# THE QUEEN and the Business of Monarchy

The Queen is one of the most recognised¹ people in the world, but apart from² being a figurehead³ and PR agent for Britain PLC⁴, what is her role and how much of the monarchy's fortune is her own private wealth⁵? Janet Sandford peruses⁶ the books⁻.

### **Constitutional Monarchy**

Queen Elizabeth II is the 40th British monarch since William the Conqueror® in 1066. Over the course of nearly 1,000 years, the monarchy has acquired® dozens of castles, thousands of acres of land, prime real estate® and priceless works of art® and artefacts®. However, not all the goodies® at her disposal® are hers to sell, so don't expect to find her at a summer day's car boot® sale in the gardens of Buckingham Palace, selling off® the surplus® silverware®.

The Queen's relationship with her property and riches runs a parallel course to<sup>19</sup> the country's system of governance<sup>20</sup>. Britain is a constitutional monarchy, which gives the Queen a role as Head of State<sup>21</sup>. After elections, the would-be<sup>22</sup> prime minister has to wait to be invited by the Queen to Buckingham Palace and asked if they are able and willing<sup>23</sup> to form a government. Teresa May is the thirteenth prime minister with whom the Queen has held an audience<sup>24</sup>, the first being Winston Churchill. Although only Parliament<sup>25</sup> can introduce

- ¹ recognised 'rekagnazzd rozpoznawalny, znany
- <sup>2</sup> apart from sth ə'pa:t frəm 'sʌmθɪŋ poza czymś, oprócz
- <sup>3</sup> figurehead 'figəhed symboliczny przywódca
- 4 PLC (public limited company) "pi: el 'si: 'pʌblɪk 'lɪmɪtɪd 'kʌmpəni S.A., spółka akcyjna (UK)
- <sup>5</sup> wealth welθ majątek, bogactwo
- to peruse sth tə pəˈruːz ˈsʌmθɪŋ przestudiować coś, przejrzeć
- <sup>7</sup> the books ŏə boks księgi, księgowość
- 8 conqueror 'koŋkərə(r) zdobywca

- o to acquire tu əˈkwaɪə(r) nabyć
- prime real estate praim riəl i'steit pierwszorzędna nieruchomość
- 11 work of art 'wa:k əv a:t dzieło sztuki
- 12 artefact 'a:tɪfækt artefakt
- <sup>13</sup> goodies 'godiz tu: rzeczy, przedmioty (które ktoś ma) (pot.)
- 14 at sb's disposal ət 'snmbədiz dr'spənzl do czyjejś dyspozycji
- 15 car boot ka:(r) but bagażnik auta (pot., UK)
- 16 to sell off to sel of wyprzedawać
- 17 surplus 's3:pləs nadmiar, nadwyżka
- 18 silverware 'sɪlvəweə(r) srebro stołowe

- to run a parallel course to sth to ran
  o 'pærolel ko:s to 'sλmθιη mieć podobny
  tok/przebieg do czegoś
- governance 'gʌvənəns rządy (czyjeś/ ogólnie)
- 21 head of state hed av stert głowa państwa
- <sup>22</sup> would-be wod bi potencjalny, niedoszły (tylko przed rzeczownikiem)
- <sup>23</sup> able and willing 'eibl and 'wiling do ustug, gotowy do działania
- <sup>24</sup> audience 'p:dians czytelnicy, widownia, słuchacze
- 25 parliament 'pa:ləmənt parlament

In addition, Amazon ought to be watchful<sup>150</sup> of the political climates in their potential future homes. Eleven of the shortlisted cities lack any LGBT<sup>151</sup> non-discrimination<sup>152</sup> laws. Amazon has championed<sup>153</sup> LGBT causes in the past, so numerous activists believe Amazon should avoid such locations altogether, or risk ruining its image.

