

# **Historical Timeline – Events Taking Place During Rebecca Dean’s PALACE CIRCLE**

## 1911

- Coronation of George V and Queen Mary
- Investiture of Edward, Prince of Wales
- Suffragettes march in a five-mile procession of protest
- Winston Churchill becomes First Lord of the Admiralty

## 1914

- Britain declares war against Germany
- Spring offensive Ypres
- Sinking of the Lusitania

## 1916

- The Somme campaign opens
- The Minister’s son, Raymond Asquith, is killed leading his men into battle on the Somme
- Bessie Wallis Warfield marries E. Winfield Spencer
- Lloyd George replaces Mr Asquith as Prime Minister

## 1917

- America enters World War 1
- There are Zeppelin raids over London

## 1918

- Prince Edward begins 16-year affair with Mrs. Dudley-Ward
- Germany signs the Armistice

## 1919

- Versailles Peace Conference
- Birth of Prince Farouk, Cairo

## 1927

- Wallis divorces E. Winfield Spencer
- Wallis marries Ernest Simpson

## 1929

- Prince Edward begins an affair with Thelma Furness

## 1931

- Thelma Furness introduces Wallis Simpson and her husband to the Prince of Wales

## 1932

- British Union of Fascists is founded by Sir Oswald Mosley
- Roosevelt wins Presidential election

## 1933

- Hitler becomes Chancellor of German Reich
- Thelma Furness takes a trip home to America. In Thelma’s absence Wallis’s relationship with Prince Edward changes from friendship to something far more intimate
- Sir Miles Lampson becomes Egypt’s British High Commissioner

- Mosley Fascist Rally, Olympia

#### 1935

- King George celebrates his silver jubilee

#### 1936

- King George V dies
- Edward succeeds to the throne as King Edward VII
- King Fuad dies
- Prince Farouk succeeds his father as King of Egypt

#### 1936

- King Edward holidays aboard the yacht 'Nahlin' with Wallis and a party of friends. Their relationship begins to attract much international press attention.
- Wallis's divorce petition is heard at Ipswich Assizes
- The Prime Minister, Mr Baldwin, meets with the King in deep concern over what is considered to be an impossible liaison.
- All through the month, Edward struggles to keep both his throne and Wallis. It is a battle he loses. On Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> he abdicates. His younger brother, Prince Albert, becomes King, taking the name George VI.

#### 1937

- Edward, now the Duke of Windsor, marries Wallis at the Château de Candé, France.
- Fruity Metcalfe is his best man

#### 1939

- Britain declares war with Germany
- Winston Churchill is once again First Lord of the Admiralty

#### 1940

- The Nazis occupy Denmark and Norway
- Winston Churchill becomes Prime Minister. One of his first acts is to intern the British fascist leader, Sir Oswald Mosley.
- France Falls
- Italians attack British Somaliland from Ethiopia
- The British mount a major offensive against Italian troops in the Western Desert

#### 1941

- Rommel and two crack Panzer divisions arrive in North Africa
- British Foreign Secretary, Anthony Eden, flies to Cairo to give a first-hand report to Churchill
- The war in the desert is being conducted on a vast scale

