

Grapevine June 2012



Chronicler



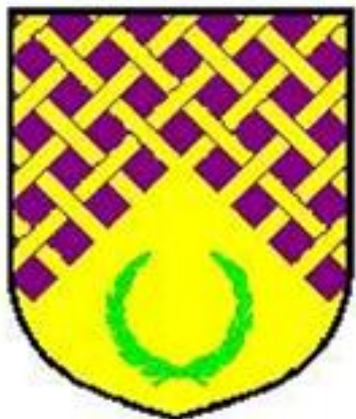
Unto the worthy populace of Bordescros and to all of the friends of the Shire, Greetings.

A very special thank you to Vicki and Woody for having us at their lovely home, it was a wonderful afternoon and night, with good friend, food and conversation.

Septembers Tourney and Feast is a Pirate theme, as it is also talk like a pirate day, so break out your eye patch and jolly roger and join us for a fun day and night.

A very small Grapevine this month, I will try and have more in next months.

Yours in Service,
Arnora BloodAxe



Calendar

1 ST SEPTEMBER	LOCH ALBA TOURNEY AND FEAST
9 TH SEPTEMBER	BORDESCROS FIGHTER TRAINING AND A&S
15 TH SEPTEMBER	BORDESCROS TOURNEY AND FEAST
6 TH OCTOBER	LOCH ALBA TOURNEY AND FEAST
14 TH OCTOBER	BORDESCROS FIGHTER TRAINING AND A&S
20 TH OCTOBER	BORDESCROS TOURNEY AND FEAST

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Positions Vacant



BORDER WAR 2013 AUTOCRAT:

We need someone who is willing to run Border War 2013, applications are being taken now.

OTHER OFFICERS NEEDED:

CONSTABLE

CHIRUGION

LISTS

News

Information

LOCATION: Sport Fishing Club,
Hinckler Drive (Lockheed Dr) off
Borella Road, ALBURY 2640

START TIME: 2pm

COST: **SCA YEARLY MEMBERSHIP**
\$25.00 per year

WHAT TO WEAR: Feast and Tourney only
Medieval Garb
(The group have loaners for newcomers)

WHAT TO BRING: Medieval Food to share
(Food for Feast & Tourney only but some of
us bring afternoon tea for A&S)

Chain

Maiden Mail is local to Albury and has been making & supply hand made links for chain mail for some time (some of her work in photo) anyone wanting to contact Judi for purchase of Links for your chain mail can contact her at maidenmail@iprimus.com.au

Judi is able to make many different size's, different weights etc, Just email and she can give you all the info you require



August Viking Feast







MY SCENE / SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM

A feast fit for medieval times

It's not all eating spit roasts, it's a lot more complex (like) a chicken cooked inside a goose inside a sheep.

Saturday, July 21, 2012

Step back in time with **BEN ROBSON** to an era when honour counted, fencing was the preferred sport and over-dressing didn't exist.

MEDIEVAL times are coming back to life on the Border — without the bad bits. All the feasting, the fighting, the honour code, the fashions and the science are celebrated by the dedicated band at the Society for Creative Anachronism.

This region is known as the Shire of Bordescros and its members are hosting a Newcomers' Feast tonight.

"We're real-life action role players," Albury's Tamsin Walle explains.

"But rather than making out we're elves and all that stuff we recreate medieval life without all the bad bits like death and disease.

"We're all about chivalry and honour, and we try to recreate things like the martial arts, the heavy fighting, the archery and the fencing."

But Tamsin who has been with the group since 1999 says they are about much more, keeping alive ancient traditions and skills.

"I have been fascinated by history and fantasy for a long time," she says.

"But it's not until I got into the SCA that I really realised how much history they encompassed.

"My personal interest is that I'm a chef by trade so I like the food.

"I'm into the sewing and the brewing as well, but I'm actually apprenticed in the SCA to a woman down in Melbourne.

"You can actually go up the ranks — you can become knights and so on but there are other areas where you can become a laurel, so you can specialise in areas like arts and sciences.

"It could be costuming, jewellery, brewing or cooking, or even the



research and understanding of things like bee keeping.

"We're trying to keep alive the skills and knowledge from medieval times, in a day and age where we stay in contact by Facebook and the internet."

Today's feast will be held at the Albury Fishing Club from 2.30pm. As well as a tournament, archery,

singing and dancing, there will of course also be food.