### An Unprecedented 154 Move

The hype¹55 surrounding Amazon's impending¹56 enlargement is keeping many on pins and needles¹57. The company's decision will not only change thousands, if not millions, of lives, but it will also reshape¹50 the landscape¹50 of one lucky city for decades to come. Will Amazon's move usher in¹50 an era of prosperity for some fortunate¹61 town out there? The world awaits Amazon's verdict³52. ■

transgendered) "el dʒi: bi: 'ti: 'lezbɪən ger "bar'sekʃʊəl ənd trænz'dʒendəd społeczność mniejszości seksualnych LGBT (lesbijek, gejów, osób biseksualnych i transseksualistów)

- non-discrimination npn ,dr,skrrmə'nerfən niedyskryminujący (wobec kogoś)
- 153 to champion sth tə 'tʃæmpɪən 'sʌmθɪŋ opowiadać sie za czymś
- unprecedented nn'presidentid bezprecedensowy
- 155 hype hazp rozreklamowanie, szum medialny (wokół czegoś, co ma wyjść)
- impending im'pendin nieuchronnie zbliżający się, nadchodzący
- on pins and needles on pinz and 'ni:diz caty jak na szpilkach, w nerwach
- to reshape to ri: 'feɪp odmienić, zmienić kształt
- 159 landscape 'lændskerp krajobraz, pejzaż
- to usher sth in tu 'λ∫ə(r) 'sʌmθɪŋ ɪn wprowadzić coś (np. nową erę)
- 161 fortunate 'fɔ:tʃənət szczęśliwy, mający szczęście/dostatek
- 162 verdict 'v3:dikt wyrok

<sup>150</sup> watchful 'wotffl uważny, czujny

<sup>151</sup> LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and

### THE QUEEN IS OFTEN CONSIDERED TO BE BRITAIN'S CHIEF PRODUCT AMBASSADOR.

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new legislation26, the government's plans must be read out each year by HRH27 in the Queen's Speech, which is written in advance28 for her, and is one of the rare occasions on which she is allowed to enter Parliament. An obligatory29 and elaborate30 entrance ceremony takes place and she reads the speech in royal regalia31 replete with32 the crown. The prime minister of the day33 is obliged to34 attend regular meetings with the Queen to brief her about35 current political events, although having met hundreds if not thousands of presidents and prime ministers from all over the world, she's fully au fait36 with global politics, which she can discuss in English or fluent<sup>37</sup> French. Officially, she is commander-in-chief38 of the British Armed Forces39, but these days, monarchs defer to40 the military leaders, although protocol would ensure41 that she is informed and consulted on42 the most important matters.

### The Royal P & L Account

The Queen is often considered to be Britain's chief<sup>43</sup> product ambassador, not only smoothing the way<sup>44</sup> geopolitically, through state visits, but representing the brand and promoting British business. For many tourists, a visit to Britain is not complete without watching the changing of the guard<sup>45</sup> at Buckingham Palace, a visit to see the Crown Jewels<sup>46</sup> at the Tower of London or a walk around Windsor Castle, and, with any luck<sup>47</sup>, catch a glimpse of<sup>48</sup> Her Majesty or one of the media-friendly



younger royals. These members, it's believed, also have an economic influence<sup>45</sup>, not only through tourism, but in the upturn<sup>50</sup> in babies' and children's clothes following the birth of a new royal baby. One of Catherine Middleton's 'out and about<sup>51</sup>' walks in a beige Burberry coat resulted in<sup>52</sup> a 300 percent increase in sales of a similar design at Asda. So the royals have some pulling power<sup>53</sup>, but on the other hand, all of those properties and staff must take millions to maintain. How do we know if we are making a net profit on<sup>54</sup> the monarchy?

Since 2012, the consultancy Brand Finance has been producing detailed<sup>55</sup> annual<sup>56</sup> reports to answer just this question.

- 26 legislation ledgis leifən ustawodawstwo
- THRH (Her Royal Highness) ,ettʃ a:(r) 'ettʃ hə(r) 'rotəl 'hətəs Jej Królewska Wysokość
- 28 in advance in advans zawczasu
- 29 obligatory ə'bligətri obowiązkowy
- 30 elaborate I'læbərət skomplikowany, wyszukany
- <sup>31</sup> royal regalia 'rɔɪəl rɪ'geɪlɪə regalia królewskie
- 32 replete with sth rɪ'pli:t wiö 'sʌmθɪŋ w komplecie z czymś
- 33 X of the day əv ŏə der X danego okresu/ obowiązujący (rządzący) w danym czasie
- 34 obliged to do sth əˈblaɪdʒd tə du ˈsʌmθɪŋ zobligowany do zrobienia czegoś
- 35 to brief sb about sth tə bri:f 'sʌmbədi ə'baʊt 'sʌmθɪŋ objaśnić komuś coś, poinstruować kogoś o czymś
- $^{36}$  au fait (with sth) ,əv 'fer wið 'sʌmθɪŋ

