

Chapter 1 : William - Wikipedia

*My name is Billy and I have a tendency to change my title. I discuss comic books, movies, writing, cartoons and anime as well as politics. I consider myself.*

Permanent Scandinavian settlement occurred before 911, when Rollo, one of the Viking leaders, and King Charles the Simple of France reached an agreement surrendering the county of Rouen to Rollo. The lands around Rouen became the core of the later duchy of Normandy. Alfred returned to England in 878 to visit his mother and perhaps to challenge Harold as king. William was born in or at Falaise, Duchy of Normandy, most likely towards the end of 1027. Robert was accused by some writers of killing his brother, a plausible but now unprovable charge. It is unclear if William would have been supplanted in the ducal succession if Robert had had a legitimate son. Although some of his supporters tried to dissuade him from undertaking the journey, Robert convened a council in January 1066 and had the assembled Norman magnates swear fealty to William as his heir [2] [15] before leaving for Jerusalem. He died in early July at Nicea, on his way back to Normandy. Some relatives switched sides over time, and are marked with both symbols. William faced several challenges on becoming duke, including his illegitimate birth and his youth: At first, Alan of Brittany had custody of the duke, but when Alan died in either late September or October 1034, Gilbert of Brionne took charge of William. According to stories that may have legendary elements, an attempt was made to seize William at Valognes, but he escaped under cover of darkness, seeking refuge with King Henry. The period from 1066 to 1071 saw almost continuous warfare, with lesser crises continuing until 1071. After a long effort, the duke succeeded in exiling Guy in 1071. They succeeded in capturing an Angevin fortress, but accomplished little else. William is in the centre, Odo is on the left with empty hands, and Robert is on the right with a sword in his hand. The first, which he led, faced Henry. This second force defeated the invaders at the Battle of Mortemer. According to a late source not generally considered to be reliable, papal sanction was not secured until 1066, but as papal-Norman relations in the 11th century were generally good, and Norman clergy were able to visit Rome in without incident, it was probably secured earlier. He enjoyed excellent health until old age, although he became quite fat in later life. He was not known as a patron of authors, and there is little evidence that he sponsored scholarship or other intellectual activities. Medieval writers criticised William for his greed and cruelty, but his personal piety was universally praised by contemporaries. It was a fairly simple administrative system, built around the ducal household, [53] which consisted of a group of officers including stewards, butlers, and marshalls. This income was collected by the chamber, one of the household departments. He took part in church councils and made several appointments to the Norman episcopate, including the appointment of Maurilius as Archbishop of Rouen. Kings of England are shown in bold. In the childless King Edward of England appears to have chosen William as his successor to the English throne. It was during this exile that Edward offered the throne to William. Local nobles resisted the claim, but William invaded and by 1066 had secured control of the area. In 1066 William invaded Brittany in a campaign that remains obscure in its details. Its effect, though, was to destabilise Brittany, forcing the duke, Conan II, to focus on internal problems rather than on expansion. William also benefited from his campaign in Brittany by securing the support of some Breton nobles who went on to support the invasion of England in 1066. Other sons were granted earldoms later: It may have been Norman propaganda designed to discredit Harold, who had emerged as the main contender to succeed King Edward. Harold, perhaps to secure the support of Edwin and Morcar in his bid for the throne, supported the rebels and persuaded King Edward to replace Tostig with Morcar. Edward was ailing, and he died on 5 January 1066. One story, deriving from the Vita Edwardi, a biography of Edward, claims that Edward was attended by his wife Edith, Harold, Archbishop Stigand, and Robert FitzWimarc, and that the king named Harold as his successor. Later English sources stated that Harold had been elected as king by the clergy and magnates of England. English sources claim that Ealdred, the Archbishop of York, performed the ceremony, while Norman sources state that the coronation was performed by Stigand, who was considered a non-canonical archbishop by the papacy. Tostig appears to have received little local support, and further raids into Lincolnshire and near the River Humber met with no more success, so he retreated to Scotland, where he remained for a time. Although some sort of formal assembly probably

