

Newsletter of the Barony of Politarchopolis

GRIFFINTAYLE



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 Alexandra Rapp, 47 Mockridge Crescent Holt ACT 2615. A free e-mail version is available. Secure your postal copy by subscription - \$8.00 per year. Baronial Homepage: <http://www.sca.org.au/politarchopolis>

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
S E P	22	23	24 & f w	25 ♥	26	27	28 ♣ E w ♣ &
	29	30	31 & f w	1 ♠	2	3	4 BARONIAL DAY IKAC ♪ ♣ E w ♣ &
	5	6	7 & f w	8 ♠	9	10	11 ♣ E w ♣ &
	12	13	14 & f w	15 ♠	16	17	18 ♣ E w ♣ &
O C T	19	20	21 & f w	22 ♠	23	24 Anaticula Household Camp	25 ♣ E w ♣ &
	26	27	28 & f w	29 ♥	30 Spring War	1 Spring War	2 Spring War BARONIAL DAY IKAC ♪ ♣ E w ♣ &
	3 Spring War	4	5 & f w	6 ♠	7	8	9 ♣ E w ♣ &
	10	11	12 & f w	13 ♠	14	15	16 ♣ E w ♣ &
	17	18	19 & f w	20 ♠	21	22	23 ♣ E w ♣ &
	24	25	26 & f w	27 ♥	28	29	30 ♣ E w ♣ &

See overleaf for legend

Other Upcoming Events:

24-26th September – Anaticula Household Camp
 30th Sept – 3rd October – Spring War XI (Mordenvale)
 22nd October – Sorice (Stowe on the Wowld)
 22nd October – Rumoured Agincourt Day Event (Stowe on the Wowld)
 28th-30th October – Benevolence Crusade (Bordescros)

5th November The Baronial Hunt & Feast of St Leonard
 12-13th November – Crown Tourney (Rowany)
 25-27th November – Casual War III
 2nd-4th December – Siege Engine Challenge (Soutron Gaard)
 26th-29th January 2006 – Stowe Fair II Revenge of the Elephants

Please check all details are correct and contact the Chronicler to correct any errors. "Griffintayle" is published monthly, editions are printed the weekend following the Baronial Meeting. It is distributed in print and electronic forms. All submissions need to be received by the Chronicler by the last Monday of the month for general and event notices, Officers Reports by the Thursday evening of the Baronial Meeting. This is the July edition for 2005.

Politarhropolis Regnum

SCA Politarhropolis, PO Box 1294, Belconnen ACT 2617 Email politarhropolis@sca.org.au
To subscribe to the Politarhropolis email list, go to <http://www.sca.org.au/mailman/listinfo/polit>

Please see elsewhere on this website for Regnum details

Regular Meetings

♥ **Baronial Meetings:** the last Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. Check with the Seneschal for location.

⚔ **Fighter practice:** Sunday: from 2:00 pm at Haig Park, O'Connor near scout hall, Fencers and heavies welcome. Wednesday evenings from 6:30 pm, at Mawson Oval.

E **Rapier practice:** Sundays, starting at 1.30 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:** Sundays - following fighter practice, same place. Wednesday - between 12:30 and 3:00pm at the Mummery. Contact the Seneschal for location details and to confirm the session is on.

♠ **Guild Sunday** – every 3rd Sunday of the month. Details vary – contact A&S Minister for details.

🎵 **Choir Practice:** 1st Sunday of each month, 1pm, Haig Park. Contact Crispin Sexi for details jaysen@au1.ibm.com or Ph: 6241 0919.

✂ **Stitch and Bitch:** 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month at Raven's Nest from 7pm (southside), 2nd Thursday at the Baroness's from 7pm (northside), the 4th Thursday will run in concert with The College A&S meeting. If there are 5 Thursdays in a month the 4th will also be at the Baroness's residence and 5th will be with The College. See Regnum and above for address details.

⚔ **Baronial Dance Classes:** 2-4 pm Sundays, Scout Hall, Haig Park, Turner. Contact Joanna of the Beechwoods for details Ph: 6296 2193

📜 **Scriptoria:** Held by the College of Scribes every 2nd Saturday of the month from 1:30-4:30pm. The site does change, so contact the local Warden, Lady Morag Freyser at Raven's Nest for details. Peynters and Limners welcome too.

