

# GRIFINTAYLE



## Newsletter of the Barony of Politarchopolis August AS38

*"Fraudem! Fraudem! Mea pecunia vobis redenda est!"*

Griffintayle is published by and for the Barony of Politarchopolis. It is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism and does not delineate SCA policy. Griffintayle is produced by Anwyn Davies  
Griffintayle has a limited free distribution. Secure your postal copy by subscription - \$8.00 per year.  
Baronial Homepage: <http://www.sca.org.au/politarchopolis/>

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
A U G	10 ☾ ♣ ♠ ♠ &	11	12	13 ♥ ♠ ♠	14	15 Booking price for Crusade, Borderscros, goes up today	16 Guild Day, St. Florians
	17 ☾ ♣ ♠ ♠ &	18	19	20 ♥ ♠	21	22 Benevolence Crusade, Borderscros	23 Benevolence Crusade, Borderscros
	24 Benevolence Crusade, Borderscros ☾ ♣ ♠ ♠ &	25	26	27 ♥ ♠ ♠	28	29	30 Games and Potluck
S E P	31 Heraldic Tourney ☾ ♣ ♠	1	2	3 ♣ ♠	4	5	6
	7 ☾ ♣ ♠ ♠ &	8	9	10 ♥ ♠ ♠	11	12	13
	14 ☾ ♣ ♠ ♠ &	15	16	17 ♥ ♠	18	19	20
	21 Heavy Quest at Redwood Grove ☾ ♣ ♠ &	22	23	24 ♥ ♠ ♠	25	26	27 Feast of the Butterflies

### REGULAR MEETINGS

♣ **Baronial Meetings:** the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm. Next Meeting will be at ANU, Copland G030

♠ **Baronial heavy fighter practice:**

- Sunday: from 3:00 pm at Haig Park, O'Connor near scout hall, Fencers and heavies welcome. **This is not an SCA event, as waivers are not collected.**

- Wednesday evenings: from 6:30 pm, at Mawson Oval. **This is not an SCA event, as waivers are not collected.**

♣ **Rapier practice:** Sunday 2 pm at Haig Park O'Connor.

☾ **Archery practice:** Sundays, 10:00 till 12:00 at Tuggeranong Archery Club, Western end of Soward Way, Tuggeranong. Cost 5 gold to non TAC members Range fees to TAC members

& **Arts and Sciences Evening:** Sundays after fighter practice, same location.

♠ **Baronial Dance Classes:** 2-4 pm Sundays at the Scout Hall, Haig Park, Turner

♠ **College Dance Classes:** 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, from 6.30 pm at ANU Copland Building G030 (except for the night of the Baronial meeting).

♥ **Mid week Boffer and A'n'S meeting:** Every Wednesday 3.30 - 5.00pm. Room 3 of the Tuggeranong Community Centre Cowlshaw Street, Greenway. Please note: check the notice board on entry as meeting may have been moved to a different room - will be under House Anaticula (SCA)

### Other Upcoming Events:

18<sup>th</sup> October – Le Crapaud Tourney

# Politarchopolis Regnum

SCA Politarchopolis, PO Box 1294, Belconnen ACT 2617 Email [politarchopolis@sca.org.au](mailto:politarchopolis@sca.org.au)  
To subscribe to the Politarchopolis email list, go to <http://www.sca.org.au/mailman/listinfo/polit>

