



# Glasgow Jewish Representative Council

## TRIBUTE TO HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II



### A constant wonderful inspiration to us all

Glasgow's Jewish community was profoundly saddened by the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Timothy Lovat, President of the Glasgow Jewish Representative Council, spoke on the community's behalf and said: "We share the nation's grief at this time and would like to express our deep sorrow at the passing of Her Majesty the Queen.

"We offer our sincere condolences to His Majesty King Charles III and to the Royal Family.

"Most of us were born and have grown up during the Queen's 70-year reign and during that time she has been a constant and wonderful inspiration to us all."

**BACK PAGE: The Glaswegians who came face to face with the Queen**



# HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II 1926-2022



## Arthur's Double Delight

Glaswegian Arthur Lawson MBE had the great pleasure, and rare distinction, of meeting both the late Queen Elizabeth II and the future King Charles III.

Arthur, who celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in April, received an MBE from the Queen in July 2003 at Buckingham Palace. It was awarded for services to veterans and the community.

He recalls that before being presented to the Queen, a hook was attached to his lapel onto which the Queen hooks on the medal.

He was allowed three escorts on the day – his wife Toby, daughter Evy and his grandson Josh.

Evy still remembers the great thrill of walking through Buckingham Palace

She said: "We ended up in a big red ballroom. The recipients were separated from the guests and we watched from the side. An orchestra played in a gallery above."

Arthur's next meeting with Royalty came when he met the future king at a veterans event in 2015.

The veterans cause was very important to Arthur. He was President of the Monash (Jewish) Branch of the Royal British Legion and Chairman of the Glasgow Jewish Branch of RBL Scotland.

Between 2002 -2004 he was AJEX's National Chairman.

He also served as Chair of AJEX's Glasgow, Westminster and HQ Branches, Chair of the Welfare Division and in many other roles.

## It was a glorious day when Michael met the future king

On 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1977, the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the late Queen's ascension to the throne, Michael Clerck met the future King of the United Kingdom.

Michael, who was 28 at the time remembers meeting the Prince as if it were yesterday.

"It was a glorious summer's day," he recalls.

"Prince Charles flew in by helicopter to Eastwood Park in Glasgow to be received by a guard of honour led by the JLGB.

"All the youth movements in Eastwood District, as it was then, were represented.

As the senior JLGB officer I was privileged to be in command of the guard of honour."

The Prince visited displays by each of the youth movements.

JLGB did a short drill display and Maccabi did a judo demonstration.



However, not everything connected to the anniversary went to plan.

Michael, a Trustee Board Member of the Glasgow Jewish Representative Council, said: "As part of the national celebration, beacons were being lit along the length and breadth of the country.

"The night before the event and all that day there was a tremendous downpour and the bonfire was cancelled."

## PAUL JUST COULDN'T HELP SMILING AT THE QUEEN

In 1997, former Glasgow Jewish Representative Council President Paul Morron was awarded the MBE for services to social care provision.

He received his award from the Queen at Buckingham Palace.

Paul recalled: "To have received the medal from the Queen was just wonderful

and such an honour.

"Like most recipients, I was nervous when approaching her but she engaged with me immediately with a big smile and it was a very warm experience.

"I couldn't stop smiling because she was smiling at me.

"She must have done so many of these presentations but she personalised it.

"Her warmth, taking an interest in you, made you feel special.

"I have a lot of respect for her and other members of the Royal family.

"I've met both the now king Charles and Princess Anne.

"They are so professional and their quality of engagement is outstanding."