

History of the Monarchy

Early Kings

Born in 1022

Ascended in 1066

Died in 1066, aged 44

Reigned between January and October

Harold II was killed when an arrow passed through his eye at the Battle of Hastings in 1066. He died trying to defend Britain from the Norman invader William the Conqueror who was later to become William I of England. Harold had only been crowned earlier that same year.

Born in 848

Ascended in 871

Died in 899, aged 51

Reigned for 28 years

In legend, King Alfred is said to have *burnt the cakes*. It says that Danish settlers routed his armies, so he went into hiding and lived with the peasantry for a while. While he was in disguise, working on a farm, he was severely reprimanded by a cowgirl for letting the dinner burn over the fire.

There was a king Arthur who fought against the Saxons - possibly at the battle of Mount Badon. However, most of the tales about him were created by Geoffrey of Monmouth who published the *Morte d'Arthur* in 1151 AD.