

SCA Shire of Darton

Medieval Crafts and Culture

Ever wanted to learn about medieval camping,
cooking, arts and crafts, society and culture?



Arts and Sciences Meetings

Wednesday 7pm-9.30pm, Pembroke Road, Wilton.

All welcome. Contact Lady Robyn on (0211) 504 876 for details.

Picture by Claudia de Bercy 2000



THE CLARION



The newsletter of the Shire of Darton, of the Kingdom of Lochac, February AS XLII (2008)

*"It is requisite for the relaxation of the mind that we make use, from time to time, of playful deeds and jokes."
Thomas Aquinas, Italian theologian and philosopher (1225 - 1274)*

From the Chronicler

I Am afraid the 'From the Chronicler' section is rather brief this month, as Robyn and I are organising our wedding, honeymoon, and trip to Rowany Festival!!!

Robyn has been sewing a whole bunch of wedding dresses and other costumes and fabric stuff (waistcoats, banners, etc). And I have been making a late-C15th Italian soldier's tent for us to sleep in. And turnshoes. And a new belt. And two pair of hose and purpoints. And... well, you get the idea, we're busy, busy, busy.

Enough said.

Master Stefano

Excerpts from a Hospitaller's Guide for Newcomers

From the pen of Sir Gabriel de Beaumont

General Information about the SCA

Many newcomers feel intimidated by attending their first meeting or feast. However there is no reason to feel uncomfortable. You will find that we are very happy to help any newcomer with any questions. However, it may help if we explain some of the traditions and behaviours expected of everyone within the group at feasts and other events.

When we are at a SCA event, we will adopt a different name than our normal name. We call this our Persona. We do not assume the name of any particular person who lived in history, but amalgamate names from history and names

that could have been. We will then work out a history for our persona and this will allow us to get an image of what our persona would have done in history. What this allows us to do is to distance ourselves from our everyday life and assume for a small time period a different character out of history.

Regardless of your persona, everyone in the SCA is assumed to be nobility, and should be treated with courtesy. To this end we refer to each other as **'my lord'** or **'my lady'**. As we are recreating the medieval ages, we have an internal ranking system.

While many people have other titles, if you are unsure **it is always acceptable to [call someone by] the title 'my lord' or 'my lady'**.

Titles within the SCA

At the top are the King and Queen. They win their position in a Crown Tournament and rule the kingdom for six months. No one is higher than them in the kingdom and at every feast toast their health. It is a great honour and burden to be a King or Queen. Ranked beneath them are the Peers of the Realm.

These are individuals who have either served as Royalty, or are people who are recognised as experts in a field, or have given great service the Kingdom. Those people who have served as Royalty are given the title of Count, Countess, or Duke and Duchess.

Each of these titles has a special meaning within the SCA. Those people who represent the highest levels of chivalry and Heavy Combat on the field are called Knights and use the title Sir or Master of Arms before their name. This title is non- gender specific. Those people who represent the highest levels of

chivalry and expertise in the Arts and Sciences are called Laurel, and use the title Master or Mistress before their name. Those people who represent the highest levels of chivalry and have given great Service to the Kingdom are called Pelicans, and use the title Master or Mistress also. All of these people are held in high regard because of their excellence in their relevant field.

While all these titles may be confusing to you initially when you attend a feast, do not be afraid to talk to people and ask questions. We are always happy to answer questions you may have.

At your first event

When wishing to attend an event, the first thing to do is to contact the [Event Steward] responsible for the running of the event. They will ask you some questions about dietary requirements if applicable and ask if you need to borrow some clothes for the event. If you do need to borrow clothes or feasting gear, they will arrange this with the Hospitaller.

When attending a feast, just remember that the SCA is a group that values chivalry above all, and basic courtesy will go a long way.

At the feast there will normally be several dishes brought out during the night. These will be brought out on platters and plates of various sizes. Be aware that the plates in front of you will be feeding your table, so don't assume that the plate in front of you is just for you. Try a little of everything that is brought out, it's the best way to enjoy the food.

Regular Meetings

HEAVY Fighter Practice and Rapier Practice. Sunday 10am-2pm. Fighter's practice is currently being held at the skateboard park in Northland, Ian Galloway park, on the corner of Curtis St and Old Karori Rd. All welcome. Contact Sir Asbjorn on (04) 9760 220 for details.

