

Henry the Eighth

Donal Thompson



462 years ago today Henry the Eighth of England died of Type II diabetes at the age of 55. The lives of many English kings and queens are very boring. But Henry was one of the interesting ones.

Henry the Eighth was very fat. He had a waist measurement of 54 inches or 137 cm. He had six wives.

1. Catherine of Aragon
2. Anne Boleyn
3. Jane Seymour
4. Anne of Cleves
5. Catherine Howard
6. Catherine Parr

He also invented the Church of England when the Pope Clement VII disagreed with him about the legality of his marriages. Henry the Eighth unified England and Wales, founded the Royal Navy and composed the very popular melody 'Greensleeves'.

The life of Henry VIII is represented in many books and films. In 1966 Fred Zinneman made the film [A Man for All Season's](#). The film tells the story of Saint Thomas Moore and how he refused to support the king against the pope. It is a very moving story and shows how powerful the king really was.