



HOW DID THE MONARCHY COME TO ENGLAND?

Since the last war, evidence been amassed conclusively demonstrates that vovages from the eastern Mediterranean to the islands and sea coasts of Europe were common as early as 2,000 BC. In fact long before the fall Jerusalem in 586 BC there were regular trading vovages Ireland and the coasts of Britain. It is then not far fetched to suggest that the monarchy, or rather the monarch, came to Ireland on a boat but it would have been a good sized ocean sailing boat and not a dinghy as in the above cartoon!

The Age of the British Monarchy

Britain has the oldest surviving monarchy in the world. The Queen's ancestry is traced through Alfred the Great to Egbert, then to the Saxon invader Cerdic (Welsh 'Caradog') who died in 534AD. The family tree stretches for generations beyond Cerdic to remote Saxon chieftains.

The Queen also descends from the Kings of Scotland and Ireland through both her parents. She is twelfth in descent from King James VI of Scotland and is also descended from Brian Boru, the most famous King of Ireland. Her mother, Queen Elizabeth, also had Royal Scottish and Irish blood with her direct ancestor, Sir John Lyon being married to Jean, daughter of King Robert II of Scotland. She was also the great-granddaughter of the Marquess Wellesley, whose lineage is traced to King Brian Boru.

Authority

Queen Elizabeth II is Head of State, the Armed Forces, Commonwealth and also Supreme Governor of the Church of England, hence she cannot be a Roman Catholic. Technically her approval (The Royal Assent) is necessary for all laws passed by Parliament and for the appointment of all members of the Government. The Queen still has certain prerogative powers (the Royal Prerogative) enabling her to make decisions without the consent of Parliament.

Cost to the Taxpayer

Some people say the Monarchy is an expensive luxury. However, the cost to the taxpayer is a very small proportion of the national expenditure.