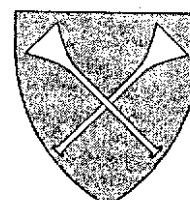
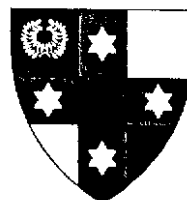


CAMEL

11th June A.S. XXIV (1989)

[mailed 16th June 1989]



Crux Australis Herald

Baron Master Gereint Scholar

Stilgherrian • The New Scriptorium

P. O. Box 213, Prospect 5082, Australia

phone (08) 223-6407 • intl +618-223-6407

UNTO THE COLLEGE OF HERALDS of the Kingdom of the West in the Principality of Lochac, and unto all others who might read this missive, does Gereint Scholar, Crux Australis Herald, send warm greetings. This is my enormous *Crux Australis Monthly Letter* for June A.S. XXIV.

This Month's Death-Defying Highlights

- The Great Crux Australis Holiday. (page 1)
- Where do you send resubmissions? (page 2)
- Finding some missing people. (page 2)
- Some Jargon Explained, Part II. (page 3)
- Australian fauna and flora. (page 4)
- Quarterly Reports: a final warning. (page 4)
- This month's controversial submissions. (pages 5-9)
- Your Comments on Court. (page 10-13)

Gereint Takes a Holiday

My hectic little lifestyle has been somewhat draining over the past year and a half, so it's time I took a holiday. I'll be disappearing from the face of the earth for the two weeks from 26th June until 8th July. During that time, I will not be available to anyone, and Robert will be under strict instructions not to reveal my whereabouts — mostly because I don't even know what they'll be myself yet! I'll return home around 8th July to spend a couple days preparing material for the Midwinter Investiture, and I hope to spend a few days in Stormhold before the Investiture itself on 15th-16th July. Life will return to what counts for normal on 17th July.

During my absence, heraldic matters will be dealt with by the two deputies I've appointed for the occasion — both of whom have been fully briefed in their areas of responsibility, and both of whom are competent PEs At Large with ready access to my files. If your question relates to submissions of names or armory, if you want conflict or other research performed for you, if you want to check the details of an award, or if you need any other routine assistance with names or armory, then contact Robert Furness of Southwood [Acb Tyson], who shares my address and telephone number. If your question is more about administration, policy matters, Court heraldry or ceremony, then please contact Mistress Aislinn de Valence [Megan Dansie], P.O. Box 607, Unley SA 5061. Telephone (08) 272-3791. Of course, matters of field and duty heraldry should be referred to my Field Deputy, Master Gwynfor Lwyd, as always. Please note that Robert will be opening all my mail. If your letter contains something confidential, please mark it such, otherwise it may be read.

My Lords and Ladies, I apologize for the very short notice of all this, but my leave from mundane

employment could only be arranged at short notice. I hope that no major inconvenience will be caused.

Resubmissions: Where do you send them?

When a submission has been returned, where do you send the resubmission? And how many copies do you need to provide? Well, the easiest thing for you to do, no matter who returned your original submission, is send your resubmission to me, with the usual three copies of each name form and four copies in colour of each device or badge. I'll be able to respond to the resubmission most quickly that way, and I'll also put it into correct shape before sending it overseas. If there's still a problem, I can deal with it locally, without involving you in any international postage.

If your submission was returned at the Kingdom level, or by the Laurel office, then you *may* choose to send your resubmission directly to the Vesper office. There's little point, however. You'll have to pay international postage rates, something the submitter has already paid for in their original submission fee — and you'll still have to send me file copies. I actively discourage resubmissions directly to Vesper. If you *must* send your resubmission directly [sigh!], for whatever reason you feel important, then for each name submission you must send two copies to Vesper and one to me; for each device or badge submission send two copies to Vesper and two to me. (Note that these numbers differ from what's written in kingdom-level Letters of Return. Those letters are wrong; this will be fixed soon.) I *require* those copies for the proper maintenance of my files. If I discover a resubmission going to Vesper of which I don't have copies, I will be *most* unimpressed.

Under no circumstances send material directly to the Laurel office. Before a submission will be considered, it must appear on a Kingdom *Letter of Intent*, with copies going to all commenting members of the College of Arms throughout the Known World. If you send something directly to Laurel, it won't be considered at all, and chances are it'll be lost forever.

Encourage People to Register Their Names

In December, I asked you to encourage people to submit their names and heraldic devices — and especially to encourage armigers to design and submit their arms. I'd like to stress again that people should submit at least their names as soon as they've found something they're happy with. A device can always follow later. There's no advantage in waiting until the device is ready before submitting the name, financial or otherwise. A name submission costs \$8 whether there's a device submission with it or not, and a device submission costs \$8 whether there's a name submission with it or not.

There's always the possibility that, for some reason or other, a person's chosen name is not registerable. It's better they find out about this as soon as possible. The longer they keep using an "illegal" name, the harder it will be for them to change — and the more upset they'll become if they receive a letter of return.

When I say "encourage" people to submit, I mean just that: encourage. *Don't* hassle people into submitting something before they're ready.

Lost Sheep and Alternate Names

Back in October last year, I asked you to help me identify some of the "lost sheep" in my files. My sincere thanks to all those who helped out. As a result, I've now managed to allocate virtually everyone to a local group — except for the following eight names.

Conal of Leinster

Isabella Baldovinetti

Isolde of Minster Lovell

Ivette de Calais

Madelaine de Plaitett

Talbot of Oakdale

Thomas of Abraxa

Valka Seppitarius

These good gentles have received awards, but I don't know which group they're from. Can anyone help me? If you also have their current mundane and SCA names, and perhaps their addresses, that would be very helpful too.

While we're talking about names, I've included with this month's *Camel* a useful thing called *Name Cross Reference List*. This is simply a list of "unofficial" SCA names that people have used (old SCA names they've now changed, nicknames they're widely known by or mis-spellings they've received awards under), along with their current official SCA name. If you can think of any other names that should be added to this list, please let me know.

Some Jargon Explained: Part II

As promised a couple months back, here's the second and final installment of the "jargon", courtesy of Mistress Alison von Markheim, Vesper Principal Herald, and the May *Minutes*. I should stress that although these jargon terms are acceptable when writing to other heralds, they should never be used when writing to submitters or the general populace. In "public writing", please use real terminology and avoid jargon.