was held, it is unlikely that any debate took place, as the duke had by then established control over his nobles, and most of those assembled would have been anxious to secure their share of the rewards from the conquest of England. Henry was still a minor, however, and Sweyn was more likely to support Harold, who could then help Sweyn against the Norwegian king, so these claims should be treated with caution. Although Alexander did give papal approval to the conquest after it succeeded, no other source claims papal support prior to the invasion. To deal with Norman affairs, William put the government of Normandy into the hands of his wife for the duration of the invasion. Although the army and fleet were ready by early August, adverse winds kept the ships in Normandy until late September. William would have preferred to delay the invasion until he could make an unopposed landing. King Harold received word of their invasion and marched north, defeating the invaders and killing Tostig and Hardrada on 25 September at the Battle of Stamford Bridge. William then moved to Hastings, a few miles to the east, where he built a castle as a base of operations. Battle of Hastings After defeating Harald Hardrada and Tostig, Harold left much of his army in the north, including Morcar and Edwin, and marched the rest south to deal with the threatened Norman invasion. Harold stopped in London, and was there for about a week before marching to Hastings, so it is likely that he spent about a week on his march south, averaging about 27 miles 43 kilometres per day, [81] for the distance of approximately miles kilometres. The exact events preceding the battle are obscure, with contradictory accounts in the sources, but all agree that William led his army from his castle and advanced towards the enemy. Two further Norman retreats were feigned, to once again draw the English into pursuit and expose them to repeated attacks by the Norman cavalry. Waltham Abbey, which had been founded by Harold, later claimed that his body had been secretly buried there. After waiting a short while, William secured Dover, parts of Kent, and Canterbury, while also sending a force to capture Winchester, where the royal treasury was. Next he led his forces around the south and west of London, burning along the way. He finally crossed the Thames at Wallingford in early December. William then sent forces into London to construct a castle; he was crowned at Westminster Abbey on Christmas Day. Ecclesiastical offices continued to be held by the same bishops as before the invasion, including the uncanonical Stigand. He left his half-brother Odo, the Bishop of Bayeux, in charge of England along with another influential supporter, William fitzOsbern, the son of his former guardian. The town held out for 18 days, and after it fell to William he built a castle to secure his control. Their forces landed near Bristol but were defeated by Eadnoth. By Easter, William was at Winchester, where he was soon joined by his wife Matilda, who was crowned in May. Edwin and Morcar submitted, but William continued on to York, building castles at York and Nottingham before returning south. On his southbound journey, the king began constructing castles at Lincoln, Huntingdon, and Cambridge. Then the king returned to Normandy late in the year. Although William returned to York and built another castle, Edgar remained free, and in the autumn he joined up with King Sweyn of Denmark. York was captured by the combined forces of Edgar and Sweyn. Edgar was proclaimed king by his supporters, but William responded swiftly, ignoring a continental revolt in Maine. William symbolically wore his crown in the ruins of York on Christmas Day, and then proceeded to buy off the Danes. He marched to the River Tees, ravaging the countryside as he went. But William was not finished; he marched over the Pennines during the winter and defeated the remaining rebels at Shrewsbury before building castles at Chester and Stafford. This campaign, which included the burning and destruction of part of the countryside that the royal forces marched through, is usually known as the "Harrying of the North"; it was over by April, when William wore his crown ceremonially for Easter at Winchester. The legates ceremonially crowned William during the Easter court. Some of the native abbots were also deposed, both at the council held near Easter and at a further one near Whitsun. The Whitsun council saw the appointment of Lanfranc as the new Archbishop of Canterbury, and Thomas of Bayeux as the new Archbishop of York, to replace Ealdred, who had died in September. William was able to secure the departure of Sweyn and his fleet in the summer, [] allowing him to return to the continent to deal with troubles in Maine, where the town of Le Mans had revolted in the summer. Another concern was the death of Count Baldwin VI of Flanders in July, which led to a succession crisis as his widow, Richilde, was ruling for their two young sons, Arnulf and Baldwin. Richilde proposed marriage to William fitzOsbern, who was in Normandy, and fitzOsbern accepted. But after he was killed in February at the Battle of Cassel, Robert became count. Earl Edwin was betrayed by his own men and

killed, while William built a causeway to subdue the Isle of Ely, where Hereward the Wake and Morcar were hiding. Hereward escaped, but Morcar was captured, deprived of his earldom, and imprisoned. In William invaded Scotland, defeating Malcolm, who had recently invaded the north of England. William and Malcolm agreed to peace by signing the Treaty of Abernethy , and Malcolm probably gave up his son Duncan as a hostage for the peace. Robert also married his half-sister Bertha to the king of France, Philip I , who was opposed to Norman power.

