



AD 43	Roman Invasion of Britain.
AD 60-61	Boudicca who was the wife of a Celtic Briton king of the Iceni tribe. She led a failed uprising against the conquering forces of the Roman Empire in AD 60 or 61. It failed overall but She is remembered as a strong leader and ferocious warrior and won many battles against the Romans.
1120	In 1120 King Henry I named Matilda as his heir (to take over the throne after him) as her brother had died in a shipwreck. The English and the Normans had never been ruled by a woman.
1135	When Henry I died in 1135 Stephen of Blois (Matilda's cousin) took the crown for himself. He was supported by the powerful men in England and Normandy who did not want to be ruled by a woman. Eventually a peace was agreed. Matilda agreed to allow Stephen to remain as King as long as he named her son, Henry, as his heir.
1122-1190	Eleanor of Aquitaine was born in 1122. She was the well-educated daughter of William X (10th), Duke of Aquitaine. She became the official heir to her father's estate when she was just 5. By the age of 15, when her father died, Eleanor had become one of the richest women in Europe. She became Queen of 2 countries in her life (France and England). She went on a Crusade and ruled countries as a Queen while her husband was away fighting.
1558	Queen Elizabeth I, daughter of Henry VIII, ascended (took) the throne of England. She was seen as weak and feeble. Many men did not respect her and she faced threats throughout her reign (rule).
1603	Elizabeth I died. She was known as 'Gloriana' and England experienced a 'golden age'. She fought off a Spanish Invasion in 1588 (Spanish Armada). Her long reign gave the country stability and consistency. Her intelligence and political awareness helped to steer England through many challenges.
1837-1901	Known as the Victorian Period. In this period there was a perception that women were the 'angel in the house'. They were confined to home and were expected to be domestic, innocent and extremely helpless. But there were a number who challenged this and perceptions started to change
1897	Formation of NUWSS : National Union of Women's Suffrage Society – <u>Suffragists</u> . A group who campaigned for the vote. The suffragists wanted to act within the law and follow the route of political persuasion to win support for their cause. It was felt that any actions that broke the law would allow their opponents to portray them as irresponsible and provide further excuses to deny women the vote.
1903	Formation of WSPU : Women's Social and Political Union – <u>Suffragettes</u> . They were involved in a course of civil disobedience and direct action, even if that meant breaking the law. Some thought they were terrorists. They felt that if they caused enough problems for the authorities, then the government would be forced to address the issue. They went on hunger strike, chained themselves to railings and wanted publicity.
1914-1918	Women at work in World War One. Both groups above put aside their campaign for votes and so instead focused on winning the war. They worked in factories as munitionettes (making ammunition) and also as part of the WLA, Women's Land Army. This group grew food for people on the Home Front. Many other areas were also worked in as part of their role on the Home Front.
1918	Representation of the People Act – 1918. Women gained the vote for the first time in a law past by parliament. This gave the vote to women over 30 who had land of a certain value. It changed to age of 21 regardless of wealth in 1928 and to current system of 18 years old in 1969. Both times it was known as the Representation of The People Act.

Key words and definitions

- Medieval** - Time period between 1250-1500
- Ideal** - Minimum expectation
- Artisan** - A skilled worker who makes things.
- Perception** - The way in which something is regarded, understood, or interpreted
- Physician** - Doctor
- Social reformer** - Somebody who wants to change the way that people live.
- Suffrage** - The vote.
- Campaign - An organized course of action to achieve a goal
- Hindered** - To hold something back.
- Representation** - People who speak on behalf of others.

