

## Meet Your Officers



### Interview with an A&S officer

Grapevine's reporter talks with our current Arts & Sciences Officer

**GV:** *Welcome and can you tell us who you are in the SCA?*

**CiR:** Baroness Cairistiona inghean Raghnaill, Order of the Pelican

**GV:** *How did you find the SCA?*

**CiR:** In the early 1990s at a demo in Tumbalong Park in Darling Harbour Sydney.

**GV:** *What drew you in, and why did you stay?*

**SM:** I have always loved history and craft, and I was blown away by the standard of what I saw. It was not until 1998 when I moved to Albury that I actually joined the SCA when we started up Bordescros. As for staying, I have made lifelong friends and still love history and craft. I stay for the dream.

**GV:** *What offices have you held, and why do you volunteer to hold offices?*

**CiR:** Almost everything including Kingdom Seneschal and Kingdom Hospitaller, as well as Seneschal, Reeve, Arts & Sciences, Constable, Chronicler, Herald – but not the marshallate side of things.

**GV:** *What does the Arts & Sciences role consist of?*

**CiR:** It is about encouraging participation in the wide variety of Arts, crafts and sciences that were practiced in the period before 1600. So much variety. It doesn't mean I have to do all of them but help and encourage others to try new things and do the research to relate it to 'their' period.



*Baroness Cairistiona,  
Bordescros A&S Officer*

### A&S Officer helps and encourages others to try new things.

**GV:** *Have you gained anything from the SCA you may not have had in your life, if you had not joined?*

**CiR:** Friends in so many places. Also doing events both locally and at the Kingdom level to try and bring the 'dream' alive for many other people. It really is like a family of choice if you want that.

**GV:** *How do you balance family, running a property and holding an office?*

**CiR:** Sometimes with difficulty, especially as I get older. My children are all grown now and have families of their own, but must be close by. My property is only small, but I am trying to use Medieval techniques, especially in the garden.

**GV:** *Do you have any major plans for your SCA future?*

**CiR:** I would like to improve on some of my Arts & Sciences (spinning, weaving and brewing), and to see Bordescros become the Barony that we envisaged when we started as an incipient Shire in 1998. We just need more active members!

**GV:** *Any final words?*

**CiR:** The SCA is a great place for families, and allows members of all ages access to so much fun and inspiration. Bordescros is really unique in many ways, and a wonderful place to be.

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# Shire of Bordescros Grapevine

Winter AS LVII  
May-June-July 2022  
Volume 24

## Noticeboard

### editorial



Welcome to the Winter edition of Grapevine.

In this episode of Meet Your Officers, we talk to our Arts & Sciences Officer, Baroness Cairistiona inghean Raghnaill, her start in the SCA and her hopes for the future.

There will be information on The Inaugural SPRING HORSE FAIRE & SIEGE WAR, which has just about everything going on... it is kind of like Border War Lite, in that most of the activities are on Saturday and Sunday, and Lite because instead of a feast there will be 2-course dinners on Friday and Saturday focussing on cultures from 'Beyond Europe', The main focus is on Equestrian and Projectile Weapons, with Archery and for the Heavies: war scenarios with a difference!

Also in this issue, there is an Autumn Coronation report, information about next Border War and all the usual tidbits of news.

- Lady Lowry

**The next monthly gathering** will be held on 20 August 2022  
**AT:** 264 Lawrence St, Wodonga VIC 3690  
**FROM** 2 PM  
**STEWARDS:** Isolda Deye and Undewyn Maccuswell  
**THEME:** is in line with the A&S competitions for the month being "Outside Europe".

The idea is that we would like you all to do a little research on somewhere in period (and it can be any period of time up to the 1600s), on some place outside of Europe, and we would like you to make a small presentation on one aspect of that society (this is optional).  
Hopefully, as a group something interests all of us and we could do a themed event later on (e.g. Indian and do an Indian themed event, saris, dance, music, cuisine) etc.