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

Upcoming Events

Anaticula Household Camp

Who: House Anaticula
 When: 24th to 26th September 2005 from
 12noon Saturday to 5pm Monday
 Where: Caloola Farm, Naas River, approx 20km
 past Tharwa
 Cost: Food is \$35 per head, camp grounds \$3 per
 head per night. Total = \$41

Camp is being held for household Anaticula for
 purposes of teaching and encouraging young
 people in the ways of SCA and all things pertaining
 to medieval.

The camp is open to all other households who have
 young people aged 12 and above who would like to
 join in. If a family joins in who has young children
 under 12, they are welcome too but must be
 supervised by parents at the camp.

Some anticipated activities will be...
 Household Tourney and Chess Tourney

Archery
 Leather making
 Jewellery making
 Making pouches
 Making boffers

The Quest (a treasure type hunt)
 Bardic Circle - a competition for poem or song
 Arts and Science competitions – best use of a duck
 and best period game (board or otherwise)
 For bookings contact: Cate Greenfield

The Baronial Hunt & The Feast of St Leonard

When: 5th November

Where: Redwood Grove
 Time: Armour inspection at 1pm the hunt to begin
 at 2 pm.
 Pot Luck feast to start at 5pm. More details to
 follow.

Once again the hunting horn sounds to announce
 another Baronial Hunt. Come for a day of mixed
 combat fun. Relax in the Grove's tranquil
 atmosphere and of course, not to mention the
 eunuchs on St Leonard's Day Eve would be like,
 well, leaving out the Morris dancers, or the bearded
 women. To quote another Edmund "Morris dancing
 is the most fatuous tenth-rate entertainment ever
 devised by man: forty effeminate black-smiths
 waving bits of cloth they've just wiped their noses
 on. How it's still going on in this day and age I will
 never know."

More details to follow along with an announcement
 of a 'How to prepare for a Pot luck' which will be
 held at the next Baronial day.

In Service
 Edmund Alekonner and the Company of the Lion
 Heart

Casual War III

When: 25th to 27th November 2004.
 Where: Warrambui Retreat and Conference
 Centre, Murrumbateman, NSW (approx 25 km
 north of Canberra).
 Cost:

	Full weekend	Saturday daytrip (inc feast)
booked by Spring war (30/09)	55	25
booked by November Crown (12/11)	60	30
booked before 22 November	65	35
At the Door	80	40

Non-members +\$5

Full weekend rates includes all accommodation and meals.

All bookings to the Steward.

Come for the warfare and stay for the pyjama party.

Site opens at 6pm Friday with a soup kitchen from 7pm. Saturday is WAR, and siege weapon competition followed by the feast and pyjama party. Sunday will involve archery, heavy and rapier tourneys and, with any luck, followed by A&S and/or dance classes.

Their Majesties have been invited to the event.

Please note that if you book and do not attend, the stewarding team will have catered for you, and therefore will expect payment, by swiftest pigeon following the event.

Steward: Adair MacDermid (Rob Bolin -
 rbolin@dodo.com.au)

Events Elsewhere

Spring War XI - Grogtoberfest

Who: Barony of Mordenvale (Newcastle, NSW)

When: 30th September – 3rd October 2005

Where: Standen Road Lower Belford NSW (same location as last year)

Cost: till 15 Sept \$60m/\$65nm, till 25 Sept \$70m/\$75nm, at the gate \$90.

Event opens 1pm Friday 30th September and runs till 1pm Monday 3rd October. As the event is fully catered any dietary restrictions to be notified with booking.

Payment must accompany booking. All Bookings sent to: Andrew Ross-Gowan PO Box 654 Charlestown 2290. Cheques to be made out to SCA inc Mordenvale.

