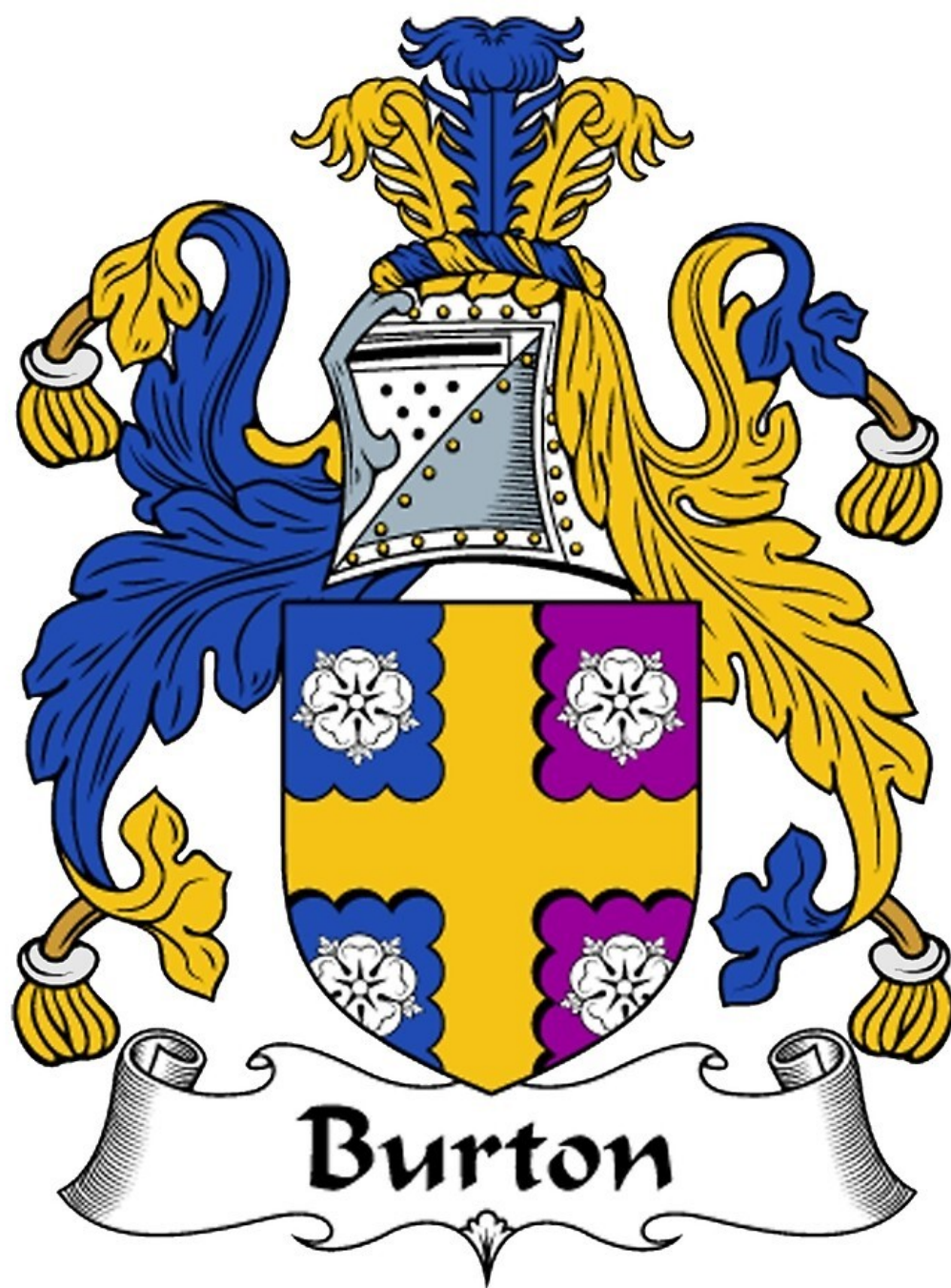
