

# From The Tower



**Barony of Southron Gaard**

**November A.S. LI**

**(2016 C.E.)**



# Chronic Rumblings

Welcome to another From The Tower.

It's been a fairly busy month with activity building up on all fronts with the energy of spring. The horses have gone mad, the tiny buds that I planted in the garden seem to have taken over and I finally have two SCA things happening on consecutive weekends after which it will be all downhill to Christmas and a well-deserved break.

This month we have a wonderful article from Lord Lowrens about the (possible) home town of Marco Polo in Croatia. I'd always assumed that he was Italian but there you go – my interests have always been more centred on the North. One of the things I enjoy most about the SCA is the opportunity to learn new things about the people and societies of the past and themed events can contribute to that.

If you have an article, review, story, poetry or picture\* to contribute to our newsletter please send your contributions to the [chronicler@sg.lochac.sca.org](mailto:chronicler@sg.lochac.sca.org) email address by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Yours, in service to Southron Gaard,

**Eleanora**

\* Please ensure that you have permission to publish the photographs of anyone identifiable in your photos and that there are no copyright restrictions.

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## Credits for this issue:

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Canterbury Faire: Caravan on the Silk Road, 1375, [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Katalanischer\\_Atlas\\_01.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Katalanischer_Atlas_01.jpg)

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# Kingdom of Lochac



King ThorolfR I and Queen Halla I

Please send award recommendations to [crown@lochac.sca.org](mailto:crown@lochac.sca.org) with a courtesy copy to [B&B@sg.lochac.sca.org](mailto:B&B@sg.lochac.sca.org)

Additional information can be found on the Kingdom website: [www.lochac.sca.org](http://www.lochac.sca.org)

## From the Officers

Please note that all officers must be SCA members. If you are interested in a role please review the job outline at <http://sg.lochac.sca.org/docs/OfficerDescriptions.doc>

### *wanted: chatelaine*

The Barony needs you! If you would like to share your enthusiasm with the public, and welcome new people to the world of the Laurel Kingdoms, then please apply to be our next Chatelaine. The Chatelaine is the official greeter of the barony, and is there to help the public and new members get involved with the SCA. If you like meeting people, or supporting new people, this could be the role for you.

Applications will run for the next 2 weeks, closing on Wednesday the 16th of November. Please send applications to the Kingdom Hospitaller at: [hospitaller@lochac.sca.org](mailto:hospitaller@lochac.sca.org) and CC [seneschal@sg.lochac.sca.org](mailto:seneschal@sg.lochac.sca.org) and [BandB@sg.lochac.sca.org](mailto:BandB@sg.lochac.sca.org)

### *wanted: captain of archers*

We are currently without a Captain of Archers and the Knight Marshal, Brian di Caffa, is looking for either a replacement, or a couple of line marshals who will turn up this last week each month to run archery tournaments. Targets can be made available any Sunday for interested archers if there is a line marshal present, and it is easy to become an authorised line marshal.

If you wish to apply for Captain of Archers email your application to: [archer@lochac.sca.org](mailto:archer@lochac.sca.org) with copies to [seneschal@sg.lochac.sca.org](mailto:seneschal@sg.lochac.sca.org) & [bandb@sg.lochac.sca.org](mailto:bandb@sg.lochac.sca.org).

## Arts and Sciences

### *stuff night*

First Tuesday of each month from 7pm to 9.30pm

Location: Avic Hill Community Centre Activities Room at 395 Memorial Avenue, Burnside in the front room of the facility.

Donations towards venue rental to lessen the direct cost to the Barony are welcomed, and a donation box will be available. A light supper will be provided.

For December, Stuff Night will be on Tuesday the 6th, and will feature a Yule theme. There will be small gifts for attendees, and supper will be more festive. There will be no Stuff Night in January.

## **arts activity sundays**

Location: **Redwood Scout Hall, 20 Sturrocks Road**

Time: **Sundays, 11am**

The Hall is open and has power, water and loads of space so just bring whatever you're working on.

Have you ever wanted to run a class or A&S activity, but haven't before? Would you like to try? Do you sometimes teach but would like to trial a new class or do a dry run before teaching more widely? Have a neat idea for a Baronial project or activity? Now welcoming all applications to run fun classes or activities either on Sundays or for Stuff Night. Have a go!