Yours in Service,

Gilchrist Morgan, Spring War Steward

02 4942 4744 or andrewrg@optusnet.com.au

Soriee: Music, Singing & Light Feast

Who: Canton of Stowe on the Wowld (Western Sydney, NSW)

When: 22 October

Where: Toongabbie Scout Hall, 99 Bungaree Road Toongabbie NSW

Cost: \$15m/\$17nm, \$20 unbooked at the door. Cheques payable to "SCA Stowe on the Wowld"

Bookings to the Steward by 15 Oct, if you book and don't turn up we may ask you for payment.

After a pleasant day of archery at our Agincourt Day event, come back for a feed and some entertainment at Soriee, or just come along to relax amongst friends after a hard days shooting things. We would like to organise performances this year so if you or your ensemble is planning on coming to sing or play or tell a story or put a play on, please notify the Steward in advance.

Steward: Fineamhain an Einigh inghean Ui Chonchobhair (Sara Manley) 31 Emert St, Wentworthville NSW 2145, Ph 02 9863 5868 Mob: 0411 955 841 Email: wenchilada@fastmail.fm

Benevolence Crusade

Who: Shire of Bordescros (Albury, NSW)
When: 28-30th October 2005

Where: Culcain Showgrounds, Culcairn.

Cost: m\$45/nm\$50 pre Sept, m\$50/nm\$55 pre Oct, m\$55/nm\$60 pre 24th Oct.

All of the details can be found at:

<http://www.freewebs.com/bordescros/benevolencecrusadeiii.htm>

Greetings one and all from the fair Shire of Bordescros.

Yes, Benevolence Crusade is on again this year, from 28-30th October 2005 at Culcairn (3 hours

from Politarchopolis, 4 hours from Stormhold) and just north of Albury!

Come and join us for this great event with lots of fighting and feasting.

This year the proceeds of the Fighter Auction Tournaments will be divided between the Cancer Council and the Scribes Guild.

Yours in service

Cairistiona inghean Raghnaill
(on behalf of the Stewards)

November Crown Tournament

Who: Barony of Rowany (Sydney)

When: 12th-13th November

Where: St Peter's Primary School & Petersham Town Hall

Cost:

Before 30 Sept or at Spring War \$35m/\$40nm

Before 30 October \$40m/\$45nm

At the Door \$45m/\$50nm

Sunday Only \$15m/\$15nm

Saturday: Crown Tourney lists open 10am, A&S Competitions, Guild displays, and Feast (doors open at 6pm)

Sunday: Roses Tourney lists open at 11am, Fencing tourney, Archery competition, collegia and games.

Bookings accepted with payment only. Please send cheques or money orders to:

November Crown Bookings

PO Box 603

Strathfield, NSW, 2135.

Steward: Clara van der Keere

Karinne.taylor@gmail.com, Ph 02 9715 6308 A/h or

M 0410 584 400

Southron Gaard Siege Engine Challenge

Who: Barony of Southron Gaard (Christchurch, NZ)

When: Friday December 2 (site opens midday) to Sunday December 4, 2005 (site closes 5pm)

Where: Rimu Park Scout Camp, Yaldhurst, State Highway 73, Christchurch, New Zealand (see [map](#))

Cost:

Full event attendance, includes two porridge breakfasts and two lunches, *excluding* Challenge Feast: \$18 Adult, \$10 Child

Day only (no meals): \$8 Adult, \$4 child per day

Challenge Feast (requires Full- or Day-attendance also): \$10 Adult, \$5 Child

Child rates apply for 5-12 year olds, under-5s free

Details: Three-day encampment including:
Friday: Set-up, potluck dinner and campfire stories, songs and revelry
Saturday: Siege Engine Challenge, A&S, Challenge Feast (6pm) and Ball (8:30pm)
Sunday: Tourney, War Scenarios and A&S
General revelry throughout!

Apart from the face-off of mighty siege engines, this three-day encampment will include war scenarios, A&S, feasting, tourneying, revelling, a ball, and all manner of other enticements and phantasies to occupy the time, titillate the taste-buds and exercise the bodies of participants. Visitors to our Barony will of course experience our famous Southron Gaard hospitality, so by all means start making your travel plans now!

Accommodation: A space to pitch your tent or pavilion is available at no extra charge, as are hall alcoves for those who prefer to sleep indoors; you'll just have to bring a pad and sleeping bag for the latter.

