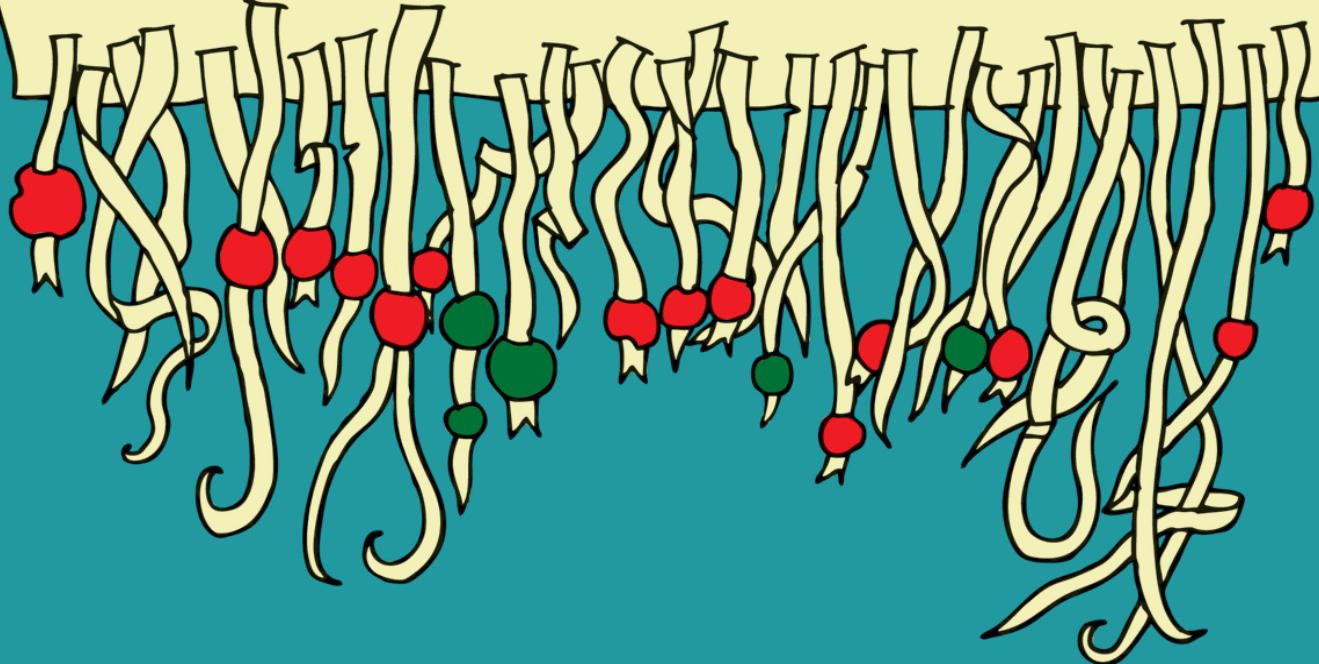


*Sanctissimo Patri in Christo ac Domino, domino Johanni, divina providencia Sanctissimae Romanae  
 et Universalis Ecclesiae Summo Pontifici, Filio Sui Humiliter et devoti Durcarius Comes de Fyff  
 Thomas Ranulphi Comes Moraviae Dominus Mannie et Vallis Anandiae, Patricius de Dunbar Comes  
 Marchie, Malcolmus Comes de Stratheryme, Malcolmus Comes de Lennox, Willelmus Comes de  
 Ross, Magnus Comes Catharie et Orkadie et Willelmus Comes Sutherlandie; Walterus Senescallus  
 Scotiae, Willelmus de Soules Brittonus Episcopus, Jacobus Dominus de Douglas, Rogerus de Murbraugh,  
 Henricus de Merchline, David de Graham, Ingramus de Vmfraille, Johannes de Menetothie, Custos  
 Sacerdotum, Sanctus claus, Johannes de Aber, Gilbertus de Hoffa Constabularius, Robertus de Keth, David  
 de Fentoun, Robertus de Graham, David de Lindesay, Willelmus Olyphant, Patricius de  
 Combur, Reginaldus de Jher, Alexander de Setoun, Andreeus de Leabone,  
 Robertus de tota Communitate Regni Scotiae, omnino tam Reuerentiam  
 quam fidem, Quorum Scimus, Santissime Pater et Domine, et ex antiqua  
 Echthia per Mare tiberum et Columpnas Herculis transiens  
 sa nullis quantumcumque barbaricis poterat allucubi gest  
 mille et duobus annis a transitu populi israelitici per  
