



Crux Australis Herald

Baron Master Gereint Scholar

Stilgherrian • "The Scriptorium"

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14th June A.S. XXIII (1988)

Unto the College of Heraldry of the Kingdom of the West in the Principality of Lochac, does Gereint Scholar, Crux Australis Herald, send warm greetings.

The College of Heraldry in the Principality of Lochac held its May meeting at The Scriptorium on Thursday 9th June, starting at 7.00pm or thereabouts. Present were Master Gereint Scholar, Crux Australis Herald; Sir Haos Windchaser, Acting Frette Rouge Pursuivant; PEs At Large Baroness Aislinn de Valence, Lord Tako Jiro and Robert Furness of Southwood; and Cornets/visitors Mistress Bryony of the Bees, Baron Tovy Woolmongere, Baroness Silfren the Singer, Lord Lachlan Tadhg MacLachlan and Rowan Pawl (aged 2 months).

Correcting the Records: A Reminder

Last month I sent a list of all the people in Lochac and Aneala who've received awards or submitted armoury to the College of Heraldry. Please remember that I'd like you to tell me about any mistakes by 24th June.

Heraldic Symposium

As you all know by now, Lochac's first *Heraldic Symposium* will be held in Melbourne on the weekend of 2nd-3rd July. I sent a flyer with last month's letter. If you need further details, please ask your local herald, or contact the autocrats: Viscountess Eleanor Littyhalles [Adina Hamilton] (03) 419-3815, or Lady Elenor of the Greiving Heart [Vallerie Pallaoro], 217 Staton Street, Fairfield 3078. (03) 489-9152.

I realize that for many of you it's a long way to travel and therefore a lot of money to spend — especially so close to the Midwinter Investiture at the other end of Lochac. On the other hand, it'll be useful and entertaining. Please try to be there — and remember to book as soon as you can.

A Distinguished Visitor

The West Kingdom's chief herald, the Vesper Principal Herald, Mistress Alison von Markheim, will *definitely* be here. The West Kingdom has agreed to pay half the estimated US\$1200 needed to bring her to the Symposium and to the Midwinter Investiture in River Haven. Any further help we can offer would be greatly appreciated.

In a recent letter, Mistress Alison described herself thus:

"I've been in the SCA for almost 17 years, which is over half my life. I've been a landed Baroness, seneschal on several levels, Baronial chronicler, Knight Marshall, fighter, serious musician, Lists Mistress, and I've autocratted one of everything. I've been active in three kingdoms and have household members in five. I've picked up lots of awards. When I got my Pelican, I was the youngest person ever to do so. I've edited two Symposium *Proceedings* and am the indexer and editor for the new *Ordinary*. I'm not good at saying no.

"Mundanelly, I am Alison Douglas, also known as Alison Lowe. I'm the domestic engineer, cook, bottle-washer, accountant, purchasing agent, seamstress, social secretary and anchor for Haus Markheim.

I share an incredibly overcrowded two-bedroom two-story wood frame house in a terrible part of Berkeley with Sir Wäldt von Markheim [Forrest Lowe], Golem Pursuivant, Knight Marshall of the Principality of the Mists, nice person; Lord Iathus of Scara [Bob Goolsby], Sea Wolf Herald for the Mists, publisher of the *Ordinary and Armorial*, bear; Lady Cassandre von Markheim [Carol Smith], excellent field herald, ant-slayer extraordinaire and otherwise sensibly uninvolved person; and Lady Tarysa of Rivendell [Tracy Blackstone], prop, stay and camp mother to us all. There are usually three cats and a German Shorthair Pointer around underfoot in addition to the books, computers, armour, motorcycles, spinning wheels, looms, records, Free Trumpet Press publications waiting to be mailed and scraps of fabric. We are trying to scrape together the money to buy a five bedroom house all together, with room for the heralds and the files, which is why money is tight, even with four nice incomes.

"I have a degree in Demography from the University of Colorado with which I am doing absolutely nothing and a great deal of experience as a newspaper librarian and indexer. I do not work outside the house (and woe to anyone who says that I 'don't work' in front of Bob!), but manage to find plenty to do otherwise.

"I have considerably more interests than time in which to pursue them, including, but not limited to: names research, cooking and feast-giving, spinning, reading all sorts of things, playing with numbers, calligraphy, opera, classical rock music, costuming, fighting, knitting, writing, travelling, maps of all kinds and photography. It keeps me off the streets."

Save Money on Publications!

