

# Fifty-second Generation

**King Coel Hen "The Old"** (Guotepauc<sup>53</sup>, Tegfan<sup>54</sup>, Teuhvant<sup>55</sup>, Telpuil<sup>56</sup>, Erb (Urbanus)<sup>57</sup>, Gratus<sup>58</sup>, Iumetel<sup>59</sup>, Ritigern<sup>60</sup>, Oudicant<sup>61</sup>, Outigern<sup>62</sup>, Eliud<sup>63</sup>, Eudaf<sup>64</sup>, Eudelen<sup>65</sup>, Amalech<sup>66</sup>, Beli<sup>67</sup>, Bran the Blessed<sup>68</sup>, Llyr (Lear)<sup>69</sup>, Caswallon<sup>70</sup>, Beli Mawr<sup>71</sup>) birth date unknown. Ruler of the northern Britons 410-430.

Whether the nursery rhyme about Old King Cole has any connection with the real King Coel is unlikely, but that a real King Coel existed is undisputed. He was a native of Britain whose forebears had probably been high-ranking individuals amongst the Romano-British nobility. He was likely to be either from the British tribe of the Brigantes or, more likely, the Votadini. In the late fourth century and early fifth century the northern frontier of the Roman empire came under fierce attack from the Picts to the north. Coel has become the name associated with the leader who took control during this period. To the extent of Coel's kingdom is uncertain. Coel seems to have dominated the area for perhaps 20 years, possibly up to the year 430. One legend has him dying fighting the Irish near Ayr.

King Coel Hen "The Old" married **Ystradwal** and had the following children:

1. **King Ceneu**<sup>57</sup>.
2. Gwawl. She married King Cunedda Lothian (Gododdin).
3. King Garbaniawn.



## Emperor Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

(Marcus Annius<sup>53</sup> Verus\_) (often referred to as "the wise"; April 26, 121 – March 17, 180) was Roman Emperor from 161 to his death in 180. He was the last of the "Five Good Emperors", and is also considered one of the most important Stoic philosophers.

He was originally named Marcus Annius Catilius Severus. When he married he took the name Marcus Annius Verus, and when he was named Emperor, he was given the name Marcus Aurelius Antoninus.

Marcus Aurelius was the only son of Marcus Annius Verus and Domitia Lucilla. Marcus Aurelius' father was of Romano-Spanish origin, and served as a praetor and died when Marcus was three years old. Marcus Aurelius credits him with teaching him "manliness without ostentation". His mother was of Italian ancestry. His only natural sibling was his younger sister Annia Cornificia Faustina, who was about 2 years younger than he. Domitia Lucilla came from a wealthy family who were of consular rank.

In 137, Hadrian had announced that his eventual successor would be Lucius Ceionius Commodus, renamed L. Aelius Caesar. Marcus had already attracted the attention of Hadrian (who had nicknamed him *verissimus*, which translates as "truest") and had been made a member of the equestrian order when he was six; he was subsequently engaged to Ceionia Fabia, Commodus' daughter. The engagement, however, was annulled later after the death of Commodus, as Marcus was betrothed to Antoninus' daughter, Faustina.



Emperor Marcus Aurelius Antoninus and Faustina had the following child:

1. **Crispus**<sup>57</sup> **Commodus**.

On the death of Hadrian's first adopted son L. Aelius Verus, Hadrian made it a precondition of making Antoninus his successor that Antoninus would adopt Marcus (then called Marcus Aelius Aurelius Verus) and Lucius Ceionius Commodus (Lucius Aelius' son, ten years junior than Marcus, renamed Lucius Aurelius Verus), and arrange for them to be next in the line.

This Antoninus did, adopting and designating them as his successors on February 25, 138, when Marcus was only seventeen years of age. He would become emperor at 40. It has been suggested that Commodus and Antoninus Pius were designed by Hadrian only as "place warmers" for the young Marcus and Verus.

When Antoninus Pius died (March 7, 161), Marcus accepted the throne on the condition that he and Verus were made joint emperors (*Augusti*). Though formally equal from the constitutional point of view, Verus, younger and probably less popular, looks to have been subordinate in practice.