 Occidentem quos domine optinet, expulsis primo Britonibus  
 et Pictis omnino deletis, licet per Norwigenos, Davos  
 multis cum vicioris et laboribus quamplurimis adquisisset, in  
 Ansonum testantur Historie, semper tenuit et in quom Regno Cantum et  
 Tredecim Reges de ipsa Regali progenie, nullo alienigena interveniente Regeneravit. Quorum  
 Nobilitates et Merita, licet ex aliis non clarescit, satis patenter desfulgent ex eo quod Rex  
 Regum et dominacion dominus Thomas Christus post possessionem suam fidem sanctissimam  
 conuocavit et Nec eorum per quemlibet in dicta fide confirmari voluit set per suum primum  
 apostolum quamvis ordine secundum vel tertium sanctum Andream, mirrosimum, beati Petri  
 Gomanumque ipsius preesse voluit et patronum. He autem Sanctissimi Patres et Fratres redi  
 sollicita mente persantes ipsorum Regnum et populum ad beati Petri gannari peculium multis  
 favoribus et privilegiis quamplurimis Munitis, Ita quippe quod gens nostra sub ipsorum protecc  
 hinc inde libere degit et quiescit donec ille Princeps Magnificus Rex Anglorum Eduardus, pater istius  
 qui nunc est, Regum nostrum acrophalum populumque nullius mali aut doli conuocum nec bellis aut  
 irrogilibus hinc ad seculum sub amici et conuocandi specie; inimicabiliter inflectavit. Quis in unum Cetero  
 et in Britonibus et in Pictis et in illis qui*