Contact Lady Cecily de Montgomery on [arts@sg.lochac.sca.org](mailto:arts@sg.lochac.sca.org)

## **From the Marshalate**

Great news for me is that I won one of my champion tokens at the October monthly tournaments! I never expected to win one, and it shows what persistence, if not talent, can achieve. All it took was previous champions forgetting their bow, having a sore shoulder, a cracked bow, not turning up, and most importantly the random luck of where my arrows decided to go on the day. No doubt the Fates will favour others in future months.

His Excellency won the heavy tourney, and is displaying his breadth and depth of martial skills with his growing collection of tokens. It has been encouraging to see the range of fighters who have won both heavy and archery tourneys, which shows depth of talent in the Barony.

With the Hororata games on the first weekend of November, and Crusaders' Return event on the second, this month's tournaments will be held at the Crusader's event. The archery token will be awarded by combat this time.

Archery targets are available pretty much every Sunday, but you are welcome to email me to confirm if you want to make sure. It is pretty easy to become a target archery marshal and we may as well have every experienced archer authorised as one. Callach is running training sessions for setting up and marshalling the line on Sundays, which I recommend going to, and he will also cover standard tournament formats.

The planning for Canterbury Faire tournaments and war scenarios is coming together nicely and it will be another action packed and exciting week. I will be wanting to confirm some marshals, heralds, list keepers and auctioneers for those soon.

Yours in Service,

Brian di Caffa



# Celebration of Crusaders' Return

Be it knowne to All that a great Celebration will be held to honour Our esteemed crusaders, who did take and sack the Saracen city of Alexandria and did seize much tribute in King Peter's name.



**Where:** Orton Bradley Park, Base Camp, Charteris Bay

**When:** 11-13 November, 2016. Midday Friday to 2pm Sunday.

**Costs:**

Adult: Full Event including Feast and catering: **\$80.**

Day trip (no meals) **\$8.** Feast **\$33** (includes day trip).

Child (under 12): Full Event, including Feast and catering: **\$45.**

Day trip (no meals): Free. Feast: **\$15.**

We, Richard and Gingvra, Baron and Baroness of Southron Gaard invite one and all to join Us for a grand feast, dancing, and merriment, celebrating the return of Our valiant Crusaders, who took Alexandria and held it for a full six days! Let us relive their mighty conquest, hear tales of their prowess, sup fine French food and wine, and revel in the blissful paradise of Lusignan!

**Stewards:** Richard d'Allier and Gingvra di Sgrafino Visconti

**Bookings:** [g.devisconti@gmail.com](mailto:g.devisconti@gmail.com) by 4/11/2016.

See online for further details and event schedule

# Canterbury Faire a.s.li

## -The Travels of Marco Polo

Follow in the steps of Marco Polo and journey to distant lands, or your own backyard, as the case may be. Join the Barony of Southron Gaard at the renowned Canterbury Faire, for full details and bookings see the website <http://sg.lochac.sca.org/cf/>

Dates: Saturday 14th to Sunday 22nd January, 2017.  
The first Saturday and Sunday and the final Sunday are set-up/pack-up days, scheduled activities don't commence until late on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>.

Location: Waipara Boys Brigade Camp, 137  
Darnley Rd, Waipara, New Zealand

Steward: Aveline Goupil, [cf@sg.lochac.sca.org](mailto:cf@sg.lochac.sca.org)

Bookings close 6th January 2017.



### Pricing

	Full Event 4th Oct - 4th December 2016	Full Event 5th December - 6th January 2017	Day Trip (per day)
Adult (16 +)	\$150.00	\$160.00	\$25.00
Child (5-15)	\$75.00	\$80.00	\$18.00
Children under 5	Free		

Please add \$2.00 to all adult prices for non-members.

### Food

	Meal Plan	Feast	Feast alternative
Adult	\$80.00	\$22.00	\$13.00
Child	\$45.00	\$15.00	\$ 8.00

### Sundries

Shuttles	\$25.00 per person, each way
Bunk surcharge (flat fee)	\$25.00
Tent Hire	\$35.00
Mattresses	\$15.00



## Marco Polo in Korcula

The next Canterbury Fair is themed somewhat around the travels of Marco Polo in the 13th century. Coincidentally, Lady Enith and I found ourselves staying for a few days in Korcula in Croatia, on a recent trip.



