GRANHOLM GENEALOGY

BRITISH ROYAL ANCESTRY, BOOK 1

Legendary Kings

INTRODUCTION

The British ancestry is very much a patchwork of various beginnings. Until King Alfred the Great established England various Kings ruled separate parts. In most cases the initial ruler came from the mainland. That time of the history is shrouded in myths, which turn into legends and subsequent into history.

Alfred the Great (849-901) was a very learned man and studied all available past history and especially biblical information. He came up with the concept that he was the 72nd generation descendant of Adam and Eve. Moreover he was a 17th generation descendant of Woden (Odin). Proponents of one theory claim that he was the descendant of Noah's son Sem (Shem) because he claimed to descend from Sceaf, a marooned man who came to Britain on a boat after a flood. See the *Biblical Ancestry* and *Early Mythology Ancestry* books).

The book *British Mythical Royal Ancestry from King Brutus* shows the mythical kings including Shakespeare's King Lair. The lineages are from a common ancestor, Priam King of Troy. His one daughter Troana leads to us via Sceaf, the descendants from his other daughter Creusa lead to the British linage. No attempt has been made to connect these rulers with the historical ones.

Before Alfred the Great formed a unified England several Royal Houses ruled the various parts. Not all of them have any clear lineages to the present times, i.e. our ancestors, but some do. I have collected information which show these. These include

British Royal Ancestry Book 1, Legendary Kings from Brutus of Troy to including King Leir.

British Royal Ancestry Book 2, Kings of Mercia, from a mythical grandson of Woden (Odin) to Lady Godiva's granddaughter, who married King Harold II of England.

British Royal Ancestry Book 3, Kings of Wessex, from Cerdic, who came to Brittany in 495 to Harold II of England, my 27th great grandfather.

British Royal Ancestry Book 4, Kings of Kent from Hengest, who came from the mainland to Britain to King Alfred the Great and his sons.

British Royal Ancestry Book 5, Kings of Anglo-Saxons from Hengest's son, Hartwaker of Saxony to Henry the Fowler, the Duke of Saxony who became the first German King of the Ottoman Dynasty.

British Royal Ancestry Book 6, Kings of England from King Alfred the Great to present time.

The books include ancestral lineage list with names highlighted for which text has been included.

Lars Granholm, June 2010

Descendants of: Priam King of Troy As Related to: Lars Erik Granholm

1 **Priam King of Troy** #17652 (83rd great grandfather)
m. **Hecuba Queen of Troy** #17653

2 **Troana Ilium (Iliona/Sobil) Princess of Troy** #17651 (82nd great grandmother)
m. **Memnon (mythology) King of Ethiopia** #17650
 [son of Tithonus #17655 and Eos/Aurora Goddess of dawn #17654]

3 **Thor King of Thrace** #17649 (81st great grandfather)

4 **Vingener** #17648 (80th great grandfather)

5 **Loridi (Hloritha)** #17647 (79th great grandfather)

6 **Einridi Lordiesson** #17646 b. abt 340 BC (78th great grandfather)

7 **Vingethorr** #17641 (77th great grandfather)

8 **Vingener** #17640 (76th great grandfather)

9 **Moda** #17639 (75th great grandfather)

10 **Magi** #17638 (74th great grandfather)

11 **Seskef** #17637 (73rd great grandfather)

12 **Bedweg** #17636 (72nd great grandfather)

13 **Hwala** #17635 (71st great grandfather)

14 **Athra (Hathra)** #17634 (70th great grandfather)

15 **Itermon (Itormann)** #17633 (69th great grandfather)

17 **Heremod** #17632 b. 60 BC (68th great grandfather)

18 **Sceaf** #17631 (67th great grandfather)

Sceaf in the boat, illustration from Fredrik Sander's 1893 edition of the Poetic Edda

Sceaf was an ancient Lombardic king in English legend. According to his story, Sceafa appeared mysteriously as a child, coming out of the sea in an empty boat.