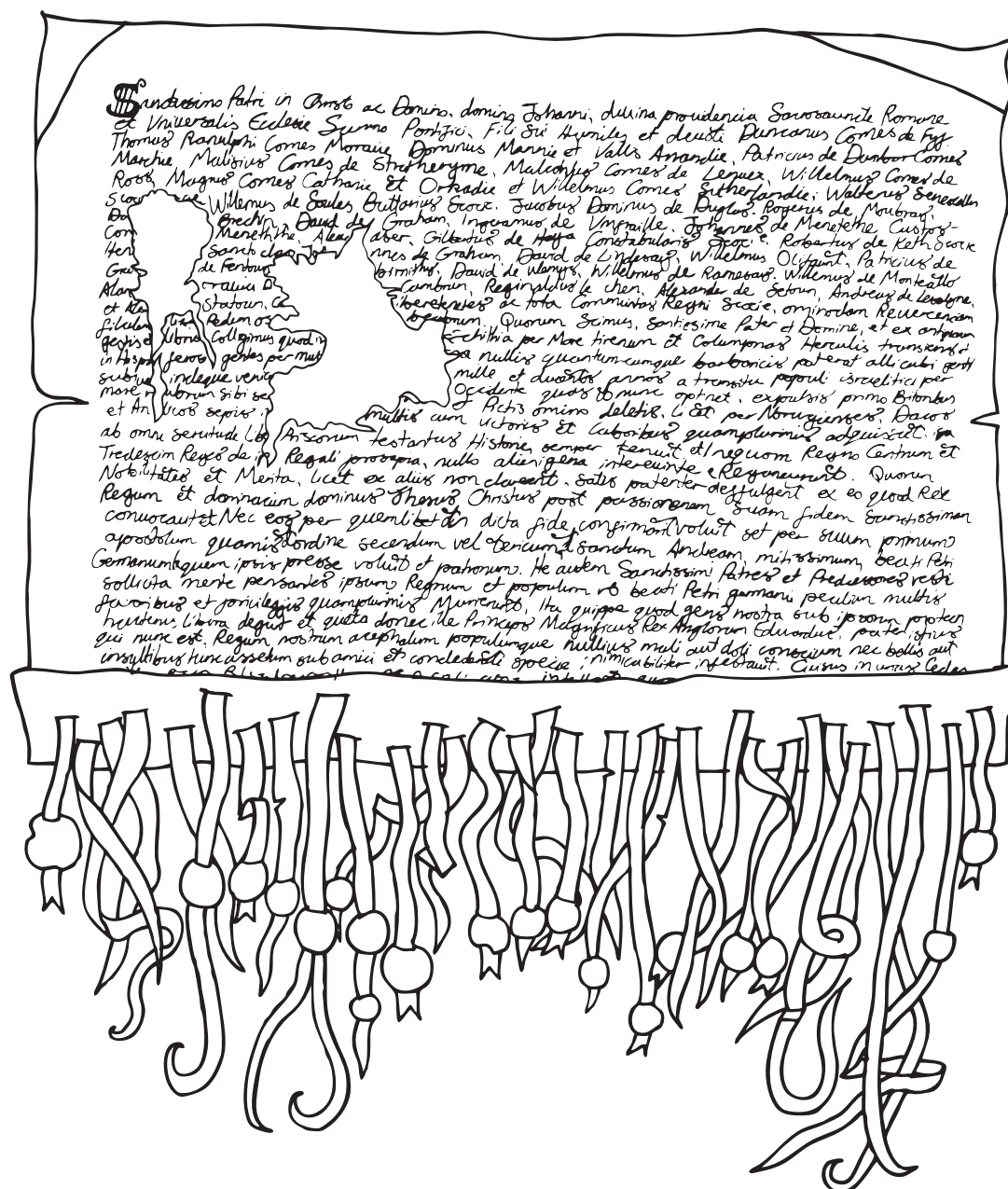
# The Declaration of Arbroath

An illustrated activity booklet



In this activity booklet, you can find out about the Declaration of Arbroath – a famous letter and one of Scotland’s most important historic documents. Use your imagination to draw, design and create. You can also colour in the illustrations!

# What is the Declaration of Arbroath?



**T**he Declaration of Arbroath was a letter written 700 years ago in 1320, when the Scots wanted to stop King Edward II of England trying to rule over Scotland.

It was sent by some of the most powerful people in Scotland to Pope John XXII. They wanted him to recognise Robert the Bruce as their king. As the Head of the Catholic Church, the Pope could help sort out disagreements between countries.

The letter was written on parchment in Latin, a language used by the church. It was originally called the Barons' Letter and a copy was made when it was written. Much later it became known as the Declaration of Arbroath. The copy is now looked after by National Records of Scotland in Edinburgh.

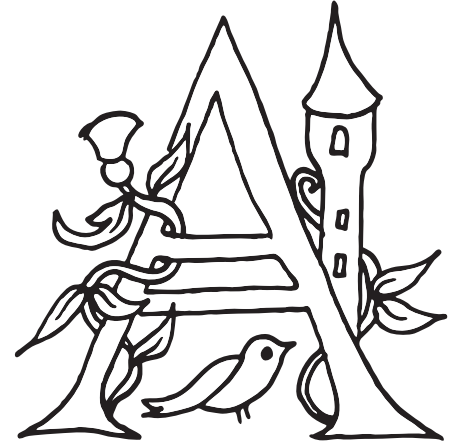
## What's it got to do with Arbroath?

**A**rbroath Abbey, on the east coast of Scotland, was chosen as the place where the Declaration would be sealed and sent off to the Pope in France. The man in charge of the abbey, Abbot Bernard, was chancellor of Scotland and was responsible for all official documents for Robert the Bruce. Arbroath was also quite far away from England and next to the sea - so the letter could be sent safely by boat to France.

