



# Griffintayle:

Tayles and histories that have taken place in

Politarchopolis,

St Aldhelm, St Andronicus,

and

elsewhere in the Kingdom of Lochac

and the Knowne Worlde

Issue 3/June 2015/

Anno Societatis L



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## From the Baron and Baroness

Unto our beloved populace, greetings.

May has passed quietly, leaving us all rested and ready for the coming weeks. Hope everyone is fighting fit!

The inaugural Baronial Quarter Day will be May's last hurrah. A fun day with a casual feel, including both tourneys and archery competitions. This should be the first of many quarterly get-togethers.

We will attend the Magna Carta gig on June 8th at Old Parliament House - the more the merrier! The museum is expecting many thousands of visitors on the day and are relying on the SCA to provide colour and spectacle. This is a paid demo which will top up the baronial coffers very nicely, so we want Polit to do a really good job on the day. Please volunteer if you at all can.

Bal d'Argent (aka Saturnalia) will be held in Pass over the weekend of 20th June. This will be a Royal Visit, with dancing, tourneys and feasting - something for everyone!

The Good Food Feast in July will recreate the sumptuous experiences of historical dining... and the back-room mayhem of the lesser classes. From the sublime to the ridiculous...or is that the other way around?

So dust off your dancing shoes, your feasting kit and combat gear. The next month or two looks full of interesting events. And don't forget the entertainment competition - keep us and our populace amused! Make it memorable, show off your talents, get applause. And prizes, of course.

We look forward to seeing you all soon.

Baron Crispin and Baroness Joan

### *Baronial Awards*

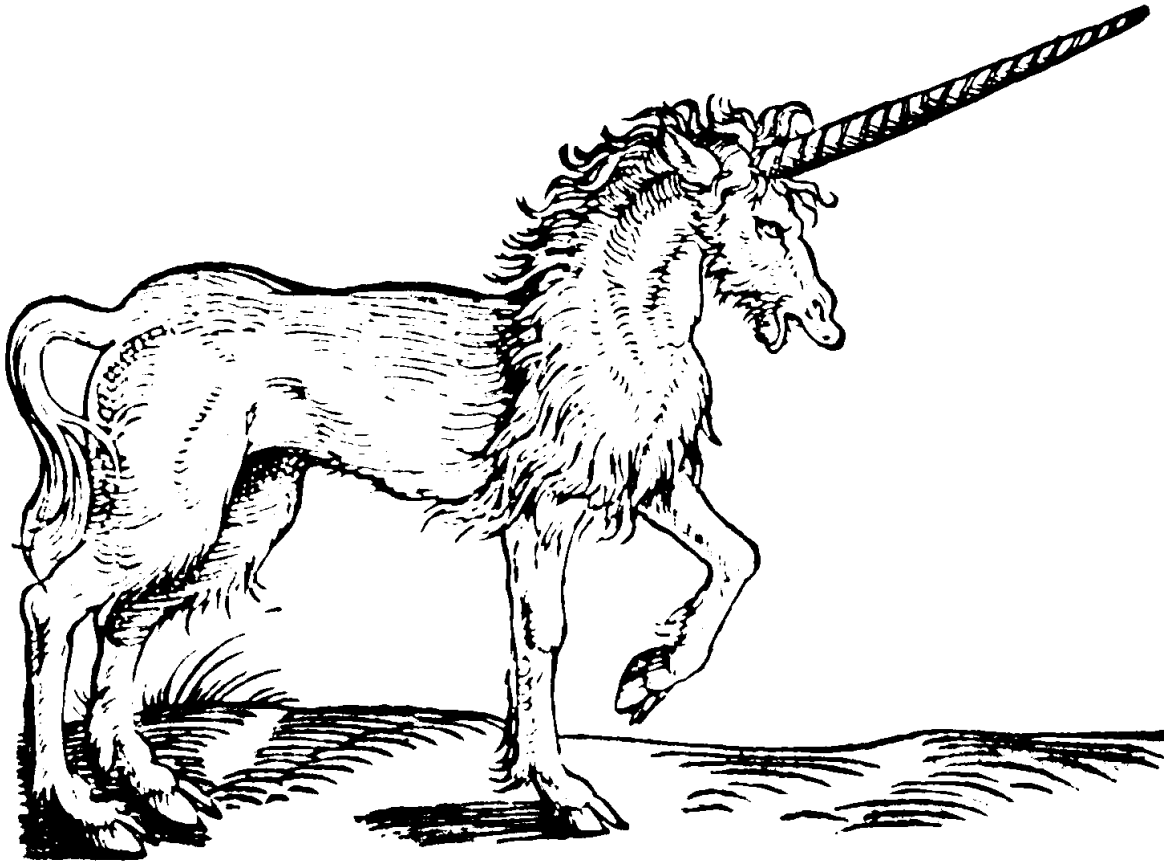
No awards were presented this month.