<b>Baron and Baroness</b>	Shayne and Trudi Lynch (François Henri Guyon & Ælfhrythe of Saxony) Email: rapier@tpg.com.au		Sue Hryckiewicz (Selivia de l'Estoile) Email: selivia@optusnet.com.au
<b>Seneschal</b>	Blair Wilson (Edmund Ale-Conner) Email: edmunds_ego@optusnet.com.au	<b>Hospitaller</b>	Adelle Verrier (Theodora) Email: adellev@bigpond.com
<b>Herald</b>	Paul Sleigh (Karl Faustus)		Kelly Boulton (Lucretzia) Email: durnik@bigpond.com
<b>Marshal</b>	Maxx (Heinrich Maximillian von Hesse) Email: maxx@webone.com.au	<b>Chronicler</b>	Anwyn Davies (Blodeuwedd y Gath) Email: anwyn@webone.com.au
<b>Chandler</b>	Beth Schoenberg (Caterina Pieri) Email: schoenb@webone.com.au	<b>Chirurgion</b>	Vacant (Contact the Seneschal if you are interested in taking on this position)
<b>Reeve</b>	Michelle Dean (Francesca Cellini)	<b>Captain of Archers</b>	Simon Price (Alessandro di Falco)
<b>Web Minister</b>	Rob Howard (Rhodri r Gweledydd) Email: Rob.h@webone.com.au	<b>Rapier</b>	Paul Davies (Damien Greybeard) Email: grey@goldweb.com.au
<b>Arts &amp; Sciences</b>	Rachel Zavrodnik (Sybil LaChat) No contact details available		<b>College of St Aldhelm</b>
<b>Constable</b>	Fiona Huxley (Leta von Goslar) Email: lady_leta@optusnet.com.au	<b>College Seneschal</b>	Alice Balnaves-Knyvett (Alesia de Cheval Blanc) Ph: 0402 337 814. Email: alicebk@tpg.com.au
<b>Lists</b>	Ali Lawrie (Madeleine du Lac d'Agenais) Email: alicraig@austarmetro.com.au		

Please check all details are correct and contact the Chronicler to correct any errors.

"Griffintayle" is published monthly, editions brought out the Saturday following the Baronial meeting. All submissions need to be received by the Chronicler by the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month for general and event notices, offices reports by the Wednesday evening of the Baronial meeting.

Thanks this edition go to Adair, Catalina and Oriel for advice and Drake for being my willing dogsbody and general serf-of-all-trades. Positions vacant for folders, stampers and shoulder-masseuses. Applications to the Chronicler.



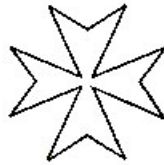
## QUIZ – How much do you really know?

1. Which King Louis of France was nicknamed 'The Fat'?
2. Which mythical creature was the Lusignan family supposed to have taken their name from, based on theory that an ancestor married one?
3. What was unusual about Henry the Navigator's nickname?
4. To what do modern scholars ascribe St Hildegard of Bingen's visions?
5. True or False – Marco Polo brought pasta to Italy from China?
6. Who did Machiavelli dedicate 'The Prince' to?
7. Who was the first of the Capatian Dynasty of French Kings?
8. Which English King founded the Order of the Garter?
9. A treasure trove of Viking jewellery was found buried under the cellar floor of which building in Moscow?
10. How was Salah al-Din Yusef ibn Ayyub known to the West?

# Upcoming Events

## Benevolence Crusade

Culcairn Showgrounds  
22-24 August 2003



Bordescros seek your participation in this Benevolent event to raise funds for our Kingdom's College of Scribes, and to help the Cancer Council continue its own crusade for a cure. Gather a warband and fight for possession of the Grail, and the right to bear the title of '*Champions of the Crusade*' in the Team Skirmish. Form alliances and combine your forces in the Wars, which will follow before retiring to the Great Hall to partake in the feast. Vie for more spoils and prove your worth on the following day in the Heavy and Light Price Fighter Auction Tournaments.

For the non-militant Crusaders there will be a variety of Arts & Sciences Collegia being held throughout the weekend covering areas such as Illumination, Heraldry and Period Encampments. Merchants are also invited to join us and display their wares.

So gather your forces and come and support us in this worthy cause.

Cost: Member / Non / 5-11 years / 12-16 years / Family  
Prior to 15 August: \$50 / \$5 / \$20 / \$30 / \$135 / 145  
After 15 August: \$60 / \$60 / \$25 / \$40 / \$150 / \$155

Includes all meals and camping fees from Friday night to Sunday lunch time, please attach any dietary requirements to your booking slip for any or all of the weekend.

Cheques payable to: **Bordescros SCA**.  
Email bookings or enquires to: [Bordescros@hotmail.com](mailto:Bordescros@hotmail.com)  
Contact Thanatos on: Email: [thanatos@myaccess.com.au](mailto:thanatos@myaccess.com.au)  
Phone: (02) 6056 3969 or 0418 814 983

## Heraldic Feast and Tourney – 30 & 31 August 2003

### Games and Potluck Feast – 30 August

The feast and Tournament are being held to celebrate the Knight of Honour and the Lady of Honour for the following days tournament. On Saturday the 30<sup>th</sup> of August there shall be an afternoon of games commencing at 2pm, followed by a potluck feast from 6pm. This great event shall be held at the Hall Showgrounds Hall, Hall.