Some interesting information about cooking, can be found online at the following links:

Thanks to Rob Higgs for the link to Tasting History : Medieval Table Manners with Max Miller: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SoFxrwuMuQs>

Also my favourite Historical Italian Cooking with Marco Gavio de Rubeis

<https://www.youtube.com/c/HistoricalItalianCooking>

Last week it was announced that a stalwart of the SCA passed on. For those who have ever used Stefan's Florilegium as a starting point to research history his passing is a huge loss. Hailing from the Kingdom of Ansteorra, Stefan li Rous served the whole of the Knowne World by providing a single point archive of all the online discussions he could access about everything SCAdian. He will be greatly missed.

The arms of  
Stefan li Rous, Stefan's Florilegium.  
Deceased June 10, AS LVII.

### Vale Stefan



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Outside, it was bleak. Grey, lowering skies threatened more rain, as occasional spiteful spatters of raindrops were blown against windows and doors. The ancient flag-stoned streets gleamed wetly. A few trees in the nearby park still flew brave flags of red and gold, but most of the leaves had fallen, forming a sodden brown sludge, through which huddled figures scurried, their warm breaths forming frosty white clouds before them.

Inside was a different picture; with cheerful red carpet and warmed air, cheerful faces, and much animated chattering and laughter, as friends greeted each other with hugs and grins of delight. Beyond the foyer, the great hall was lit with a soft glow, with high up lights gleaming on polished floors and bouncing back from crisp white tablecloths.

To one side, a table laden with works of art was a busy scene, as judges read through documentation and discussed the merits of the work on display. Another table, across the hall, bore several inkle-looms and other crafty paraphernalia, awaiting a time when those so inclined could busy their hands with activity while talking. Half way down the hall, a pleasantly smiling maiden plucked the strings of a lyre.

Behind the scenes, the small kitchen was a-buzz with activity as a few hardy souls laboured to produce lunch and dinner for the whole court. Occasionally, when a door opened as someone left or entered the hall, a cloud of fragrant steam would scent the air.

At the far end of the great hall stood a dozen thrones and cathedra, with carpets and cushions before them. A herald stepped forward and with a loud Oyez! called all present to stand, for their King and Queen approached. Through the doors streamed richly dressed nobles, and at their head the tall, impressive figure of King Leofric, side-by-side with the petite golden-haired Queen Sabine.

Courtiers curtsayed and bowed before them, dipping in waves like grain blown by the winds. Thus, began the final court of this most noble and gracious royal couple.

## Autumn

## Coronation

### A rare honour

A highlight of the day was when Duke Niáll inn Orkneyski was honoured with an Iron Chain award. From the Laws of An Tir, where the award was created: “The **Iron Chain** is given **by the Crown** for deeds of true courage and bravery in the face of personal and real danger. “

Lochac's Royals requested that the Royalty of An Tir bestow this award upon our Duke for conspicuous bravery in the course of his real world job. This award is rarely bestowed. A well deserved award, as explained by Queen Sabine at some length; and many on hearing of the bestowal of the award were quite tearful, their thunderous applause demonstrating how well deserved those present believed this award to be.

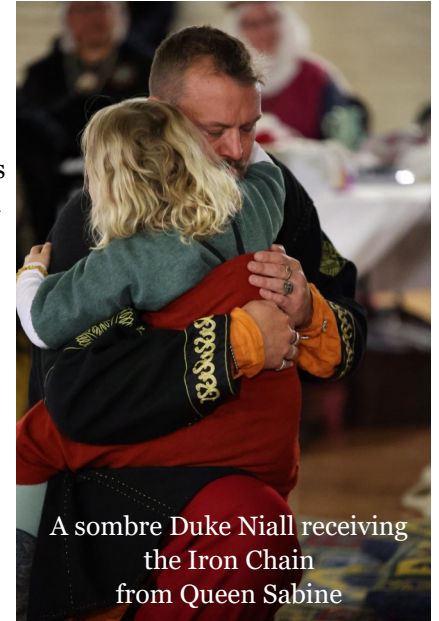
From the June Pegasus, we found out all about the Iron Chain.