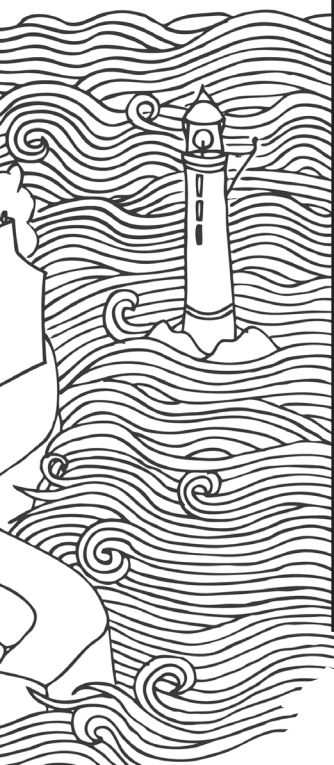




Back in 1320, most people could not read or write. But the monks who lived in abbeys were very well educated and good at writing. As well as official letters, they wrote, copied and illustrated books. They decorated their writing with drawings of leaves, flowers, animals and patterns.



**If you were a monk how would you decorate your writing?  
Look at the example on this page, then draw the first letter  
of your name in the space below, and try decorating it.**



## What does the letter say?



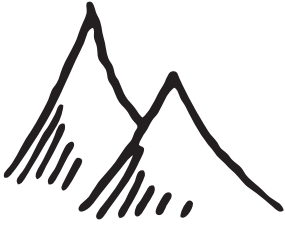
**T**he **Declaration of Arbroath** starts by telling a story about how Scotland began. It claims that the Scots took a long journey to arrive in Scotland, many centuries ago.

It describes how they “journeyed from Greater Scythia by way of the Tyrrhenian Sea and the Pillars of Hercules, and dwelt for a long course of time in Spain.”

The story isn't true, but at that time many people believed the Scots originally came from a country far away. The writers wanted the Pope to know they had a long history of adventure and courage.

Use the comic strip below to illustrate the Scots' voyage from Greater Scythia, through the Tyrrhenian Sea and the Pillars of Hercules.

