

# Declaration of Arbroath Family History Project

Progress report 4, 27 June 2019

## Documentary strand

As reported in the previous Progress report, at least one set of research findings on all 48 individuals associated with the Declaration have now been submitted by Diploma students – 40 as part of this Project, in addition to findings on another 8 who had previously been researched as part of the Battle of Bannockburn Family History Project. These findings will be supplemented by submissions from Diploma students in the next academic session. The findings consist of brief biographies, four generation genealogies showing descendants of the grandparents of the focus individual and details of coats of arms. The list of their names can be found on the Strathclyde genealogy website at <http://www.strathgenealogy.org.uk/declaration-of-arbroath/>

## Genetic genealogy strand

The first phase of this strand involves the gathering of DNA test results from well documented male line descendants of some of those who were associated with the Declaration. Following on from this, the second phase will focus on analysis of test results and identifying matches with individuals who do not have documentary evidence of their medieval descents.

Preparatory work is currently being undertaken on 12 families.

The current status of the work is as follows -

- Sent out invitations to documented male line descendants to take a DNA test – 5, with 2 positive responses so far
- Issued invitations to documented male line descendants who have already taken a DNA test to join the Project – 3, all have agreed to take part. There are also a number of other DNA test results available within the Project to allow further analysis
- Research needed to identify documented male line descendants (in progress) – 4

The families concerned are –

Campbell, Arthur

Campbell, Donald

Graham

Hay

Lindsay

Maxwell

Menteith (Stewart)

Ramsay

Ross

Sinclair

Sutherland

Wemyss

It is also planned to undertake further work on the Stewart descendants of Walter Stewart, 6<sup>th</sup> High Steward of Scotland, following on from the research for the Battle of Bannockburn Family History Project.

Contact has been made with a number of DNA surname projects and we are beginning to work with these as the research progresses.

### **Exhibition**

As mentioned in previous Progress reports, the Project Exhibition will be held initially at Arbroath Abbey from 3 July to 14 August 2020.

### **Other outputs**

Article in History Scotland, either November/December 2019, or January/February 2020 issue, by Graham Holton and Alasdair Macdonald

Presentations by Graham Holton and Alasdair Macdonald

- Medieval Bruce Heritage Trust symposium on the Declaration of Arbroath, March 2020
- Declaration of Arbroath 700<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference, 23-25 April 2020