

Alfred the Great

Alfred was born in 849. He was the youngest of 5 brothers and was never expected to be king.

Alfred learnt to read. He became king in 871.

Alfred had to defend his throne from Guthrum, a Viking warlord. Alfred fled and hid.

Then he raised an Anglo-Saxon army who defeated the Vikings at the Battle of Edington.

Alfred and Guthrum agreed to peace and to divide up the country. Alfred kept Wessex and Guthrum took the lands in the north east known as the Danelaw.

Over time, Alfred brought the English kingdoms together and his coins called him the King of the English.

He translated books from Latin into English so that more people could understand them.