- kompletnie w czymś zorientowany, doskonale się na czymś znający (franc.)
- <sup>37</sup> fluent 'flu:ant biegle mówiący (w danym języku)
- 38 commander-in-chief kəˈmɑːndə(r) ın tʃiːf wódz naczelny, głównodowodzący
- 39 armed forces a:md 'fo:siz siły zbrojne
- 40 to defer to sb tə dɪ'fɜ:(r) tə 'sʌmbədi zdać się na kogoś
- 41 to ensure tu ɪnˈʃʊə(r) zapewnić, upewnić się
- <sup>42</sup> to consult sb on sth tə kən'sʌit 'sʌmbədi ɒn 'sʌmθɪŋ skonsultować z kimś jakaś kwestię
- 43 chief tfi:f główny
- 44 to smooth the way to smu:ð őo 'weɪ ułatwić (coś), utorować drogę (czemuś)
- 45 the changing of the guard őə 'tʃeɪndʒɪŋ əv őə ga:d zmiana warty
- 46 Crown Jewels kraun 'dzu:əiz Klejnoty Koronne (UK)
- 47 with any luck... wið 'eni lak jeśli dopisze szczeście...
- 40 to catch a glimpse of sb to kætʃ o glimps ov 'sʌmbədi dostrzec kogoś (mimochodem, katem oka)
- 49 influence 'Influenc wpływ
- 50 upturn 'Apt3:n trend zwyżkowy
- 51 out and about aut and a baut tu: na spacerze
- 52 to result in sth tə rɪ'zʌlt ɪn 'sʌmθɪŋ poskutkować czymś
- 53 pulling power ρυίξη 'paʊə(r) siła przyciągania, atrakcyjność
- 64 to make a net profit on sth to 'merk o net 'profit on 'samθin zarobić na czymś na czysto
- 55 detailed 'di:terld szczegółowy
- 56 annual 'ænjuəl roczny

The 2017 report throws up<sup>57</sup> some fascinating statistics. To put a number on the royal contribution to<sup>58</sup> the British economy, Brand Finance give the figure<sup>59</sup> as being around GBP 1.8 bln. While you might suppose that's primarily<sup>60</sup> trade and tourism, you'd be wrong, and there are some other surprising income streams<sup>61</sup>. The Crown Estate<sup>62</sup>, which includes properties and other tangible assets<sup>63</sup> such as jewellery, paintings and works of art were the biggest contributor, which, as well as bringing in<sup>64</sup> revenue, increase in value each year. See Table 1

Royal Warrants of Appointment have been issued by the Crown for hundreds of years and are awarded to official suppliers68 to the royal family, and thus69 add prestige70 and value to their brand. Currently, there are 816 warrant holders and a lengthy, rigorous71 application process. These days, royal warrants and other endorsements72 such as coats of arms73, support for the Royal Opera, creative and sporting activities, jointly74 drop in over GBP 400 mln a year to the Crown coffers75. The Royals are raking it in 76 for the country, but not for free. Costs, such as the upkeep77 of residencies, payment of staff and grub78 for banquets79 all have to be paid. However, the biggest single expense is on security, which amounts to a whopping a whopping

- 57 to throw sth up tə 'θrəʊ 'sʌmθɪŋ ʌp przynieść coś, uwidocznić
- contribution to sth ,kpntrr'bju:ʃn tə ˈsʌmθɪŋ przyczynek do czegoś, wkład w coś
- 59 figure 'fɪgə(r) liczba, statystyka
- 60 primarily 'prazmarali przeważnie, głównie
- <sup>61</sup> income stream 'ɪŋkʌm striːm źródło dochodu
- estate I'steit posiadłość (w tym budynek), majątek (np. ziemski)
- \*\* tangible assets 'tændʒəbi 'æsets aktywa materialne
- to bring sth in tə brɪŋ ˈsʌmθɪŋ ɪn sprowadzić coś
- 65 Royal Warrant of Appointment 'rɔiəl 'worent ev e'pɔɪntment dyplom dostawcy królewskiego, patent liweranta dworskiego (UK)
- 66 to issue sth tu 'ɪʃu: ˈsʌmθɪŋ wydać coś, wyemitować
- 67 to award sth to sb tu əˈwɔːd ˈsʌmθɪŋ tə ˈsʌmbədi przyznawać coś komuś, przydzielać
- supplier səˈplaɪə(r) dostawca, dostarczający zaopatrzenie/usługi
- 69 thus ÕAS zatem, tym samym
- 70 prestige pre'sti:3 prestiż

