1970 Department of External Affairs (CA 18)	
Visit to Australia by HRH the Duke of Edinburgh – November 1962	A1945, 234/3/2
Recorded by: 1957–1974 Department of Defence (CA 46)	
Visit of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh to Australia, November 1962 for the Empire Games	A2908, V82 Parts 1–3
Recorded by: 1930–1952 Australian High Commission, United Kingdom [London] (CA 241)	
Empire Games Perth, 1962	A6895, N1959/96
Recorded by: 1956–1973 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)	
This file concerns broadcast arrangements made in association with the 1962 Empire Games.	

In addition to the records listed above, the National Archives' Perth office holds a number of records relating specifically to the Empire Games of 1962. Please ask your reference officer if you are interested in obtaining any additional information about these records.

1965 visit of the Duke of Edinburgh

The Duke's 1965 tour enabled him to visit areas in New South Wales and the ACT, although the main purpose of the visit was the opening of the Royal Australian Mint in Canberra. He was in Australia from 19 to 26 February.

**His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh – Visit to Australia
– Press announcement, 1965**

A463, 1965/203

Recorded by: 1956– Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

**Visit of His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh –
Reception of press, radio and television representatives –
Government House, 21/2/65**

A463, 1965/270

Visit of HRH Prince Philip to Australia

A2908, V89 Part 1

Recorded by: 1930–1952 Australian High Commission, United Kingdom [London] (CA 241)

This file contains copies of letters between Sir Robert Menzies and Prince Philip discussing dates for a possible royal tour. Also included is departmental correspondence about the difficulty of accommodating another royal visit in such close proximity to the visit of the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester.

Eventually it was decided that Prince Philip should visit between 19 and 26 February, leaving in advance of the Gloucester's visit which was scheduled to begin on 13 March. The Prince and the Prime Minister had a number of suggestions as to activities the Duke could perform whilst he was here, including presenting the inaugural Dunrossil Lecture to the Institute of Radio Engineers and planning meetings for the Duke's 1968 Study Conference. The Prime Minister's Department also suggested, 'there is the Mint which could be opened'.¹⁰⁴ This the Prince did on 22 February 1965.

The file includes details of other requests for the Prince's time and a programme of events associated with his visit.

1967 visit by the Duke of Edinburgh

In 1967, the Duke was in Australia from 10 May to 5 June. During this period he visited the Northern Territory, Queensland, the ACT, New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria.

This visit was principally organised to allow the Duke to participate in the planning of the 1968 Commonwealth Study Conference which was to take place in Melbourne. The Commonwealth study conferences were an initiative of the Duke himself who felt:

that the Commonwealth is fortunate in having not only its conferences at Ministerial level... but also conferences or organisations covering almost every professional, military, academic, parliamentary and scientific activity. The only area which does not seem to be adequately covered is the discussion of wide and general issues which are of common interest to all or most members.

The Duke of Edinburgh wonders, therefore, whether it might not be valuable to establish a series of informal conferences to cover this gap.¹⁰⁵

This led to the implementation of the Commonwealth study conferences.

Duke of Edinburgh – Royal Visit 1967

A1945, 1967/792

Recorded by: 1957–1974 Department of Defence (CA 46)

Duke of Edinburgh Study Conferences, 1965

A6706, 20

Recorded by: 1950–1966 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Contains a letter dated 28 July 1965 from British Prime Minister, Harold Macmillan to Menzies. In this, Macmillan briefly explains the concept of the Commonwealth Study Conference.

Visit by His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh – March 1967

F1, 1967/625

Recorded by: 1931–1973 Administrator, Northern Territory (CA 1070)

Held in the Darwin office of the National Archives.



The Duke opening the Royal Australian Mint in Canberra, 1965.

NAA: A1771, E65/35

1968 visit by the Duke of Edinburgh

Between 1 and 10 March, the Duke visited the Northern Territory, Victoria, New South Wales, the ACT and Tasmania, in addition to opening his Third Study Conference in Melbourne.

Correspondence files, annual single number series Duke of Edinburgh's Third Commonwealth Study Conference, 1965-1970 MP1924/1 - mp1924/31

Recorded by: 1965-1970 Department of Labour and National Service (CA 40)

Quantity: 8.79 metres

Location: Melbourne

The 12 series within this accession deal with the various aspects of the Duke of Edinburgh's Third Commonwealth Study Conference, which was held in 1968.

Examples of items relating to the Duke's 1968 visit are:

**His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh - Visit to Australia
1968 - Invitation to open Royal Women's hospital, Melbourne,
1966-1967**

A463, 1966/4950

Recorded by: 1956- Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

**His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh - Visit to Australia
1968 - Invitation to open The Australia Square project, Sydney,
1966-1968**

A463, 1966/5190

Duke of Edinburgh's Third Study Conference, 1966-1968

A884, A3178

Recorded by: 1951-1972 Department of Social Services (CA 32)

Photo album, Royal Tour 1968

A8281, 45

Recorded by: 1954-1973 Australian News and Information
Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)



**The Duke with Prime Minister Harold Holt, and Mrs Holt at
The Lodge, the Prime Minister's official residence, 6 March 1967.
NAA: A1200, L60989**

10. ELIZABETH, WIFE OF GEORGE VI AND QUEEN MOTHER

The Queen Mother first toured Australia as the Duchess of Cornwall and York with her husband in 1927. The couple was supposed to return for another tour in 1949 and then again in 1952, but plans for both these visits cancelled due to her husband the King's ill health.

The Queen Mother first visited Australia by herself in 1958, from 14 February to 7 March. For this tour the Prime Minister directed that there be 'plenty of flags' on display but he did not propose to illuminate and decorate Commonwealth buildings as had been done for the royal visit of 1954.¹⁰⁶ In spite of the lack of bunting though, the tour met with great popular approval.

During her 1958 tour the Queen Mother visited Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth. The short period of time allotted to her tour meant that she did not have time to visit regional centres, but spent the bulk of her time in the capital cities.

According to a press statement issued on 11 November 1957 by Sir Allen Brown, the Director-General of the Queen Mother's visit:

We set out to arrange a programme which would allow Her Majesty to make a real 'meet the people' visit. This is what Her Majesty wants. Because of the shortness of her visit – which although it has been extended, it is most unfortunately not long enough to allow a visit to Tasmania – Her Majesty asked that in her engagements she might mingle with and talk to people as much as possible.



**The Queen Mother
with Prime Minister
Menzies at a state
ball at Parliament
House Canberra,
1958.**

NAA: A1766, QMV304

This meant the exclusion of state banquets, luncheons and similar fixed seating functions in favour of more fluid affairs such as informal open air gatherings, surf carnivals, rodeos, race meetings, garden parties, children's assemblies and the like.¹⁰⁷

The Queen Mother proved exceptionally popular with the crowds she had wished to meet. *The Sydney Morning Herald* reported on 25 February 1958, 'Wild scenes in Sydney as women jostle police in bid to see Queen Mother'.

In one of the wildest scenes of the royal tour, more than 2 000 screaming and jostling women tried to force their way into the Trocadero, George Street, City, soon after 3pm today ... Dozens of police rushed to reinforce the barricades but the women, shouting and screaming, surged across George Street in a solid mass and argued and grappled with police ... Women shouted angrily to police. 'Give us a fair go, coppers', 'Let's have a look at her' and 'All we want is a view of the Queen Mother.'¹⁰⁸

The Queen Mother was due to visit again in early 1964 but the trip had to be cancelled as she needed an emergency appendix operation. She later returned to Australia from 22 March to 7 April 1966 for another successful tour.

The purpose of the Queen Mother's visit in 1966 was to attend the Fourth Adelaide Festival of the Arts. Aside from visiting other areas in South Australia, she also spent time in Western Australia, Canberra and the Snowy Mountains. In the last few days of her visit she was joined by Prince Charles who came from Timbertop in Victoria where he was attending school for six months at the Geelong Grammar School.