Æthelweard in his *Chronica* writes of Sceaf:

This Sceaf came in a light boat to an island of the ocean which is called Scani, arms around about him, and he was a very young boy, unknown to the dwellers in the land. But he was accepted by them and cared for like one of their own kind, and afterwards they chose him as king, from whose family descended King Æthelwulf.

2 **Creusa** #18051 (83rd great-aunt) *[Daughter of Priam King of Troy above]*
m. **Aeneas** #18050
[son of Anchises Prince of Dardania #18049 and Aphrodite/Venus goddess of Love #17683]

3 **Ascanius** #18052 (first cousin, 83 times removed)

4 **Silvius** #18053 (second cousin, 82 times removed)

5 Brutus of Troy King of the Britons #18054 (third cousin, 81 times removed)
m. **Ignoge** #18131

6 Locrinus King of the Britons #18055 (4th cousin, 80 times removed)
m. Gwendolen Queen of Britain #18119
[daughter of Corineus Duke of Cornwall #18121]

7 Maddan King of the Britons #18120 (5th cousin, 79 times removed)

8 Mempricius King of the Britons #18122 (6th cousin, 78 times removed)

9 Ebraucus King of the Britons #18123 (7th cousin, 77 times removed)

10 Brutus Greenshield King of the Britons #18124 (8th cousin, 76 times removed)

11 Leil King of the Britons #18125 (9th cousin, 7 times removed)

12 Rud Hud Hudibras King of the Britons #18126 (10th cousin, 75 times removed)

13 Bladud King of the Britons #18127 (11th cousin, 74 times removed)

14 Leir King of Britain #18128 (12th cousin, 73 times removed)

15 Cordelia Queen of the Britons #18129 (13th cousin, 72 times removed)
m. **Aganippus King of the Franks** #18130

15 **Regan Princess of Britain** #18132 (13th cousin, 70 times removed)
m. **Henwinus Duke of Cornwall** #18133

16 Cunedagius King of Britain #18134 (14th cousin, 69 times removed)

17 Rivallo King of the Britons #18135 (15th cousin, 68 times removed)
m. **Junargonde** #18136

18 Gurgustius King of Britain #18137 b. 810 BC d. 725 BC (16th cousin, 67 times removed)

Brutus of Troy

Brutus of Troy, the mythological founder of London.

Brutus or **Brute of Troy** is a legendary descendant of the [Trojan] hero [Aeneas], known in medieval British legend as the eponymous founder and first king of [Britain]. This legend first appears in the *Historia Britonum*, a 9th century historical compilation attributed to [Nennius], but is best known from the account given by the 12th century chronicler [Geoffrey of Monmouth] in his *Historia Regum Britanniae*.

Historia Regum Britanniae

Geoffrey of Monmouth's account tells much the same story, but in greater detail. In this version, Brutus is explicitly the grandson, rather than son, of Ascanius; his father is Ascanius' son Silvius. The magician who predicts great things for the unborn Brutus also foretells he will kill both his parents. He does so, in the same manner described in the *Historia Britonum*, and is banished. Travelling to Greece, he discovers a group of Trojans enslaved there. He becomes their leader, and after a series of battles and some judicious hostage-taking, forces the Greek king Pandrasus to let his people go. He is given Pandrasus's daughter Ignoge in marriage, and ships and provisions for the voyage, and sets sail.

The Trojans land on a deserted island and discover an abandoned temple to [Diana]. After performing the appropriate ritual, Brutus falls asleep in front of the goddess's statue and is given a vision of the land where he is destined to settle, an island in the western ocean inhabited only by a few giants. The Trojans win most of their battles but are conscious that the Gauls have the advantage of numbers, so go back to their ships and sail for Britain, then called [Albion]. They meet the giant descendants of [Albion] and defeat them.

The Brutus Stone in [Totnes]

Brutus renames the island after himself and becomes its first king. Corineus becomes ruler of [Cornwall], which is named after him. They are harassed by the giants, but kill all of them but their leader, [Gogmagog], who is saved for a wrestling match against Corineus. Corineus throws him over a cliff to his death. Brutus then founds a city on the banks of the [River Thames], which he calls Troia Nova, or [New Troy], siting his palace where is now [Guildhall] and a temple to [Diana] on what is now [St Paul's] (with the [London Stone] being a part of the altar at the latter). The name is in time corrupted to [Trinovantum], and is later called [London]. He creates laws for his people and rules for twenty-four years. He is buried at a temple at [Tower Hill]. After his death the island is divided between his three sons, [Locrinus] ([England]), [Albanactus] ([Scotland]) and [Kamber] ([Wales]).