### TABLE 1

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	GBP MLN	ANNUAL COST	GBP MLN
Crown estate surplus	328.8	Sovereign grant	42.8
Royal warrants	193.3	Annuity <sup>165</sup> of the Duke of Edinburgh	0.4
Coats of arms	19.3	Duchy of Lancaster lost capital income	24.0
Tourism	550.0	Duchy of Lancaster lost revenue income	19.1
Trade	150.0	Duchy of Cornwall lost capital income <sup>166</sup>	20.5
Media industry and arts	50.0	Duchy of Cornwall lost revenue income	16.6
Royal patronage	150.0	Royal collection net surplus	2.6
Informal endorsements	200.0	Security	106.0
Global press coverage	125.0	State buildings used by the royal family	30.0
		Costs met by local councils	22.2
		Costs met by the UK government	3.8
		Royal household pension scheme <sup>167</sup>	2.3
		Cost of Lord Lieutenants <sup>168</sup>	2.2
		Legal costs to maintain Royal secrecy	0.2

Source: Brand Finance report 2017

- 165 annuity ə'nju:əti renta roczna
- 186 capital income 'kæpɪtəl 'ɪŋkʌm dochód/dochody kapitałowe
- 167 pension scheme 'penjn ski:m system emerytalny
- 168 Lord Lieutenant ib:d lef'tenant przedstawiciel korony w hrabstwie (UK)
- rigorous 'rigoros rygorystyczny, drobiazgowy
- readorsement in docsment lansowanie, promowanie (produktu)
- 73 coat of arms 'kəʊt əv ɑ:mz herb, tarcza herbowa
- <sup>74</sup> jointly 'dʒɔɪntli wspólnie, razem
- 75 coffers 'kpfəz finanse (spółki, organizacji), kasa
- 76 to be raking it in tə bi 'reɪkɪŋ ɪt ɪn zarabiać

### kokosy, zgarniać kupę kasy (pot.)

- 77 upkeep 'лркі:p utrzymanie
- 78 grub grab żarełko (pot.)
- 79 banquet 'bænkwit bankiet
- 80 expense Ik'spens koszt
- \*1 to amount to X tu əˈmaʊnt tə wynieść X, łącznie stanowić X
- whopping 'wopin gigantyczny (tylko przed rzeczownikiem) (pot.)

### **BEM TEST**

### ? Amazing Adjectives

Match the adjectives from the article with their definitions.

1	would-be	A	extremely thorough¹ and careful
2	obligatory	В	promising, hopeful <sup>2</sup>
3	elaborate	C	involving many details, complicated in planning
4	au fait	D	compulsory <sup>3</sup>
5	beige	E	evoking4 admiration5
6	tangible	F	representatively symbolic of something
7	rigorous	G	having a good knowledge of something
8	whopping	Н	staggering <sup>7</sup>
9	stunning	ı	desiring <sup>®</sup> to be a specific type of person
10	impressive -	J	a pale, sandy colour
11	iconic	К	very large
12	rosy	L	clear and definite10
		the state of the s	

- 1 thorough 'OAFO dokładny
- <sup>2</sup> hopeful 'həʊpfl pelen nadziei, optymistyczny
- s compulsory kam'palsari obowiązkowy, obligatoryjny
- 4 to evoke sth tu r'vauk 'sAmθin wywoływać coś (np. jakieś uczucie), przywoływać coś (np. na myśl)
- admiration ,ædməˈreɪʃn podziw

- symbolic of X sim'bblik əv bedaçy symbolem/symbolicznym (wyrazem) czegoś
- staggering 'stægərin olbrzymi, oszałamiający
- \* to desire sth tə dɪˈzaɪə(r) ˈsʌmθɪŋ pożądać czegoś, pragnąć
- 9 pale per blady
- 10 definite 'definat zdecydowany

