

Resource Pack

Can you complete the Queen Margaret quest?

You may need to do a little extra research:

- Visit the SCRAN website www.scran.ac.uk and access the relevant records using the SCRAN ID numbers provided under each resource
- Visit [places of interest](#)
- Do your own research by following [links](#)
- Investigate the CD-ROM *The Scottish People 800-1450 – People of a kingdom*, Learning and Teaching Scotland www.ltscotland.org.uk, email: enquiries@LTScotland.com, tel: Customer Services +44 (0)8700 100 297

Queen Margaret (c.1046-93)

- Married King Malcolm III (Canmore) of Scots in 1070
- Introduced new religious orders and reformed Scotland's religious community
- Was canonised 'Saint Margaret' in c.1250



Saint Margaret in a stained glass window in St Margaret's Chapel, Edinburgh Castle.

SCRAN 000-000-024-905-C

Finding Facts

1. Who was Queen Margaret's father?

- (a) William the Conquerer
- (b) The Duke of Burgundy
- (c) Edward the Exile

2. What is the name of Queen Margaret's son who carried on her work establishing new religious houses in Scotland?

3. Queen Margaret provided a ferry for pilgrims to cross which bit of water?

- (a) Firth of Clyde to get to Glasgow Cathedral
- (b) Firth of Forth on their way to St Andrew's shrine
- (c) The English Channel for pilgrims to come from France

Looking at Evidence

4.



(a) These coins are from a 10th century hoard found at Iona Abbey.

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(b) These hoard items were buried for safety in the 10th century at Iona Abbey.

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(c) This is a gilt copper mount from a reliquary, found in the west of Scotland. It is probably an object of loot.

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(d) These are fragments of a Viking warrior's sword from a grave at Kiloran Bay, Colonsay, Inner Hebrides.

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Consider the evidence a, b, c and d. You may wish to follow the links to find out more.

Now look at this map. **Considering the evidence**, can you think of a reason why the religious centre moved eastwards in the 10th century?



Map showing the movement of the religious centre from Iona in the west to St Andrews in the east of Scotland.

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Interpretation

5. Why do you think Queen Margaret tried to bring Scotland's religious life in line with Europe? How did she manage to do this?

6. Find out about St Andrew. Why was he adopted as Scotland's patron saint?



This carved oak figure of St Andrew was made in northern Europe, c. 1500

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7. Queen Margaret drew upon the traditions of the local Gaelic religious community. Why do you think this was a good tactic?



This is a photograph of Iona Abbey. Iona was the centre of Gaelic Christianity, established by St Columba in the 6th century.

SCRAN 000-299-997-044-C

Links

<http://nms.ac.uk>

The National Museum of Scotland presents the history of Scotland – its land, its people and their achievements – through its rich collections built up over more than two centuries.

<http://www.scran.ac.uk/>

SCRAN is the award winning history and culture website providing instant access to images, sounds, movies and learning resources. It contains over one million records from museums, galleries and archives.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/scottishhistory/>

On this site you'll find in-depth articles, multimedia (like games, virtual tours and animations) as well as bite-size material like timelines and short biographies of historic figures. All is designed for you to get more out of your interest in History.

<http://www.nts.org.uk/>

This site contains useful information, whether you want to know more about the National Trust for Scotland's vital conservation work or are planning to visit some of the places of interest.

<http://www.ntseducation.org.uk/>

On this site there are sections which are intended to assist teachers with various topics in the school curriculum. They provide useful background material for teachers intending to explore these topics with their students.

<http://www.nationalgalleries.org/>

Education is at the heart of the work of the National Galleries of Scotland. Each of the Galleries provides a rich and lively learning resource. Our inclusive approach offers many different ways of learning to give everyone a chance to become actively engaged with art.

<http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk>

Historic Scotland safeguards the nation's built heritage and promotes its understanding and enjoyment. You can find information on more than 300 properties and scheduled ancient monuments. We also have resources for schools and details on technical conservation and research.

<http://www.nls.ac.uk>

The National Library of Scotland – Scotland's largest library and the world centre for the study of Scotland and the Scots. A vast reference library, covering all subjects, from art to mountaineering, and from early times to the digital age.

<http://www.nas.gov.uk>

The National Archives of Scotland (or NAS) is the main archive for sources of the history of Scotland as a separate kingdom, her role in the British Isles and the links between Scotland and many other countries over the centuries.

Places of Interest

Iona Abbey, Iona

St Andrews Cathedral, St Andrews, Fife

Dunfermline Abbey, Fife

St Margaret's Chapel, Edinburgh Castle, Edinburgh

Answers

1. (c) Edward the Exile
2. David I
3. (b) Firth of Forth on their way to St Andrew's shrine

4. The evidence builds up a picture of Viking raiding and settlement in the West of Scotland in the 9th and 10th centuries. The hoard items (a) and (b) were buried for safety from Viking attack. Religious houses, such as Iona Abbey were easy targets for Viking raiders. Evidence (c) is the kind of object taken as loot by invading Vikings yielding swords like the fragments pictured (d).

Increased Viking pressure forced the Scottish religious centre to move east into safety, as outlined in the map. The political community was by this time also in the east.

5. When Queen Margaret came to Scotland it was a place of mixed languages, cultures and traditions. She attempted to unify the religious life in Scotland by introducing models from Europe.

Margaret established many religious houses – abbeys, monasteries, priories, friaries and nunneries – in the south and east of Scotland. Every religious order had a Mother House somewhere in Europe, ensuring continued contact between the Church in Scotland and in Europe. European religious houses were centres of knowledge and clerics in Scotland were also educated. They played an important role in the spread of literacy throughout the country.

6. St Andrew was one of Jesus Christ's first disciples, and was reputedly martyred on an X-shaped cross. Different legends try to explain his association with Scotland. His relics were said to have been brought to the Pictish town of Kilrymont, either by a Greek monk named Regulus or an English bishop named Acca. Kilrymont eventually changed its name to St Andrews.

St Andrew's X-shaped cross became the Saltire, Scotland's flag. Another legend links this cross with Athelstaneford in East Lothian, the site of a battle between Picts and Angles. The Pictish king saw St Andrew's cross in the sky and was inspired to victory.

7. Margaret recognised the strength of the existing Gaelic culture in Scotland. Iona was the centre of the Gaelic Christian community until Viking pressure forced it to move eastwards to join the centre of political power. St Columba was a very important figure to the Scots. Margaret built upon these established roots when reforming Scotland's religious life. It ensured a more European-style community with a particular Scottish identity.