Legacy

Geoffrey's *Historia* says that Brutus and his followers landed at [Totnes] in [Devon]. A stone on Fore Street in Totnes, known as the "Brutus Stone", commemorates this.

Locrinus

Locrinus was a legendary king of the Britons, as recounted by Geoffrey of Monmouth. He was the oldest son of Brutus and a descendant of the Trojans through Aeneas. Following Brutus's death, Britain was divided amongst the three sons, with Locrinus receiving the portion roughly equivalent to England, Albanactus receiving Scotland (Albany), and Kamber receiving Wales. He ruled a portion of Britain called Loegria, named after him, which is roughly the boundaries of modern-day England. He reigned 10 years, most of which were peaceful.

He avenged his brother Albanactus's death at the hands of Humber the Hun by allying with his other brother, Kamber, and fighting Humber to the banks of a river where he drowned. The river was named Humber after this battle. Locrinus divided up the spoils of war with his allies, only keeping gold and silver found on their ships for himself. He also took the daughter of the king of the Germans, Estrildis, whom the Huns had captured. This angered Corineus, an ally of his father Brutus, who had arranged a marriage between Locrinus and his own daughter, Queen Gwendolen. Locrinus submitted and married Gwendolen but still secretly loved Estrildis, whom he locked in a cave beneath Trinovantum (London) for seven years.

Locrinus became the father of a girl, Habren, by Estrildis, and a boy, Maddan, by Gwendolen. Soon after Maddan's birth, Locrinus sent him off to Corineus, the child's grandfather. When Corineus finally died, Locrinus left Gwendolen and took Estrildis as his queen. Gwendolen went to Cornwall and assembled an army to harass Locrinus. The two armies met near the River Stour and there Locrinus was killed. His wife, Gwendolen, ruled after his death.

Preceded by	**Mythical British Kings**	Succeeded by
Brutus		**Queen Gwendolen**

Estrildis

Estrildis was the legendary daughter of the king of [Germany](#) according to [Geoffrey of Monmouth](#). She was found in the ships of [Humber the Hun](#) after his defeat by [Locrinus](#), son of [Brutus](#). She was said to be the most beautiful woman of her time and Locrinus sought to marry her. Unfortunately, [Gwendolen](#), the daughter of [Corineus](#) of [Cornwall](#), was [betrothed](#) to Locrinus and he had to submit. He created a cave for Estrildis beneath Trinovantum ([London](#)) for her to live under the care of servants. She was visited by Locrinus for seven years in secret, trusting no one but the servants and a select few. At last, she gave birth to a daughter whom she named Habren. When Corineus finally died, Locrinus deserted Gwendolen and named Estrildis queen. A battle was fought between Locrinus and Gwendolen, and Locrinus was killed. Estrildis and Habren, as a result, were thrown into a river which was thereafter called *Habren* (Afon Hafren) in [Welsh](#), which is the River [Severn](#) in [English](#).

Queen Gwendolen

Queen Gwendolen was a legendary ruler of [Britain](#), whose life is described in [Geoffrey of Monmouth](#)'s *Historia Regum Britanniae*. According to Geoffrey, she was the wife of King [Locrinus](#) of the [Britons](#) until she defeated him in battle and took on the leadership of Britain herself.

Gwendolen was the daughter of [Corineus](#) of [Cornwall](#) and was married to [Locrinus](#), with whom she had one son, [Maddan](#); however, Locrinus was in love with [Estrildis](#), the daughter of the king of [Germany](#) whom he rescued from [Humber the Hun](#). When Corineus finally died, Locrinus left Gwendolen and married [Estrildis](#). Gwendolen fled to Cornwall and built up an army. She met [Locrinus](#) in battle and defeated him.