*“The Order of the Iron Chain is a polling order established in An Tir in AS 12 (mundanely 1978) by Manfred Kriegstreiber, then Prince of An Tir. It has been bestowed 18 times in the 44 years since its inception, to recognise rare acts of selfless bravery in a mundane and/or Society setting. Members of the Order wear a chain of iron that commemorates a meeting of situation and circumstance that inevitably brings out the highest standards of honour and chivalry and bravery. While the Order of the Iron Chain is protected by Kingdom Law and remains unique to An Tir, the standards it represents are universal society-wide. “*

### Honours for other Bordescruxians

King Alain and Queen Safiya also bestowed many awards at their coronation. Notably for us, Golden Tears were bestowed upon The Honourable Lady Isolda Deye and The Honourable Lord Undewyn Maccuswell; the Mouse Guard was strengthened by the addition of Harrison of Bordescros to its numbers and the Vox Coronae (Voice of the Crown) was bestowed upon our Seneschal, Sorle Maknicoll.

A glorious day indeed for our Shire!



A sombre Duke Niall receiving the Iron Chain from Queen Sabine



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## Positions Vacant



'ello, 'ello, 'ello! What's all this then?

*Did you know that the office of Constable for Bordescros has recently been vacated 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

You'll find more detailed information about this role in the Officer Job Descriptions Document at <https://seneschal.lochac.sca.org/resources#officer>

Please send your applications by 5 August 2022 to [constable@lochac.sca.org](mailto:constable@lochac.sca.org) with a courtesy copy to [seneschal@bordescros.lochac.sca.org](mailto:seneschal@bordescros.lochac.sca.org)

Do please include your membership number, mundane and SCA names, and any relevant experience, along with any 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,  
Sorle Maknicoll

**New Officer Progress:** There is a procedure that must be followed, steps below:

- 1 Applications Opened <<< we are here
- 2 Consideration Period
- 3 Shortlist for Commentary
- 4 Consultation Period
- 5 Notice to Candidates & Scheduling
- 6 Confirmation & Handover schedule

## OTHER POSITIONS VACANT

If the office of Constable does not appeal, there are other offices available.

### LISTS officer



This is a great office for those interested in the sporting side of the Society, as you get a front row seat to all tourneys. It is one of the easiest roles available. List officer records who is in the tourney, and keeps score. Reports are then posted to Drop Box, reported to the monthly meeting and emailed to the Kingdom. That's it. Most of the work happens on the day.

### YOUTH officer

This office is good for those with kiddies, or who enjoy encouraging the young (and young at heart) among us. You will keep an eye on supplies in the youth boxes—top up supplies of pencils and glue etc if they run low. If the children appear bored, get activities, games etc out for them to enjoy at our gatherings. Also report to the meeting once a month and the Kingdom Youth Officer, once a quarter.

### CHIRURGEON



This is the local First Aid Officer. Real world qualification required is either Red Cross or St Johns First Aid. The Shire will pay half the cost if you need to get this qualification. The role entails keeping the first aid kit up-to-date, and managing any injuries at events. These are usually very minor (bandaids, etc). Reporting is once a month at the meeting, quarterly to Kingdom plus whenever a serious incident occurs.

## Spring Horse Faire & Siege War

You are invited to attend the inaugural Spring Horse Faire and Siege War, to be held this November 11–13, 2022 just south west of Cobram, Victoria.

The event is being held at the Koonoomoo Equestrian Camp, with the entries off the Goulburn Valley Highway. Camping is permitted for the event, with power and water available in the camping areas.

