



Crux Australis Herald

Baron Master Gereint Scholar

Stilgherrian • "The Scriptorium"

P. O. Box 213, Prospect 5082, Australia
phone (08) 223-6407 • intl +618-223-6407

15th September A.S. XXIII (1988)

Unto the College of Heralds of the Kingdom of the West in the Principality of Lochac, and unto all others who should read this missive, does Gereint Scholar, Crux Australis Herald, send warm greetings. This is my *Crux Australis Monthly Letter* for September XXIII.

While moving house, I vowed to keep this month's *Letter* brief. Well, so much for plans. This is probably the biggest *Letter* you'll receive for some time. But it does contain a lot of important information, so please take the time to read it all through.

You'll notice a slight change to the format. (Curiously, I decided to make these changes at the same time as my superior, the Vesper Principal Herald, made changes to her *Minutes*.) The basic information will still be here, but the structure will be slightly different. There'll be more news, gossip and policy information aimed at all working heralds. And I'll include, at the very beginning, a summary called...

This Month's Highlights

- New address for Crux Australis Herald.
- What to do with *Crux Australis Monthly Letters*. (see page 1)
- How to return a submission. (see page 3)
- Policy on badges and household names. (see page 3)
- New *Rules for Submission* coming soon. (see page 3-5)
- New submission forms and fees. (see page 6)
- How I'll keep in touch with you better. (see page 6)
- This month's submissions. (see page 8)

New Addresses: Crux Australis and Vesper

After a couple weeks of chaos, I've moved to 25 Blackburn Street, Adelaide — a classic single fronted Adelaide cottage. The house is called "The New Scriptorium", although in conversation "The Scriptorium" is acceptable. Also at this address are Robert Furness of Southwood [ACB Tyson], PE for the College of Blessed Herman the Cripple (amongst other things), and The Cat.

The postal address is the same as before: P.O. Box 213, Prospect 5082, Australia. The telephone number remains (08) 223-6407. Please don't call after 10.00pm ACST.

If you have an urgent problem, you can always call me at work on (08) 44-0719, but be prepared to leave a message. My facsimile number at work is (08) 344-6543. Please mark anything you send "attention Stilgherrian".

And in case you didn't make a note last month, the Vesper Principal Herald, Mistress Alison von Markheim, has also moved. Please send all mail for the Vesper office to P.O. Box 10469, Oakland CA 94610-0469, USA. The telephone number is (415) 834-8444. Call between 10am and 10pm US

Pacific Time. There's answering machine; if you don't want to talk to it, hang up before the fourth ring.

What Do I Do With These Things?

As soon as you receive a *Crux Australis Monthly Letter*, skim through it to see if there's anything you need to solve straight away.

Check what's happened to the submissions from your group. If they're continuing through the system, the clients won't be notified directly, so it's up to you to keep them informed. If, however, their submission was returned, they'll be sent a letter explaining why, and (usually) offering a few suggestions that'll fix the problem. Either way, you should always let your clients know what's happening, since it might be a while before the "official" letters arrive.

After that, sit back and read through the entire letter. Yes, *all* of it. Some things will be much the same from month to month, but I'll try and highlight the important differences.

You can learn a lot from these *Letters*, but it takes a little effort on your part. Read the notes on each submission carefully, and make sure you understand what's going on. If you get lost, let me know and I'll explain in more detail. You can probably learn more from the returns than the submissions that passed, because when I return a submission I'll explain why.

"Track" interesting submissions as they make their way through the system — in my notes, in the *Minutes* of the West Kingdom Heralds, then, after a short delay, in Laurel's *Letter of Acceptance and Return*. As it passes each stage, read through the discussion, if any, and see what the more experienced heralds are saying about each submission.

Files These Letters!

Keep these *Letters* in a file somewhere. I use a ring binder, and keep the letters in reverse chronological order (*i.e.* newest at the front), but you might find a manilla folder more convenient. Whichever method you adopt, make sure you don't lose the *Letters*. If you ask me for information that I sent you only a month or two beforehand, I won't be impressed.

How to Get These Letters

If you're the rostered herald for a local group in Lochac or Aneala, or if you're the Hund Pursuivant, or if you're the Prince, Princess or Seneschal of Lochac, I send you these *Letters* every month. Otherwise, you'll need to pay an annual subscription of \$10. (As usual, make cheques payable to "SCA College of Heralds".) Anyone can subscribe; you don't need to be a herald.

Or feel free to photocopy and distribute them to anyone who asks for them. Indeed, you're encouraged to do so.

Process Submissions Promptly!

No paid heraldic submission or resubmission may stay at any level for more than 30 days. This isn't a new policy, but one that's been around for years.

Once you've accepted money for a submission, or have gotten a resubmission, you owe it to the client to pass it on as quickly as possible. Don't hang on to a submission or two until you "have enough to make it worth sending them on". Trust me, your superior officers will enjoy hearing from you every month! And equally, Vesper and I will *not* enjoy hearing of submissions delayed too long in one place. The West Kingdom is one of the few in the Known World with no backlog of submissions to be processed. Let's all keep it that way.

How To Return a Submission

If you're a local herald, and receive a paid submission that you're *sure* is not acceptable, *and* you can explain the reason simply and quickly to the client, do so, and return their money to them until they're ready to try again. If you have *any* doubts, send the submission and the money up the line, and if it needs returning I'll return it and write a letter explaining why — and take the blame.

On Badges

Over a period of years it has become obvious to the senior heralds of the West (and others) that a great deal of "heraldic space" is being taken up by registered, but unused, badges. And it has become equally obvious that the kinds of badges that people actually use in a period manner (for marking goblets, eating utensils, armour, chairs, favours, small children *etc*) are usually too simple to be registered under our current heraldic rules.

However, as the rules for registering badges seem to be getting no looser, we're recommending that people *not* register their simple "use badges".

Those badges that are actually used in the same *manner* as devices (household banners, war unit shields *etc*) tend to be more complex and more widely displayed, and therefore do need the protection of being registered. We trust that any difficulty that arises between the similarity of any "use badge" to a registered item being displayed by its owner in the same immediate area will be resolved in a peaceable manner by those affected. Any badge that will be used on a banner, shield or tabard should still be registered.

Again, this isn't a new policy, but a slightly stronger restatement of an old one.

Household Names

It has long been the policy of the West Kingdom College of Heraldry to *not* register household names. This is because, for the most part, households tend to be rather transient entities, and it isn't fair to tie up a name "for all time" when it may well be long-unused.

By all means encourage people to form a household, and give it a name. Just advise them if they choose a name that's tasteless, or a bit too close to someone or something famous.

This policy is subject to change, depending on what the new Rules have to say on the matter.

"New Rules"? Let me explain...

The New Rules

If you hadn't known it already, the draft I sent you last month gave it away: we'll soon have a new and simpler set of *Rules for Submissions* — and after this I'll just call them "the New Rules".

The New Rules are part of what is perhaps the biggest change to "Heraldry as we know It" for years. The aims are to simplify the system, making it easier to register simple mediæval designs, and to reduce the workload for the senior heralds. The best way to make life easier for the senior heralds is to make life easier for the local heralds. Clear understandable Rules are just part of the proposal.

The basic principals of the New Rules were discussed at the *Known World Heraldic Symposium* in June A.S. XXII (1987), more than a year ago. (You can order copies of the *Proceedings of the Known World Heraldic Symposium XXII* through the Vesper office. They're interesting reading, for a whole lot of reasons.)

