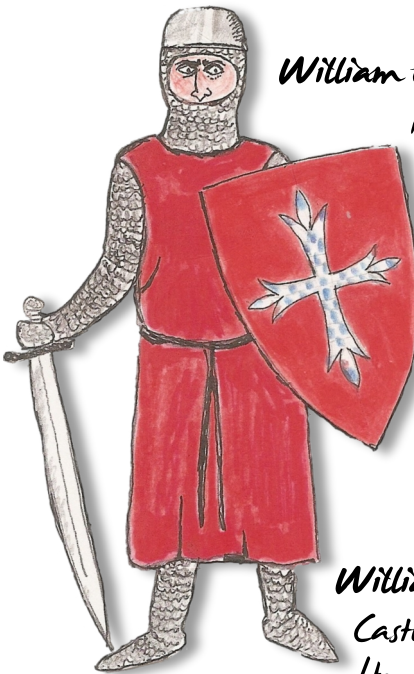


**William de Forz** (c 1191-1241) was a French baron who settled in England in 1214, after inheriting lands in Yorkshire, Cumberland and Lincolnshire. He married Aveline, the daughter of Richard de Montfichet, a leading rebel baron.

During the rebellion, he changed sides repeatedly, depending on who looked like winning.

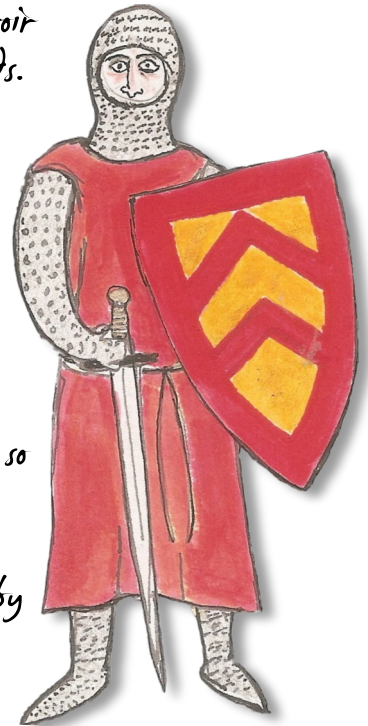
For the rest of his life, William de Forz stayed loyal to King Henry III, and had a successful career as a soldier and a diplomat.



**William d Albini** (after 1146-1236) was the Lord of Belvoir Castle in Leicestershire, and held lands across the Midlands.

He was first cousin to the commander of the rebel army, Robert Fitzwalter. Despite this, William only joined the rebellion at a late stage, in May 1215, after the barons had taken London. Like several of the barons, he was driven to rebel because of the huge debts he owed the king. During the war with the king, Fitzwalter chose William, one of the most experienced military commanders, to hold Rochester Castle, guarding the mouth of the River Thames. On 11 October 1215, John began a two-month siege of the castle. One chronicler wrote: living memory does not recall a siege so urgently undertaken or so bravely resisted. On 30 November, they finally surrendered.

King John wanted to hang William and his men. He was talked out of this by one of his knights, who pointed out that doing this would encourage the rebel barons to hang any knights that they took prisoner.



**Robert de Ros** (c 1182-1226) was a northern baron, with large estates in Yorkshire and Northumberland. He was related by marriage to Eustace de Vesci, one of King John's bitterest enemies among the barons. Robert had good reason to dislike King John, who had held his son hostage, in 1205. Despite this, he remained loyal to the king for most of his reign. In 1213, John appointed him High Sheriff of Cumberland, a role in which Robert had to enforce royal laws. It was only in April 1215, when the rebel barons gathered their forces at Stamford, that Robert de Ros joined them.

Robert was a deeply religious man, even entering a monastery, briefly, in 1215. In the 1220s, he joined the Knights Templar, who were like fighting monks. He is buried in their Temple Church in London.

The three strange-looking objects on Robert's coat-of-arms are called water-bougets. Each represents a yoke with two animal skins, used by medieval armies to carry water.