The event will be a mixed event, with the following attractions:

- **EQUESTRIAN:** skill at arms; cavalry training; buzkashi demonstration; sword work; introduction to horse archery
- **SIEGE ENGINES/HEAVY:** authorisations; field exercises; war scenarios (with heavies and combat archers)
- **ARCHERY:** practice; competitions; Naadam Festival activity; target archery; Monster Shoot.
- **THROWN WEAPONS:** authorisations; practice; competitions
- **ARTS & SCIENCES:** market style show-and-tell/ share-a-skill; classes; competitions
- **MARKET:** we have a pottery stall so far and are hoping for more stalls
- **GAMES:** outdoors we have boules, paille-maille, Kubbs, tug-o-war; indoors we have board and card games
- **BARDIC:** a bardic circle will be held at least one night - bring your songs, instruments, dances, jokes and recitations

Prices start at \$65 for adults; \$45.00 for teens; \$25 for children; under school age free (Non-members of course will need to add insurance for all ages, from birth on). This price is until the end of August.

First price rise is from 1 September, second is from 1 November on. Single day prices also available, details on the webpage:

<https://bordescros.lochac.sca.org/events/annual-events/spring-horse-fair/>





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## Photo Gallery

A photo of Bordescros in the early days:

Of those present the only members who still play locally are Lady Lowry (front left) Mistress Thomasina (centre front) and Will (3rd from the right in the back row).

I think Lady Cairistiona (now Baroness) took the photo.



Our new Queen Safiya I and King Alain I, caught off-guard after their coronation.



A pensive Myrun at New Year Coronation

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## Arts and Sciences

Mistress Cairistiona and her deputies have put their heads together and come up with an interesting, eclectic mix of competitions for the upcoming year!

MONTH	HISTORY	DOMESTIC	MARSHAL	ARTS
AUGUST	Beyond Europe	A Woven Item	Soft Armour	Calligraphy
SEPTEMBER	Tudor	Pottery	Coif for Fighting	Maritime
OCTOBER	Pre - 900 Norse	Under-garments	Hard Armour	Health
NOVEMBER	Mongolian	Chemise or Smock	Equestrian	Science
DECEMBER	Yule / Christmas	Yule Food / Drink	Metalwork	Yule
JANUARY	Middle East	Towels and Cloths	Decorated Shields	Middle Eastern
FEBRUARY	14 <sup>th</sup> Century	Footwear	Leatherwork	Illumination
MARCH	Iberia	Surcoat	Tabards	Plants
APRIL	The Low Countries	For Rich and Poor	Shield	Herbs

Coloured light blue means they are in both Shire & Kingdom Competitions

Upcoming Kingdom Competitions are:

- SPRING CROWN 2022: Heraldic; Edible; The Ancient World
- NOVEMBER CORONATION (being held the last weekend in October in 2022) Maritime; Health; Beyond Europe
- AUTUMN CROWN 2023: Science; Threads; 14th Century
- MAY CORONATION 2023: For rich and poor; Plants; The Low Countries
- SPRING CROWN 2023: Restful; Metal; Near the Millennium (9th to 12th centuries)
- NOVEMBER CORONATION 2023: Decorative; Fermented; Iberia



## Albury Council Parklet Pod Demo 27 August 2022



Bordescros has been invited to participate in a trial program of activities in the new Parklet Pods on Dean Street on Saturday 27 August 2022 from 11 am to 2 pm

The suggestion was that we do calligraphy, but they are open to more.

It will be better if those participating as 'tutors' are in garb, and it is a great opportunity to show that we do more than just fighting. Suggestions and offers are very welcome so that we can make this as interesting as possible.

If you are able to assist, even for an hour, please let me know at [artsci@bordescros.lochac.sca.org](mailto:artsci@bordescros.lochac.sca.org) as soon as possible.

Cairistiona inghean Raghnaill  
Arts & Sciences Officer

## BORDER WAR IS BACK IN 2023

### Plans are afoot!



Border War is being planned for the end of February 2023 at the Culcairn Sportsground. It is hoped that details can be finalised shortly, but there will be camping available on site (plus hotel and motel nearby), and all the usual activities including lots of War scenarios for heavy and combat archery, rapier, archery and arts and sciences. And of course there will be plenty of good food!

To welcome everyone back after the Covid break, and to make the event even better than usual, more volunteers are needed. The more volunteers there are, the easier it is for everyone. It is also a

great way to learn what is involved, especially if you are new to the SCA.

