



Stormscroll

Monthly Newsletter of the Barony of Stormhold

November AS LIX (CE 2024)



Lord Hamish attempts to hammer Orlok Hanbal through to the centre of the Earth...

Lady Sorcha wields a mighty sewing machine



Dame Miriam demonstrates Extreme Tentage



Another triumphant banner from THL Elisabet Hunter's October workshop

Calendar

November

- 2-3rd Dirty A&S Weekend, Kingdom A&S Competition entries early judging
- 4th Potluck Picnic (day before Melbourne Cup) Crafhall & Monthly Bash 6.30pm
- 10th MOD Visit for Rapier workshop. Their Excellencies Juliana and Ibn Jelal are coming to support our Rapier development. Coulson Reserve, Clifton Hill, 10am – 4pm
- 11th Crafhall & fighter practice. Music with Daffyd
- 16-17th Coronation in Burnfield (Central QLD)
- 18th Crafhall & fighter practice. Pouch making and design
- 25th Crafhall & fighter practice.

December

- 2nd Monthly Bash and Yule
- 3rd Crafhall & fighter practice.
- 7th All Vic Fighters and Marshals meeting and bbq dinner. Review the year and plan stuff for 2025. 6pm (TBC)
- 9th Crafhall & fighter practice. Yuletide Carols with Daffyd Last for 2024

Stormhold Archery Championship



(photo courtesy of Julia Jamieson)

Our annual archery tourney was held on Sunday October 27. It was a garbed potluck picnic with many attendees and thirteen participants including honoured guests from our neighbour barony Krae Glas.

The victor (not for the first time) was the **Honourable Gillucan ua Tomeltaig**, whose might in archery is surpassed by none hereabouts. Huzzah!

Want Ads

Do you like handling money? Know how to read a balance sheet? Understand the difference between surplus and profit?

Then Stormhold needs you! Our Reeve Dame Miriam is soon to step down and requires a successor to take on the oversight of our group finances.

Key requirements:

- You will need to be a current SCA member, 18 years or older
- Reliable and responsive access to email and internet
- Ability to keep on top of a variety of related administrative tasks
- Some prior relevant experience

Key responsibilities:

- Managing the finances and regular reporting on such
- Managing Stormhold accounts, including being involved in checking event/purchase budgets and approval of expenditure
- Maintaining electronic records; familiarity with Xero and Excel is valuable (support and training are available!)
- Developing and maintaining appropriate financial procedures, and keeping up to date with relevant financial policies
- Assisting event stewards with the event budgeting and post-event reporting process

Please send your application by 12 November 2024 to exchequer@lochac.sca.org, with a courtesy copy to seneschal@stormhold.lochac.sca.org.

‘ello, ‘ello, ‘ello! What’s all this then? You should know that the office of Constable for Stormhold is vacant and a new h’officer is being sought. Could that be you?

Key requirements:

- You will need to be a current SCA member, 18 years or older
- Reliable and responsive access to email and internet connection
- Ability to keep on top of a variety of related administrative tasks

Key elements of the job:

- Responsibility for security at events, site and event safety, and lost property
- Maintaining and updating indemnities/waivers

Please send your applications by 12 November 2024 to constable@lochac.sca.org, with a courtesy copy to seneschal@stormhold.lochac.sca.org.

Are you inspired by the way the SCA supports families and children at our events and activities? Do you want to contribute to that effort, and help Stormhold increase involvement, safety and enjoyment for children and families?

Then consider becoming the group’s next Youth Officer!

Key requirements:

- You will need to be a current SCA member, 18 years or older
- Reliable and responsive access to email and internet
- Ability to keep on top of a variety of related administrative tasks
- Be willing to get to grips with the mundane requirements for working with children in our local jurisdiction

You may not think that you are the right person for this job, but if your friends forward you a copy of this notice, pay attention to them! And if you know someone who you think would be good in the job, do them (and all of us) a favour – ask them to apply. Please send your applications by 12 October 2024 to youth@lochac.sca.org, with a courtesy copy to seneschal@stormhold.lochac.sca.org.

You'll find more detailed information about these roles in the Officer Job Descriptions Document at <https://seneschal.lochac.sca.org/resources#officer>. Tell me about important plans or great ideas you would seek to enact if successful in winning the role. If you would like to know more about the job, or to discuss how you see yourself taking it forward, I would love to hear from you!

Yours in Service

Nicolette de Couleurs
Seneschal Stormhold

Announcements

Don't forget this weekend's craft workshops! (see Baronial FB page and Stormlist for details.) Also the Twilight tourney and Potluck on Monday. We are also planning a team to represent the SCA in the next Pride March. Please contact me if you are interested in joining in. In addition, we are pleased to announce that Stormhold has won the bid for September Crown next year. Huzzah!

