

GRIFINTAYLE

Newsletter of the Barony of Politarchopolis



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 available by free e-mail subscription or by postal subscription for \$8.00 per year.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
A P R I L		1 ♥ ☞	2 ♥ ♠	3 ♠	4	5	6 BARONIAL DAY IKAC ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠
	7	8 ♥ ☞	9 ♥ ♠	10 ♠	11	12	13 ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠
	14	15 ♥ ☞	16 ♥ ♠	17 ♠	18	19	20 ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠
	21	22 ♥ ☞	23 ♥ ♠	24 ♠	25	26	27 ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠
	28	29 ♥ ☞	30 ♠				

Politarchopolis Diary

- ❖ A&S Weekend 12-13 April
- ❖ New Years Celebration 3-4 May
- ❖ May Crown 9-10 May

Lochac Kingdom Calendar

April		
12	Tis the Tale of the Vale	Willoughby Vale, Ipswich
12-13	A&S Weekend	Politarchopolis, ACT
12-13	The Battles End Inn	Arrowsreach, Croydon
19-20	Radburne Anniversary	Radburne, Dubbo
19-20	Viking A&S Collegia	Ynys Fawr, Hobart
24-27	Autumn Gathering	Aneala, Lake Clifton
26-27	Zany Activities Collegia	Bacchus Woods, Kingston
26-27	Innilgard Baronial Investiture	Innilgard, Adelaide
May		
2-5	Running of the Bulls	Burnfield, Bullyard
3-4	New Years Celebration	Politarchopolis, ACT
3-4	Camel Feast	Ynys Fawr, Devonport
9-10	May Crown	Darton, Wellington
17	May Ball & Potluck Feast	Rowany, Burwood
24	Flametree Ball	St Malachy, Bulli
30-2	Pencampwr Camping	Abertridwr, Wandri

Regular Meetings

- ☞ **St Aldhelm's College Meeting:**
Tuesdays 6:00 pm till 8:00 pm Copland Building, ANU
- ♠ **Archery practice:**
Sundays 10:00 am till 12:00 pm (1st Sunday of the month is an Inter Kingdom Archery Competition)
Wednesdays from 6:00 pm during daylight saving
Tuggeranong Archery Club, Soward Way, Tuggeranong.
Cost \$5 to non TAC members, range fees to TAC members.
- ♥ **Armoured Fighter practice:**
Sundays 3:00 pm, Haig Park, Masson St, Turner
Wednesdays 6:00 pm, Tuggeranong Archery Club
Tuesdays 6:30 pm, Park in Edwards St, Higgins
- ♣ **Rapier practice:**
Sundays 2:00 pm, Haig Park, Masson St, Turner
- ♠ **Arts and Sciences:**
Sundays 3:00 pm, Scout Hall, Haig Park, Turner
Thursdays 7:30 pm, at the Yew
- ⌘ **Baronial Dance Classes:**
Sundays, 2:00 pm, Scout Hall, Haig Park, Turner
- ♣ **Scriptorium:**
2nd Sunday of each month, 2:00 pm, Scout Hall, Haig Park
- ♫ **Choir Practice:**
1st Sunday of the month 1:00 pm, Haig Park, Turner
- ♠ **Pot Luck Feast:**
1st Sunday of the month 5:30 pm, Haig Park, Turner
- ♠ **Baronial Council Meetings:**
The last Wednesday of each month from 6:00pm.
RR1 School of Music ANU, Childers Street, Acton

Unto the Barony of Politarchopolis do Alessandro and Isobel, Baron and Baroness of Politarchopolis send fond greetings.

Valentine's Day

The Saint Valentine's picnic and tourney in the park was a great afternoon with fighting, singing, dancing and games as well as delicious food and lovely company. There were a few faces we haven't seen at events for a while as well as some newcomers. Altogether it was a really nice afternoon.

Congratulations and thank you to Lord Sui and Baron Courtain for running a very nice event and to Master Cristoval and Alys Dietsch for a delicious picnic. During the afternoon we were delighted present Count Stephen and Countess Mathilde with the fealty rings they wore, in the days of the Principality of Lochac, as first Baron and Baroness of Politarchopolis. The baronies have new fealty rings and the original rings were gifts from Their Majesties.