That "bare bones" draft I sent you last month is just that: a draft. (If you missed out, let me know and I'll send you a copy.) It was prepared for discussion at this year's Known World Heraldic Symposium in July, where many of the finer points of the Rules were fleshed out — although I haven't receive a

detailed report yet. That first draft is *very* preliminary. It's still far too early to tell which of the "radical suggestions" will make it through the commenting periods.

How Do I Comment?

If you have any comments on that "bare bones" draft, make them to me *now*.

The final "for comment" draft of the Rules will probably be mailed in September or October. The only people in Lochac to "officially" receive this draft will be myself and the Hund Pursuivant, Master Thorfinn Hrolfsson — so if you particularly want to see it, let me know *now*. It appears that Laurel will allow around a month for comments.

I'll hold a special meeting to discuss the Rules shortly after they arrive. Given the very short amount of time available for my response, I won't be able to give much notice of this meeting's date. If you want to take part, let me know, and I'll call you when I know the date.

When Will the New Rules Arrive?

If everything goes according to plan, the final version of the New Rules will be mailed directly to every *Seneschal* in the Known World — all 550 or more of them — before the end of the year. (A Society-wide list of Seneschals exists; an equivalent list for the heralds doesn't.) It'll be up to each Seneschal to distribute copies to all their local heralds.

It is planned that the New Rules will come into force from January 1989.

The mailing will also include a "Cheat Sheet for Local Heralds" and an annotated bibliography of useful reference material, including details of where to obtain them. At the same time, a "Readers Digest" version of the Rules will appear in *Tournaments Illuminated*.

On the other hand, anything could still go wrong. In particular, as far as I can tell, none of this material is anywhere near "final draft" form. Await further instructions, and don't hold your breath.

What Do I Do in the Meantime?

Until you hear otherwise, continue to use the existing *Rules for Submission* as described in the *West Kingdom Heralds Handbook* — especially in sections VIII.1 (parts a–d and VIII.5 a–e) and section X.3. The New Rules could still be very different from what has been distributed so far.

Do *not* advise people to wait for the New Rules before submitting. Every month another couple hundred devices are registered, making it slightly harder to get a submission through.

What About Mundane Conflict?

A few of you have asked, "Do we still need to check for conflict against mundane arms?" The short answer is "Yes", although this *might* change. To explain what's happening in more detail, I need to tell a little history.

A couple years back, the then Laurel King of Arms, Master Baldwin of Erebor, was revising the *Rules for Submission*. What he created was the set of Rules we're using now. In the process, however, he came up with an interesting idea. The Lyon King of Arms in Scotland doesn't check for conflict against the English College of Arms, nor *vice versa*. Nor do any of the other mundane Colleges of Arms check against each other. So why does the SCA check against them? Master Baldwin suggested that if we declared ourselves a "independent sovereign heraldic jurisdiction", we'd save a lot of work by not checking against mundane conflicts.

All we need do, he suggested, was create a list of important mundane armory we *would* protect, include it in the SCA's own *Armorial and Ordinary*, and that'd be the end of the problem. All local heralds could have a copy of the list, and we'd all be able to do conflict checking locally.

This was purely a suggestion for discussion. However, when it was presented to the SCA's Board of Directors, they immediately *declared* the SCA to be a sovereign heraldic jurisdiction, and directed the new Laurel Queen of Arms to implement Master Baldwin's suggestion.

Their aim was to reduce the workload on senior heralds. The result, however, was dissatisfaction amongst some heralds. They were upset that the BoD had imposed a solution upon them. The BoD, therefore, *declared* a one-year moratorium on implementing the proposal. If the College of Arms didn't come up with its own workable suggestions, then what had become known as the "independent heraldic sovereignty proposal" would go ahead. This moratorium has been extended a further six months, since those solutions appear to be happening, and a decision will be made at the last BoD meeting for 1988.

In the meantime, however, we've realized that the SCA is, and always has been, an independent heraldic jurisdiction. No-one but the SCA tells us what to do with our heraldry. It's *not* a matter of whether we're independent; it just happens we've decided that part of our heraldic system is a refusal to register items in conflict with known mundane armory.

The object of the exercise is to simplify the systems and reduce the workload. But mundane conflict accounts for less than 10% of the returns at the Laurel level; most of our conflict comes from within the SCA.

More importantly, perhaps, it assumes the existence of that comprehensive list of mundane arms that we'd want to avoid conflicting with. The creation of this list would be a time-consuming and controversial process. For example, I think we all agree we should avoid conflicting with royal families. But what about, say, the Duke of Burgundy? Is he important enough? What about the Anglican Church of Australia? Here in Lochac we might think it appropriate to avoid conflicting, but would someone in Trimaris feel the same way? And the content of the list would have to be kept up to date as we discover more about mundane heraldry and history.

In addition, it was decided very early in the SCA's life that we should be *creative*, and we shouldn't make claims to be a part of a real family by appropriating a version of their arms.

From this description, I think you can guess how I feel about the idea. Inevitably, how I've described the "heraldic sovereignty" proposal is perhaps a little biased, and for this I apologize. However, given the cogent arguments against its introduction, given the unlikelihood that it will actually result in a reduced workload, given that there's a major and coherent revision in the pipeline — given all these things, I don't think the "heraldic sovereignty" proposal will go ahead.

Heraldic sovereignty is a separate issue from the New Rules, although the discussions inevitably get intertwined. Those once-heated discussions continue. However, the New Rules will be distributed regardless of what happens to heraldic sovereignty. Stay tuned for details.

Again, in the meantime, continue checking for mundane conflict as described in the *Rules for Submission*. I'll be looking in Papworth's *Ordinary*, and those with access to it will check Reichstapp

Incidentally, the New Rules will probably reduce the amount of difference required between SCA submissions and mundane arms. This will make it easier to register simple mediæval heraldry, and it'll make life easier at the senior levels because fewer submissions will be returned for conflict.

Take a Break

For those few of you familiar with all this, my apologies for spending so much time explaining what you already know. However, we have sufficient newcomers to the College of Heraldry to make the explanation worthwhile. Thank you for your patience.

All this talk about the New Rules has been bit daunting. Perhaps you should take a break and have a coffee, or an ale, or whatever else you enjoy, before continuing through the rest of this mammoth letter.

New Submission Forms and Fees

New forms will be coming before the end of the year. If you have any ideas on what you'd like to see added to, subtracted from, further explained, or glossed over on the new submission forms, please let me know.

The fee structure will change at the same time, so that the fee for each "action" will be the same. (An "action" is a name registration, device registration, badge registration, change of registered item *etc.*) In addition, Lochac and Aneala's fees will change so they're no longer tied to the international money market, and so the herald's offices are largely self-supporting. Just what the fee will be will be decided as soon as Vesper has a chance to do some financial planning for the College of Heraldry.

Thanks from Vesper

In her *Minutes* for July, Mistress Alison von Markheim, Vesper Principal Herald, thanks "all the heralds in Lochac and Oertha [Alaska] who made my stay in their Principalities one of the most wonderful and rewarding experiences of my life." She writes:

"Among the heralds, very special thanks are due to Gereint Scholar, Robert Furness of Southwood and Elenor of the Grieving Heart for their companionship, assistance and tour-guiding; Elenor of the Grieving Heart and the boys, Steven Longshanks and Rhyllian of Starfire Retreat, and Robert Gordon for their hospitality; Thorfinn Hrolfsson for acting as chauffeur; and Gwynfor Lwyd for the fabulous photographs.

