

From The Tower



Barony of Southron Gaard

June A.S. LI

(2016 C.E.)



Chronic Rumblings

Welcome to another From The Tower.

The winter months are a great time to start (and finish) projects. The SCA has many opportunities to develop your creativity – hey it's our middle name – whether you're a complete beginner or an experienced artisan. While some of us have more experience than others, and some seem to simply have natural talent, it's important to remember that we all began at the beginning.

I'm really looking forward to the Collegium next month and finding out about what people have been researching and making and learning something new. It's easy to overlook the knowledge and skill that goes into the things that we all wear, use and do at events and Collegia really help uncover those details which I find quite fascinating.

I would love to see your stuff in FTT – photographs*, original artwork, reviews, articles, poems, recipes etc. Please send your contributions to the chronicler@sg.lochac.sca.org email address by the 25th of each month.

Yours, in service to Southron Gaard,

Eleanora

* Please ensure that you have permission to publish the photographs of anyone identifiable in your photos.

| Inside this issue | |
|---|-------|
| <i>Chronic Rumblings</i> | 2 |
| <i>Their Excellencies Speak</i> | 3 |
| <i>Regnum</i> | 9 |
| <i>Other Groups' Contacts</i> | 9 |
| <i>SCANZ membership & form</i> | 10-11 |
| What's On | |
| <i>Calendars</i> | 7-8 |
| Features | |
| <i>Chivalry and the Medieval Archer</i> | 4 |

Credits for this issue:

Cover Art: **Announcement of a Contest**, Anonymous, 1530, Reichsmuseum, Amsterdam <http://hdl.handle.net/10934/RM0001.COLLECT.441075>. Note: Civic guards organized contests. The person who succeeded in shooting a stuffed parrot from a tall pole was crowned king. People from all walks of life took part in these contests: the winner of the one held in Zevenbergen on 18 July 1546 was Cornelis de Glymes van Bergen. On that day he wore the king's collar, and to commemorate his victory gave the pendant with a shield hanging from it.

Illustration of Einar Eindridesson Thambarskelfir: By Christian Krohg - Book: Snorre Sturluson: Heimskringla, J.M. Stenersen & Co, 1899., Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=981119>

Photo of Archers at Harcourt Park 2015, taken by Simone Hindin.

This is the June 2016 issue of From the Tower, a publication of the Barony of Southron Gaard of the Society for Creative Anachronism New Zealand, Inc. (SCANZ, Inc.).

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Kingdom of Lochac



King Gilbert and Queen Bethany

Please send award recommendations to crown@lochac.sca.org with a courtesy copy to B&B@sg.lochac.sca.org
Additional information can be found on the Kingdom website: www.lochac.sca.org

Their Excellencies Speak

Greetings all,

By now news of the great deeds at May Crown Tourney have spread across the Kingdom, with ThorolfR Olfuss Brandsson and Halla Vinagjafar Hrafnisdottir emerging victorious and being named Crown Prince and Princess. Congratulations to them both and may their reign be joyous.

Their Royal Highnesses have asked for the names of any who may be attending events on Their Royal Progress and would wish to assist them as attendants. If you would like us to put your name forward please contact us. Serving on a Court is not an especially onerous duty and is an opportunity to meet new people. In period it was a considerable honour for the nobles to serve Their Majesties and so it is in the Current Middle Ages as well.

As we write this it is but a few days before Her Excellency ventures from Our keep to visit Our good people of Wildmoor for Fimbulwinter. In stark contrast to last year We have not heard of shortages in the harvest or wildness of the weather in the region so We look forward to a plentiful event. His Excellency wishes he was able to attend what We're sure will be a fine weekend of activity and conviviality.

We are pleased that so many have joined Us at the Baronial Open Homes in the last couple of months. We plan to continue these on a regular basis to provide an opportunity to catch up with people outside of events. By holding these at two alternate locations we hope that as many as possible will be able to join us.

We look forward to seeing you all soon.

In service to the Crown.

Richard and Ginevra

Chivalry and the Medieval Archer

By Darius Freeman MKA Damon Daines

This was an interesting and difficult thing to research, first you had to take into account the code of chivalry and therefore the orders of knighthood from around the period. Then you had to find documentable archers that weren't mythical or legendary, this in itself was no easy task. So I started by ruling out the mythical and legendary archers. This list included Paris of Troy, Robin Hood, Heracles, and to my surprise William Tell.

Being mundanely a student of history at university I employed the use of my lecturer's knowledge to go over some of my more potential possibilities. The first person I looked at was Sir Dafydd ap Llewelyn ap Hywel or better known as Davy Gam. He served with King Henry V with a unit of archers, but was not an archer himself. This then ruled him out, but it is important to note that Davy gave his life protecting his king at Agincourt and was knighted for it while being tended to by the field medics of Henry's camp.

