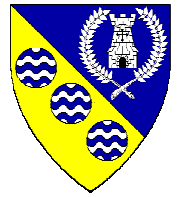




Griffintayle



April 2010, AS XLIV

Upcoming Events

May

7—9 May Crown, [Rowany](#).
22 A Taste of the Middle Ages", Okewaite (Goulbourn NSW, p2)
23 "Destrier", Okewaite (Goulbourn NSW, p2)
29 Privateers Feast (Adam, p3)

June

11-14 Great Northern War, St Florian de la Riviere (Queensland, p5)

July

10 Total Token Tourney and Feast, Mordenvale (Newcastle, NSW, p 4)

August

28—29 St Vitus Dance & Music Weekend (Joanna p 5)

November

20—21 Proposed Valhalla War (Adam)

January 2011

15-16 Twelfth Night, Politarchopolis

April 2011

21-25 Rowany Festival incl. May Crown

Activities

Baronial Council Meeting:

Last Wednesday of each month at **7pm**: Haig Park Scout Hall, Turner (new time during A&S).

St Aldhelm College Meeting:

Monday 5:30 pm G029 Copland Building, ANU

Arts & Sciences

Arts and Sciences Main meeting:

Sundays 3:00 pm, Scout Hall, Haig Park, Turner

Arts and Sciences Meeting:

Wednesday 7:00 pm, Haig Park, Turner

Baronial Dance Classes:

Sundays, 2:00 pm, Haig Park, Turner

Scriptorium:

2nd Sunday of each month, 2:00 pm, Haig Park

Baronial Dance Classes:

Sundays, 2:00 pm, Haig Park, Turner

Choir Practice:

1st Sunday of the month 4:00 pm, Haig Park, Turner



Pot Luck Feast:

1st Sunday of the month 5:30 pm, Haig Park, Turner

Combat Activities**Armoured Combat Practice:**

Main Practice: Sundays 3:00 pm, Haig Park, Masson St, Turner

Alternative Practice: Tuesdays 6:30 pm, Park in Edwards St, Higgins.

Rapier Practice:

Sundays 2:00 pm, Haig Park, Masson St, Turner

Archery Practice:

Sundays 10:00 am till 12:00 pm (1st Sunday of the month is an Inter Kingdom Archery Competition)

Officer Change: Hierophant.

This is your official announcement: as of Friday lunchtime, when I handed over the keys to the website and the mailing list to Lord Andreas "Macca" Reinhardt, I am no longer the baronial hierophant. Macca is fully versed in all aspects of hierophantic operation, which is to say he's got the passwords and the big stick for thumping spammers. I will shortly remove myself as co-moderator of the Polit and St Aldhelm's lists, and then it's all his baby. Be kind, and don't forget to check out the new website at <http://lochac.sca.org/politarchopolis>, especially the somewhat-expanded photo gallery.

Byeeeeee!

: Bat, ex-Hierophant :

Your Friendly Neighbourhood Hierophant here, Just letting you know I have taken over the reigns of the Polit website and started tinkering....

The under construction banner is gone and Up coming events have been updated... let me know if you have any suggestions.

Andreas

"A Taste of the Middle Ages", Okewaite 22 May 2010.



Did you enjoy 12th Night? The fledgling Okewaite group needs your assistance.

EXHIBITION

Okewaite (SCA Goulburn) is keen to find some more locals to support our group. We're holding a public exhibition of medieval costumes and armour -- and so would appreciate the loan of some good examples to display on 22 May. We would be extra grateful if some of the artisans could come along and explain their work. This is essentially an A&S demo, open from 2pm so we would need your gear by noon.

FEAST

On the evening after the exhibition, we're holding a medieval feast aimed at newbies. As we've said before, we want to generate some "magic of the SCA" and ask for support from other groups. These events can be great fun, and Okewaite has a good reputation for our food. The event cost is \$20 members, \$25 non-members, \$15 concessions, U15 free. Exhibitors are welcome for \$10 (food cost).