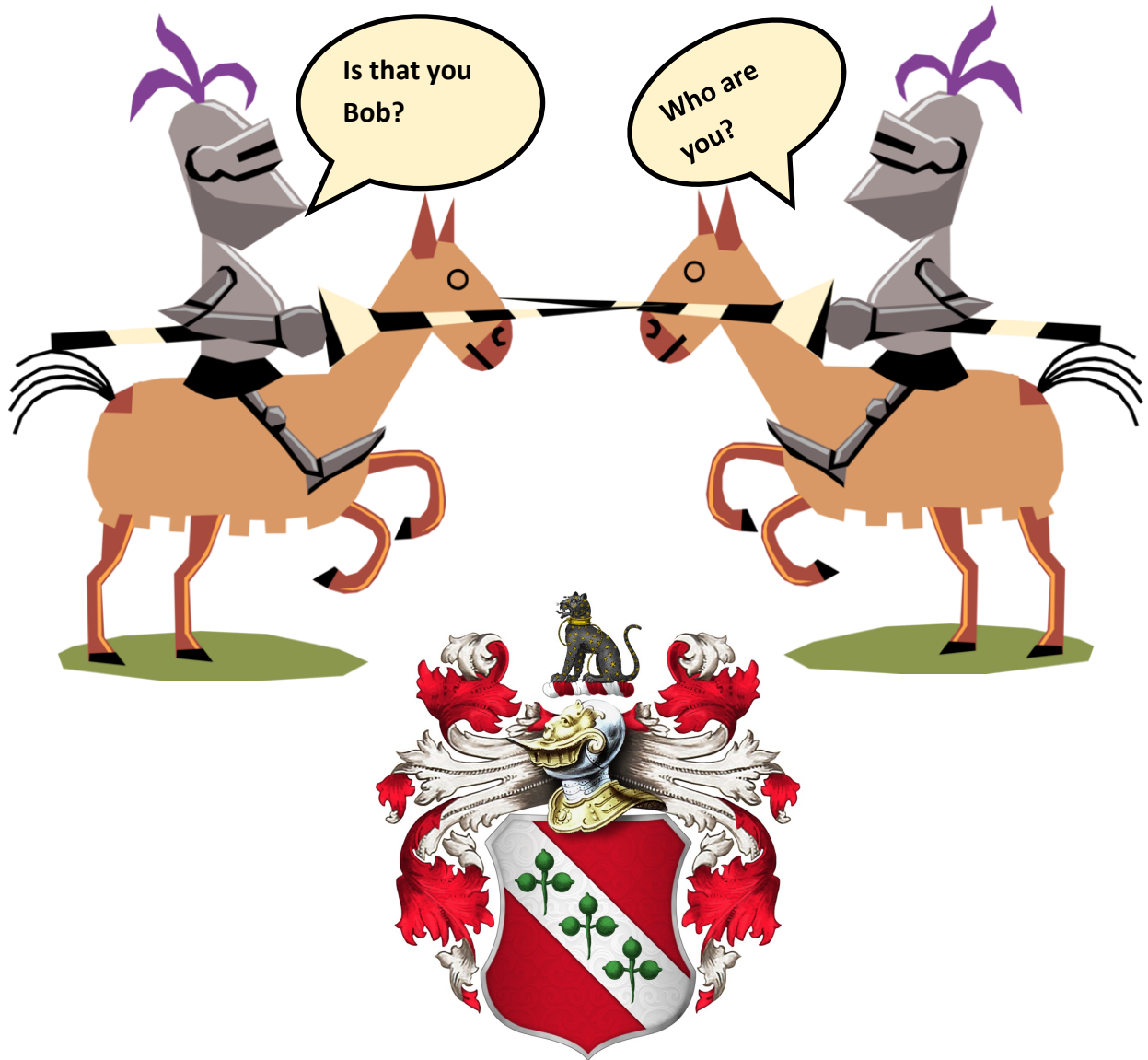