Bookings: Full event and/or Challenge Feast attendance must be booked prior to November 25, 2005. Rates given above are for SCA members and include Kingdom levy. Non-members please add \$2 per person 18 years or over to your total payment (i.e. \$2 per adult, but not \$2 per day). Please make cheques payable to "SCA-Barony of Southron Gaard" and mail to the address below. Include full mundane/SCA names, attendance/feast options selected and membership number(s) where applicable, thank you. Australian dollar cheques are fine, just price on a \$A dollar=\$NZ dollar basis. If you require billeting before or after the event, please contact the Steward.

Steward: Bartholomew Baskin,
siege@sg.sca.org.nz or PO Box 19-760,
Christchurch

Website: <http://sg.sca.org.nz/siege.htm>

Stowe Fair II – Revenge of the Elephants

Who: Canton of Stowe on the Wowld (Western Sydney, NSW)
When: 26th-29th January 2006.
Where: Same place as last time - Austral Girl Guides Camp at Austral (Sydney)
Cost: m\$20/nm\$25 per day, m\$60/nm\$65 for the entire event if you book & pay before December. \$80 Flat rate from 16th January, \$30 Flat rate for a day visit if you book and pay at the door.

We had such an awesome time with Stowe Faire that we're doing it again! Much like last year, we're cramming a whole weekend of stuff, but this time

over 4 days instead of 2, so there will be MORE stuff!

A&S, Fighting, Knight School, Page School, Feasting, Merchants, Competitions and Games, Dancing & Music.

Why are we telling you so early? Because we want you to turn up. So book some time off and turn up, we promise you'll have a really good time, just read the Cockatrice article (thanks, Fred!)...Fighting AND A&S at the same time so no-one gets bored...

If you would like to run an A&S class, please contact Lady Gillian at

gillianbrampton@hotmail.com

If you would like to run a Knight School class, please contact Baron Caspian at

squire_caspian@hotmail.com

Any other enquiries to Lord MoG, who is the Steward for this awesome event at

shayrebel@aol.com

Bookings to Finn at wenchilada@fastmail.fm

More information can be found at the website, which will be updated as we progress along at http://www.sca.org.au/stow/stowe_faire2.html

See you soon...

Finn

(Bookings & Advertising for SF II)



Officers Reports

Baron and Baroness

Greetings,
It saddens us that Alesia has decided to resign as seneschal and We have elaborated upon the succession process elsewhere in Griffintayle. We thank Baron Diccon Shorthand for stepping in as Acting Seneschal whilst the succession process is undertaken.

Last month the Ice Cream Fighting & Feasting event did keep us entertained and the Feast of St Bernard by highly enjoyable. We thank the Lionheart Company for their continued feastocrating, very yummy.

In late September Anaticula will be hosting this year's Camp Quack which is held for the purposes of teaching and encouraging SCA teenagers.

There will be a Politarchopolian campsite at Spring War this year, please contact the Baroness if you would like join the campsite.

We hear rumours of the Politarchopolian Hunt in late October, so late in October that some may call it November and Casual War will also be occurring in November.

Baronial day continues to be a monthly activity at Haig Park, where we wear casual garb, sing and come together as a barony. Merchants are encouraged to bring their wares for sale and artisans are encouraged to bring their works so that all may be inspired.

Yours in Service,

Leta, Baroness

Edmund, Baron.

Reeve

Greetings all,
I thought it was about time for me to have a word or two in your collective shell-likes.

Firstly - I'm currently putting together the annual financial report for the barony and I've come across a disturbing and somewhat irritating trend - Event reports being emailed to the seneschal! Not that I have a problem with the seneschal knowing what's going on, but that's all there is! Where is *my* financial report? Where are the receipts? Where are the receipt books? Where is the *money*? These are financial documents, and I need to keep them - $\{DEITY\}$ help us if we are audited... I need these things, and I need them promptly. The Feast of Chastity, held recently, set a new land speed record in delivery - before the end of the feast (Thank you, Karl Faustus). I don't expect that from all stewards,

but taking more than a month is probably a little slow.