- **TSCA:** "TSCA", pronounced "tisker", is short for "Typical SCA" and, when used heraldically, it's *not* a compliment. It's usually said with a sigh, and a shake of the head, because it represents, not what the SCA *should* be doing as an historical re-creation group, but the hodge-podge of "pseudo-history" and romantic fantasy that our names and armory (and costumes, armour, and so on) too often are instead. When used in an heraldic sense, it refers to names and armory only — we'll leave costume criticism to the Arts. A TSCA name can be something silly and fantastic like *Melody Dawn of the Misty Unicorn Valley*, or something trite and hackneyed like *Conan Swordbreaker*; it can be a jarring combination of modern and period like *Darla Devereaux*; or it can be a "clever" bit like *Ethelbert the Egregious*. Either way, it is *not* something that a real person would have used as a name in our historical period. TSCA armory is a bit more complex to explain — and it's usually pretty complex to blazon as well. Usually TSCA armory is also trite and hackneyed, using *more* than two of the following common-as-mud charges: roses, swords, unicorns, lions, mullets, bends sinister, harps, crescents, pegasus, domestic cats, cooking pots, tankards, sewing needles, wolves and so on. (Any one, or even two, of the above can be truly excellent armory; more than two different charges from the above list is TSCA.) TSCA armory is found any time a submitter wants to tell their persona's entire life story on their shield. TSCA armory often runs to lots of sable and gules. Both TSCA names and armory should be politely discouraged.
- **RoT:** "RoT" is one of the oldest slang phrases used in commenting. It harkens back to a rather old TV advertisement in the USA, and means "Rule of Toyota". (The ad's slogan went "You want it, you got it — Toyota!") The term is used when a submitter wants something that's TSCA, ugly, dumb-looking — but perfectly legal under our Rules. We can't legislate taste, and we need to remember that. However, a herald is perfectly within his or her rights to really *encourage* the submitters who get something awful passed to go right out there and display it! Display it big! Display it proud! Display it often enough and the submitters very often decide that they're sick of the ermine spots in four tinctures and the two different kinds of pussy cats, and it takes very little effort at all for their local herald to convince them that they can register something simpler...
- **HYNAP:** "HYNAP It" is a specialized form of "RoT". It simply stands for "Hold your nose and pass (it)". Again, it is applied to something in horrible taste with absolutely no legitimate reason to be returned. Often the armory or name is "too cute to live".
- **NPS:** This good old generic term "not period style" has lately fallen somewhat out of favour. For a long time heralds blithely used it to castigate any name or armory that just "didn't feel right" to us. However, after being challenged on the subject, most members of the Colleges of Arms and

Heralds have gotten much better about explaining just *why* something seems to be “not period style”. It is very easy to say “This is not period style. It doesn’t look/sound period”, but it’s a lot more difficult to come up with a real explanation like: “Well, the design is unbalanced, and the balance was very important in mediæval armory” or “Well, people just didn’t use a modern spelling of their given name and the ancient Irish Gaelic spelling of their father’s name together like that. They would have been consistent within a single time frame”. We owe it to our submitters to come up with real answers. On the other hand, “NPS” is very useful heraldic shorthand.

- **The Rule of Two Weirdnesses:** This is a “rule of thumb” that was developed many long years ago. In short, it says that a piece of armory is probably OK if it uses just one questionable heraldic practice or marginally period or peculiar charge, but if it uses more than one of the above then it can be returned for being poor style. It should be used rarely as a reason to return things.
- **Biker Heraldry:** Does this term conjure up visions of devices with winged skulls and manacles and chains and wolves and...? When the only question is whether it conflicts with a Grateful Dead album cover, an Iron Maiden album cover, or the “colours” of the local branch of the Hell’s Angels, then it is “biker heraldry”. Do I have to say that it ought to be discouraged? I didn’t think so.

What Do You Think of Koalas?

Various people have expressed their opinions to me on the fact that Australian native fauna and flora may be used in Society heraldry — despite the fact that they weren’t known in Europe until well after the end of our period. These opinions have ranged from amusement to disgust, but in no case have I found anyone in Lochac who really supports the idea of using these animals and plants. Following the recent registration of a badge containing the platypus, Huñd Pursuivant, Master Thorfinn Hrolfsson, appealed to the SCA’s Board of Directors, asking that the Rules be changed. His appeal was formally supported by me as Crux Australis Herald and by Baron Tovyne Woolmongere as Lochac Seneschal. Our letters were tabled at the Board’s April meeting, but because this is hardly a “life and death of the Society” issue, the matter has been scheduled for a final decision at the Board’s meeting in July. With this month’s *Camel* I’ve enclosed a copy of a letter I received from the Board’s Ombudsman for the Laurel Office, Cecelia Weisenberger, which clearly outlines the issue. If you have a strong opinion on this issue, either way, then please write to the Board now. There isn’t much time: your letters must reach the Corporate Secretary by 7th July. The address is: Cliveden Chew Haas, P.O. Box 360743, Milpitas CA 95035-0743, United States of America.

Quarterly Reports: A Final Warning

Yes, Gentle Ones, Midwinter rapidly approaches. Local heralds, this is your final warning: Your Quarterly Reports are due by the Midwinter Investiture. Local heralds in subsidiary groups, you should report either directly to me, or through your local “superior”, according to the procedure established in your group. If you’re not sure, ask. For more information on reports and my requirements, please see the February *Camel*.

Meeting Schedule

At my 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 reworking. The meetings are usually held on Sunday afternoons at The New Scriptorium, 25 Blackburn Street, Adelaide SA, starting at 2.00pm — although they can move so it pays to phone and check before coming. The next regular meetings are Sunday 16th July at the Midwinter Investiture in Stormhold, with an overflow meeting at The New Scriptorium on Sunday 23rd July; 13th August and 10th September (note altered date) at The New Scriptorium; at the Spring Coronet Tournament in Innilgard [Adelaide] on 30th September or 1st October, with a possible overflow meeting at The New Scriptorium on 8th October; 12th November and 10th December (both tentative) at The New Scriptorium.

The Hund Pursuivant, Master Thorfinn Hrolfsson [Stephen Roylance], holds weekly meetings to provide 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. There's a meeting at 8.00pm every Monday night somewhere in Stormhold [Melbourne]. Often, it'll be at the home of Lord Thrainn Jámgrímsson [Stefan Akerblom], but please check with Master Thorfinn on (03) 885-6348 for the location. In addition, there's an extra meeting on the first Tuesday of every month, at 80 Wattle Valley Road, Camberwell VIC. Regular commentary is also taking place in Aneala [Perth], Llyn Arian [Lake Macquarie NSW], River Haven [Brisbane] and Ynys Fawr [Hobart]. Contact the relevant local herald for details. If anyone else is interested in getting involved, please contact Master Thorfinn directly.