Design your own Coat of Arms



Heraldry

Showing people who you were was very important if you were a knight, because no-one could tell who you were if you had your helmet on!



Harvey of Bradstone, Devon. Wikimedia Commons.

Knights first started to wear helmets in England in the late 1100s, and they began to paint unique combinations of shapes, colours and animals onto their shields and banners so that people could tell them apart. These designs were called their 'arms' and everyone had their own, they weren't allowed to copy.

The Heraldic Code

This art form is called Heraldry. There is a special Heraldic code which gives each colour, pattern and creature meaning. The individual parts of a coat of arms are named in Norman French which is the language spoken by knights and families when heraldry began.

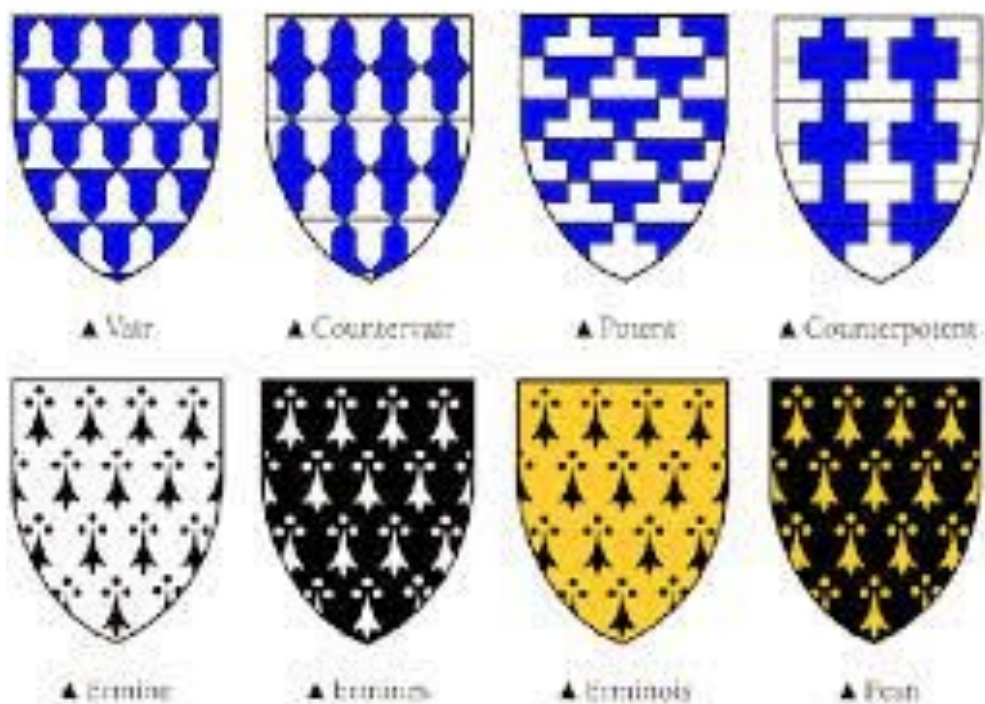
Using the code is a precise way to describe coats of arms. Some people spend their whole lifetime studying the Heraldic code, but here are a few things to learn to get you started

Heraldic Colours



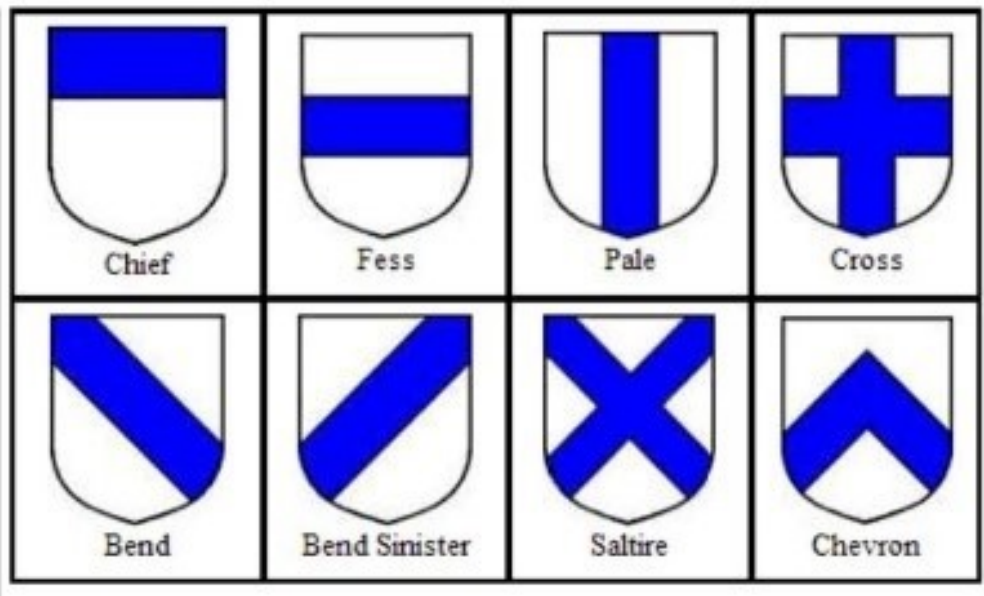
One of the rules was that you could not put a colour onto another colour or a metal onto another metal, but you could put a colour on top of a metal or a metal on top of a colour. There were also designs based on animal markings, called 'Furs'.

