

# From The Tower



## Barony of Southron Gaard

September A.S. LV

(2020 C.E.)

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# Chronic Ramblings

After 3 years at the desk it is with joy I am about to pass over the quill to THL Joana de Bairros to take over the role of Chronicler. She is full of motivation and plans and will no doubt bring new energy to the role which I have been lacking these last months, as it seems have some of our regular contributors.

Not so Mistress Eleanora van den Bogaerde who has submitted a wonderful article on purchasing cloth for garb, find it on page 5. And there are some events coming up! I haven't seen advertising to steal and none was submitted, but the links from the email list are available and page 8, and I suspect THL Joana will get some proper advertising afoot. Watch that space!

Yours in Service, Agnes Graye



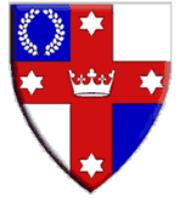
Image Credits for this issue:  
Page 66 of the Voynich Manuscript, thought to be a sunflower.

Image from Mistress katherine kerr

Assorted clipart and marginalia from around the web



**Kingdom of Lochac**  
**King Theuderic and**  
**Queen Engelin**



Please send award recommendations to [crown@lochac.sca.org](mailto:crown@lochac.sca.org) with a courtesy copy to [B&B@sg.lochac.sca.org](mailto:B&B@sg.lochac.sca.org).

Please check Lochac Cannon Lore for an individual's existing awards and information about awards, additional information can be found on the Kingdom website: [www.lochac.sca.org](http://www.lochac.sca.org)

## Southron Gaard Seneschal

We are now officially in Spring. I do not know about you, but it feels like forever in coming. Still, I am thankful that we have warmer weather on the way, and that we retain our ability to hold events.

It's been a busy last few months, and I'm pleased to be able to announce several new officers taking up roles, and several more hopefully to come in the next few weeks

Captain of Archers: Jocelyn Hudson

Captain of Rapier: Lord Yasuda Tatsu'aki

Chatelaine: Lady Ellen of Wyteley

Please give them a warm welcome and provide them with any assistance they need. It is a pleasure to see some new faces volunteering to assist the group, and I'm thrilled to have them on board

As you may know, my warrant is almost up, and I am looking forward to taking a respite. To whomever is willing to step into the Seneschal's shoes, you have my thanks, and I'm always happy to provide feedback and an ear to bend as needed. It's been an interesting role to take on, and while it has had it's moments, it has been very rewarding, and most of that has been in witnessing how this Barony has come together in times of difficulty. For all our differences of opinion, and ways we play this game, it's heartening to see our greater love for the game as a whole win out over these differences. I'm very proud to have been here to see it.

I'm not sure what's next for me, but I doubt I'll be able to remain at rest for long. I'm hoping to try my hand at Heavy combat very soon, and rejoin the fencing ranks. I also still have plans afoot for the future, and I look forward to bringing this to fruition for the benefit of others.

But for now, I wanted to say 'Thank you' to all of you who have supported me through this term, been an ear I've bent, and more. A special thanks must go out to 4 people in particular. My Lady, the Baroness Agnes Graye for helping give me the confidence and support to try something new and take on this role, and both Master Richard and Mistress Ginevra for their support, assistance and guidance during some difficult aspects, and finally to Master Bartholomew for lending his ear, making me ask some difficult questions, and letting me come to my own conclusions. I couldn't have done this anywhere near as effectively without your support and input.

So, this me signing off. Take care, be safe, and I'll see you on the field soon

Yours in Service

Elena Sophia di Luciano dei Medici



## Buying cloth for garb

Making good choices when buying cloth for garb can make a huge difference to how you will feel about the finished outfit and it does not need to cost you more.

### What is it made out of?

Pretty much for the entire pre-1600 period in Europe there were three main fibres that went into cloth (or two if you're poor) - linen, wool and silk for the well off. Cotton was rare and used mostly as a padding i.e. as cotton 'wool' not as spun yarn in cloth weaving.

Oil based synthetics such as polyester, nylon or acrylic didn't exist and cellulose-based man made fibres such as rayon, 'bamboo', viscose etc. also even more recent fibres. Always check the tag on fabric that you are looking at buying and if unsure ask a sales assistant.

### What does it look like?

Medieval cloth was **woven** whereas a lot of modern cloth is knitted - which is fundamentally different so the first thing is to **avoid knitted material** such as t-shirt and sweat-shirt type materials. As a guide if it's very stretchy it's probably not good for garb. If you're not sure, ask someone.