### **Answers:**

8'K' 6'H' 10'E' 11'E' 15'B

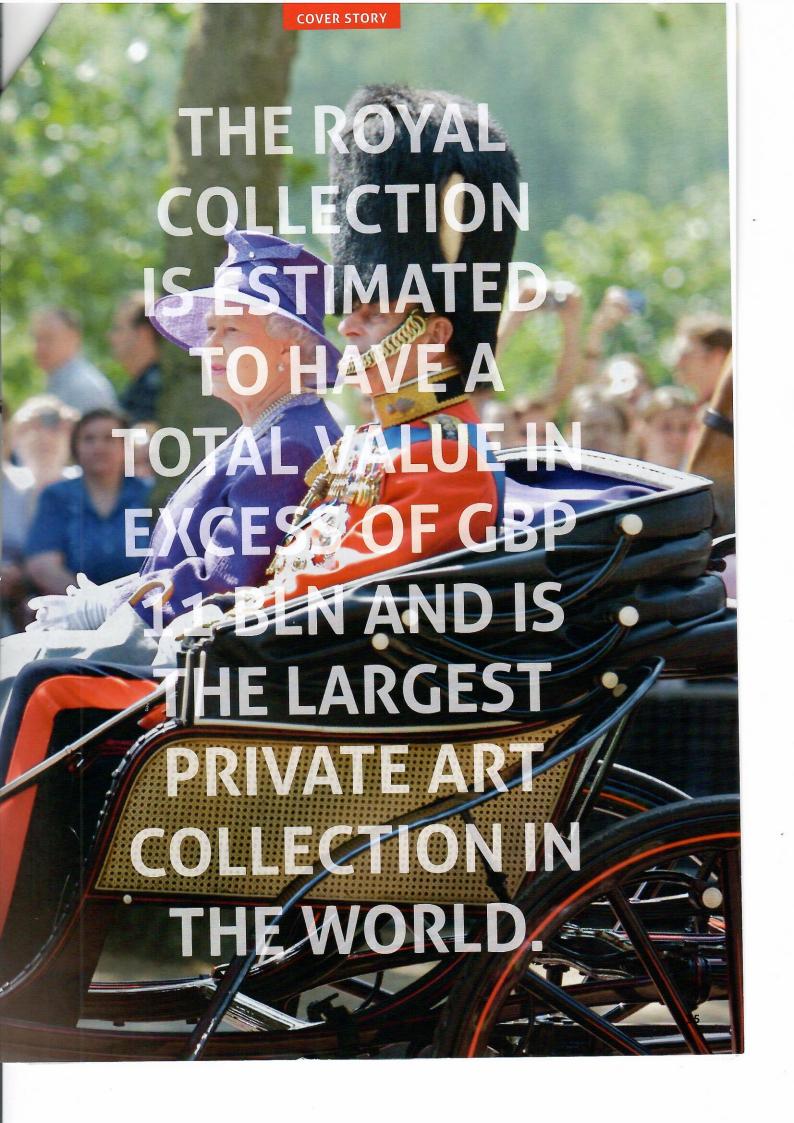
- to class sth as sth tə klq:s 'sʌmθɪŋ əz 'sʌmθɪŋ sklasyfikować coś jako coś
- aka (also known as) "ei kei 'ei 'ɔ:ˈsəʊ nəʊn əz znany również jako
- 85 sovereign 'spyran niepodległy, niezależny
- \*\* execution of one's duties <code>.eksr'kju:fn</code> av wwnz 'dju:tɪz wykonywanie swoich obowiązków
- \*\* HRM (Her Royal Majesty) ettf a:(r) em hə(r)
  'rɔɪəl 'mædʒəsti Jej Królewska Mość
- s rebate 'ri:beit zwrot (np. podatku), obniżka
- \*\* to constitute sth tə ˈkɒnstɪtjuːt ˈsʌmθɪŋ stanowić coś
- •• to break sth down to breik 'sʌmθiŋ dawn rozbijać coś (na elementy), rozpisać

GBP 100 mln a year. Then, there's what might be classed as one's wages, akas sovereign frants. That's the money paid to the Queen and some other members of the royal family in the execution of their duties. This figure used to be calculated at 15 percent of the annual surplus generated by the Crown Estate but has now been raised to 25 percent for the next 10 years. This resulted in HRMs getting a rebates on her contribution of GBP 42.8 mln for 2016/2017. Does that constitutes good value? Brand Finance reckons it does, and breaks it downs to an annual cost per citizen of GBP 4.50, or just a penny a day.

