

Darton Council Agenda - July 2009

** Accept minutes from last meeting: YES

Attending: Helen, Peter, Hannah, Richard, Robyn, Alistair, Robin, Selwyn, Susan, Alasdair, Melissa.

Apologies: Maura, Matt.

* REPORTS:

** Seneschal:

Report turned in to Kingdom in June, thanks all officers for copying your reports in to me so I can forward them with my report. Will be taking two varsity papers from now til November so will not be at many events during that time but can always call or come round if you have an issue, concern or idea to discuss. Under Open Business we will discuss and vote on locations for A&S and Council.

** Quartermaster:

Hannah borrowed some gear from the shire for the event just gone. Zane and Jenny have arranged to drop it back this week. Helen Lyon has four table clothes she is washing for Hannah; these will be returned to me in the next few weeks. I understand some boxes have been purchased for the shire gear by Selwyn and Martin. The receipt has been given to Alistair Ramsden for reimbursement. No other activity on the shire gear in June. I step down as quartermaster at Darton Anniversary, if there are no objections my deputy, Alistair Ramsden, will be taking over at that time. Robyn not sure where the key for the Darton lockup (their garage) is. May be with Melissa. Richard has the site keys for DA.

** Chatelaine/Recruitment:

Finishing off business cards - hope to get them to you before the meeting to vote on, but it's looking unlikely at this stage. Two keen new people - Tim and Sheelagh - if you see them, make them welcome. :)
The only thing I've done successfully in the past 3 weeks to add to my report is put the Darton Brochure up on the website in a low(er) resolution format for easy downloading and a high resolution format for printing and distribution.

** Reeve:

Report to come.

\$640 in \$2946 out, mostly (\$2000+) May Crown Ledger balance \$4345
Flushed all cheques written in may and cashed in June. Balance is \$4381, which is pleasantly close to general ledger balance.

Estimate of May Crown expenses and income. \$11,724 income \$10,331 expenses surplus to date of \$1393 not yet reconciled against report from Richard. Kingdom and non-member levies to come out of that yet.
Richard and Alistair need to sit down and compare numbers. Roughly \$1000 each for Darton and Kingdom.

Quarterly report 31 Mar - 30 June: in 9210 out 11382 (money for May Crown came in prior to quarter but was spent in quarter).

After Crown expenses etc, Darton will have around \$1000 which may be worth putting in a term deposit.

Some question about the whereabouts of around \$800 given to Alistair by Richard last month. It's in a bank account somewhere but there may need to

be shuffling to make sure the right quantities from the right events have gone into the right accounts.

Receipt from Martin for storage boxes for \$160, which is \$10 more than was originally agreed. Council unanimously approved extra funds. (They are Stanley boxes from Super Cheap Auto in case anyone else wants one)

** Herald:

Apologies sent as is at Opera tonight.

Money to give (still haven't had time). Submissions underway, some still to mail. Pentacle-like stuff has increased in registerability based on Laurel rulings.

Message from Massaria Crux offering a talk/class on heraldic registration process, benefits etc.

--- excerpt ---

Although I can't be there it would be helpful to me to know if people in Darton think this is a good idea? And is so when would be good, what they would like to see etc? Afterwards we could get a people to do a sort of Q&A on name and device issues. If there was greater interest I could explain to people thinks like (but not limited to)

- how to research your name and device,
- where to find resources without paying for them,
- what makes a good name and device and how that fits in with your persona, and
- how you can use these things to enhance your SCA experience etc.

If people wanted to know more about the mechanics of conflict checking and heraldic research I could do that too, but that tends to be a more specialised subset of people.

Of course if Matt would rather I did not do this or people are not interested then no worries. So yeah if you want to discuss that tonight that would be groovy, and sorry I could not be there.

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** Marshal:

Nothing to report.

(NOTE: Later in meeting, Richard offered to take over role as Marshal. Alasdair agreed, and will be contacting Kingdom to see if this is acceptable).

** Chronicler:

Nothing to report bar that he has had one person say they are interested in being Chronicler (Melanie). Because we have such an active web/ mailing list use suggests that the position be rolled into the position of webminister as a content-creation/owner role. This would make the webwright responsible for keeping a chronicle of the shire as they see fit. There is not a lot of interest in making submissions for a hardcopy Clarion. Alistair's tenure as chronicler finishes at DA, so that would be a logical time to make the change.