"Among the non-heralds, I owe grateful thanks to Isabella Contarini, Everard de Breuise and Johanna Wendover for their generous hospitality; Isabella Contarini and Peter the Sinister for the ride to River Haven; Muhammad ben Kurai for getting me to the train on time; Viscount Elffin for allowing me the 'opportunity' to do his final Court; and to Robin the Ruthless in Battel, Alaine de Rue Vert and Lucrezia Lorenz for putting up with the American Tourist at Expo."

[Note: I've edited Mistress Alison's comments to remove references to her visit to Oertha — GS]

Ask Me Questions

In a recent letter, a local herald asked me whether we still check for conflict against mundane armory. We do. But the fact that he had to ask caused me to realize that nothing had actually been written down about this, and the lengthy rave a couple pages back is what resulted.

One of the most useful things you can do is to ask me a question. Although it means a bit more work for me, because I have to find out the answer, it lets me know what sort of things you need to find out. Please, all of you, keep asking questions.

Starting Soon: The Monthly Call

To make it easier for you to ask questions, starting in October, I'll call the rostered herald for each group once a month or so — just to check that everything's going well. These calls will usually be fairly brief, because my 'phone bill is bad enough as it is. But it'll give you a chance to ask me questions without having to write them down.

The call will usually be around a week after I mail the *Monthly Letter*. Next time you write to me,

please include some mention of convenient times to call — and especially times when you *don't* want me to call. (Your Quarterly Report offers an ideal opportunity...)

Also Coming Soon: The Quarterly Letter

Once every three months or so, I'll go back through my files, re-reading everything that has been sent from your group, including all the submissions. I'll check that I've answered all of your questions. I'll then write back to you, following up everything that's been going on.

I try to include all the information you need in these *Monthly Letters*, and in my individual letters to you. But these "Quarterly Letters" will, I hope, catch all the little things that otherwise slip through the next.

Quarterly Reports

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 and Saint Cecilia. Is anybody home?

Books? See Thorfinn

Since he's already taking care of the Australian distribution of books from Free Trumpet Press West and other places, Master Thorfinn Hrolfsson will also take care of all other heraldic publications in Lochac. His address is: Steve Roylance, 1592 Malvern Road, Glen Iris 3146. Telephone (03) 25-6348. Make cheques payable to "Stephen Roylance".

Available Now: The Pictorial Dictionary

I mentioned this one last month, but it's worth another plug...

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 has authorized copies for the very reasonable price of \$11, plus \$2 postage. Bulk discounts are available.

Updates to the SCA's *Armorial and Ordinary*

The second *Update to the Armorial and Ordinary* has just been released. It includes all SCA armoury registered between October and April XXII. If you own an *Armorial and Ordinary* then you *need* this book. You can order copies from Master Thorfinn (address above). It costs \$4, plus \$1 postage.

The first *Update to the Armorial and Ordinary*, which includes armoury registered between May XXII and October XXII, was released a few months ago. You can order copies from Master Thorfinn. Same address, same price.

The SCA's *Armorial and Ordinary* is perhaps our most fundamental research tool. If you don't have a copy in your group, think seriously 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.

There'll be a further two *Updates*, each covering a period of about six months, before the entire *Armorial and Ordinary* is revised and published again in late 1989.

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 client for further work. The next meeting is on Thursday 13th October, starting at 7.00pm AT MY NEW ADDRESS! [See page 1.] The meetings after that will be on Thursday 17th November (a week later than previously advertised, to avoid conflict with the Australian Formula One Grand Prix and Sting's Adelaide concert) and 15th December (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 Heralds of the Kingdom of the West in the Principality of Lochac held its September meeting at The New Scriptorium on Thursday 15th September, 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 and Lord Tako Jiro; and Cornets/visitors Mistress Bryony of the Bees, Baron Toyve Woolmongere and Baroness Selfran the Singer. As usual, The Cat got in the way.

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

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

I returned this device in July for stylistic reasons: excessive use of *proper* and the perceived asymmetry of two different breeds of dog facing in different directions. In a polite and well-reasoned letter, the client has chosen to appeal my decision to the Vesper Principal Herald. I don't agree with everything she says, but I will, of course, submit her appeal.

Incidentally, comments heard at the meeting included "I'd like to see the spirals on the Nautilus shells a bit better defined" and "I don't like *proper* on *ermine*".

[Note: There's a defined appeals procedure in the College of Heralds. When you've finish reading this letter, go and read about it in the West Kingdom Heralds Handbook section VIII.1c. Yes, this means you.]

2. **Giles Leabrook** (new, name and device; SUBMITTED) [Innilgard, HID373]

Erminois, a saltire flory purpure.

Giles dates from the 6th Century, when there was a Saint Giles. (Withycombe p.134). Leabrook is a locative surname, probably Old English for "brook in a clearing". (Basil Cottle, *The Penguin Dictionary of Surnames*, p.214). Alas, we couldn't find the name in Reaney's *Dictionary of British Surnames*. Certainly *lea* and *brook* are common enough name elements. Leabrook is also the mundane suburb where the client lived.

The device should be clear of Deycourt: *Ermine, a saltire purpure* (Papworth p.1058) and Sir Walter Scargill: *Ermine, a saltire engrailed purpure* (Papworth p.1061). We count a major for changing the base colour of the field, and another major (or at least a damn good minor) for changing the plain or engrailed saltire to *flory*. It is also clear of Aileen Siobhan ni Seaghdha: *Ermine, a saltire purpure, overall a tree blasted Or* (SCA device, Nov 82).

3. **James the Unknown** (new, name and device; name SUBMITTED, device PENDED) [Stormhold, HID141]

Barry of four gules and argent, four piles inverted in point throughout counterchanged.

James is a Biblical name, and *the Unknown* is a TSCA byname. The whole appears free of conflict, and will be submitted.

The device, however, generated quite a bit of comment. The blazon is more or less straightforward, with a standard field treatment (even if drawn with fewer bars than usual), and standard charges. But however you draw it, it still looks like a check tablecloth or tiled floor receding into the distance. It's a three-dimensional perspective effect that just wasn't used in mediæval heraldry.

Heraldry is a system of conventional signs — although the signs don't have "meanings" as such. (All that rubbish about red indicating war and blood, black indicating death, and so on was made up in Victorian times.) The aim is recognition. Good heraldry uses standard design elements arranged in standard ways, so anyone can immediately tell what is being depicted.

In this design, the nature of the charges isn't immediately obvious. Some reasonably experienced heralds had to think before they could work out what the device was and how to blazon it. This is not a sign of good heraldry.

Although the client permits no changes, we played a little to see what we could come up with. Drawn with three *piles inverted* instead of four doesn't really help. Drawing the piles with smaller gaps between them just makes it look uneven.

In short, "just because it can be blazoned, it doesn't mean it's heraldry." On the other hand, its unacceptability is, perhaps, marginal. Certainly one person at the meeting didn't find it a problem — but all the others did.

The device will be not be "returned". I'll send a letter outlining the problems we find with the device, and suggesting alternatives. I'll await his response before submitting the device further.

Incidentally, it appears free of conflict.

