

## Crux Australis Herald Baron Master Gereint Scholar

Stilgherrian • "The Scriptorium"  
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11th August A.S. XXIII (1988)

Unto the College of Heraldry of the Kingdom of the West in the Principality of Lochac, and unto whomsoever else should happen to read this missive, does Gereint Scholar, Crux Australis Herald, send warm greetings.

First, Good Gentles, my apologies for the distinct lack of communication recently. After two weeks travelling interstate, the backlog of paperwork was considerable. I then had the good sense to spend a week recovering from food poisoning. All that, combined with the start of a new radio ratings period, has meant I've been rather busy. But the chaos is now over. Thank you for your patience.

### New Addresses: Vesper and Crux Australis

The Vesper Principal Herald, Mistress Alison von Markheim, has moved to a new address. Please send all mail for the Vesper office to P.O. Box 10469, Oakland CA 94610, USA. The new telephone number is (415) 834-8444.

I'll be moving to a new home in early September. As yet, I don't know what the street address will be. However, *the postal address will remain the same*: P.O. Box 213, Prospect 5082. The telephone number will probably stay the same too, but I'll let you know as soon as I'm sure. In the meantime, please continue sending material to my postbox. If you have an *urgent* problem, you can call me at work on (08) 44-0719, but be prepared to leave a message.

### Updates to the SCA's *Armorial and Ordinary*

The SCA's *Armorial and Ordinary* is perhaps our most fundamental research tool. If you don't have a copy in your group, you should think about buying one. The latest edition was published last year, and it included all the names, badges and devices registered before the end of April XXI (1987). If you need a copy, let me know.

The first *Update to the Armorial and Ordinary*, which includes armoury registered between May XXII and October XXII, was released a few months ago. If you own an *Armorial and Ordinary* then you *need* this book. You can order copies from Master Thorfinn Hrolfsson [Steve Roylance], 1592 Malvern Road, Glen Iris 3146. It costs \$4, plus \$1 postage.

There'll be a further three *Updates*, each covering a period of about six months, before the entire *Armorial and Ordinary* is revised and published again in late 1989. The *Updates* won't be cumulative, so you'll need to get each *Update* to stay up-to-date, so to speak. The second *Update* will be available very soon.

### Quarterly Reports (Again)

Group heralds, your next Quarterly Report is due just before the Spring Coronet Tourney in early October. If you're not sure what to include, see my *Crux Australis Monthly Letter* for May.

Now the gripe. I still haven't received Midwinter reports from Rowany, Saint Cecilia, Poli Tiko Polis, Cyradd Uchel and Ventbarré.

**Administrivia I: Requirements for Submissions**

When you send submissions, I need *three* copies of the "History Sheet" and *four* copies — *in colour* — of any emblazon sheets.

(You may want to make extra copies for your own files. And you should always encourage submitters to keep copies, just in case everything goes missing in the post.)

One copy of everything goes into my files, and two go to Vesper. She in turn sends one to the Laurel Queen of Arms' office. And when a device or badge is finally registered, I send the fourth copy of the emblazon sheet to the College of Scribes.

It's important to make sure you send me all those copies in colour. Otherwise there'll be a delay while I get someone (probably you) to organize the missing copies. In addition, one of those coloured copies will be the basis of the Laurel Queen of Arms' final decision. It's in your interest, and the interest of your submitters, to make those drawings as clear as possible.

And what are those fees? The foreign exchange rate continues to hover around 0.79, so the fees continue to hover 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, and the fees may well change in the next couple of months. If you don't like odd numbers, you can always round the amount up to the nearest whole dollar, and consider it a donation. The College of Heralds is always short of money.

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

**Administrivia II: Non-Submissions**

If you need the answer to an heraldic questions, or you're working on a submission, and you don't have the reference material, remember that you can always send me things without them being formal submissions. In particular, if you want something checked for conflict, just send me the blazon, or a small sketch, and I'll have it checked. Obviously, I won't send anything on to Vesper unless it *is* a formal submission — money, forms and all. But if all you want answered is a question, let me know.

I'd prefer you to write rather than telephone, for several reasons. First, your letter is less likely to get lost than the little scraps of paper I use for telephone messages. More importantly, I average more than 60 telephone calls a day already, and by the time I get home I don't need any more. [*I'll probably regret the next sentence, but...*] If you send a written request for information, I promise to respond in writing within one week of receiving your request.

