

KING ALFRED THE GREAT



Alfred's Life

King Alfred the Great was the most famous of all the Anglo-Saxon Kings. Also, he was the only English king called "Great".

- Alfred was born around 847AD-849 AD in Wantage, Berkshire.
- He was the son of King Ethelwulf of Wessex who died when Alfred was young.
- Alfred had three older brothers, Ethelbald, Ethelbert and Ethelred and they all reigned before him.

Alfred's Life

- Alfred was well educated.
- When he was young he visited Rome and met the Pope.
- Even before becoming king, Alfred fought with his brother Ethelred against the vicious Vikings.
- Alfred became King of Wessex in 871 and king of the Anglo-Saxons in 886.
- Fighting against the Vikings continued until 878 when he was finally victorious.



Things That Made Alfred Great

- Alfred believed that education was important and he had books translated from Latin into English so that people could read them.
- He told monks to start writing the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle which was a history of the Anglo-Saxons and the Normans who followed them.
- He was advised by a council of nobles and bishops called the Witan and he made good laws.
- He defeated the Vikings and made peace with their leader Guthrum, sharing the kingdom of Mercia between them.

Alfred died on the 26th October 899 and was buried in Winchester.