Books and Merchandise

For heraldic publications in Lochac, see Master Thorfinn Hrolfsson [Stephen Roylance], 1592 Malvern Road, Glen Iris VIC 3146. Phone (03) 885-6348. Make cheques payable to "S Roylance".

The *Pictorial Dictionary of Heraldry* is \$11 (\$13.10 posted). Bulk discounts are available. The first *Update to the Armorial and Ordinary* is \$4.00 (\$5.20 posted). The second *Update* is \$4.20 (\$5.40 posted). THE THIRD UPDATE IS NOW AVAILABLE: contact Master Thorfinn for details. Complete copies of the *Armorial and Ordinary* and the *West Kingdom Herald's Handbook* are available on special order; contact Master Thorfinn for the current prices.

This Month's Submissions

The June meeting of the College of Heraldry of the Kingdom of the West in the Principality of Lochac, was held on Sunday 11th June at The New Scriptorium. Present were Master Gereint Scholar, Crux Australis Herald; PEs At Large Mistress Aislinn de Valence and Baron Tovy Woolmongere; visitors Eleanor Terrington and daughters; and The Cat.

1. Aelfric of Dorcestre (new device; SUBMITTED) [Llyn Arian, HID437]

Per fess Or and argent, a fess embattled sable, between three bats gules and a tower sable.

This gentle's name was submitted to Vesper last month. The device submitted to me at that time was originally blazoned *Per fess sable and argent, in base a tower sable, on a chief embattled Or, three bats gules*. After checking with the submitter, I've re-blazoned it as above. Although both blazons describe the same drawing, the form with a fess is much more likely. The bats are *displayed*: according to Bruce Draconarius of Mistholme's *Pictorial Dictionary of Heraldry as used in the SCA*, this is the default position for bats, so it needn't be specified (p.7).

Consulting herald: Decion of Trefriw Wold.

2. Eleanor Terrington (new name and device; SUBMITTED) [Innilgard, HID450]

Or, a blackbird rising, wings elevated, purple, on a bordure sable, millet heads Or.

According to Elizabeth Withycombe's *Oxford Dictionary of English Christian Names*, the name *Eleanor* was introduced to England by Eleanor of Aquitaine, wife of Henry II; she died in AD1204 (p.96). *Terrington* is a village in England, near York, the birthplace of the submitter's grandfather, although we have nothing to confirm this.

The elegant device appears free of conflict. It's clear of Cedric the Dark: *Or, a swan naiant sable within a bordure sable bezanty* (SCA device, June 1975), counting a major point of difference for the difference in tincture between the two birds, a good minor point for the differences in type and position of the bird, and another minor for the differences between the millet heads and bezants. (There were also a couple of irreverent remarks about purple blackbirds being a bit like green oranges or red blueberries, but this is heraldry, not botany and zoology.)

Consulting herald: Tovy Woolmongere.

[Note: As you all should know, bezants are roundels Or. Why haven't I specified the number of

millet heads in this device? Because it's a semé, and should be drawn with as many as looks good. The heraldic difference between a raven, a crow, a blackbird and a chough is nil.]

3. **Frae Fitzalleyne** (APPEAL of name return by Crux Australis, and device; APPEAL SUBMITTED WITHOUT SUPPORT) [Dismal Fogs, HID106]

Gules, issuant from a chevron a demi-dragon rampant, in base a cinquefoil Or.

[Note: I'll be spending quite a bit of time explaining this submission, because it raises a lot of issues that seem to be widely misunderstood. I hope you'll have the patience to read all of this discussion, because I think it'll be valuable for you to do so.]

This name was originally submitted in December 1986, claiming without documentation that the given name *Frae* is a "Welsh translation" of the Viking name *Frey*. Unfortunately, *Frey* is a Norse god, and the name was returned by the Crux Australis Herald because it's prohibited by *Rules for Submission* NR14a, the "Deity Name Ban": "A given name shall not be the name of a deity. If that name was commonly used in period as a given name, it may be permitted, on a case-by-case basis. There should be no further reference to that deity in the name or armory."

The name was resubmitted to Crux Australis in January 1987, alleging that "it was a fairly common Norse practice to take the names of popular figures of myth and legend, and those of the gods". Alas, nothing was provided that supported this claim. The submitter did provide photocopies from Leone Hendry's *Names for the Australian Baby* (Ellsyd Press, Sydney 1984), showing that the female name *Freya* is an Old Norse name meaning 'noble lady' with variants *Frea*, and the name *Thor* and several variants. The submitter also said that he'd found *Frae* as a variant of *Frey* in "sources currently unavailable to me". However, as a class, "baby name books" are *not* suitable documentation. Rarely do they give the all-important dates of first usage; usually their scholarship is questionable, to say the least; most often, they're merely the compilation of nice-sounding words that one might like to use for one's own child, with complete disregard for their actual use as names. A mention in a baby name book is *not* evidence that a name was actually used by humans in the mediæval period. Further, in the definitive work on the subject, Geirr Bassi Haraldsson's *The Old Norse Name*, there is no listing of *any* of the unmodified names of the Norse gods. The names only appear in "variant" forms, those deriving from *Frey* being *Freysteinn* and *Freyvidr* for men, and *Freygerdr* for women (p.9). Again, the name was returned by Crux Australis under NR14a.

(There has also been some argument over the fact that in the West Saxon language, the word *frae* means 'the lord' or 'the god'. This, while an interesting side comment, is irrelevant, and should probably never have been mentioned in the first place. I've chosen to ignore everything to do with this for the moment, because the *real* issue in this submission is whether the name *Frey* or *Frae* was actually used by mortal human beings in period.)

In his latest resubmission, the submitter appeals to the fact that in many cultures the names of gods were also used by mortals. He has also provided photocopies from a number of sources, which I'll now evaluate one by one.