HERALDIC FURS



Heraldic Ordinaries

Ordinaries are the simple designs used on heraldic shields on top of a background of either a colour, a metal or a fur.



Pt slideshare



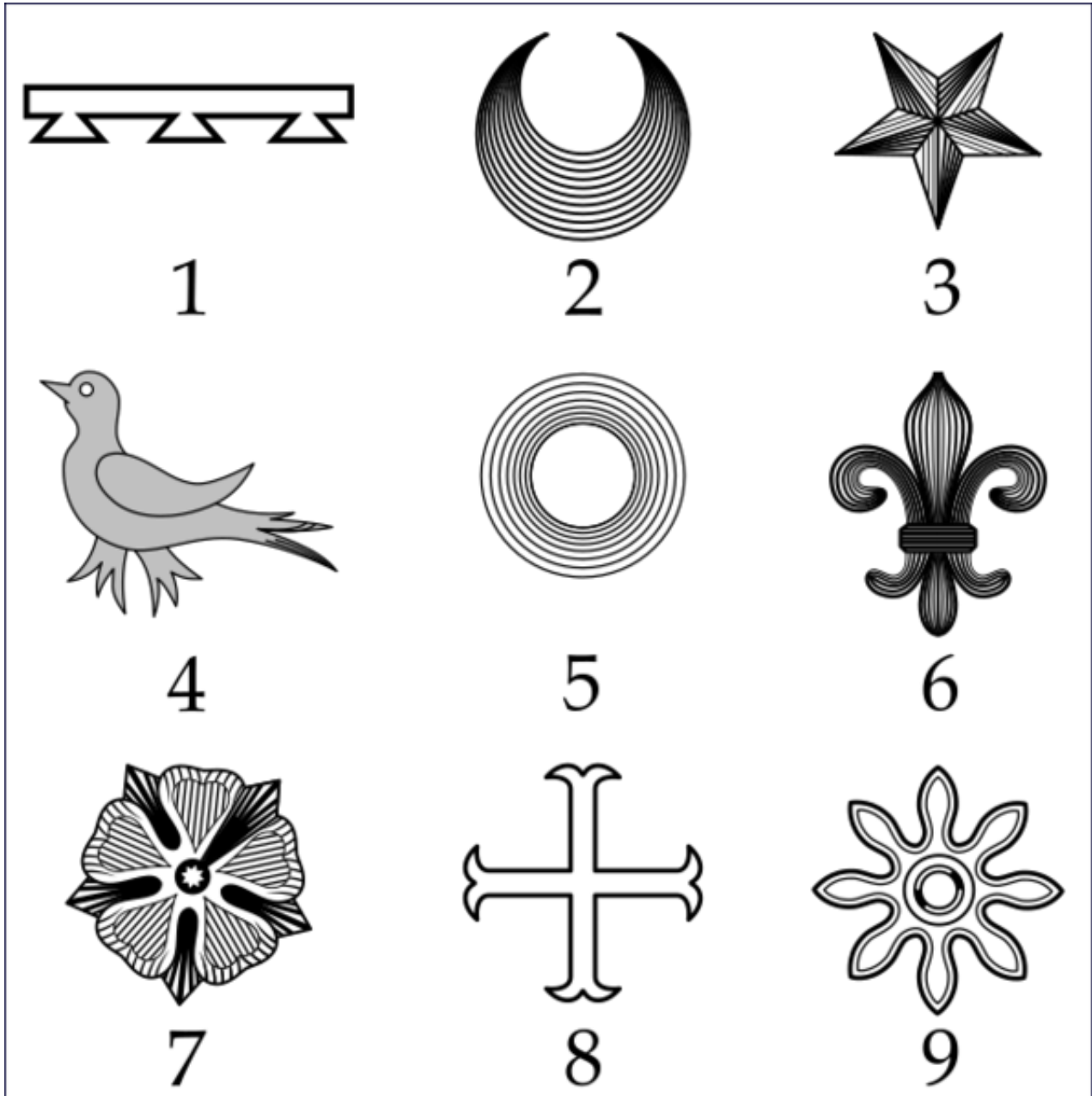
Wikimedia Commons

- A) Which ordinary has been used on this Coat of Arms for Devon?
- B) Can you spot how this Coat of arms doesn't follow all the rules of Heraldry?

Answers : A) The chief B) Colours have been placed on colours and metals onto metals. Also brown was not a traditional colour

Heraldic Charges

Charges are the emblems put onto the shield's background or the ordinary, sometimes both. Charges had different meanings,



Public domain

1. First son (Label) 2. Second son (Crescent) 3. Third son (Mullet)
