

History of the Monarchy

Edward I

"*Longshanks*"

Born in 1239

Ascended in 1272

Died in 1307, aged 68

Reigned for 35 years

Married to Eleanor of Castille bearing 3 sons and 5 daughters.

Then to Margaret of France bearing 2 sons and 1 daughter.

Edward I was known as *Longshanks* due to the fact he was unusually tall for the time, at over six feet. He was a tough, bully of a man who strengthened parliament for his people and pushed it another step towards democracy. He has been called the father to the *Mother of all Parliaments*.

Edward I had the most legitimate children - 18. He is most famous for his wars with the Scots lead by William Wallace and later Robert Bruce. He died preparing for another war against them - he was never totally successful. He had asked that his body be taken to future battles if he died first so, for the next two hundred years, his body was dug up and used as a mascot every time the English and Scottish went to war.