From a list of Patron and Contributing SCA members in *Tournaments Illuminated*, he has highlighted SCA names including the elements *Rhiannon*, *Brigid*, *Vidar*, *Thorfinn* and others. There are two major problems with this as documentation. One is that the names shown are the names recorded on people's SCA membership cards. These are *not* checked in any way by the College of Heraldry, and have no status within the SCA, official or otherwise. Indeed, when you fill out your membership form, you can write anything you like under "SCA name" and it'll end up on your membership card and in the Registry's computer database. The Registry does not check names with the College of Heraldry, nor we with them. (The Deputy Registrar for Australia also happens to be a rostered PE At Large. She tells me that she sometimes cringes at the SCA names she's required to type into her computer, knowing them to be grossly illegal under the Rules, but also knowing that she can do nothing about it.) The SCA name on your membership

card is merely a way of finding you if your 20th-century name and address fails to locate you when you move house. Quite often, people's names on their membership cards differ wildly from their actual registered name. The other major problem is that even if all these names were registered, this is not sufficient documentation. The *Rules for Submission* have evolved over the years, as has our level of knowledge of real mediæval naming practices. A name that was once legal may now be illegal, either because we've changed the Rules or because we've learnt more. However, a basic principle of our system of heraldry is that once we register something, it stays registered, even if we later discover that we've made a mistake. Another point is that in the cases of *Rhiannon* and *Ceredwin*, say, diligent SCA research has actually demonstrated that those particular names were indeed used by humans in period. This has not been the case for *Frey*.

The submitter's photocopies from *A Treasury of Names* showing the names *Frey*, *Thor* and others are useless as documentation because it's another "baby name book" that doesn't cite its sources. Finally, from Anne Savage's translation of *The Anglo-Saxon Chronicles* (Book Club Associates, London), we have evidence that the names *Woden*, *Freawine* and *Fraena* were used in period by humans (pp.13 and 144). Alas, while wonderful evidence that *those* three names may be used, this does nothing for the unmodified name *Frey* or *Frae*. Remember, NR14a says that deity names may be allowed "on a case-by-case basis", and only "if that name was commonly used in period as a given name". The issue is not whether the names of gods were sometimes adopted by humans. That is unquestionably true. The issue is whether this particular name was ever used in its unmodified form — and this we have failed to establish.

I looked through all the books in the Crux Australis library. I couldn't find the unmodified *Frey* or *Frae* being used in human names in *any* language in period, and some evidence to suggest that the use of these names is distinctly 19th or 20th-century in origin.

So where does that leave us? On the basis of all the documentation available to me, I would once more return this name under NR14a. But I happened to be speaking with Lady Vesper recently about another matter when I mentioned this submission. She said that in the last couple of years, the College of Heraldry has been able to document a few more of the "god names" for humans. I would therefore submit this name in the (faint) hope that someone, somewhere, may be able to provide appropriate documentation. However, the submission came with a covering letter which contained much strongly emotive language. It is apparent that the submitter is far from happy with the way this submission has been handled. Even though the word "appeal" wasn't used anywhere in the letter, I have nevertheless decided to treat this resubmission as a formal appeal of a decision by Crux Australis. As required by the appeals procedure, Lady Vesper has been sent copies of all the material relating to this submission.

Oh, by the way, the surname *Fitzalloyne* is perfectly acceptable. Reaney's *Dictionary of British Surnames* dates *FitzAlan* back to 1461 (p.6, under *Allain*). *Alloyne* is listed as a variant form, without a clear date of first usage. Elizabeth Withycombe's *Oxford Dictionary of English Christian Names* says that "from the 14th to 16th century it was usually *Aleyn(e)*" (p.8). Doubling the 'l' is a linguistically valid spelling variant.

The attractive and distinctive device has not been submitted before because there was no name to go with it. It appeared free of problems 2½ years ago, and still appears free of problems today.

Consulting heralds: the submitter, Kilic ibn Sungar ibn al-Kazganci al-Turhani.

4. **Maredudd Goch ap Llywelyn ap Cadwallon Gwythermion** (change of registered device; SUBMITTED) [Rowany, HID198]

Per pale and per chevron gules and Or, two horseshoes and a barrel helm affronty counterchanged.

Lord Maredudd's name and previous device were registered in May 1987. If this new device is passed, he will release his previously registered device: *Per pale and per chevron gules and*

Or, in chief two urchins statant erect respectant, each wearing a Norman helm and carrying a kite shield and a broken spear, counterchanged.

Consulting herald: Richard de la Croix.

5. **Richard de Montfort of Hastings** (change of registered name, APPEAL of return by Laurel; APPEAL SUBMITTED WITH SUPPORT) [Saint Julian, HID8]

This gentle's current name, *Ademar d'Excideuill*, was registered in June 1987. His submission of the new name *Richard de Montfort of Hastings* was returned by Laurel in November 1988: "We had to agree with Hund that the name conflicts with that of Richard de Montford, Count of Estampes: both his father and son were Dukes of Brittany and his grand-daughter was Anne of Brittany who by her marriage to the King of France united Brittany to France. By the submitter's own documentation *Montford* and *Montfort* are merely alternate spellings of the same name (Reaney, p.243)." We now wish to appeal this decision.

In the current *Rules for Submission*, NR7 "Minimum Difference between Names" states that "the addition or removal of an adjectival phrase is not sufficient difference... for example *John Thomas of Hastings*... does conflict with *John Thomas*." This is fairly clear. However, NR16 "Personal Name Conflict" says "personal names shall not conflict with other registered society names, nor with *important* names in the mundane world, past or present..." [my emphasis]. Our contention is that Richard de Montford, Count of Estampes, does not qualify as "important" for the purposes of NR16.

There is a long-standing ban on names of the form (*ruler's name*) of (*place ruled*). For example, the name *Charles of Cornwall* would be illegal because there is a Duke of Cornwall called Charles (the fact that he's also the Prince of Wales and Heir to the Throne of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is irrelevant). It is our understanding, however, that this ban is effective only down to the level of territorial duchies — unless the individual concerned had some special claim to historical fame. (Unfortunately, I cannot find this stated in either the Rules or the Precedents.) The historical Richard de Montford was "merely" a Count. That his father and his son were Dukes makes it necessary to prevent conflict with *them*, but not with Richard himself. His other claim to "fame" is that his grand-daughter married the King of France. While this is interesting, we do not agree that this makes Richard himself "important". He was not pivotal in the process of joining Brittany and France: Anne was. Richard was a mere "routine grandparent". We agree that Anne of Brittany was an important historical figure, but we do not agree that we should routinely protect from conflict the four grandparents of every significant historical figure, or even just the grand-parents of the spouses of monarchs, for two reasons: it prohibits far too many simple useful names, and I don't think we have the resources to do the checking in a consistent manner.

Richard de Montford himself was not important; he was merely related to other important people. We do not believe this is sufficient grounds for protecting his name from conflict — particularly when the submitted name said to be in conflict contains the locative of *Hastings*, referring to territory never held by the *de Montford* family.