Marcus' insistence to have Verus elected with him was motivated by his loyalty towards the will of their adoptive father. The joint succession may have also been motivated by military experiences, since, during his reign, Marcus Aurelius was almost constantly at war with various peoples outside the empire. A highly authoritative figure was needed to command the troops, yet the emperor himself could not defend both the German and Parthian fronts at the same time. Neither could he simply appoint a general to lead the legions; earlier popular military leaders like Julius Caesar and Vespasian had used the military to overthrow the existing government and install themselves as supreme leaders. Marcus Aurelius solved the problem by sending Verus to command the legions in the east. Verus was authoritative enough to command the full loyalty of the troops, but already powerful enough that he had little incentive to overthrow Marcus. Verus remained loyal until his death in 169. This joint emperorship was reminiscent of the political system of the Roman Republic, which functioned according to the principle of collegiality and did not allow a single person to hold supreme power. Joint rule was revived by Diocletian's establishment of the Tetrarchy in the late 3rd century.

Under Marcus' reign, the status of Christians remained the same since the time of Trajan. They were legally punishable, though in fact rarely persecuted. In 177 a group of Christians were executed at Lyon, for example, but the act is mainly attributable to the initiative of the local governor.

Marcus Aurelius died on March 17, 180, in the city of Vindobona (modern Vienna), his son and successor Commodus accompanying him. He was immediately deified and his ashes were returned to Rome, and rested in Hadrian's mausoleum (modern Castel Sant'Angelo) until the Visigoth sack of the city in 410. His campaigns against Germans and Sarmatians were also commemorated by a column and a temple in Rome.

**King Arviragus** (King Cymbeline<sup>53</sup>, King Tenuantius<sup>54</sup>, King Lud<sup>55</sup>, King Beli (Heli)<sup>56</sup>, Manogan<sup>57</sup>) (or **Arviragus**) was a legendary, and possibly historical, British king of the 1st century AD. A shadowy historical Arviragus is known only from a cryptic reference in a satirical poem by Juvenal, in which a giant turbot presented to the Roman emperor Domitian (AD 81 – 96) is said to be an omen that "you will capture some king, or Arviragus will fall from his British chariot-pole."

He married **Venissa** Emperor Claudius I<sup>53</sup>, Nero Claudius Drusus<sup>54</sup>, Tiberius Claudius Nero<sup>55</sup>, Appius Claudius Nero<sup>56</sup>). King Arviragus and Venissa had the following child:

1. **King Meric**<sup>57</sup> .

Arviragus is a son of the former king Kimbelinus. He succeeds to the throne of Britain after his elder brother, Guiderius, dies fighting the invading Romans under Claudius. Arviragus puts on his brother's armor and leads the army of the Britons against the Romans. When he learns that Claudius and his commander, Hamo, have fled into the woods, Arviragus follows him until they reach the coast. The Britons kill Hamo as he tries to flee onto a ship and the place is named Southampton after him. Claudius is able to reassemble his troops elsewhere and he besieges Portchester until it falls to his forces.

Following Hamo's death, Arviragus seeks refuge at Winchester, but Claudius follows him there with his army. The Britons break the siege and attack the Romans, but Claudius halts the attack and offers a treaty. In exchange for peace and tribute with Rome, Claudius offers Arviragus his own daughter in marriage. They accept each other's terms and Arviragus aids Claudius in subduing Orkney and other northern lands.

In the following spring, Arviragus weds Claudius' daughter, Genvissa, and names the city of Gloucester after her father. Following the wedding, Claudius leaves Britain in the control of Arviragus. In the years following Claudius' departure, Arviragus rebuilds the cities that have been ruined and becomes feared by his neighbors. This causes him to halt his tribute to Rome, forcing Claudius to send Vespasian with an army to Britain. As Vespasian prepares to land, such a large British force stands ready that he flees to another port, Totnes, where he sets up camp.

Once a base is established, he marches to Exeter and besieges the city. Arviragus meets him in battle there and the fight is stalemated. The following morning, Queen Genvissa mediates peace between the two foes. Vespasian returns to Rome and Arviragus rules the country peacefully for some years. When he finally dies, he is buried in Gloucester, the city he built with Claudius. He is succeeded by his son, Marius (Meric).

## **King Lleuver Mawr (Lucius The Great)**

(Prince Coel<sup>53</sup>, St. Cyllin<sup>54</sup>, King Caradoc<sup>55</sup>, King Bran<sup>56</sup>, King Llyr (Lear)<sup>57</sup>) birth date unknown.