Come and enjoy an afternoon of fun and games, presented by Baron Stephen. Those who were at the winter games last year will know full well that this is not something to be missed. This shall be followed by a potluck feast featuring diverse entertainment and a display of the helms of entrants in the morrow's tourney. The games will be French and you are encouraged to bring 15c French dishes to the feast.

### Heraldic Tourney – 31 August

This tourney is to be held from 11:30am until approximately 4pm on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2003. It is a

single kill, double elimination tourney, with half the rounds being fought using specified weapons and/or at the barrier. It shall be held at Eddison Park, Phillip, near the cemetery.

Armour Inspection: 11:30am–12:30pm  
Presentation of Fighters to Lady of Honour: 12 noon–1pm  
Tourney, to commence with a melee: 1pm

Cost: Potluck Feast: \$5; Cheques payable to SCA Politarchopolis

Bookings: Sigmund Spelmann (Chris Strusz)

email [chriss@naa.gov.au](mailto:chriss@naa.gov.au)

Stewards: Lord Sigmund (Tourney); Baron Stephen (Feast)

### Rule of Entry

**Every fighter must have a consort or a person who inspires them on this day.** A consort is defined as 'the one whose favour you bear on the day'. When introducing themselves to the Lady of Honour, each fighter must either name or (preferably) present the person whose favour they bear.

### Heraldic Display

This tourney is being held to celebrate those who inspire us to greatness and the beauty of heraldic display demonstrates this. As such, there is considerable emphasis on such display, with fighters being rewarded by the Lady of Honour for grand display. This reward is in the form of extra lives in the tourney.

### Helmet Display

At the feast, there will be a display of the helmets of those who intend to fight in the tourney on the morrow. The Lady of Honour will judge these helmets based on their heraldic appearance, selecting two. The owners of these helmets will become the captains of the melee teams the next day. It is not necessary to enter the helmet display to participate in the tourney, however it is beneficial, as the captain of the winning side in the melee gains an extra life in the tourney.

### Presentation to the Lady of Honour and the Gallery

On the morning of the tourney, after armour inspection and registration with the lists, each fighter must present themselves to the Lady of Honour. At this time they must name the person whose favour they bear. The manner of the fighter's presentation is up to them. At the minimum they must formally introduce themselves to the Lady of Honour. Presenting themselves, and naming or presenting the person whose favour they bear. Fighters may be accompanied by "retainers" such as personal banner bearers, shield bearer, personal herald singing praises and wearing personal livery...

The Lady of Honour may, at her discretion, reward fighters who present themselves well with extra lives in the tourney. Such reward will be based on the categories of personal heraldic display (helmet, tabard, shield, etc) and the manner of their presentation (see above, or do research, for ideas).

### Prizes

The Lady of Honour will award prizes as follows:  
The captain of the team that wins the melee (this will be a

'purse of gold' – chocolate to be shared among the winners of the melee.)

The one who holds the field at the end of the day.  
The winner of the tourney – this is ladies choice.

Further Advice on Heraldry

What follows are some thoughts on heraldic display for those who wish to enter the tourney.

*Whose Heraldry?*

You may wish to demonstrate who inspires you on the day by wearing their heraldry, this is especially useful if you don't have your own device registered. Naturally, you should discuss it with your consort or patron first.

*Helmet Display*

Display on a helmet can include more than just a wreath or torse. It can also include a crest or plume of feathers (there are no lights on the tourney field, so there's no problem with identification). If you want inspiration I can suggest you look at Heraldry books – both Fox-Davies and Neubecker have pictures of medieval rolls of arms, which include helmet crests and the associated devices they are based on.

For how to go about making a helmet crest, see <http://www.randyasplund.com/browse/medieval/crest.html>

You are strongly encouraged to wear the helmet crest in the tourney, after all, why else make it.