1958 royal visit by the Queen Mother

Records created in connection with this visit are as follows:

PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVES, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES WITH QMV (VISIT OF QUEEN MOTHER) PREFIX

A1766

Recorded by: 1958 Australian News and Information Bureau (CA 219)

Quantity: 0.36 metres

Location: Canberra

Examples of individual items relating to the 1958 visit are:

Royal visit 1958 – Invitation to Queen Mother and liaison with Governor-General, 1958

A463, 1957/3538

Royal visit 1958 – Persons the Queen Mother desires to meet, 1958

A463, 1957/3611

Visit of Her Majesty the Queen Mother, 1958

A1533, 1957/2530 Part 1

Recorded by: 1953–1960 Commonwealth Investigation Service (CA 650)

Details security procedures associated with the royal visit. It also contains a detailed itinerary for the visit and copies of the minutes of the Royal Visit 1958 planning committee.

Press cuttings in connection with Royal visits, 1957

A1533, 1957/2530 Part 2

The cuttings all date from 1957 and concern pre arrangements for the 1958 visit. Some of the clippings also refer to security issues, such as threats to the safety of the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh during their tour of the United States.



With H V Evatt, Leader of the Opposition, and Mrs Evatt.

NAA: A1766, QMV131

Visit of Her Majesty the Queen Mother, 1958

A1533, 1957/2530 Part 3

Principally contains correspondence about security issues associated with the visit.

A report of the Commonwealth Security Officer, Ray Whitrod, about security issues associated with the tour includes the following extract:

With the co-operation of the State Police Force, surveillance was maintained on those persons who, because of their known tendencies, might cause embarrassment to the Queen Mother. A number of these were interviewed and cautioned against any irresponsible actions. One new Australian, who considered that he had a grievance because of unemployment, was found a temporary job.

The usual number of letters from persons of apparently unsound mind were received by State and Commonwealth Departments and, as far as possible, the identities of the writers were established and subsequently interviewed by officers of this Service or by the Special branch of the State Police Force concerned.

No embarrassment was caused to the Queen Mother by any of these persons.

Royal Visit, 1958 by Her Majesty the Queen Mother - ACT itinerary - Register of pass recipients

A1533, 1957/2530 Part 4

Visit of Right Hon Prime Minister of Great Britain, 1958 [and HRH Queen Elizabeth, Queen Mother], 1957-1958

A1533, 1957/2909

This file principally concerns security arrangements made in association with the visit of Prime Minister Harold Macmillan, but it also details some of the security arrangements in place for the visit of the Queen Mother.

Protocol – Queen Mother's Tour of Australia, 1951–1958

A1838, 1516/83

Recorded by: 1948–1970 Department of External Affairs (CA 18)

Royal Visit 1958 by the Queen Mother, 1957–1958

A1945, 234/1/1

Recorded by: 1957–1974 Department of Defence (CA 46)

Visit to Australia of HM Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, 1957–1958

A2908, V59 Parts 4 and 5

Recorded by: 1930–1952 Australian High Commission, United Kingdom [London] (CA 241)

Visit of Her Majesty the Queen Mother, 1958

A6895, N1957/106A and B

Recorded by: 1956–1973 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)

This item details press arrangements for the tour.

The Queen Mother's tour occurred only two years after the introduction of television into Australia. A report of the Press Liaison Officer dated 10 March 1958 would seem to suggest that the interest taken in the visit by television crews was a little overwhelming and unexpected. It states: '... a fairly large body of cameramen had to be catered for. It is suggested that TV requirements be given careful study well before future royal visits.'

Photo albums, Royal Visit 1958

A8281, 8 Part 1&2

Recorded by: 1954–1973 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)



Crowds in Brisbane awaiting the Queen Mother's arrival.

NAA: A1766, QMV147

**Arriving at Balmoral, Sydney,
to inspect a parade.**
NAA: A1766, QMV437



**And inspecting
a guard of
honour at a
Manly surf
carnival.**
*NAA: A1766,
QMV374*

Royal Visit – Queen Mother, 1958**M2576, 110**

Recorded by: 1949–1966 Robert Gordon Menzies (CP 54)

This file alludes to some of the popular support that followed the Queen Mother throughout her tour.

The President of the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital wrote to the Prime Minister to thank him for arranging for the Queen Mother to open the Jessie McPherson Block of the Hospital:

The Queen Mother expressed herself pleased with the Hospital – even more pleased at the thousands of women who, though hysterical, kept beyond the roped barriers in the corridors, and made her feel a tremendous bond that ties her to them. I, personally, have never seen such a display of mass enthusiasm.

The file also contains a letter, dated 10 March 1958 from the Queen Mother's private secretary to Prime Minister Menzies which expresses

Her Majesty's very great pleasure at the admirable arrangements which were made for her visit to Australia. Wherever she travelled in the countryside and in the towns, Her Majesty received such a wonderful welcome that she felt borne along on a wave of loyalty and affection.

Sheaffe Papers. Invitation Card. 'The Minister for State for the Interior and the Chairman of the Australian Capital Territory Advisory Council request the pleasure of Mr Sheaffe at a Civic Welcome to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother at Civic Centre, Canberra, on Friday 14 February 1958 at 4.40pm'.

M4071, 90

Collected by: 1902–1963 Percy Lampriere Sheaffe (CP 53)

Royal Visit 1958 – ACT Press Cuttings**AA1972/341, 326**

Recorded by: 1950–1971 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)



The Queen Mother being farewelled by 30 000 school children at Subiaco, Perth, 1958
NAA: A1766, QMV592

The Queen Mother's postponed visit of 1964

This proposed visit was cancelled due to the Queen Mother's illness. Records relating to the planning for this visit are:

Visit of Her Majesty the Queen Mother - General representations, 1962-1964

A463, 1962/6101

Recorded by: 1956- Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

This file details arrangements in place for providing stores of plasma at airports in areas the Queen Mother would be travelling.

Protocol - Royal Visits - Visit by Queen's Mother 1964

A1838, 1516/11/7

Recorded by: 1948-1970 Department of External Affairs (CA 18)

Visit of Her Majesty the Queen Mother to Australia, 1964

A2908, V85 Parts 1-4

Recorded by: 1930-1952 Australian High Commission, United Kingdom [London] (CA 241)

Royal Visit 1964 - Supplies of blood plasma, 1963-1964

A1209, 1964/100

Recorded by: 1957- Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

1966 visit of the Queen Mother

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORDS

PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVES, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES WITH RT PREFIX
(ROYAL TOUR OF QUEEN MOTHER AND PRINCE CHARLES)

A2405

Recorded by: 1966 Australian News and Information Bureau (CA 219)

Quantity: 0.18 metres

Location: Canberra

**Meeting
workers at
Jindabyne
Dam, 1966.**
NAA: A2405,
RT2/386



EXAMPLES OF OTHER RECORDS RELATING TO THE 1966 ROYAL VISIT

Visit of HM Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother - 1966 - Negotiations with Clarence House prior to announcement, 1964-1965 Recorded by: 1956- Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)	A463, 1966/1
Visit of HM Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother - 1966 - Itinerary and overall programme, 1965-1966	A463, 1966/3
Visit of the Queen Mother to the ACT - Programme, 1966	A463, 1966/5
Visit of HM Queen Elizabeth, Queen Mother - 1966 - Visit to South Australia - Programme, 1965-66	A463, 1966/6
Visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Queen Mother 1966 - Visit to Western Australia - Programme, 1966	A463, 1966/7
Visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Queen Mother 1966 to Victoria - Programme, 1965	A463, 1966/8
Visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Queen Mother 1966 - Visit to Snowy Mountains - Programme, 1965-66	A463, 1966/9
Visit of HM Queen Elizabeth, Queen Mother - 1966 - Use of aircraft - External - Instructions to flight personnel, 1966	A463, 1966/25
Visit of HM the Queen Mother - 1966 - Gift 1965-66	A463, 1966/45
Visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Queen Mother 1966 - Speeches and addresses of loyalty, 1965-66	A463, 1966/48
Visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Queen Mother 1966 - 2nd meeting with state directors (Adelaide), 1966	A463, 1966/51
Visit to Australia by the Queen Mother 1966 Recorded by: 1957-1974 Department of Defence (CA 46)	A1945, 234/3/6



Awaiting the Queen Mother's arrival at Bunbury, 1966.
NAA: A2405, RT2/242

Government Heads of State – Visit to Australia of the Queen Mother – ASIO file, 1964–1966**A6122, 1866**

Recorded by: 1949– Australian Security Intelligence Organization (CA 1297)

Contains details of security checks conducted on Mobil employees who were to be involved in the refuelling of the Queen Mother's plane.