At Baronial Quarter Day on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May, 2015, His Excellency presented Cyfura and Lady Felicia ad Aquam with tassel tokens as a personal thanks for their service to the Baron at the event.

Anyone can nominate someone for recognition. If you know of someone you wish to nominate for a Baronial award, each of which are listed and described on Memories of Lochac, please email Their Excellencies with an account of why you think they are deserving.



"In loving memory of Driel of the Gypsies, Free Citizen of Politarchopolis, sorely missed."  
Baron Crispin and Baroness Joan



The image of a unicorn, above, was taken from *Historiae animalium* ("Histories of the Animals"), published in Zürich (Switzerland) in 1551-58 and 1587 by Conrad Gesner.

Her Excellency, Driel of the Gypsies was a stubborn, well-read and well-known resident of the Barony of Politarchopolis and the Shire of Torlyon. Driel was also a Baroness in the Court of Lochac. She was a protégé to Count Sir Stephen Aldred, and a valued member of House Burbage. Her infectious smile, shenanigan-filled wit and delicious Greek cooking will be sorely missed.

Chronider

## Weekly activities

### **Mondays**

College of St Aldhelm meeting / 6pm / Copland Building room G029 / Australian National University

### **Tuesdays** / excluding the third Tuesday of the month

Out-of-armour combat training and projects night / 6pm / Wamboin Community Hall / Bingley Way / Wamboin

### **Wednesdays**

Armoured combat training and Arts and Sciences night / 6pm / Copland Building room G029 / Australian National University

### **Thursdays**

College of St Andronicus meeting / 5pm / Building 2 Room 2B02 / University of Canberra

Dance Practice / 7.30pm / Kambah Scout Hall / Springbett Street / Kambah

### **Sundays**

Archery / 10am / Tuggeranong Archery Club / 299 Soward Way / Greenway

Newcomer's Armoured Combat Training / 1pm / Scout Hall / Corner of Ebden and Hassall Streets / Ainslie

Rapier Training / 2pm / Scout Hall / Corner of Ebden and Hassall Streets / Ainslie

Armoured Combat Training / 3pm / Scout Hall / Corner of Ebden and Hassall Streets / Ainslie



## Events to come

### **Magna Carta Medieval Fair / 8 June 2015 / Old Parliament House / Canberra**

The Barony has been successful in obtaining a \$5,000 contract to provide the majority of services for the Magna Carta celebrations at the Medieval Fair Exhibition of Museum of Australian Democracy (Old Parliament House) on Monday, 8 June 2015.

The Seneschal, Baroness Anne de Tournais, has made a call for expressions of interest for people to serve as co-ordinators in the following areas:

- Heavy Combat (4 demonstrations)
- Rapier (3 demonstrations)
- Dance (2 performances & some crowd teaching)
- Music
- Static Displays & Discussion
- Pre-event marketing

If you're willing and able to help with these, please email Baroness Anne as soon as possible.

### **Great Northern War / 5 to 8 June 2015 / BP Park / Samford Valley / Queensland**

Greetings Politarchopolis,

Great Northern War (GNW), the premier event of the Northern Neches, is this year being hosted by the Barony of Saint-Florian-de-la-rivière near Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

For scale, it's a four day event (held over the Queens Birthday weekend in June - Friday 5 June to Monday 8 June, 2015) with somewhere in the vicinity of 250 attendees each year. There are bunks on offer for interstate and international visitors, and full event catering is an option.

So, what does GNW have to offer this year? Never been before and are interested in how the event works? See the event website for photos and descriptions of some of what you can expect: What's on offer.

