

THE SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM AUSTRALIA

The Shire of Bordescros

Miles gratulatus, omni anno hoc tuum!

GRAPEVINE JUNE



CHRONICLER'S WELCOME



Unto the worthy populace of Bordescros and to all of the friends of the Shire, Greetings.

I would like to welcome Thomasina who will be taking over and doing the recipes in the grapevine, if you have any recipes you would like included please forward them onto Thomasina ... drumheller@iprimus.com.au.

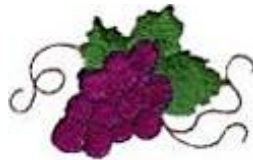
As most of you know Einarr and I are travelling north to conquer new land, we are going to Darwin for the birth of our grand child and we will be gone for 2 months. I will still be doing the Grapevine while I am away and I will email it from an internet café or something but I will need some one to volunteer to take the minutes of the meeting. So while I am away you can either use the normal email address rfr09803@bigpond.net.au or send it to Einarr's email address vigsentertainment@hotmail.com.

Yours in service,
Arnora BloodAxe

<u>CALENDAR</u>		
<i>4TH JUNE</i>		<i>LOCH ALBA TOURNEY & FEAST</i>
<i>11TH JUNE</i>		<i>EXPEDITION TO CHECK OUT BORDER WAR SITES</i>
<i>12TH JUNE</i>		<i>BORDESCROS FIGHTER TRAINING AND A&S</i>
<i>18TH JUNE</i>		<i>TOURNEY AND FEAST AT THE FISHING CLUB ON BORELLA RD</i>

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AT THE MARSHALL'S COMMAND

Fighter practice

The Albury and Loch Alba Practice will be for heavy combat training and rapier training if sufficient authorised marshals are available for each discipline

ALBA LOCH	The last Sunday of each month between 2pm and 5pm. Glenfield Community Centre. Confirm with James Douglas
ALBURY	The 2nd Sunday of each month from 2pm until 6pm (i.e. sunset if that keen!) at The Albury Wodonga Sport fishing Club Riverina Hwy.
ARCHERY	Archery Training is at this present time at Thors Hof (Will's home) on the 3 rd Sunday of the month, until such time as we can set up the new location and then it will be held at the same time as Heavy fighter Practice. Please confirm with Lord William if you wish to train.

Remember there is always the opportunity to train at Bordescros monthly bash if time permits.

*Don't forget to send in any articles
from Loch Alba for your page in the
Grapevine.*

-- Editor

Important Group News

Expedition to check out

Border War XII Sites

We will meet at the fishing club at 9am on Saturday 11th July 2009 to venture north to check out a couple of sites for Border War XII, we would like to be on the road by 9:30am.

If you would like to come with us please let me know and we can arrange a ride for you if needed, also please remember that you will need to contribute to fuel cost.

The 2 sites we will be checking out will be Culcairn sports ground and Kurrajong scout camp in Wagga Wagga. I would appreciate everyone's input as I would like to have our site booked by the time we leave for Darwin.

I am going to organise with the Scout group to view the site at approximately lunch time 12ish. This will give us plenty of time to check out Culcairn and grab a coffee if needed.

Border War

We have a few things to get done for Border War and I would appreciate it if everyone could help me out and work on things for me while we are away.

The first thing to tackle is our cardboard cut outs of our fighters, these will be our archery targets. I saw this idea on the Pennisc site photos and thought this would be a fun thing for us to do. We have the card board and next time you are in armour get some one to trace around you.

The second thing is to start rehearsals of our play, could anyone who is interested in being part of this please let me know on rfr09803@bigpond.net.au. Beoan has been kind enough to let us do one of his plays and Skadi is also interested in being involved.

Torlyon King Salamander event

Friday 29th May 09

Russel, Emma and Hallet travelled up to the north ward of Loch Alba to rendezvous with Crimthann and Myself (Septimus). We were to travel to the great shire of Politacoplus for the King Salamander Torlyon event held at the crossroads, saying goodbye to autumn and welcoming winter.

Our first challenge lay literally in front of us, looking at the amount of gear that came out of Ems car, I think it expanded to actually be bigger than her car itself so the game of Tetris began, the Keg taking main priority in the wagon of course, thinking if that made it safe we probably would be ok. So rope and tarps came out, the pack horse was loaded up, strapped down and so was the wagon and we were on our way to Torlyon.