**Administrivia III: Roster Corrections**

The Roster distributed last month has a couple of mistakes.



Under the Canton of Agaricus, the telephone number for David of Lockerbie [Peter Anderson] is wrong. It should read: (02) 358-4905.

The correct address for PE At Large Roddhu Oakburn [Ian Metcalfe] is: 45/100 Chewings Street, Page ACT 2614.

#### Available Now: The Pictorial Dictionary

The *Pictorial Dictionary of Heraldry* (as used in the Society for Creative Anachronism) is written by Bruce Draconarius of Mistholme, Crescent Principal Herald of the Kingdom of Caid, and Akagawa Yoshio, Dolphin Herald. It has 122 pages, detailing all the charges registered in the SCA. More than 700 illustrations make it a very useful reference book for heralds at all levels of the Society.

Master Thorfinn Hrolfsson, Hund Pursuivant, has copies for the very reasonable price of \$11 (yes, \$1 cheaper than predicted last month) plus \$2 postage. Bulk discounts are available. Makey or cheques payable to "Stephen Roylance".

#### 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 on Thursday 15th September, starting at 7.00pm — AT MY NEW ADDRESS! [See explanation above.] The meetings after that will be on Thursday 13th October and 10th November (tentative).

The Hund Pursuivant, Master Thorfinn Hrolfsson, holds weekly meetings to provide Lochac's comments on the submissions from other kingdoms. They're an excellent opportunity to learn about conflict research, and to look at examples of heraldry from around the Known World. They're 8.00pm Monday nights somewhere in Stormhold [Melbourne]. Please check with Thorfinn on (03) 25-6348 for the exact location.

#### This Month's Submissions

The College of Heraldry in the Principality of Lochac held its August meeting at The Scriptorium on Thursday 11th July, starting at 7.00pm or thereabouts. Present were Master Gereint Scholar, Crux Australis Herald; Sir Haos Windchaser, Acting Frette Rouge Pursuivant; and Cornet/visitor Baroness Selfran the Singer. Apologies were received from Lord Tako Jiro and Robert Furness of Southwood.

With only a few submissions and only three people to argue, we got through the meeting in record time: around an hour!

#### 1. Jessica of Fearn Abbey (new, name and device; SUBMITTED) [River Haven, HID158]

*Purple, three acorns inverted Or, and a chief triangular ermine.*

*Jessica* is a character in Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice*. Withycombe, however, says the use of this name "is modern", although it derives from the Biblical *Jesca* or *Iscah* (p.176). Yonge mentions it in her glossary as a female name, but when we looked up the reference to page 46 we couldn't find anything. On the other hand, the name has been registered in the SCA many times before, the most recent being *Jessica Attenborough* in Dec 85 and *Jessika of Fairholm* in Aug 87.

The submitter claims *Fearn Abbey* is in the Ross clan area, "as shown in a Scottish clan map", although she didn't enclose a copy of the map. Still, given that *Fearn* is Old English for "fern", it seems a reasonable byname.

The submitter's first-choice device, *Vert, three acorns inverted Or, and a chief triangular ermine*, conflicts with the mundane arms of Harding: *Vert, three acorns Or* (Papworth p.888). We count a major for adding the chief, nothing more. [See my note on acorns below.]

The alternative device, with a *purple* field, is therefore submitted. It should be clear of Bret-

tell: *Gules, three acorns Or* (Papworth p.888).

Although the submitter blazoned the three acorns as *two and one*, we felt it wasn't necessary to blazon this explicitly. This would be the default position for three objects, especially beneath a chief triangular.

[Note: *Acorns are one of those things that distinguish SCA heraldry from mundane heraldry. In SCA heraldry, acorns are by default drawn with the stem towards the top. If it's got the stem at the bottom, as in Jessica's submission, it's an "acorn inverted". This is the exact opposite of mundane heraldry, where an acorn usually has the stem at the bottom.*

*Thus, when reading the blazon of the arms of Harding, say, where they're just "acorns", they are in fact the same way up as Jessica's "acorns inverted", and therefore can generate no points of difference.]*

2. **Karel of the Three Isles** (name submitted July XXIII, device resubmission to Crux Australis; SUBMITTED) [Stormhold, HID368]

*Per saltire gules and argent, in base panpipes argent.*

Karel's original device submission, *Per saltire vert and chequy, gules and argent, in pale a Thor's hammer and pan pipes argent*, was returned by me last month for further consultation.