VENUE

This event is at the Anglican Cathedral, the same venue as Twelfth Night.

Destrier, Okewaite 23 May 2010.

The day after the "Taste of the Middle Ages" events, we will be holding a small equestrian event.

CONCEPT

The purpose of this event is to get equestrian activities rolling in our region. At minimum, it may be 3 horses and some basic games, or with your help it could be something bigger. We hope to build on this event in future years.

VENUE

This event is at Cockatrice Farm (www.cockatricefarm.com.au), the Sunday venue for Twelfth Night. Their website has instructions on how to get there, and a map.

**MORE INFORMATION**

Call Alys or Cristoval on 02 4829 7205 or email okewaite@sca.org.au

Also see <http://okewaite.wordpress.com/>

Privateers Feast and Pirate Pas d'Armes

When: 29 May

Where: Corroboree Park

Cost: Members - \$15

Non Members - \$18

Members Unbooked - \$20

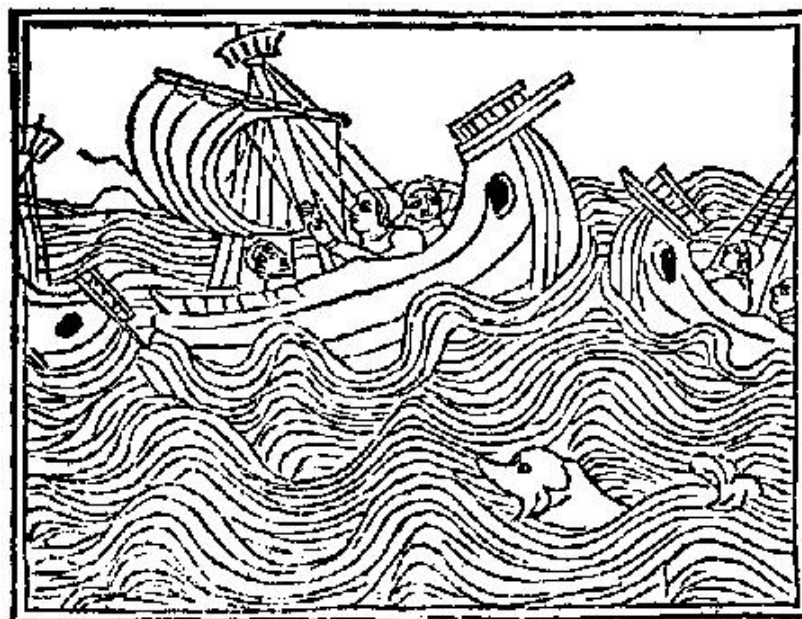
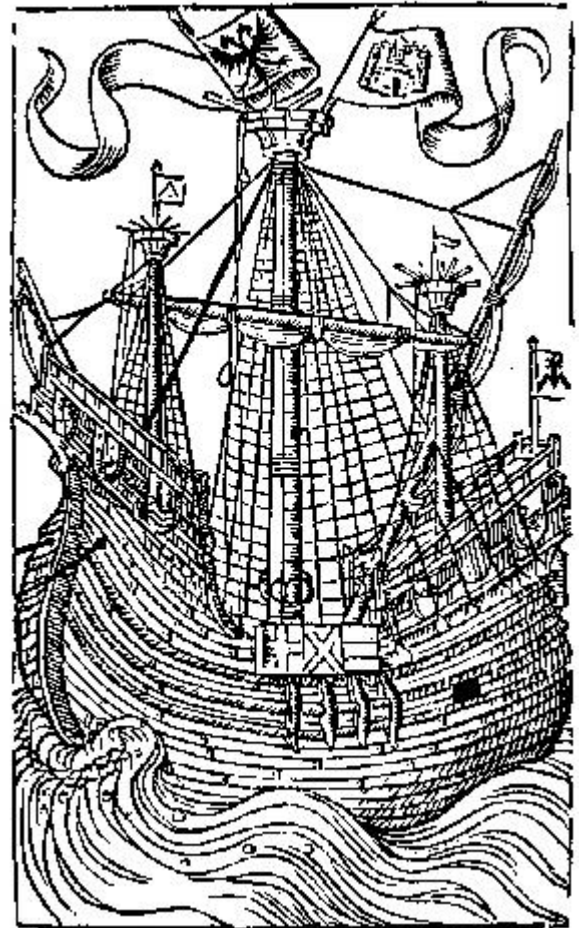
Non-members Unbooked - \$23

