The constitutional historian Andrew Gimson asserts in his new book, *The Monarchy of England: The beginnings*, that the British monarchy has played a crucial role in the development of modern democratic politics. Ranging across law, politics and history, he argues that the monarchy sustains and strengthens democracy in Britain by instilling a shared sense of identity and responsibility among the people. This is achieved through a combination of ceremonial events, public appearances and the role of the monarchy in upholding traditional values and principles.

In his new edition, Gimson also explores the changing role of the monarchy in modern times. This edition includes a topical introductory article on the changing role of the monarchy, reflecting on the impact of recent events such as the second marriage of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, and the ongoing debates around the role of Prince Charles and the future of the monarchy.

*The Monarchy of England: The beginnings* is a comprehensive and accessible guide to the history of the British monarchy, covering the reigns of various English sovereigns from the 9th century to the present day. It is an essential read for anyone interested in the history of the monarchy and its role in modern British society.

In conclusion, Andrew Gimson’s work highlights the enduring relevance of the British monarchy in upholding democratic values and fostering a sense of national identity. Through a combination of ceremonial events, public appearances and the role of the monarchy in upholding traditional values and principles, the British monarchy continues to play a significant role in modern democratic politics.

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**Further Reading**