Consulting heralds: the submitter, Gereint Scholar.

[Note: The Rules for Submission can't specify every eventuality. (Sometimes I wish they could, because it'd be easier to justify a submission or a return. Then again, how would we find the rule we needed in such a vast set of RfS?) In a normal submission, Lady Laurel is forced to make a decision on the basis of the submission itself, and whatever comment she might receive from the College of Arms. With an appeal, however, the submission is specifically labelled as an appeal, and everyone in the College of Arms tends to add their comments, whether they did the first time or not. Lady Laurel then has a greater range of comment upon which to base her final decision. The process of submission, return and appeal is a perfectly valid way of defining the boundaries of acceptability in our system of heraldry — as it is in any legal system. In this particular case,

Or, in chief two urchins statant erect respectant, each wearing a Norman helm and carrying a kite shield and a broken spear, counterchanged.

Consulting herald: Richard de la Croix.

5. **Richard de Montfort of Hastings** (change of registered name, APPEAL of return by Laurel; APPEAL SUBMITTED WITH SUPPORT) [Saint Julian, HID8]

This gentle's current name, *Ademar d'Excideuill*, was registered in June 1987. His submission of the new name *Richard de Montfort of Hastings* was returned by Laurel in November 1988: "We had to agree with Hund that the name conflicts with that of Richard de Montford, Count of Estampes: both his father and son were Dukes of Brittany and his grand-daughter was Anne of Brittany who by her marriage to the King of France united Brittany to France. By the submitter's own documentation *Montford* and *Montfort* are merely alternate spellings of the same name (Reaney, p.243)." We now wish to appeal this decision.

In the current *Rules for Submission*, NR7 "Minimum Difference between Names" states that "the addition or removal of an adjectival phrase is not sufficient difference... for example *John Thomas of Hastings*... does conflict with *John Thomas*." This is fairly clear. However, NR16 "Personal Name Conflict" says "personal names shall not conflict with other registered society names, nor with *important* names in the mundane world, past or present..." [my emphasis]. Our contention is that Richard de Montford, Count of Estampes, does not qualify as "important" for the purposes of NR16.

There is a long-standing ban on names of the form (*ruler's name*) of (*place ruled*). For example, the name *Charles of Cornwall* would be illegal because there is a Duke of Cornwall called Charles (the fact that he's also the Prince of Wales and Heir to the Throne of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is irrelevant). It is our understanding, however, that this ban is effective only down to the level of territorial duchies — unless the individual concerned had some special claim to historical fame. (Unfortunately, I cannot find this stated in either the Rules or the Precedents.) The historical Richard de Montford was "merely" a Count. That his father and his son were Dukes makes it necessary to prevent conflict with *them*, but not with Richard himself. His other claim to "fame" is that his grand-daughter married the King of France. While this is interesting, we do not agree that this makes Richard himself "important". He was not pivotal in the process of joining Brittany and France: Anne was. Richard was a mere "routine grandparent". We agree that Anne of Brittany was an important historical figure, but we do not agree that we should routinely protect from conflict the four grandparents of every significant historical figure, or even just the grand-parents of the spouses of monarchs, for two reasons: it prohibits far too many simple useful names, and I don't think we have the resources to do the checking in a consistent manner.

Richard de Montford himself was not important; he was merely related to other important people. We do not believe this is sufficient grounds for protecting his name from conflict — particularly when the submitted name said to be in conflict contains the locative of *Hastings*, referring to territory never held by the *de Montford* family.

Consulting heralds: the submitter, Gereint Scholar.

[Note: The Rules for Submission can't specify every eventuality. (Sometimes I wish they could, because it'd be easier to justify a submission or a return. Then again, how would we find the rule we needed in such a vast set of RfS?) In a normal submission, Lady Laurel is forced to make a decision on the basis of the submission itself, and whatever comment she might receive from the College of Arms. With an appeal, however, the submission is specifically labelled as an appeal, and everyone in the College of Arms tends to add their comments, whether they did the first time or not. Lady Laurel then has a greater range of comment upon which to base her final decision. The process of submission, return and appeal is a perfectly valid way of defining the boundaries of acceptability in our system of heraldry — as it is in any legal system. In this particular case,

we should get a definitive ruling on how "important" historical figures need to be before we protect their names. Never be afraid to appeal a decision for just cause. It doesn't guarantee that you'll get what you want, of course, but at the very least we get a clarification of the Rules, something of benefit throughout the Known World. "It is your noble duty to appeal Lady Laurel's decisions." Well, perhaps that's a bit strong...

The correct procedure for appeals is described in the West Kingdom Herald's Handbook, section VIII.1.c. Go and read it now.]

6. **Zarifah Um-el-Laban al-Badawi** (new name and device; name SUBMITTED, device RETURNED) [Aneala, HID449]

Barry wavy argent and Or, a pavillion, ensigned with a pennon, sable.

The submitter's name has been entirely "documented" from fiction and "baby name books": the character *Zarifah*, said to mean 'miss pretty', is found in Georgia E Taylor's novel *The Infidel* (p.274); *Um-el-Laban* is said to mean 'mother of milk (or white)', a reference to skin colour, in Lesley Blanch's *The Wilder Shores of Love* (p.176); *laban* was also found in Cecily Dynes' *Great Australian and New Zealand Book of Baby Names* (p.110), where it is said to mean 'white'; and *al-Badawi* is said to be the Arabic for 'of the Bedouin'. This is not documentation.

Master Da'ud ibn Auda, Star Principal Herald of the Kingdom of Ansteorra, and sometimes Obelisk Herald in the College of Arms, is the Society's expert on Arabic naming practices. His paper "Arabic Naming Practices" in *Proceedings of the Known World Heraldic Symposium A.S. XXII* (Alison von Markheim ed., West Kingdom College of Herald's 1987), while not a definitive work on Arabic names, is the only one readily available. The given name *Zarifah* is not found in his list; the closest is *Tarifa* (p.52). However, Master Da'ud's lists are not exhaustive. Master Da'ud confirms that *al-Badawi* is indeed the correct Arabic for 'of the Bedouin' (p.49). Alas, I have nothing to substantiate *Um-el-Laban* one way or the other. I am therefore submitting this name in the hope that someone in the College of Arms may be able to help with documentation — especially Master Da'ud ibn Auda.