Following Locrinus's death, Gwendolen took the throne and led in the manner her father had in Cornwall. She ordered the murder of Estrildis and her daughter Habren and named the river they were thrown into [Severn](#) (Habren). She reigned peacefully for fifteen years after Locrinus's death until she [abdicated](#) in favor of her son, Maddan. She lived the remainder of her life in Cornwall.

The *Historia Regum Britanniae* says that at the time of her death [Samuel](#) was judge in [Judea](#), [Aeneas Silvius](#) was ruling [Alba Longa](#), and [Homer](#) was gaining fame in [Greece](#).

Preceded by	Mythical British Kings	Succeeded by
Locrinus		**Maddan**

Corineus

Corineus, in [medieval British](#) [legend](#), was a prodigious warrior, a fighter of giants, and the [eponymous](#) founder of [Cornwall](#).

According to [Geoffrey of Monmouth](#)'s *[History of the Kings of Britain](#)* (1136), he led the descendants of the [Trojans](#) who fled with [Antenor](#) after the [Trojan War](#) and settled on the coasts of the [Tyrrhenian Sea](#). After [Brutus](#), a descendant of the Trojan prince [Aeneas](#), had been exiled from Italy and liberated the enslaved Trojans in Greece, he encountered Corineus and his people, who joined him in his travels. In [Gaul](#), Corineus provoked a war with Goffarius Pictus, king of [Aquitania](#), by hunting in his forests without permission, and killed thousands single-handedly with his battle-axe. After defeating Goffarius, the Trojans crossed to the island of [Albion](#), which Brutus renamed Britain after himself. Corineus settled in Cornwall, which was then inhabited by giants. Brutus and his army killed most of them, but their leader, [Gogmagog](#), was kept alive for a wrestling match with Corineus. The fight took place near [Plymouth](#), and Corineus killed him by throwing him over a cliff.

Corineus was the first of the [Legendary Dukes of Cornwall](#). After Brutus died the rest of Britain was divided between his three sons, [Locrinus](#) (England), [Kamber](#) (Wales) and [Albanactus](#) (Scotland). Locrinus agreed to marry Corineus's daughter [Gwendolen](#), but fell in love instead with [Estrildis](#), a captured German princess. Corineus threatened war in response to this affront, and to pacify him Locrinus married Gwendolen, but kept Estrildis as his secret mistress. After Corineus died Locrinus divorced Gwendolen and married Estrildis, and Gwendolen responded by raising an army in Cornwall and making war against her ex-husband. Locrinus was killed in battle, and Gwendolen threw Estrildis and her daughter, Habren, into the [River Severn](#).

Maddan

Maddan was a legendary king of the [Britons](#) as accounted by [Geoffrey of Monmouth](#). He was the son of King [Locrinus](#) and [Queen Gwendolen](#), who both ruled [Britain](#) separately.

He was born during the reign of Locrinus but soon after, his grandfather [Corineus](#) of [Cornwall](#) died and his mother defeated Locrinus in battle. His mother reigned for the fifteen years of Maddan's adolescence then she abdicated in his favor. Soon after taking the throne, he married and became the father of [Mempricius](#) and Malin. For forty years he reigned peacefully until his death when civil war broke out between his sons.

Mempricius

Mempricius (*Welsh:* **Membyr**) was a legendary king of the Britons, as recounted by Geoffrey of Monmouth. He was the son of King Maddan and brother of Malin.

Upon his father's death, war broke out between Mempricius and his brother, Malin, over who would dominate Britain. Mempricius called a conference with his brother and other delegates to end the war between the two brothers. Once there, Mempricius killed Malin and took the throne of the Britons for himself.

He ruled as a tyrant for twenty years, killing most of the distinguished men on the island. More so, he defeated and killed all other claimants to the throne. He abandoned his wife and his son, Ebraucus, to live a life of sodomy. While on a hunting expedition, he was separated from his companions and attacked by a pack of wolves. He died and was succeeded by his son Ebraucus.