A semi-legendary King of the Britons. Baptized at Winchester by his father's first cousin, St. Timothy, according to legend. Lucius the Great founded the first church at Llandaff and established Christianity in place of Druidism. Lucius was a king of the Britons in the mid second century who sent his emissaries to the Bishop of Rome, Eleutherius, seeking help in the Christian ministry in Britain. At this time there was considerable persecution of the Christians in Gaul and many fled to Britain for safety. Lucius must have protected them there and become sufficiently established to be remembered centuries later. Interestingly there was a Roman general, Lucius Artorius Castus, who was prominent in Britain at this time as he led the army that helped quell the civil unrest in Brittany. It is possible that this same Roman would have become regarded as a protector of Christians. Lucius died with no heirs which left Britain in a state of turmoil, prone to usurpers. Welsh tradition however lists many descendants

of Lucius including the future leaders of Gwent, Powys, Strathclyde, Cornwall and Brittany.

He married **Eurgen** (King Meric<sup>51</sup>, King Arviragus<sup>52</sup>, King Cymbeline<sup>53</sup>, King Tenuantius<sup>54</sup>, King Lud<sup>55</sup>, King Beli (Heli)<sup>56</sup>, Manogan<sup>57</sup>) birth date unknown. King Lleuwer Mawr (Lucius The Great) and Eurgen had the following child:

1. **Gladys "The Younger"**<sup>51</sup> .

King Lleuwer Mawr died 181.

**King Cadwallon Lawhir (Longhand)** (King Einion Yrth Venedos<sup>53</sup>, King Cunedda Lothian (Gododdin)<sup>54</sup>, Edern<sup>55</sup>, Paternus<sup>56</sup>, Tacit<sup>57</sup>, Cein<sup>58</sup>, Guorcein<sup>59</sup>, Doli<sup>60</sup>, Guordoli<sup>61</sup>, Dyfwn<sup>62</sup>, Gurdumn<sup>63</sup>) was born c 500.

A grandson of Cunedda and father of the notorious Maelgwyn, Cadwallon succeeded his father as ruler of Venedotian territory in North Wales.

We can derive some understanding of Cadwallon from his name and nickname. Cadwallon became a common Welsh name, especially amongst rulers, because it translates as "battle leader", though this is its first appearance amongst the post-Roman rulers. Lawhir means Longhand, and almost certainly refers to a physical attribute rather than meaning his power extended over a large area. As his son, Maelgwyn, was also known as the Tall, we can imagine that Cadwallon was a tall and powerful leader who held his territory by the regular deployment of troops around North Wales.

It was during Cadwallon's reign that Arthur gained victory over the Saxons at Badon. Although we do not know that Cadwallon was present at the battle, we can presume that he was involved in earlier skirmishes against the Saxons, most likely in the territory around Chester and down through the Welsh marches. Although he would have benefited from the peace that followed Badon, Cadwallon had to remain on the alert to defend his western borders from continued threats from the Irish.

One noted episode remembered by the Welsh bards is that Cadwallon led his army into Anglesley to defeat the Irish and claim the island, which later became his base. It is possible that Cadwallon was succeeded by a brother, whose name we do not know, who was subsequently murdered by Maelgwyn.

King Cadwallon had the following child:

1. **King Maelgwn**<sup>51</sup> .

**Vortigern** birth date unknown. High King of Britain, 425-466, 471-480.

Vortigern is a title, not a name; it means "High King". Although the later literary tradition has blackened Vortigern's reputation, making him something of a traitor to the British, in the years after his death Welsh leaders were proud to claim their descent from him. His successors through Pascent ruled mid-east Wales. Vortigern came to

power some time around the year 425. He was probably the first post-Roman ruler to be declared High King of Britain.

Tradition states that Vortigern married a daughter of Magnus Maximus called Servia. For over twenty years Vortigern led the organization and defense of Britain. This was a period of continued civil war, famine and raids from the Picts, Irish and Saxons. His endeavors to defend Britain became increasingly difficult and eventually, around 449, he and his council of elders took the decision to buy the help of Saxon mercenaries. These mercenaries under Hengest, help the British drive back the Picts and in return Vortigern gave them the Isle of Thanet. Later tradition states that Vortigern became infatuated with Hengest's daughter Rowena, and he was given her hand in marriage in exchange for more land. Vortigern was overthrown by his son Vertigern. However he was killed in battle and Vortigern was restored to the throne. There are many legends surrounding Vortigern, most notably his role in the discovery of Merlin.

Vortigern had the following children:

1. **King Pascent**<sup>51</sup> .
2. Vortimer.

Vortigern died 480.