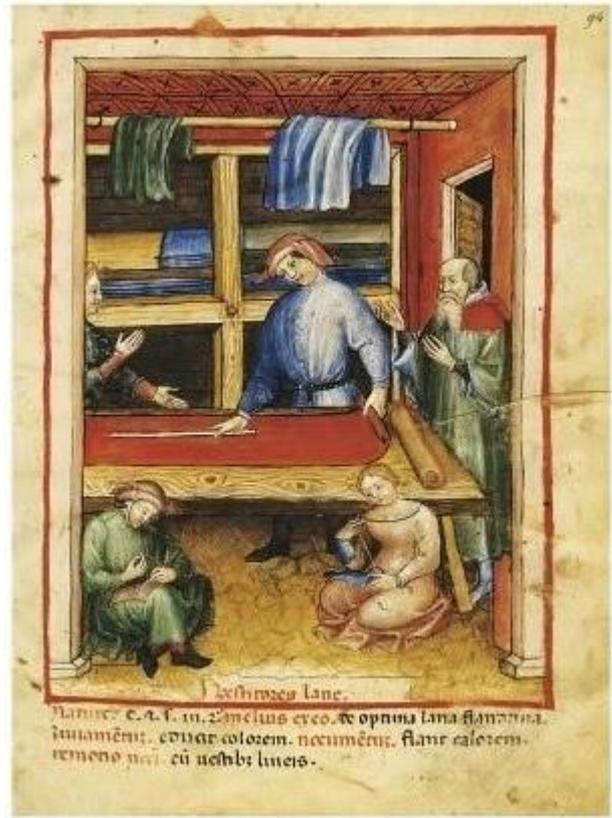
While it is possible to dye strong colours such as reds, blues and greens and even blacks modern day-glo type colours can not be achieved with natural dyes so avoid anything too bright. Generally patterns were woven in by using yarns of different colours to create striped or plaid cloth or for very wealthy brocaded patterns. Avoid modern cloth that has the pattern printed on as 'painted' cloths were mostly used in furnishing.

There are a number of shifts in how period cloth is made due to technological advances and these manufacturing changes affect the look of the cloth and what was valued in terms of cloth. These are too specific to go into in detail here but these are some broad guidelines.

### Early period

The yarn used for weaving is thicker and spun 'worsted' so that it is easy to make out each thread in the cloth. A lot of cloth uses twill weaves to create pattern.

1. **Plain** weave (over one, under one) aka tabby, taffeta (in silk). More likely found in linen under layers (shirt/smokr). Less preferred for woolen over garments by those that can prefer fancier.
2. **Twill** weave (several variations including 2:1 - over two, under 1 offset, 2:2 over two under two offset). Look for the appearance of diagonal lines in the weave. Twills have more drape than plain weave. Denim and cotton drill are good examples and you can find twill in all kinds of fibres.



3. **Herringbone.** A twill that reverses in the horizontal, producing bands of chevrons along the length of the cloth. Frequently available in winter in wool and wool blend although sometimes you can find it in linen.
4. **Diamond twill.** A twill that reverses both in the vertical and horizontal produces diamonds. These were the highest valued cloths and still are as they seem to mainly be woven for reenactors.



### In the middle-high Middle Ages

The advent of the two shaft treadle loom made weaving these fancy twills impractical and the focus became on finer and finer plain woolen weaves.

The Crusades introduced more patterned silks and velvet which were reproduced by weavers in Italy along with taffetas (plain weave silk) and satin/sateen.

Towards the end of the period fine woven wools were being brushed after weaving to raise a 'nap', then processed to felt that nap and sheared to produce a cloth that was very smooth and these were valued very highly esp. by the rising urban elites.



- Start looking for bold colour patterns in plain weave such as checks and stripes.
- Finer twills and even herringbone might also be used but diamond twills are over.
- Look for single-colour woolen cloth which feels light in the hand but the surface is smooth and semi-felted. These may even be used without hemming as the fulling will minimise fraying - hence the fashion for dagging.
- Silk brocades used coarser silk yarns used than what we see today which is why furnishing fabrics often look more appropriate. Be aware of appropriate patterns when buying these though as many are based on post-renaissance designs..

**A note on blends:** modern blends involve two or more fibres being blended **in the yarn**, usually prior to spinning. For example blending the smooth resilience of merino wool with the fluffy softness of possum fur. The same yarn is used in the long horizontal threads mounted on the loom (the warp) and for the yarn woven through it (the weft). Medieval blended cloth is usually done **in the weave** for example when one fibre yarn such as linen is used in the warp and softer fluffier wool is used for the weft - this cloth is called fustian.