According to Geoffrey, he reigned at the same period as Saul in Judea and Eurysthenes in Sparta.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ebraucus

Ebraucus

Ebraucus (Welsh: **Efrawg**/**Efrog**) was a legendary king of the Britons, as recounted by Geoffrey of Monmouth. He was the son of King Mempricius before he abandoned the family.

Following the death of his father, Mempricius, he became king and reigned 39 years. According to Geoffrey he was admired, tall, and remarkably strong. He was the first to wage war on the Gauls since the time of Brutus. By pillaging the cities and shores and slaughtering many men, he became extremely wealthy and enriched the lands of Britain. He founded Kaerebrauc (City of Ebraucus) (later York) north of the Humber, (see Eboracum) and Alclud in Albany, (see Dunbarton, capital of Strathclyde). He had twenty wives who produced twenty sons and thirty daughters. All his daughters he sent to his cousin Silvius Alba in Alba Longa (Italy) to be married to the other Trojan descendants. Except for Brutus Greenshield, all of Ebraucus's sons, led by Assaracus, went to Germany, creating a kingdom there. Brutus thus succeeded Ebraucus upon his death.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brutus_Greenshield

Brutus Greenshield

Brutus Greenshield (*Welsh:* **Brutus Darian Las**) was a legendary king of the [Britons](http://en.wikipedia.org) as accounted by [Geoffrey of Monmouth](http://en.wikipedia.org). He was the son of King [Ebraucus](http://en.wikipedia.org).

Brutus, called Greenshield, was the eldest of twenty sons and the only remaining son of Ebraucus in [Britain](http://en.wikipedia.org) at the time of his death. All Ebraucus's other sons were in [Germany](http://en.wikipedia.org) establishing a new kingdom there. He reigned for twelve years after his father's death and was succeeded by his son, [Leil](http://en.wikipedia.org).

Leil

Leil was a legendary king of the [Britons](http://en.wikipedia.org) as accounted by [Geoffrey of Monmouth](http://en.wikipedia.org). He was the son of King [Brutus Greenshield](http://en.wikipedia.org).

Leil was a peaceful and just king and took advantage of the prosperity afforded him by his ancestors. He built [Caerleil](http://en.wikipedia.org) (Fort of Leil) in the north as a tribute to this prosperity. He reigned for twenty-five years until he grew old and feeble. His inactivity sparked a [civil war](http://en.wikipedia.org), during which he died. He was succeeded by his son [Rud Hud Hudibras](http://en.wikipedia.org).

Geoffrey asserts that Leil reigned at the time when [Solomon](http://en.wikipedia.org) built the [Temple in Jerusalem](http://en.wikipedia.org) and [Silvus Epitus](http://en.wikipedia.org) was king of [Alba Longa](http://en.wikipedia.org).

Rud Hud Hudibras

Rud Hud Hudibras was a legendary king of the [Britons](#) as recounted by [Geoffrey of Monmouth](#). He was the son of King [Leil](#) and ruled during a civil war.

During the waning years of Leil's reign, the kingdom of the Britons became unstable, and [civil war](#) broke out. Rud Hud Hudibras became king after his father's death and reigned for 39 years, ending the civil war and restoring peace to the kingdom. During his reign, he founded Kaerreint, later renamed [Canterbury](#) by the [Angles](#). He is also said to have founded Kaerguenit ([Winchester](#)) and Paladur Castle ([Shaftesbury](#)). He was succeeded by his son [Bladud](#).

He was said to have reigned at the time [Capys](#) was king in [Alba Longa](#) and [Haggai](#), [Amos](#), [Joel](#), and [Azariah](#) were prophesying in [Israel](#). Haggai began his ministry around 520 BC, whilst Amos is said to have prophesied during the reigns of [Uzziah of Judah](#) and [Jeroboam II](#), probably around 760 BC.