We eventually found the sight in the dark and were kindly greeted. Once set up we were invited down to the fires for some good food, warmth and a chat. It was cold. Camp was set up quickly and orderly as much as that is possible in the dark and we made our way down to be met by pea and ham soup and plus some vegetable mix which was nice individually but when mixed together great.

The fires were warm and they had a great outdoor kitchen set up, from iron cook tops to brick ovens, and we learned we would be feasting on 11 different types of meat the next day, all killed fresh including Locha-hopping deer shot on their property.

Saturday 30th

Awoke to a fresh morning which was expected as it was cold last night, breakfast first then the tourney, people started rolling into the sight from 9am onwards one of which was our Lord Sperling who thought it would be nice to way fare for the day.

Nine fighters entered the tourney including I, and there were a number of squires in the tourney, identified by the red belt of course. It was a Valhalla style tourney which was different as I had never participated in this format before, meaning all fighters enter the Eric, face off with one, if he kills you, you must leave the Eric, place a token on his tourney shield recognising that he killed you and you cannot enter the field again until the person who has killed you has been killed.

Adam the Renegade won the tourney by far killing everyone. Pickups were next off which were some what enjoyable.

Lunch next then rapier tourney. As there were only 3 people in the rapier they decided to have a display rather than a tourney after which the baron of politicoplus held a rapier master class which had a lot of participation from the gentles.

The sight which I was told was the old festival sight and I found it quite an interesting sight in between hills in a valley, they still had the old fort set up which was a bit worse for wear but still looked good in the middle of the field.

The feast was attended by about 50 people and the Baron and Baroness of Politicoulous were the royalty attending the feast.

The feast was exquisite with 11 different types of meat all served in delicious well cooked dishes; Turkey, Goose, Goat, Duck, Rooster, Pigeon, Pork, Kangaroo, Quail, Beef and one other which has since slipped my mind (but I'm sure was rather tasty).

We all had our fill, which was more than enough, then it was back to the fires for more singing, drinking, story telling and merrymaking.

Sunday 31/5/09

Archery-we were lucky enough to have the Baroness of Politicoplous grace us with her presence once more and took those who were willing on an archery class with one other well accomplished archer. We learnt about the different types of bows and arrows of the period-from long to shorter bows, hunting to whistling arrows, the way arrows fly to arrow construction. It all was very interesting and a learning experience for an inexperienced would-be archer like myself. After we learned the points of the bows and arrows, we got to use them hunting koala- the stuffed variety of course which was a great deal of fun, and some of us even killed the koala!

Alas it was mid afternoon, still cold. Archery was over and it was time to pack up and head back into mundanity.

In conclusion the King Salamander Torlyon event is a wonderful camping event set on a nice, interesting period-friendly sight with wonderful and friendly people organising it, and willing to have a chat and share ideas. I think a great time was had by all (I know I had a good time). The weather was good. Cold, but that is to be expected in the Yass Valley during the winter.

A lot was learned. Questions were asked of the more experienced members of the society such as knights, cooks and heralds. I took away a number of recipes, cooking tips, fighting knowledge and knowledge on how to shoot a bow and kill a stuffed Koala.

I will definitely be attending the Torlyon King Salamander event again and would recommend it to anybody thinking of attending another event during the year.

Septimus



Photos of our first Tourney and Feast at our new home. Go to our Picasa web page and check out more photos <http://picasaweb.google.com/bordescros09/> or if you would like to post photos to this page the details have been in previous Grapevines otherwise contact me at rfr09803@bigpond.net.au there are also many photos from other events including Border Was XI.

Introduction to S.C.A. Heraldry**By Lord Beoan Freborn.**

Heraldry, in period, was a method of identification that allowed the illiterate peasants that made up a large proportion of medieval armies to identify who they were fighting for. In the middle ages it developed into a structured art form with a series of rules or criteria that had to be adhered to.

To create an S.C.A. device is relatively easy once you understand the basic rules of period heraldry. The **device** (often mistakenly called a ‘coat of arms’) once submitted to Crux (a heraldic registry); can be placed on anything you own including feasting equipment, armour, heraldic garb as well as banners. This can add to the general “medievalness” of a feast or gathering. Each device is registered to one individual, group or household so no two are alike.

Consulting a herald is often the best (and quickest) way to find you a device as they have the resources to help. Also it is their job.

The descriptive language of heraldry is basically old French. In the S.C.A. it is referred to as **blazon**. Given a blazon, a herald should be able to recreate what a device looks like.