As it is a Pas d'Armes Heavy Combatants and Fencers will fight on the same fields. Lists open and Armour inspections for the tournament at 1.30 fighting starting at 2. Doors open for the feasting hall at 4 with the first remove around 6.30.

Prizes for the winner of the tournament (heavy and fencing), best Pirate Costume, best Pirate entertainment.

Come all you sea dogs, it is time to bring your crew and seek your letter of Mark...

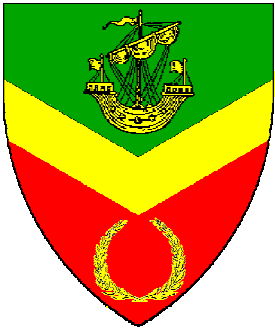
Contact Adam the Renegade via email: tourist48@hotmail.com; After hours mobile 0400299760.



Above: 3. Ship riding the waves; printer's mark of Mathias Goes, Antwerp.

Left: 10. The Roman Navy, from Livy, Venice 1493.

From Gode Cookery
[www.godecookery.com/
clipart/misc/clmisc.htm](http://www.godecookery.com/clipart/misc/clmisc.htm)



Total Token Tourney and Feast, Mordenvale, 10 July.

Token Tourney starts at noon,
bring at least 12 tokens. Mid-
winter feast starts at 6pm.

Overnight Accommodation available from \$30
single, for shared accommodation see steward.
Directions—Follow signs from Maitland to Tocal,
approx 30 Mins.

Cost: Feast \$35 M/ \$40 NM Feast &
Accommodation: \$60 Day: \$10.
Steward: Talbot of Oakdale (Brett Radford)
BMRadford@virginbroadband.com.au
Bookings Required by July 1st, Cheques Payable
to Mordenvale SCA Inc. Alexander Agricultural
College, Tocal Rd, Patterson NSW

Right: Caera off to war



Left: King Bran and
Queen Lilya
Below: Des Cartes War
Unit



Above: Two pictures from the equestrian and jousting display.
Above Left: Our Baron and Baroness.
Below Left: Des Cartes at the Heraldic Melee.

Great Northern War, St Florian de la Riviere, 11-14 June.

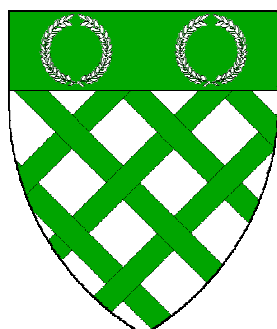
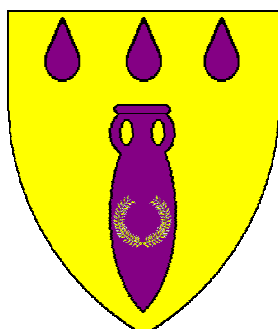
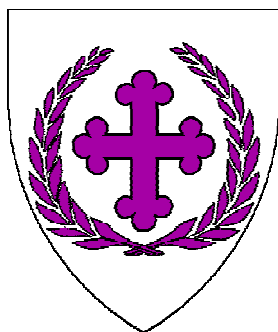
The might of the Northern, being the Baronies of St Florian de la Riviere & River Haven, and the Shires of Bacchus Woods and Willoughby Vale [devices in order below—Ed], issues this: we declare WAR on our Southern Enemies! We CHALLENGE all who would take the field against us to join us for 4 days of War, Feasting, Tournaments, Archery, Rapier, Jousting, Massive Flaming Siege Weapons, Markets, Collegia, Tavern, Games, a Fighter Auction Tourney (Heavy & Rapier), Pirate Party, Dancing, Feats of Skill & Strength and much more!
SO COME & HAVE A GO IF YOU THINK YOU'RE HARD ENOUGH!

