



# Journal of Vexillology

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## FLAGS of the ROYALS

Following the untimely death of Lady Diana, Princess of Wales on August 30, 1997, a number of vexillological questions were directed to the editor of this journal. At first, the questions revolved around the flag that covered the casket when Lady Diana's body was returned to England and, later, during the funeral. Shortly after that, other questions regarding the flags of some of the other members of the British Royal Family were raised. As a result, your editor began researching these flags and presents his findings herein.

The flag that covered Diana's coffin was that of "the other members of the Royal Family." This flag is used by those members of the family that have not been granted their own differenced royal arms. Prior to her divorce from Prince Charles, Diana flew a standard that consisted of the

Prince's arms impaled with the Spencer arms, quarterly Argent and Gules, in the 2nd and 3rd quarters a fret Or, over all a bend Sable bear-



*Diana's casket being taken to her funeral service. Note the shape of the ermine spot.*

ing three shells Or. The Spencer arms formed a quartering of Sir Winston Churchill's standard since his mother was a Spencer.

Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother also flies an impaled standard. Since she was the wife of a King and is the mother of a Queen, she impales the Royal Standard with the arms of her family, Bowes-Lyon. These arms, of a type known as "canting" arms since the names of the emblems are the same as those of the family, are quarterly in the 1st and 4th, Argent a lion rampant Azure armed Gules within a double tressure fleury-counter-fleury of the second; in the 2nd and 3rd quarters, Ermine, three bows stringed Proper.

Elizabeth II Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland flies the Royal Standard as her personal flag in most cases. An armorial banner, the Standard's four quarters bear the arms of England (in the first and fourth quarters), Scotland (second quarter) and Ireland (third quarter). It is used to represent Queen Elizabeth II throughout the United Kingdom and its dependencies, in all non-Commonwealth countries, and sometimes in the dominions.

The proportions of the Royal Standard at sea are always 3:5; on land

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### NEW MEMBERS SINCE 6/15/97

Paul Eno  
645 Fairmount St  
Woonsocket RI 02895  
PaulEno@aol.com

Roy Hamby  
PO Box 782  
Blairsville GA 30514  
(706) 745-5999

Scott Mainwaring  
400 Hill St  
San Francisco CA 94114-2919  
(415) 206-1754  
mainwaring@acm.org

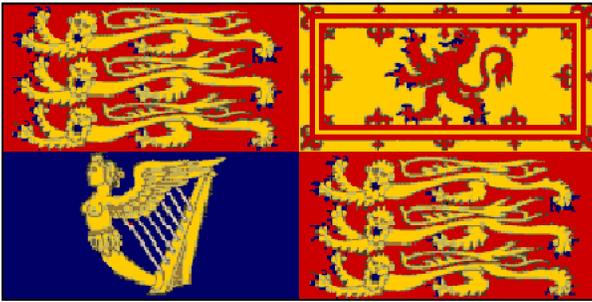
Edgar Malpass  
529 Gloria Dr  
Chesapeake VA 23322  
(757) 482-0189 [home] 579-5515 [work]  
fami29e@prodigy.com

*A complete listing of all NEVA members will be distributed at the 11/2 Meeting.*

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# FLAGS of



The Royal Standard of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Presently the personal standard of HM Queen Elizabeth II.

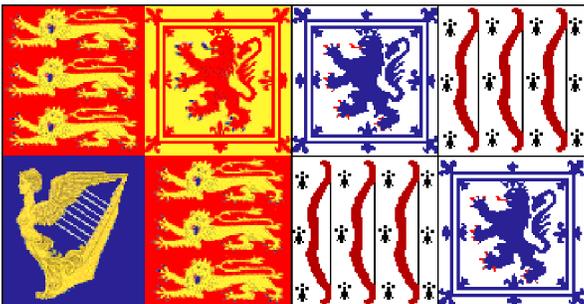
The Royal Standard of HRH the Prince of Wales.