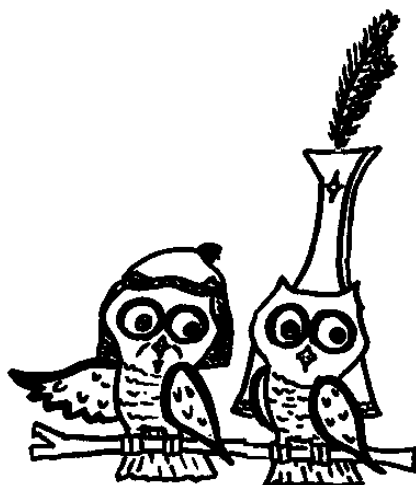
Bookings will close on the 28th of May 2015. Details (including pricing options) and instructions for how to book are also available on the event website.

We hope to see you there - it'll be an absolute hoot!

For any queries, please email the event steward, Sir Master Steffan Glaube.

Warm regards,

GNW 2015 Event Team



Who:

- Steward: Ginevra Lucia Di Namoraza ( Carina)
- Deputy Steward: Helayne Quynnteyn (Kylee)
- Webmistress: Eyfura ( Elonwy)
- Teachers: We have Mistress Constanzia consulting us and more than five amazing laurels coming to help- TBA shortly.
- And you!

Cost:

- \$5 for members
- \$10 for non-members
- Money will go towards printing, tea and coffee as well as incidentals.

Details:

**The goal:** The aim of this workshop is to increase your skills and knowledge of Spanish dresses, with the goal to encourage and support beginner and intermediate sewers to pattern and construct an early 16th century Spanish dress and chemise (optional). Depending on sewing expertise, some may go away with a mostly constructed dress and chemise, whilst others will have most of a bodice down, ready to finish at home. Sewers will be paired up to help each other pattern and we will have teachers checking on progression and helping as needed.

If you are an independent sewer attending our workshop for motivation and inspiration, you will be encouraged to work on your gown as you see fit and supported as much as is possible around that. Any support you can offer to your less experienced sewing friends will be appreciated!

What you need to do:

- Register your interest at [ginevraworkshops@gmail.com](mailto:ginevraworkshops@gmail.com). ASAP. This will enable us to:
  - book an appropriate room
  - help us when doing our optional, potentially discounted group order (boning, fastenings, interlining, striped white fabric etc.)
  - allows us time to speak with other teachers, so we can set an appropriate class size.
- Look out for your booking email - once we have confirmed availability of teachers, we will open the bookings. You will receive an email to say that you are being offered a place, or are on the waiting list. You will have 3 days to respond before your place is offered to the next participant on the waiting list.
- Once your booking is confirmed, fees will need to be paid in cash or via direct debit.
- Beginners are highly encouraged to pick from a couple of simple dresses on the Facebook page. This will help us to help you construct a gown by the end of the workshop.

When booking, please use the event website.

What you need to bring:

- Pre washed fabric for dress and chemise
- Preferably pre ironed the aforementioned fabric

- Material: 5-6m of natural fabrics (Thin wool, thick silk, medium to heavy linen, brocades. Brocade, silk and velvet will result in a more formal gown, linens will be a more casual gown/suitable for warmer weather)
- Material: 2-3m of white/white with black lines (Again natural fibres such as linen are best)
- Material: 1-2 m of lining for bodice and sleeves.
- Lining for skirt as well as bodice may be need for thinner materials - if in doubt, ask!
- Sewing threads to match fabric of dress and chemise
- Material for the guards/trim ( black bands on dress and sleeves) if you choose them (black velvet bias binding, velvet trim, etc)
- Boning
- Interlining
- Lucetting cord/ribbon
- Fastenings
- Pins
- Tailors chalk
- Measuring tape
- Bring a plate to share for lunch, or bring your own if you have dietary requirements.
- Bring personal plate, cup and utensils
- If you have a sewing machine or overlocker, please bring it with you.