Target Archery Weekend

For the second year, Politarchopolis has hosted a full weekend event with a focus on the fine art of target archery. The Honourable Lord Mercurio and The Honourable Lady Sabine lead participants in a range of practice sessions, coaching and discussions. Lord Owen van Acker shared knowledge and experience gained from competing in target archery world championships and other international competitions. The weekend was fascinating and a great inspiration for the keen archers of Lochac. It was lovely to see some of our friends from Torlyon at this event too.

Newcomers' Tourney and Feast

Newcomers' this year had tourneys and spectacle, fine feasting, dancing and songs.

Members of the populace, newcomers and onlookers were entertained by fine displays in the two tourneys. There was a great turnout, with 11 fencers and 9 armoured fighters competing for the honour of their consorts and the glory of great valour. A number of onlookers were attracted by the pageantry of the occasion and stayed to learn more. We hope to see them at future events in the Barony and ask all to make them welcome as they surely did that day.

The newcomers' feast was beautifully presented by the College of St Aldhelm. Highlights included delicious pastries and delicate meats.

We gave thanks to Lady Mathilde Hastings for her great work as Politarchopolis Constable and seeing that role handed on smoothly to Lord Valentin der Spieler. There was a changing of the Guard, with Gabrielle, Francesco, William and Antonia becoming personers and stepping aside for Jonathan Lochswan, Robert Stoner, Sabine d'Antan and Kitan von Falkenburg. Finally, the College Seneschal, Elizabeth Beaumont, announced her successor, Lafquina Filia Juliane and was presented with a pouch in college colours as a new token of that office.

Festival

The weather was kind, being only mildly wet and quite warm in the verdant valleys where this year's Rowany Festival took place. Their Majesties did take the field of war for a final test of "the issue of the issue". Though Her Majesty's forces had fought valiantly and well at Canterbury Faire and at Border War, this time His Majesty's forces were the victors. Her Majesty Queen Bethan offered her submission to King Berenger's demand for an heir. Seeing the Queen thus humbled, Her gracious defeat did melt His Majesty's prideful heart and so he avowed any further claim to Her person or body. Thus peace and justice was achieved through might, grace and courtesy and all present rejoiced.

Many arrows were lost in the green grass but neither this, nor damp feet and hems could dampen our spirits. Festival was, as always, full of wonderful people, much singing, drinking, fencing and armoured contests and dancing and other merriment.

Our great appreciation and thanks to Lady Ragnrhildr for coordinating the campsite and feeding everyone. Lady Ragnrhildr worked incredibly hard, and she was helped by everyone who carried water, cooked or cleaned up and generally made Politarchopolis a welcoming and comfortable encampment this year.

Alessandro Isobel

Announcement

Greetings good gentles,

For nearly two years now I have held the office of Cordon Rouge, or Baronial Herald. The time has come for me to pass on the tabard to someone new. So I write to you all now seeking my replacement.

I am not necessarily looking for someone who is ready to take up the role right away. Indeed, I am happy to continue in this role until the end of July. Furthermore, I offer to be the new officer's deputy until the end of this year if they so desire my services. I say this because I want to cast the net as widely as possible. I am ready to train up my replacement (or indeed anyone who is interested in heraldry).

So what are we (myself, Crux Australis and their Excellencies) looking for? I'll start with the formal requirements. Firstly, you must be a financial member of the SCAA. Secondly, you will need some knowledge of the SCA - you need to know who's what and what's where - you need to be on top of how events happen so you can double guess what people's needs for heralds are. Third up is some knowledge of heraldry, preferably SCA heraldry - I can instruct in this. Lastly is basic computer literacy. You need to be able to surf the web with ease. This is because the Ordinary and Armorial - which you need to check for name and device submissions - is only available online. Ready email access is a distinct advantage - Crux contacts people by email, with announcements made on the blazons list. Clients also tend to contact you via email from the web form.

While these are the formal requirements, there are several other factors that I have learnt that really make a difference.

This role requires a certain level of tact and diplomacy, as well as discretion. You are dealing with issues being announced in Court. You often have to help arrange the business of court and measure the appropriateness of suggestions from the populace, which may not always be good. Sometimes you have to do the same with Royalty. Similarly, a certain amount of discretion is required in making announcements on the field. For an idea of what you may need to juggle, have a look at the PE test - http://www.sca.org.au/herald/docs/PE_Test.pdf - questions 3 and 6. In addition, there are some matters that arise in the royalty room that should remain there. Experience has taught me that tact, diplomacy and discretion are critical qualities in a court herald.

