



STORMSCROLL

Monthly Newsletter of the Barony of Stormhold

May AS LX (CE 2025)



¹ Four Seasons: Autumn, or al-Harīf [detail](#) from *Kitāb al-Bulhān* ('Book of Wonders') 1330–1450 Bodl. Or. 133



ALNDAR

MAY

1st ★ Society New Year

4th ★ Birthday Bash

24th-25th ★ Autumn Coronation (Innilgard)

25th ★ Calligraphy and Illumination Day

JUNE

1st ★ Monthly Bash

MONDAY NIGHTS

We have a packed schedule for Arts and Sciences at Monday Night trainings over the course of the month.

May 12th ★ music with Dafydd

May 19th ★ headwear

May 26th ★ pouches

June 2nd ★ Mamluk embroidery

Please note also that there is now a fee to attend activities at Clifton Hill on Monday nights. This is separate to your membership cost, or non-member

insurance fee. You still need to sign in on Monday nights as well as having your card punched.

You can now purchase this as a physical card.

Cost is \$50 for 11 visits; or for those with a valid concession / student card \$20 for 11 visits; free for under 5 year olds.

If you have to pay on the night for a single visit, it will be \$5 per visit or \$2 per concession/student.

There are three ways to pay for these cards. Please talk to the Seneschal for more information!

EVENTS WANTED

Have you got a grand idea for an event to add to our calendar? Please speak with your Seneschal TH Lady Nicolette today! Nicolette is also event Steward for September Crown, so if you would like to assist with preparations for the event please reach out.

Contact her on seneschal@stormhold.lochac.sca.org



ANNOUNCEMENTS

BARONIAL REPORT

Greetings, good gentles!

With April mostly filled with Rowany Festival prep and then Festival itself, not much was happening in Stormhold last month!

At Festival, Stormhold and Krae Glas once again formed the Stormy Glas encampment and shared many moments together at Festival. Tho included a joint team in the Heraldic Melee, with our Cousins Ynys Fawr from the south also joining us.

The Fire Tourney saw Stormhold represented by Lord Hamish. While he fought extremely well, a field of dukes from across the Known World was a bit more than he could handle.

At Festival, Hamish was awarded a Baronial Commendation and a Baronial Cypher, and Rachel was awarded a Hood of Warmth.

The start of May saw us celebrating a Birthday Bash, with us welcoming in the 60th year of the Society for Creative Anachronism. For her efforts in helping to keep the Barony running, and especially in keeping fighters hydrated, Louise was awarded a Baronial Commendation.

YiS

Eleanora, Baroness

Leif, Baron

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Feel like Stormscroll is too short this month? Want to share your cool new project with a wider audience? If you have ideas rolling around that need a new home, Stormscroll is seeking submissions! Please reach out to me (Bastian Dandelyon) via [email](#) to talk about how you would like your submission presented!



INTERVIEW CORNER



This month I met with Orlok Hanbal al-Barbari for a discussion of his experience in Crown tournaments, and his intentions for when he wins. Always witty, Hanbal provided insight into training, the emotional side of tournaments and highlights from Autumn Crown in Ildhafn. Read on for more!

[image taken by Nathan Blacktower]

What inspired you to participate in the Crown Tournament?

Many years ago I promised Ute I would try to make her queen because she'd be awesome in the job, that's one of the

main reasons - to make her queen. Also to have fun, there is a lot of work but a great deal of fun to be had. One of the most rewarding things as Crown is to give out awards, being the person who gets to tell people "you're awesome" is a pretty cool way to play.

Do you have a favourite out of the six you've entered recently? What made it special?

Most recent crown in March was the 6th crown in a row, and all of those six were in different places. Of all those tournaments, the best one was Ildhafn. They had a new guy who was doing the heralding, and he was an absolutely lovely person. He was doing heraldic intros for all the people. A lot of the time you do your own intro, for this one they had coordinated and he did an awards introduction for each person. It was a nice standardisation, and you got a feel for each fighter and their experience. The layout of the venue was done in such

a way that you actively knew it was being videoed and it was clear what was in the video.

Can you describe your training and preparation leading up to Crown in September?

I've been doing this for years, I'm not a spring chicken so i have sort of processes where I amp up for a tournament. From about 6/8 weeks out I train twice a week, trying to ensure that I'm there and straight into armour. I focus more and am a bit driven to get fighting because that's what I need.

Historically I fight for the fun, I enjoy the camaraderie and the fun and have not really cared who won because that's not very important. The problem with that attitude is that if you face someone you're friends with in a tournament you can lose focus. In the lead up to crown every fight is a serious fight. I've had conversations with people I'll be fighting regularly, especially newer or less experienced fighters, that I'm not playing when I'm training and I'm not in a position to do the training things they might need.

Do you find the adjustment hard to make?

Not hard but frustrating. My long term goal is that I want to win Crown once and I look forward to the day where I have won because then I can move back to the fun of the fight rather than winning. The fun of the fight is what has guided me for so many years.

If it becomes regularly unfun then I probably would stop doing the Crowns, but I've done fairly well in these six crown tournaments, come second twice, so I'm close. There's also been a change in my thinking, for a longtime it's been if i win here's a couple of ideas. When I came second in Ildhafn, with that final being so very close I walked away from that being like "I can win" and I changed my language from "if" to "when". Some people have misunderstood it, and taken it as being bragging and a lack of civility. It's coming from a perspective of positive mindset and framing, to help encourage me towards it.

If you are successful, what are your aspirations for your reign?

A lot of the time when people do a reign, they have a particular culture and time period that they run with, and they will have things specific to that time period and culture and try to encourage that in others. Ute and I have a bit of a fun plan to do a clash of cultures, think East meets West, with obviously my mongolian persona and Ute's german persona. Unlike some households with a generic uniform, what I want to do is encourage people to dive strongly into their persona, if they've been part of our household they should make a new outfit if they want one and they can wear it forever. It'll be a bit more of a

whole bunch of cool looking people from similar but different cultures all hanging out together. It could be interesting to look at, and hopefully inspire people to go deeper into their persona's culture. As far as time frame, neither of us is locked into a particular time frame, we tend to wander through time.

Can you share a memorable experience?

At the NZ crown tournament, we had that wonderful guy doing all the heradling and he was being really conscientious. He was not only heralding the fights, he was also trying to MC for the video watching audience to make sure people at home had a clear understanding of what was happening.

So the finals for the tournament was best of five, with each of the first four rounds being matched weapons. First was two handed swords, which Bain won. Second was glaive, which we both prefer, and Bain won. Third I start to go, "I can't lose this in three". Sword and shield, I borrowed a strapped shield from a local knight. I walk out and Bain is like "that's not your shield, are you sure?". I'm like "yes". Seeing me with a completely different shield, he's like "are you bringing your best game?", and I won. I stabbed him in the face. Fourth, a single sword, I stab him in the face. We're two and two.

We got to the fifth round, we both knew it was our choice of weapon, so we both went to get our glaives. However, this is where it was really highlighted that the herald was new to the SCA, and that he didn't know either of us. He was caught off guard when we both walked off the field, the King who was marshalling asked him if everything was okay, he said "I thought they were going to have a conversation about their weapons?", so the King was like "they're both choosing glaives, they're both glaive fighters". He's like "okay can I announce that? He was a charming gentleman.

We go out and double kill three times, this was getting stupid. The sentiment people have told me from across the kingdom was "seriously?" Many people cried out when I didn't win but at the same time, neither of us had won Crown before and there was a general feeling that people had a preference but that it was going to be cool either way and hearing that is really nice.

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

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