## Heavy Quest At Redwood Grove

Come one, come all and experience the challengers of the mysterious Redwood Grove. On the day of the 21st of September there will be a melee tournament and Heavy quest (**BRING YOUR MESH!!!!**)

After each round of the melee the victor will enter the Grove led by a guide. The fighter will face 5 challenges: Agility, Strength, Knowledge, Cunning, and Truth of heart.

Only a shield and single-handed weapon will be permitted in the grove. And be warned this quest will be difficult and only those who master all the test put before them will be victorious.

Armour Inspection and lists open at 11:30am, this will continue until 12:20pm. The melee will begin at 12:30pm

Yours in Service  
Edmund Ale-conner.

P.S. **BRING YOUR MESH!!!!**

## Feast of the Butterflies

Date: Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup> of September 2003  
Cost: \$17.50 Members, \$20.00 Non Members  
Venue: Hughes Community Hall  
Autocrat & Kitchen Steward: Tosti Vikarrovitch

Bogolyubski

Time: Doors open 6pm; Remove one: 7 p.m.; Remove two: 8:15 p.m.

This timetable will vary depending on the attendance of Nobles and whether or not there is to be a court between the removes.

The feast is set to be the follow up to the recent Feast of the Caterpillars, hosted by the College, in honour of Mistress Kiriell before she began her journey to Drachenwald. The Feast of the Butterflies is being this year held as a 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the same feast held previously in Politarchopolis in honour of Mistress Kiriell as an apology. Mistress Kiriell has, in her infinite grace, agreed to allow the Feast of the Butterflies to be held "For the enjoyment of the local populace" in her absence. The feast shall follow no particular period or region for its theme or flavour; rather the food shall be eclectic, with a focus on quality with reasonable quantity. In short words to describe what shall be eaten on the night, "Whole beasts and truly Great Pies, castles shaped from sugar, and much fun and frivolity" to quote a member of kitchen team



## SENESCHAL STUFF

Greetings to all.

Thanks to all the officers who manage to get their reports in on time. A gentle reminder, your reports for August are due on the 1st of September.

Remember if you want to advertised an event in Pegasus then you need to get the Seneschal to sign the form, not he Baron or Baroness

Not much else to say,  
Edmund Ale-conner

## FROM THE REEVE

Are you interested in a career in (not-so) high finance? Does the thought of saying 'no'\* send you into giddy transports of delight? Well, have we got a position for you.

The Reeve requires a deputy, with a view to the deputy eventually taking over the position (which may well be in a year or so's time, so don't panic just yet). The office of Reeve is an administrative position and undertakes some of the 'behind-the-scenes' activity that helps keep the Barony running.

If you can:

- ❖ use a spreadsheet (preferably on your own computer),
- ❖ a calculator,
- ❖ count accurately, and
- ❖ undertake to do regular reporting (i.e. a monthly report and at the end of every financial year),

and are interested in doing some work for the Barony, please give me a call.

Please note - the reeve is one of the mandatory positions for groups and the incumbent needs to be a member.

Thanks  
Francesca (Michelle Dean)

(\* - We don't necessarily say 'no' to people all the time - only when they want to spend money! :-))

## WEB WRIGHT REPORT FOR JULY ASXXXVIII

Not much to activity to report for this month apart from usual (Griffintayle, Minutes and Events).

I have sent out a request to all in Politarchopolis for photos of recent events for the Gallery. As yet I have not received any apart from those that I have taken myself.

Over the next month I will be developing a webpage for May Crown Tourney with input from the event stewards, and hopefully updating the gallery with photos of the Feast of the Caterpillars and the Minotaur tourney.

YiS  
Rhodri.

*(P.S. - I believe the Gallery has already been updated as stated - Blod)*

## CHRONICLER'S COMMENTS

*Bore da* to all and welcome to the new-look Griffintayle. Having been back in the country for just over a year and a half, I decided it was about time to get back to work and take on an officership again. Adair very kindly didn't tie me up to stop me escaping when I offered to take over.

Like all overly enthusiastic and deluded new officers, I've got lots of ideas for changes. I'd like the "Griffintayle" to be less a list of events and more of a group *newsletter*, so I'm currently looking for short articles, Baronial news and especially event reports. All efforts to me by the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month please. And please feel free to flood me with ideas of what you'd like to see printed.