My next contender was Richard de Clare the 2nd earl of Pembroke otherwise known as Strongbow. This also was a dead end as it was a translated nickname from the Norman arc-fort. The only association with archery he had was his large army he took into Ireland which included a vast number of Welsh archers. Although an accomplished diplomat and military leader he did not espouse the virtues of chivalry. Indeed during his time the virtues of chivalry had yet to be established especially in the British Isles.

With this disturbing lack of available candidates I turned to my lecturers who suggested I look further back in the medieval period (which according to scholars started around 400AD and ended in the 1400's). That and to widen my scope to go out of Europe and head East, to the Middle East, China, and Japan and possibly a look into the sub-continent. With this advice I first went backwards to find a documented archer of Viking ilk.

This Barbaric fellow was known as Einar Eindridesson Thambarskelfir. Now we have a known and exceptional archer of the Vikings but hardly a candidate for the chivalrous ideals. Having had his own bow destroyed in battle his King handed him his bow and said "use this". To which Einar replied after drawing it "too weak, too weak for such a great king." He then threw the bow over the side of the ship followed soon after by his king, whose body was never found.

So I head east. I did take a brief side step to the sub-continent only to find most of their archers are indeed incarnations of their Deities. This puts them into the mythical category and passed over. So heading back east I go into China, and find a man who is categorised as a Knight. This man is Zhou (Jow) Tong.



By Christian Krohg - Book: Snorre Sturluson: Heimskringla, J.M. Stenersen & Co, 1899., Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=981119>

Zhou Tong is classed as a Knight of the early Song Dynasty. He was a tutor to the future General Yue Fei. Most Tutors would carry the title of Monk in this region and time not knight. Zhou was different, yes he had the schooling of contemporary monks including their hand to hand martial arts training and weapons

training. Zhou was considered a knight due to his “worldly” knowledge. Zhou was primarily known as an archer one of the best in China, but he was also humble.

Zhou was considered Yue Fei’s most important tutor, and was there to teach him only archery, he did to such success that Yue later taught his army how to shoot in the same way. These lessons including the ability to shoot on the move with accuracy. The same lessons later made their way to Mongolia to be used by the Khans. Zhou’s lesson did not just cover the physical art of archery it also covered certain “ideals”. These ideals included the treatment of prisoners and wounded on both sides, and how to behave both diplomatically and at home with guests, and his family. These ideals you could say are the Chinese equivalent of the European code of chivalry.

Having found some luck with China I turned my Eye to Japan. Here I already knew of the established Knightly class of the Samurai. The man of note here is Minamoto no Tametomo. Minamoto was a samurai who fought in the Hogen Rebellion principally with a bow. He had a peculiar deformity which gave him an advantage with his bow. This deformity was that his left arm was some inches longer than his right allowing for a longer draw. Minamoto was also the leading voice in teaching Samurai that they must first master the Bow before they can pick up a sword. This was the way for almost 150 years. The school of thought was that if you have not the discipline enough to master the bow you will not have the discipline enough for the sword. Considering the style of the Japanese bow or Yumi this would make a lot of sense. But if we correlate the training the Samurai did to master their bows to that of the English longbow man of the mid 1300’s on it is on par. So we can conclude that the Bow is a very difficult weapon to master. The Samurai code when not on the battlefield is very strict as to how they are to behave, and treat others including those they were in lordship over. It is a much stricter code than that of Chivalry. So for archers with chivalric virtues we should look to the Japanese, or perhaps not.

If we now jump back to Europe I will now try to explain the rank of Knight. Before 1100 the rank of knight did not exist, they were all part of the rank and file of the landlord’s soldiers. From 1100 to separate out the better-trained soldiers the class of Knight was created which took a mere foot-soldier and put him on a horse, although that is a very simplified definition. A knight did have to provide his own armour, and weaponry, and in some cases his horse too. But from 1100-1300 the rank of Knight was only one step above that of Serf, basically the lowest rung of the ladder. During this period the rank of Knight was not a rank of the nobility, it merely marked you as an elite soldier, a rank attainable by almost any soldier except for archers.

Archers despite their usefulness on the battlefield and in providing food for the masses have always been looked on by their overlords as an almost non entity. The best rank an archer could achieve during any period, with a few exceptions, would be that of Yeoman. There is court documentation of an archer being granted the elevation of Knighthood but the archer is never named. Whether this was just a clever ploy by the powers that be to keep the ranks of archers docile by offering a glimmer of hope of advancement or not is unknown.