Mistress Alison can bring with her copies of the *Armorial and Ordinary*, the *West Kingdom Herald's Handbook* and anything else we need — provided she knows beforehand what we want. This is the cheapest way of getting these publications here, since we won't have to pay freight. For example, an *Armorial and Ordinary* will only cost around \$33; usually it's nearer \$50.

If you want to take advantage of this never-to-be-repeated opportunity, call me with your order as soon as possible.

Other Wonderful Things for Sale

Master Thorfinn still has for sale herald's pins: escutcheon-shaped enamel pins with a tie-pin fastening, about 1½ inches long, bearing the College of Herald's device. They're \$3.50 each, plus 50 cents postage. And they look really nice worn on a bright red woolen jumper, believe me.

Master Thorfinn also has copies of the *Update to the Armorial and Ordinary*, which includes names, badges and devices registered between May XXII and October XXII. If you own an *Armorial and Ordinary* then you need this book. It costs \$4.00, plus \$1.00 postage.

Thorfinn's address is Steve Roylance, 1592 Malvern Road, Glen Iris 3146. Telephone (03) 25-6348.

Updates to the *Armorial and Ordinary*

As just mentioned, the first *Update to the Armorial and Ordinary* is now available. Further updates will be issued every six months or so. They will *not* be cumulative, so if you want to keep your *Armorial and Ordinary* up to date you'll have to buy all the *Updates* as they're issued.

The second *Update* will be printed "shortly after the printing of the April *Letter of Acceptance and Return*". It should therefore be available mid-July. Stay tuned for details.

Order of Precedence

The latest edition of the West Kingdom's *Order of Precedence and March* has arrived, courtesy of Golem Pursuivant, Sir Wäldt von Markheim. It comes in two sections. The first is in order of

Precedence, along with supplementary information, such as lists of all the Kings and Queens of the West, the Court Barons and Baronesses and so on. The second section is a complete alphabetical list of everyone who's received awards in the West. This edition is accurate up to 1st May XXIII (1988).

If you'd like a copy, please get in touch and I'll arrange something. But be warned! It's 90 pages long, and I'll charge a small fee for postage.

Meanwhile, my own heraldic database is almost fully operational. Available soon will be equivalent documents for Lochac and Aneala. I'll let you know soon how you can get copies.

Quarterly Reports

Group heralds, your next quarterly report is due just before Midwinter in early July. But please try and get it to me by 30th June, since I'll be travelling soon after that. If you're going to the Heraldic Symposium, bring your report with you and we can chat about it in person.

Some folk *still* haven't sent the quarterly reports that were due at the Rowany Festival, despite several reminders in these letters. I have yet to hear from Innilgard, Blessed Herman the Cripple, Parvus Portus, Saint Ursula and Saint Swithun.

Indeed, the Crux Australis office hasn't heard from the Colleges of Saint Ursula and Saint Swithun in a very long time. I'll be writing individually to the heralds and seneschals of those groups later this week.

Fees for Submissions

The wonderfully variable foreign exchange rate has climbed lately, and now it's hovering around 0.79. The fees therefore look something like this:

Action	Fee in \$US	Fee in \$A
Registration of name only	5.00	6.33
Change of registered name	5.00	6.33
Registration of badge only (name registered)	7.50	9.50
Change of registered device or badge	7.50	9.50
Registration of name and badge	8.50	10.75
Change of registered name and device	8.50	10.75
Registration of device only (name registered)	9.50	12.00
Change of badge to device (no previous device) ...	9.50	12.00
Registration of name and device	10.50	13.30

Please check with me before sending large amounts of money: the exchange rate changes without warning. If you don't like the odd numbers, you can always round the amount up to the nearest whole dollar, and consider it a donation.

Please make all cheques payable to "SCA College of Heralds".

The Fees May Change Soon

The Vesper Principal Herald tells me that she's thinking about making the submission fees easier to understand. She's talking about setting a standard fee for a "transaction", whether a new one or a change to an existing *registered* item. A name and a device would count as two items. No-one we've spoken to can think of a good reason why there should be a differential fee structure. And we're also talking about fixing the fees once a year or so, so they wouldn't wander up and down according to the exchange rate — well, at least not every month.

If you have an opinion on submission fees, please let me know before the end of June. We hope to

organize something within the next few months.

Why You Didn't Get this Letter and Had to Borrow a Copy

These monthly letters are only mailed to you if you're the herald for a local group, *or* if you're the Hund Pursuivant, *or* if you pay the annual subscription of \$10.00. Or unless you make some other special arrangement with me. Sorry, but otherwise it'd cost too much.

