

The Domestic Life of the Royal Family in Norfolk 1862-1952



Sandringham House in Norfolk was bought by Albert, the Prince Consort, in 1862 as a country retreat for the young family of his son, the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII), and his wife, Alexandra of Denmark. The house was extensively remodeled and enlarged over the years to accommodate the growing royal family, and it became a beloved home for generations of British monarchs.

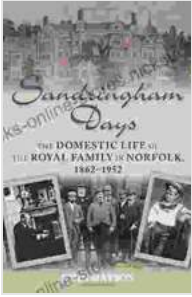
Sandringham Days: The Domestic Life of the Royal Family in Norfolk, 1862–1952 by Robert Montagne

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

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The domestic life of the royal family at Sandringham was relatively informal and relaxed compared to their public lives in London and other royal residences. The family spent much of their time outdoors, enjoying the fresh air and beautiful scenery of the Norfolk countryside. They also enjoyed hunting, shooting, and fishing on the estate.

In the evenings, the royal family would often gather in the drawing room for music, games, or conversation. Queen Alexandra was a talented pianist and often played for her family and guests. The family also enjoyed watching movies and listening to the radio.

The royal children were educated at Sandringham until they were old enough to attend boarding school. They had their own playroom and nursery, and they spent much of their time playing with their governesses and other children from the local community.

The royal family's domestic life at Sandringham was interrupted by two world wars. During the First World War, the house was used as a military hospital, and the royal family lived in a smaller house on the estate. During the Second World War, the house was again used as a military hospital, and the royal family lived at Buckingham Palace in London.

After the war, the royal family returned to Sandringham and resumed their former way of life. However, the house had been damaged during the war, and it required extensive repairs. The family also had to adjust to the changing social and political climate of the post-war world.

In 1952, King George VI died at Sandringham, and his daughter, Elizabeth, became Queen Elizabeth II. The new Queen continued to spend much of her time at Sandringham, and the house remained a beloved home for the royal family.

Today, Sandringham House is open to the public, and visitors can learn about the domestic life of the royal family over the years. The house is also used for official royal events, such as the annual Christmas broadcast.

The Royal Family's Daily Routine

The royal family's daily routine at Sandringham was fairly regular. They would usually rise early, have breakfast together, and then spend the morning outdoors. The afternoon was usually devoted to official duties, such as meeting with guests or attending local events. In the evening, the family would often gather in the drawing room for music, games, or conversation.

The children's routine was somewhat different from their parents'. They would usually have lessons in the morning, followed by lunch with their governesses. In the afternoon, they would often play outdoors or go for walks. In the evening, they would have dinner with their parents and then go to bed.

The Royal Family's Favorite Activities

The royal family enjoyed a variety of activities at Sandringham. They were all keen hunters and shooters, and they often spent time on the estate hunting deer, pheasants, and partridges. They also enjoyed fishing in the nearby river.

In addition to hunting and shooting, the royal family also enjoyed playing games, such as tennis, croquet, and billiards. They also enjoyed riding horses and walking in the countryside.

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The Royal Family's Friends and Guests

The royal family often entertained friends and guests at Sandringham. Their guests included politicians, diplomats, and other members of the aristocracy. The family also invited local people to Sandringham for parties and other events.

The royal family's friends and guests were always treated with great hospitality. They were given the best rooms in the house, and they were served delicious food and wine. The family also made sure that their guests had plenty of opportunities to enjoy the activities that Sandringham had to offer.

The Royal Family's Servants

The royal family was served by a large staff of servants at Sandringham. The servants included butlers, footmen, maids, and cooks. The servants

were all highly trained and experienced, and they took great pride in their work.

The servants were responsible for all aspects of the royal family's daily life. They prepared meals, cleaned the house, and took care of the children. They also assisted the royal family with their official duties and social engagements.

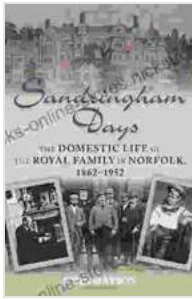
The royal family treated their servants with great respect and kindness. They were paid well, and they were given good working conditions. The servants were also given opportunities to advance their careers.

The Royal Family's Impact on Norfolk

The royal family's presence in Norfolk had a significant impact on the county. The royal family's patronage of local businesses and organizations helped to boost the local economy. The royal family also helped to promote Norfolk as a tourist destination.

The royal family's presence in Norfolk also had a positive impact on the local community. The royal family often donated money to local charities and organizations. They also supported local schools and hospitals. The royal family also helped to promote local culture and heritage.

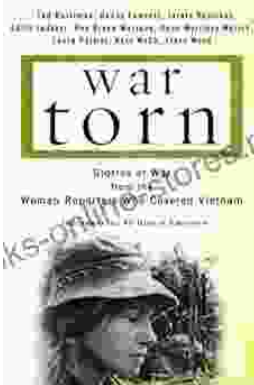
The royal family's presence in Norfolk is still felt today. Sandringham House is a popular tourist destination, and the royal family continues to support local businesses and organizations. The royal family also continues to promote Norfolk as a tourist destination.



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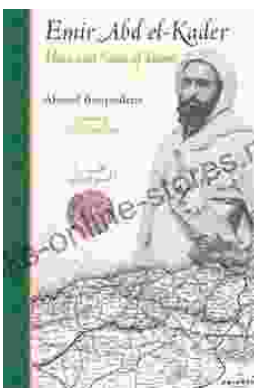
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