Bladud

Medieval sketch of Bladud

Bladud or Blaiddyd was a legendary king of the [Britons](#), for whose existence there is no historical evidence. He is first

mentioned in [Geoffrey of Monmouth](#)'s *[Historia Regum Britanniae](#)*, which describes him as the son of King [Rud Hud Hudibras](#), and the tenth ruler in line from the first King, [Brutus](#). This idea may have been based on a misinterpreted scrap of Welsh genealogy. The Welsh form of the name is given as *Blaiddyd* in manuscripts of the *[Brut Tysilio](#)* (Welsh translations of Geoffrey's *Historia*). In the text he is said to have founded the city of [Bath](#).
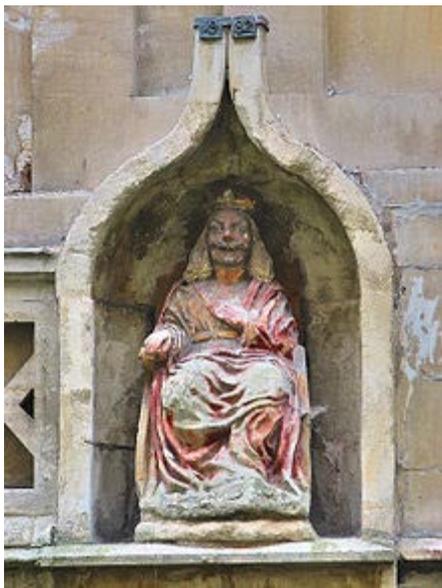
The tale of Bladud was later embellished by other authors. In its final form Bladud was sent by his father to be educated in the liberal arts at [Athens](#). After his father's death he returned, with four philosophers, and founded a [university](#) at [Stamford](#) in [Lincolnshire](#), which flourished until it was suppressed by Saint [Augustine of Canterbury](#) on account of heresies which were taught there. Supposedly he ruled for twenty years from 863 BC or perhaps 500 BC, in which time he built Kaerbadum or Caervaddon ([Bath](#)), creating the [hot springs](#) there by the use of magic. He dedicated the city to the goddess [Athena](#) or [Minerva](#), and in honour of her lit undying fires, whose flames turned to balls of stone as they grew low, with new ones springing up in their stead: an embellishment of an account from the fourth-century writer [Solinus](#) of the use of local coal on the altars of her temple.

Two of 104 decorated pigs on display in the English city of Bath during the summer of 2008. This public art event was called "King Bladud's Pigs in Bath"

He is said to have founded the city because while he was at Athens he contracted [leprosy](#), and when he returned home he was imprisoned as a result, but escaped and went far off to go into hiding. He found employment as a swineherd at [Swainswick](#), about two miles from the later site of [Bath](#), and noticed that his pigs would go into an alder-moor in cold weather and return covered in black mud. He found that the mud was warm, and that they did it to enjoy the heat. He also noticed that the pigs which did this did not suffer from skin diseases as others did, and on trying the mud bath himself found that he was cured of his leprosy. He was then restored to his position as heir-apparent to his father, and founded Bath so that others might also benefit as he had done.

The statue of King Bladud overlooking the [King's Bath](#) at Bath carries the date of 1699, but its inclusion in earlier pictures shows that it is much older than this.

The tale claims that he also encouraged the practice of [necromancy](#), or divination through the spirits of the dead. Through this practice, he is said to have constructed wings for himself and to have tried to fly to (or from) the temple of [Apollo](#) in Trinovantum (London) or Troja Nova (New Troy),

but to have been killed when he hit a wall, or to have fallen and been dashed to pieces or broken his neck. He was supposedly buried at New Troy and succeeded by his son, Leir. Eighteenth century Bath architect John Wood, the Elder wrote about Bladud, and put forth the fanciful suggestion that he should be identified with Abaris the Hyperborean, the healer known from Classical Greek sources

Leir of Britain

King Leir and Daughters

Leir is a legendary ancient king of the Britons, as recounted by Geoffrey of Monmouth. His story is told in much-modified and romanticized form in William Shakespeare's *King Lear*. In the drama, some names are identical to those of the legend (e.g. Goneril, Regan, Cordelia), and the events are very similar.