### The Balance Sheet91

Nonetheless, there's no denying that<sup>92</sup> the British monarchy, when assessed<sup>93</sup> as a business is truly wealthy. The report puts its total value at GBP 67.5 bln, made up of GBP 25.5 bln of tangible assets and the remainder<sup>94</sup> intangible<sup>95</sup>. It's said that if the British monarchy were a private business, it would be one of the biggest brands in the world, but we shouldn't confuse national treasures with<sup>96</sup> private wealth. Technically speaking, as the reigning<sup>97</sup> monarch, she owns everything she presides over<sup>98</sup>, but she is not at liberty to<sup>90</sup> sell any of the assets under her command and is merely<sup>100</sup> the custodian<sup>101</sup> of them for future generations

- balance sheet 'bælans fi:t zestawienie bilansowe, bilans
- there's no denying that... ŏeəz nəu dı'naıŋ ŏæt nie da się zaprzeczyć, że...
- 93 to assess sth tu əˈses ˈsʌmθɪŋ ocenić coś
- remainder rɪˈmeɪndə(r) reszta, pozostała część
- intangible in'tændʒəbl nieuchwytny, niematerialny
- \*\* to confuse sth with sth tə kən'fju:z 'sʌmθɪŋ wiŏ 'sʌmθɪŋ pomylić coś z czymś
- 97 reigning 'reinin rządzący
- \*\* to preside over sth tə pri'zaid 'əʊvə(r) 'sʌmθiŋ przewodniczyć czemuś (np. zebraniu)
- at liberty to do sth ət 'libəti tə du 'sʌmθɪŋ mający możliwość/pozwolenie na zrobienie czegoś
- 100 merely 'mɪəli ledwie, wyłącznie
- 101 custodian ka'stərdiən opiekun



and the nation. That said, there is a stunning 102 list of assets on the balance sheet.

First and foremost<sup>103</sup> is the Royal Collection, which is estimated to have a total value in excess of<sup>104</sup> GBP 11 bln and is the largest private art collection in the world. The portfolio of 1 million plus items includes over 7,000 paintings, 30,000 watercolours<sup>105</sup> and drawings, 500,000 prints, photographs, sculptures<sup>106</sup>, tapestries<sup>107</sup>, furniture, cars, clocks, instruments, books, and last but not least<sup>108</sup>, the Crown Jewels.

That's just the indoors<sup>100</sup>. Now we get on to real estate, where the land and property portfolio comprises<sup>110</sup>, among others (and we really need to stress that this is just a smattering<sup>111</sup>):

- Hundreds of farms situated on 106,000 acres of Crown property land
- 11,000 hectares of forests, including historic ancient<sup>412</sup> woodland
- Fishing and gold mining<sup>113</sup> rights in Scotland
- The 6,400-hectare Windsor Castle and Great Park in Berkshire
- Royal Ascot Racecourse<sup>114</sup>
- Regent Street and St. James's Market in central London
- A string of shopping centres in major cities throughout the country
- 30 wind farms on the breezy<sup>115</sup> shores of Great Britain, creating an offshore<sup>116</sup> energy business worth over 1 bln

The Crown is continuing with a robust\*\*\* asset acquisition strategy, but where does that leave Her Majesty, does she have a penny to her name\*\*\*? Don't worry, she doesn't exactly go without\*\*\*.

### A Place of One's Own

Over hundreds of years, the royal family, and by default<sup>120</sup> the Queen, have built a substantial<sup>121</sup> wealth portfolio of their own. The private assets are no less impressive than<sup>122</sup> the Crown's.

Two of the Queen's favourite residences are privately owned. The 8,000-hectare estate in Norfolk, home to Sandringham House, was bought by Queen Victoria and handed down¹²³ through the family.