The rule of **top to bottom, left to right** applies to blazoning a device. The shield is broken up into 13 pieces. The main pieces are

- Chief (top)
- Base (bottom)
- #Dexter side (left)
- #Sinister side (right)
- Honour point (upper centre)

The rules

There are five **colours**

- Red (Gules)
- Green (Vert)
- Blue (Azure)
- Purple (Purpure)
- Black (Sable)

There are also two **metals**

- Gold /yellow (Or)
- Silver/white (Argent)

There are also several patterns of colours and metals called **furs**, and **treatments** but to keep it simple we won't be dealing with them today (unless you *really* want to know)

The most basic of heraldry rules, (called the **rule of tincture**) states that you may not place a colour on a colour or a metal on a metal. E.g. red (a colour) may be placed on white or yellow (both metals), but not on blue, green, purple, or black and vice versa. This was done to help devices to be identified over a long distance. Once this is understood, it makes designing a device much easier.

The background colour of your shield is called **the field** and that is a good place to start. It may be either a metal or a colour or fur.

The field can be broken up in several ways

- Per fess- horizontally across the middle
- Per pale- vertically down the centre
- Per bend- diagonally from left to right
- Per bend sinister- diagonally from right to left

- Per chevron- an inverted “V” coming from the base
- Per cross* or quarterly*- divided horizontally and vertically
- Per saltire- divided diagonally left and right And
- Gyronny- divided horizontally, vertically and diagonally left and right.

The lines used to make these shapes or **field divisions** may be straight or one of several types. These include

- Indented
- Embattled
- Dovetailed or
- Nebuly

There are also many others to choose from.

If you do not want a field division, you may choose to use one of the **honourable ordinaries or sub ordinaries**. These include

- Chief- a band across the top
- Fess- a band horizontally across the middle
- Pale – a band vertically from top to bottom
- Bend- a band diagonally left to right
- Chevron- an inverted “V” shaped band from the base.
- Saltire- a diagonal cross

There are more, but again I will keep it simple. The lines used to make these shapes may be straight or of one of the aforementioned types.

All that is left is to select a **charge** to place on your shield. A charge, quite simply is an object, animal or shape. Orientation of charges must also be taken into account. (Three swords in fess, palewise V’s three swords palewise in fess)

The uses of certain charges are restricted in the S.C.A. this may be because they are reserved for a particular rank, job or award or because they are deemed offensive. Other charges are so frequently used that there are just too many shields that look the same. These include

- Lions
- Roses
- Unicorns
- Swords and
- Dragons.

Please check with a herald before displaying any unregistered device.

Charges may be placed on a field, field division or ordinary. There may be one or multiples of any one charge. So as you can see, the variations are almost limitless but with a little practice, designing a device that is both pleasing to the eye and clearly identifiable will be a walk in the park.

Happy heralding.