Secondly - I'm abandoning my search for a deputy, in favour of a new search - for a successor. I stepped up two years ago, January next year. I'd like to go out with a chosen successor. I don't need experience, I just need enthusiasm - the rest I can teach you. If you are interested, please send notice to myself, the B&B and/or the acting-seneschal. In the event that there are a number of interested parties, I guess we'll have to work out some selection process. Remember the final choice comes down to the Kingdom Exchequer.

Oh yeah - we also have some money in the bank. I can't tell you how much, because then you'll want to spend it :-)

Adair

Herald

Greetings,

Events

The Tourney-in-the-Park and Iced Cream Feast was held on 6 August and the Feast of St Bernard was held on the 20th. I was unable to attend either event this month (real life – sigh), but I hope everyone had fun!

Device and Name Submissions

This month I have re-submitted a name and device for Magdalena da Colle Santa Lucia and I have been assisting Alexandra with her submission (thanks also to Sigmund for his help on this one).

Please feel free to contact me by email <amelot at hotmail dot com> to discuss your name and/or device submissions.

Lady Amelot de Akeney

Cordon Rouge Herald

Captain of Fence

Greetings.

Possibly the snow had something to do with it, but it has been a quiet period for rapier combat in our fair but wintry Barony. Mayhap Spring shall bring forth fighters for Sunday training, still on at 1.30pm at the Haig Park Scout Hall.

I am still looking for fencers interested in signing on as my Deputy and Ultimate Replacement as Captain of Fence. Feel free to discuss it with me, Their Excellencies or the Baronial Marshal.

There were no injuries reported during the month... not even frostbite!

Yours in Service

Lord Owain Cantor ap Hugh

Captain of Fence

Chronicler

Greetings and Salutations!

Articles, articles, articles. I always need articles. Or ideas for them. Have a happy ferrety day!

Yours in Service
Lady Alexandra



News and Notices of the Realm

Festival Volunteers

Greetings all,

We are now looking for people who are interested in doing some of the bigger (and smaller) jobs that are involved in the running of Festival. Below is a list of the positions that we would like to fill. If you are interested in any of these jobs please drop us a line at alfar@optushome.com.au please do not use the festival steward email at this time as it is still being forwarded to Bliss. If you have any other jobs that you think need to be done for next Festival please let us know. We look forward to having to fight off the hoards of volunteers.

Yours in service
Alfar & Gudrun (fks Elspeth)
Festival Stewards 2006

Bookings
Marshal in charge
Rapier marshal
Target archery coordinator
Herald
Constable
Troll Booth
Publications
Page School
Toilet & shower cleaning coordinator
Tavern
Hire Equipment
Campsite Allocation
Arts & Sciences
Royalty Liaison

The following positions have already been filled but feel free to offer to help these lovely people.

Parking	Leif
Merchants	Hunnyd
Great Hall Coordinator	Bethan

A &S at Spring War

Hi Everyone,

We are hoping to have an extensive Arts and Sciences program at Spring War this year. We need your help.

The plan is to hold collegia in the Feasting tent. As such some protection is provided for collegia. We need people to sign up to give classes.

Classes should be 1 hour in length, but longer collegia times are available where necessary and in consultation with the Arts and Sciences Officer of Mordenvale (Jane Stockton - jane_stockton@webcon.net.au).

If you would like to offer a collegia, please contact Jane Stockton (jane_stockton@webcon.net.au) with the following information:

- * Name (SCA and Mundane)
- * Title of Class
- * Participant Requirements (do people need to bring stuff?)

If you have never offered a collegia before, this is a great way to jump in and have a go at a relaxed event.

Competition: There will be an Arts and Sciences competition held at Spring War, the theme is "Something Martial". So anything to do with war/fighting etc - clothing, armour, tents, campaign furniture, marching songs etc etc. A date and time for judging will be announced when the schedule has been finalised.

Further details about Spring War in general can be found at:

http://www.sca.org.au/mordenvale/event_spring_war_2005.html

Cheers,
Jane Stockton
Barony of Mordenvale, Kingdom of Lochac

Food Vendors at Festival

Greetings all,

At this time we need all those good gentles that are interested in selling food at Festival 2006 to contact us. We will soon be submitting the event notification to the Yass Shire council and we need to be able to give them a list of all food vendors. The list can be updated later if you are not certain.