Korcula is one of the many walled towns along the Adriatic coast which date from Roman or earlier times - its name derived from a description of the original Greek settlers in classical times. For a long time, it was an outpost of the Venetian Republic, and there are still traces of the uneasy coexistence of the Venetian and Dubrovnik Republics in mediaeval times. This monastery across the water from Korcula was linked to Dubrovnik by heliograph and signal fire, to keep an eye of the Venetians.



These days, Korcula is a picturesque little place, somewhat touristy in the summer, but less so than some other places. It also presents itself as the birthplace of Marco Polo, although there is not much evidence for this. Thus it was that we stayed in the Hotel *Marco Polo*, and took some mild amusement from visiting all the *Marco Polo* souvenir shops (four of these, numbered 1 to 4 accordingly, in an area smaller than the Sydenham shopping area in Christchurch), as well as the *Marco Polo* Museum.



There is some evidence that this chapel and the house behind it was owned by a Polo family at about the right time.

High quality limestone has been mined from this general region since very early times and the local stone masons enjoyed a high reputation. There are many examples of their work to be seen in the decorative frippery on the walls of buildings.







Maps of Polo's travels can be seen in many places.

There is a Marco Polo Museum, of course, a set of dioramas of scenes from his life, with wireless voice over or multilingual cue cards.

The Korcula Museum was more interesting, although much of it was too modern for our purposes. However, there was a selection of rapiers of periodish appearance, and boat building tools which could have been used in period times.

The winged lion, symbol of the Venetian Republic, was evident in many places on buildings. The book it holds is broadly open or closed. If open, it reads "Pax tibi marce evangelisti amicus", being "peace to you friend of St Mark", who was the patron saint of Venice.



The open or closedness is said to reflect the state of affairs at the time, the open book reflecting more peaceful times.



Considering the various renditions of the lion, it would seem that few if any of the masons had ever seen a lion in the flesh, to work from.

As is often the case, there is disagreement between scholars as to how valid is the record of Marco Polo's travels. Some people contend that Marco could have learned enough to tell these stories without traveling any further east than Persia. Others say that the inconsistencies and inaccuracies can be explained

by the stories being written down by someone listening to Marco telling these stories some years later, with errors and spurious dramatisations finding their way in or being added deliberately.

There is not even a single original version of the tales available to us. Even in Marco's time there were multiple versions circulating. So there is scope for interpretation and disagreement about many aspects, including his birthplace. There is plenty of reading about this on the web, if you were minded to follow it further.

If I had to offer an opinion about Korcula being Marco's home town, I would have to respond with a Mythbuster-style "plausible, but not likely".

## Resource of the Month: Other Special Interest Groups

This is going to be my last “resource” column as its time to move on to other things. However I want to bring to your attention the vast resource of specialty knowledge in groups outside the SCA. This particularly pertains to learning core physical skills. It’s lovely to think that we can teach ourselves from books, websites and videos. And you can certainly go a goodly distance on that. However you will learn more from ten minutes with an experienced teacher than you will from a day’s watching online videos – someone who can actually look at what you are doing and guide you towards better technique, materials or tools is invaluable. Some are lucky enough to find a mentor within the Society, but for most of us that level of experience only exists outside.

Luckily we are surrounded by talented folk who are often happy to share their knowledge and skill and are already organised into various clubs and guilds. Here’s a selection of contacts for groups.

Creative Fibre	<a href="http://www.creativefibre.org.nz/">http://www.creativefibre.org.nz/</a>
Calligraphy Society of New Zealand	<a href="http://www.newzealandcalligraphers.org.nz">http://www.newzealandcalligraphers.org.nz</a>
Silversmiths Guild of Canterbury	<a href="http://www.silversmithsguild.org.nz/">http://www.silversmithsguild.org.nz/</a>
Guild of Woodworkers	<a href="http://www.woodworkcanterbury.nz/">http://www.woodworkcanterbury.nz/</a>
Association of New Zealand Embroiderers’ Guilds (ANZEG)	<a href="http://anzeg.org.nz/cms/">http://anzeg.org.nz/cms/</a>
NZ Potters	<a href="http://www.nzpotters.com/">http://www.nzpotters.com/</a>
Association of book crafts	<a href="http://abc-nz.org.nz/">http://abc-nz.org.nz/</a>

There are loads more of course.

