

Edward VII
Hudson Valley Scionists – May 2015
by Will Walsh

Ladies and gentlemen, please stand. Let us honor His Majesty, born Albert Edward, the Duke of Cornwall, Duke of Rothesay, Prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha and Duke of Saxony. Subsequently, he would be the Earl of Chester, Earl of Dublin, Knight of the Garter, Knight of the Thistle and, of course, the Prince of Wales, before becoming King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, of the British Dominions beyond the Seas and Emperor of India.

Notably, he is the only British monarch to have been both born and to have died in Buckingham Palace.

He is the suspected father of Violet de Merville, making him, perhaps, the fourth father-in-law of one John Hamish Watson.

And, it may be a surprise for some to learn, however, that he is the patron saint of the current millennial generation.

Young Bertie completed his education at Cambridge and promptly moved back home – never to move out.

He would remain essentially unemployed for the next forty years.

For those parents who have despaired of the current generation and might have muttered “that child will kill me,” Queen Victoria believed that her son was responsible for Prince Albert’s death and famously told her daughter “I never can, or shall, look at him without a shudder.”

On the plus side, millennials are more tech savvy than other generations and find an appeal in the bridge for change from hansom cabs and gaslight to automobiles, electric lights, the telephone and the development of the aeroplane.

The uncle of Europe holds a special place for the well-connected millennials.

The next generation’s inclination to government reform finds appreciation in the first true Constitutional monarch of Great Britain and the man who successfully reconnected the monarchy with the people.

Most notably, for the generation that coined the phrase “friends with benefits,” the gentleman who distributed royal attention to Nellie Clifden, Lily Langtry, Lady Randolph Churchill, Daisy Greville, Sarah Bernhardt, Agnes Keyser and Alice Keppel stands in a unique position of reverence.

So, ladies and gentlemen, a tribute to the man who knighted Arthur Conan Doyle and, in turn, is honored by the trophy millennial generation.