Of course, everybody is encouraged to photocopy these letters and distribute them as widely as they like. Nothing here is a secret.

Meetings

At our regular monthly meetings we look at the latest heraldic submissions from around Lochac, forwarding some to the Vesper Principal Herald, returning others to the submitter for further work. The next meeting is part of the Lochac Heraldic Symposium to be held over the weekend of 2nd-3rd July at the College of Saint Bartholomew. The meetings after that are Thursday 14th July (in case work overflows from the Heraldic Symposium) and 11th August, starting at 7.00pm at The Scriptorium, 230 Frome Street, Adelaide.

I also hold occasional irregular meetings to take care of any other business that crops up. If you want to be notified of these meetings, please let me know.

The Hund Pursuivant, Master Thorfinn Hrolfsson, holds weekly "Hund Meetings" to provide Lochac's comments on the heraldic submissions from other kingdoms. They provide an excellent opportunity to learn about conflict research, and to look at examples of fine (and not so fine) heraldry from around the Known World. They're on Monday nights starting at 8.00pm somewhere in Stormhold [Melbourne]. Please check with Master Thorfinn before turning up anywhere, since the meetings tend to move about. You can call him on (03) 25-6348.

This Month's Submissions

Ten submissions were considered at the meeting on 9th June. Only one device submission was returned to its submitter — and that was merely for minor clarification.

1. **Aine of the Hounds** (resubmission to Crux Australis; name submitted, device returned) [River Haven, HID24]

Azure, two piles in point inverted throughout ermine, the dexter pile charged with a Rotweiler's head, facing dexter, couped proper, the sinister pile charged with an Irish Wolfhound's head, facing sinister, couped proper, between two nautilus shells argent.

The name was originally submitted as *Amalthea of River Haven*. This was returned by Crux Australis on 12th January XXII (1988) because all the documentation showed that *Amalthea* was a goddess of the Greek pantheon, nursemaid to Zeus — and therefore a name unsuitable for a human being in the SCA. The device was returned at the same time for lack of a suitable name to go with it.

Aine is described on page 7 of Withycombe, without a date, as "a favorite name in Ireland for centuries". Ó Corráin and Maguire, in *Gaelic Personal Names*, documents *Aine* on page 19 as a period female name. *of the Hounds* is a TSCA epithet.

The device is returned for clarification. The blazon describes the nautilus as *argent*, while the emblazon shows them as *proper*. While I'm at it, I'll suggest the submitter simplify the design a little. The submitter also attached copious documentation, albeit from tertiary sources, to show that the two breeds of dogs, or near equivalents, were common in period.

2. **Cyradd Uchel** (new, name and device; submitted) [HID342]

Per chevron Or and azure, in chief a triple-towered castle, in fess two laurel wreaths azure, and in

base a hand in benediction, couped at the wrist, Or

This submission was held by Crux Australis on 7th December XXII (1987), awaiting the arrival of a petition of support from the group. This petition has now arrived.

The name is purportedly Welsh for "to reach a high state" or "higher reaching", with photocopies from *Y Geiriadur Mawr: the complete Welsh-English English-Welsh dictionary* by H Meurig Evans and W O Thomas. The group wants a Welsh translation for the words "higher reaches".

However, we suspect the Welsh word for the noun *reach* (a tract of land) would be different from the verb *to reach* (up to the top shelf). They're willing to accept changes to form the correct translation, so I've submitted the name for further consideration.

The device appears free of conflict.

3. **David of Lockerbie** (new, name and device; submitted) [Agaricus, HID75]

Per pale argent and azure, two gloved arms conjoined at the shoulder, holding a sword and a unicorn's horn, crossed in saltire, counterchanged

If David needs documentation then someone's having a bad day. *Lockerbie* is a town in Scotland, just north of Annan.

The device should be clear, by the "complete difference of charge" rule, of Franz of Ratisban (August 1985): *Per pale azure and Or, a sinister eagle's wing terminating in a hand, maintaining an axe, counterchanged*. It should also be clear of Serena Lucia of the Peacemakers (Badge, July 1984): *Gules, issuant from dexter and sinister, a dexter hand and a sinister hand proper, each maintaining a cup Or*, and of Sine ni Chluraine (September 1987): *Vert, a pair of cubit arms issuant in chevron and crossed at the wrists argent*.