The very simple and attractive device is unfortunately illegal under our current *Rules for Submission*. AR2a "Rules of Party Fields and Charges" says that multiply divided fields (that is, fields divided into more than four parts) may not use two tinctures from the same class: two metals or two colours. Since this field is multiply divided in two metals, it is illegal. However, there are very few registered devices with pavillions, and we came up with a number of equally simple designs which appear free of problems.

Consulting herald: Kane Greymane.

Those submissions not returned have been forwarded to the Vesper Principal Herald, and will be considered at her July meeting. You can find drawings of all the submitted devices at the bottom of page 14.

News of Previous Submissions

The West Kingdom College of Herald's *Minutes* for May arrived 9th June. You'll find the relevant extracts for Lochac attached as page V-1.

The Laurel Queen of Arms' *Letter of Acceptance and Return (LoAR)* for the March meeting was received on 5th June, and the relevant extracts are on page L-1. I've also included Lady Laurel's comments on "thin line heraldry" and household names, which are attached as pages M-1 onwards. The April *LoAR* was scheduled to be mailed before the end of May, and it should therefore be here any day now. The submissions involved are those for Elfarch Myddfai, Rowena of Loxton and Valerin Zakharevich Druzhinin.

And now, take a deep breath...

Courts: The Discussion Continues

[Warning: This section is riddled with personal opinion and wild speculation. None of it is official policy. It is provided merely as a trigger for your own thoughts. Read with care.]

My call for your comments on Court was more successful than I thought possible. I've received at least five written responses — including those from Lord Cristoval Gitano, Viscount Sir Elffin of Mona, Master Gwynfor Lwyd, Lord Kilic ibn Sungar ibn al-Kazganci al-Turhani and Lady Morag Ameredith — as well as many verbal comments. Thank you all. What follows is a summary of your comments, along with my initial responses and yet more new discussion points. Before launching into this, though, you may like to refresh your memory by re-reading the first installment in the *March Camel*.

Before I begin, let's put Court into perspective. Remember, a major Court is a performance event that runs for around two hours, an event that's being put together without proper rehearsal by a mob of amateurs. To use an example I'm more than familiar with, compare this with a three-hour radio talk show, like the one I produce five times a week. Even with professionals, putting on a show like this employs two people full time, another person half-time, and requires the input of specialist departments and individuals with a work commitment totalling around fifteen hours a day. Compared to this, we don't do too bad a job organizing Court. But we could still do better.

The most annoying part of a long Court is, apparently, waiting for it to start. The length of Court itself, once started, is tolerable. Most agreed that Court can be a "moving and entertaining experience", but also agreed that we could polish our performances in many ways. Yes, Court often starts late. Very late. People get annoyed when they've turned up when the flyer said, only to stand around for another two hours waiting for something to happen. Personally, I can cope with this, because I use the time to catch up with long-lost friends, but apparently others are not entertained by such simple pleasures. So what can we do?

Several people pointed out that the Royalty needs to be organized *before* the event. Actually, they said the Royalty "needs to get Their act together", but a proper sense of respect prevents me from using that phrase. Deciding who's getting awards, preparing promissory notes, signing and sealing scrolls and so on all need to be done well before the event, not immediately before Court is due to begin. Alas, this hasn't always happened. One person said "if it were possible to prevent Their Highnesses wasting time, waffling, getting sidetracked and being self-indulgent this would save another 90 minutes — but short of a 240 volt connection to the Thrones for stimulus-response reasons there is probably little that can be done". Well, I don't think 240 volts is *quite* the way the College of Heraldry should handle the situation. Nor do I think the situation is that hopeless. Royalty has a tough job, and it's our rôle as heralds to help Them bear the load, not carp when They don't meet our expectations. It's difficult for a new and possibly inexperienced Royal-to-be to know how everything is done, and despite the very best intentions it seems there are *always* delays. Still, there are things we can do.

Autocrats could help here. Far too often, event flyers are put out saying something like "Hall opens 12 noon, Court 1.00pm, Feast 5.00pm" — without consulting Their Majesties or Their heralds. Mind you, I suspect the heralds have never bothered to tell autocrats their requirements, so blame lies at our door too. Maybe it isn't obvious, but if you say the hall opens at noon, most people won't even get there until half past. Court cannot even begin to be planned until the Royalty, the heralds, the Royal Household and everyone else connected with Court is together and can discuss what's happening. Assuming that Their Majesties have already decided upon the awards They wish to bestow, and assuming the scrolls have already been prepared, the planning will take a *minimum* of an hour — provided there are no interruptions. If there *are* interruptions, like getting dressed, talking with friends, fetching the forgotten sword or going down to the bottle shop, then it'll take longer. The Royalty *needs* a separate room in which to prepare for Court, where They'll be free of interruptions.

In part, this is being remedied already: the first working edition of *The Lochac Royalty Book* made its appearance at Autumn Coronet. This book is a collection of “useful material” for the soon-to-be Prince and Princess. It will continually grow and evolve, with new material added during each Reign, so that eventually it’ll be an extremely useful handbook. A couple of people suggested that Their Highnesses be sent some sort of checklist a week or three in advance, so that They arrive for Court suitably prepared. This idea had already occurred to me, and there’ll be one ready in time for Mid-winter (touch wood).

To relieve the tedium of waiting, light refreshments before Court were suggested by one — it seems that few people can remember they have to eat. Entertainment between the three sections of Court (Final Court of retiring Royalty, Investiture, First Court of new Royalty) is also a good idea. Could we even eat *during* Court? There was quite a strong feeling that nothing else “official” should be run at the same time as Court. To do so would be disrespectful to the Coronet, and at a more practical level it means delays if someone is needed, or problems if official announcements fail to be heard. The overwhelming feeling was “if people don’t like Court, then they shouldn’t go”. I tend to agree. After all, if you don’t like fighting, you don’t go to tourneys, and if you don’t like needlework you don’t go to a meeting of the Needleworkers Guild.

There were few objections to spreading the Courts over the two days of a Principality event, although there was some concern that there be no gap between the final Court of the retiring Royalty and the Investiture of the next, lest Lochac be without a Prince and Princess. Actually, this isn’t a problem. The retiring Royalty are *still* Prince and Princess after Their final Court, and remain Prince and Princess until the exact moment They place the Coronets upon Their successors. There are, of course, the obvious needs of interstate travellers, and Courts need to be scheduled well in advance so travellers can arrange their travelling to suit.