Baden Powell Park (BP Park) is 15km North West of the heart of Brisbane in stunning Samford Village. The park offers ample camping amongst picturesque grassy, shaded grounds with modern amenities. This is a fully catered event from the Friday night Ring of Fire Tourney until Monday lunch during the Fighter Auction Tourney.

Times : Site Opens 9am Friday June 11th and closes 4pm Monday June 14th, 2009.

Event Costs : See booking form. Payment secures booking. Book early to avoid price increases!
Accommodation : Camping & Limited bunks available for wayfarers. See booking form.

Event Steward & Bookings: Lord Dimitrii Borodinskii (dimitriib@optusnet.com.au)



The Tenth St Vitas' Dance and (5th) Music Weekend, Politarchopolis, 28-29 August

Yes, St Vitas' is at it again! Two days of all kinds of dance and dance related classes as well as music classes,

plus food and more music and dancing.

There will be a Feast, a Little Masque and Ball on the Saturday night and lunch will be served on both days.

Full Weekend: \$39 Members & College Members.
One day plus F&B: \$28. F&B only: \$24.

Non-members pay \$2 extra, Not Booked add \$5 if feasting and \$1 per lunch.

Bookings by 22 August. Contact Joanna about family discounts and short stays.

Please let us know any special dietary requirements as possible.

Steward: Joanna of the Beechwoods [Joanna Keenan] (02) 6296 2193
joannaandmurray@hotmail.com.au 12 Shipard Place, Kambah ACT 2902.

Starts 10am Saturday (F&B 6:30pm) and 10am Sunday, Lake Tuggeranong Sea Scouts Hall, Mortimer Lewis Drive, Greenway, ACT, on the shores of Lake Tuggeranong. Parents are reminded that they are responsible for their children being safe and not disrupting classes.



The Singing Lesson; from *Spiegel des menschlichen Lebens*, Augsburg, about 1475-76.
www.godecookery.com/clipart/people/clpeop11.htm

KYUDO (the Way of Archery)

Imagine a warm August afternoon on an English village green during the time of Henry Tudor. Outside the tavern, a number of men and youths holding longbows were preparing for the compulsory target practice as decreed by their King. Many had consumed a "pint or three" of either beer or "scrumpy", the rough, highly alcoholic cider of the West country. As can be expected the group was good-naturedly raucous, ready to practice their archery skills for enjoyment and more practically to better prepare themselves for their individual and collective parts in warfare, which was ever-likely in those times. Watkin Featherstone was to shoot first and as he approached the firing line was bombarded with friendly taunts and insults from his fellow archers. After a burp, a fart and a scratch of his scrotum, he nocked an arrow, drew the bow and loosed the shaft towards the target, scoring well.



Ten thousand miles away, Kenzo Takimori, a samurai in the service of the Nobunaga clan and living at Himeji Castle, prepared himself for archery practice. His was a different scenario. Following either the *Ogasawara* or *Heiki* schools of *kyudo* (the Way of Archery), which were formed around 1380 AD, Takimori would have embraced his archery practice, which was steeped in Zen lore. *Kyudo* was, and is, a noble and

refined martial art as well as graceful exercise. Not for him was the half-drunken larrikinism of Medieval England and the bawdy taunts of fellow archers: more the quiet, contemplative exercise of preparing, drawing and loosing an arrow in accordance with the tenets of Zen Buddhism.



Modern archery of the old style still commands a vast following, both in England and Japan, as well as many other countries. In Western Society there is more the element of fun whereas in Japan, archery is still a rigid discipline. Dress code, behaviour on the range, operational drill and silence provide a more contemplative scenario.



On a recent trip to Japan, I went to a *kyudo* school in the grounds of Osaka castle. One may think that as a traveller, it is just a matter of arriving at the *dojo* and watching events. Not so. I had to sign an agreement not to make any noise, to sit quietly in the appropriate seating and not to converse with any of the archers! They viewed my camera with some distaste.