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they are usually 1:2 but the automobile and the largest "ceremonial size" are 2:3. It is assumed by the author that the same proportions are used for the flags of the other members of the Royal Family. In addition, since heraldic blazons are not an exact description of a design, there have been slight variations in the exact design details in these flags at various times. The Royal Standard of Great Britain forms the basis for most of the flags of the Royal Family.

Prince Philip, Baron of Greenwich, Earl of Merioneth and Duke of Edinburgh; Consort of Queen Elizabeth II flies a personal flag that is quarterly, 1st the arms of Denmark, 2nd Greece, 3rd Mountbatten, and 4th Edinburgh. Philip was born in Greece and is a descendent of the Royal Families

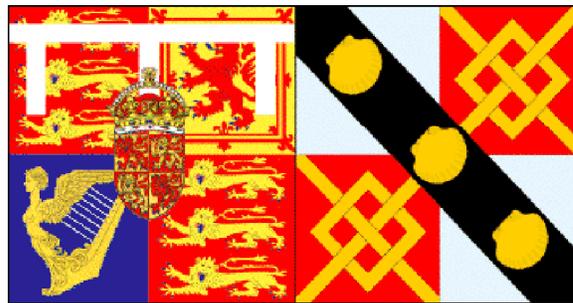


of Wales. Emblems of all of these are the Royal Arms (as used in the Royal Standard) with a differencing, that is, one of the traditional marks of "cadency." Marks of cadency are determined and granted for life to the individual by Royal Warrant (from the 19th century, members of the Royal family do not have arms until assigned to them, and these arms are not necessarily inheritable). Elizabeth has granted labels of 3 points to her children and labels of 5 points to her cousins (grandchildren of George V). She has not yet made grants to her grandchildren.

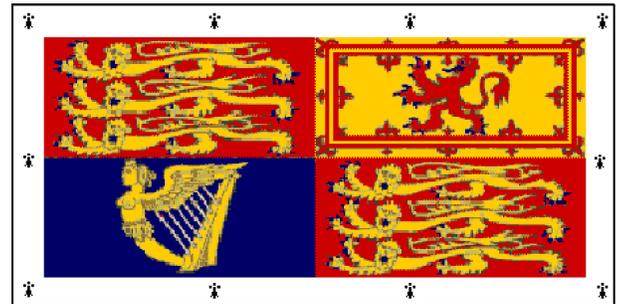
The heir apparent bears a label of three points argent, and his eldest son traditionally bears the same with a cross gules on the center label. Other children of the sovereign (male and female, whereas females did not use to bear marks of cadency) bear labels of three points argent with various charges, while grandchildren of the sovereign receive labels of five points.

By Royal Warrant dated 24 Feb. 1975, the labels assigned to a grandchild of a sovereign, except the eldest son of a Prince

(Below) The personal standard of HRH Diana, Princess of Wales prior to her divorce from Prince Charles.



(Below, right) The standard of the "other members of the Royal Family" who do not have distinctive flags of their own. This is the flag that covered Diana's coffin.



(Left) The personal standard of HM Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother showing the "canting" arms of the Bowes-Lyon family.

of Greece and Denmark as well as being a descendent of Queen Victoria.

Members of the royal family are officially, since 1917: the children of the sovereign, children of the sovereign's sons, and the eldest son of the eldest son of the Prince

of Wales, became hereditary and are borne as part of the arms together with ordinary marks of difference when appropriate.

These labels form the principal design differences between the flags of individual members of the Royal

Information on these flags is derived from The Flag Bulletin, Vol. XXVII:4, *Flags of the World* by I.O. Evans, *The International Flag Book* by Christian Fogd Pedersen, *The Flag Book* by Preben Kannik and Internet Web Sites, particularly the British Monarchy Site and the Marks of Cadency site.