Officers and Householders, please check to see your details are correct. If there are local contacts for any of the Guilds who would like their details added, please let me know.

Lastly, I'll be pushing for new subscriptions and phasing out the free copies over the next three months. You will notice that the inside of the back page is a subscription form. Cunningly, the free copies will have my address on the address label, so all you need to do to subscribe is fill in the form, staple your cheque or money order to it, fold it in thirds, stick down, stamp and post! Current subscribers will notice their subscription expiry date on the address label.

Iechyd da,  
Blodeuwedd

## ARTS & SCIENCES

To compliment the upcoming design competitions for baronial regalia (cushions, carpet, banners, and baronial pavilion linings) we will be chatting together at A&S on Sunday afternoon from 4pm about this.

For the 17/8 bring along something to finish and we'll have our inaugural 'stitch and bitch' session. It doesn't have to be sewing. Paint a banner, punch some leather. Design a gown. Make some lucet cord.

I'm hoping as a precursor to the Games day and feast on 30/8 that I can convince Stephen to come and talk about indoor games on 24/8.

So plenty happening this month! Come along and have fun!

Also note, competitions run on the 31st along with the advertised baronial championship competitions will attract championship points!

Participate People! You've got to be in it to win it!

See you all soon  
Syb

## Marshal Matters

Greetings unto the populace.

All fighting events that I am aware of (3 so far) from August to October have received approvals from the relevant authorities. If anybody else wishes to run a fighting event between now and the end of the year please drop me a line.

College War 2003 – Many thanks to Lady Alesia and Sir Philippe for the efforts in running this event. From what I have heard it went very well.

Minotaur Maze and Random Weapon Tourney – Lord Edmund - along with the aid of the fighters, spectators and Marshals (damn their devious minds), provided an entertaining event, so my thanks to all of them.

Only one injury was reported for the month of July at College War but thankfully it was not too serious.

Upcoming events (see Griffintayle for details):  
31<sup>st</sup> August – Heraldic Tourney  
21<sup>st</sup> September – Redwood Grove Quest  
18<sup>th</sup> October – Le Crapaud Tourney

Fighters please note - some of your weapons have bounced recently and I ask that you please be aware of their minimum requirements as listed in the Lochac Kingdom Combat Handbook.

Regards  
Heinrich Maximillian von Hesse  
Politarchopolis Baronial Marshal

## Goldfish Stomach Soap – facts you might wish you didn't know

- In the 16<sup>th</sup> Century, the Pope declared breasts to be “the devil’s work” and threatened to excommunicate anyone who “bared their necks to excess”
- Catherine de Medici’s starched collars were so large that she had special cutlery with especially long handles made so she could still reach her mouth to eat.
- In ancients Rome, slaves were employed at dinner parties to scent the air by spraying mouthfuls of perfume over the guests
- By the end of her life, the lead in her ceruse face paint had eaten so deeply into her skin that Elizabeth I of England had to layer her paint nearly half an inch thick to cover up the cracks in her face.
- In the early 17<sup>th</sup> Century, Signora Toffana was executed for causing the death of more than 600 Italian men. No, she wasn’t a mass murderer; she invented a preparation to bleach the skin smooth, white and fair – which contained so much arsenic that these men died after kissing their wives!
- Pliny gave the following recipe for black hair dye – take one pint of pounded leeches and two quarts of vinegar, then ferment for sixty days. Rub the result into the scalp, but don’t forget to hold some oil in your mouth while you do it or else, he assures us, your teeth will also go black.

Source: “The Tyranny of Beauty” Arline & John Liggett, 1989

## Webpage Of The Month

<http://www.liebaart.org/500years.htm> – an amusing take on re-enactment

## Recipe of The Month

### Pastés de Poires Crues (Whole Pear Pie)

“Stand three large pears in a pie and fill the gaps with about quarteron of sugar, cover well and glaze with eggs or saffron, and put in the oven”

from *Le Viandier de Guillaume Tirel dit Taillevent, 15<sup>th</sup> Century manuscript*

I LOVE this recipe, simple and easy to make, especially if you cheat and use commercial frozen pastry, but be warned, not only is it impossible to serve a single, solid slice (definitely a “spooned up” pie) but it’s also rich enough to gold plate your stomach.

