

The 1215 Magna Carta protected feudal barons and limited royal powers, but didn't bring peace. As Regent, William issued a new Magna Carta, which brought peace to England.

Within ten years of being given Chepstow, William built a new gateway with great oak doors, defended by round towers, and this revolutionised castle design. The doors can still be seen today.

William was made 1st Earl of Pembroke when he was in his early 50s.

Aged 42 or 43, William married Isabel, the 17-year-old daughter of Richard de Clare. William became Lord of Striguil (Chepstow) and Pembroke as a result of the marriage.

William was ambushed, wounded and captured by Guy de Lusignan, when he was 21. Eleanor of Aquitaine (wife of Henry II) paid his ransom when she heard of William's bravery.

Around the age of 12, William was sent to Normandy to be brought up in his mother's cousin's household. This is where he began his training as a knight.

Aged around 37, William went on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, on behalf of Prince Henry (Henry II's son), who had taken the Crusader vow but died before he could travel to Jerusalem.

William began making his living by fighting in and winning tournaments, when he was 22. Over the next 17 years, William bested more than 500 knights.

William's father built Newbury castle without King Stephen's permission. William, aged 5 or 6, was given as a hostage to ensure that William's father surrendered the castle.

Isabel and William had their last child, a daughter named Joan, when he was about 63 and she was about 37.

The year after they married, Isabel and William had a son, also named William. The couple went on to have 10 children, 5 boys and 5 girls.

King John died when William was about 70. William was then chosen to act as Regent of the kingdom, and to serve as protector of the nine-year-old King Henry III.

William was knighted on the battlefield when he was 20 or 21, at Driencourt, Normandy. He was fighting on behalf of King Henry II.