#### Important dates:

- Registration is open now - please email the event steward.
- Bookings open on the 27th of April and the 15th of May is close of Bookings.
- The workshop is held on the 13th and 14th of June

#### Additional information:

- Resources and references will be available on the day.
- A guide and reference will be emailed out to all participants, and printed copies will be available on the day.
- Spanish dresses will be available to look at.
- There is a Facebook group, please join for support and communication.
- Remember to bring water and snacks!
- This is an intensive workshop designed to get you a mostly wearable dress in two days (some hemming or finishing etc at home may be required). You will need to bring all your focus and energy...and perhaps consider leaving your children at home ;)
- First day is patterning and constructing of the gown, second day is finishing the gown and constructing a chemise. For early finishers accessory options may be available, otherwise we are sure beginners would appreciate the help.
- An accessories class featuring headgear, jewellery, etc will be held at the Politarchopolis A&S Collegium in August.



Bal d'Saturnalia & Winter Solstice Tourney / 20-21 June 2015 / Yass Memorial Hall and grounds / Comur Street / Yass /

The ~~Uhagan~~ and ~~Peke~~ ~~Uhatur~~ (King and Queen) of ~~Lochac~~ will be in attendance of this event.

For the full event, Adult Members \$45, Members aged under 18 \$20, children 5 and under Free.

For the Tourney only, \$10.

Add \$5 Bookings after May Crown and for Non-members!!

Bookings for the BALL will close 13 June 2015

Bookings via email to Lady Isabella de Bordeaux.

The Good Food Feast / 18 July 2015 / St Margaret's Uniting Church / Antill Street / Hackett / ACT

In 1995, a small group of ~~Politar~~chopolins banded together to bring the level and quality of food and entertainment in ~~Lochac~~ to a standard which is now considered the norm.

It has been 20 years since the ~~Politar~~chopolin Assault Catering Corps hosted the Good Food Feast. The Corps would like to invite you to attend the anniversary of this fine event, which will be an evening of amazing, sumptuous food, and marvellous entertainment. The evening's menu, entertainment and decoration will be focused on the 16th century Low Countries - so get to work on your mid-winter German and Flemish frocks!!!

Because of the style of event we are providing, we are strictly limiting this event to 80 guests - there will not be any changes in numbers to cater for increased demand.

However, if you can't attend the event as a guest, you have the opportunity to attend the event as a server. In addition to indulging in some fantastic food provided just for the servers, you would undertake a role that is integral to the event's success, while experiencing the hubbub and backroom brawl that lies behind a great night.

This is not a child-friendly event - we request that you make alternative care arrangements for your children for the evening. Otherwise, the Corps will sell them and keep the profits.

Prices for this event are as follows:

Adult Member / \$120

Adult Non-member / \$125

Server Member / \$20

Server Non-member / \$25

Bookings are critical and will not be accepted without payment. If you aren't able to pay the event price all at once, payment plans can be arranged - but only in consultation with the Steward.

For more information and booking, please contact the Steward: Mistress Francesca Cellini

Politarchopolis Arts and Sciences Collegium / 15-16 August 2015 / Tuggeranong Sea Scout Hall / Mortimer Lewis Drive / Greenway / ACT

Join us in the ~~Barony~~ of ~~Politar~~chopolis for a weekend full of A&S classes, demonstrations and workshops at the Tuggeranong Sea Scouts Hall on the 15th and 16th of August! Come along and learn from some of the most talented artisans and teachers in ~~Lochac~~, with classes covering a multitude of topics, time periods, and interests!

The event costs \$45 for pre-booked members, \$50 for pre-booked non-members, and \$30 for children 8-15 years old.

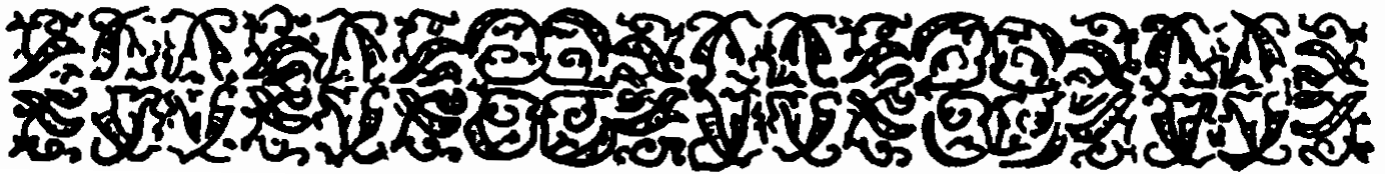
For bookings contact the Steward, Asny inn draumspaki, with your SCA name, mundane name, member number and dietary requirements.