4. **Lachlan Bradoc** (change of status, holding name to registered name; SUBMITTED) [Stormhold, HID180]

Lachlan Bradoc was registered as a "holding name" in August 1986. The client has since decided that he likes the name sufficiently well to register it.

5. **Lachlan Tadhg** (new name and device; SUBMITTED) [Innilgard, HID272]

Gules, on a sun argent a boar's head erased gules, on a base argent a trefoil gules.

Lachlan is a common Gaelic name, as is *Tadhg*. O'Corráin and Maguire list them in their *Gaelic Personal Names* on pages 123 and 168 respectively.

The device is clear of Conroy der Rote: *Gules, on a sun argent a falcon's leg couped a-la-queue proper* (SCA device, June 76). We count a major and minor for adding the charged base, and a good minor for changing the charge on the sun.

It's also clear of Ross o'the Ridge: *Gules, a demi-sun Or issuant from a rocky base sable, chased and fimbriated argent, silhouetted against the sun a palmer passant bearing a staff sable, and in chief a dragon volant Or* (SCA device, Apr 73).

6. **Rowanna Nachteule** (name and device resubmission to Vesper; SUBMITTED) [River Haven, HID136]

Sable, a sword bendwise argent between two owls Or.

The client previously submitted the name *Rohanna Nachteule*. The only documentation provided for the given name was a "baby name" book, and the only occurrence found was in Marion Zimmer Bradley's *Darkover* books — a source of names specifically disallowed for SCA use. (It's not "pre-technological", the criterion for the compatibility of any fictional universe.) It was therefore returned by Vesper.

The name *Rowanna* is "documented" as "a variant of *Rowenna* found in the *Armorial*". While *Rowenna* is indeed found in the *Armorial*, this is never sufficient documentation: the rules may have changed in the meantime, there may be other circumstances affecting that registration, or the original registration may have been plain wrong. However, since Withycombe gives the period name *Rowena*, and we've previously registered that and *Rowenna*, this seems a possibly acceptable variant.

Nachtowle is the German for "night-owl" — a reasonable epithet.

The device is a new design, and appears free of conflict. The owls could be drawn with larger heads, however; their current small size caused someone to suggest they were heraldic budgies.

And please, please, PLEASE don't ever colour in submissions with fluorescent marking pens. Apart from them being decidedly unheraldic, the colours change with time.

7. **Stormhold, Barony of: Order of the Golden Drakkar** (new name for order; SUBMITTED) [Stormhold, HID376]

This is the name for one of the new Barony's awards. A drakkar is a viking longship, and one appears on Stormhold's arms. This name appears free of conflict.

8. **Stormhold, Barony of: Order of the Silver Drakkar** (new name for order; SUBMITTED) [Stormhold, HID377]

This one too.

9. **West Kingdom: Aquarius Pursuivant** (resubmission to Laurel of heraldic title; SUBMITTED)

The name *Hippocampus Pursuivant* for the heraldic officer in River Haven was returned by Laurel for conflict with *Seahorse Pursuivant*, the title of the heraldic officer of the Crown Province of Ostgardr in the East Kingdom. This new name appears free of conflict.

10. **West Kingdom: Goutte d'Eau Pursuivant** (new heraldic title; SUBMITTED)

This is the proposed title for the heraldic officer in Stormhold. It appears free of conflict.

News of Previous Submissions

The West Kingdom College of Herald's *Minutes* for July and August arrived on 23rd August. I've attached the relevant extracts.

The very same day, the Laurel Queen of Arms' *Letters of Acceptance and Return* for June and July arrived. Again, appropriate extracts are attached.

Corrections

Last month, on page 3, I said the August meeting was held on 11th July. Of course, I meant 11th August. I know SCA Time can be flexible, but...

Final Words

Whew! What a long letter. Thank you all for persevering and reading these many pages. I promise that next month's *Crux Australis Monthly Letter* will be somewhat shorter.

I hope.

Your servant,

Gereint Scholar

Baron Master Gereint Scholar
Crux Australis Herald



The following submissions were REGISTERED by the Laurel Queen of Arms in June XXIII (1988):

- (L) **Arlane ferch Einlon.** Name only.
The name was submitted as **Arlan** ferch Einlon. As several commentators noted, "arian" is a common noun meaning "silver" in Welsh and cannot be documented as a given name in period. Therefore we have substituted the slightly differently pronounced French feminine given name "Arlane". If the submitter wishes an entirely Welsh name, she might consider the documented feminine name "Arianwen".
- (L) **Dominic Tremayne.** Blazon correction. Per chevron azure and argent, a chevron between three fleurs-de-lys, all *counterchanged*.
The tincture of the charges was misblazoned when his device was registered in February, 1988.
- (L) **Esla of Ifeld.** Name and device. Argent, a chevron vert between three acorns proper, all within a bordure sable.
- (L) **Gwenhwyfar Trelowarth.** Device. Per chevron sable and argent, a chevron counterchanged between a dove displayed argent and a wolf's head, erased and sinister facing, sable.
- (L) **Kilic Ibn Sungur Ibn al-Kazganci al-Turhani.** Name only.
The name was submitted as Kilic ibn Sungur ibn Kazganci al-Turhani. We have added the article before the occupational form **Kazganci** as suggested by Star.
- (L) **Mulrghein ni Ghralnne.** Name and device. Per chevron Or and azure, in pale a lion passant guardant and a unicorn rampant to sinister counterchanged.
- (L) **Olwyn Gwallt Coch.** Device. Quarterly azure and ermine, on a cross gules between in bend two crescents, a ram's head cabossed argent.
- (A) **Peter du Gant Nolr.** Name and device. Per pale gules and Or, on a glove aversant sable, a cross formy per pale Or and gules.
- (A) **Rhlanwen ni Dhlarmada.** Name only.
- (L) **Rhyllan of Starfire Retreat.** Change of name from Rhiannon of Starfire Retreat.
Vesper was incorrect in implying that the original return placed additional restrictions on constructed names by requiring them to adhere to an overall linguistic tradition. While NR10a is somewhat ambiguous, the more general requirement of a primary language in NR3 also applies and there was prior precedent for applying the naming practises of the primary language to a made-up name. As the name was stated to be constructed according to Welsh practise, it had to be judged in those terms. Vesper himself noted in the submission that medieval Welsh did not form dithematic names. If this is interpreted, as we originally did, to mean that it does not form "mix and match" names as did Old English, for instance, this is correct. The reference to "random dithematic elements" in the original return underlines this fact: the vast majority of clearly dithematic names in period Welsh have definite meaning and are in fact usually noun + adjective formations (e.g., "Arianwen"="white silver", "Ceindrych"="beautiful appearance", "Rhydderch"="exalted ruler") or are closely associated noun + noun combinations where one noun functions as an appositive adjective (e.g., "Rhodri"="circle ruler", "Gwaednerth"="blood strength", "Cadfael"="battle prince"). This did not appear to be the case with the proposed name ("ruler"+"stream"). Note that the return of the original submission was not intended, as interpreted by some, to ban the formation of new constructs from Welsh completely. However, we do feel that constructs in Welsh must be approached with a greater degree of care, not merely because of the requirements of mutation, but also because the dithematic constructs which are documented in period appear to have recoverable meaning: a name like "war peace", which is perfectly acceptable in the Germanic tradition, would apparently not have occurred.
- In this case, we have been persuaded by additional evidence that the summarized evidence originally presented led us to conclude erroneously that the component portions of the names were not separable name elements in period Welsh. If the components appear in multiple Welsh names, then the name becomes considerably more plausible. We would feel rather more comfortable if the name had the sort of coherent meaning we associate with dithematic Welsh names, but conclude that the new evidence has nudged it this side of "compatibility".
- (L) **Sarah Jane Mander of Wenlock.** Name only.
- (A) **Seóan Seaxeswaln.** Spelling correction.
When the name was registered in February, 1988, the second "e" was accidentally omitted from the byname.