"I made a beef stew which is spiced with things like cinnamon, cardamom, pepper, nutmeg," Tamsin says.

"They used a lot of spices, partly to hide off food but also to prove you had money because spices cost so much."

● Tamsin Walle says tonight's Newcomers' Feast in the Shire of Bordescros will be heaps of fun.

Picture: DAVID THORPE

Can the whole family join?

My boys both get involved. My eldest son who's six years old got inducted into the Order of the Mouseguard at an event in May. It's designed so children feel special and their role is to protect and run errands for the Queen. We try to do as much as we can for kids and have games and things like that.

What was the food really like?

It's not all eating spit roasts and mushy vegetables in water, it's a lot more complex. We go from the time period AD600 to 1650, so we encompass people like King Henry VIII. And he liked a lot of spectacle with his food — sugar carving and things where they would cook meats inside meats like a chicken inside a goose inside a sheep. Heston Blumenthal showed people what can be done with the food.

What can people expect of the feast?

The idea is for people to come along and see what we do. It's such an unusual hobby but there are people out there who are interested. But you don't have to dress up and you don't have to join in, but if you want to you can. It's just an opportunity come and see what we do and why we do it.

For more information about the group or today's event visit facebook.com/bordescros

Grapevine is available from Arnora BloodAxe at rfr09803@bigpond.net.au.

Grapevine is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policies.

Calendar

2012

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3 RD NOVEMBER	LOCH ALBA TOURNEY AND FEAST
11 TH NOVEMBER	BORDESCROS FIGHTER TRAINING AND A&S
17 TH NOVEMBER	BORDESCROS TOURNEY AND FEAST
1 ST DECEMBER	LOCH ALBA TOURNEY AND FEAST
9 TH DECEMBER	BORDESCROS FIGHTER TRAINING AND A&S
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2013

5 TH JANUARY	LOCH ALBA TOURNEY AND FEAST
13 TH JANUARY	BORDESCROS FIGHTER TRAINING AND A&S
19 TH JANUARY	BORDESCROS TOURNEY AND FEAST
2 ND FEBRUARY	LOCH ALBA TOURNEY AND FEAST
10 TH FEBRUARY	BORDESCROS FIGHTER TRAINING AND A&S
16 TH FEBRUARY	BORDESCROS TOURNEY AND FEAST
2 ND MARCH	LOCH ALBA TOURNEY AND FEAST
10 TH MARCH	BORDESCROS FIGHTER TRAINING AND A&S
16 TH MARCH	BORDESCROS TOURNEY AND FEAST

Up Coming Events

November Crown AS XLVII

GENERAL DETAILS

This tournament is a weekend-long camping event starting on **Friday 9 November 2012** from 5:30pm and concluding on **Sunday 11 November 2012**. The venue for this important event is Wollongong's **Mt Keira Scout Camp**, Mt Keira Road, Mt Keira NSW AU, a beautiful location nestled into the rainforests of the Escarpment overlooking Wollongong [[map](#)]. For more details and photos of the site please go their [website](#) and click on 'facilities'.

COMPETITION DETAILS

The **Kingdom A&S Competitions** for November Crown are:

- **Non Culinary Recipes** – Can be a produced item or a detailed research paper, focusing on a non-food related period recipe. e.g. Medicinal substance, makeup or beauty product, etc.
- **A period item constructed from handmade non-woven fabric.** e.g. Made from Sprang, Felt, Knitting, etc.
- **A Belt or Garter**

The [Worshipful Company of Broderers](#) will also be holding a competition in Appliqué. More details to follow.

PRICE DETAILS

Prices rise on 1 September 2012. Prices from that date will be:

	Adult Member	Adult Non-Member	Child Member	Child Non-Member
Entire Event (Dorm)	\$115.50	\$121	\$82.50	\$88
Entire Event (Camping/Day Trip)	\$99	\$104.50	\$66	\$71.50
Saturday Only	\$55	\$60.50	\$33	\$35
Sunday Only	\$33	\$38.50	\$16.50	\$22

Bookings close on 7 October 2012.

A **shuttle service** will be offered from **Wollongong Railway Station**, which is approximately 25 minutes from the site. There will be a \$5 fee (both ways) for the use of this service. Please include this with your booking.

Please note: The Feast on the Saturday night is capped at 100 people so please get in early!