Photo album, Royal Visit 1966**A8281, 26**

Recorded by: 1954–1973 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)

11. PRINCESS ALEXANDRA

Princess Alexandra of Kent was the daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Kent (the Duchess of Kent was Princess Marina who was to visit Australia in 1964).

Twenty-two year old Princess Alexandra visited Australia from 14 August to 20 September 1959. The main reason for her visit was to attend the Queensland Centenary Celebrations. Crowds of over 200 000 filled Brisbane's streets on 18 August, the date of her arrival in the city. Her time was spent mainly in Queensland, with a week in Brisbane and then a fortnight touring regional areas. These included Warwick, Toowoomba, Charleville, Longreach, Mount Isa, Cairns, Townsville, Mackay, Rockhampton, Bundaberg and a brief holiday on the Barrier Reef. She also toured for a fortnight in New South Wales, Victoria and Canberra.

Prior to arriving in Australia, the Princess met Rolf Harris, an Australian song writer and artist, at a London party for the Royal Commonwealth Society. Harris told the *Brisbane Telegraph*, 'Mainly she wanted to know about Australia ... She is terribly excited about the trip'. Harris added, 'Later, when we danced, she asked if I would teach her some Australian terms'. He informed her that a Queenslander is a 'bananalander' and that a fine fellow is a 'beaut bloke'. Harris also stated that, 'She is a wonderful girl, completely natural and able to put you at ease ... She is not the slightest bit stuffy. And she dances wonderfully.'¹⁰⁹

Her tour of Australia was the first the Princess had undertaken alone. As such, the Prime Minister stated, 'it is our intention that she shall be burdened with as few formal duties as possible, and that she may enjoy her visit to the utmost.'¹¹⁰

The accent during her tour was on the youth – given her age and experience many people said that her visit could not be spent shaking the hands of Parliamentarians; there should be an air of informality. Officials attempted to invite as many young people as possible to the public functions attended by the Princess.

Princess Alexandra returned to Australia from 24 February to 26 March 1967 for another tour of the country.

**Princess Alexandra
arriving at
Melbourne Town
Hall, 1959.**
NAA: A1765, PA441





Meeting members of the Junior Red Cross on arrival at Canberra airport, 14 August 1959. NAA: A1765, PA4

1959 visit of Princess Alexandra

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORDS

PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVES, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES WITH PA (PRINCESS ALEXANDRA) PREFIX, 1959

A1765

Recorded by: 1959 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)

Quantity: 0.18 metres

Location: Canberra

PHOTOGRAPHIC TRANSPARENCIES, SINGLE NUMBER WITH 'KAV' [VISIT OF PRINCESS ALEXANDRA, COLOUR] PREFIX

A2752

Recorded by: 1959 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)

Quantity: 0.18 metres

Location: Canberra

EXAMPLES OF RECORDS RELATING TO THE 1959 VISIT OF PRINCESS ALEXANDRA

Princess Alexandra's visit - overall Australian working plan, 1958-1960

A463, 1958/4005

Recorded by: 1956- Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Princess Alexandra's visit 1959 - financial arrangements

A463, 1958/4006

Princess Alexandra's visit - discussions on itinerary with London

A463, 1958/4007

Queensland centenary celebrations 1959 – invitation to Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra	A463, 1958/4011
Princess Alexandra's visit 1959 – press cuttings	A463, 1958/4049
Visit of Princess Alexandra 1959 – meeting with State Directors	A463, 1958/4442
Princess Alexandra's visit to Australia – general representations	A463, 1959/3112
Contains letters from individuals and organisations requesting visits from or the patronage of Princess Alexandra. The file also contains letters complaining that the Princess' tour itinerary did not include Western Australia.	
The file includes another example of public disapproval at the excesses associated with royal visits. The following is an extract from a letter to the Prime Minister, dated 15 October 1959, from D W Anderson:	
Two people I have discussed the question with are against the expense incurred in these trips and so am I. If any member of Royalty comes here, I, as a taxpayer and elector, hold the view that that member should pay his or her own expenses out of the allowance granted by the British Parliament or the Crown.	
Royal visit 1959 – ACT – Press arrangements	A463, 1959/4232
Royal visit 1959 – PRO – Radio and television arrangements	A463, 1959/4384
Royal visit 1959 – PRO – Queensland press planning, 1959–1960	A463, 1959/4387
Royal visit 1959 – PRO – Press releases	A463, 1959/4390
Gifts for Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra	A463, 1959/4478



Princess Alexandra in Brisbane. NAA: A1765, PA111

Visit of HRH Princess Alexandra servicing standards, 1938–1958**A705, 228/4/109 Part 1**

Recorded by: 1922–1939 Air Services Branch (CA 778)

Royal visit 1959 – Presentation of a brooch to HRH Princess Alexandra**A1209, 1959/1023**

Recorded by: 1957– Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

It was decided to present the Princess with a brooch to commemorate her visit. On previous visits, the Queen had been presented with a brooch depicting wattle and the Queen Mother with a brooch resembling hibiscus. It was decided to present Princess Alexandra with a brooch representing teatree blossoms. Photographs of this and the other designs that were considered by the Government are attached to this file.

The brooch eventually cost the Government £690. It was made of white gold and contained 400 diamonds, fifteen rubies and five tourmalines.

After the design had been formalised, there was a good deal of discussion as to when the brooch should be presented to the Princess. It was decided that the Prime Minister should present it to her at the State Ball in Canberra, but a cablegram from London dated 27 July 1959 raised doubts about this plan:

I gather that the Princess is genuinely disturbed and apprehensive at the prospect of receiving the gift during an interruption at the Ball and of having to make an impromptu speech which would be broadcast and televised at that time.

Nevertheless, the brooch was presented to the Princess at the Ball, but she was spared the anxiety of having to make a speech in return. Her polite response was, 'Thank you'.

Visit of HRH Princess Alexandra, 1959**A1533, 1959/477 Parts 1–3**

Recorded by: 1953–1960 Commonwealth Investigation Service, Central Office CA 650

Part 1 of this file principally contains draft programs for Princess Alexandra's tour. It also details preliminary security arrangements.

Part 2 contains details of the security arrangements in place for the visit and holds very detailed itineraries of the numerous visits on the Princess' itinerary.

Part 3 holds details about security arrangements and the itinerary, but it also refers to an accident that occurred during the Princess' visit to Toowoomba. An Attorney-General's Department report dated 2 September 1959 held on the file explains the events of 25 August that lead to the death of Mrs Florence Case.