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Mountains



Sea monster



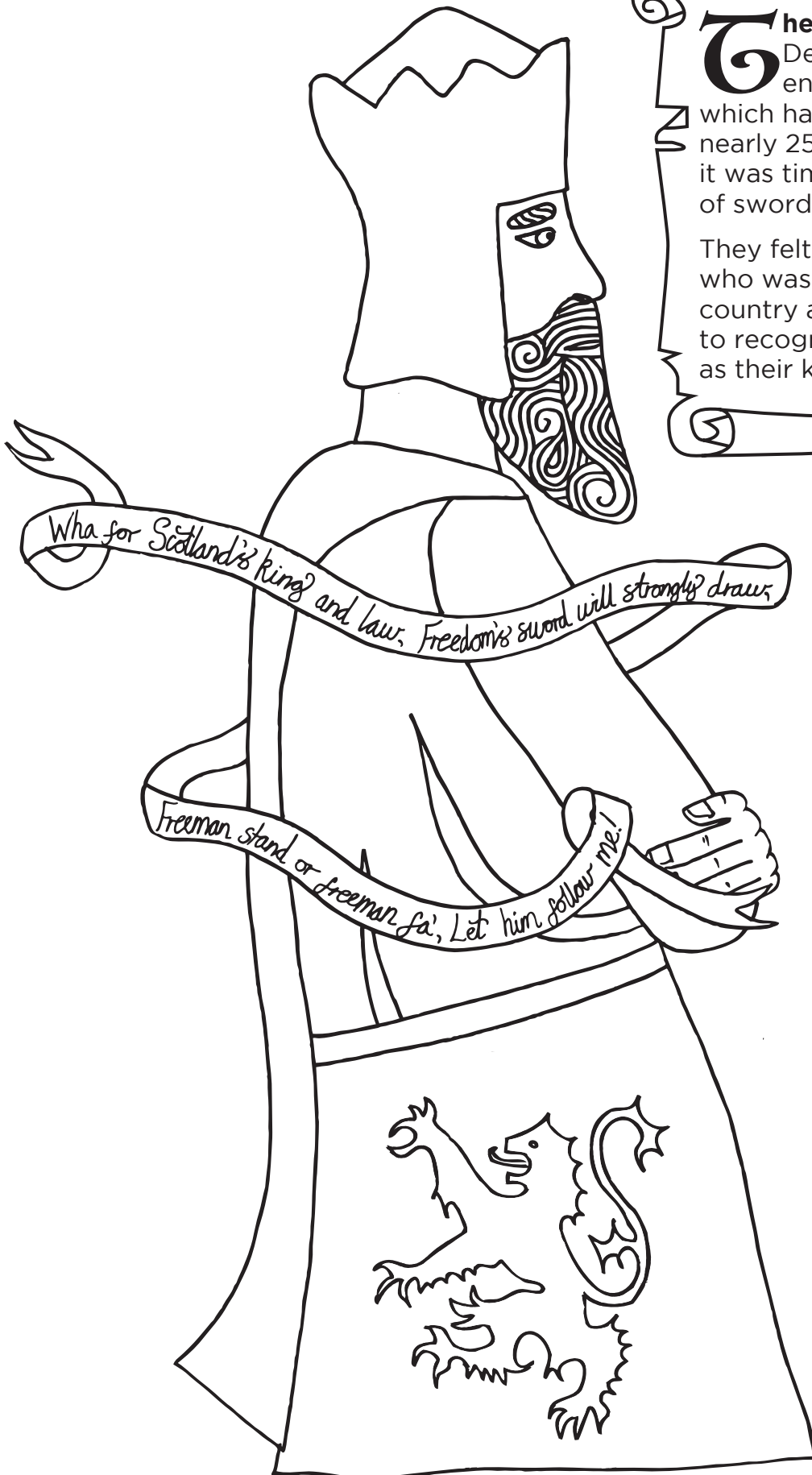
Village

In the box below, can you describe the imaginary journey?  
What adventures might the Scots have had on the way?  
What people or creatures might they have met?


# Why was the Declaration written?

**T**he Scots who sent the Declaration wanted to end the war with England which had been going on for nearly 25 years. They decided it was time to use words instead of swords.

They felt very strongly about who was in charge of their country and wanted the Pope to recognise Robert the Bruce as their king.



The words on Bruce's ribbon are from 'Scots Wha Hae', a famous song by Robert Burns. It was inspired by a speech Bruce is supposed to have given to his troops before the Battle of Bannockburn.



**I**s there something you feel strongly about, for example climate change, littering or bullying?

What would you like to change? Who would you write to if you needed help? And how would you persuade them?



**Using the space below, try writing your own Declaration:**

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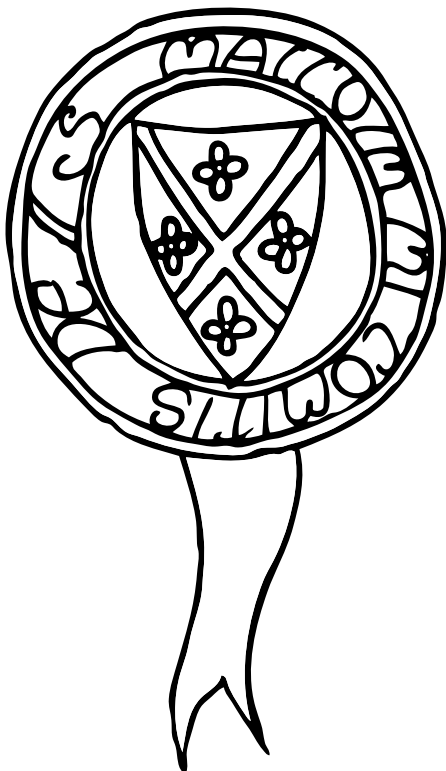