Ⓛ Vittoria del Flore. Name only.

The byname means "of the flower" (singular). If the submitter really wants "of the flowers, as indicated on the letter of intent, she should use "dei Fiori".

The following submissions were REGISTERED by the Laurel Queen of Arms in July XXIII (1988):

Ⓐ Aelfwine of Peterborough. Name only.

West, Kingdom of. Release of name and badge for Guild of the Elephant. Sable, an elephant statant bearing on its back a tower Or.

West, Kingdom of. Release of seal for Chronicler. Gules, an amphisbaena Or.

West, Kingdom of. Release of badge for Historian. Per pale azure and vert, in saltire a trumpet, bell in chief, and a quill, point in base, both argent.

West, Kingdom of. Release of badge for List Pages. Or, a gopher courant erect sable, wearing on its hind paws winged sandals and carrying in its dexter forepaw a billet argent.

West, Kingdom of. Release of badge for Court of Chancery. Azure, a fasces, blade to sinister, Or, tied gules.

West, Kingdom of. Release of badge for Constable Provost. Azure, a flanged mace between in fess two mullets Or.

The following submissions were passed by the Vesper Principal Herald of the Kingdom of the West on 28th July XXIII (1988) and were SUBMITTED to the Laurel Queen of Arms:

1. Aine of the Hounds (River Haven)

new name

"Aine" is found on page 7. of Withycombe as a "favorite name in Ireland for centuries". O'Corrain and Maguire note several semi-mythical "Aines", but none of them seem to be associated with hounds.

2. Algrin the Dark (Abertridwr)

name registered, device resubmission

Per bend sinister sable and Or, a tree eradicated counterchanged.

While this may be in conflict with the arms of Geoffrey Geometer, "Per bend sinister sable and Or, a tree blasted between in fess two mascles and in base a triangle inverted, all counterchanged", Lord Geoffrey has graciously given Lord Algrin permission to conflict. The previous conflict called against Bucher, "Per fess sable and Or, a tree coupé and eradicated counterchanged", (Papworth, p. 1114), appears to have been an error. His local herald has noted that while "coupé" usually refers to coupling the roots of a tree, in the case where the tree is also specifically blazoned as "eradicated", and the term "coupé" is found before "eradicated", it appears to indicate that the foliage of the tree is coupé, and the roots are eradicated. Therefore, we count a point of difference for the line of division, and at least a minor for the changes to the top of the tree.

11. David of Lockerbie (Agaricus)

new name, see returns for device

"David" needs no documentation. "Lockerbie" is a town in Scotland, just north of Annan.

15. Dubhghlas Mac Ailean (Innilgard)

name change

The submitter wants to "Gaelicise" his registered name of "Douglas FitzAlan". While "Douglas" is only cited as a given name from the very late 1500s, (and only in England in the anglicized form, and then only for women), it is certainly compatible with the SCA in either spelling. It does not seem unreasonable to us to allow him to change the spelling of the given name he has previously registered. Bain, (p. 80) does cite "Dubhghlas" as the correct Gaelic form of the surname "Douglas", and "Ailean" as the Gaelic form of "Alan". Black, (p. 14 and p. 451) give the Gaelic for "Alan" as "Ailéne" or "Ailín", and the genitive as "Mac Ailein".

25. Isobel of Silvermere (Innilgard)

new name and device

Azure, on a pale argent two gouttes vert, on a chief argent three of the same.

"Isobel" is given in Withycombe (p. 164) as the Scots form of "Isabel". "Silvermere" is a coined placename.

31. Martin de Bayeux (Innilgard)

new name and device

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

"Martin" was the name of a popular 4th C. saint, and was a common name in the Middle Ages. Withycombe cites this spelling to 1258. "Bayeux" is a town in Normandy best known for a certain embroidered tapestry.

35. Peter the Sinister (Llyn Arian)

new name, see returns for device

The given name was very common in period. The epithet is even more common in the SCA.

Argent, two chevronells gules between two griffins combattant and a laurel wreath azure.

This is the fourth submission/resubmission that the people of the Shire have made. The name was first returned by Vesper (June '84), for having no petition, no documentation and "poor connotations". They supplied a petition, documentation and appealed Vesper's decision. Laurel then returned both the name and the original device. The name was returned for not being linguistically valid, and the device both for poor style and because there was no name to register it to. They then provided more documentation, changed the device to this form and resubmitted to Laurel. The name was again returned (Sept. '86), as incorrectly formed, and the device returned due to lack of a name.

At this point, the good people of the Shire With No Name would just like a name. What they would really like is a name that sounds like "Politikopolis", and that is acceptable to the College of Arms. They have sent a very humbly worded request that the College find them a name that will work, and many pages on Greek grammar. The linguistic merits of their proposals are totally beyond the abilities of anyone on the West Kingdom College of Heraldry staff to analyze, and, as Lady Laurel is an expert in Greek, she is getting the documentation in toto.

As far as we are concerned, the cooperative attitude of the group, their stability and the evidence that the populace still wants their "original" name are more than sufficient to overrule any objections that might have been voiced as to the "propriety" of the name. They seem to have no more "political" problems than the average SCA group, (and far fewer than some!), and the name is mundanely very appropriate. The group is located in Canberra, A.C.T., Australia, which is Australia's equivalent to America's Washington, D.C. It is a planned city, built to house the federal government and a majority of the population of the mundane city work for the government.

The device was free of conflict when it was first submitted in June '86. It still seems to be free of SCA conflict. However, by the current applications of the rules, it is now in technical conflict with Chetwyn, (Papworth p. 540), "Argent, two chevrons gules". Addition of dissimilar secondaries has since then been ruled to be insufficient difference from mundane. We ask that, if an acceptable name can be found for the group, that the device be considered to be a "hardship case", and considered under the interpretations of the rules in force when it was first submitted.

38. Simeon ben Jacob (Llyn Arian)

name and device resubmission

Or, on a bend between two stars of David azure, a sword Or.

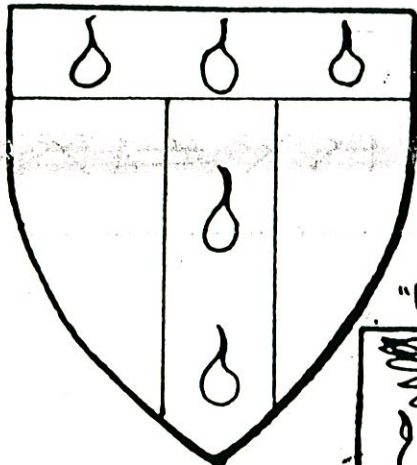
According to Who's Who in the Bible, one of the many sons of Jacob was a "Simeon". He was the brother of the more commonly known Joseph and Benjamin, and was the chieftain of the "Simeonites", one of the Twelve Tribes. There was some difference of opinion among those at the meeting as to whether this combination of common Hebrew names was a conflict with that "Simeon ben Jacob". We have asked the College's input on this subject. The device appears to be clear of conflict and is a significant change in design from his previous submission.