According to the report, Mrs Case had been standing on a bench in the public enclosure in order to see the Princess. One of the Commonwealth cars involved in the procession hit the side of the bench, knocking it over. Mrs Case, who was born in 1880, fell and

suffered severe head injuries. She was examined by the royal physician, Wing Commander Kelly and was taken to Toowoomba Hospital where she later died.

Headquarters RAAF Darwin – Royal tour – Princess Alexandra of Kent

Recorded by: 1959–1967 Department of Air (CA 35)

A1561, 16/5/AIR Part 1

Visits to Australia of Notables from Abroad – Princess Alexandra, 1959

Recorded by: 1948–1970 Department of External Affairs (CA 18)

A1838, 1516/1/170

Visit of Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra to Australia, 1959

Recorded by: 1930–1952 Australian High Commission, United Kingdom [London] (CA 241)

A2908, V71 Parts 1–6

Civic welcome to HRH Princess Alexandra, 1959

Recorded by: 1930–1959 ACT Advisory Council (CA 491)

A2942, 429A

Government Heads of State – Visits to Australia of the Princess Alexandria of Kent – ASIO file, 1959

Recorded by: 1949– Australian Security Intelligence Organization (CA 1297)

A6122, 1864

Visit of Princess Alexandra, 1959

Recorded by: 1956–1973 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)

A6895, N1959/38

This file contains details about the itinerary of Princess Alexandra's tour and details about photographic and broadcasting arrangements.

Photo album, Royal Visit 1959

Recorded by: 1954–1973 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)

A8281, 12



With Governor-General Sir William and Lady Slim at a dinner party at Government House, 14 August 1959. NAA: A1765, PA28



Queenslanders
awaiting the
Princess' arrival.
NAA: A1765, PA209

Invitation to Ball at the City Hall, Brisbane, to meet Princess Alexandra of Kent

M2130, 56

Collected by: 1948–1974 The Hon Dame Annabelle Jane Mary Rankin DBE (CP 137)

ABC Scripts of Royal Tours, 1959 and 1963

BP257/1, Box 6

Held in the Brisbane office of the National Archives.

Royal visit of 1967

Princess Alexandra married Mr Angus Ogilvy in 1963. The Princess intended to come to Australia for a private holiday in early 1967 while her husband was in Asia and Australia conducting business. However, in addition to her holiday, Alexandra was persuaded by the Government and the media to officially visit Canberra and Melbourne on 3 March 1967, Hobart on 4 March, Melbourne again on 6 March and Sydney on 8 March.

Marriage of Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra – Australian gift

A463, 1963/569

Australia's gift to the Princess on her wedding was a boxed set of eight silver candlesticks.

Marriage of Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra – Australian gift

A463, 1963/569 Attachment 1

Recorded by: 1956– Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
Contains photographs of Australia's wedding gift to the Princess.

Photograph of Princess Alexandra and Harold Holt

A1200, L60834

Recorded by: 1950–1971 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)

Visit of HRH Princess Alexandra and Mr Angus Ogilvy to Far East and Australia, 1966

A2908, V94

Recorded by: 1930–1952 Australian High Commission, United Kingdom [London] (CA 241)

This file details the Princess' initial decision to have a private holiday in Australia through to the announcement of her small official tour.

Additional photographs of the Princess' 1967 tour are contained within the main Australian News and Information Bureau photographic series, A1200. A list of these is available in the Reading Room in Canberra.

12. PRINCESS MARINA

Princess Marina, the Duchess of Kent visited Australia from 23 September to 8 October 1964 for the purpose of visiting the British Exhibition at the Sydney Showground and to open Sydney's Gladesville Bridge which spans the Parramatta River between Drummoyne and Gladesville. In addition, whilst in Canberra she opened the new Defence headquarters building, also known as the Russell Offices.

The Princess' fifteen day tour cost the Government £40 050. This amount included £23 000 for chartering an aircraft for the travel to, from and within Australia.¹¹¹

Princess Marina was the mother of Princess Alexandra and wife of the late Duke of Kent. Princess Marina and her husband were scheduled to come to Australia in 1939, as the Duke was to occupy the position of Australian Governor-General. The outbreak of war and the death of the Duke in 1942, however, meant that this plan never came to fruition. The visit in 1964 was therefore the Princess' first to Australia.

Interest in her visit was enhanced by rumours that Marina's daughter Princess Alexandra was to become Australia's next Governor-General. The rumour was unfounded but Marina's visit remained a successful tour of Australia.

Photographic series relating to the visit of Princess Marina

PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVES, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES WITH RVM (ROYAL VISIT OF MARINA) PREFIX, 1964

A1772

Recorded by: 1964 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)

Quantity: 0.09 metres

Location: Canberra

PHOTOGRAPHIC TRANSPARENCIES, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES WITH 'KRVM' [COLOUR, VISIT OF PRINCESS MARINA TO AUSTRALIA, 1963] PREFIX

A2757

Recorded by: 1964 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)

Quantity: 0.18 metres

Location: Canberra

Scenes of public and official functions – receptions, motorcades, at the art gallery, theatre and races etc. Australian officials include Prime Minister Menzies, the Governor-General, Lord de L'Isle, Premier Askin, Mayor of Wollongong etc. Mainly taken in Sydney and Canberra.

Examples of records relating to the visit of Princess Marina

Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – New South Wales – General representations, 1964

A463, 1964/120

Recorded by: 1956– Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – Negotiation with Kensington Palace prior to announcement, 1964

A463, 1964/121

Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – Itinerary and overall program, 1964	A463, 1964/123
Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – Visit to the ACT – Program, 1964	A463, 1964/124
Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – Visit to New South Wales – Programme, 1964	A463, 1964/125
Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – Guide for planning, 1964	A463, 1964/126
Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – Commonwealth organisation, 1964	A463, 1964/128
Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – Press relations officer – Appointments, 1964	A463, 1964/133
Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – Financial, 1964 This file contains details of financial estimates for the cost of the impending tour, so these could be incorporated in funding applications. For comparative purposes, the file also contains details of the costs associated with the visits of the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh in 1963, and the Duke's 1962 visit.	A463, 1964/139
Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – Press Arrangements, 1964	A463, 1964/154
Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – Transport arrangements, 1964	A463, 1964/155
Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – Security arrangements, 1964	A463, 1964/156
Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – Requests to meet HRH, 1964	A463, 1964/167
Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – ACT – Car door openers, 1964	A463, 1964/175
Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – Opening of Defence Building – Invitation list and arrangements, 1964	A463, 1964/176
Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – ACT – Biographical notes, 1964	A463, 1964/178
Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – Speeches and addresses of welcome, 1964	A463, 1964/181
Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – Daily weather forecast, 1964	A463, 1964/184
Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – Daily briefs, 1964	A463, 1964/186
Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – Letters of appreciation, 1964	A463, 1964/188
Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 – Press cuttings, 1964 This file principally holds press clippings relating to Princess Marina's visit to the ACT. These press clippings were used by the Prime Minister's Department to record the progress of the tour and to document public reaction to it.	A463, 1964/189

One of the first clippings collected records that at Canberra's Fairbairn Airport:

a delighted and incredulous people suddenly found Princess Marina, vivid in cherry red, among them saying, "What a beautiful morning it is. I can't believe I'm here at last."¹¹²

The same article records that at a Press Conference later that afternoon, the Princess 'smoked a cigarette and drank a glass of bitter lemon'.

Visit of HRH Princess Marina 1964 - Working program, 1964 A463, 1964/190

Civil Aviation - Non-Scheduled Flights - Royal Visit to Australia 1964 - Princess Marina A1838, 716/21/122
Recorded by: 1948-1970 Department of External Affairs (CA 18)

Protocol Visit to Australia of Notables - Princess Marina Duchess of Kent, 1964 A1838, 1516/1/288

Visit to Australia by HRH the Duchess of Kent September/October 1964 A1945, 234/3/4

Recorded by: 1957-1974 Department of Defence (CA 46)

This file includes details of the arrangements made by Prime Minister Menzies and Minister for Defence Shane Paltridge, for Princess Marina to open the new Defence headquarters building at Russell Hill, Canberra.