## Who supported the Declaration?

**T**he letter begins with a list of the people who were sending it: the barons (lords and knights) of Scotland.

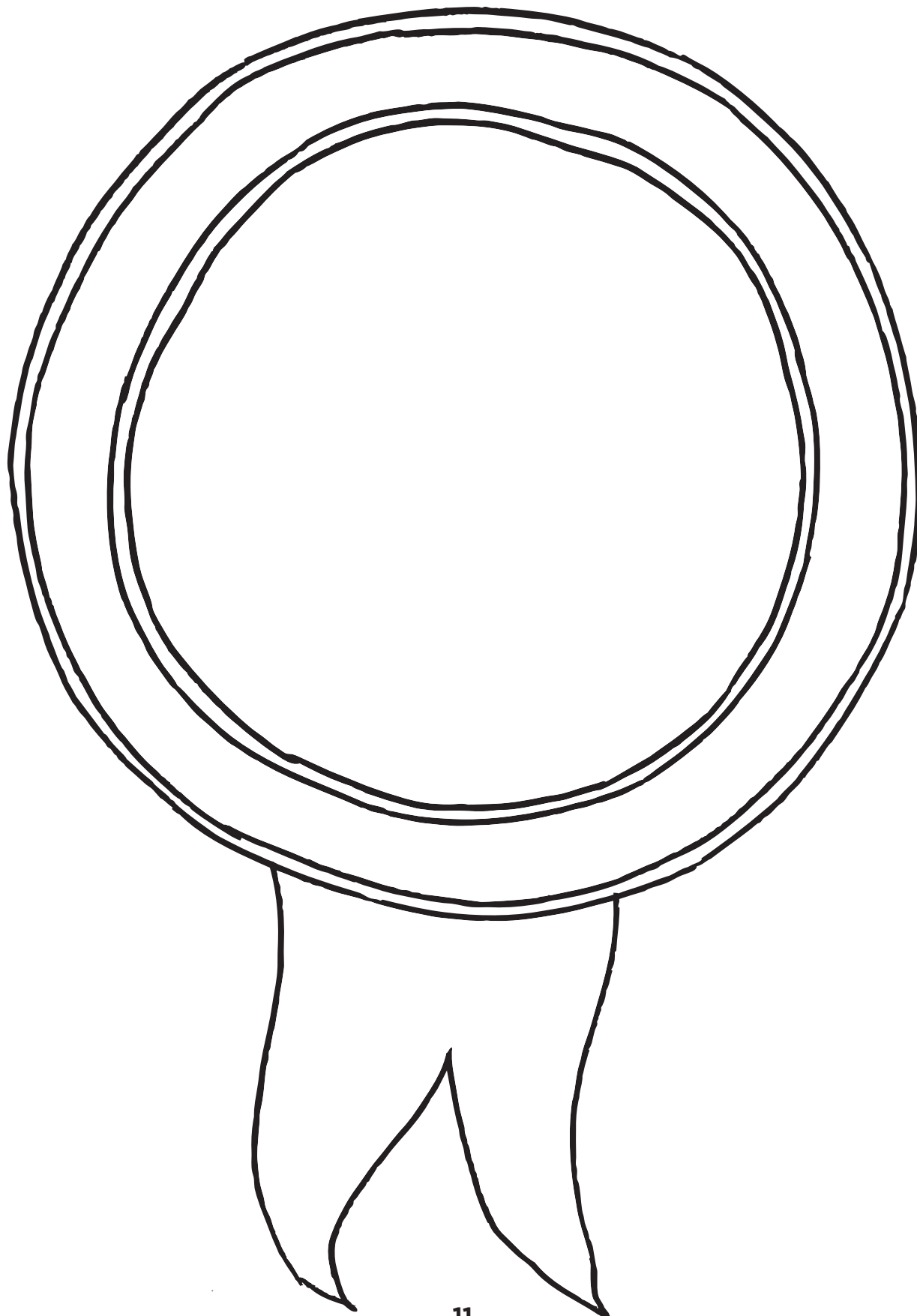
There are no signatures though. Instead, the barons attached their personal wax seals – 700 years ago that’s how people ‘signed’ a letter to show their support.