In Geoffrey's *Historia Regum Britanniae*, Leir followed his father, King Bladud, to the kingship of Britain and had the longest reign of all the kings at sixty years. The date of his reign is not

clear, but Geoffrey says that Leir's father lived at the same time as the Biblical prophet Elijah. He built the city of Kaerleir (Leicester) along the banks of the River Soar.

Unlike his predecessors, he produced no male heir to the throne but had three daughters: Goneril, Regan, and Cordelia, whom he favoured most. As he neared his death, he planned to divide the kingdom among his three daughters and their husbands. Goneril and Regan flattered their father and were married off to the Duke of Albany and Duke of Cornwall respectively, each being promised half of the kingdom to inherit. Cordelia, however, refused to flatter her father, feeling that he should not need special assurances of her love, and was given no land to rule. Aganippus, the king of the Franks, courted Cordelia and married her, although Leir refused her a dowry. Some time later, Leir became old, and the two dukes who had married his older daughters rebelled and seized the whole of the kingdom. Maglaurus, the Duke of Albany, maintained Leir in his old age, protecting him with 140 knights. However, Goneril disapproved of such extravagance and after two years decreased Leir's bodyguard to only thirty. He fled to Cornwall, where Regan decreased his guard to only five knights. He fled back to Albany and pleaded with Goneril, but he was given only one knight for protection.

Fearing his two older daughters, he fled to Gaul and his youngest child. Nearing insanity, he was nursed back to health by Cordelia, after which he was held in high honour in Gaul by the leaders, who vowed to restore him to his former glory. Leir, Cordelia, and Aganippus invaded Britain at the head of a large army and overthrew the dukes and their wives. Leir reclaimed the throne of Britain and reigned for three more years until his death. He was succeeded by Cordelia, who buried him in an underground chamber beneath the River Soar near Leicester. It was dedicated to the Roman god Janus and every year people celebrated his feast-day near Leir's tomb.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queen_Cordelia

Cordelia of Britain

Queen Cordelia was a legendary Queen of the Britons, as recounted by Geoffrey of Monmouth. She was the youngest daughter of Leir and the second ruling queen of Britain.

Cordelia was Leir's favourite daughter, being the younger sister to Goneril and Regan. When Leir decided to divide his kingdom between his daughters and their husbands, Cordelia refused to flatter him. In response, Leir refused her any land in Britain or the blessing of any husband. Regardless, Aganippus, the King of the Franks, courted her and Leir granted the marriage but denied him any dowry. She moved to Gaul and lived there for many years.

Cordelia's Portion by Ford Madox Brown

Leir was eventually exiled from Britain and fled to Cordelia in Gaul, seeking a restoration of his throne which had been seized by his other daughters' husbands. She raised an army and invaded Britain, defeating the ruling dukes and restoring Leir. After Leir's death three years later, her husband Aganippus died and Cordelia returned to Britain and was crowned Queen.

Cordelia ruled peacefully for five years until her sisters' sons, Cunedagius and Marganus, came of age. The dukes of Cornwall and Albany, respectively, they despised the rule of a woman when they claimed proper descent to rule. They raised armies and fought against Cordelia, who fought in person at numerous battles. She was eventually captured and imprisoned by her nephews. In her grief, she committed suicide. Cunedagius succeeded her in the kingship of Britain in the lands southwest of the Humber. Marganus ruled the region northeast of the Humber. Civil war broke out between them soon after.

The story was used by Shakespeare in his play *King Lear*.

Cunedagius

Cunedagius (latinized form; Welsh: *Cunedda*) was a legendary king of the Britons, as recounted by Geoffrey of Monmouth. He was the son of Henwinus, Duke of Cornwall, and Regan, the daughter of King Leir.

Cunedagius, grandson of Leir, despised the rule of his aunt Cordelia. With the help of his cousin Marganus, Cunedagius took over the kingdom from Cordelia and ruled half of it. Following Cordelia's suicide, Cunedagius came to rule the region of Britain southwest of the Humber.

Two years after they split the island, Marganus invaded Cornwall and destroyed much of the land. Cunedagius met him in battle and defeated him. Marganus fled throughout Britain until he was cornered in Wales. Cunedagius killed him and became king of all of Britain. He ruled all of Britain for 33 years and was succeeded by his son, Rivallo.