Princess Marina with former Governor-General Viscount De L'Isle, 1968.

NAA: A1200, L78847



- Visit of Her Royal Highness Princess Marina to Australia, 1964** A2908, V86 Parts 1-3
Recorded by: 1930-1952 Australian High Commission, United Kingdom [London] (CA 241)
- Photo album, Royal Visit 1964** A8281, 19
Recorded by: 1954-1973 Australian News and Information Bureau, Canberra (CA 219)
- Commonwealth Police Force - Royal visit to Australia HRH Princess Marina, Duchess of Kent, 1964** D1915, SA1867/6
Recorded by: 1917-1969 Commonwealth Police Force (CA 2919)
This file is held in the Adelaide office of the National Archives.

13. PRINCE CHARLES

Prince Charles is the eldest child of Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh and is heir to the throne. His birth on 14 November 1948 inspired excitement in Australia.

- Her Royal Highness Princess Elizabeth. Birth of Royal Prince Charles of Edinburgh, 1948** A3522, Box 3/1
Recorded by: 1935–1953 Governor-General (CA 1)
- Congratulatory Messages. Birth of Royal Prince, 1948–1949** A3522, Box 3/2
- Gifts. Birth of Royal Prince, 1948** A3522, Box 3/3
- Sheaffe Papers. Newspaper pages. The Canberra Times, 15 November 1948. Includes article on the planned execution of Tojo, battles in China, wait for birth of Prince Charles and one on Canberra and the public service, 1948** M4071, 86
Collected by: 1902–1963 Percy Lampriere Sheaffe (CP 53)

Prince Charles' first trip to Australia was to attend Geelong Grammar's Timbertop school from 30 January to 1 August 1966.

Photographic series relating to Prince Charles' term at Geelong Grammar

PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVES, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES WITH RT PREFIX
(ROYAL TOUR OF QUEEN MOTHER AND PRINCE CHARLES), 1966

A2405

Recorded by: 1966 Australian News and Information Bureau (CA 219)

Quantity: 0.18 metres

Location: Canberra

This series contains several photographs of Prince Charles' last day at Timbertop.

Prince Charles and the Queen Mother at the Lodge with PM Holt and Mrs Holt, 1966.
NAA: A2405, RT2/162



Examples of records relating to Prince Charles' term at Geelong Grammar

HRH Prince of Wales – Attendance at an Australian school – Security arrangements, 1966 **A1209, 1966/7001**
Recorded by: 1957– Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

HRH Prince of Wales – Attendance at an Australian school – Communications arrangements **A1209, 1966/7002**

HRH Prince of Wales – Attendance at an Australian school – Press arrangements **A1209, 1966/7003**

The Prince arrived at Timbertop on 3 February 1966. A press release dated 10 January 1966 made it clear that his visit was not an official one and that he should be left alone by journalists:

The Prince of Wales will be engaged in full time study in Australia and will not undertake any official engagements. The Queen and the Commonwealth Government have requested that the Prince's visit should be treated as a private one and that he should be allowed the same freedom from public attention as any other school boy.

Visit to Australia of Notable Personalities from Abroad – Prince Charles – To attend School, 1965–1966 **A1838, 1516/1/298**

Royal visit 1967

After his schooling was over, Prince Charles returned to Australia again in December 1967 as the Queen's representative to attend the Memorial service for Australian Prime Minister Harold Holt who disappeared off Cheviot Beach in Victoria on 17 December 1967.



The Memorial Service for Prime Minister Holt in St Paul's Anglican Cathedral, Melbourne, 22 December 1967. Prince Charles (left) with Lord Casey, and Lady Casey. In the pew behind are President Johnson of the US, President Park of South Korea and Ferdinand and Imelda Marcos of the Philippines. NAA: A1200, L68652

Visit of overseas dignitaries to attend national memorial service Melbourne – for Right Honourable H E Holt, 1967–1968 A446, 1967/73018

Recorded by: 1953–1974 Department of Immigration (CA 51)

Official representatives from all over the world flew to Australia for Harold Holt's memorial service which was held in Melbourne on 22 December 1967. Of all the attendees, greatest attention was paid to American President Lyndon Johnson who had become firm friends with Holt. Due attention, however, was also paid to the representatives of the British government – Prince Charles, Prime Minister Harold Wilson and the leader of the opposition, Edward Heath.

The British representatives arrived in Melbourne on the morning of the service in a specially chartered RAAF aircraft. The following morning they flew to Perth for refuelling and had a brief official tour of the city, before leaving for London at 4pm that afternoon.

APPENDIX 1 IF YOU'RE KEEN TO CONTINUE YOUR RESEARCH

UNDERTAKING A MORE EXTENSIVE SEARCH OF THE COLLECTION

The Prime Minister's Department has been the agency chiefly responsible for the organisation of royal tours and official protocol associated with royalty.

Given the number of records in the collection, it has not been possible in this Guide to list all relevant records of the Prime Minister's Department. A selection of significant records has been included but the selection is by no means exhaustive.

For the same reason, not all the record items of the Prime Minister's Department have yet been added to the Archives' item database.

If you wish to undertake a comprehensive search of all Prime Minister's Department records in the collection it is suggested that you begin with an examination of the relevant indexes or printed item listings for the major Prime Minister's Department correspondence series. Information about the major Prime Minister's record series themselves, and their indexes, can be found by searching the Archives' database, which can be accessed in each of our Reading Rooms and on the Archives' Website at www.naa.gov.au

For details about printed item listings, please contact our reading rooms in any capital city. The contact details are at Appendix 5 to this Guide.

All searches for additional records should begin with a search of the Archives' item database. Original indexes and other types of 'control records' were usually also created by other Government departments. If you have located material throughout the Guide of particular interest and you wish to conduct a search for material of a similar nature, indexes created by the department that created the records can be a useful place to search.

Papers of prominent government officials who may have been involved in the administration of particular royal visits may also be held by the National Archives.

STATE ARCHIVAL AUTHORITIES

Royal visits to Australia were generally administered at both the State and Federal level. The Federal government administered general arrangements and liaison with Buckingham Palace, and it approved programming details and coordinated the state governments' activities. The Federal government also organised the royal tours in the two federal territories, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory.

State government bodies were responsible for coordinating the detail of visits to areas within their jurisdiction, and reported these details to the relevant Commonwealth government authorities. As a result, records associated with royal visits are usually held by both the State and Federal archival authorities. State government records may also hold reports and other information forwarded by the respective state governors to the monarch.

The state archival authority in your area may therefore be a useful place to begin further research. Contact details for all state and territory archival institutions are listed at Appendix 6 to this Guide.

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

The National Library of Australia (NLA) holds a large amount of material relating to particular members of the royal family and the impact of royalty on Australian society. Manuscripts, ephemera, histories, musical items, official records and published works relating to the royal family can be found within the Library's collection. The Library's collection database can be accessed on the Library's Website at www.nla.gov.au. Alternative contact details for the Library are listed at Appendix 6.

The NLA's collection of newspapers is also very extensive and includes most of the major papers from across the country, as well as many of the smaller regional newspapers. Therefore, particularly for news of royal visits, the NLA's newspaper collection can be a very useful source of information.

