

Who are we?

We are the Wellington and Wairarapa branches of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA). A Medieval Re-enactment not-for-profit incorporated society.

Our activities include:

- Researching and recreating life and activities of the people in the Medieval and Renaissance periods in Western Europe and Asia.
- History, Customs, Persona (developing a 'new identity' for yourself of someone who may have lived during this era).
- Heraldry, Pagentry, Awards
- Costuming, Armouring
- Feasting, Cooking, Entertainment – singing, music, story-telling, dancing
- Archery, Camping
- Sword Fighting (with Rattan), Rapier (fencing with steel swords)
- Child and Family friendly activities

Contact Us

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Email: sca.wairarapa@gmail.com

Web: <https://darton.lochac.sca.org>



SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM
WELLINGTON & WAIRARAPA BRANCHES

The Shire of Darton & The Hamlet of Sherwater



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Newsletters

The majority of news and information is available through Facebook groups and Websites, various groups often publish newsletters about happenings within their group. Darton and Sherwater, have not published any newsletters for many years. If you are interested in reviving this tradition, please discuss with the Seneschal / Village Leader of your interest.

The Kingdom of Lochac, however, does have two (2) publications which are regularly published.

Pegasus

The Pegasus is a monthly electronic newsletter which is sent to all Subscribing members. The newsletter is sent out to your nominated email account. It contains news from the Kingdom including messages from the Crown and Kingdom Officers, upcoming events throughout Australia and New Zealand (provided they have been entered onto the Events database by the group Seneschal). It also contains a list of contacts for all groups throughout the Kingdom. Rule changes and Announcements and Awards are also contained in this newsletter.

Cockatrice

The Cockatrice is a semi-regular electronic publication which is issued approximately quarterly.

This is available only via a subscription with the editor – contact – editor@cockatrice.lohac.sca.org .

This publication is an Arts and Sciences based publication with members from Lochac writing contributions on topics which are of interest to themselves. It is NOT a corporate publication and does not delineate SCA policies etc.

Events

Events within the Shire and Hamlet are social occasions, which are either formal (advertised, have an attendance charge and may be costumed), or informal (days-of fun, make stuff days or mini-competitions or pot-luck meals).

Regular events held by our groups are:

Darton Anniversary – this is our group’s big event for the year. Held on the 3rd weekend in August (nearest to 20-22), this is a camping event held at Brookfield Outdoor Centre, Moores Valley Road, Wainuiomata. Bookings are required and details will be advertised on the Website and via FaceBook Group page.

Easter Camp – this is the Hamlet’s camping event, which is a self-catered event, cooking over camp-fires and sleeping in tents.

Collegium - (one-day or weekend teaching various skills and knowledge).

Feasts, Days of Fun, Make Stuff Days, Mini-Tournaments, Fighting training workshops (Fencing and Heavy fighting). These events are advertised via the Website and Facebook.

Other regular events attended by members:

Canterbury Faire - Held in January near Christchurch –
www.cf.lochac.sca.org

St. Sebastian's – Archery & fighters camping event in Rotorua – Late February - <https://cluain.lochac.sca.org/>

St. Catherines's - Auckland – November - <https://ildhfn.lochac.sca.org/>

Welcome

Welcome to the Wellington (Darton) and Wairarapa (Sherwater) groups of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA).

Whether you are new to our society or new to our group, we hope this booklet will be a useful resource for you.

Please note that this booklet is intended to be a guide only, and we encourage you to ask questions, check out various Facebook specific interest groups, various SCA based websites, and undertake your own research if there is a specific topic of interest to you. This booklet will provide information on a very small selection of what is available on the Internet.

Most importantly, if you want or need assistance please **ask for help**. Our members are willing to help, provide guidance, and even teach if requested.

If you are unsure who is the best person to approach, please contact either the Seneschal (Darton) or the Village Leader (Sherwater). Contact details are provided on the back page and on the Darton website. If you are at a meeting, training or event, just ask anyone who looks like they know what they are doing!



What is the SCA?

The Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) is an international non-profit volunteer educational organisation. The SCA is devoted to the research and re-creation of pre-seventeenth century skills, arts, combat, culture, and to employing knowledge of world history to enrich the lives of participants through events, demonstrations, and other educational presentations and activities.