42. Timo Auliksenpoika (River Haven)

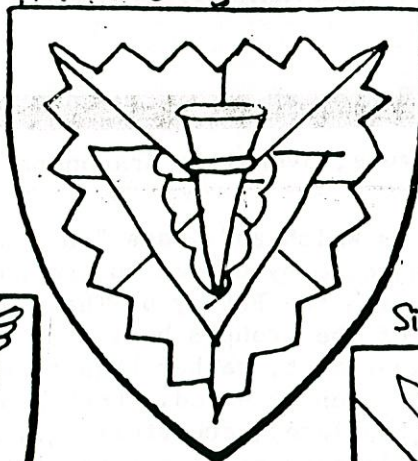
new name, see returns for device

The given name is the Finnish form of "Tim", and is the submitter's mundane given name. He has provided documentation that the Finnish patronymic is formed by adding "-n" to the father's given name to indicate the genitive, and then by adding "-poika" for "son", (literally, "boy"), or "tytär" for "daughter". He also provided documentation that that form of patronymic is period. He has no documentation for the given name "Aulikse" in Finnish from before 1900, but considers it to be a reasonable transliteration of the Russian "Alexi". It is a reasonable guess, considering their common border.

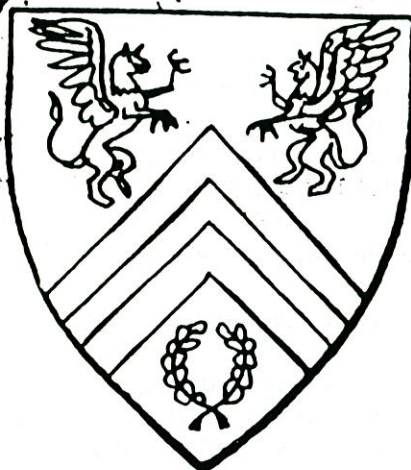
Isobel of Silvermere



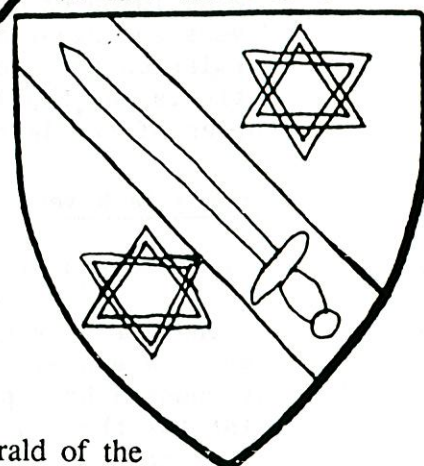
Martin de Bageux



"Politikopolis"



Simeon ben Jacob



The following submissions were RETURNED by the Vesper Principal Herald of the Kingdom of the West on 28th July XXIII (1988):

David of Lockerbie (Agaricus)

name passed, device returned

Per pale argent and azure, two mitted arms embowed and conjoined at the shoulder maintaining a sword and an alicorn in saltire crossed at their bases, all counterchanged.

It was the concensus of the meeting that this was very poor style, due to the unusual position of the arms, the dissimilarity of the two objects maintained by the arms and their non-standard "in saltire" position. It is being returned to the submitter with suggestions for some slight improvements to the positioning that should make it much better style.

Peter the Sinister (Llyn Arian)

name passed, device returned

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

This is in conflict with the devices of Zarina Daeth, "Gules, a bend sinister sable fimbriated argent between a whip coiled Or and a heart sable fimbriated and bearing in sinister chief a keyhole both argent", and of Johann von Hohen Staffen, "Gules, a bend sinister sable fimbriated of its upper edge Or and its lower edge argent, between in chief a dagger inverted argent and in base a dagger inverted Or." In both cases, only a point and a minor can be obtained from changes to the secondary charges, and the change of tincture of part of the fimbriation on Johann's device is negligible, at best. His only alternate was to change the increscent to an arrowhead, which did not solve the conflict problems.

Timo Auliksenpoika (River Haven)

name passed, device returned

Sable, a pale argent between two mullets of four points, each debruised by an annulet Or, a chief argent.

These 'mullets conjoined to annulets were simply blazoned as "compass-stars of four points" on the submission sheets. As drawn, these look more like the logo of a modern banking corporation than any period charge. They are not standard SCA compass-stars. This has been returned for clarification.

The following submissions were passed by the Vesper Principal Herald of the Kingdom of the West on 8th August XXIII (1988) and were SUBMITTED to the Laurel Queen of Arms:

1. Abertridwr, Canton of, name resubmission to Laurel, new device

Argent, a pall azure, overall a dragon passant to sinister gules and in chief a laurel wreath vert.

"Abertridwr" is Welsh and means "the conjunction of three rivers". It was previously rejected by Laurel on the LoAR of Feb. '88 for conflicting, by translation, with the Barony of Three Rivers and the Shire of Riversmeet. It was the decision of the group's herald to seek permission to "conflict" from Three Rivers and Riversmeet, rather than to appeal Laurel's decision, and the needed permission has been received. Each group wrote a letter to us, (signed by lots of officers and populace), cheerfully giving Abertridwr permission to use that name. Copies of the letters are included to Lady Laurel.

2. Antoine le Reveur (Stormhold) name registered, device resubmission

Sable, a compass star gules fimbriated Or within a bordure of flames proper.

We consider this to be clear of the devices of Kourost Bernard of the East Woods, "Sable, a sun eclipsed Or", and Corin de Soleil, "Sable, a sun gules fimbriated Or surmounted by a panther's head erased reversed Or". In both cases, we count a point for the addition of the bordure and another for the significant visual differences to the primary charges.

3. Auryn Beaumaris (Abertridwr) new name, see returns for device

"Auryn" is a constructed Welsh given name. "Aur" is the Welsh word for "gold". Bartrum, Early Welsh Genealogical Tracts, gives the name "Euron" and Mistress Keridwen says that "Eur-" and "Aur-" are linguistically equivalent in Welsh. The same person in Bartrum is also referred to variously as "Eurdeyrn" and "Aurdeyrn". "-yn" is a common diminutive ending in Welsh, and is frequently used in names. Bartrum includes the names "Bleddyn", "Ehedyn" and "Rhonyn", among others with that ending. We think that this is a logical construction. "Beaumaris" is a town in England.

4. David de Saxby (Abertridwr) new name only

"David" needs no documentation. "Saxby" is listed on page 308 of Reaney, Dictionary of British Surnames, where there is a citation for one "Nickolas Simon de Saxebi" in 1200.

8. Eirik Axeblade (Northern Southern Lands) new name only

"Eirik(r)" is given on page 9 of Geirr Bassi Haroldson, The Old Norse Name. Dropping the terminal "-r" is a common modernization/Anglicization of Norse names. "Axeblade" is a common English epithet. We do not feel that this name is in conflict with the famous Norse King (and Viking founder of the city of York), "Eiríkr Blóðaxe".

11. Gwynfor Lwyd (Eastridge) device change

Azure, in chief three frets couped in fess Or.

If this is passed, the submitter will gleefully release his previously registered arms of: "Azure, a bar gemel couped and pointed at both ends argent between two frets couped and a chess pawn Or".

15. Karel of the Three Isles (Stormhold) new name only

"Karel" is given in Yonge, History of Christian Names, (p. 386), as the Estonian, Bohemian and Dutch versions of "Charles/Karl". Withycombe, (p. 62) gives it as the Dutch and Slavic versions. Either way, it appears to be a real name. "of the Three Isles" is a locative made of common English elements.