Another important resource held by the NLA is its collection of personal papers. Many prominent individuals from all spheres of life have donated their papers to the Library and many of these collections contain references to the monarchy. As an example, useful collections include the records of former Australian Governors-General. As the King or Queen's representative, Governors-General had ongoing contact with the monarch and this relationship can be reflected in their personal papers. Examples of some of the records created by former Governors-General which may contain references to the monarchy are:

Lord Hopetoun, 1901-03

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| M1154-M1156 | Papers, including some correspondence with the royal family |
| M1584 | Three albums containing photographs of the State of Victoria, and cuttings, programs, menus and other ephemera on the inauguration of the Commonwealth in January 1901. |

Baron Tennyson, 1903-04

- | | |
|--------|--------------------------------------|
| MS1963 | Papers and correspondence, 1893-1913 |
| MS479 | Papers and correspondence, 1895-1919 |

Baron Northcote, 1904-108

- | | |
|-------|---------------------------------|
| MS590 | Papers and correspondence, 1908 |
|-------|---------------------------------|

Sir Reginald Crawford Munro-Ferguson, 1914-20

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| G1228-G1239 | Papers, including official reports to the King, and correspondence with his private secretaries, 1912-35 |
| G18165 | Letters between Munro-Ferguson and the Secretary of State for the Colonies, 1860-1934 |
| G18984 | Press cuttings concerning the Governor-Generalship of Munro Ferguson, 1914-1922 |

Sir Isaac Isaacs, 1931–36

MS6791 Speech of welcome to the Duke of Gloucester, dated 18 October 1934

Baron Gowrie, 1936–45

G22868–G22909 Personal papers, including 1945 engagement diary, photographs and
note books, 1872–1955

G22914 Memoirs

Duke of Gloucester, 1945–47

MS545 Manuscript appointing the Duke of Gloucester Governor-General and
Commander-in-Chief of Australia, 1944

Sir William McKell, 1947–53

MS1714 Proclamation of accession of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II from the
steps of Parliament House, 8 February 1952

Papers of prominent government officials who may have been involved in the administration of particular royal visits may also be held by the NLA, so it is worth investigating the existence of such collections during the course of your research.

STATE , TERRITORY AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

State, territory and university libraries should generally hold material of a similar nature to that held by the National Library of Australia. Prominent State and territory figures often deposit their papers with these libraries, who also have extensive manuscript, rare book, ephemera and local newspaper collections. The contact details for the State and territory libraries are given at Appendix 6 and details of many university collections are provided at their respective web sites.

OTHER OPTIONS

From oral histories, to family scrap books there are a multitude of other sources of information about the interaction between royalty and Australia. Good luck in tracking them down!

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Hansard

Parliamentary Papers

WEB SITES

The official web site of the British Monarchy

www.royal.gov.uk/

APPENDIX 3 GLOSSARY OF ARCHIVAL TERMS

ANGAM II

ANGAM II is an online computer database which contains details of items held by the National Archives and the Australian War Memorial.

archives

There are three different uses of the term 'archives':

1. Those non-current records that are identified as having enduring value and so are suitable for permanent retention;
2. The place (building/room/storage area) where archival material is kept. Also referred to as a repository;
3. An organisation (or part of an organisation) responsible for the care and control of archival material.

Australian Archives (now the National Archives of Australia)

A Commonwealth government organisation established by the *Archives Act 1983*. Its purpose is to preserve for posterity the most important records created by all Commonwealth government administrations.

case file

A file which deals with a specific action, event, person, place, project or other subject.

citation

In the Archives context, the recording of information about records in a standard format – for example, *NAA: A461, 1953/221* is the standard format for referring to item 1953/221 of series A461.

closed period

As determined by the Archives Act, Commonwealth records are not made available for public access until 30 years has elapsed since the last day of the year in which they were created. For example, records created in 1968 are available after 31 December 1998 (ie from 1 Jan 1999). The period before they are available is referred to as the closed period. See also *open period*.

Commonwealth Record Series (CRS) System

The Commonwealth Record Series (CRS) System is the cataloguing system used to link records with the agencies which created them. A separate registration is prepared for each agency and series and each is given a unique identifying number. These registrations are on the RINSE database.

finding aid

Any descriptive media created by an archival institution to assist staff and users to find records and the information within records. Basic finding aids include guides (general, repository, subject or topical), inventories or registers, location registers, card catalogues, special lists, shelf and box lists, indexes, calendars, and for electronic records, software documentation. The National Archives' primary finding aids are the RINSE and ANGAM II databases.

guide

A finding aid describing archival holdings relating to a particular subject, period, geographical area, record format, or records created by a particular agency.

item

An item is the smallest discrete unit which has been incorporated into a recordkeeping system and forms part of a series. An item may be a group of folios fastened together, such as a file, or a single volume, card, map, plan, photograph, film, sound recording, computer tape or other document which exists as a discrete entity.

item list

A list of items within a series compiled for the purpose of control and information. It usually contains such information as item number, item title, item date range and occasionally, item size. Also referred to as an 'inventory'.

item number

A control symbol allocated by the creator of the record item, for example, file numbers. As far as possible, the control symbol allocated to an item by an agency is retained for archival purposes. In the absence of original control symbols, they may be allocated by the National Archives to enable retrieval.

jacket

Obsolete name for a file.

open period

As determined by the Archives Act, Commonwealth records are made available for public access after 30 years has elapsed since the last day of the year in which they were created. The open period (ie available for public access) begins on the first day of the calendar year after they reach the age of 30 years. For example, records created in 1967 came into the open period after 31 December 1997 (ie from 1 January 1998). Also referred to as the open access period. See also *closed period*.

privacy

The right of living people to be secure from the unauthorised disclosure of, or access to, information contained in records and archives of a private or confidential nature about themselves or their immediate family.

public access

The public right to consult records which are in the open period, ie records more than 30 years old, subject to access examination to identify exempt information.

quantity

A measurement of the amount of records. In the National Archives this is a linear measurement expressed as the number of metres of shelving occupied by the records.

reader's ticket

A numbered pass issued to researchers to facilitate access to reading rooms. Researchers' details are linked to this number, thereby making it possible to create an audit trail and see which records are being used by whom. By signing a reader's ticket the researcher agrees to abide by reading room rules.

reading room

A room or area set aside for the supervised consultation of archives by researchers. In the National Archives there are both public and official reading rooms. Also known as search rooms in other archival institutions.

reference copy

A microfilm or other copy of a record or series made for reference use. The reasons for this may be to enable several copies to be available in different locations or to protect the original copy from damage.

reference service

The facilities and services that enable researchers to use the archives and its records once access to them is approved. This includes assistance in using finding aids, and the provision of facilities to view and copy records.

research agent

A person employed to do research on behalf of another, usually for a fee.

researcher

A person who consults records held by the archives, usually in a reading room. Also referred to as a user.

RINSE

The Records Information Service (RINSE) system is a database which includes CRS System registrations and contains information about:

- all record series in the National Archives custody and Commonwealth records in the custody of the Australian War Memorial;
- the agencies or persons who created or control those series; and
- records still in agency custody.

series

A series consists of a group of records which have resulted from the same accumulation or filing process (with the same numerical, alphabetical, chronological or other identifiable sequence) or which have a similar format or information content. Records in a series are usually kept together because they result from the same activity. Series may include files, indexes, magnetic recordings, photographs, films, plans etc. The series is the basic unit of control used by the National Archives.

top numbering

The renumbering and intersorting of items into a more recent series or their integration into another agency's recordkeeping system.