Geoffrey synchronizes Cunedagius' reign with the ministry of the Jewish prophet Isaiah and the building of Rome by Romulus and Remus. Both events are dated to the 8th century BC.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rivallo

Rivallo

Rivallo (*Welsh*: **Rhiwallon**) was a legendary king of the Britons as accounted by Geoffrey of Monmouth. He was the son of King Cunedagius and was noted as a young king who reigned frugally.

His reign was troubled by disasters: a rain of blood which lasted three days, a devastating plague, and a great swarm of flies. He was succeeded by his son, Gurgustius.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gurgustius

Gurgustius

Gurgustius (-810 - -725) (Welsh: *Gorust*) was a legendary king of the Britons as accounted by Geoffrey of Monmouth. He was the son of King Rivallo and was succeeded by Sisillius I.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_legendary_kings_of_Britain

The **list of legendary kings of Britain** derives predominantly from Geoffrey of Monmouth's circa 1136 work *Historia Regum Britanniae* ("the History of the Kings of Britain"). Geoffrey constructed a largely fictional history for the Britons (ancestors of the Welsh, the Cornish and the Bretons), partly based on the work of earlier medieval historians like Gildas, Nennius and Bede, partly from Welsh genealogies and saints' lives, partly from sources now lost and unidentifiable, and partly from his own imagination . Several of his kings are based on genuine historical figures, but appear in unhistorical narratives. A number of Middle Welsh versions of Geoffrey's *Historia* exist. All post-date Geoffrey's text, but may give us some insight into any native traditions Geoffrey may have drawn on.

Geoffrey's narrative begins with the exiled [Trojan](#) prince [Brutus](#), after whom Britain is supposedly named, a tradition previously recorded in less elaborate form in the 9th century *[Historia Brittonum](#)*. Brutus is a descendant of [Aeneas](#), the legendary Trojan ancestor of the founders of [Rome](#), and his story is evidently related to Roman foundation legends.

Family and legendary descendants

Aeneas had an extensive family tree. His [wet-nurse](#) was [Caieta](#), and he is the father of [Ascanius](#) with [Creusa](#), and of [Silvius](#) with Lavinia. The former, also known as [Iulus](#) (or Julius), founded [Alba Longa](#) and was the first in a long series of kings. According to the mythology outlined by Virgil in the *Aeneid,* [Romulus and Remus](#) were both descendants of Aeneas through their mother Rhea Silvia, making Aeneas progenitor of the Roman people. Some early sources call him their father or grandfather but considering the commonly accepted dates of the fall of Troy (1184 BC) and the founding of [Rome](#) (753 BC), this seems unlikely. The [Julian family](#) of Rome, most notably [Julius Cæsar](#) and [Augustus](#), traced their lineage to Ascanius and Aeneas, thus to the goddess Aphrodite. Through the Julians, the [Palemonids](#) also make this claim. The legendary [kings of Britain](#) also trace their family through a grandson of Aeneas, [Brutus](#)

Aftermath

After the death of Cadwallader in 682, the kings of the Brythons were reduced to such a small domain that they ceased to be kings of the whole [Brythonic-speaking](#) area. Two of his relatives, Yvor and Yni, led the exiles back from [Brittany](#), but were unable to re-establish a united kingship. The [Anglo-Saxon](#) invaders ruled the south-eastern part of the island of [Great Britain](#), which would become England, after that point in time under the [Bretwaldas](#) and later the [kings of England](#).

The heirs to the Celtic-British throne continued through the [Welsh](#) kings of [Gwynedd](#) until that line was forced to submit itself to the [English](#) in the 13th century. Princes and lords of Gwynedd ruled until the reign of [Dafydd III](#), who ruled from 1282 to 1283. His death marked the end of the house of Brutus. [Owen Tudor](#), grandfather of [Henry VII of England](#), was a maternal descendant of the kings of Gwynedd; Henry's marriage with [Elizabeth of York](#) thus signified the merging of the two royal houses (as well as the feuding houses of [York](#) and [Lancaster](#))