Here are some examples of seals inspired by those on the Declaration.

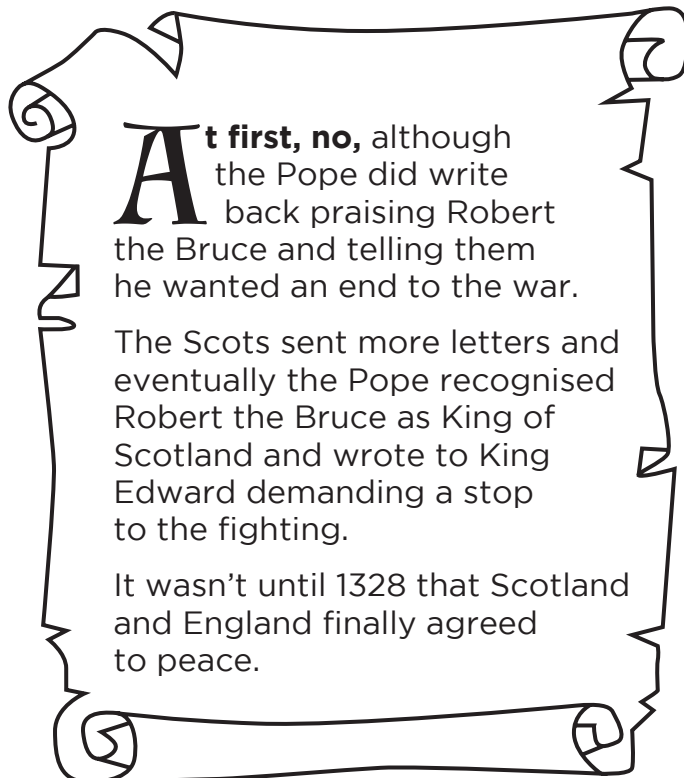


If you could design a seal to represent you, what would it look like?

**Try drawing your own seal below. Think about who you are, the things you like, and your hobbies. Include a motto that says something about you, for example 'always friendly' or 'strong and brave'.**



## Did it make a difference?



What could you do to make your school or home a more peaceful place? Have you done what your parents have asked you to do or been kind or friendly?

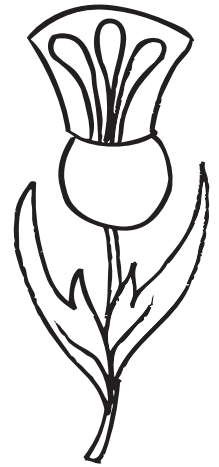
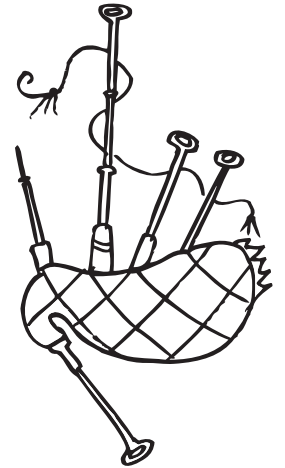
**Use the space below to design a peace bench/peaceful space, or draw a poster showing others how they can help create a peaceful school or write an acrostic poem using the word PEACE to show what you could do: each line of the poem should begin with one of the letters in the word PEACE.**



# Is the Declaration still important?

**T**he Declaration of Arbroath is one of Scotland's most famous and important documents.

For some people, the Declaration of Arbroath has become an important symbol of Scottish identity along with traditional symbols such as tartan and the thistle.



**Can you think of any other symbols that represent Scotland? Do you know any Scottish songs or poems? Do you have a favourite Scottish place or food? Using the space below, try writing or drawing something you feel represents Scotland today.**

## Did you know?

St Andrew is the Patron Saint of Scotland.

The Declaration of Arbroath said that Scotland was under St Andrew's protection.

St Andrew is known for his X-shaped cross, which is still used today in the flag of Scotland and is called the Saltire.







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