4. Fourth born (Martlet) 5. Fifth born (Annulet) 6. Sixth born (Fleur-de-lis) 7. Seventh son (Rose) 8. Eighth son (Cross Moline)
9. Ninth son (Double quatrefoil)

Animals and fantastical beasts were very popular charges and each represented different qualities, for example:

Lions = Courage

Eagles = Power and nobility

Stags = Wisdom and long life

Dogs = Faithfulness

Hares = speed

Dragon = Defender of treasure

Griffin = watchfulness, bravery and also guards treasure

Cockatrice (Cross between a cockerel and a dragon) = Protection; it could kill you just by looking at you!



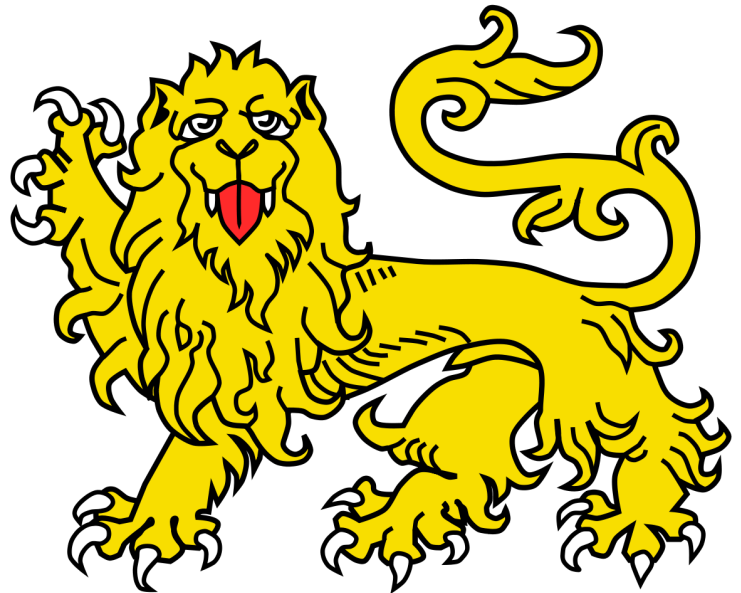
There were many different animals both real and mythical, perhaps you could make up some creatures of your own.







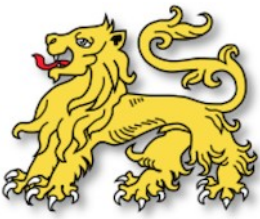


Think about the qualities they represent.

