



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

Prince of Wales to marry his mistress



Prince Charles and Camilla

To the shame of our nation, it has been announced that Prince Charles and Camilla Parker Bowles have announced their intention to marry.

Mrs Parker Bowles will take the title HRH Duchess of Cornwall after the civil ceremony at Windsor Castle on 8 April. If the Prince of Wales, 56, becomes king, Camilla, 57, will be known as the Princess Consort and not Queen Camilla.

The prince said he and his wife-to-be were "absolutely delighted".

The marriage will end years of speculation on an adulterous relationship which has spanned the decades

since the couple first met in 1970 and which continued even when Prince Charles was married to Princess Diana. The wedding will be a civil ceremony, which the Queen will not attend. It will be followed by a "service of prayer and dedication" in St George's Chapel, at which the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, will preside. The Queen will host the reception that will follow.

A statement was issued by the Queen regarding the forthcoming marriage. "The Duke of Edinburgh and I are very happy that the Prince of Wales and Mrs Parker Bowles are to marry." Diana, Princess of Wales, who married Prince Charles, died in a car crash in Paris in 1997. The couple, who had two sons princes William and Harry - had divorced when Diana died. The princess famously referred to Mrs. Parker Bowles as one of the contributing factors in the breakdown of her marriage to Charles.

A spokeswoman for Princess Diana's brother, Earl Spencer, said he would not be making any comment on the wedding announcement.

Tony Blair said he was "delighted" for the couple and offered his congratulations, as did Conservative leader Michael Howard and Liberal Democrat leader Charles Kennedy. The marriage is likely to be a sensitive issue because Mrs Parker Bowles is divorced and her former husband is still alive. If he became king, Charles would be the supreme governor of the Church of England and some Anglicans remain opposed to the remarriage of divorcees. The Archbishop of Canterbury said that he hoped the marriage would be "a source of comfort and strength" to the couple and those close to them.