The SCA prides itself on being a family-friendly, inclusive organization and has emphasis on behavior which is courteous, honest and with integrity; and which respects the rights, dignity, personal privacy and worth of others.

The Society concentrates on the recreation of the arts and skills of the pre 17th Century era (up to 1600 CE) for the locations and cultures for which documentation can be found.

The SCA provides an environment in which members can recreate various aspects of the cultures and technology of the period, as well as doing more traditional historical research.



What to say & who is who?

The portrayal of pre-17th Century life also includes the ability to be “nobility”, or to be someone else. So how can you tell if you are new and how do you address these people.

The most important thing to remember, is if in doubt, using the words “My Lord” or “My Lady” will usually be acceptable. Alternatively, you may wish to use “Good Gentle”.

There is certain clothing or costuming which is reserved for certain titles or members within a selected group – these are usually “Peers” or “Peerages” or others which have achieved high levels or recognition within the organisation.

Title	Greeting	What is worn
King / Queen (The Crown)	Your Majesty	Crown
Prince / Princess (The Heirs)	Your Highness	Crown
Duke / Duchess	Your Grace	Coronet with Strawberry leaves
Count / Countess	Your Excellency	Embattled Coronet
Viscount / Viscountess	Your Excellency	Coronet
Baron / Baroness	Your Excellency	Coronet
Knights (male and female)	Sir ... (name)	White Belt, Chain around neck
Master of Defense	Master / Mistress... (name)	White Collar
Laurels and Pelicans	Master / Mistress (name)	A Laurel badge or Pelican badge
Receiver of certain awards (HL or THL in front of name)	The Honorable Lord / Lady ... (name)	No distinguishing clothing

Definitions

We know that some of the words we use may not make sense to you. Here are a few meanings that may help:

Costume / Garb – the pre-17th Century style of clothing worn by members.

Feast - meal served at an SCA event, usually in the style and composition of a feast from the SCA time period.

Feast Gear / Feast Kit – tablewear, linens and utensils used at a feast, most often in approximation of items that would have been used in period. Plate/bowl, knife, fork & spoon, drinking vessel.

Gold Key/ Loaner Gear – items of SCA costume or feasting equipment for loan to new members.

Hold– called during activities that means all should immediately cease what they are doing and pay attention. Used when safety concern occurs.

Household – an unofficial organization of people in the SCA who have a familiar bond or a common interest or goal.

Period – term used to describe the time period covered by the SCA (pre 1600 AD) and also used to denote accurate representations of items and skills used during those dates.

SCAdian - term used in some areas to describe members of the SCA and items that pertain to participation in the SCA.

Site – term used to describe the area where an SCA event to occur.

Code of Conduct

As with any organisation, the SCA has a set of “rules” which everyone is expected to adhere to. The Code of Conduct states:

All members of the Society are expected to uphold these behaviours of the Society during Events, Activities and Meetings with other participants in the Society. These include:

Behaving with courtesy, honesty and integrity; respecting the rights, dignity, personal privacy and worth of others.

Acting with all care and due diligence, accepting responsibility for your actions and using the Society’s resources in a proper manner.

Behaving in a way that upholds the underlying principles of the Society whether in person, in print or via other media.

Behaving in a way that does not adversely affect the integrity and good reputation of the Society.

Not using the Society to promote your own beliefs, behaviours or practices where these are not compatible with the principles of the Society. Complying with any lawful and reasonable direction given by a person having the authority to give the direction.

SCA Policies and Code of Conduct can be found here: <https://sca.org.nz/node/56>

Resources

The following websites have useful information for anyone new to the SCA and also those that have been involved for many years!

The Kingdom of Lochac’s website - <https://lochac.sca.org/> and the Newcomer’s page -

<https://hospitaller.lochac.sca.org/newcomer-page/>

The SCANZ website – www.sca.org.nz contains membership information and the legal documents of the New Zealand organisation such as the Rules and Policies and the Affiliation Agreements.

History and Structure

The SCA was incorporated in 1968 in the USA, however it is recognized that a tournament held in Berkeley, California on 1 May 1966 (A.S.1) is the founding date of the organisation.