Even if you are only thinking about it please contact us so that we can inform you of the regulations.

We have also been informed that Crispin is not planning to run his establishment next year. If this is the case (Crispin please confirm) it would be nice to have someone take his place. Talk to your partners and your friends and see what you can come up with.

Yours in service
Alfar & Gudrun (fka Elspeth)
Festival Stewards 2006



News and Notices From Politar chopolis

Seneschal Succession Process

Greetings unto the populace of Politar chopolis,

For those who were not at the August Baronial Meeting to actually hear the announcement, Alesia has resigned as seneschal, effective from the meeting on Thursday 25th August, with her final duties being the completion of the August quarter Seneschal's report to the Kingdom Seneschal. We acknowledge that there were differences of opinion between Alesia and ourselves and that it was her decision to resign.

We have spoken with the Kingdom Seneschal and he discussed with us two options: to have a short period of advertising the position, with the intent to appoint a new seneschal by the end of September; or to appoint an Acting Seneschal and advertise for two months, announcing the new seneschal at the end of October.

We feel it is in the best interests of the Barony to appoint an Acting Seneschal so that there will be more time for members of the populace to be aware that applications are sought and to apply for the position. We therefore announce the appointment of Baron Diccon Shorthand as Acting Seneschal for two months whilst the process of advertising and decision are undertaken.

Written applications are to be directed to politar chopolis@sca.org.au, with a minimum of:

mundane & sca names; contact details; the statement of intent to apply for the position of seneschal of Politar chopolis; and membership status. All applications will be acknowledged as soon as practical. The position of seneschal requires the officeholder to be a member of the SCA whilst they are in office, if you are not currently a member but would like to apply, please do so but ensure that you will be able to fulfil the requirement of being a member at the start of November.

In Service to the Barony,
Leta, Baroness Edmund, Baron

Blunts!

Combat blunts are available! Contact the Captain of Archers for details.

Officer needed!

The Hospitaller position needs filling. Please contact the Acting-Seneschal if you are interested in this position.

Call for Reeve

Wanted: One Reeve. Must have ambition to conduct a mutiny and overthrow the current evil and rapacious reeve. Ability to count to ten an advantage. (Actually a computer would be good too...) Please contact me if you are interested (contact details in regnum).

Learning to fence

Politar chopolis is well-served by fencing schools teaching the period techniques used in the SCA. Within the Barony itself, the Gore Street Trayned Band offers training from Dameon Greybeard, Francois Henri Guyon and Diccon Shorthand, who have been involved in rapier from its beginnings in the Society. Alessandro di Falco (the Barony's Captain of Archers) teaches fencing at the ANU on Monday evenings, and the Corsair of Politar chopolis, Carlos Corvarcho, is training fencers through House Quinteria.

Call for Deputy Captain of Fence

With a mind to taking over the role of Captain of Fence for the Barony in November. Anyone interested in this position please contact the Knight Marshal (Robby de Bauche) or the current Captain of Fence (Owain Cantor ap Hüge) for further information.

Stitch 'n' Bitch

A gentle reminder to all that Stitches n Bitches continues as ever. First and third Thursday of the month at Raven's Nest. The second Thursday of the month (and the fourth if it does not conflict

with the Baronial Meeting) at the Baronesses Keep. See the regnum for address details.

Call for Deputy Chronicler

I am in need of a helping hand (or two!). I am looking for someone to take on the co-ordination of the events listings and calendar, along with being my "Drop-Dead" Deputy. If you are interested in the position please contact me at The Menagerie.



The Lionheart Company
presents

The Feast of St Leonard in honour of Saint Leonard of Noblac.

Saturday, 5 November 2005

Location TBA

Followed by a Post-Feast Revel
(come to the feast to find out where)

Cost TBA

Bookings to
Baron Karl (Paul Sleigh) at either
bat@flurf.net or 0407 468 244

Rumoured Events

Model Siege Tournament

Attention all siege engineers!