Alasdair suggested that a web gallery with good labelling/tagging would be a good way to maintain a chronicle of the shire. Hannah suggested a Darton Blog. Alasdair can set up a wordpress blog on sca.org.nz easily if people want to do that. This can be linked with a gallery and then linked to from the existing website. Some explanation of the position of Chronicler from Alastair is that the role is to Chronicle the goings on and history of the shire. No opposition to merging the role of webminister and chronicler. Melissa will talk to Martin about this over the next couple of days.

(NOTE: Melissa spoke to Martin after Council. Martin is fine with this but advises that as Del is no longer supporting his content management system, that Darton move to sca.org.nz and use the Drupal system there. This would mean finding a new webminister.)

**** Fencing:**

Selwyn wishes to step down at DA owing to burnout, injury etc. No takers yet.

Selwyn wants to take 2-3 months off fighter practice to concentrate on healing and other things.

If Selwyn stops going to fighter practice then there will be no more marshals attending the fighter practice, which means that the practice will have to end as an official event.

Richard offered to take on the role of group marshal and will commit to attending fighter practice if Alasdair is only doing the job in order that the role be filled. Alasdair is fine with this and will contact the Kingdom Earl Marshal.

Unanimous motion of thanks to Selwyn for performing the role of shire rapier marshal so ably for so long.

**** Archery:**

Standing apology as cannot make Wednesdays.

**** Constable:**

Nothing to report. Chasing Douglas to find out of the "bloody sword" is actually his. No response as yet. Suggestion from Richard that until it's owner is found we use it as the Champion's sword at Darton Anniversary.

**** A&S:**

A&S last month kept on going. We are looking for a new location for A&S gatherings. Singers have been meeting regularly and recorder players have met a couple of times. I finished my knitted flat cap and Aliena finished an embroidered pouch. Nothing else I can think of, though I'm sure other people have done other things. Tamara has been investigating the Georgian (the place, not the period). We have a trainee Masseur, which is art and science combined. Alistair ran a class on cooking over an open fire. Zane ran one on making tinder and fire-starting with flint and steel.

**** A&S Marshal:**

Permanent apology as cannot make Wednesdays.

**** Lists:**

(Seneschal note): As there is no active lists officer at the moment, I have been asked by Asa, Kingdom Lists Officer, to advise that all lists info needs to go to her after any tourneys.

*** PAST EVENTS:**

**** Collegium:**

Talked about this last month, accidental addition to this agenda.

*** FUTURE EVENTS:**

**** Darton Ann '09:**

Not yet at break even. Limited to no interest in the shuttle idea. Price goes up August 1. Current bookings in low teens. Susan said she'd rather

the shire carried a small loss rather than cancel the event. General agreement. Selwyn will badger people at fighter's practice tomorrow.

** November Royal Event - "The Darton Royal Ball"

Bid from Stefano and Sancha received, will be discussed at Council. 20 person break even. \$18 members, \$20 non-members (with levies). Plotting a "light 'n' fluffy" event. Ball with games and finger food. Trying to get downstairs room at Turnbull house, nice looking smaller room that will work if we don't get a lot of people. Thrones at one end, dancing in middle, games down other end. Wants to do late period Spanish thing. Stefano has a menu for a light supper. Will be an official event, advertised in Pegasus etc. Unanimous approval of bid from those present.

TRMs are staying with Robyn and Alistair. If they are staying for two nights the options seem to be a fight practice or an informal fish 'n' chip night at casa Ramsden depending on which nights they're actually in town for.

** College Ball (on Saturday)

Bid from Hannah on behalf of Deborah, who is running this as her last event before she heads off to the US. \$10/head break even is 11 people. At St Ninians Church Hall, Karori
Approved by council.

** November Camp:

FYI - MLH November Camp will be happening December 3rd to 6th.

** St Sebastian's Day Revel

Saturday 20th January. Camp/fire/bbq in Robyn & Stefano's back yard. BYO stuff. Space for four tents with a fire in the middle. Pack in Saturday morning, pack out Sunday or Monday. Approved by council.