A booking includes lunch on Saturday and Sunday, and a place at the Feast on Saturday night, inspired by a documented feast hosted by the Count of Anjou in 1455, with fantastic food and entertainment!

Please be aware that the Feast is capped at 80, so book early to avoid disappointment! Bookings for the Feast only will be charged the concession price of \$30.

In addition there will be a fundraiser breakfast BBQ hosted by the College of St Andronicus on both Saturday and Sunday before the classes begin.

So come for the classes, the food, and the company - the Politarchopolis A&S Collegium!



### Tayles from Events of Recent Past

#### *Baronial Quarter Day - May*

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of May, 2015 (Anno Societatis 50), Duchess Liadan ingen Mheradaig stewarded the very first Baronial Quarter Day. It was held at the Tuggeranong Archery Range and attracted approximately 45 participants, including the first event for some of the newcomers that made an appearance.

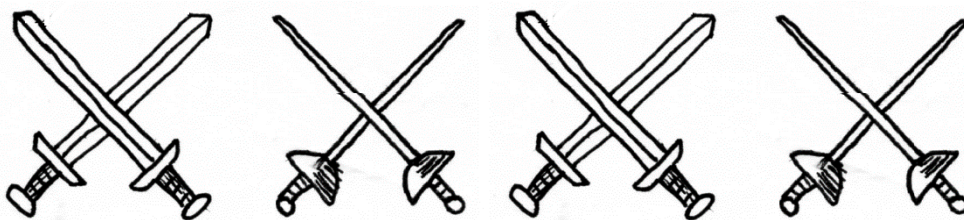
Archers, fencers and heavy combatants were encouraged to give favours to someone other than their usual consorts to give newcomers and non-competitors the chance to participate in the days activities.

21 Archers participated in the target shooting competitions, with The Honourable Lord Ulric of Ambledune taking out victory in the non-period division, scoring 156 points on behalf of his consort for the day, The Honourable Lady Ceara Shionnach. Lord Wintherus Alban was victorious in the period division, scoring 146 points on behalf of his consort for the day, young Fionntán.

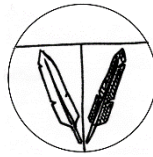
7 heavy combatants competed in a tournament, with Earl Píall inn Drkneyskii, Dux defeating Baron Aonghus Mac Creigior Phic Raghnaill in the best of three finals, on behalf of his consort for the day, Lady Charlotte.

4 rapier combatants competed in a round robin of timed bouts. Each bout lasted 3 minutes and 10 seconds where combatants scored 1 point for each limb they hit and 2 points for each kill they made. The victor was Don Dwain Cantor ap Hugh, scoring 58 points on behalf of his consort for the day, Jocelyn. The Honourable Lady Ceara Shionnach came second with 35 points, Lord Robin of Ambledune came third on 28 points, and Lady Perrione French placed fourth with 25 points.

In closing court, the populace sang the Happy Birthday Dirge for Lady Caitlin Dai.



## Missives from the Officers



### *From the Chronicler*

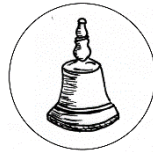
The device of the Barony of Politarchopolis is blazoned on the Lochac Roll of Arms: *argent, on a pale gules a griffin segreant argent, overall a laurel wreath counterchanged*. The laurel wreath is used because, in the SCA, all groups must include a laurel wreath on their device to indicate that status ([more information on Assorted Lessons in SCA Heraldry, published on the SCA Armory](#)). The burley-looking griffin was used as a link to Walter Burley Griffin, the architect that designed Canberra. The stripe of red down the middle was intended to give homage to Canberra, representing red tape (linked to politics).

Thank you to those who have provided information for this, the June 2015 edition of Griffintayle.

Griffintayle will be scheduled for release in the last week of each month. For any inclusions, please email your content to the Chronicler, no later than the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of the month.

THL Ceara Shionnach

Politarchopolis Chronicler



## People of Politarchopolis

The Town Crier, Baroness Cinevra Lucia di Namoraza, will be periodically interviewing members of the populace and publishing these interviews on the Baronial website, and in Griffintayle.