Before the end of the year there will be a quarter war field size siege engine competition. The engines can be of any type and I would encourage a wide variety and any hair brained schemes that people have. Please start to consider how you would like to construct your engines. More details to follow.

YIS

Lorccan Ruadh

Agincourt Day Event

Stowe is rumoured to be having a Agincourt Day event including archery competition and possible potluck feast. 22nd of October, watch out for confirmation/more details!

Leonard of Noblac ~

Feastday November 6

Born c. 466; died c. 559. Leonard of Noblac was one of the most popular saints of Western Europe in the late Middle Ages, but the account of his life is unreliable because it was not written until the 11th century. Doubtless his popularity was due to the very large number of miracles and aids attributed to his intercession, and to the enthusiasm of the returning crusaders, who looked on him as the patron saint of prisoners.

Leonard was the first saint of the French royal family. Although he was nearly 100 when he died, he is usually represented in art as a young man of about 30, because he appeared to many people at different times as a handsome young man in the flower of his youth. Today Leonard is regarded as the patron saint of childbirth, prisoners (because King Clovis promised that any prisoner converted by the saint would be released), prisoners of war (Bohemond, the crusader prince of Antioch, was released from a Islamic prison in 1103 and visited Noblac to make an offering in gratitude), and those in danger from brigands, robbers, and thieves (perhaps because the public was in danger from the very prisoners whom Leonard was responsible for releasing) (Attwater, Bentley, Delaney, Encyclopedia, Husenbeth, White).

He is portrayed in art vested as an abbot holding chains in his hand of a deacon with fetters or locks. Sometimes shown freeing prisoners, with prisoners nearby in stocks, or with a horse or ox near him (Roeder). He is venerated at Orleans (Abbey of Micy) and Noblac, and is the patron of cattle, domestic animals and prisoners (Roeder).



Introduction to Dogs in Period

I have long had an interest in animals. As I began to delve into our Society, I began to wonder about dogs in period. What roles did they fulfill? What did they look like? My questions formed the bulk of research that helped me to start to understand what period dogs may have been like.

In period, dogs were often named by function (i.e. harrier, turn-spit, comforter etc.). Dog were commonly used for hunting, both for sport and for culinary purpose (greyhounds, running hounds, spaniels, setters, and terriers), draft and burden (cart dogs and turn spits), herding and protection (mastiff and shepherds), for personal protection from fleas (lady's poppees, and comforters) and even in times of siege or famine, for food.

Place names or name of the breeder were also common. After a while that type may be known as the 'type' from/of a place such as Brittany Spaniel. Another common naming practice was the breeder's name (often a noble or member of the clergy, or even a monastery) as well as the type.

Studbooks or registries like those of today were not often used. In the breeding practices of today, a written standard regarding size, color, coat type and confirmation is the major focus, as well as meticulous record of the ancestry. Modern breeders, following a breed standard, consistently create dogs that are easily recognizable in their physical consistency. This type of animal husbandry started to emerge in the late 18th century. As our culture became more industrial, our uses for dogs decreased, as a result, most dogs are not used for the original purpose they were developed for. Inevitably, as the need to hunt your own dinner decreased, most modern examples of dogs cannot or do not perform the function that was the purpose of their breed development.

In our period of study, two dogs of the same type could be vastly different sizes, colors, and even shapes. Husbandry and breeding ethics were to improve the dogs' function. Color, size, coat type and conformation, were only secondary. Crossbred dogs from different types were very common an example is greyhound / hound crosses, called lurchers. Often dogs were bred to contend with the particular local terrain or climatic conditions. Although the animals may be physically similar, coat variations may occur from place to place. An example of this would be short coat for mild climates, wire coat for more protection from dense

or thorn ground cover, or long coat for colder climates. Another factor was law, which, as laws do today, changes from time to time. Some people were prohibited from owning certain types of dogs, limitations on where certain types of dogs could go (such as only comforters or lap dogs allowed in court, small hounds accessing certain hunting lands, or even prohibition of a certain types entirely, poaching dogs). Most of the surviving texts regarding descriptions the appearance of types, are either very vague or differ dramatically in relation locality and time frame. Also, many sources of dog descriptions occur in unusual places, such as manor rolls, court rolls, and even diplomatic documents (quality dogs were often given as gifts between rulers of lands).