** Shoot-a-knight fundraiser

Selwyn has been approached by the "Ngaio home guard rifle club" wondering if the shire can run a "shoot a knight" event for the club. We can probably also run a fighting display heavy and/or rapier. Date: "sometime in the summer"

** Darton War Event

Richard, Selwyn and Alistair want to run a war event in Darton in 2010. Details to come.

* OPEN BUSINESS:

** Note from Maggie re: shire stuff

Maggie has boxes of shire gear for Darton Ann and also has the new boxes for the shire. Will do some re-packing after Darton Ann and then it will all go back to Quartermaster, with the exception of the items Darton in lending to SG for November Crown.

** Award Recommendations

Please write them, m'kay? If you've never written one before, lots of people have and can help you out. Please try and think of people in other groups, TRMs are progressing through the country. If you have recommendations for peerages please make those recommendations and Cc: the clerk of the order. Also, do so well in advance so the order has sufficient time to spy^H^H evaluate the candidate. If you are unsure of what to write, please ask around as many in room have experience.

** Venue for Council:

Melissa's preference is to have it at a public venue. Thinks both A&S and council should happen at the same venue. If the council's preference is for it to happen at a private home then Melissa will run with that. Richard agrees that venues should be the same. Made point that bringing new people to council is not necessarily the best way to bring new people in. Selwyn in favour of public venue for A&S, suggests that first Wednesday of the month is "newcomer night" advertised on the website. Doesn't personally favour council meetings in a public venue, would prefer that they happen either in a back room of public venue or in private venue. Robyn: Long ago SG used to have council in a pub. Al is good with that. No ordering until after meeting :) Richard: doesn't want to see council in public but A&S in private. Alasdair: No opposition to holding council in public. Would prefer council in back room at A&S. Not necessarily practical in terms of venue availability in this city though. Alistair: A single room A&S with kitchen facilities in public will cost \$20/evening (J'ville is \$12/evening). Means 10 people at \$2/head to break even. Johnsonville is best, perhaps bi-weekly. Wants A&S to break even, doesn't want to see shire fritter money away on venue weekly. Susan: have council at A&S night, but run council earlier 6-7, A&S 7-9 or whatever. Selwyn: Also in favour of J'ville venue, because is cheap, central to lots of people, and near train station. Suggests perhaps 1-2 A&S / month on alternating weeks. Helen: Disagrees with the moving venue because it's too hard to bring new people into. Richard agrees. Alasdair agrees also, there is a lot to be said for being able to say "The SCA is here, every Wednesday". Richard: Not 100% in favour of public venue, but sees it as inevitable because we've outgrown everyone's house. Wellington Warlords was in Wadestown for 17 years, and has been in Kandallah for 9 years. There is a lot of community awareness that "those wargamey people are there on Sundays" which means they actually get interested walk-ins from people who've heard about them. Johnsonville has kitchen, toilets, heating etc. Melissa: Whatever decision we make doesn't have to be forever, we can move if we find there are issues with a venue, but we should try the move rather than doing nothing. Alistair: Prefers town due to centrality if we can afford it but acknowledges we have to go with what we can afford. Selwyn: Sees the advantage of having a place we can advertise as our presence on flyers etc. Even if the venue isn't ideal we can stay there for 3 months and that still gives us some time. Alasdair: If we can't get a place we want because it's booked out, we can park up in Jonsonville for a few months and then block book the better place for a year. Richard: Points out that another advantage of Johnsonville is that it is proximal to food places, supermaket etc and that it's parking lot is well lit so we could possibly fight in it. Newlands community centre also well lit, and cheap but doesn't have such good access from public transport. Melissa: Wants to see a gold coin donation, with any excess held over to pay for council night so people don't have to pay to go to council meetings.

Vote on 3 months at J'ville on basis of \$12/night. Approved unanimously.
(NOTE: Melissa's notes were incorrect, J'Ville is \$11 per hour so will review on list and review at August Council)

Point made that there is A&S activities at college so there is acity venue for people who want to go to that. Hannah: *really* doesn't want to see the group split between those who go to college and those who go to shire. Selwyn: Suggests option of a "shuttle run" between uni and J'ville once or twice a month. Point made by various people that the mean age of our group is pretty advanced, there aren't a lot of newbies involved in the shire, so the college offers that group of "new person" support without the pressure of meeting the standards (implicit or explicit) of people who've been doing this for 10 years.

** Venue for A&S:

See above Re: Council.

* Meeting closed at 21:03