Lord Kilic suggested that people coming up for several awards come up just once, collecting all their awards in one go. I disagree. My feeling is that if you bring someone up and give them two awards at once, it somehow “devalues” those awards. “Here’s your batch!” Of course, this can vary, depending on the circumstances. In one of Innilgard’s local Courts, for example, I *did* combine one person’s awards — but that was because it made “good theatre” to do so with that particular person. I try as much as possible to consider the feelings of the recipient when I work on awards presentations. Each person should have their “moment of glory”. We *do* combine several people’s Awards of Arms when we have a large batch, and sometimes Leaves of Achievement as well, but only when absolutely necessary. It’s obvious that Royalty is thinking along similar lines, though. Their Majesties Geoffrey and Kira told me they’re leaving Leaves and AoAs to the Prince and Princess, and They in turn are trying to visit each group and do the various awards at local events.

The one thing that received the most criticism, however, was the Grand March.

First, let me say that we don’t *have* to hold Grand Marches. It’s just that in Lochac we’ve got into the habit of having one at every Investiture. We can have no Grand Marches at all, or maybe just one a year, or maybe one “when we feel like it” or whatever. If we do have a Grand March, we can be flexible. We could group the marchers, so Royal Peers come as a group, as do Knights, Laurels, Pelicans, Grants, Leaves, *etc.* The choice is ours — well, that of the ruling Prince and Princess. (Of course, during an Investiture each Order of the Peerage, and the Great Officers, must swear Fealty to the Crown and Coronet, but that’s a different matter. Then, they’re not all listed by name.) Here’s a question for you: Do we need Grand Marches?

Viscount Sir Elffin and others say Grand Marches *are* necessary. Sir Elffin and Lady Morag also suggested adding to the pageantry: Landed Barons and Baronesses could march with a retinue, perhaps with banner bearers and their champions, pages and so on. Further, Knightly or Royal households

could also march together, creating much more spectacle than “just a couple” marching together. (By the way, this also gives some of the newcomers something to do during the March.) The household of the highest ranking person marching comes first, and the people within their household are listed by name, in precedence order. It means that we “dispose of” quite a few names in one go, saving time. It’s an interesting idea. Comments?

Lady Morag asked whether altering the way people come forward during the Grand March would affect Precedence. The simple answer is “No”. *Order of Precedence* and *Order of March* are two different concepts, although obviously they’re related closely. Precedence is defined strictly by the awards an individual has received. The *Order of March* is flexible, and can be altered to suit the occasion or the whims of Their Highnesses. In particular, the *Order of March* includes the Principality Officers ahead of the Peers, whereas if they were marching as individuals they’d take their place according to their personal precedence. There’s a little about this in the *West Kingdom Herald’s Handbook*, section VI.3, and more in the still-to-be-written section VII.8.

There also appears to be some confusion over the order in which people should march. Let me clarify the situation. The usual way is for the highest-ranking people to march first, the lowest-ranking last. The recent Lochac habit of presenting the lowest-ranking first is *reverse* order. As far as I can tell, this reverse ordering became the custom because people wanted to be inside when the highest-ranking marched in, so that everybody could see them — and *this* seems to have started because *everybody* ended up in the Grand March, including “the Populace of Splatsburg”.

Traditionally, being presented by name during a Grand March is one of the very few things that distinguish an armiger (someone with an Award of Arms) from a non-armiger. Sure, you get called “Lord” or “Lady”, but since everyone is called “milord” or “milady” it doesn’t really make much difference. And although becoming armigerous does give you the “right to bear arms”, anyone can design an heraldic device of pretense and get it registered, so what’s the difference there? No, the only tangible difference between an armiger and a non-armiger is that fact that one is announced in a Grand March and the other isn’t.

In my opinion, the place for “the Populace” is assembled within the hall, watching the spectacle of the nobles marching to be presented to Their Highnesses. They get to see the Officers and Peers who create and sustain the Dream, and they aspire, perhaps, to the privilege of marching, for a privilege it’s meant to be. Comments?

We can speed up Grand Marches in several ways without changing what we’re doing very much at all. We could put the point where people are announced much closer to the Thrones: that way you cut down the time spent “just walking forward”. It may not be much, but multiplied by fifty or sixty couples marching it makes a difference. The herald at the announcement point needs to make sure the point doesn’t creep backwards: he or she should move the marchers forward to the point, not move him- or herself back to the next couple. The marchers can be discouraged from entering into conversation with the Royalty. Alas, once Their Highnesses start talking with people, it’s difficult to stop, and by the end of the march They start running out of interesting things to say. A more extreme version of this is to have the marchers merely bow before Their Highnesses, and retire — if they don’t get a chance to kneel down, they won’t talk. This could doubtless be ensured by the organizing herald instructing the leading marchers in the correct procedure, followed by a quiet word to the rest.

Lord Kilic also says we could speed up Grand Marches by not presenting “the populace”. He’s right, and frankly I don’t see why we present “The Populace of Splatsburg” anyway — because it isn’t “the Populace” at all. It’s “the Populace who could make it to the event, except for those who’ve already been presented, and those who didn’t want to march, and those who are busy in the kitchen or otherwise indisposed”. It looks silly, at least to my eyes, for two or three lonely people to wander up as “the Populace” of a large and healthy group, simply because it was a long way to travel. However

opinions are bound to differ, so I'd be grateful if you could collect the populace's opinions on this point.

Some have said that a Grand March takes a long time to organize. Lord Cristoval offers one suggestion. Have a copy of the *Order of Precedence* at the troll table, so people are marked off as they arrive. Then break this *OP* into sections for each level of awards. The Peers could easily organize themselves. People with Grants of Arms and Leaves of Achievement have usually been around long enough to know what's going on. One of them's bound to be a herald; give them the *OP* and leave them to it. Beyond this, armigers needn't necessarily be presented in exhaustively strict precedence order, but merely clumped together by local group. This would require "no hollering heralds other than a request that Peers and Leaves coagulate and that armigers gather by group".

Another suggestion from Lord Kilic was that if groups are marching, they needn't all gather together. They merely need to have one member act as a "place-marker" in the queue, and when he or she is getting near the announcement point, the rest of the group gathers around them. This has possibilities, although both Kilic and I suspect that it'd be a bit noisy. Comments?

Alas, both these suggestions fail to address what I perceive to be the greatest difficulty in organizing a Grand March: the people who wish to march out of their strict precedence order — most notably, a lord and lady of differing precedence who wish to march together. We cannot afford to be dictatorial about this, because that merely creates an argument and provides more ammunition for the theory that heralds are just a pack of arrogant bastards. Of course, most people are reasonable, and are willing to negotiate a solution. It's the few stubborn and belligerent folk that cause problems — and it is for these people that we, as heralds, need to be at our most courteous and flexible. Nevertheless, the problem needs to be solved. The fact that we do Grand Marches differently almost every time we have one doesn't help. If we're going to continue having Grand Marches on a regular basis, then I think we need to have some sort of consistency.

