



### Rulers of Deheubarth

- Ancient Welsh kingdom ruled by the House of Dinefwr, descendants of Hywel Dda, since the tenth century.
- The kingdom was lost to Gruffydd ap Llywelyn in 1055 but it was reclaimed by Rhys ap Tewdwr after family disputes in 1078.
- Rhys ap Tewdwr was recognised as ruler of this territory by William the Conqueror, leader of the Normans, in 1081.
- Rhys ap Tewdwr was killed by Norman settlers in 1093 and his lands were taken by the Norman lord Bernard de Neufmarché.

### Gruffydd ap Rhys

- Born in 1090 but taken to Ireland for his safety in 1093.
- In 1113, he returned to Wales to join in a rebellion against the Normans, settled with Norman king Henry I in 1122.
- Set up home in the commote of Caeo in Cantref Mawr; this was all that was left of his ancestral lands, where he started a family.
- He joined Gruffydd ap Cynan, ruler of Gwynedd, in a revolt against the Normans in 1136, winning the battle at Crug Mawr.
- He died under mysterious circumstances in 1137.

### Gwenllian ferch Gruffydd ap Cynan

- Daughter of the King of Gwynedd, Gruffydd ap Cynan, born on Ynys Môn around the year 1097.
- Married Gruffydd ap Rhys, the prince of Deheubarth, in 1116 – they had six sons and two daughters together.
- Led an army against the Norman lord Maurice de Londres in 1136 while her husband was away fighting.
- Was defeated and beheaded at Kidwelly Castle; her eldest sons Maelgwyn and Morgan also died in this battle.

### The surviving sons of Gruffydd ap Rhys and Gwenllian ferch Gruffydd ap Cynan

#### Anarawd ap Gruffydd

- Ruled Deheubarth from 1137.
- Maintained Gwynedd alliance against the Normans.
- Defeated Normans at Cardigan Castle in 1138.
- Supported Owain Gwynedd's choice for bishop of Bangor in 1140.
- Killed on the orders of Owain Gwynedd's brother Cadwaladr in 1143.

#### Cadell ap Gruffydd

- Became ruler of Deheubarth in 1143.
- Captured castles at Carmarthen, Llanstephan and Wiston with his brothers Maredudd and Rhys.
- In 1151, he was attacked by Normans so in 1153 he retired and went on a pilgrimage to Rome.
- Returned in the 1160s; buried at Strata Florida in 1175.

#### Maredudd ap Gruffydd

- Fought with his brothers in the 1140s, successfully defending Carmarthen Castle in 1150.
- Fought against Gwynedd for control of Ceredigion from 1151 to 1155.
- Worked with his brother Rhys to capture Tenby and Aberavon castles.
- Died aged 25 in 1155.

#### Rhys ap Gruffudd

- Fought alongside his brothers against the Normans and Gwynedd from 1146, aged 14.
- Inherited rule of Deheubarth in 1155 after peacefully supporting his brothers.
- Married Gwenllian ferch Madog ap Maredudd, daughter of the prince of Powys in 1155.