**King Aed** (King Corath<sup>53</sup>, King Eochaid<sup>54</sup>, Artchorp<sup>55</sup>, Angus<sup>56</sup>, Fiachu<sup>57</sup>) birth date unknown. King of Demetia 450's.

King Aed had the following child:

1. **King Tryffin I Farfog "The Bearded"**<sup>51</sup> .

**Duke Theodon III** (Duke Theodon II<sup>53</sup>, Duke Theodon I<sup>54</sup>) birth date unknown. Duke of Bavaria.

Duke Theodon III had the following child:

1. **Duke Theodebert**<sup>51</sup> .

Theodon died 565.

**Zucchilo of the Lombards** (Claffo<sup>53</sup>, King Gudeac<sup>54</sup>) birth date unknown. Zucchilo of the Lombards had the following child:

1. **Wacho**<sup>51</sup> .

**King Elemund of the Gepidae** birth date unknown. King Elemund of the Gepidae had the following child:

1. **Ostrogotha of the Gepidae**<sup>51</sup> .

**Duke Boggis of Aquitaine** (Duke Charibert II of Aquitaine<sup>53</sup>) birth date unknown, was the Duke of Aquitaine from the death of Chilperic of Aquitaine in 632 until his death.

His origins are not well known, but some suppose to have been a son of Charibert II based on the spurious Charte d'Alaon.

Nicholas' *Vita Landberti episcopi Traiectensis* records him as "the recently deceased duke of Aquitaine" when referring to his widow Oda as a friend of Lambert. He is presumed to have married her around 645.

Duke Boggis of Aquitaine had the following child:

1. **Duke Eudes "Otto" of Aquitaine**<sup>51</sup> .

On Chilperic's death, the Aquitainians rebelled and elected Boggis duke. That same year, the Gascons rebelled. King Dagobert I sent an army under the command of Chandoina, who achieved a partial victory on the Soule, killing the Gascon leader Arimbert and several other lesser generals. After a few reprisals, Dagobert nominated the Saxon Aighyna as *dux Vasconum*: he would protect Gascon autonomy, while remaining amenable to Frankish overlordship. Boggis continued to rule semi-autonomously in Aquitaine.

Boggis died 688.

**Duke Clodius I** (Duke Dagobert<sup>53</sup>, King Walter<sup>54</sup>, King Clodius III<sup>55</sup>, King Bartherus<sup>56</sup>, King Hilderic<sup>57</sup>, King Sunna<sup>58</sup>, King Farabert<sup>59</sup>, King Cladimir IV<sup>60</sup>, King Marcomir IV<sup>61</sup>, King Odamar<sup>62</sup>, King Richemer I<sup>63</sup>, King Ratherius<sup>64</sup>, King Antenor IV<sup>65</sup>, King Clodemir III<sup>66</sup>, King Marcomir III<sup>67</sup>, King Clodius II<sup>68</sup>, King Francus<sup>69</sup>, King Antharius<sup>70</sup>, King Cassander<sup>71</sup>, King Merodacus<sup>72</sup>, King Clodomir II<sup>73</sup>, King Antenor<sup>74</sup>, King Clodius<sup>75</sup>, King Marcomir<sup>76</sup>, King Nicanor<sup>77</sup>, King Clodomir I<sup>78</sup>, King Bassanus Magnus<sup>79</sup>, King Diocles<sup>80</sup>, King Helenus I<sup>81</sup>, King Priamus<sup>82</sup>, King Antenor I<sup>83</sup>, King Marcomir<sup>84</sup>, King Antenor of Commerians<sup>85</sup>) birth date unknown.

Duke Clodius I had the following child:

1. **Duke Marcomir**<sup>51</sup> .

Clodius died 389.

**Elsa** (Gewis<sup>53</sup>, Wig<sup>54</sup>, Freawine<sup>55</sup>, Frithugar<sup>56</sup>, Brond<sup>57</sup>, Baeldaeg<sup>58</sup>, Woden<sup>59</sup>, Frithuwald<sup>60</sup>, Frealaf<sup>61</sup>, Frithuwulf<sup>62</sup>, Finn<sup>63</sup>) birth date unknown.

Elsa had the following child:

1. **Elesa**<sup>51</sup> .

**Eochaid** (King Eochaid<sup>53</sup>, King Corbred (Cairbre)<sup>54</sup>, King Conaire<sup>55</sup>, Moglama<sup>56</sup>) birth date unknown. Eochaid had the following child:

1. **Erc**<sup>51</sup> .

Eochaid died Before 439.