This is the Shire's major annual event, and has been running since 1999. It is always a lot of fun. We are hoping that it will be Royal event as well.

As soon as the dates are finalised (18-20 or 25-27 February), the full details will be made available so people can start booking.





## A RECIPE: from lands 'Beyond Europe'.

Created by Baroness Vatavia of Calontir (Zol Mikre) with Perez ben Gershon

— for the Feast of Three Princes

Baroness Vatavia writes: "Though the historical and archaeological record provide us with evidence of what the indigenous cultures of pre-Columbian Mesoamerica ate, there are no known surviving recipes. What follows is an interpretation, a series of plausible recipes that might have been eaten in Mesoamerica before Columbus' arrival". I have selected just one of those recipes:

### Alegria

#### Ingredients

Approximately, 1 cup of un-popped Amaranth Seeds

Approximately 1 cup of toasted pumpkin and/or sunflowers seeds (or both)

4 tablespoons honey

\* 3/4 teaspoon Allspice (see note)

Pinch of Salt

Optional: 1/4 tsp ground chillies

#### Method

1. Toast the pumpkin/ sunflower seeds in a hot skillet, stirring constantly until browned, being careful that they do not burn.
2. Pop the amaranth seeds using the following method:
  - a. Heat a sturdy stock pot (or wok) over high heat.
  - b. Add one tablespoon of amaranth seeds to the hot pot and shake the pot. The amaranth should begin popping almost instantly as soon as it hits the pot. Be sure to shake the pot to prevent it sticking or burning.
  - c. Once the popping has mostly stopped, remove the popped amaranth to a heat resistant bowl. Un-popped amaranth is edible.
  - d. Repeat the process until you have 3 cups of popped amaranth.
3. Mix the popped amaranth and seeds together.
4. Combine the honey, chillies *and any spices you choose to add* to a small pot or sauce pan.
5. On the stove, over low heat, simmer the honey and spices, until the honey is liquid.
6. Remove the mixture from the stove and stir it into the amaranth mixture.
7. Line a baking pan with parchment paper and pour in the mixture. Let it set until cool and firm(ish). If the weather is humid, you may want to refrigerate it.

#### SERVING IDEA:

Serve after a meal with fresh fruit: Pineapple, Jicama Mamey, Papaya, Prickly Pear fruits, Guava, Custard Apples, etc...

[Editor's Note: Allspice is an Asian spice, so I would not include it. But the choice is yours.]