CONTACT DETAILS

Bookings can be sent to our **booking officer**, *Lady Phedre de Caravelle* via [email](#). The **steward** for the event is *Lady Alessandra di Fiore di Piero della Mora* who can also be contacted via [email](#) if you have any merchant or other non-booking questions.



Arts and Sciences



Due to a low turn up, cold weather and other factors, it has been decided to discontinue the Thursday nights and we will work on getting something going in the future in a different format.

We are going to try and have projects on the Grapevine for you to attempt and there is always our Sunday A&S, for any help please contact Lady Thomasina.

The following article will be continued next month, good sewing.

Adapting the Elizabethan Lady's Ensemble Patterns For Lower Class Wear

By Margo Anderson

A few years ago, I started doing research on the costume of lower class Elizabethan women.

One of the most useful sources was a painting known variously as "The Fete at Bermondsey" or "The Wedding at Bermondsey." This painting is interesting for the variety of styles shown. There are ladies and little girls wearing the full-skirted farthingale styles of the upper classes. There are a number of women wearing what appear to be either one-piece, fitted coat-dresses with a waistline seam, or matching bodices and somewhat narrow skirts.



Finally, there is a group of three women dancing, who are wearing the closest thing to the usual modern concept of lower class 16th century clothing that I have found: They are wearing unmatched bodices and skirts, aprons, fitted sleeves, and partlets or neckcloths.

As many people prefer to portray the lower orders, I decided to produce a lower class woman's pattern, based on the styles of the Bermondsey dancers.

Since there are no surviving lower class garments, I had to do a certain amount of extrapolation as to what the actual shape of the pieces that made up the garments would be.

It's often been said that the clothing of the upper and lower classes was distinctly different, and would require entirely different patterns and fit. I found this not to be the case. In fact, when I experimented, I found that many of the patterns from my Elizabethan Lady's Wardrobe Ensemble worked perfectly, when made up in the proper fabrics.

Since there were many garments in those three packages that were not appropriate for the lower class character, I decided to pull various garment pieces from the Lady's Ensemble and package them as The Elizabethan Working Woman's Pattern. However, I wanted those of you who already own the Ensemble to be able to use it for as wide a range of costumes as possible, so I've written these instructions for adapting your Elizabethan Wardrobe Ensemble patterns to the Working Woman's styles.

Lower and Middle Class Women

Lower class women were often the wives and daughters of agricultural laborers. They usually lived their entire lives in one small village, working the land owned by the nobleman of the area. They had little leisure time and almost no cash. Their clothing was limited and designed for practicality.

Lower Middle class women were the wives and daughters of the artisans, craftsmen, and small merchants. They often worked alongside their husbands, and a widow could continue her husband's business after his death. Their clothing was still practical but might reflect that they had a bit more leisure time and a bit of money to spend on clothing.

The Working Woman pattern is appropriate for Lower and Lower Middle class women. For lower class, we recommend making the skirt, bodice, and sleeves in contrasting colors, to give the impression of an outfit that was assembled a bit at a time, as time and money were available. For a lower middle class woman, the skirt and bodice can match, as can the sleeves.

Servants belonging to the middle class were likely to wear livery provided by their employers. "Livery" did not necessarily mean a formal uniform as it does now. Livery was clothing (or food or other goods) paid to one by one's employer, in lieu of cash. It is likely, though, that fabric for livery was purchased in bulk, so that all the liveried members of a household could be dressed in the same fabric and color, but the styles and ornamentation may have reflected individual choices, rather than being rigorously matched "uniforms."

Fabrics for the Working Woman

As stated in your Ensemble manuals, the fabrics available to the Elizabethans were primarily linen, hemp, wool, and silk. They also used leather for men's clothing, although it is not clear whether it was used for any women's garments.

While fibers were limited, the choice of weaves and styles was not. There was a huge variety of fabric available. For working women, keep your fabrics simple, avoiding elaborately textured or patterned weaves.

Colors can be quite bright. The Bermondsey painting shows a surprising amount of bright red. Indigo blue dye was inexpensive and therefore widely used for servant's clothing and livery. Avoid making a costume in varying shades of the same color, such as pale blue bodice, medium blue sleeves, and dark blue skirt: the Elizabethans preferred a wider range of color.

Trims

Trims should be limited to small amounts of plain trim such as bands, guards, and braid type trims that could have been homemade. A small amount of embroidery on one's "best" clothes is appropriate.