Soon after the turn of the 13th century everyone wanted to be a knight including the ranks of the nobility. So a set of guidelines was created and refined over the next century or so. This is what we have come to know as the virtues of chivalry. With any new “order” regalia was also commissioned, for the Knight this was his sword and spurs. Despite having rank and title, members of the nobility saw it as a personal failing if they could not also be “dubbed” a knight. Despite its prestige and everyone from a lowly peasant to the newly crowned King wanting to be knighted, the rank of Knight was and still is the lowest rank on the nobility

ladder. Coming back to archers and chivalric traits in them, almost every archer had the ability to be chivalric but, knowing they would never attain the rank of knight, they never saw the need to follow the code. At least this hold true in Europe.

In Europe, military archers were very much looked down upon, your average foot soldier was paid better, fed better and better equipped than that of the archer. The only archers that held value at home and abroad were those that provided food from a hunt. Indeed on campaign if the archers were to eat at all in an overwhelming number of cases they had to “hunt” their own food. During the Hundred Years’ War all four of the English kings looked on the archers as a tool only as men or people they were looked on with scorn and derision. After Agincourt Henry V had the problem of the prisoners he had taken and knowing he could not free them or feed them he had them killed. Knowing that it would be a breach of the code of chivalry he had his archers do it, this absolved him of breaching the code as the archers were viewed by both sides as unchivalrous peasants that were nigh on impossible to control.

To this end I can say that within Europe, archers were employed by the rulers to be utilised as unchivalrous louts to do the dirty work the nobility didn’t want to do. Going East, archers were held with more regard and indeed to be a “knight” in a large portion of the eastern lands you first had to be an archer.

As a side-line to this it is intriguing to see that within the SCA, one of the highest ranks is that of Knight, and the lowest or first rank most attain is that of Lord. A reversal of status from the medieval period itself where Knight was the lowest of the nobility and Lord was one of the highest. Just a little bit of a paradox.



Archers at Harcourt Park 2015

June Calendar

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|-----|-----|----------------------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|---|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 Fimbulwinter | 4 Fimbulwinter | 5 Fimbulwinter A&S Heavy Combat Rapier Archery |
| 6 | 7 | 8 Council meeting | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 A&S Heavy Combat Rapier Archery |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 A&S Heavy Combat Rapier Archery Open Day |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 FTT deadline | 26 A&S Heavy Combat Rapier Archery |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |

MARTIAL PRACTICES

Armoured Combat

Sundays 10am–noon at Redwood Scout Hall.

Thursdays 6-8pm in the park at the end of Jasmine Place, Wigram

Rapier

Sundays from noon at Redwood Scout Hall.

Archery

Fine Sundays at Northcote School grounds, meet at Redwood Scout Hall.

Email: archers@sg.lochac.sca.org

ARTS GATHERINGS

Arts & Sciences

Sundays from 11:00am at Redwood Scout Hall.

Topics or projects to be announced on SG list and Facebook.

UCMRS Dance

Mondays 7pm -8:30pm in KF08. Kirkwood Village.

ORGANISATIONAL MEETINGS

Council Meeting

Second Wednesday of the month, from 7:30pm. Upper Riccarton Library, 71 Main South Road.

Or join online: details posted to the SG list.

All welcome

Baronial Open Home

Informal, un-garbed, social activities to allow people to chat about projects, the SCA and life in general, share a pot-luck meal and maybe watch a video.

July Calendar

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | |
|--------------------|-----|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----------------|---|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 A&S Heavy Combat Rapier Archery |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 A&S Heavy Combat Rapier Archery |
| 11 | 12 | 13 Council meeting | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 A&S Heavy Combat Rapier Archery Open Day |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 A&S Heavy Combat Rapier Archery |
| 25 FTT deadline | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 Collegium | 31 |

Southron Gaard Regnum

Being a list of the current Baronial Officers and their official email addresses.

Baronial officers

| | | |
|---------------------|--|--|
| Baron & Baroness: | Richard d'Allier & Ginevra di Serafino Visconti | BandB@sg.lochac.sca.org |
| Seneschal: | Maximilian von Monsterbrg | seneschal@sg.lochac.sca.org |
| Tour d'Or Herald: | Aveline Goupil | herald@sg.lochac.sca.org |
| Reeve: | James of Southron Gaard | reeve@sg.lochac.sca.org |
| Knight Marshal: | Elena Sophia Luciano de Medici* | marshal@sg.lochac.sca.org |
| Arts & Sciences: | Agnes ðe kyrii* | arts@sg.lochac.sca.org |
| Chronicler: | Eleanora van den Bogaerde | chronicler@sg.lochac.sca.org |
| Chatelaine: | Phillipe de Tournay* | chatelaine@sg.lochac.sca.org |
| Chirurgeon | Leonhart Hunt | chirurgeon@sg.lochac.sca.org |
| Constable: | Raffe de Massard | constable@sg.lochac.sca.org |
| Crescents Officer | Csperka | crescents@sg.lochac.sca.org |
| Librarian | Ginevra di Serafino Visconti | library@sg.lochac.sca.org |
| Quartermaster: | Raffe de Massard | quartermaster@sg.lochac.sca.org |
| Web scribe: | Ginevra de Serafino Visconti | web@sg.lochac.sca.org |
| Captain of Archers: | Bjorn Svartsson* | archers@sg.lochac.sca.org |
| Captain of Rapier: | James of Southron Gaard | rapier@sg.lochac.sca.org |
| Lists Officer: | Melisande de Massard | lists@sg.lochac.sca.org |