# the ROYALS

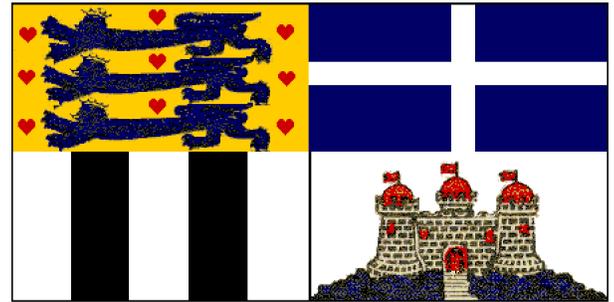
Family. The designs are as follows:

## CHILDREN OF THE SOVEREIGN

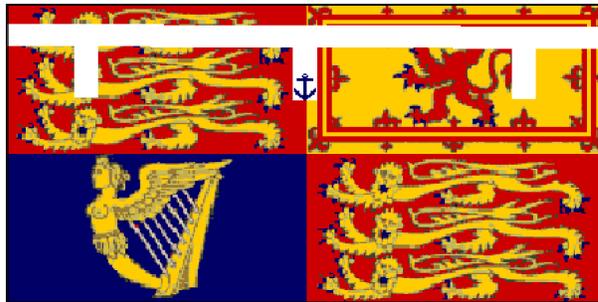
Prince Charles, Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, Duke of Rothesay, Earl of Carrick, Baron Renfrew, Lord of the Isles, Great Steward of Scotland, Knight of the Garter — the Royal Standard with a white label and the crowned arms of Wales placed on an inescutcheon in the center. The Prince of Wales has a distinctive personal flag for use in Wales and another for use in Scotland, the former being a banner of the arms of Wales with a green shield bearing a crown in the center and the latter being a banner of the arms for his Dukedom of Rothesay and Lordship of the Isles. The heir apparent is also entitled to bear this Scottish coat (differenced by a label azure) as an escutcheon on his Scottish arms and banner, as registered in Lyon Register.

Prince Andrew, Duke of York — the Royal Standard with a white label bearing a blue anchor on the center point.

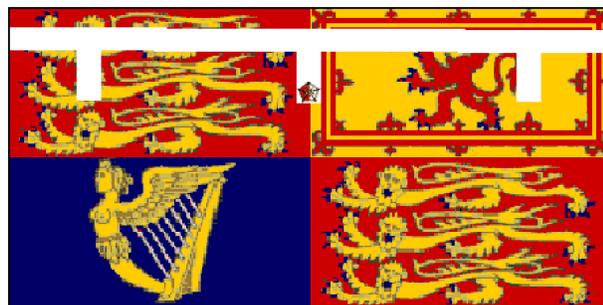
Prince Edward — the Royal Standard with a white label bearing a rose that is half red and half white on the center point.



*The personal standard of Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh.*



*The personal standard of Prince Andrew, the Duke of York.*



*The personal standard of Prince Edward.*

## QUEEN ELIZABETH'S SISTER

Princess Margaret, Countess Snowden — the Royal Standard with a white label bearing a red Tudor rose on the outer points and the Scottish Thistle on the center point.

## THE QUEEN'S COUSINS

The differencing of the Royal Arms for the Queen's Cousins is a five-pointed label bearing emblems on each point as follows:

Richard, Duke of Gloucester — the Royal Standard with a white label bearing a red lion, a St. George's cross, a red lion, a St. George's cross, and a red lion.

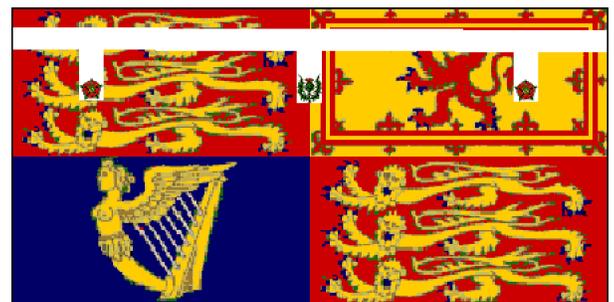
Edward, Duke of Kent — the Royal Standard with a white label bearing a blue anchor, a St. George's cross, a blue anchor, a St. George's cross, and a blue anchor.