The Garments

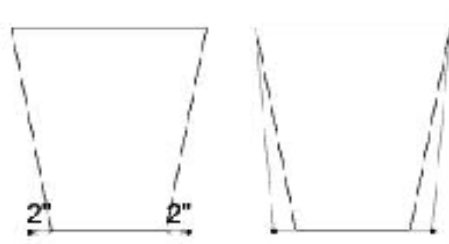
The Smock

The Working Woman's smock is identical to the low necked smock of the upper class lady. It should be made in plain linen, undecorated except, at most, for a very small amount of embroidery.



If you like, you can widen the sleeve hem by 2-3" in order to allow it to be rolled up when doing messy work.

To widen the sleeve, mark 2 points horizontally out for the sleeve hem on each side, at a distance equal to half the amount you wish to add. Draw new cutting lines from the upper corners of the sleeve to these points.



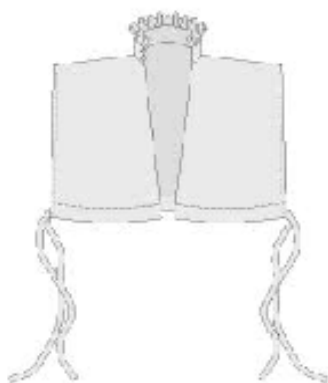
The High Necked Smock

We have not included the high necked smock in the Working Woman pattern, but if you prefer the style, it is perfectly correct to wear it. If you choose to have ruffles at the neck and sleeves, they should be made of plain fabric, not lace or lace trimmed.



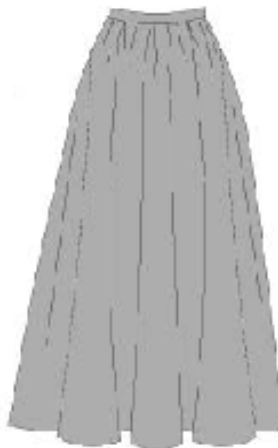
The Partlet

The Working woman pattern includes a partlet that is substantially different from the Lady's Underpinnings version, being cut with separate fronts and backs and having shoulder seams rather than the gusset of the Lady's version. Both are correct. If you prefer the Working Woman's version, go to our website to print out a pattern (www.margospatterns.com/partletprint.htm) and instructions.

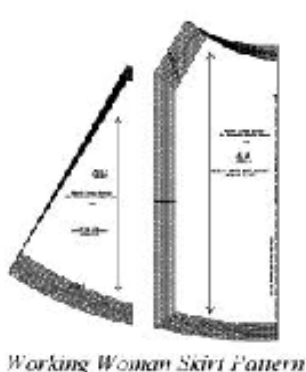


The Skirt

The skirt is the garment that differs the most from the common idea of what lower class skirts should be. It is not a very full, flouncy or drapey dirndl or flared skirt. In actuality, it is only slightly gathered at the waistline, and the fullness comes from large triangular gores at the sides of straight front and back panels. This was a common way of cutting garments in the period, as it wastes very little fabric.



The Working Woman skirt has side gore seams that begin approximately 7" down from the upper edge of the skirt. It is also correct to have them extend all the way up to the waist, as would have been done when using a narrower fabric.



Working Woman Skirt Pattern

Children's Page



Eleventh-century Soldier and Knight

Left: The foot soldier wears a short tunic, cross-gartered tights and leather shoes. A chain mail hood covers his iron skull-cap. Over his chest he wears a leather baldric, a diagonal sash for carrying a shield and knife; he holds a battle ax. **Right:** The crusader knight is wearing a

metal battle helmet, or spangenhelm, over a chain mail hood. He wears a soft under-tunic or pourpoint covered by his tunic of hardened leather tiles. His arms and legs are protected by fitted chain mail sleeves and leggings; his shoes are leather.

10

Bordescros A&S 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)

Bordescros Regnum



King & Queen

King Henri and Queen Beatrice



Prince & Princess

Crown Prince and Crown Princess



Seneschal

Lord Ysambart Cortin



Hospitaller

Position Vacant



Herald Pursuivant

THL Lowry verch Gwenwynwyn ap Llewellyn



Reeve

Lord Gunther



Knight Marshal

Lord Magnus



Arts & Science

Lady Thomsina Coke



Constable

Position Vacant



Chronicler

Lady Arnora BloodAxe



Web

Mistress Cairistiona inghean Raghnaill