* Seeking replacement: see vacancies page for details.

wildmoor hamlet: otago

nelson hamlet

Fiora Vespucci (mundanely Fiona) HeraldRadish@gmail.com

Other SCAAZ Groups

Wellington: Shire of Darton

<http://darton.lochac.sca.org>

Auckland: Barony of Ildhafn

<http://ildhafn.lochac.sca.org>

Hamilton: Canton of Cluain

<http://cluain.lochac.sca.org>

SCA (NZ) Inc. Membership

There are two different types of membership available to event participants in New Zealand. For further information visit the official SCA(NZ) Inc. website at:

www.sca.org.nz

Subscribing Membership

Grants full rights of participation in the SCA (including voting, entering Crown Tournaments, holding office and affiliate membership with overseas branches). Subscribing membership also includes a subscription to Pegasus, the Lochac Kingdom Newsletter which is an electronic newsletter (PDF).

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| 1 Year with E-Pegasus* | \$ 15.00 |
| 3 Years with E-Pegasus | \$ 30.00 |

A SCA(NZ) Inc. membership form is included on the final page of this newsletter, or can be accessed on the SCA(NZ) website above.

Event Membership

For all non-members aged 18 years or over attending an event. Event membership lasts for the duration of that event only and is not sufficient to hold office or fight in Crown Tournament etc. If the event has a cost, and it is not held by a College, the levy will be charged.

Per event \$ 2.00



Society for Creative Anachronism (New Zealand) Inc. Membership application

If you prefer, you can use the online membership form linked from <http://sca.org.nz/membership.php>

New Membership Renewal Replacement card Change of information

Please print clearly. All information must be legible and filled out correctly for your membership to be processed.
Please fill out one form per person.

Today's Date: _____ Membership number: _____

First Name: _____ Family Name: _____

Postal Address: _____ Suburb: _____

City: _____ Post code: _____ Occupation: * _____

*We are required to collect and keep your occupation on file by the Incorporated Societies Act 1908.

Telephone number (Home) _____ (Mobile) _____

Email: _____ Tick if under 18:

Tick if you prefer to receive all future communications from us via post rather than via email:

Society Name (if any): _____

Group name (closest geographical Barony, Shire, etc.): _____

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Membership type and duration: | 1 year | 3 years |
| Membership + e-Pegasus (PDF) ** | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 |
| Membership + posted print Pegasus | <input type="checkbox"/> \$40 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$105 |
| Replacement for lost card | <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 | |

** To receive e-Pegasus, you must provide a valid email address. You will be emailed directions to access your electronic subscription.

Payment Method: Cheque Enclosed Internet Banking

I declare that the information given is true and correct:

Signed (please use legal name): _____

Payment information:

- Please do not post cash. Sorry, we are unable to accept credit card payments.
- **Paying by cheque:** make cheques payable to Society for Creative Anachronism (NZ) Inc.
- **Paying by Internet Banking:** make the payment to SCA (NZ) Inc, account number 38-9010-0099412-00. Place your surname in the reference field, then print out and attach the receipt page to this form once your payment has gone through. Failure to attach proof of payment can delay your membership being processed by as much as a month – so please don't forget!

If you have queries about this form or your membership, please feel free to contact the Registrar, Elizabeth Kent, at registrar@sca.org.nz. For urgent matters, phone the Registrar at (03) 960 0452 between the hours of 9am-9pm.

Information you provide on this form will be kept on file by the SCA (NZ) Registry according to the Privacy Act 1993, and may be shared with Kingdom Officers and affiliated SCA corporations as needed. If you believe we hold incorrect information, contact the Registrar directly for a copy of your details. Use this form to update your information by ticking the box labelled 'Change of information'.

Subscriptions other than to Pegasus, the Lochac Kingdom newsletter, are NOT available through SCA (NZ). Contact the US registry directly to subscribe to Complete Anachronist, Tournaments Illuminated or other Kingdom newsletters. Send this form with payment to: SCANZ Registrar, C/- 24 Meadowville Ave, Spreydon, Christchurch 8024