17. Llyn Arian, Shire of new name and device

Per fess gules and argent, issuant from a fess embattled sable a demi-sun Or, in base a laurel wreath gules.

"Llyn Arian" is Welsh and means "Silver Lake". The Gazetteer of the British Isles lists some two columns of Welsh place names starting with "Llyn", which includes a "Llyn Aron" in South Merionethshire, but no "Llyn Arian".

18. Morag Ameredith (St. Aldhelm) new name and device

Per bend Or and sable, a bend dovetailed between two fleur-de-lis, all counterchanged.

While Withycombe, (p. 222) notes that "Morag" is a diminutive of the Gaelic "mor-", ("the sun"), she gives no dates for it. There are several sources (Yonge, Searle, O'Corrain & Maguire) which give "Mor" as an ancient Irish Gaelic name, but the only diminutives of it that they cite are "Mora" (799) and "More" (800), (both from Searle, pp. 345 and 568). If this name is not found to be acceptable, the submittor will accept the given name "Esyllt", which is found in Christopher Bice, Names for the Cornish, (p. 28), as the Middle Welsh and Cornish variation of the name "Iseult". "Ameredith" is cited in Bardsley, A Dictionary of English and Welsh Surnames (p. 51), as an Anglicised Welsh surname formed from the patronymic "ap Meredith".

19. Richard de Montfort of Hastings (St. Julian) name change

The submittor wishes to change his registered name of Ademar d'Excideuil to this common English name. "Richard" should need no documentation. Reaney, DBS, p. 253, notes this spelling of the surname to 1086, and seems to show that there were several families in different parts of England with this name. Hastings was an important Saxon town long before William and Harold put it on the map. This particular Western "de Montfort" does not live in the Principality of Oertha with all of the other "de Montforts" - he lives in Lochac and is not related. He wishes no changes to his registered armory.

20. Riverhaven, Barony of badge resubmission to Laurel

Azure, two towers conjoined by a doubly arched bridge argent, a bordure Or.

This badge was returned in the form "Azure, two towers conjoined by a doubly arched bridge Or", in the LoAR of Feb. '88 for visual conflict with Cassat, "Azure, a castle Or" (Papworth 364). This variation appears to be free of conflict.

21. Roderic Fynch (Politikopolis) new name and device

Per chevron inverted argent and vert, overall a standing balance sable, in chief two pommes.

"Roderic" is a spelling variation of "Roderick", found in Withycombe on page 255. As "Roderick" is derived from the Old Germanic name "Hrodrick", this seems to be a reasonable formation. Bardsley, (p. 288), under "Finch" gives this spelling as dating to the reign of Edward III.

22. Saint Aldhelm, College of

new name and device

Per bend azure and Or, in chief a tower within a laurel wreath argent, and in base three fountains.

St. Aldhelm is noted on page 10 of Farmer, Oxford Dictionary of Saints, as the Abbot of Malmesbury, (639-709). He was known for his prolific writings in "turgid Latin".

23. Saint Monica, College of

new name only

Farmer, (p. 282) notes St. Monica as the mother of St. Augustine.

24. Saraid na Stoirme (Stormhold)

name and device resubmission

Purple, six gouttes and a chief invected argent.

"Saraid" is given on page 161 of O'C & M; "na Stoirme" is Irish Gaelic for "of the storm". Her previous submission had the field as goutty, which was in conflict. Specifying the number of gouttes solved the problem.

26. Selfran the Singer (Innilgard)

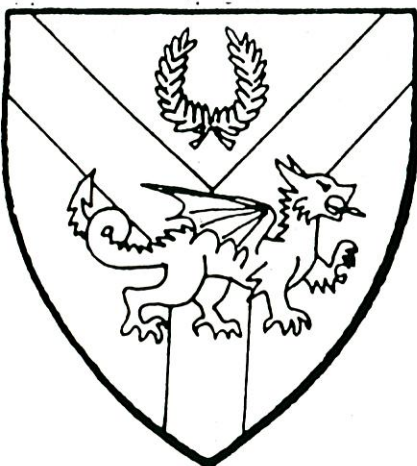
change of holding name

device resubmission to Laurel

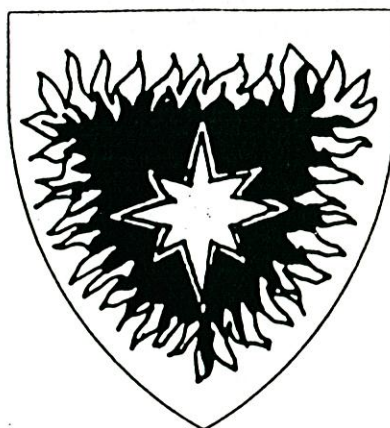
Azure, a chevron cottised on the upper edge Or, overall a horseshoe inverted winged argent.

The submitter wishes to change her holding name of "Selfran Ravensdottir" to "Selfran the Singer". Her previous device, "Azure, a horseshoe inverted winged argent" was rejected on the LoAR of May '84 for conflict. This is a partial redesign and appears to be clear of conflicts.