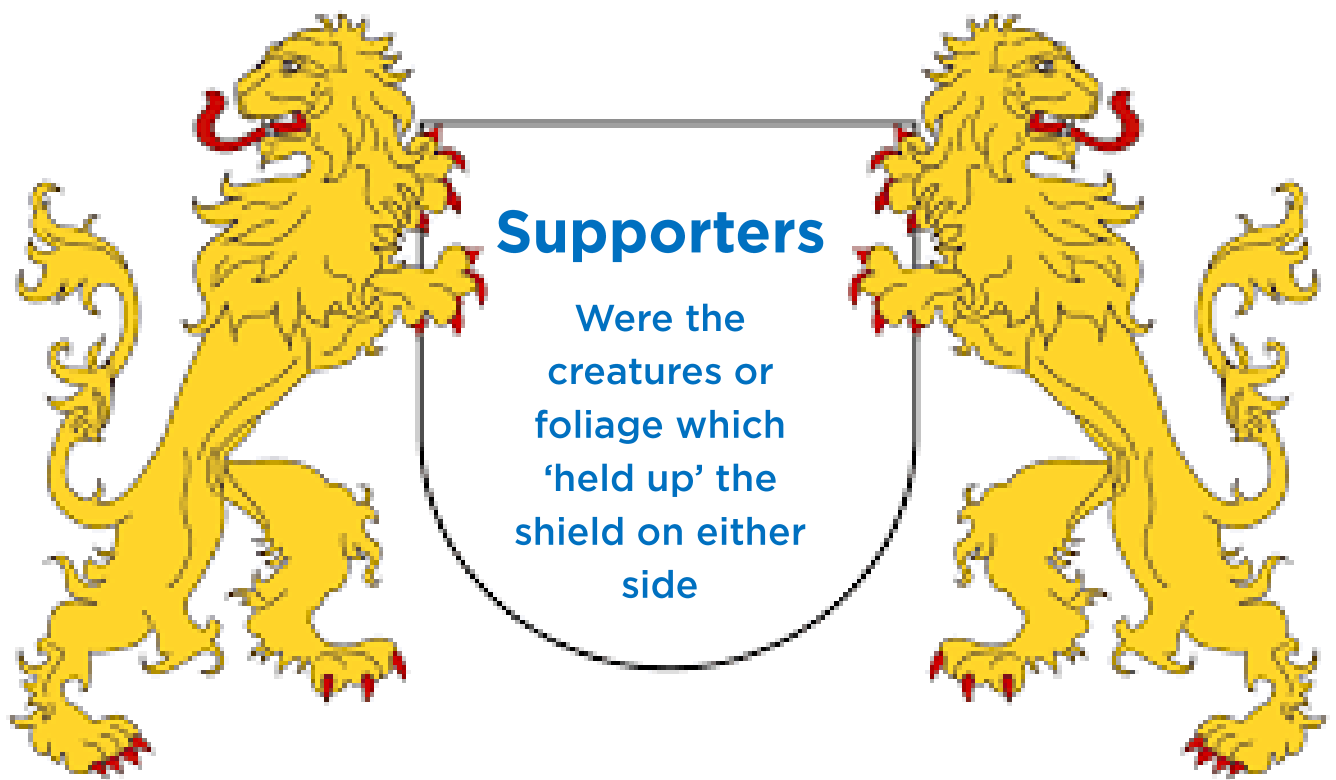


Heraldic Attitudes

In heraldry, the position an animal is displayed, is called its Attitude.



HERALDIC LION ATTITUDES				
★by familyhistoryfoundation.com★				
DIRECTION OF HEAD				
POSITION OF BODY		unmarked	guardant	regardant
	rampant	 <p>"lion rampant"</p>	 <p>"lion rampant guardant"</p>	 <p>"lion rampant regardant"</p>
	passant	 <p>"lion passant"</p>	 <p>"lion passant guardant"</p>	 <p>"lion passant regardant"</p>
	stattant	 <p>"lion stattant"</p>	 <p>"lion stattant guardant"</p>	 <p>"lion stattant regardant"</p>



