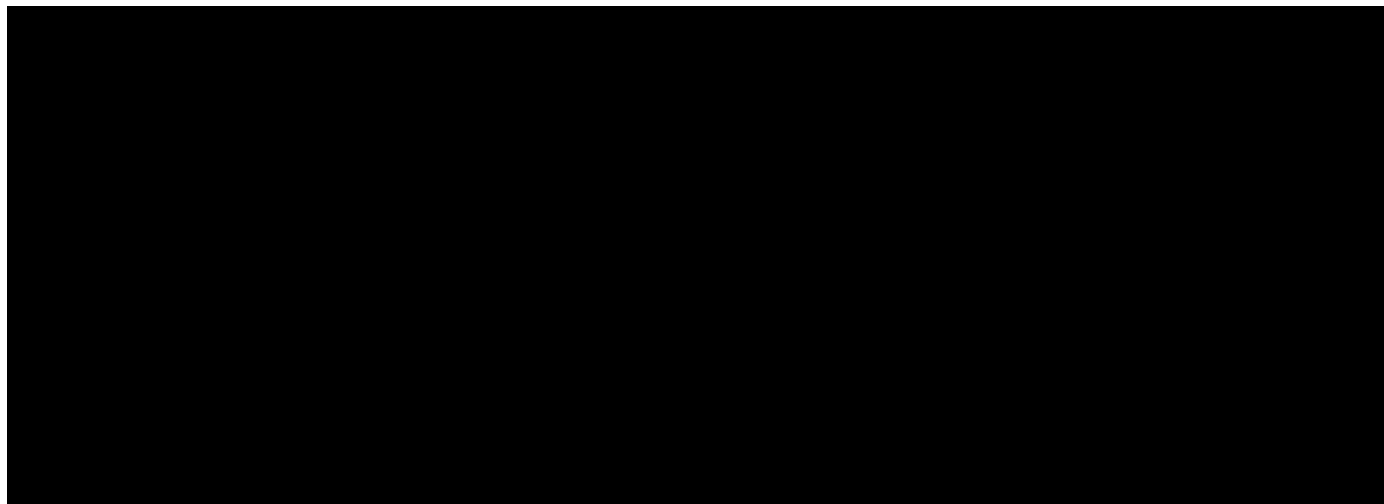




CADWALLON (died 633), prince



Name: Cadwallon
Date of death: 633
Child: Cadwaladr ap Cadwallon
Parent: Cadfan ap Iago
Gender: Male
Occupation: prince
Area of activity: Military; Politics, Government and Political Movements; Royalty and Society
Author: John Edward Lloyd

The son of **Cadfan** and succeeded his father about 625. Owing to the part played by him in English affairs, as narrated by Bede, his historical role is open to no doubt. He was the opponent of Edwin of Deira, and that king's advance along the coast of North Wales and conquest of Anglesey drove him into exile, probably, as tradition avers, in Ireland, with a faithful body of retainers. History records an incident of the campaign - his narrow escape from capture in 631 in the island of Priestholm.

In the following year there was a striking reverse of fortune; with the aid of Penda of Mercia, Cadwallon and his forces invaded Deira in 632 and on 12 October defeated and slew Edwin in the battle of Heathfield (Hatfield, near Doncaster ?), known to Welsh tradition as Meigen. The victory placed Northumbria at his feet and was so signal as to suggest that the hour had come to re-establish British supremacy in the island. But the opportunity, the last of its kind, was not wisely used. Cadwallon showed no statesmanship and was content to ravage the country, sparing neither age nor sex and paying no regard, though himself a professing Christian, to the Christianity already introduced there by a Roman mission. A year passed and the last weeks of 633 found him encamped with a large army in the moorlands south of Hexham (a spot known to the Welsh as 'Cantysgol' and 'Cantscawl'). Here Oswald of Bernicia fell upon him and his host, after a night march from the Roman Wall; the surprise was complete and, in the ensuing rout of the British, Cadwallon was slain.

Author

Sir **John Edward Lloyd**, (1861 - 1947)

Sources

J. E. Lloyd, *A History of Wales from the Earliest Times to the Edwardian Conquest*(London 1911), 182-8

F. M. Stenton, *Anglo-Saxon England* (1943, 1947), 80-1

Bulletin of the Board of Celtic Studies, vi, 351-4

Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [Cadwallon ap Cadfan](#)

Additional Links

Wikidata: [Q962398](#)

Published date: 1959

Article Copyright: <http://rightsstatements.org/page/InC-RUU/1.0/>

The Dictionary of Welsh Biography is provided by The National Library of Wales and the University of Wales Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies. It is free to use and does not receive grant support. A donation would help us maintain and improve the site so that we can continue to acknowledge Welsh men and women who have made notable contributions to life in Wales and beyond.

Find out more on our [sponsorship page](#).



APA Citation



Lloyd, J. E., (1959). CADWALLON (died 633), prince. *Dictionary of Welsh Biography*. Retrieved 9 Nov 2024, from <https://biography.wales/article/s-CADW-APC-0591>

[Copy to Clipboard](#)

[Privacy & Cookies](#)
[Copyright](#)
[The Project](#)
[Help](#)
[Contact](#)

LGC
NLW

LLYFRGEL
THE NATION



llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government