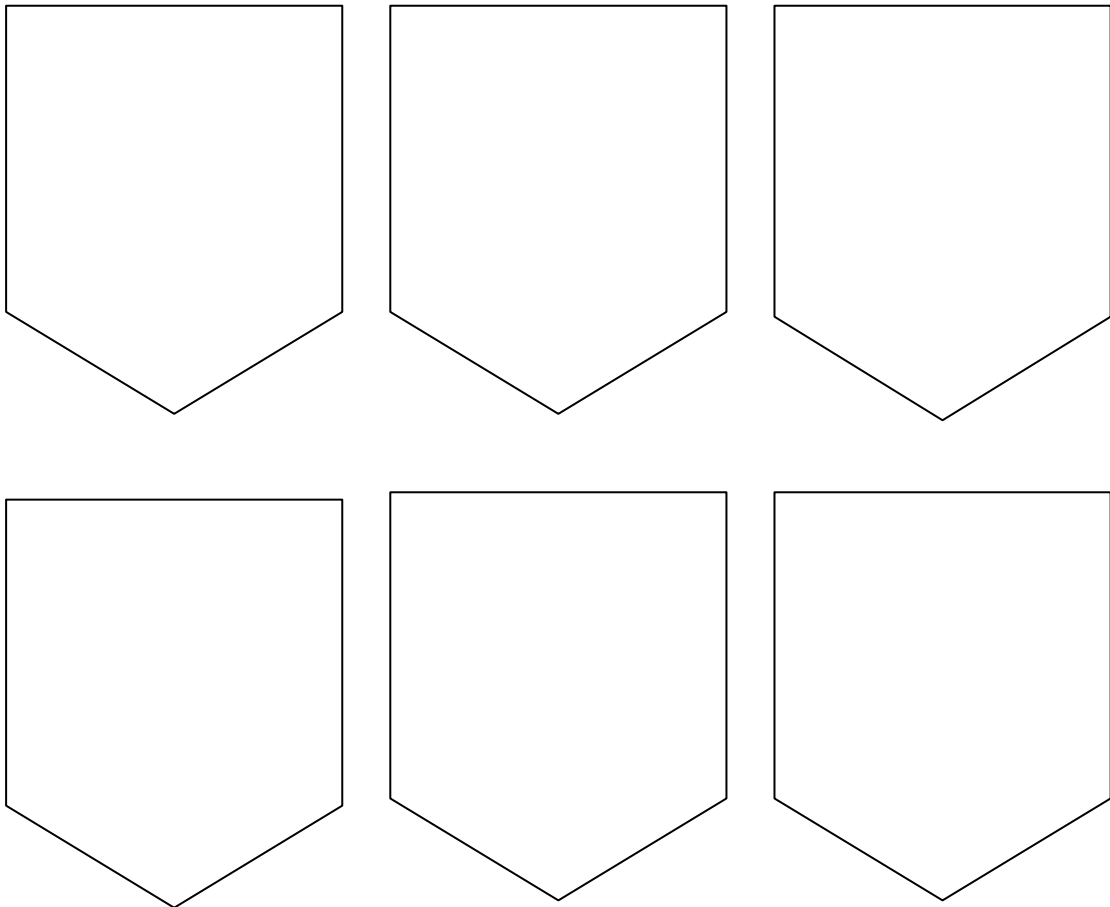
as seen from the shield *wearers* side

* may be restricted.

Tips for designing an S.C.A. device.

- Consult a herald (this is not a maybe!).
- Crayola “classic” textas are pretty close to heraldic colours.
- Select some colours you like (metals too).
- Think about- what charge(s) you might like
- Avoid ‘common’ charges
- Think about- how hard will it be to sew?
- Be flexible with your ideas
- Keep it simple.

Drawing space



* The following article was sent to us from Lady Rosamunda and due to its size I have decided to split it up into its months and from my first impression it is very informative and those Vikings had more celebrations than we do now, but then again, any excuse to drink and be merry is the Viking Way.



Odin Rune



Freya Rune



Thor Rune

ASATRU CALENDAR

MONTHS

Religiously, Ásatrú Folk use the old, non-Roman names for the months, usually based on either the original names (usually Icelandic or Anglo-Saxon, depending on the tradition), or on the old folk names for the full moon.

Modern/Roman Folk Names		Anglo-Saxon	Icelandic
<u>July</u>	Snowmoon	Æfter-Giuli	Thorri
<u>August</u>	Horning	Solmonath	Gói
<u>September</u>	Lenting	Hredhmonath	Einmanudhr
<u>October</u>	Seedmoon	Eostre	Gaukmanudhr/Saidtidh
<u>November</u>	Merry moon	Thrimilemonath	Eggtidh
<u>December</u>	Meadmoon	Ærre-Lithe	Solmanudhr
<u>January</u>	Haymoon	Æfter-Lithe	Heyannir
<u>February</u>	Harvest	Weodmonath	Tvimanudhr
<u>March</u>	Shedding	Haligmonath	Hanstmanudhr
<u>April</u>	Hunting	Winterfyllith	Gormanudhr
<u>May</u>	Fogmoon	Blotmonath	Frermanudhr
<u>June</u>	Yule	Ærre-Giuli	Hrutmanudhr

Ásatrú Folk use the date "R.E."--"runic era"--as opposed to the Western "[AD](#)" or "[CE](#)". Instead, they begin their era in what the West dates 250 [BC/BCE](#)--so that for the year 2008 it is 2258 RE. This date is chosen, as it is thought to be the age of the earliest artefacts with runes carved on them.

SNOWMOON

July 3 – CHARMING OF THE PLOUGH – Possibly beginning of August

This is the date of an agricultural ritual performed in northern Europe, when grain and cakes were offered for the soil's fertility and Father Sky and Mother Earth were invoked to that end. Meditate upon your dependence on the soil, and crumble upon the soil a piece of bread as you call upon Odin, Frigga and the Land Spirits to heal the Earth and keep it from harm.

July 9 - DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR UNN THE DEEP MINDED.

Unn was a strong-willed matriarch who established dynasties in the Orkneys, Faroes, and Iceland. Do something to make your family line stronger and more permanent. Recall the deep-minded women of your clan today.