### Shopping tips

- **Know how much you need.** Wool cloth usually comes wider - often 140cm, compared to other cloth which is usually around 110-115cm
- **Shop ahead** - buy fabric at the end of the season on sale which gives you a bit of time to sew for six months ahead.
- **Shop around** - there are several low-profile shops around that often have great deals. Also it doesn't hurt to mention that you're with the 'medieval group' - we've been around a good while and some places are happy to give discounts esp. if you are buying a fair amount.
- **Substitute appropriately:**
  - Ramie is a great substitute for linen being also a 'bast' fibre but cotton is fine for undergarments. Avoid synthetics e.g. polyester, for underlayers as they get stinky fast.
  - Wool blends are often cheaper and no one can tell the difference unless they set you on fire\*.
  - A number of the cellulose-based man-made fibres can look and behave a lot like silk e.g. rayon, viscose as can some cottons.

\* the [burn test](#) is a standard cloth buyers test for cloth of indeterminate fibre content. Always ask for a sample before setting it alight.

## Upcoming Events

Golden Flight 2020. "Four days of camping and festivities in Southron Gaard."

Bookings are now open for Golden Flight:

<https://forms.gle/txj93wKhDZ4anCM8A> <<https://forms.gle/txj93wKhDZ4anCM8A>>

Bookings for Canterbury Faire 2021 are now open and can be made at <https://webcentre.co.nz/SGCantFaire>.



Sir Ratbot tests out his new fancy wappenrock -- will the cloth of silver stand up to a squire's attack? So far, so good.

# September Calendar

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2 Council	3	4	5	6 Heavy Combat A&S hall Rapier Archery
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Heavy Combat A&S hall Rapier Archery
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Heavy Combat A&S hall <b>Fibre Guild</b> Rapier Archery
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Heavy Combat A&S hall Rapier Archery
28	29	30				

### Armoured Combat

**Sundays** 10am–noon at Redwood Scout Hall.

### Rapier

**Sundays** from 2pm at Redwood Scout Hall.

### Archery

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

[archers@sg.lochac.sca.org](mailto:archers@sg.lochac.sca.org)

### Tourney days

**First Sunday** of the month as announced

### Arts & Sciences

**Sundays** from 11:00am at Redwood Scout Hall.

**Fibre Guild:** every third Sunday of the month, 11am at Redwood Scout Hall or as announced.

### Council Meetings

**First Wednesday** of the month, from 7:30pm – details, agenda etc. are posted to the SG list.

*All welcome*



## October Calendar

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4 Heavy Combat A&S hall Rapier Archery
5	6	7 Council	8	9	10	11 Heavy Combat A&S hall Rapier Archery
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Heavy Combat A&S hall Fibre Guild Rapier Archery
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Heavy Combat A&S hall Rapier Archery
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## Southron Gaard Regnum

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

\* **Seeking replacement:** see vacancies page or contact the seneschal for details.

Baron & Baroness:	Grim of Thornby and Alexandra de Santiago	<a href="mailto:BandB@sg.lochac.sca.org">BandB@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Seneschal	Elena Sophia di Luciano dei Medici	<a href="mailto:seneschal@sg.lochac.sca.org">seneschal@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Reeve	Lowrens Williamson	<a href="mailto:reeve@sg.lochac.sca.org">reeve@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Tour d'Or Herald*	TBA	<a href="mailto:herald@sg.lochac.sca.org">herald@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Chatelaine*	Lady Ellen of Wyteley	<a href="mailto:chatelaine@sg.lochac.sca.org">chatelaine@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Quartermaster	Currently Vacant	<a href="mailto:quartermaster@sg.lochac.sca.org">quartermaster@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Knight Marshal*	Seeking replacement*	<a href="mailto:marshal@sg.lochac.sca.org">marshal@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Captain of Archers*	Jocelyn Hudson	<a href="mailto:archers@sg.lochac.sca.org">archers@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Captain of Rapier	Lord Yasuda Tatsu'aki	<a href="mailto:rapier@sg.lochac.sca.org">rapier@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Lists Officer	Melisande de Massard	<a href="mailto:lists@sg.lochac.sca.org">lists@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Arts & Sciences	Gisle Akelsdattir	<a href="mailto:arts@sg.lochac.sca.org">arts@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Chronicler*	TBA	<a href="mailto:chronicler@sg.lochac.sca.org">chronicler@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Librarian	Jayne Bolyn	<a href="mailto:library@sg.lochac.sca.org">library@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Web scribe	Seeking replacement*	<a href="mailto:web@sg.lochac.sca.org">web@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Chirurgion (first aid) *	Seeking replacement*	<a href="mailto:chirurgion@sg.lochac.sca.org">chirurgion@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Constable (safety)	Callum MacLeod	<a href="mailto:constable@sg.lochac.sca.org">constable@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Youth	Currently Vacant	<a href="mailto:youth@sg.lochac.sca.org">youth@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Historian	Currently Vacant	

**Hamlet of Wildmoor - Otago**

**Hamlet of Gildentwick - Nelson**

## **SCA (NZ) Inc. Membership**

There are two different types of membership available to event participants in New Zealand.