A sense of theatre. A good court or tourney is like a stage play, with the herald serving to guide the flow of events. You don't control. You don't take centre stage. You do keep the flow going by gentle nudging and a few well placed words. Having a sense of theatre is a great benefit in ensuring that court is not boring.

A clear speaking voice. Note very clearly here that I say clear, NOT LOUD. You need to be understood. It doesn't matter how loud you are if no-one can understand what you are saying. I actually do most of my voice heraldry at ordinary speaking voice. It is only when I step outdoors onto the field that I need to raise my voice. Anyway, anyone can be trained to project their voice - heralds never shout. So just because you can't be heard from the other side of a field, it doesn't mean that you can't be a good herald. Clarity is critical.

Finally, you need to be able to organise yourself and others. The most common task is rounding up enough people to do field heraldry at events, usually tourneys. You also need to be able to chase up event stewards to find out what they are doing so that you can organise enough heralds for them.

If you wish to step forward for this role, then please send your application to both myself and Crux - preferably by email (chris.strusz@gmail.com and herald@sca.org.au respectively), but by post if need be - by the 30th of April.

Yours in service,

Sigmund Spelmann

Cordon Rouge

Coming Events

Arts and Sciences Weekend

Now everyone is back from Festival and can think again, turn your thoughts to our next event - A&S weekend on 12-13 April.

Mistress Mathilde and Mistress Rowan are running a weekend of Arts and Sciences for the new and not-so-new, with classes run by our local experts! There should be something for everyone...

There will be three streams of classes running concurrently, all day Saturday and Sunday morning. You can stay in one stream, or move around as you choose. Classes are in mundane clothes, with a pot luck feast on Saturday night in garb. Lunch is provided Saturday.

Stream 1 - SCA Lifestyle

- ❖ String and stuff
- ❖ Introduction to calligraphy and illumination
- ❖ Keeping Yourself Amused - games and pastimes
- ❖ Tablet weaving
- ❖ How to run a feast
- ❖ Basic furniture
- ❖ How heraldry works
- ❖ How to run an event

Stream 2 - Costume head to toe

- ❖ Analysing a style
- ❖ From The Skin Out: just what goes on under that cote
- ❖ All about fabric
- ❖ Basic corsetry
- ❖ Shoes, shoes and more shoes
- ❖ Hats for all
- ❖ Sewing basics (including fitting)
- ❖ Closures (pins, points, laces and buttons)

Stream 3 - Fighting Preparation

- ❖ Anatomy of armour
- ❖ Patterning for armour
- ❖ Gambesons and cloth armour
- ❖ Armouring techniques
- ❖ Shield construction
- ❖ Sword construction (rattan)
- ❖ Field etiquette for combat and display
- ❖ Heraldic display
- ❖ Armouring Q&A

When: Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 April 2008

Where: Lake Tuggeranong Sea Scout Centre
2 Mortimer Lewis Drive, Greenway ACT

Prices:

Whole event (Sat and Sun): members/non-members: \$20
Day classes only: members/non-members: \$15
Pot luck feast only: \$5

Steward: Mathilde Adycote of Mynheniot (Katrina Hunt).

Bookings to Rowan Peregrine (Robyn Spencer)
rowan@sca.org.au (02) 6251-2188.

Bookings by 8 April (or take your chances), pay at the door.

Baronial Booking Policy: if you book, forget to cancel and then don't show up, we may still ask you to pay to cover our costs. If you don't book, it's possible you may not be fed or even allowed in. Regardless of stated policy, the stewards may decide to be nice. Just ask!

"Griffintayle" is published monthly. Editions are printed the weekend following the Baronial Meeting.

All submissions must be received by the Chronicler by the last Monday of the month for general and event notices.

SCA Politarchopolis, PO Box 6876, Charnwood ACT 2617 Email politarchopolis@sca.org.au

To subscribe to the Politarchopolis email list, go to <http://www.sca.org.au/mailman/listinfo/polit>

This is the April edition for 2008.

New Year Celebrations

And The King is coming!

Royal Visit and Baronial Rapier Championship.

SATURDAY: Rapier tourneys from 2:30pm, Competition: Finest dedication, salutation or lamentation, before, during or after a bout. Dancing from 5:30pm, Feasting from 6:30pm, served especially for His Majesty from "To The King's Taste". Also, entertainment fit for a King!