The range itself is an indoor-outdoor arrangement. The indoor part contains changerooms, washing facilities (ritual purification is a big part of Zen archery), lockers and full-sized mirrors where archers can practice their stance and draw techniques. The floor is highly polished wood (see picture). The butts are a fixed arrangement, about forty metres from the shooting line, again under cover so that no broken light is shed on the targets, which are about two feet in diameter. The 'field' itself is open to the elements. The bull proper is white and has three concentric black circles of different bandwidths moving towards the outer edge of the target (see picture). Along one side of the range, a narrow passageway allows the arrow retrievers to collect the shafts from the butts



while along the opposite side several rows of unprotected seating were available for the public. So much for safety!

Kyudo has a wide following throughout Japan and is pursued by almost as many females as males. Virtually all high schools and universities have *kyudo* clubs and many temples and shrines have exercise halls in which the monks hone their mental and physical archery skills. On a previous trip to Japan, I saw one such venue at the *Sanjusan-do* (thirty-three room) temple in Kyoto.

The Japanese bow (*kyu* or *yumi*) measures 2.25 metres from tip to tip and is a lacquered laminate of bamboo and mulberry wood. Practice is done in the black *hakama*, or split skirt. A white blouse arrangement over a black undershirt covers the torso and white socks



adorn the feet. Shoes are not worn. In practice, every movement is rigidly proscribed, with no room for random action from the time an archer takes his/her place until leaving the firing line. Position on the line is according to ability. Experienced archers also performed a more significant routine, first approaching the line, bowing towards the target and then kneeling and bowing before again standing and moving forward, bowing from the waist one more time. On the line, the stance was assumed, side on and feet wide apart. Resting-stance seemed to be with the bow held vertically with the left hand, the uppermost limb of the bow away from the body but with the lower limb against the top of the left knee and with a nocked arrow horizontal to the ground (see picture). The right hand, in which the other arrows are dangled vertically, rests on the right hip. Only three arrows are shot in a round. Shooting is done by raising the bow so that the horizontally placed

arrow is above the head, then drawing and lowering the bow to a point where the arrow is at cheek level (see picture). Bracers are not worn but finger tabs are worn. Draw-weight of the bows is unknown but judging by the wavering of the draw hand, it is substantial. And there is complete silence save for the twang of the bowstring and faint swish of the arrow in flight followed by the dull thud as it strikes the target. Even the arrow collectors are silent save for the Shinto-like clap of the hands to signify that they were about to retrieve the shafts.

Watkin Featherstone and his mates may have laughed at their Japanese counterparts in the grounds of Himeji Castle and a modern-day reader may pose the question of whether Japanese archers of yesteryear went through the procedures described above. The literature suggests they did: it is the Japanese way! Discipline in any military arena is paramount. Indeed, Watkin and his mates themselves were practising a disciplined way of archery although without the benefit of Zen thinking but equally as suitable for the European theatre of war and which was proven very effective.

Now, Captain of Archers



Your Chronicler's Musings...

Greetings,

Thanks to Iohan de Escorpione (the two war unit pictures, Polit on the cover, Des Cartes on page 4) and John of the Hills (all the rest) for the Festival photo's. Will probably have more next issue too.

Festival was a wonderful time again, and it was quite entertaining witnessing Polit versus everyone else in the wars! Special cheers to Des Cartes for their spectacular unit!

I also noticed that some people aren't very familiar with the heraldry of Lochac groups, so I'm including some where I can.



Yours, *Zanobia*

Contacts



Lochac:

King: Bran crown@sca.org.au
Queen: Lilya crown@sca.org.