## November Calendar

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1 Stuff Night	2	3	4	5 Hororata Highland Games	6 A&S Heavy Combat Rapier Archery
7	8	9 Council meeting	10	11 Crusaders' Return	12 Crusaders' Return	13 Crusaders' Return
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 A&S Heavy Combat Rapier Archery
21	22	23	24	25 FTT deadline	26	27 A&S Heavy Combat Rapier Archery
28	29	30				

### MARTIAL PRACTICES

#### Armoured Combat

**Sundays** 10am–noon at Redwood Scout Hall.

**Thursdays** 6-8pm in the park at the end of Jasmine Place, Wigram

#### Rapier

**Sundays** from noon at Redwood Scout Hall.

#### Archery

**Fine Sundays** at Northcote School grounds, meet at Redwood Scout Hall.

Email: [archers@sg.lochac.sca.org](mailto:archers@sg.lochac.sca.org)

### ARTS GATHERINGS

#### Arts & Sciences

**Sundays** from 11:00am at Redwood Scout Hall.

**Stuff Night:** first Tuesday of the month at Avic Hill Community Centre. Topics or projects are announced on SG list and Facebook.

#### UCMRS Dance

**Mondays** 7pm -8:30pm in KF08. Kirkwood Village.

### ORGANISATIONAL MEETINGS

#### Council Meeting

**Second Wednesday** of the month, from 7:30pm. Upper Riccarton Library, 71 Main South Road or join online: details posted to the SG list.

*All welcome*

#### Baronial Open Home

Informal, un-garbed, social activity to allow people to chat about projects, the SCA and life in general, share a pot-luck meal and maybe watch a video.



December Calendar

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4 A&S Heavy Combat Rapier Archery
5	6 Stuff Night	7	8	9	10	11 A&S Heavy Combat Rapier Archery
12	13	14 Council meeting	15	16	17	18 A&S Heavy Combat Rapier Archery
19	20	21	22	23	24 FTT deadline	25 Christmas
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## Southron Gaard Regnum

Being a list of the current Baronial Officers and their official email addresses.

**\* Seeking replacement:** see vacancies page for details.

Baron & Baroness:	Richard d'Allier & Ginevra di Serafino Visconti	<a href="mailto:BandB@sg.lochac.sca.org">BandB@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Seneschal:	Maximilian von Monsterbrg	<a href="mailto:seneschal@sg.lochac.sca.org">seneschal@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Tour d'Or Herald:	Lady Fiora Vespucci	<a href="mailto:herald@sg.lochac.sca.org">herald@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Reeve:	James of Southron Gaard	<a href="mailto:reeve@sg.lochac.sca.org">reeve@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Knight Marshal:	Brian di Caffa	<a href="mailto:marshal@sg.lochac.sca.org">marshal@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Arts & Sciences:	Cecily Montgomery	<a href="mailto:arts@sg.lochac.sca.org">arts@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Chronicler:	Eleanora van den Bogaerde	<a href="mailto:chronicler@sg.lochac.sca.org">chronicler@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Chatelaine:	Tyra Greyhawke*	<a href="mailto:chatelaine@sg.lochac.sca.org">chatelaine@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Chirurgeon	Leonhart Hunt	<a href="mailto:chirurgeon@sg.lochac.sca.org">chirurgeon@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Constable:	Raffe de Massard	<a href="mailto:constable@sg.lochac.sca.org">constable@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Crescents Officer	Csperka	<a href="mailto:crescents@sg.lochac.sca.org">crescents@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Librarian	Ginevra di Serafino Visconti	<a href="mailto:library@sg.lochac.sca.org">library@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Quartermaster:	Raffe de Massard	<a href="mailto:quartermaster@sg.lochac.sca.org">quartermaster@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Web scribe:	Ginevra de Serafino Visconti	<a href="mailto:web@sg.lochac.sca.org">web@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Captain of Archers:	<b>Vacant*</b>	<a href="mailto:archers@sg.lochac.sca.org">archers@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Captain of Rapier:	James of Southron Gaard	<a href="mailto:rapier@sg.lochac.sca.org">rapier@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Lists Officer:	Melisande de Massard	<a href="mailto:lists@sg.lochac.sca.org">lists@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>