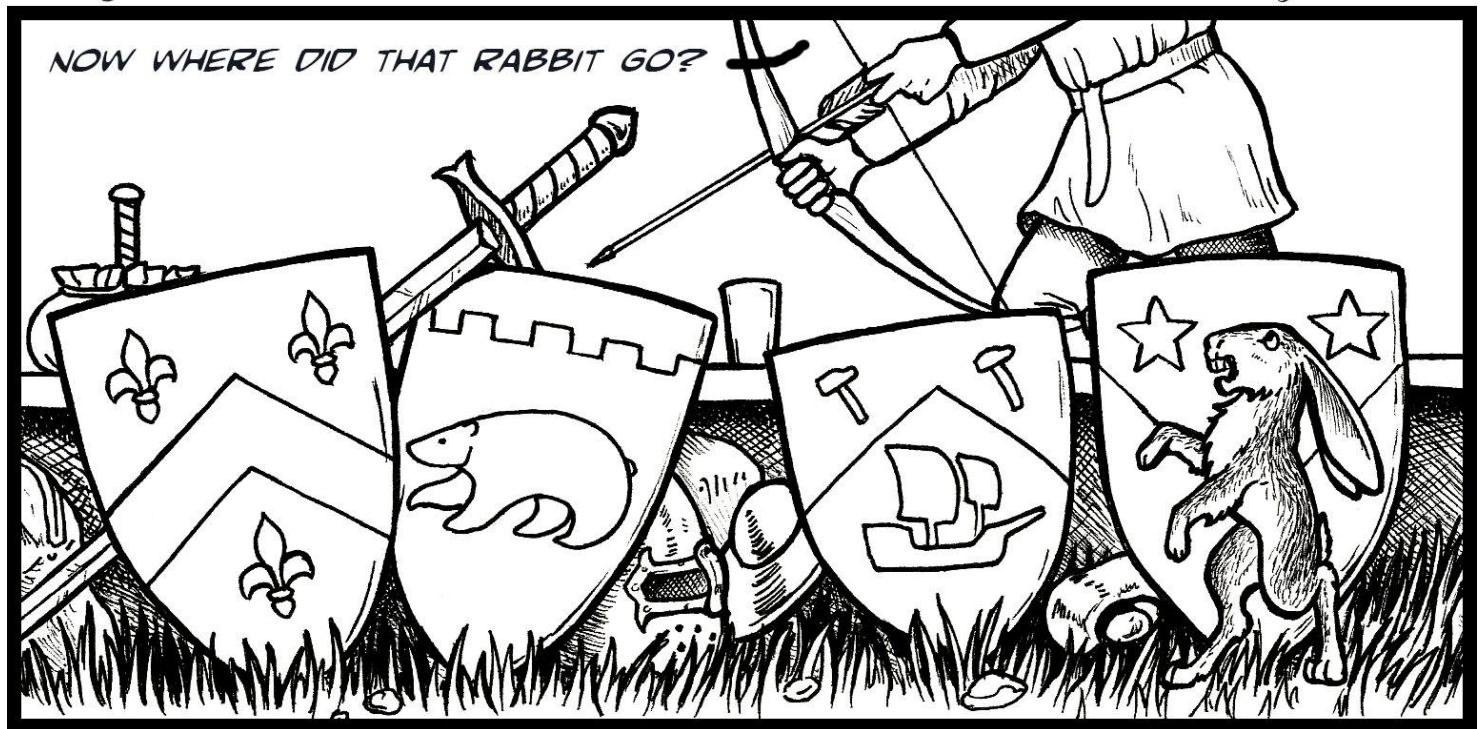
Link: <https://ostgardr.eastkingdom.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Feast-of-Three-Princes-Meal-3-from-Precolumbian-Meso-America.pdf>

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*Marginal Mayhem*

*By Augusta Weyfare*



An heraldic joke, published with permission of the author. ^

A merry couple >>



^^ Cooking Class at July Gathering





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## FINAL WORDS:

### COVID:

Although the Victorian and NSW governments have relaxed COVID restrictions, the SCA Ltd has not altered its stance, as yet. We still need to be vaccinated to attend indoor events. BUT watch this space as things may change soon.

Membership at 1 July  
Adults 37

Minors (somewhere c. 7-12)

### Total

(Sorry I did not get the number of minors, my bad!)

Shire of Bordescros  
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AS LVII

## REGNUM

SENESCHAL .....	Sorle Maknicoll	Jeff Nicholson
DEPUTY SENESCHAL .....	Undewyn Maccuswell	Andrew Walker
REEVE .....	Lowry ferch Gwynwynwyn	Tracey Sawyer
ARTS & SCIENCES .....	Cairistiona inghean Raghnaill	Joy Walker
HERALD .....	Emelyn Ffayrholme	Emmy Nicholson
MARSHALL .....	Magnus Thorbjornsson	Shane Salau
CHIRURGEON .....	VACANT	
CHRONICLER .....	Lowry ferch Gwynwynwyn	Tracey Sawyer
DEPUTY CHRONICLER .....	Vibeke Kristiansdatter	Suzanne Olesen
CONSTABLE .....	VACANT	
HOSPITALLER .....	Cairistiona inghean Raghnaill	Joy Walker
LISTS .....	VACANT	
WEBWRIGHT .....	VACANT	
YOUTH .....	VACANT	



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**CONTACT:** chronicler@bordescros.lochac.sca.org if you have anything you would like to add to any of our Broad sheets or Grapevine.