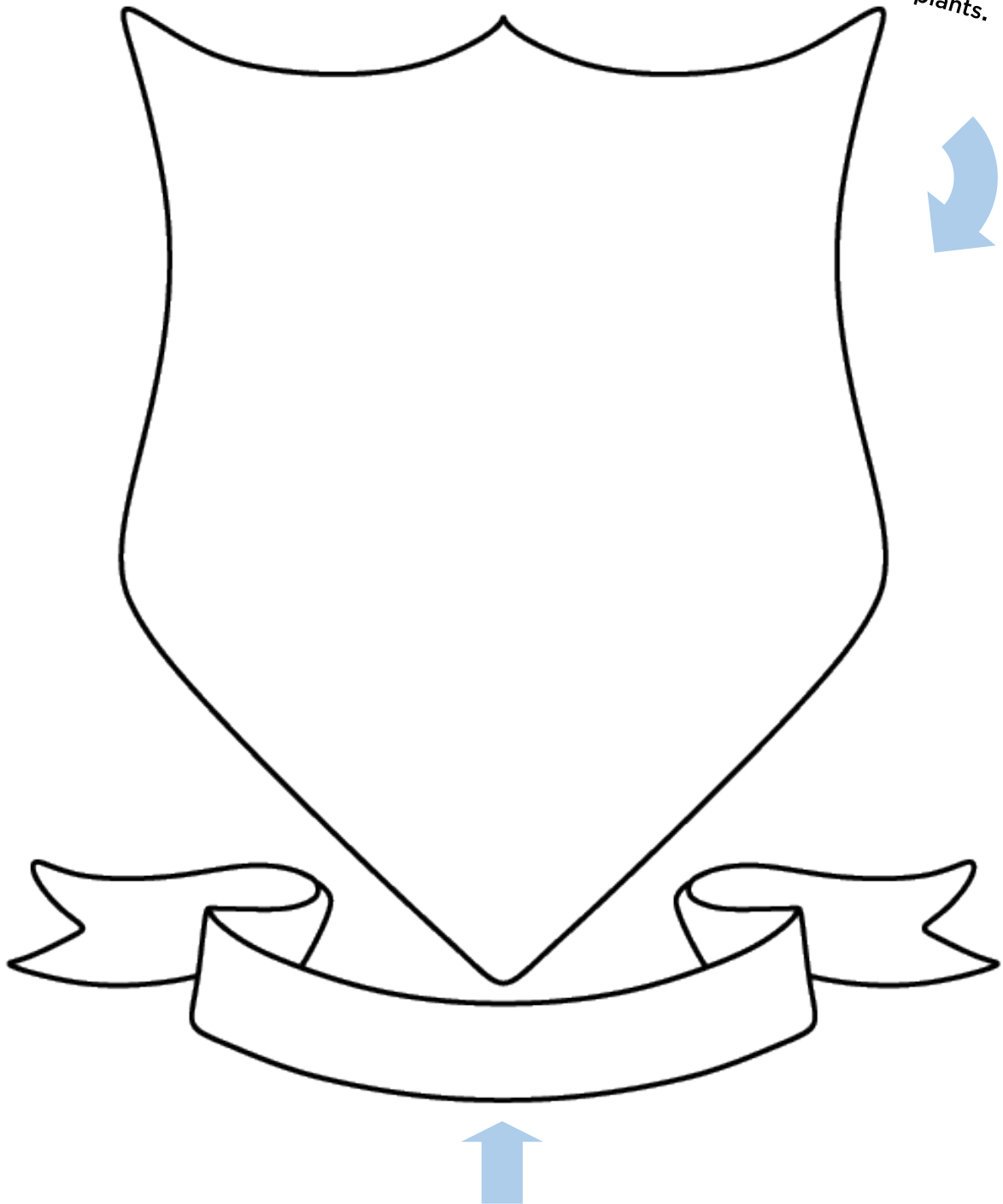
This coat of arms represented Sarah, Duchess of York 1986-1996
Perhaps you could use Google translate to understand the Latin motto.

