

## ROYAL ECCENTRICS

King George 111 kept his daughters hidden from the world for as long as he could in what became known as the “Windsor Nunnery”.

Some married very late in life, the lucky ones not at all.

The first daughter to marry was the unfortunate Charlotte, the Princess Royal.

Her husband, Frederick 1, King of Wurttemberg, was 43 years old, suspected of murdering his first wife, and so fat that when he sat down to play cards a convex segment had to be cut out of the table to make room for his gut.

Napoleon said that God had created him only to demonstrate how far the human skin could be stretched without bursting.

The massive fiance arrived to claim Charlotte the Princess Royal’s hand in marriage in a wedding costume made of silk and shot with silver and gold, looking much like a heavily embroidered Zeppelin.

At which point Charlotte fainted.

Charlotte’s entire family including George 111 wept throughout the marriage ceremony.

In the early morning after the wedding night Charlotte was awakened by strange grunting noises, only to find her new husband under the bedclothes gnawing on a huge leg of lamb.

Needless to say the marriage was childless.

Frederick ate and drank himself to death, while Charlotte spent her days in the only preoccupation she enjoyed...that of tending her pet kangaroos.

Another of George 111’s daughters, Elizabeth, at the age of 48, was also married to an immensely fat widower, also called Frederick.

But this one was Frederick of Landgrave of Hesse Homburg.

He was popularly known as “Humbug” and was known chiefly for his enormous moustache and offensive body odour.

A courtier who met him commented, “An uglier hound with a snout buried in hair I never saw...a monster of a man, whose breath and hide is a compound between tobacco and garlick.”

Frederick had to be forcibly immersed in hot water several times to make him fit to attend his own wedding.

At the ceremony he promised in his impenetrable German accent to “lof her”, and then threw up as the couple drove away.