APPENDIX 4 GUIDES TO THE COLLECTION

Guides in the present series

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| Guide No. 1 | <i>Chinese Immigrants and Chinese-Australians in NSW</i> , written and compiled by Julie Stacker and Peri Stewart, revised 1997. 80pp |
| Guide No. 2 | <i>Aboriginal Deaths in Custody: A Guide to the Records of the Royal Commission, 1987-1991</i> , compiled by Peter Nagle and Richard Summerrell, revised 1997. 92pp |
| Guide No. 3 | <i>The Sinking of HMAS Sydney: A Guide to Commonwealth Government Records</i> , written and compiled by Richard Summerrell. New edition 1997. 192pp |
| Guide No. 4 | <i>Papua New Guinea records 1883-1942: Microfilm Collections</i> , compiled by Peter Nagle, April 1998. 136pp |
| Guide No. 5 | <i>Royalty and Australian Society: Records relating to the British Monarchy held in Canberra</i> , compiled by Kate Cumming, December 1998 |
| Guide No. 6 | <i>Parliament House Canberra, 1927: Records Relating to the Design, Construction and Opening of the Provisional Parliament House</i> , written and compiled by Gay Hogan, 1997. 74pp |
| Guide No. 8 | <i>Collections in Melbourne: A Concise Guide</i> , compiled by Celia Blake, 1998. 76pp |

Forthcoming guides (working titles)

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|--------------|---|
| Guide No. 7 | More People Imperative: Immigration to Australia, 1901-39 |
| Guide No. 9 | Australia in the Boer war |
| Guide No. 10 | Cockatoo Island Dockyard |
| Guide No. 11 | Good British Stock: Child and Youth Migration to Australia, 1901-83 |
| Guide No. 12 | Microfilm Collections in the National Archives |
| Guide No. 13 | Sound Collections held in Sydney |
| Guide No. 14 | World War II War Crimes -The Australian Trials |
| Guide No. 15 | Antipodean Haven: Records of Jewish interest in the National Archives |
| Guide No. 16 | Collections in Perth: A Concise Guide |
| Guide No. 17 | Security Intelligence in Australia, 1946-68 |
| Guide No. 18 | Post-war migration to Australia - Records held in Melbourne |
| Guide No. 19 | Photographic Collections in the National Archives |
| Guide No. 20 | Copyright Collections in the National Archives |
| Guide No. 21 | Australian-Indonesian Relations |
| Guide No. 22 | Royal Commission records |

Other Guides

Finding Families: The Guide to the National Archives of Australia for Genealogists, compiled by Margaret Chambers, The National Archives of Australia in association with Hale and Iremonger, 1998, 344pp.

Federation: The Guide to Records compiled by Stephen Foster, Susan Marsden and Roslyn Russell, Australian Archives, Canberra, 1998, 377pp.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People in Commonwealth Records: A Guide to Records in the Australian Archives ACT Regional Office, compiled by Ros Fraser, AGPS Canberra, 1993, 478pp.

My Heart is Breaking: A Joint Guide to Records about Aboriginal People in the Public Record Office of Victoria and the Australian Archives, Victorian Regional Office, AGPS Canberra, 1993, 191pp.

Kalgoorlie Boulder. A Source Analysis of Records held by Australian Archives, 1993 (A guide to records about Kalgoorlie, published to mark the centenary in 1993 of the discovery of gold), 171pp.

Lighthouses in Australia. A Guide to Records held by the Australian Archives, 1991, 168pp

APPENDIX 5 ADDRESSES AND HOURS OF OPENING

Reading Room Address	Hours of Opening	Extended hours
CANBERRA		
Queen Victoria Terrace Parkes ACT 2600 Tel: (02) 6212 3900 Fax: (02) 6212 3999 e-mail: ref@naa.gov.au PO Box 7425 Canberra Mail Centre ACT 2610 <i>WWI Personnel Records Service</i> PO Box 7425 Canberra Mail Centre ACT 2610 Tel: (02) 6212 3400 Fax: (02) 6212 3499 e-mail: ww1prs@naa.gov.au	9.00am – 4.30pm weekdays. 9.00am – 4.30pm Saturdays The WWI Personnel Records Service is a mail-order service only.	Open until 9.00pm each Tuesday. Items for evening use must be ordered by 6.30pm
SYDNEY		
120 Miller Road Chester Hill NSW 2162 Tel: (02) 9645 0110 Fax: (02) 9645 0108 TTY: (02) 9743 8419 e-mail: refnsw@naa.gov.au PO Locked Bag 4 Chester Hill NSW 2162	9.00am – 4.30pm weekdays.	Will remain open until 5.30pm by prior arrangement only. Limited services only – no new item issues, no payment facilities available.
MELBOURNE		
Melbourne Archives Centre Casselden Place 2 Lonsdale Street Melbourne VIC 3000 Tel: (03) 9285 7999 Fax: (03) 9285 7979 e-mail: refvic@naa.gov.au PO Box 8005 Burwood Heights VIC 3151	9.00am – 4.30pm weekdays. Allow 48 hours for retrieval of items. Reference services are limited during the lunch hour (12.30 – 1.30pm).	The Archives operates a joint reading room with the Public Record Office of Victoria (PRO). Material from both archives may be viewed in the Casselden Place reading room. Different access arrangements and charging regimes apply to PRO material. Information explaining the differences is available in the reading room or can be sent prior to a visit
BRISBANE		
996 Wynnum Road Cannon Hill QLD 4170 Tel: (07) 3249 4202 Fax: (07) 3399 6589 e-mail: refqld@naa.gov.au PO Box 552 Cannon Hill QLD 4170	9.00am – 4.30pm weekdays. Reference services are limited during the lunch hour (12.30 – 1.30pm).	Will remain open until 5.30pm by prior arrangement only.

Reading Room Address	Hours of Opening	Extended hours
PERTH		
384 Berwick Street East Victoria Park WA 6101 Tel: (08) 9470 7500 Fax: (08) 9470 2787 e-mail: refwa@naa.gov.au PO Box 1144 East Victoria Park WA 6981	9.00am – 4.30pm weekdays.	Not available
ADELAIDE		
11-13 D'erlanger Ave Collinswood SA 5081 Tel: (08) 8269 0121 Fax: (08) 8269 3234 e-mail: refsa@naa.gov.au PO Box 119 Walkerville SA 5081	9.00am – 4.30pm weekdays. Reading Room will normally close for lunch (12.30 – 1.30pm), but may remain open by arrangement.	Opening hours may be extended by arrangement, with limited services available.
HOBART		
4 Rosny Hill Road Rosny Park TAS 7018 Tel: (03) 6244 0101 Fax: (03) 6244 6834 e-mail: reftas@naa.gov.au PO Box 510 Rosny Park TAS 7018	9.00am – 4.00pm weekdays. Reading Room will normally close for lunch (12.30 – 1.30pm) but may remain open by arrangement.	Will remain open until 5.00pm by prior arrangement.
DARWIN		
Kelsey Crescent Nightcliff NT 0810 Tel: (08) 8948 4622 Fax: (08) 8948 0276 e-mail: refnt@naa.gov.au PO Box 24 Nightcliff NT 0814	9.00am – 4.00pm weekdays. 10.00am – 4.00pm second Saturday of the month Reading Room will normally close for lunch (12.30 – 1.30pm), but may remain open by arrangement.	Not available.