This new design is much simpler. It also appears free of conflict, even if we count only a minor point of difference between panpipes and clarions or organ-rests. It should be clear of Greenfield: *Per saltire gules and vert, three clarions Or* (Papworth, p.1045).

3. **Saint Julian the Hospitaller, College of** (new, name and device; SUBMITTED) [HID374]

*Quarterly argent and azure, a cross flory quarterly sable and argent, in dexter chief a laurel wreath sable, and on a chief sable, three mullets argent.*

This group, in the Shire of Mordenvale, chose *Saint Julian* as their patron because he "has a more interesting story than most saints". And they're right. Julian was almost certainly an entirely mythical saint. He has no date, no country, no tomb. Despite this, seven ancient English churches are dedicated to him, besides others elsewhere.

According to legend, Julian was a young nobleman. When hunting, he came upon a hart which said to him: "You are hunting me and you will kill your father and your mother." To avoid such a terrible destiny, he went to a distant country. There he served the king so well that he was knighted and given a rich widow in marriage with a castle for her dowry.

Some time later, his father and mother went to find him, but he was out. His wife gave them her bed to sleep in. Next day Julian returned home while his wife was at church. He went into his bedroom, found a man and a woman asleep there, and jumped to the conclusion that... Well, you can read the rest of the story for yourselves. Back to the heraldry.

The distinctive device appears free of conflict.

4. **Saint Monica, College of** (name submitted July XXIII, device resubmission to Crux Australis; SUBMITTED) [HID371]

*Per chevron azure and argent, in pale two quills crossed in saltire and a laurel wreath counter-changed.*

I returned this group's previous device submission last month for re-drafting. They've chosen to change the design slightly. The appropriate petition was sent.

The device appears free of conflict.

[Note: *This submission wasn't actually considered at the meeting. It was eaten by my desk, and only rediscovered while I was writing up my notes. Oops.]*



### News of Your Submissions

The West Kingdom *Minutes* for July have been delayed by Vesper's visit to the Principality of Oertha [Alaska]. They're expected to arrive shortly, along with the August *Minutes*. I'll have extracts in my next letter.

And a correction. The extracts from the West Kingdom *Minutes* included last month were for the June meeting not, as stated in my covering letter, May.

Nothing has arrived from the Laurel office since my last letter.

### New Rules for Submissions

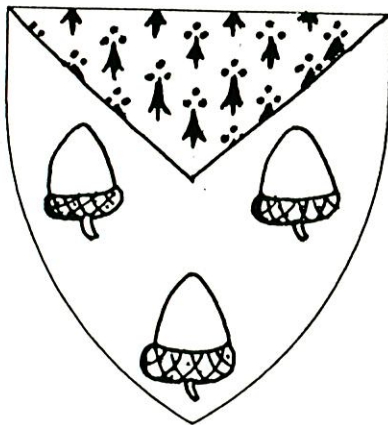
I've enclosed a copy of the Laurel Queen of Arms' proposal for the new *Rules for Submissions*. As you can see, it's still in early draft form. If you have any suggestions or comments, please send them to me *in writing* as soon as possible.

Your servant,

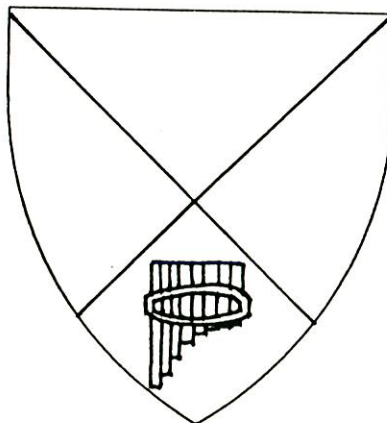
*gereintus scholaris* :.  
Baron Master Gereint Scholar  
Crux Australis Herald



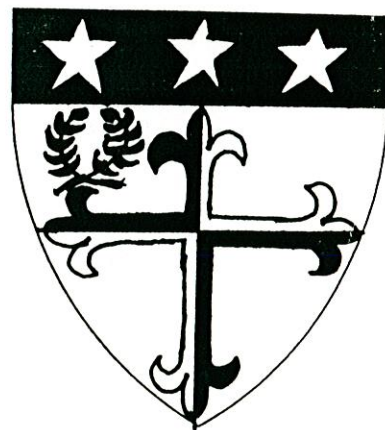
1. Jessica



2. Karel



3. Saint Julian



4. Saint Monica