July 22 -- THORRABLOT.

Coming in the depths of winter, when we all need our spirits lifted, Thorrablot is our obvious antidote to the blues. Thor is its cheery, gregarious patron. Go winter camping, or have a party. Take a walk without your coat, mentally accept winter, and go back to your house for a shot of brandy.

July 29 - death-date of Olaf the Fat.

Olaf the lawbreaker (St. Olaf) was killed at the battle of Sticklestad on this date in the year 1280RE. Olaf acquired a reputation for killing, maiming and exiling his fellow Norwegians who would not convert to christianity and from carrying an army with him in violation of the law to help him accomplish this repression. Today honour the Asatru martyrs who died rather than to submit to the slavery of the Christ. Also honour the warriors that brought justice to the Lawbreaker.

DISTING / CHARMING of the PLOW

First New Moon in August/July

Also called 'Charming of the Plough' after the Anglo-Saxon spell and ceremony. Recorded as a regular feast only in Sweden, this blessing takes place in early or mid-February. The name means 'Thing (assembly) of the Goddesses'. In Sweden, it was the first public moot/fair of the year; in Denmark, this is the time when the first furrows were ploughed in the field (an activity much hedged about with folk custom). This is a feast of new beginnings, at which the work of the year to come is blessed.

Eclectica



Coke's Guilde & Receipts

By Lady Thomasina Freborn

How to make Payn Ragoun (candy loaves)**By Lady Thomasina Freborn****Made at the Denilquin Medieval demonstration, number 2, 13th June 2009.**

This recipe makes a fudge type candy. This is a sweet that can be set in a loaf and sliced like bread but I prefer is set it in little moulds, i.e. mini muffins tins lined with mini patty pan liners. This recipe can be played with to make different flavours; some of my favourites are rose, citrus. I also suggest using a proper candy making copper pot to make this in as your product will turn out better in the long run (although these are quite pricey). If this is not available then I suggest either stainless steel or enamel but never cast iron as it will destroy the candy.

Take hony and sugur cipre and clarifie it togydre, and boile it with esy fyre, and kepe it wel fro brennyng. And whan it hath yboiled a while, take up a drope [th]erof wi[th] [th]y fyngur and do itin a litel water, and like if it hong togydre; and take it fro the gyre and do [th]erto pynes the thriddendele & powdour gyngever, and stere it togyder til it bygynne to thik, and cast it on a wete table; lesh it and serve it forth with fryed mete, on flessh dayes or on fysshe dayes.

Candy loaves***Ingredients***

2 cups sugar
 3 tablespoons of honey
 2/3 cup water
 1/3 cup pine nuts
 1 teaspoon ground ginger

Equipment

A small to medium sized copper candy pot
 A candy thermometer
 A metal mixing spoon
 Measuring cups and spoons.
 A trivet
 A wooden pastry brush
 A handheld mixer with beater attachments.
 A mould of your choice.
 Waxed or baking paper.
 Pot holders

Heat the sugar, honey and water together, stirring frequently, over a medium to low heat. Brush down any sugar granules into the syrup with a wetted pastry brush til the sugar dissolves. Heat the syrup to 120 degrees (this is just over soft ball stage). Cool it a little by standing the pot in some cold water in a sink. Add the ginger and then beat with the hand held mixer til the mixture stiffens. This can then be warmed up again without affecting the structure of the candy (trust me I've done it heaps of times) and poured into moulds and sprinkled with the pine nuts. Push them in a little to ensure they don't fall off. Let cool and enjoy!

An easy way to clean your cooking pot is to fill with water and boil on the stove til the sugar dissolves. Never wash a candy pot with detergent as will taint your candy.

Notes: I've modified the recipe a bit by doubling the quantity of ground ginger and also the method that Hieatt, Hosington & Butler suggest. All other directions and quantities are theirs.

Source: *Forme of Cury* from the second edition of *Pleyn Delit: Medieval Cookery for Modern Cooks*, Hieatt, Hosington & Butler 1996

A&S Calendar: Our acting A&S Officer is Banmaighster Cairistiona.inghean Raghnaill

Shire A&S Competitions – June to November AS 44		
June	Banners - still to be Judged - 12 July 2009	Any item with a 'WINTER' theme.
July -	Celtic Knotwork in any form e.g. embroidery, illumination, hangings	
August	Jewellery	
September	Decorated Shields	Any item with a 'SPRING' theme
October	Music performance in SCA Timeline Design an item of Regalia for Bordescros	
November	Monochrome embroidery (including blackwork)	

Bordescros A&S Competition Entry Form

(to be completed by the Entrant and retained by the Bordescros A&S Officer)

Event: _____

Date: _____

Name of Competition: _____

SCA Name: _____

Legal Name: _____

Entry No: _____

Contact Details: _____

(Address or Email) _____

Time Frame / Location in Period: _____

Have you included Documentation with your entry?