ARTS and Sciences Meetings. Wednesday 7pm-9.30pm. All welcome. Contact Lady Robyn on (0211) 504 876 for details.

DARTON Council Meetings. Held at the arts and sciences meeting from [7pm], normally every first Wednesday of the month. All Welcome. Contact Fru Marienna on (04) 9760 220 for details.

Upcoming Events

PROPOSED Orientation Week Demo, Victoria University, Lunchtime Wednesday 27 February 2008.

Contact Lady Yseult (Hannah) by email at ehzcm2001@yahoo.co.nz for more information.

PROPOSED Pre-Incipient College Feast, Victoria University, Evening Saturday 12 April 2008.

Contact Lady Yseult (Hannah) by email at ehzcm2001@yahoo.co.nz for more information.



MAY Crown AS XLIII, 9 – 11 May 2008. The Shire of Darton invites you to attend May Crown in Darton. Enjoy a weekend of festivities centred around our finest fighters competing for their consorts to be the next Crown of Lochac.

Relax in our tavern on Friday night, watch the pageantry and chivalry of a crown tournament followed by a fabulous feast on the Saturday, and then on Sunday enjoy the spectacle of a rapier tourney. Come and experience the hospitality that Darton is renowned for.

[//darton.sca.org.nz/index.php/standard/12/109](http://darton.sca.org.nz/index.php/standard/12/109)

Darton Council Minutes 9 January 2008

Start: 7:01 pm, Finish: 7:48 pm

Attendance: Attendance: Maggie, Sharon, Hannah, Alistair, Kerry, Selwyn, Robin, Robyn, Susan, Melissa

Apologies: Al, Clare, Christopher

OFFICER REPORTS

Seneschal: Slow month. AGM slated for November of 2008 in Wellington. Nothing else to report.

Recruitment: Met with Hannah, Maggie, Mel and Al to discuss the requirements of a College at the University. Received an email from the Manakau Medieval Market people, who invited us back this year.

Quartermaster: List is compiled, however there have been changes to both the kitchen amounts and the Gold Key, and she needs updates. Please email updates to Robyn.

Chatelaine: Will start newcomer's classes in February. Exact date TBD, will be posted to Darton list by month's end.

Reeve: No apology, no report.

Herald: Darton has arms! Dorian stepped down as is moving back to Christchurch next week.

Correspondence In: Crux Australis - accepting my resignation (see below)

Correspondence Out: Crux Australis - tendering my resignation (CC's to Astrolabe Herald and Darton Seneschal).

From Dorian: "I have enjoyed my all too brief tenure as Herald and wish my successor good fortune. Otherwise, it has been a really quiet month with nothing to report. The Herald's library, tabard and monies will need to be dropped off to my successor (or held until such time as a new appointee takes office). If you could please advise where these items are to go, I will deliver them this weekend (preferably Saturday)."

Melissa is happy to take the herald's stuff for now. Herald position is open, please submit CV to Kingdom Herald and CC Seneschal if interested. Hannah gave a tentative hands up to the position (YAY!).

Marshal: No fighting, nothing to report.

A&S: A&S at Stephen & Tam's will start next Wednesday the 16th. A&S will also continue at Robin & Selwyn's on Thursdays. Still to arrange handover of office to Al (will happen once Al is back from Scotland).

Martial A&S: There will be a steel embassy at Canterbury Faire. Details can be found on the Ordo Cygni website or the Southron Gaard Canty Faire website.

Chronicler: Published The Clarion at the meeting as usual. As always, please send articles.

Lists: Nothing to report.

Fencing: Tuesday night practices at Robin & Selwyn's house continue as well as anyone who wants to practice on Weds at A&S or Thursdays during R&S's A&S session. Also, Sunday practice is still happening. Many authorizations in the wings before CF. Several symposiums will be held at Rowany Festival.

Archery: Starting up Wed at A&S at Stephen & Tam's place. Bring combat kits to Wed A&S for armour inspection. Arrow workshop in near future.

Constable: Robin [to] submit official [application] for changeover this month.

Chirurgeon: Has downloaded the Chirurgeon manual and application form and am in process of applying to Lochac. Maura has chosen an SCA name – Desiderata.

OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

Kerri has purchased ice packs, need to get into fighter's kit. She will provide receipt for reimbursement.

Fighter's practice will be held on Sundays at the skateboard park in Northland. The fighters will talk about long term/bad weather options and get back to council. Ian Galloway park, on the corner of Curtis St and Old Karori Rd.

EVENTS

Past Events

Darton Ann[iversary]: DA Bond. This needs to be chased up.

Christmas Picnic. Went well, good attendance, fun was had by all.

Future Events

February Camp: Up in the air. Will probably be in March sometime. Dates TBA.

May Crown: Bond from DA – transferred to Crown? Still needs to be chased up.

Dyes and silks are purchased and ready. Just need to get the frames.

An amendment to the minutes:

Correspondence from Tamara:

*The silk is purchased. We have **not** purchased the dyes, because we are testing some new local dyes to see if we like them better than the Dharma dyes we used last time. I bought small bottles of black and red, painted a couple small sections using both the new and the olds*

dyes on a bit of leftover banner silk, ironed it, and have left the thing on our washing line for the last few weeks.

*I'm expecting that at A&S next week, we'll take it down and decide which dyes we actually want to commit to. What we **can** do, pretty much immediately, is get the silk ready for painting:*

1) put together the artwork we want (anyone have a good horn design?);

2) transfer the artwork onto paper using a projector which Sharon can borrow;

3) wash and iron the silk;

4) trace the artwork from paper to silk. It's looking like we may have to bite the bullet and actually pay retail for shelving parts for the frame.

Unless someone finds something before Wednesday, I'll go ahead and buy the parts and add it to the tab. Last I heard, we need two large Darton banners and two large kingdom banners. [Baroness] Katherine Kerr has asked if we want to borrow any of their banners - has anyone replied to her?

Correspondence ends.

Status of online booking form: Almost ready, just working out one last glitch.

Cooks are sorted!

Selwyn offered his Oz bank account for Darton to use for Oz payments.

Next Crown meeting will be the week of the 26th, Sharon will post details to list.

SCANZ AGM: Robyn will steward, following same format as the last AGM held in Darton which was a success.

OPEN BUSINESS

College: Meeting with Hannah, Robin, Melissa, Maggie & Al discussing possibilities. Clubs Day is 27 & 28 of Feb. Will need hands for helping. Possible demo? Hopes to hold an AGM on 17 March. Alistair will cook a feast with help of College folks [probably 12 April?]. Discussion on A&S, fighting and dancing classes ensued.

Manakau Medieval Market: February 9th.
Council decided to decline the invite this year due to the timing as it is only two days after most return from CF. We want to put our best foot forward and would rather not do any demo than give it half-measures.

Dance practice will be organized with college if possible.

Next council meeting will be held on 13th Feb.

Thanks,

Melissa

Darton Council Positions

MASTER Stefano is looking for a replacement Constable to begin as soon as practicable. The Constable's position involves looking after health and safety issues, lost property, security, the good behaviour of participants at events, and periodicity issues at events. *All applications should be emailed directly to Master Stefano, Fru Marienna and the Kingdom Constable.*

LADY Robyn of the May is looking for a replacement for Shire A&S Officer. *All applications should be emailed directly to Lady Robyn, Fru Marienna and the Kingdom A&S Officer.*

THE Shire of Darton is looking for a replacement Herald. *All applications should be emailed directly to Fru Marienna and the Kingdom Herald.*

Regnum

KINGDOM Of Lochac
(Australia and New Zealand)
www.sca.org.au

King and Queen
Berengar and Bethan
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Kingdom Seneschal
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SCANZ (SCA New Zealand)
Submissions to the committee should be emailed to the committee.
committee@sca.org.nz

SCANZ Committee

Chair
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(Auckland, Hamilton and Tauranga)

Secretary
Scott Campbell (Christchurch)

Committee
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**Deputy Arts and Sciences Officer for
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Hospitaller

(Melissa)
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Chronicler, Constable

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SCA Shire of Darton

Medieval Crafts and Culture

Ever wanted to learn about medieval history,
arts and crafts, society and culture?



Arts and Sciences Meetings

Wednesday 7pm-9.30pm, all welcome.

Contact Lady Robyn on (0211) 504 876 for details.

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