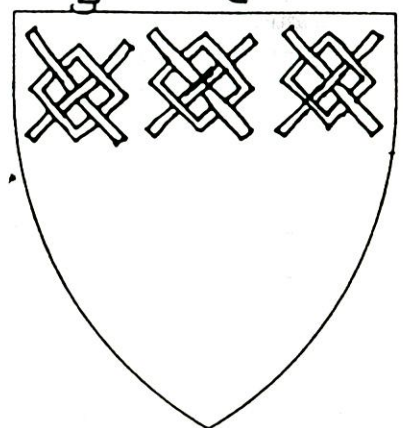
Abertridwr, Canton of



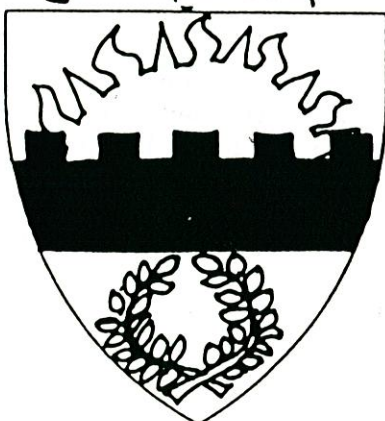
Antoine le Réveur



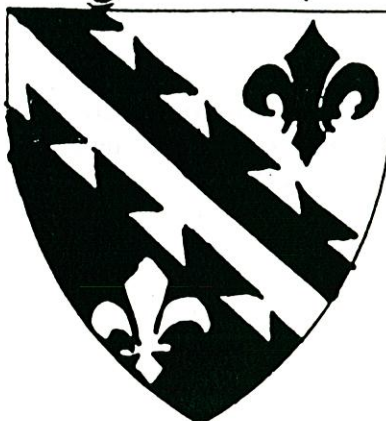
Gwynfor Lwyd



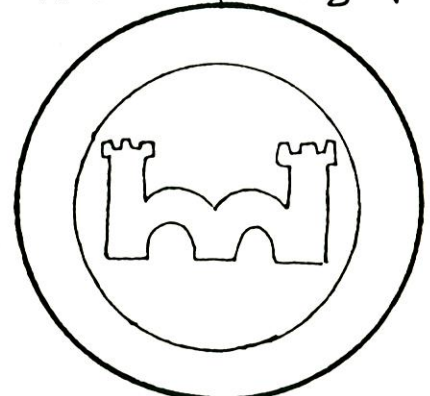
Uggh Ariann, Shire of



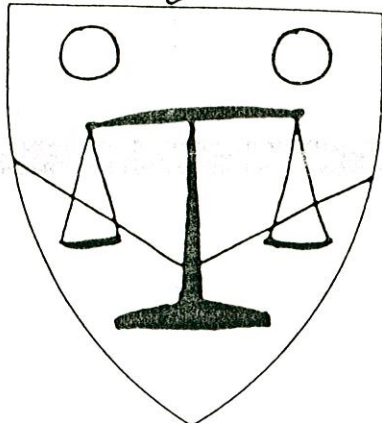
Morag Ameredith



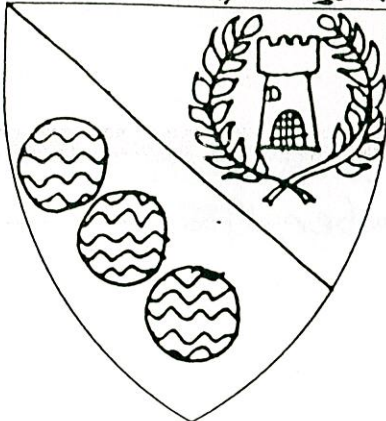
River Haven, Barony of



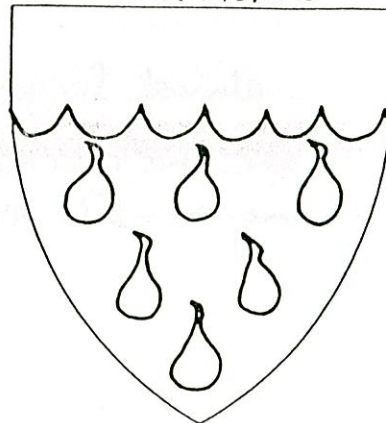
Roderic Fynch



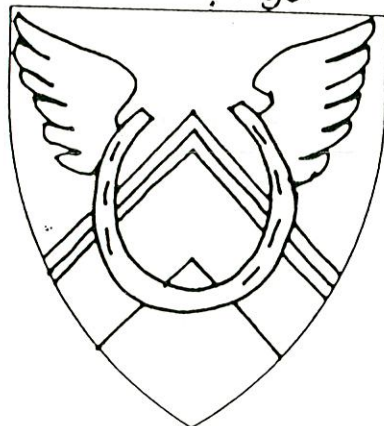
Saint Aldhelm, College of



Saraid na Stoirne



Selfran the Singer



The following submissions were RETURNED by the Vesper Principal Herald of the Kingdom of the West on 8th August XXIII (1988):

Auryn Beaumaris (Abertridwr)

name passed, device returned

Azure, a fess invected between five natural seahorses, two, two and one, Or.

This device was returned due to conflict with the registered device of Katerina de Turenne, "Azure, a fess invected Or between three unicorn's heads couped argent, armed Or". The current rules state that only a point and a minor can be obtained from changes solely to secondary charges. Therefore, this is in conflict. The device was originally blazoned as "Azure, a fess wreathed between five seahorses, two and three, Or". It has been previously ruled that an ordinary cannot be wreathed of only one colour, (nor of two colours or two metals), so therefore what is shown is "invected", with the wreathing considered artistic detailing only. "Natural seahorses" must be specified, as the default heraldic seahorse is the fish-tailed demi-horse. With some changes in colour, this elegant design seems to be free of conflict.

Myfanwy of Abertstwrth

(Mordenvale) name passed, device resubmission returned

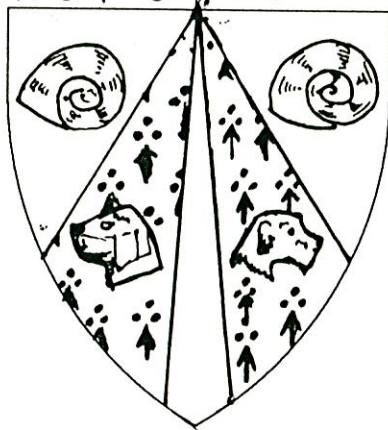
Per chevron argent and azure, two ravens sable and a wolf's head cabossed argent within an orle countercharged.

This good gentle took our suggestions to make her previously returned device more period in style. Unfortunately, she did not do so quite quickly enough, and this now is in conflict with the device of Duncan MacAlpin Shieldsbane, "Per chevron argent and sable, two ravens and an estoile within an orle, all countercharged", which was passed at our 5 June meeting. There is a point of difference for changing the type of part of a group of primary charges, (the estoile to bear's head), but there is only a minor point of difference for the change to half of the field, and the derived change in tincture of the orles. As Myfanwy and Duncan both live in the Principality of Lochac, she will be advised to apply to him for permission to conflict.

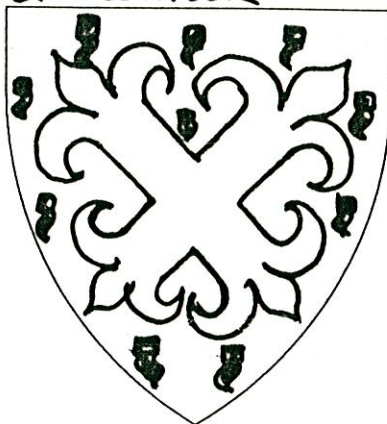
Ops... almost forgot.

These are the devices considered at the Crux Australis meeting on 15th September 1988:

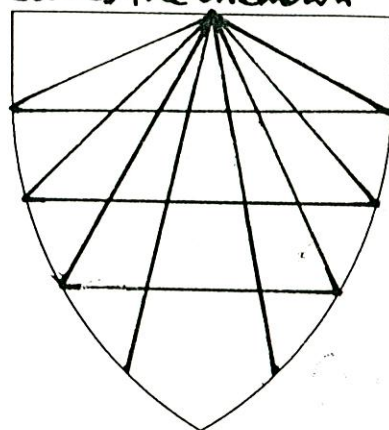
Aine of the Hounds



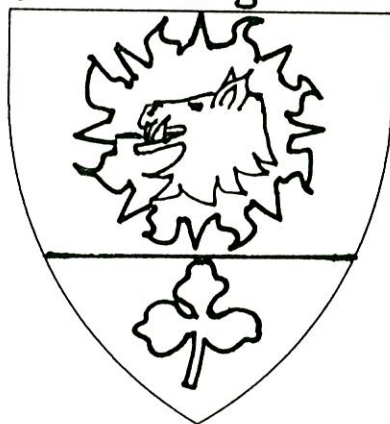
Giles Leabrook



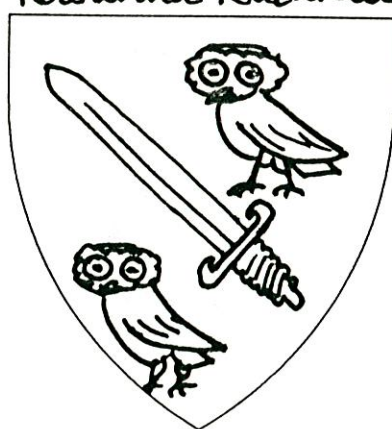
James the Unknown



Lachlan Tadhg



Rowanna Nachteule



geraint