SUNDAY: Town Archer 10am at Tuggeranong Archery Club (\$5 for non-club members). Baronial Day 1pm at Haig Park in Turner, including heavy combat training and Small Ball.

Where: Majura Hall, Rosevear PI Dickson, Canberra ACT 2602 AUSTRALIA

When: 3rd – 4th of May, 2008

Cost: \$22 members, \$24 nonmembers, +\$3 if not booked, children half price.

Bookings: Bookings to Crispin Sexi (Jaysen Ollerenshaw), PO Box 485 Belconnen ACT 2616 AUSTRALIA
Phone: (02) 6241 0919 crispin@home.com.au

New Year Celebrations

And The Queen is coming!

Royal Visit and Baronial Rapier Championship.

SATURDAY: Rapier tourneys from 2:30pm, Competition: Finest dedication, salutation or lamentation, before, during or after a bout. Dancing from 5:30pm, Feasting from 6:30pm, served especially for Her Majesty from "To The Queen's Taste". Also, entertainment fit for a Queen!

SUNDAY: Town Archer 10am at Tuggeranong Archery Club (\$5 for non-club members). Baronial Day 1pm at Haig Park in Turner, including Rapier training and choral singing.

Where: Majura Hall, Rosevear PI Dickson, Canberra ACT 2602 AUSTRALIA

When: 3rd – 4th of May, 2008

Cost: \$22 members, \$24 nonmembers, +\$3 if not booked, children half price.

Bookings: Bookings to Crispin Sexi (Jaysen Ollerenshaw), PO Box 485 Belconnen ACT 2616 AUSTRALIA
Phone: (02) 6241 0919 crispin@home.com.au

May Crown

The Shire of Darton invites you to attend May Crown in Darton. Enjoy a weekend of festivities centred around our finest fighters competing for their consorts to be the next Crown of Lochac. Relax in our tavern on Friday night, watch the pageantry and chivalry of a crown tournament followed by a fabulous feast on the Saturday, and then on Sunday enjoy the spectacle of a rapier tourney.

Where: Brookfields Scout Camp, Moores Road, Wainuiomata, Wellington

When: 9th – 11th of May, 2008

Cost: Please see main SCA website

Bookings: Please see the SCA website for contact details.

Accommodation: Accommodation is in bunk rooms. Each room is built from cinder blocks and has its own timed heater. Bunkrooms sleep between 4 and 11 people. There is plenty of room for people to tent if they so wish.

Off site accommodation will be available at the Parklands Motel, which is situated just before the turn off to Moores Road, a 5 minute drive away. The Parklands hotel has 8 units, some of which sleep 2, and some of which sleep 4. The cost is \$90 a night for 2 people, and \$15 for each extra person. Continental and cooked breakfasts are available. The shuttle bus will pick people up at 8:30 each morning from the Parklands Motel to take them to site.

Getting There: Brookfields is a 30 to 40 minute drive (depending on time of day) from the centre of Wellington. We will be providing a shuttle service to and from site for the cost \$15 per person each way. Time permitting the shuttle will stop at a supermarket and bottle store on the way, to allow you to pick up any necessities.

St Vitas' Dance & Music Weekend

Spring into two days of classes on all sorts of music and dance with a Feast and Caroso Ball on Saturday night. Lunches provided. Massage Therapist in attendance!

Where: Lake Tuggeranong Sea Scouts Hall, Mortimer Lewis Drive, Greenway, ACT, shores of Lake Tuggeranong.

When: 23rd – 24th of August, 2008

Cost: Full Weekend: \$35, 1 Day + Feast & Ball: \$24, F&B only: \$19, 1 Day only: \$10. Non-Memb. Add \$2

Bookings: Joanna of the Beechwoods [Joanna Keenan]
(02) 6296 2193 or 0409578680
joannaandmurray@home.com.au

"Griffintayle" is published monthly. Editions are printed the weekend following the Baronial Meeting.

All submissions must be received by the Chronicler by the last Monday of the month for general and event notices.

SCA Politarhropolis, PO Box 6876, Charnwood ACT 2617 Email politarhropolis@sca.org.au

To subscribe to the Politarhropolis email list, go to <http://www.sca.org.au/mailman/listinfo/polit>

This is the April edition for 2008.