### Chapter 2 : 10 William the Conqueror Facts - Primary Facts

*Billy the conkerer. [Wendy Smith] -- "He's a conker zonker! Billy is a weedy wimp. And he has to have a conker fight with the biggest bully in school. But Billy's got.*

Robert Bartlett describes how the fateful battle of unfolded. Harold marches his troops miles south to meet the Norman invaders in Hastings. Although his men are tired, the battle is closely fought: At dusk, the Normans finally overcome the English and Harold is killed when an arrow lodges in his eye. William is crowned in Westminster Abbey on Christmas Day. I have taken England with both my hands. William, setting foot on English soil in Slaughter and starvation in northern England Topfoto The campaign of destruction and oppression came to be known as the Norman Yoke. To cement his kingship, William creates a new Norman aristocracy. Castles are built to protect the new nobles and flaunt their power. Yet the north continues to cause William problems. After a series of rebellions, he decides to force it into submission and unite England through a campaign of terror and brutality. He lays waste to English villages and destroys farmlands, robbing agricultural communities of their livelihoods. When famine sets in there are tales of people eating dogs, cats and even human flesh to survive. With , dead, it will be decades before the north recovers from such systematic devastation. He cut down many people and destroyed homes and land. Nowhere else had he shown such cruelty God will punish him. Find out how the Normans transformed the English language. In , he quashes the last serious revolt by English nobles and marriages between French-speaking Normans and Anglo-Saxons become common, beginning a melding of cultures still evident in the English language of today. Words including onion, pork, beef and mushroom derive from the French nobility.

### Chapter 3 : William the Conqueror | Billy Pierce | Free Internet Radio | Slacker Radio

*Billy The Conqueror Historians will tell you tales about William the Conqueror in times of old and how he made for himself a terrifying yet interesting name, but the King of all Creation has so named Billy the Conqueror because of his Heavenly fame.*

Prior Lanfranc of the Abbey of Bec, a trusted servant to Duke William, who was entrusted to go yet again to Rome to gain papal support for William. While in Rome, Archdeacon Hildebrand, the political power behind the papal throne, had his own plans far beyond assisting the Norman Duke. This mission was successful and we can assume that two such similar clergymen established a strong and useful partnership. By increasing the number of devoted Normans willing to conquer new lands for the church and establish new fiefs, Rome could obtain a massive power base not only in Italy but over the alps and indeed wherever such fiefs could be founded. The Archdeacons only problem was the lack of Normans capable of seizing such lands. It would further these plans greatly if the Duke of Normandy and perhaps the future King of England would give his support if not his available nobles. There also arose the question that if Duke William was willing to submit to the authority of Rome on a temporal matter, namely the question of the succession, would William be willing to submit England as a fief to Rome! It was with these prizes in mind that Archdeacon Hildebrand used his considerable power within the Assembly of Cardinals to promote and support the claims of William Duke of Normandy. Prior Lanfranc presented the arguments in support of William, while Hildebrand brought about the decision. For not only was Harold of England on trail as an oath breaker and a violator of sacred relics but also the Church and State of England was brought under question. William holds council with his half brothers Odo and Robert from the Bayeux Tapestry It was clear that some of these charges were unreasonable. With such evidence and interests, the excommunication of Harold was foregone. While copies of the Papal Blessing were made and sent from the Abbey of Bec to all those heads of state who may wish to join William in his crusade, clearly indicating the position of the Church. In fact Bishop Odo was arrested for attempting to obey such a summons when accompanied by his knights. It may be that the only long term benefit to the Church was the precedent of having direct influence upon the running of a secular power. For if the Church is to be approached as an independent judge in a secular matter, then those secular powers must be in effect submitting part of their power and independence to the Church. The Papacy may not have gained directly but the Church as a whole certainly did. Perhaps it is not only with the Devil you need to use a long spoon to sup with! Click here to return to the manor of Drengam. Click here to return to the 21st Century. Last updated 31 March, Article by Steve Hurley Sadly Steve Hurley died in the summer of His presence will be missed by all the re-enactors who knew him. Click here to return to the main page or the listing.

### Chapter 4 : Regia Anglorum - Why the Pope Supported William's Invasion of England

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*William I (c. - 9 September ), usually known as William the Conqueror and sometimes William the Bastard, was the first Norman King of England, reigning from until his death in A descendant of Rollo, he was Duke of Normandy from onward.*

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