As the SCA was founded in the USA, the USA controlling body established rules and guidelines for how “the game” is to be played and has a variety of resources available (www.sca.org).

The SCA has grown world-wide and there are groups in most countries. As each country has its own laws, it is not possible for the US society to ‘control’ other countries groups; Instead, the USA has agreements with the New Zealand Society and with the Australian Board.

A number of years ago, New Zealand joined the Australian groups in the Kingdom of Lochac.

The Kingdom of Lochac (<https://lochac.sca.org/>) is overseen by both the New Zealand and Australian organisations in regard to “real-life” issues, such as insurance, tax, local law limitations, whereas the Kingdom provides the information, contacts and reporting channels and support for all members and groups in New Zealand and Australia.



Dancing

Dance Practice is occurring monthly on Wednesday evenings from 8pm at Elmwood.

Heavy Sword Practice

Heavy Fighting is distinguished from Rapier in that the participants wear full armour, helmets (with face coverings) and use weapons made from Rattan.

Darton – Sunday mornings from 10 am at Elmwood.

Sherwater – please contact the Village Leader.

Rapier Sword Practice

Rapier Fighting is distinguished from Heavy, in that this style is based on ‘late period’ fencing styles and techniques. The protective equipment is not as heavy, and the unsharpened swords are made from steel.

Darton – Wednesday evenings from 6pm to 9pm at Elmwood.

Sherwater – please contact the Village Leader.

Hamlet Day

The monthly social get-together for local members and those willing to travel over the Hill from Wellington for a pot-luck lunch. This is an opportunity for members of both Darton and Sherwater to meet, and to discuss any proposed plans. It is an opportunity to ask questions, and to work on projects.

Last Saturday of month from 10 am.

Note – Due to Privacy issues, and at the request of the property owners, we do not publish the physical address for the property referred to as “Elmwood” or the Hamlet residence. Please contact the Seneschal, Group Marshal (Heavy & Rapier) or the Village Leader (Sherwater), for address details and directions.

Training and Meetings

Archery

Archery practice is held on Sunday Afternoons (weather dependent) at Karaka Park, Karaka Street, Wainuiomata, Lower Hutt from approx. 1.30 pm. Notifications are posted on the Darton Facebook Group page around 10am. Children must be accompanied by a parent, sorry no-one under the age of 7 can participate.

Arts and Sciences

The weekly meeting for “the study and recreation of artisanal or craftsmanship skills of the Middle Ages”. It is also the opportunity to get together with other members for socializing, discussion and opportunity to show what you are working on and to ask for any assistance.

