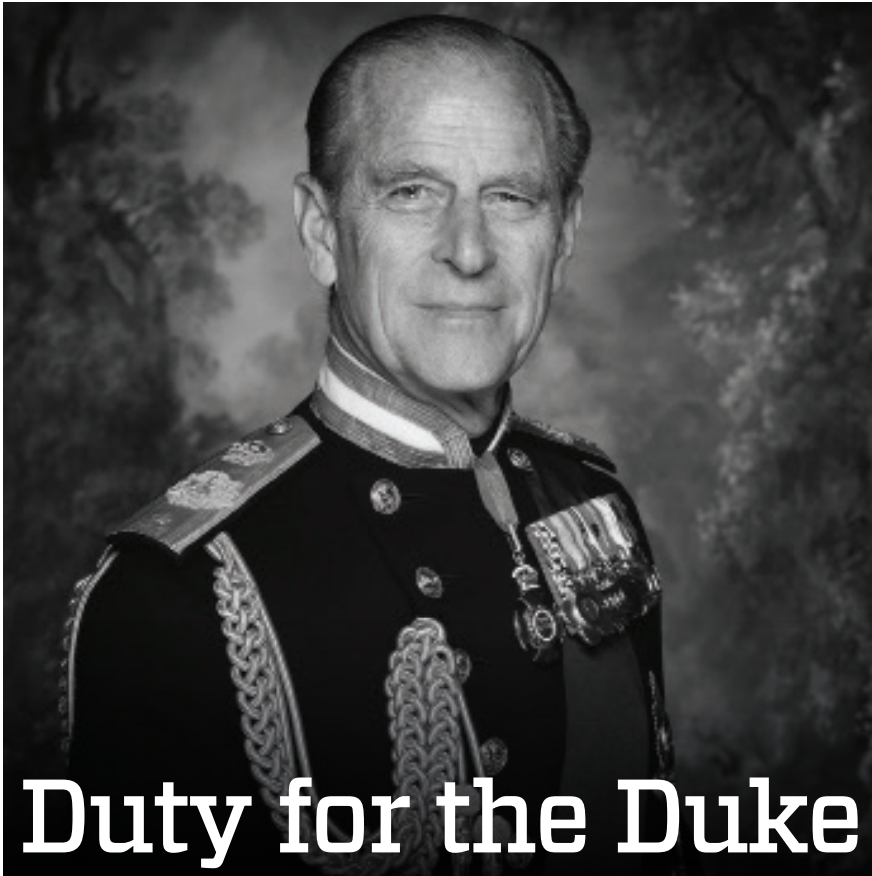


Reporter

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S FUNERAL + FIFE FAVE RETIRES + JOHN WEIR'S THE QUEEN'S CHOICE



Duty for the Duke

Leverton & Sons provide impeccable service for the royal family

S AIF member Leverton & Sons was in the spotlight as the world watched the Duke of Edinburgh's funeral on Sunday, April 17.

The company is also no stranger to notable funerals over its 200-year history, having looked after those of George Orwell, Sir Henry Royce (co-founder of Rolls-Royce) and Margaret Thatcher. In 1991, Leverton & Sons was

appointed royal undertaker by the Lord Chamberlain's office and has since conducted the funerals of Princess Diana, the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret.

The family firm, which is based in north London and was a founding member of SAIF, is now led by cousins Pippa and Andrew Leverton.

Coverage of the Duke of Edinburgh's military procession to St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle was viewed by more than 13.5 million in the UK alone, while the Queen Mother's funeral was watched by 10.4 million and the Princess of Wales' ceremony had a record 32 million in 1997.

Prior to the Duke of Edinburgh's funeral, SAIF CEO Terry Tennens tweeted: "We were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. The @NationalSAIF family sends sincere condolences to the Queen and the Royal Family. And know @Levertons will serve the Royal Family with distinction as a founding Independent of SAIF"



Pippa and Andrew Leverton



Plans for the Duke of Edinburgh's funeral were codenamed Operation Forth Bridge, while the Queen's, which were established in the 1960s, are named Operation London Bridge.



The Duke's coffin was draped in his standard, which represented elements of his life, from his Greek heritage to his British titles.



Centre of the procession from the private chapel to the State Entrance of Windsor Castle was the hearse, made from a Land Rover Defender TD5 130 chassis.



In procession behind the specially adapted Land Rover carrying Prince Philip's coffin were princes Charles, Andrew, Edward and Princess Anne, as well as grandsons, princes William and Harry. They were joined by Princess Anne's son Peter Phillips, her husband Vice Admiral Sir Tim Laurence and the Earl of Snowdon.