*(Below) The personal standard of Princess Anne, the Princess Royal.*



Princess Anne, Princess Royal — the Royal Standard with a white label bearing a red St. George's Cross on the outer points and a red heart on the center point.

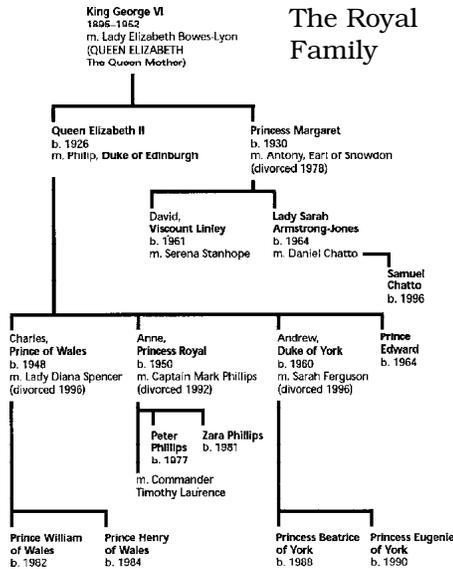
*(Right) The personal standard of Princess Margaret, Countess Snowden.*



Prince Michael — the Royal Standard with a white label bearing a St. George's cross, a blue anchor, a St. George's cross, a blue anchor, and a St. George's cross. Note this is the exact opposite arrangement of the same

emblems as the Duke of Kent, his brother. Their father, George, Duke of Kent bore a label of three points, since he was the younger son of King George V, bearing two blue anchors and a St. George's Cross.

Princess Alexandra, Lady Ogilvy (sister of the Duke of Kent) — the Royal Standard with a white label bearing a red heart, a blue anchor, a St. George's cross, a blue anchor, and a red heart



### SUCCESSION

The Act of Settlement 1700 laid down that only Protestant descendants of Princess Sophia - the Electress of Hanover, granddaughter of James I - are eligible to succeed. Subsequent Acts have confirmed this.

Sons of the sovereign and their descendants have precedence over daughters in succeeding to the Throne. Daughters take precedence over the sovereign's brothers. When a daughter succeeds, she becomes

Queen Regnant and has the same powers as a king.

Current order of succession to the Throne:

- The Prince of Wales
- Prince William of Wales
- Prince Henry of Wales
- The Duke of York
- Princess Beatrice of York
- Princess Eugenie of York
- The Prince Edward
- The Princess Royal
- Peter Phillips
- Zara Phillips

## NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

The November meeting of NEVA will be held at **1:00 p.m.** on **Sunday, November 2nd, 1997** at the **People's Institute** on Gothic Street in Northampton, Massachusetts. Please note this building is behind the Police Station. Gothic Street is off Main Street, near downtown Northampton. See map.

Jim Croft says "One might want to eat at Sylvester's Restaurant near the Chamber of Commerce for breakfast or

lunch, although it can be busy at times. Thorn's Market (150 Main St.) has a vegetarian restaurant."

To get to Northampton take the Mass. Pike to North 91, then take Exit 18, turn left at ramp onto Pleasant Street (State Route 5), follow into town.

Call Dave at 845-2857 (or email [dbm@vexillopolis.com](mailto:dbm@vexillopolis.com)) if you need a ride. He will see if he can find someone from your area to share with.

The **New England Journal of Vexillology** is published irregularly by the New England Vexillological Association, Dave Martucci, Editor. Annual membership dues in NEVA is \$10 for a single class of membership and this fee includes a subscription to the *Journal*. In addition to the print version, there is an online edition of the *Journal* found at URL <http://www.midcoast.com/~martucci/neva/nejv.html>. The editor can be contacted by writing to:

**David Martucci**  
**240 Calderwood Rd**  
**Washington ME 04574-3440**  
 or by phone: **(207) 845-2857**  
 or by email to:  
**[martucci@midcoast.com](mailto:martucci@midcoast.com)**

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