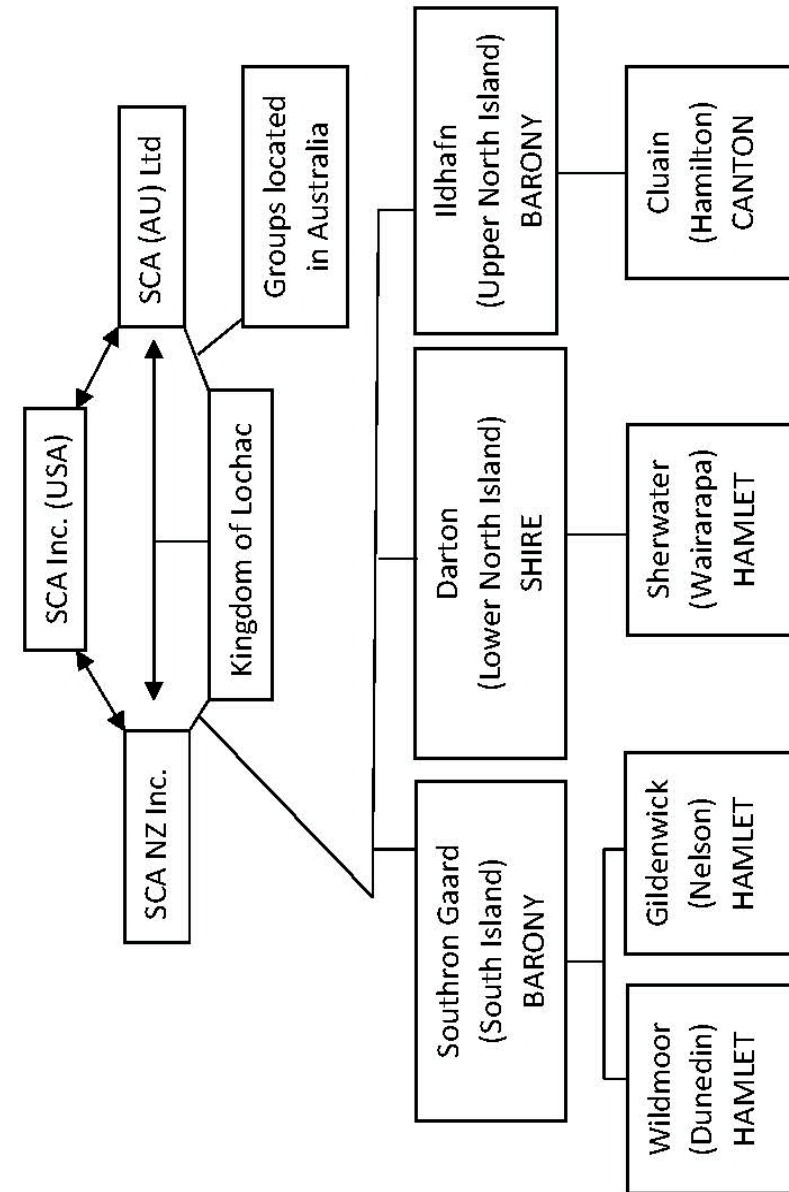
Darton – Wednesday evenings from 6pm to 9pm. Elmwood
Sherwater – Wednesday evenings - Village Leaders’ residence.

Council

The monthly meeting in which the group officers provide their reports on the happenings of the group. Members submit proposals for events and request purchases for the Shire or Hamlet, the submitting of event reports on the events which have occurred. This meeting is an opportunity to raise suggestions for events or other activities which members would like to see occur.

Currently – 2nd Wednesday of each month (excluding January) 7.30pm at Elmwood and via Zoom (zoom links are sent via email list and via Darton Facebook group page a few days before the meeting).

Organisational Structure of the SCA in New Zealand



Membership

Joining (becoming a Financial member) – www.SCA.org.nz/Membership
– click on the link for the online form

Types of membership

There are two classes of membership available: Subscribing Memberships and Event Memberships, which confer different privileges.

Subscribing Memberships can be bought for one year or three years, with a good discount applying to the latter. Note that only Subscribing Memberships provide full rights to participation in the Society, including voting, entering Crown Tournaments or holding an office.

Membership types available from the SCA NZ				
Membership Type	Cost (NZD)	Pegasus Subscription	Can Hold Kingdom Office?	Can Hold Local Office?
Subscribing (electronic)	\$15/year or \$30/3 years	Yes	Yes	Yes
Event Membership	\$2 (per event)	No	No	No

If you travel, Subscribing Memberships also give you affiliate membership status with SCA groups overseas, eg. in Australia, the US and Europe.

Subscribing Membership with electronic Pegasus

\$15 for one year, \$30 for three years

Grants membership of the SCA and a subscription to the electronic edition of the Lochac Kingdom newsletter, Pegasus. You will receive login details to download each monthly copy of the electronic (PDF) Pegasus.

Event Membership for one event

Event membership is for all non-members attending SCA events in New Zealand. This membership lasts for the duration of an event, even if the event spans more than one day. Even at events that do not attract a charge for event memberships, the relevant paperwork must be filled out before you enter any controlled area, e.g. a private site, or a tourney-field in a park.

Keep in Contact

Website – www.darton.lochac.sca.org

Darton Email List - <https://sca.org.nz/mailman/listinfo/darton>

Darton Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/ShireofDarton>

Darton Facebook Group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/186686431419325>

Sherwater Facebook Group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1695041457221506>

Kingdom Website - <https://lochac.sca.org/>

Kingdom Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/scalochac>

SCA & Lochac specific interest groups – search Facebook for what interests you (Garb, weavers, cooks, brewers etc.)