Design your own Coat of Arms

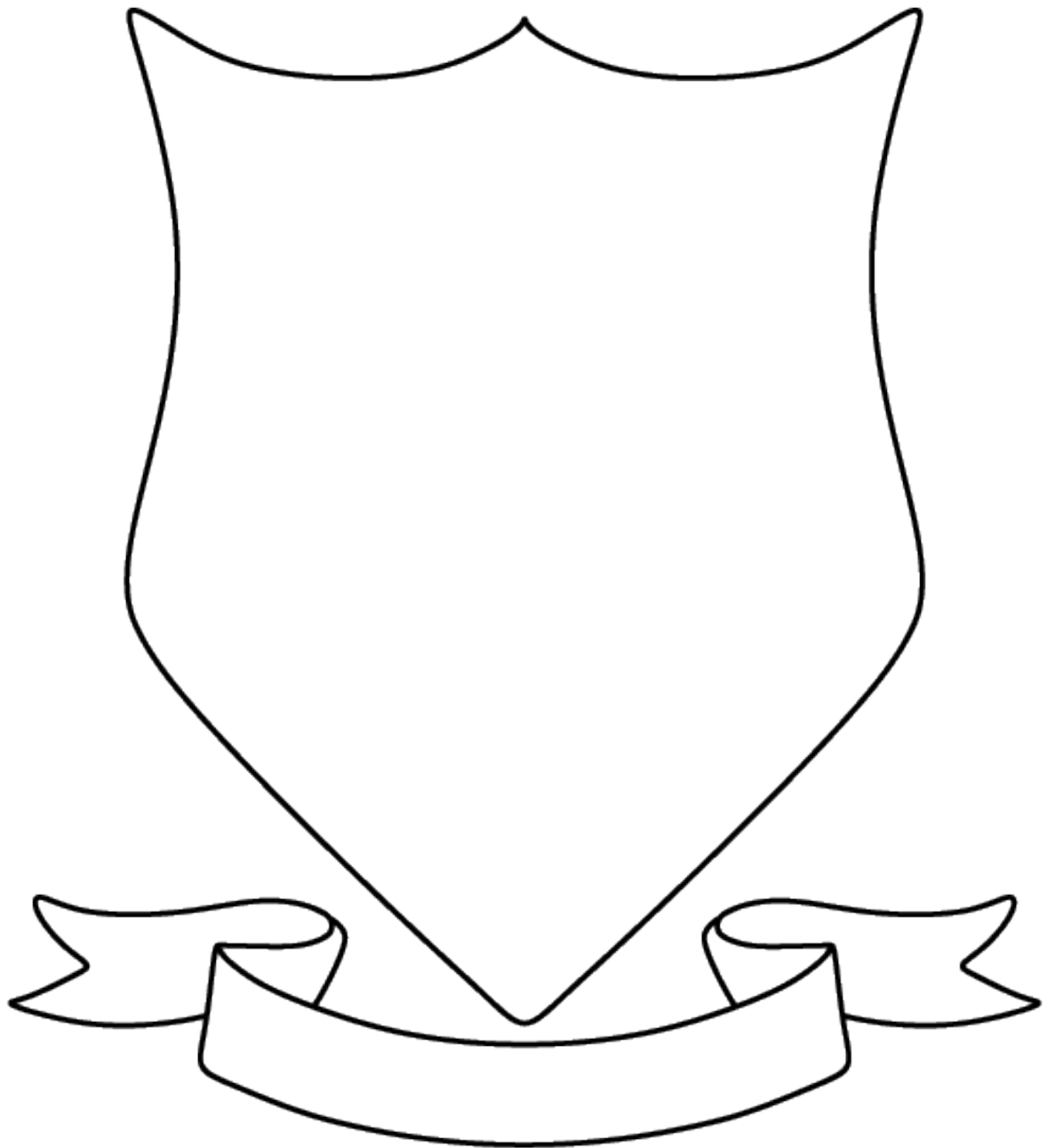
Design a coat of arms to show people who you are. It could include drawings of your family members, pets, hobbies; anything which says something about you, even your favourite breakfast cereal!

Put your helmet or crown here

Remember to add your supporters to both sides, they could be real or imaginary creatures or plants.



Think of a motto which tells people what your values or beliefs are. Remember to use Google translate, so you can write it in Latin.



You can leave your work here in the gallery and we'll put it up, or take a photograph and perhaps share it with us by social media or email

info@theburton.org