### **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

An updated SCA (NZ) Inc. membership form will shortly be included in future issues of this newsletter, or can be accessed on the SCA (NZ) website. <https://registry.sca.org.nz/RegistryMenu.php>

### **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

For further information visit the official SCA(NZ) Inc. website at:

[www.sca.org.nz](http://www.sca.org.nz)

### ***Other SCANZ Groups***

Auckland	<b>Barony of Ildhafn</b>	<a href="http://ildhafn.lochac.sca.org">http://ildhafn.lochac.sca.org</a>
Hamilton	<b>Canton of Cluain</b>	<a href="http://cluain.lochac.sca.org">http://cluain.lochac.sca.org</a>
Wellington	<b>Shire of Darton</b>	<a href="http://darton.lochac.sca.org">http://darton.lochac.sca.org</a>

# Southron Gaard Council Provisional Minutes

Council Meeting 5th August 2020

Present: Gisle, Richard, Vigdis, Lowrens, Elena, Jayne, Kotek, Thorald, Aveline, Elisabetta, Ginevra.

Apologies: Adrienne, Grim, Alexandra, Agnes

Meeting opens 7:30pm

1. Last month's minutes. Kotek moves to accept, Lowrens seconds the motion.  
4 abstentions, 0 nays, motion passes.
2. Business Arising: FAT Policy: more people needed to read it before it can be decided.  
Will also pass it along to SCANZ. Will discuss further next meeting.
3. Funding Requests: None received
4. Event Proposal: Golden Flight in November  
Site costs have gone up which is the main reason for the amount per person.  
Discussion around food costs  
Discussion around whether the estimate of 40 people was too optimistic.  
Budget can change once bookings start coming in.  
Richard moves to accept the bid,  
Aveline seconds the motion  
0 objections, 0 abstentions. Motion passes unanimously
5. Event Reports:  
  
BA Final Report will be carried over to next month's meeting.  
Wildmoor Midwinter Feast had 28 people attend, there was food, dancing.  
Promising numbers for Wildmoor. Elena moves to accept the report, Lowrens seconds.  
0 objections, 0 abstentions, passes motion.  
  
CF update: Booking form is in last changes and will open up soon.  
Spring Feast update: 26 bookings so far, site for tournaments sorted at Marsden Grounds,  
Stoke, so will be visible to the public.
6. Officer Reports:  
  
B and B: Attended:  
Feast at Wildmoor (18.07.20)  
YAC demo for the Pleasant Point Scout troupe (24.07. 20). 12 x children given a 2.5hr  
introduction to Youth Armoured Combat.  
Monthly Tournament - YAC Tournament won by Thorin (4 participants, 2 x Gildenwick and 2 x  
Pleasant Point), Heavy Tournament won by Thorald, and Archery Tournament won by  
Thomas.  
  
Key for the scout hall was handed to us from Richard, and passed into Gisle's care. (Thanks  
Richard and Gisle!)  
  
Our Condolences for all those close to Lady Matilde.  
The Barony's Cloth of Estate that was made by her hand, was on display at her memorial.  
  
Seneschal's report: Communication with B&B
  - Communication with Kingdom Seneschal

- Communication with Seneschal's council
- Communication with populace re: Officer applications

Reeve's Report: \* Main Account: **\$22,539** at 1 July, and up \$346 to **\$22,885** at 31 July.

Incomings: \$882 for BA and Wildmoor and Gildenwick events. Outgoings: \$536 for Wildmoor event and new serving bowls.

\* FAT Account: \$2920 in account, with no movements this month. FAT information is now published on the baronial website.

No new applications for FAT funds received. The how-to for this is part of the new FAT page on the website.

Quarterly report delivered to Exchequer on time. Event reports for BA and Wildmoor being checked.

Herald's Report: Nothing to report. An application has been received and is being processed for position.

Chronicler: Application has been received for officer role, and is being processed. Made FTT and will make another.

A and S officer report: Dance and fibre guild meetings continue as scheduled. Craft evenings ongoing though fortnightly, more details to follow.

Webscribe's report: started updates to CF pages and email addresses in preparation for CF 2021  
- set up CF 2021 subsidy survey and sent out - there are currently 23 responses to the survey  
- minor web & email maintenance

7. Hamlet Reports: Gildenwick: event in a month's time, training a new fighter  
Wildmoor: Thinking of creating a craft/stuff evening.

8. General Business: Library has contacted us about using their rooms again. They've added a charge of \$12.60 per hour.  
Decided that we'd keep the meetings online.