I found that a bread tin works better than a conventional pie tin. Grease and flour, and I strongly recommend lining the base with greaseproof paper to prevent the bottom getting scratched when you dish up. Line with your favourite short pastry, rolled not too thin. The original doesn’t state if the pears should be peeled or not, but I definitely preferred it when they were. Packham pears were ok, but Commice pears (similar to Buerre Bosc) were definitely superior in flavour and especially texture. Three pears is stated in the original, and when I used a short-but-tall bread tin, that was fine, but for a standard bread tin, use as many as will fit.

Redon, Sabban and Serventi’s “*The Medieval Kitchen – Recipes from France and Italy*” states that a quarteron is around 120g. Given that I worked on the “as many as will fit” theory for the pears, after my first attempt I simply filled in all the gaps with sugar. What type you should use is also up for debate. Redon et al prefer superfine; I found ordinary white sugar was fine and that soft (light) brown sugar (demerera or very light muscavado) added a really nice flavour.

Leave the stems on the pears so they puncture the lid of your pie to let some steam out (no steam holes means you wind up with a

weird sort of pear soup under the top crust.) Glaze with egg yolk or a little hot milk that has been coloured with one or two strands of saffron. Cook at 200 C / 400 F for around 90 min. Have your foil ready to cover the top if it looks like the pastry is browning too early, as this pie needs the long cook. The pear inside releases juice into the sugar which caramelises and turns into a rich, sticky pear syrup, while the pears themselves become deliciously soft and tasty. Light cream drizzled over is the ultimate in hideously rich yumminess.

*Blodeuwedd, with redaction help from Ladies Valeria and Lucretzia, both of Insula Draconis, Drachenwald*

## Book Review:

**The Pimlico Encyclopaedia of the Middle Ages** – Norman F. Cantor, General Editor  
Copyright 1999 Published by Pimlico Publishing.

The problem with any such book is that one becomes frustrated with the limited details they have on any given subject. Usually I use such books a browser to pick up bits and pieces on places/periods I don’t know very much about or as a ‘quick link’ to find different people or events in the same time period. Unfortunately, like many of its type, it concentrates on Western Continental Europe, the Crusader States and England (but only token nods to Wales, Scotland and Ireland). It does pay token tribute to Eastern Europe by mentioning some of the better known royalty of Russia, Lithuania and Hungary, but the Byzantine Empire seems criminally under represented. Having said that, the people of the Middle East and Northern Africa do get represented more than is usual, and frequently in a focus beyond just the crusades.

It devotes a great deal to the Church, its ins and outs, politics, beliefs and changing habits (no pun intended) which I found quite interesting. In addition to articles on various saints and popes, it also has essays on the bible, indulgences, various sects – both heretical and orthodox – papal politics and discusses various abbeys and cathedrals.

Possibly the most frustrating group of articles – frustrating in their limitations – are those devoted to aspects of life. Not surprisingly, there are separate entries for weaponry, warfare, arms and armour, castles and fortifications, artillery, chivalry, as well as numerous battles. Women by contrast are reduced to one general entry and various biographies. In its favour, it also has entries for coronation, exploration, communes, architecture, prisons and punishments, mosaic, sculpture and music, amongst others.

For the long-term, well read SCA member, I’d suggest a flick through – you won’t get any in depth information but you’ll probably pick up a few interesting things you didn’t know. However, I would highly recommend it as the ideal gift for a new member, with enough general information to bring them up to speed on medieval life, plenty of people and places to give ideas for personas and further research, lots of period illustrations and, very nicely, lots of maps of areas discussed.

Reviewed by Lady Blodeuwedd y Gath

Answers to the Quiz

1. Louis VI (1081-1137)
2. A Melusine.
3. He never left Portugal (he earned the appellation due to his funding of exploration and shipbuilding).
4. Migraines.
5. False. Pasta was well known in Ancient Rome. What he did bring back from the East was the notion of round, rather than flat, noodles, i.e. spaghetti.
6. Lorenzo de Medici.
7. Hugh (987-996) – posthumously referred to as Hugh Capet .
8. Edward III (1312-1377).
9. The Kremlin. It is believed to be the crown jewels of the early Czars hidden from the invading Tartars.
10. Saladin.