4. **Dubhghlas MacAilean** (change of registered name, resubmission to Crux Australis; submitted to Vesper) [Innilgard, HID84]

This gentle currently has the registered name *Douglas FitzAlan*. His submitted name change of *Dubhghlas MacLuin* was returned by Crux Australis on 7th April XXII (1988) for further documentation of *MacLuin*. He chose to design another name instead.

This new name is a re-casting into Gaelic of his original registration. *Ailean* is found in L A Dunkling's *Scottish Christian Names*, on page 14.

5. **Isobel of Silvermere** (new, name and device; submitted) [Innilgard, HID364]

Azure, on a pale and a chief argent, five gouttes vert, three, one and one.

Yonge documents *Isobel* as a suitably period Scottish variant of *Isabel* (page 35 or thereabouts). Certainly *Isabel* is common enough, and an 'o' instead of an 'a' seems reasonable. of *Silvermere* is common English and a little TSCA.

The device appears free of conflict.

6. **Martin de Bayeux** (new, name and device; submitted) [Innilgard, HID352]

Gyronny vert and Or, a pheon gules within a bordure indented sable.

Martin is in Withycombe, page 210. It's been a common name since the 12th Century. *Bayeux* is a French town sufficiently famous even for me to have heard of it.

As for the device, we congratulate the submitter for using strong, bold colours on the emblazon sheet. However, it could be drawn with the "teeth" on the *indented* fewer and larger. As submitted, we thought they were *almost* too small.

This device also appears free of conflict. The closest we found was Gwilym of the Three Rivers (June 1986): *Or, a pheon within a bordure embattled sable*. We count a major for the change of plain field to a high-contrast divided field, a good minor (or even a major) for the change in colour of the charge, and a minor for changing the bordure from *embattled* to *indented*.

[Note: A *pheon* is a broad-headed arrow, similar to that used on the "Commonwealth of

Australia" mark. It's usually drawn point downwards, and the inside edges of the barbs are usually drawn with jagged edges.]

7. **Peter the Sinister** (new, name and device; submitted) [Llyn Orla, HID230]

Gules, a bend sinister sable, fimbriated argent, in base an increscent argent.

The name is TSCA, and appears free of problems.

The device may or may not be free of conflict. The difficulty is the device of Johann van Hohenstaffen (August 1979): *Gules, a bend sinister sable, fimbriated on its upper edge Or and its lower edge argent, between in chief a dagger inverted argent, and in base a dagger inverted Or.* This might be counted as nothing for the change in fimbriation, a major for the different number of secondary charges, a good minor for the difference in type of secondaries, and another minor for the fact that the lower secondary charge is a different tincture — all of which *just* adds up to the required two major points.

The alternatives he listed didn't clear the possible conflict.

The meeting believed it's such a nice simple piece of heraldry we'd try and talk the Vesper Principal Herald into counting the conflict the same way we have.

8. **Poli Tiko Polis** (resubmission to Laurel, name and device; submitted) [HID326]

Argent, two chevronels gules between in chief two griffins combattant and in base a laurel wreath azure.

As Duke Frederick of Holland, former Vesper Principal Herald, once put it, "Politikopolis, the name that would not die...". An appeal concerning this name's return was denied by Laurel about a year ago.

The Shire has sent documentation, by which they hope to demonstrate that the word *Politikopolis*, (Πολιτυτικον Πολισ) or at least something similar to it, can be formed in Greek. Please note that they want a word close to the spelling and pronunciation they've been using until now. They don't care if the English translation needs to be changed a little.

They've also sent the appropriate petition.

The device has been submitted before, but since Laurel cannot create a "holding name" for a group, the device had to be returned for lack of a name to register it to.

It still appears to be free of conflict. It's clear of *Argent, two chevrons gules* (Chetwin and others, Papworth, page 540). We counted a major point for adding one group of secondary charges, and a minor for the laurel wreath, making the required major and minor. It's also clear of Caitlin Stuart (May 1982): *Argent, two chevronels gules, overall a dragon passant sable, gorged of a crown embattled, dependant therefrom a chain Or.*

9. **Simeon ben Jacob of the Holy Lands** (resubmission to Vesper, name and device; submitted) [Llyn Orla, HID331]

Or, on a bend between to Stars of David azure, a sword Or.

The original name submission, *Simon of Jerusalem*, was returned by the Vesper Principal Herald on 13th March XXII (1988) for being presumptuous. "A man named *Simon* was one of the leaders in the destruction of the Temple in AD70. And the Old Testament mentions *Simon Mac-cabeus* and *Simon II*, Judges in and of Jerusalem."