Another purchase<sup>124</sup>, much-loved by the Victorian monarch and subsequent<sup>125</sup> generations of royals, is Balmoral Castle in Aberdeenshire. The 20,000-hectare estate and cosy<sup>126</sup> castle have been the place where royals can let their hair down<sup>127</sup> a little and have some precious family time out of the limelight<sup>125</sup>.

Of course, these massive estates also have commercial value. Speaking of which, taking pride of place<sup>120</sup> in the private royal collection must be the Duchy<sup>130</sup> of Lancaster. Created by Henry IV in the 14th century as a source of private income<sup>131</sup> for his son, he shrewdly<sup>132</sup> ring-fenced<sup>133</sup>

- 102 stunning 'stanın oszałamiający
- 103 first and foremost f3:st and 'f5:maust przede wszystkim
- 104 in excess of X in ik'ses av powyżej X
- 105 watercolour 'wo:təkʌlə(r) akwarela (UK)
- 106 sculpture 'skalptfə(r) rzeźba
- 107 tapestry 'tæpistri gobelin, arras
- last but not least last bet not list ostatni, lecz nie najmniej ważny
- indoors "m'dɔːz w pomieszczeniu, w domu (a nie na zewnątrz)
- to comprise X to kom'prazz składać się z X (ludzi, rzeczy itp.)
- 111 smattering 'smætərıŋ parę, trochę (czegoś)
- 112 ancient 'exnfant starożytny
- 113 gold mining gəvid 'marnın wydobycie złota

- 114 racecourse 'reiskois tor wyścigowy
- 115 breezy 'bri:zi wietrzny
- offshore ,offfo:(r) zagraniczny, w raju podatkowym
- 117 robust rap'bast mocny, silny
- 118 to have sth to one's name to hov 'sʌmθɪŋ to wʌnz 'neɪm mieć coś, dysponować czymś (osobiście)
- to go without to gov wiö'avt obyć się bez (czegoś), tu: być bez środków, nie mieć (pieniędzy)
- 120 by default bar dr'fo:lt domyślnie
- 121 substantial səbˈstænʃi pokaźny, znaczny
- 122 no less impressive than... nəʊ les ɪmˈpresɪv ðæn tak samo imponujący, jak...
- to hand sth down to hænd 'sʌmθɪŋ daʊn przekazywać coś (np. z pokolenia na pokolenie)
- 124 purchase 'p3:tfəs nabytek, zakup
- subsequent 'sabsikwent następujący (po czymś), późniejszy
- 126 cosy 'kauzi przytulny, wygodny (pot., UK)
- 127 to let one's hair down to let wanz heo(r) down zrelaksować się, dać sobie luz
- out of the limelight aut av öa 'laımlart poza blaskiem jupiterów, z dala od centrum uwagi
- to take pride of place to terk praid ov 'pleis zajmować honorowe miejsce
- 130 duchy 'datji księstwo
- income inkam dochód, przychód
- 132 shrewdly 'fru:dli mądrze, rozsądnie
- to ring-fence sth ta rin fens 'sʌmθiŋ odgrodzić coś, wyodrębnić; uczynić nienaruszalnym (UK)





the asset by separating it from the Crown Estate, but that's not all. Its status means that it is not subject to 134 capital gains tax135, when handed down, nor income tax. Covering 18,433 hectares, the Duchy owns land and properties throughout Britain, including Lancaster Castle, but the jewel in its crown is the Savoy Estate. The A-class central London prime real estate goes from the fashionable136 Strand to the iconic Savoy Hotel - yes, the Queen owns that too. The Duchy of Lancaster brings around GBP 18 mln to the family table, while her son, Charles, the Prince of Wales has his own little earner137 in the form of the Duchy of Cornwall. It is even bigger, covering an area of over 53,000 hectares, incorporating large parts of Cornwall and most of the Isles of Scilly. Like the Duchy of Lancaster, it was another asset management plan constructed by Henry IV, which is also beyond the reach138 of the taxman<sup>139</sup>. It's a neat<sup>140</sup> arrangement because the Duchies are treated as national assets, but are held in trust<sup>141</sup> for future generations of sovereigns.