This month, [Baroness Cinevra interviewed Lord Mark Ottignon and Baron Aonghus Mac Greigor Rhic Kaghnaill](#) - Politarchopolis' representatives for the upcoming (at Great Northern War, June 2015) Ultimate Fighter Series Finals:

*What is your SCA name and title?*

Lord Mark Ottignon.

*You came 1st in the Ultimate Fighter Series in Canberra. What did you do to train?*

I'm not sure I have enough space here. But physical and mental practice are important. Armoured and un-armoured training. With and without partners. Watching a lot of good fighters and learning from them. And offered up the soul of one of my children.

*What did you enjoy about the tournaments? Please describe a memorable fight for us.*

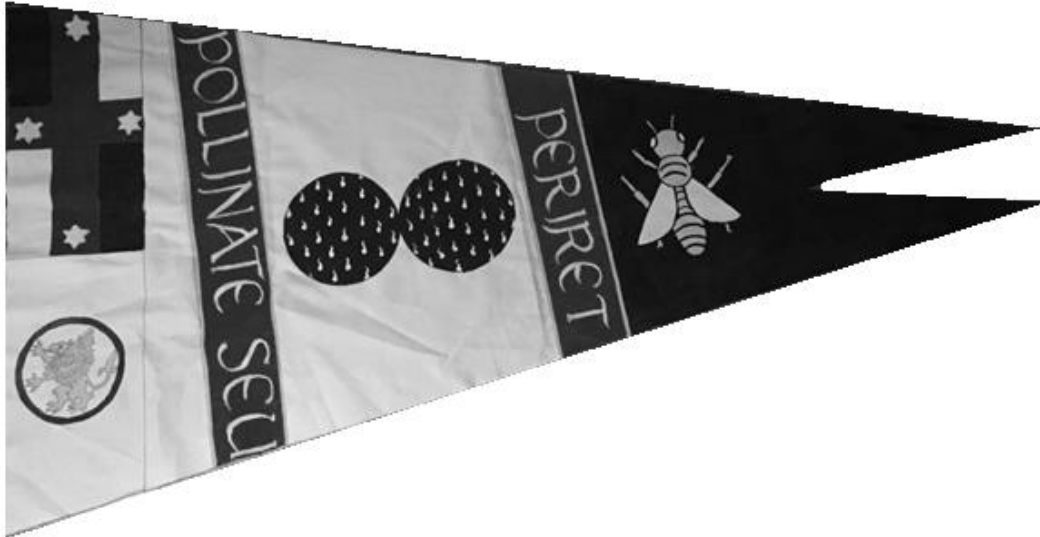
Being challenged. Every fight was fun and different. My glaive fight with Otto. It was damn hard work on every level and I learned a lot from it.

*What style do you fight in? Do you have some beginner's tips for those who may be interested in learning to fight this way?*

What style? Ugly. If I was asked by a new fighter I might say "Don't copy me". But it depends on so much. My style is what I like and that may not work for others who might like more glory and less renown. *What is your favourite thing to do in the SCA?*

*What preparations have you been making for the final in Queensland?*

Preparations? Eat well, sleep well and plan to play my own game. Oh and knights school. And organise to get there and play in the fire light tournament. It is on my bucket list. I'm sure there was something else but I tend to focus on one thing at a time.



The pennon (above) was designed by Lady Amelot d'Akeney and executed by Lady Helayne Quytyen for Lord Mark Ottignon making the UFS finals.

*What is your SCA name and title?*

Baron Aonghus Mac Greigor Mhic Raghnaill

*You came 2nd in the Ultimate Fighter Series in Canberra. What did you do to train?*

2nd in UF Polit, fight, fight, fight, fight!

*What did you enjoy about the tournaments? Please describe a memorable fight for us.*

I enjoy the challenge of tournaments, especially this format with different styles to make you think, and fight, outside your comfort zone.

My Favourite moment of the tourney was the poll arm against Sir Berenger, we were fighting to confirm the standings and in the previous rounds he had beaten me with Poll. In the refight I went out and fought my game setting the pace of the fight as I wanted and came out with a victory.

*What style do you fight in? Do you have some beginner's tips for those who may be interested in learning to fight this way?*

I fight primarily Poll axe in the Talhoffer poll axe school, with a big dose of Aonghus thrown in.