Seneschal: Bartholomew Baskin
seneschal@sca.org.au



Politarchopolis

Politarchopolis is the branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism based on the Australian Capital Territory and surrounds

Baron and Baroness: Alessandro von Florenz and Isobel le Bretoun (Simon and Kate Price)
The Baron and Baroness oversee the general activities and operations of the Barony and act as the regional representatives of the Crown.
Email: politarchopolis@sca.org.au



Seneschal: Ysambart Courtin (Bart Beswick)

The Seneschal is the representative for the Barony in the outside world and acts as the chief administrator, similar to a group president.
Email ysambart@gmail.com

Deputy Seneschal: Honore de Corbeau (Georgia Winter)



Reeve: Aeeveril of Ambledune (Danni Crawford)

The Reeve is responsible for the financial affairs of the Barony. Email: danianha@hotmail.com



Arts and Sciences Minister: Caera

Sionnach (Brooke Perkins)

The Arts and Sciences Minister coordinates the study and practice of the medieval arts and sciences within the Barony.



Herald: Catherine of Glastonbury

The Herald is responsible for all forms of announcement within the Barony and is assumed to be speaking on behalf of the Crown. Heralds are also responsible for assisting the populace with submissions, such as when devising names or heraldic devices such as coats - of - arms.



Marshal: Rauf le Brewer (Matthew Sutton)

The Marshal maintains the safety of the populace during Society combat activities, both those who are actively involved in addition to those who are spectators. The marshal is also responsible for ensuring that each combatant is authorized to participate and will adhere to the Society conventions of combat.



Rapier Marshal: Issarn e Tankard dzo Bordonio (Jason Tankard)

The Rapier Marshal coordinates the group's fencing activities and maintains their safety standards. Email: jason.tankard@gmail.com



Captain of Archers: Ulric of Ambledune (Ian Crawford)

In conjunction with the Marshal, the Captain of Archers coordinates the group's archery activities and maintains their safety standards.

Email: danianha@hotmail.com



Keeper of the Lists: Elizabeth de Foxel

The Keeper of the Lists records all the authorised combatants within the Barony as well as those who enter fighting events and the outcomes of martial contests.



Chirurgeon: Catherine de Boniface (Gina Casey)

The Chirurgeon is the Baronial first aid officer. Email: gkcasey@ginacasey.com.au

**Hospitaller:** Jonathon of Loch Swan

The Hospitaller is the initial point of contact for most newcomers and helps them feel welcome in the Society. The Hospitallery also coordinates requests for public displays.

**Chandler:** Vacant

The Chandler loans out garb and feasting utensils to newcomers. She also stores the Barony's banners, tablecloths, cooking and serving equipment for the Barony to use at our events.

**Constable:** Valentine der Spieler

The Constable is responsible for the maintenance of Society law. The constabulary is also responsible for lost property.

**Chronicler:** Zanobia Adimari (Clare Rix)

The Chronicler is responsible for the publication of Griffintayle, the Baronial newsletter. To subscribe, please see the endnote.

Email: clare.rix@iinet.net.au

**Hierophant:** Andreas Reinhardt (Anthony McIntosh)

The Hierophant is responsible for the Barony's internet publications, the electronic copy of the Griffintayle newsletter and the baronial email list.

Email: anthony.mcintosh@gmail.com

**Saint Aldhelm**

The College of St Aldhelm is the branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism based at the Australian National University.

College Seneschal: Adelle (Adelle Verrier)

Club president equivalent. Official contact.

Email: adelle.verrier@gmail.com

**<http://www.facebook.com>**

Polit can now be found on the popular social network site. Search "Barony of Politarchopolis" and join the group or type in <http://www.new.facebook.com/group.php?gid=20169734823>

<http://the.lochac.net>

The Lochac Network is a new independent initiative to take the work out of networking in Lochac.

Endnote

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 published monthly, by the first of the month. "Griffintayle Newsflash" editions are published electronically as required. All submissions must be received by the Chronicler by the last Monday of the month for general and event notices.

Submissions are very welcome, otherwise you know Zanobia is just going to make this the official business and then a big section about how awesome norse garb and embroidery somebody else writes me something!

Griffintayle is published on paper and electronically. SCA policy dictates that electronic publications do not include non electronic contact details unless expressly released. The following details are released to help with bookings, subscriptions and official business:

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