### **Taxing Times**

Tax and the Royal Family is a common topic of discussion in pubs, internet forums and the press<sup>142</sup>. Although the Queen is officially exempt from<sup>143</sup> personal income tax<sup>144</sup>, but not VAT, amid<sup>146</sup> rising criticism in the 1990s of the cost of maintaining the monarchy, she agreed voluntarily<sup>146</sup> to start paying income and capital gains tax in 1992. However, the Queen's

financial arrangement became headline news147 in 2017, following the release of the Panama Papers, which revealed that around GBP 10 mln from the Queen's private estate was paid into the British-owned tax havens148 of the Cayman Islands and Bermuda between 2004 and 2005. It transpired149 that there had been nothing illegal about it, but that it was at best, bad advice to do so. In the context of a global crackdown on 150 rich individuals and large corporations syphoning off<sup>151</sup> income into more favourable152 tax regimes153, some felt it was not setting the right example. On the other hand, many argue<sup>154</sup> it was her private money to spend or save as she pleases165,

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## THE QUEEN'S FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT BECAME HEADLINE NEWS IN 2017, FOLLOWING THE RELEASE OF THE PANAMA PAPERS.

and having worked tirelessly<sup>155</sup> for decades to become the world's longest-reigning living monarch, she provides excellent value for money<sup>157</sup> (VFM).

Now, towards the end of her stint<sup>158</sup> as royal steward<sup>159</sup>, how do the books look? The Crown account looks to be in rude health<sup>160</sup>, and the ring-fencing by Henry IV looks to have set up generations of royals for life<sup>161</sup>. Prince Charles is sorted for cash<sup>162</sup> for his boys William and Harry, and their brides look like a marketing dream, certain to raise the share value of the monarchy. How that will pan out<sup>163</sup> in the context of Brexit is unknown, but one thing for certain is that the royal financial garden looks rosy<sup>164</sup>.

- 134 subject to sth 'sʌbdʒɪkt tə 'sʌmθɪŋ podlegajacy czemuś
- 135 capital gains tax 'kæpitl geinz tæks podatek od zysków kapitałowych
- 136 fashionable 'fæsnabl modny
- 137 earner '3:na(r) coś, co przynosi niezłe dochody (UK)
- 138 reach ri:tʃ zasięg
- 139 taxman 'tæksmæn fiskus
- 140 neat ni:t niezły, sprytny
- 141 to hold sth in trust tə həuld 'sʌmθɪŋ ɪn trʌst mieć coś w holdingu, utrzymywać w funduszu powierniczym
- 142 press pres prasa
- 143 exempt from sth Ig'zempt from 'sʌmθɪŋ wyjęty spod jakiegoś obowiązku
- personal income tax 'pa:sənl 'ıŋkʌm tæks podatek dochodowy od osób fizycznych
- 145 amid əˈmɪd pośród, w obliczu (czegoś)
- 146 voluntarily 'vplantrali dobrowolnie
- 147 headline news 'hedlam nju:z wiadomości z pierwszych stron
- 148 tax haven tæks 'hervn raj podatkowy
- 149 to transpire tə træns'paɪə(r) odbyć się, mieć miejsce
- rozprawa z czymś, mocne środki podjęte przeciwko czemuś
- 151 to syphon sth off to 'sarfon 'sʌmθɪŋ pf wyprowadzać coś, odprowadzać (fundusze, środki)
- 152 favourable 'feɪvərəbl sprzyjający, korzystny (UK)
- 153 regime rez'zi:m reżim
- 154 to argue tu 'a:gju: przekonywać, dowodzić
- 165 to do as one pleases to du oz wwn plicziz robić to, co się komuś żywnie podoba
- 156 tirelessly 'taɪələsli bezustannie, niezmordowanie
- 157 value for money 'vælju: fə(r) 'mʌni opłacalność (produktu), stosunek ceny do jakości
- 158 stint stint krótki okres (na jakimś stanowisku, robiąc coś itp.)
- royal steward 'rojəl 'stjoəd tu: król, królowa (pot.)
- 100 to be in rude health to bi in ru:d helθ cieszyć się dobrym zdrowiem
- 161 to set sb up for life to set 'snmbodi np fo(r) larf ustawić kogoś na całe życie (finansowo)
- 162 sorted for cash 'so:ttd fe(r) kæʃ mający pełno kasy, ustawiony (pot.)
- 163 to pan out to pæn aut potoczyć się (dobrze/ źle), pójść
- 164 rosy 'ragzi różowy