

## Queen Anne

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### Queen Anne, 1665-1714



Queen Anne, 1665-1714, by William Wissing and Jan van der Vaardt.  
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Anne was born at St James's Palace in London. She was the daughter of James VII and II who ruled from 1685-1688. She succeeded to the throne in 1702, after the death of William III, and was Queen of Great Britain and Ireland until her death in 1714. None of her children lived to inherit the throne so the crown passed to Prince George of Hanover who became King George I.

In Queen Anne's first speech to Parliament in 1702 she recommended the union of the two kingdoms but this met with little enthusiasm in the English Parliament. Relations between the Scottish and English Parliaments worsened over the next three years until it became clear that union was the best way of keeping the peace between the two countries.

Negotiations began in 1705. Queen Anne appointed Scottish and English commissioners to negotiate the terms of a treaty. Meetings began in April 1706. On 23 July 1706, the Articles of Union were presented to her at a ceremony at St James's Palace.

The Scottish Parliament approved the treaty on 16 January 1707. The English Parliament did the same on 6 March 1707. The Act of Union took effect on 1 May

1707. The Queen attended a thanksgiving service at St Paul's in London with all the great officers of state. To symbolise the union, the Queen wore the combined orders of the Garter and the Thistle.