### wilmoor hamlet: otago

*Mieliko* (Dan Stride), or

*Aveline Goupil* (Sandra Wheeler) [wheels76@gmail.com](mailto:wheels76@gmail.com)

### nelson hamlet

*Fiora Vespucci* (Fiona) [HeraldRadish@gmail.com](mailto:HeraldRadish@gmail.com)

### other scanz groups

Auckland – Barony of Ildhafn  
<http://ildhafn.lochac.sca.org>

Hamilton - Canton of Cluain  
<http://cluain.lochac.sca.org>

Wellington - Shire of Darton  
<http://darton.lochac.sca.org>

## SCA (NZ) Inc. Membership

There are two different types of membership available to event participants in New Zealand.

### Subscribing Membership

Grants full rights of participation in the SCA (including voting, entering Crown Tournaments, holding office and affiliate membership with overseas branches). Subscribing membership also includes a subscription to Pegasus, the Lochac Kingdom Newsletter which is an electronic newsletter (PDF).

1 Year with E-Pegasus*	\$ 15.00
3 Years with E-Pegasus	\$ 30.00

A SCA(NZ) Inc. membership form is included on the final page of this newsletter, or can be accessed on the SCA(NZ) website.

### Event Membership

For all non-members aged 18 years or over attending an event. Event membership lasts for the duration of that event only and is not sufficient to hold office or fight in Crown Tournament etc. If the event has a cost, and it is not held by a College, the levy will be charged.

Per event    \$ 2.00

For further information visit the official SCA(NZ) Inc. website at:

[www.sca.org.nz](http://www.sca.org.nz)





## Society for Creative Anachronism (New Zealand) Inc.

### Membership application

If you prefer, you can use the online membership form linked from <http://sca.org.nz/membership.php>

☐ New Membership    ☐ Renewal    ☐ Replacement card    ☐ Change of information

Please print clearly. All information must be legible and filled out correctly for your membership to be processed.  
Please fill out one form per person.

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership number: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Post code: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \* \_\_\_\_\_

\*We are required to collect and keep your occupation on file by the Incorporated Societies Act 1908.

Telephone number (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Mobile) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Tick if under 18: ☐

Tick if you prefer to receive all future communications from us via post rather than via email: ☐

Society Name (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Group name (closest geographical Barony, Shire, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Membership type and duration:</b>	<b>1 year</b>	<b>3 years</b>
Membership + e-Pegasus (PDF) **	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30
Membership + posted print Pegasus	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40	<input type="checkbox"/> \$105
Replacement for lost card	<input type="checkbox"/> \$5	

\*\* To receive e-Pegasus, you must provide a valid email address. You will be emailed directions to access your electronic subscription.

**Payment Method:**    ☐ Cheque Enclosed    ☐ Internet Banking

**I declare that the information given is true and correct:**

Signed (please use legal name): \_\_\_\_\_

#### Payment information:

- Please do not post cash. Sorry, we are unable to accept credit card payments.
- **Paying by cheque:** make cheques payable to Society for Creative Anachronism (NZ) Inc.
- **Paying by Internet Banking:** make the payment to SCA (NZ) Inc, account number 38-9010-0099412-00. Place your surname in the reference field, then print out and attach the receipt page to this form once your payment has gone through. Failure to attach proof of payment can delay your membership being processed by as much as a month – so please don't forget!

If you have queries about this form or your membership, please feel free to contact the Registrar, Elizabeth Kent, at [registrar@sca.org.nz](mailto:registrar@sca.org.nz). For urgent matters, phone the Registrar at (03) 960 0452 between the hours of 9am-9pm.

Information you provide on this form will be kept on file by the SCA (NZ) Registry according to the Privacy Act 1993, and may be shared with Kingdom Officers and affiliated SCA corporations as needed. If you believe we hold incorrect information, contact the Registrar directly for a copy of your details. Use this form to update your information by ticking the box labelled 'Change of information'.

Subscriptions other than to Pegasus, the Lochac Kingdom newsletter, are NOT available through SCA (NZ). Contact the US registry directly to subscribe to Complete Anachronist, Tournaments Illuminated or other Kingdom newsletters. Send this form with payment to: SCANZ Registrar, C/- 24 Meadowville Ave, Spreydon, Christchurch 8024