Simeon is shown on page 270 of Withycombe as a variant of *Simon* in common use around 1200. *Jacob* is suitably biblical, and *of the Holy Lands* is common or garden English.

The original device submission, *Argent, a sword inverted sable debriused by a Star of David within a bordure azure*, was returned at the same time for conflict with the fan-flash used by the Israeli Air Force: *Argent, a Star of David within a bordure azure*. In combination with the submitted name, it was also felt to be another presumption. Some people also thought that the sword through the Star of David could be interpreted as anti-Semitic.

This new design appears free of conflict — but *please* don't use fluorescent pens for colour-

ing emblazons. After a while they fade to very odd colours indeed.

10. **Timo Auliksenpoika** (resubmission to Crux Australis, name and device; submitted) [Saint Augustine, HID339]

Sable, a chief and a pale argent, in fess two compass stars of four points Or.

The name was returned by Crux Australis on 12th January XXII (1988) for further documentation. We now have, amongst other things, some notes taken from the Finnish books *Isänmaan Historia* by Juva *et al*, and *Sukopolvien Perinto*. The submitter claims that *Auliksenpoika* is the correct Finnish patronymic form of "son of Alex" or, more literally, "Alex's boy". Since we can neither confirm nor deny this claim, we've forwarded the name for further comment.

Timo is also the submitter's mundane given name.

The device appears free of conflict — even with Isobel of Silvermere above.

A submission was also received from Gwynfor Lwyd (change of registered device), but it was held pending the arrival of the appropriate fee.

Last letter I asked whether people wanted small drawings of the devices submitted each month. Since I didn't receive a single response, I assume you don't want the pictures.

What's this "HID342" Stuff?

You might have noticed that with each submission there's a bit that says "HID342" or whatever. Don't panic. All "HID" stands for "heraldic ID". Remember I said I was putting the heraldic records on computer? I worked out it'd be a little easier for me if every person had a unique number in the file. Hence the HID.

You don't need to use or remember the HID. It's purely for my benefit: if I know the number, I can find the person's records in the files a little bit faster and with a little less typing.

If you're wondering why people have the numbers they do, here's how it works. When I was designing the database, I needed a few people experiment with. So I chose ten people from around Lochac and Aneala that I knew, people with a few awards and some registered armoury, and played around. Those "test people" still have their original numbers. For example, Sir Haos Windchaser is HID1, I'm HID2, and so on. Once I had the system working, I went through alphabetically, adding in all the individuals I could find, then the groups, then a few people I missed out before. Finally, I've been adding in new submissions as they arrive, the latest being Isobel of Silvermere, HID364.

Just What You've Always Wanted to Know...

I often come across fascinating but useless bits of heraldic trivia. I thought I should share it with you. Actually, Robert Furness of Southwood finds more trivia than I do, but since this is my letter I'm taking the glory.

If you charge a bordure with a group of something, you usually just say *on a bordure (tincture), whatever*, such as *on a bordure Or, six mullets of six points gules*. But there's a special word to describe the act of charging a bordure with exactly eight of something: *entoyer*.

...*on a bordure Or, entoyer of mullets gules* would be a gold bordure charged with eight five-pointed stars. *Entoyer* is sometimes written as *entier*. *Entoyer of* means "charged with eight", and it can only be used when you're charging a bordure.

It doesn't end there. If you're charging the bordure with living things — plants, animals or birds — you'd use a different special word. *A bordure Or, enaluron of eagles gules* is a gold bordure charged with exactly eight red eagles. You use the word *enaluron* when the charges are birds of some kind. Similarly, the word *verdoy* is used for plants or leaves, and *enurney* is used for beasts and,

presumably, monsters such as dragons and griffins.

Like most excessively florid heraldic descriptors, these words are distinctly out of period. If you use them in your submissions I'll change them back to something understandable. Heraldry became very silly after it wasn't used on the battlefield any more.

Last Words

The West Kingdom's *Minutes of the College of Heralds* for the May meeting arrived last week. However, none of Lochac's submissions were considered, since the fees hadn't arrived from Australia. (I was having problems getting the bank to cope with the way the SCA works. This has now been solved.) They will have been discussed at the June meeting, and I'll have further news in my next letter.

The Laurel Queen of Arms' *Letter of Acceptance and Return* for April has yet to arrive.

And finally, a reminder that these *Crux Australis Monthly Letters* are produced for you. If there's something you'd like to see included, or something you could do without, or if you have any other criticism or comment, please let me know.

Your servant,

gereint scholaris

Baron Master Gereint Scholar
Crux Australis Herald