The first English printed attempt at classifying dogs is attributed to Dame Juliana Berners (Barnes or Bernes) in her Treatise on Hunting in the Boke of St Albans, which was first published in 1486. She had 14 categories and they were; Grehoun, Bastard, Mengrell, Mastiff, Lemor, Spanyel, Raches, Kenettyes, Teroures, Butchers' Houndes, Myddyng dogges, Tryndel taylles, Prikerherd curryys, smalle ladyes' poppees.

Dr. Johannes Caius wrote the earliest attempt at a thorough classification in 1570 in Latin. His Book De Canibus Britannicus was first translated into English in 1576. (My comments/ clarifications are in parenthesis)



I.	Hunting Dogs		
	i.	Venatici Group	
		1. Leverarws or Harriers	(rabbit hunting dogs)
		2. Terrarius or Terrars	(Terriers varied in size color and coat type)
		3. Sanguinarius or Bloodhounds	(more size/coat variance than modern dogs)
		4. Agaseus or Gazeounds	(greyhound like dogs)
		5. Leporanus or Grehounds	(more size/coat variance than modern dogs)
		6. Loranus or Lyemmer	(another type of scent hound or Bloodhound)
		7. Vertigus or Tumbler	(may be a turn spit)
		8. Cams Furax or Stealer	(sometimes believed to be a poaching dog)
	ii.	Aucupatorii	
		1. Index or Setter	(more size/coat variance than modern dogs)
		2. Aquaticus or Spaniell	(more size/coat variance than modern dogs)
II.	Spaniel Gentle or Comforter (Lap dogs)		
III.	Farm Dogs		
	i.	Canis Pastoalis or Shepherd's Dogge	(herding types)
	ii.	Mastive or Bandogge, called Canis Villacus or Carbenarius	(more size/coat variance than modern dogs)
IV.	Mongrels		
	i.	Admonitor or Wapp	
	ii.	Vernepator or Turnespet	
	iii.	Saltator or Dauncer	

Have you have noticed that our modern registries are grouped in similar categories? Even today reminders of this system of classification exist.

So what did these dogs look like? Well quite often they looked similar to the dogs of today, although perhaps larger or smaller, different colors, or coat length. Many of our modern breeds existed, or had prototypes in period. Below is a list of more common modern breeds that existed in period or had its earliest beginnings in period. I have tried to categorize them as they may have been in period.

Comforters or lap dogs - Bichon Frise, Italian Greyhounds, Japanese Spaniel, Lhasa Apso, Maltese, Miniature Dachshund, Papillion, Pug, Shih-Tsu, Toy Spaniel.

Terriers- Cairn Terrier, Irish Terrier, Scottish Terrier, Skye Terrier, Standard Dachshund, West Highland White Terrier.

Hounds/ Hunting - Afghan Hound, Beagles, Bloodhound, Borzoi, Bulldog, Coonhound, Elkhound, Foxhound, Greyhound, Harrier, Irish Wolfhound, Ibizan Hound, Otterhound, Pharaoh Hound, Rhodesian Ridgeback, Saluki, Scottish Deerhound, Vizsla, Whippet.

Spaniels, Setters and Water Dogs - Clumber Spaniel, Cocker Spaniel, English Setter, Field Spaniel, Gordon Setter, Poodle, Springer Spaniel.

Herding/ protection/ working - Anatolian, Boxer, Chow Chow, Collie, Corgi, Doberman, German Shepherd, Great Dane, Mastiff, Old English Sheepdog, Pyrenees Mountain Dog, Rottweiler, St. Bernard, Samoyed, Schnauzer.

And of course, the ever useful, versatile and infinitely loveable, mutt or mongrel has always been popular.

My next question is how did these dogs do the jobs at hand, but alas, that must wait for another day.

Pavla de la Satu Mare
(Paula Brewer)

Mundanely, I work in Law/ Finance. I enjoy training dogs and I am currently researching period Terriers and how they were used to hunt.