INTERNET ADDRESSES

The National Archives of Australia home page:

www.naa.gov.au

The Directory of Archives in Australia

www.asap.unimelb.edu.au/asa/directory/

APPENDIX 6 ADDRESSES OF OTHER INSTITUTIONS

NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS HOLDING ARCHIVAL MATERIAL

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDIES The Principal Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Acton House Marcus Clarke Street ACTON ACT 2601 GPO Box 553 CANBERRA ACT 2601 Tel: (02) 6246 1111 Fax: (02) 6249 7310 Internet address: www.aiatsis.gov.au/	AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM The Director Australian National Maritime Museum 2 Murray Street Darling Harbour SYDNEY NSW 2000 GPO Box 5131 SYDNEY NSW 2001 Tel: (02) 9552 7777 Fax: (02) 9552 2318 Internet address: www.anmm.gov.au/	AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL The Director Australian War Memorial Anzac Parade CAMPBELL ACT 2612 GPO Box 345 CANBERRA ACT 2601 Tel: (02) 6243 4315 Fax: (02) 6243 4545 e-mail: info@awm.gov.au Internet address: www.awm.gov.au
NATIONAL FILM & SOUND ARCHIVE The Director National Film and Sound Archive McCoy Circuit ACTON ACT 2601 GPO Box 2002 CANBERRA ACT 2601 Tel: (02) 6209 3091 Fax: (02) 6209 3165 Internet address: www.aa.gov.au/nfsa/nfsa.htm	NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA The Director-General National Library of Australia Parkes Place CANBERRA ACT 2600 Tel: (02) 6262 1111 Fax: (02) 6257 1703 Internet address: www.nla.gov.au/	NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA The Director National Museum of Australia Lady Denman Drive YARRAMUNDI ACT 2600 GPO Box 1901 CANBERRA ACT 2601 Tel: (02) 6256 1111 Fax: (02) 6256 1233 Internet address: www.nma.gov.au/
NOEL BUTLIN ARCHIVES CENTRE The Archives Officer Noel Butlin Archives Centre Australian National University 12 Balmain Crescent ACTON ACT 0200 Tel: (02) 6249 2219 Fax: (02) 6249 0140 e-mail: Emma.Jolley@anu.edu.au Internet address: anulib.anu.edu.au/nbac (Collection includes records of businesses, trade unions and employer bodies and papers of individuals involved in the labour movement and Australian industry)	SOLDIER CAREER MANAGEMENT AGENCY The Commanding Officer Soldier Career Management Agency GPO Box 393 D MELBOURNE VIC 3001 Tel: (03) 9282 7799 Fax: (03) 9282 5018 (For inquiries regarding medal entitlements (all wars) and those who served with the Army in WWII and more recent campaigns. Substantive inquiries must be submitted in writing)	THE AIF PROJECT Department of History University College Australian Defence Force Academy CANBERRA ACT 2600 Fax: (02) 6268 8879 Internet address: e-mail: p-dennis@adfa.oz.au Internet address: www.adfa.oz.au/HISTORY/ (Provides information and certificates from a computerised database of members who served in the First Australian Imperial Force [1st AIF])

Details of other archival institutions in Australia are included in the *Directory of Archives in Australia*, which is available on the Internet at: www.asap.unimelb.edu.au/asa/directory/

STATE AND TERRITORY GOVERNMENT ARCHIVES

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY	NEW SOUTH WALES	NORTHERN TERRITORY	QUEENSLAND
<p>Manager, Registry Department of Public Administration</p> <p>GPO Box 158 CANBERRA ACT 2601 Tel: (02) 6207 5921 Fax: (02) 6207 5800</p>	<p>The Principal Archivist Archives Office of NSW 2 Globe Street The Rocks SYDNEY NSW 2000 Tel: (02) 9237 0254 Fax: (02) 9237 0142 e-mail: aonsw@records.nsw.gov.au Internet address: www.records.nsw.gov.au/</p> <p>Kingswood Search Room 143 O'Connell Street KINGSWOOD NSW 2747 Tel: (02) 9673 1788 Fax: (02) 9673 4518</p>	<p>The Principal Archivist Northern Territory Archives Service 25 Cavenagh Street DARWIN NT 0800</p> <p>GPO Box 874 DARWIN NT 0801 Tel: (08) 8924 7677 Fax: (08) 8924 7660 e-mail: nt.archives@nt.gov.au</p>	<p>The State Archivist Queensland State Archives 435 Compton Road RUNCORN QLD 4113</p> <p>PO Box 1397 SUNNYBANK HILLS QLD 4109 Tel: (07) 3875 8755 Fax: (07) 3875 8764 Internet address: www.archives.qld.gov.au</p>
SOUTH AUSTRALIA	TASMANIA	VICTORIA	WESTERN AUSTRALIA
<p>The Manager State Records</p> <p>PO Box 1056 BLAIR ATHOL WEST SA 5084</p> <p>Reading Room Netley Commercial Park Complex 222 Marion Road NETLEY SA 5037 Tel: (08) 8226 8000 Fax: (08) 8226 8002</p>	<p>The State Archivist Archives Office of Tasmania 77 Murray Street HOBART TAS 7000</p> <p>Tel: (03) 6233 7488 Fax: (03) 6233 7471 e-mail: Archives.Tasmania@central.tased.edu.au Internet address: www.tased.edu.au/ /archives/archives.htm</p>	<p>Director & Keeper of the Public Records Public Record Office Victoria</p> <p>PO Box 1156 SOUTH MELBOURNE VIC 3205</p> <p>Melbourne Archives Centre Casselden Place 2 Lonsdale Street MELBOURNE Tel: (03) 9285 7999 Fax: (03) 9285 7953 e-mail: lavpro@vicnet.net.au Internet address: www.vicnet.net.au/~provic</p> <p>(The PRO also has search rooms at Laverton and Ballarat)</p>	<p>Director Public Records Office Alexander Library Building Perth Cultural Centre PERTH WA 6000</p> <p>Tel: (08) 9427 3360 Fax: (08) 9427 3368 Internet address: www.liswa.wa.gov.au/pro.html</p>

STATE AND TERRITORY LIBRARIES

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY	NEW SOUTH WALES	NORTHERN TERRITORY	QUEENSLAND
<p>Librarian ACT Heritage Library Griffith Library Complex Blaxland Crescent GRIFFITH ACT 2603</p> <p>Tel: (02) 6207 5724 Internet Address: www.austouch.gov.au/html/13/2.html</p> <p>(Please phone prior to visit)</p>	<p>The State Librarian State Library of NSW Macquarie Street SYDNEY NSW 2000</p> <p>Tel: (02) 9273 1414 Fax: (02) 9223 4086 Internet address: www.sl.nsw.gov.au</p>	<p>The Manager Northern Territory Library Parliament House DARWIN NT 0800</p> <p>GPO Box 42 DARWIN NT 0801 Tel: (08) 8999 7177 Fax: (08) 8941 1375 Internet address: www.nt.gov.au/ntl/</p>	<p>The State Librarian State Library of Queensland Qld Cultural Centre SOUTH BANK QLD 4000</p> <p>PO Box 3488 STH BRISBANE QLD 4101 Tel: (07) 3840 7666 Fax: (07) 3846 2421 Internet Address: www.slq.qld.gov.au/state.htm</p>
SOUTH AUSTRALIA	TASMANIA	VICTORIA	WESTERN AUSTRALIA
<p>The Director State Library of South Australia North Terrace ADELAIDE SA 5000</p> <p>GPO Box 419 ADELAIDE SA 5001 Tel: (08) 8207 7200 Fax: (08) 8207 7247 Internet address: dino.slsa.sa.gov.au/sagov/</p>	<p>The Director, Library Services State Library of Tasmania 91 Murray Street HOBART TAS 7000</p> <p>Tel: (03) 6233 7458 Fax: (03) 6231 0927 Internet address: www.tased.edu.au/library/ library.htm</p>	<p>The Director State Library of Victoria 328 Swanston Street MELBOURNE VIC 3000</p> <p>Tel: (03) 9669 9824 Fax: (03) 9669 9907 Internet address: www.slv.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>The Chief Executive Officer and State Librarian Library & Information Service of WA Alexander Library Building Perth Cultural Centre PERTH WA 6000</p> <p>Tel: (08) 9427 3111 Fax: (08) 9427 3256 Internet address: www.liswa.wa.gov.au/</p>

NOTES

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- ⁴³ Parliamentary Papers, Volume II, Session 1926-27-28, p.1198
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⁸⁶ *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 4 February 1954, p.1
⁸⁷ *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 4 February 1954, p.10
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⁹⁰ Prime Minister's press statement dated 22 March 1954. NAA: A462, 825/14/48
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