For beginners, talk to me! It is a very different style to anything anyone else fights and takes a willingness for percussive learning. You will get hit a lot learning to do this!

*What preparations have you been making for the final in Queensland?*

For the finals, a lot of mental preparation, slow work training and focusing on the core footwork and shots of the styles for the tournament and K.I.S.S. (Keep It Simple, Stupid).

## Officers Regnum

The officers' regnum of Politar chopolis presents the various Baronial positions for Canberra, a brief description of their roles and their contact emails (hyperlinked in their names).

To apply for any of the various vacant positions, please contact the Seneschal - [Anne de Tournai](#).



Baron / Crispin Sexi / Baroness / Joan Sutton

The Baron and Baroness are the leaders of the Barony, representing the Crown.

Seneschal / Anne de Tournai

The Seneschal is the principal legal representative of the Barony (i.e. group president).

Arts and Sciences / Rosamund Laiborn

The Arts and Sciences officer is responsible for encouraging the crafts of the Barony.

Captain of Archers / Ulric of Ambeldune

The Captain of Archers manages the Baronial archery activities (both target and combat).

Chandler / vacant

The Chandler is responsible for inventory of Baronial items, including regalia and hospit (i.e. garb to be borrowed by newcomers).

Chirurgion / Iseldis of Winchester

The Chirurgion is responsible for first aid and safety at events.

Chronicler / Ceara Shionnach

The Chronicler is responsible for the production and publication of the Baronial newsletter, *Griffintayle*.

Constable / see Reeve

The Constable is the primary safety officer at an event, the collector of indemnities, and to administer lost property.

Hospitaller / Gabriel van Dorne

The Hospitaller works on the recruitment and retention of new members to the Barony.

Herald / Antonia Rucellai

The Herald is responsible for acting as the voice of the Baron and Baroness, and for assisting in registering names and devices with the College of Arms.

Keeper of the Lists / Fionghuine MacCoinnich

The Keeper of the Lists organises, and keeps track of the results of the various martial competitions in the Barony.

Marshal / Blethyn ap Gryffid

The Marshal is responsible for martial activities in the Barony.

Rapier Marshal / Lorccan Ruadh

The Captain of Archers manages the Baronial rapier activities.

Reeve / Eberhard Næggerstein

The Reeve is responsible for managing the financial reporting of the Barony (i.e. the group treasurer).

Virtual Town Crier / Ginevra Lucia di Namoraza

This Virtual Town Crier is responsible for drafting and updating Baronial website content.

Webwright / Nicodemus Novello

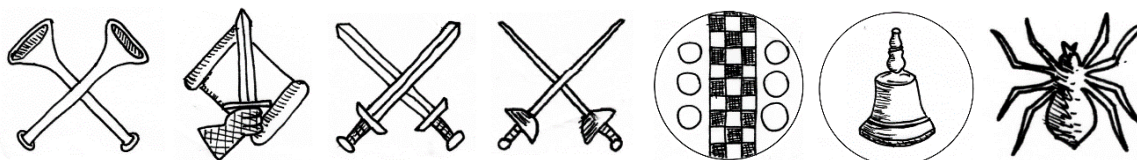
The Webwright maintains the Baronial website.

St Aldhelm Seneschal / Elena Versare

The Seneschal of the College of St Aldhelm is the group president for the Australian National University chapter of the Barony.

St Andronicus Seneschal / Caitlin Dai

The Seneschal of the College of St Andronicus is the group president for the University of Canberra chapter of the Barony.



### About the Barony

The Barony of Politarchopolis is based in Canberra, Australia, and is part of the Kingdom of Lochac. Part of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA), we are an educational, non-profit organisation dedicated to the study and re-creation of all aspects of life in pre-17th-century medieval and renaissance society.

The primary communication point for the Barony is the Politarchopolis email list, which you may wish to subscribe to if you'd like to receive official announcements and information on upcoming events and activities.

For more information about the Barony of Politarchopolis, see the group website. You may also wish to read more about the SCA in general.

The Barony is quite active on social media, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. You may wish to join the Barony of Politarchopolis Facebook group, @SCAPolit Twitter page, @SCAPolit Instagram page, Politarchopolis Archers Facebook Group, Politarchopolis Fencers Facebook group and/or Politarchopolis Combat Training Facebook group.



Ende.