Yes No

I agree to have a photo of this entry added to the Bordescros A&S Web Site:

Yes No

I agree to have a photo of this entry and documentation published in Bordescros Grapevine:

Yes No

INFORMATION FOR JUDGES:

Is this your first attempt at this type of item / skill ?

Yes No

I would consider my experience level in this skill to be:

Beginner Intermediate Advanced Professional

(A&S Officer, please check the Entrant's skill level is noted on the A&S Competition Judging Form).

Signed: _____ (date)

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE IS WRITTEN BY JOHN HALSTED AND YOU CAN READ MORE OF THIS IN THE COMING MONTHS OR YOU CAN BUY HIS BOOKS CHECK OUT HIS WEBSITE. JOHN HAS AN AUSSIE LINK IN THAT HIS FATHER WAS FROM SYDNEY AND HIS MOTHER WAS ENGLISH, JOHN COMES FROM ENGLAND. WWW.VIKINGLEGEND.COM



Who Were the first Ex-Pats - Article 4 - *Medieval Ex-Pats* Antiquity and the Future

by John Halsted

Author: Legend of the Last Vikings

Three hundred years before the birth of Christ and before the Vandals and the Romans, the Macedonians, led by Alexander the Great, conquered the known world - and beyond. Indeed Afghan and Northern Indian families with light skins and blue/green eyes claim these physical attributes are directly traceable to Alexander's conquest of their area and the introduction of Greek genes. One only has to also look at the now famous 1985 National Geographic cover picture taken by Steve McCurry of the green-eyed "Afghan girl" for evidence of Alexander's lasting legacy in Asia – two thousand two hundred years after the event.

Alexander's system of rule was to place his most trusted generals and staff in charge of the areas and regions he conquered, in effect introducing a system of expat Macedonian governors and administration staff. As such he created a system of satrapies across his empire reaching from Macedonia and Greece to India including Persia (Iran and Iraq), Turkey, Egypt, the Holy Land and the Lebanon. In effect he implemented a system of devolved government not too dissimilar to that used in modern democracies today. It goes without saying that Macedonian customs and culture

must have been introduced and adopted by the locals to a greater or lesser degree. But Alexander was not the first to use this system. Assyrian and Persian kings were using this system hundreds of years before Alexander arrived on the scene.

When Alexander died prematurely his satrapies were divided amongst his generals, most deciding to take the opportunity to become Kings in their own right. As such the ruling class over much of the known world was, for a time, Macedonian. Indeed the Mogul dynasties of Northern India which followed can be attributed to Alexander's introduction of formal government.

Three centuries later and half a world away in Egypt, Cleopatra VII, of Mark Anthony and Julius Caesar fame, was the last of the Macedonian Ptolemaic dynasty. Ptolemy was allegedly Alexander's half brother and also one of his generals. By the time Julius Caesar, Mark Anthony and Cleopatra started acting out their final scenes, the Ptolemies were more Egyptian than Macedonian having adopted the Egyptian Gods, Goddesses, customs and practices. This raises another interesting point. At what point does an expat become a local?

But why do we label ourselves? After all, in today's dynamic and ever shifting world, what is an African, an Asian, a European or an American? Consider this: I was born and raised to Caucasian parents in Africa, which, using today's etymology would make me a European African. My father, born in Johannesburg to parents, one of whom was Australian and the other British, would have been a European-Australian African. What then about a child born to ex-pat Nigerian parents in England, which is not uncommon. Does this make him an African European or an Englishman?

The existence of ex-pats started as soon as the concept of statehood and belonging was introduced, and we all know this to be circa seven thousand years ago, possibly with Abraham in Ur. But what of the future? When humankind eventually gets to explore the stars, what will we be called? Will we simply label ourselves "Earthlings" or will we confuse the matter by labelling ourselves "African Earthlings", "American Earthlings", "Asian Earthlings" or maybe even "European Earthlings"?

Lets hope we have the whole "cultural tolerance and labelling" thing well sorted by then, because rest assured we are guaranteed to have off-world ex-pats living among us, as no doubt they will have off-world expat "earthlings" living amongst them.