Yours in Service

Nicolette de Couleurs
Seneschal Stormhold

Persona Biography

We encourage all of you to think about where your Society persona comes from, and what their interests are. Allow your Chronicler to introduce your Lists Officer:

Medb ingen Magnusa Ruaidh (Maeve daughter of Magnus the Red) is a medieval Irish lawgiver and judge. As a child she learned to read and write very early, and began making lists of everything she saw, and learned: spinning wheels, balls of thread, sheets in the cupboard, utensils in the kitchen, sheep and ducks on the green, children in the neighbourhood, and ladies on her father's visiting list. The lattermost consideration caused her father Magnus to encourage her further studies, and she spent many years absorbing all the intricacies of the *Seanchas Mór* (Brehon Law). She continued to make lists thereafter; but only for the tourney field, on which she kept close watch on the local Fianna and ensured that their practice bouts were properly supervised.

Her most celebrated case thus far involved the plaintiff (Liam Óg Ó Cathain), who charged the defendant (Michéal Ó Raghallaigh) with theft of his wedding speech. Her judgment was acclaimed, following the famous precedent of St Calum and the Psalter he had copied from St Finian, who claimed Calum's work on the basis that the owner of a cow also owns whatever calves she may bring forth. Since the borrowed speech had already been uttered, she ordered that Michéal go in search of Liam's words and bring them back to him. Michéal returned a week later with his hands cupped, and in a simple yet moving ceremony bowed low before Liam's front door, and opened his hands. Honour thus satisfied, they resumed their former friendship.

Medb is a quick study, and will learn anything you teach her with startling rapidity.

Anachronism Corner

Yes, we are the Society for Creative Anachronisms. Occasionally your Chronicler likes to set the record wrong about a few historical matters. This month's Anachronism is brought to you by:

Hugh Morton

Hugh Morton is thought to be the father of the Burgundian composer Robert Morton. The latter worked for the Dukes of Burgundy, was a colleague of Hayne van Ghizeghem, composed a great many pieces of which only eight rondeaux survive, and produced the earliest setting we have of the piece *L'Homme Armée*, later used as a *cantus firmus* for masses written by everyone who was anyone at the time. Robert is reputed to have had no sense of humour at all, and it is conjectured that he spent his life attempting to live down his disreputable father.

Hugh was trained for the Church, and soon found himself booted out of the seminary owing to an indiscretion involving a small trebuchet, bread rolls, a tub of stewed beetroot and a visiting Bishop, who was unamused. He joined a travelling band of goliards (priestly songwriter-poets) and translated *Carmina Burana* into English. (The work was later burned by the public hangman.)

Hugh was a gifted musician who specialised in the harp, and claimed to have invented reggae (which he called **rigge**: a Middle English word meaning 'back'). His innovative backbeat caught the ear of many at the time. Only the first verse of one of these songs now survives:

*I was walking down the lane a long way from Suffolk
I heard a deep voice beside of me, look'd round with fear in my stomach.
I saw four faces: one mad, a brother from the hedgerow:
They looked me in the eye And offer'd me a vegetable.
I say: I don't like turnips, oh no: I love them, (x2)
Don't you walk through my fields, ye've got to show some respect:
Don't you walk through my barn and don't change the subject.*

Later scholars have found fragments of the later verses which deal with Wat Tyler's rebellion, and adequately explain why the song was suppressed. Ordered to explain himself by an unimpressed Henry V, he confessed that reggae was actually the work of bored cricketers in Hampshire who were waiting for the rain to stop. Hugh was supposed present at the Battle of Agincourt, and redeemed himself in the eyes of the Crown by composing the *Agincourt Carol*, commemorating Henry's startling victory over the French.

Hugh eventually settled in Burgundy, whose Dukes had traditionally been indulgent of his extravagances, and supposedly advised his son Robert: 'Steer clear of satire, son. It only gets you into trouble.'

©Dafydd of the Glens



Hugh Morton and Willem van Ghizeghem in their unforgettable musical *The Assumption of the Virgin*. They were excommunicated as a result, but later pardoned after some formation grovelling to the Church, (qv) and by Duke Phillip's memorable quip: 'Oh, I don't know. That seems like a reasonable Assumption.'



(The Battle of Agincourt – Wikipedia)

Disclaimer

This is the monthly magazine of the Barony of Stormhold, in the Kingdom of Lochac, within the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA). This publication is not a corporate publication of the SCA in whatever jurisdiction the latter operates as an incorporated body. It does not delineate official SCA policies, and any opinions expressed in this publication, unless otherwise indicated, are solely those of the individuals concerned.

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters, and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present, and emerging.

Equity and Diversity

The SCA is an international organisation devoted to the research and re-creation of pre-seventeenth century life, encouraging its participants to employ a knowledge of history to enrich their lives and the lives of others through events, demonstrations, workshops and other educational activities. The SCA in Australia remains committed to ensuring that we reflect the best and most welcoming aspects of the modern world, committing to celebrating equity, diversity, and inclusiveness in the game we play. Researching and re-creating cultures of bygone eras does not require abandoning the values of the present. We welcome people of all ages, sexes, ethnicities, religions, sexual orientations, gender identities, and ableness, and reject anyone who will discriminate on any of these bases. The promotion of social equity and diversity in our activities remains fundamental to our game as a requirement for participation.

Contribute

To submit event notices, articles, or artwork for *Stormscroll*, please contact the Chronicler at chronicler@stormhold.lochac.sca.org. To assist the Chronicler, please include a written statement of permission to publish, dated and signed for all original work.

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