If a lord and lady, their household, or some other group wishes to march together, where should they be placed? Let's take a hypothetical group: the lord is a Knight and his lady a Leaf, and one of the other household members is an armiger. One argument says they should march in the place of the person with highest precedence, in this case as a group with the Peerage. This argument says the high-ranking head of the household bestows his rank upon the others. The other argument says this causes people of lesser rank to march "above their station", and that no honour is lost if the higher ranking people march in a lower place. Indeed, you could further say that in this case the lord *gains* honour, for he has chosen to forsake his high rank to be with his beloved lady. Which do you prefer? In either case, by the way, they would be announced as "Sir Charles Blacksword, Lady Margaret Bluewater, Companion of the Rose Leaf, and their household, including Lord James Craigmor" — where people without arms are not announced by name.

Well, that's almost four pages of comment on Courts — enough for one month. As before, I'd appreciate any further comments you might have. Feel free to show this article (and its predecessor) to others and ask for their opinions too. I'll compile the next installment on comments in the August *Camel*.

Some Final Thanks

My sincere thanks go to the people of the now defunct Shire of Ventbarré. After formally closing down their local SCA group, these generous people have made a donation of 50 gold to the Crux Australis Office. Thank you.

Whew!

And that's it from me. Fourteen pages, the biggest *Camel* ever, and I still haven't been able to in-

clude the guide to starting your own research library. Next month, next month...

Your Servant,

gerontus scholaris †

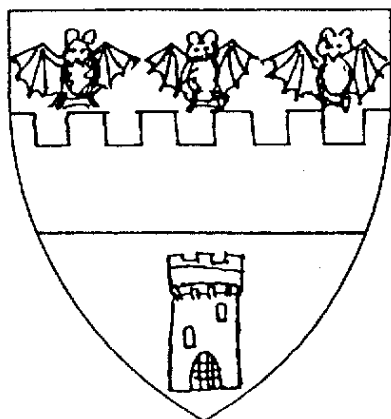
Baron Master Gereint Scholar
Crux Australis Herald



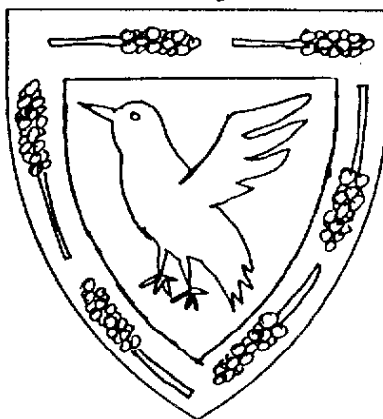
GS:gs

The following devices were considered by the Crux Australis Herald on 11th June XXIV (1989) and were SUBMITTED to the Vesper Principal Herald, unless marked otherwise:

Aelfric of Dorcestre



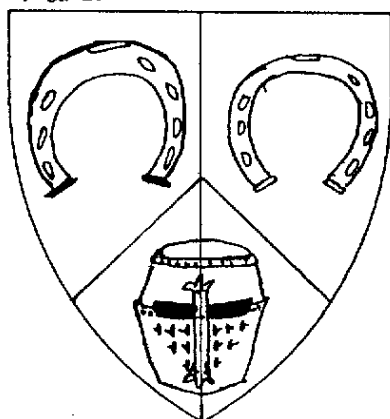
Eleanor Terrington



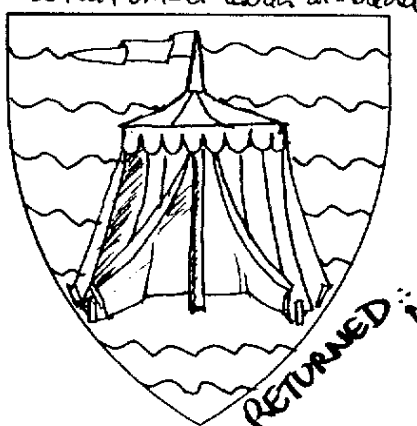
Frae Fitzallegne



Maredudd etc.



Zarifah Um-el-laban al-Badawi



The following submissions were considered by the Vesper Principal Herald of the Kingdom of the West on 14th May XXIV (1989) and were SUBMITTED to the Laurel Queen of Arms:

11. Kenelm le Dale (Innilgard) new name and device

Per fess sable and azure, a pegasus salient argent, in base a trimount Or.

The given name is cited on p. 187 of Withycombe, to 1201. Bardsley, (p. 228, at "Dale") cites "de la Dale", "del Dale" and "at Dale". Reaney (DBS p. 93) cites additionally "en le Dale" and "atte Dale". This seems to be a perfectly reasonable form. While the PicDic, page 73, calls the charge in base here "a mount of three hillocks", I much prefer the shorter term "trimount", found in the blazon of the arms of Countess Illaria Veltri degli Ansari, "Azure, a greyhound rampant argent gorged of an embattled coronet Or, atop a trimount paly Or and vert, all within a bordure argent." They were registered in September, 1986. Consulting herald: Aislynn de Valence.

12. Kilic ibn Sungar ibn al-Kazganci al-Turhani (Dismal Fogs) device resubmission to Laurel and Vesper

Sable, an escarbuncle of five swords, points to chief, argent, an orle Or.

His name was approved in this form on the LoAR of June, 1988. His first submission to Laurel was returned in October, 1984. This is a slight redesign of both that device and the one resubmitted to Vesper in March, 1988. This appears to be free of conflict. Consulting heralds: the submittor, Frederick of Holland.

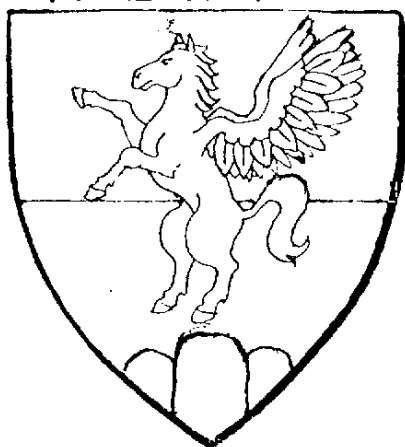
19. Stormhold, Barony of

badge resubmission to Vesper

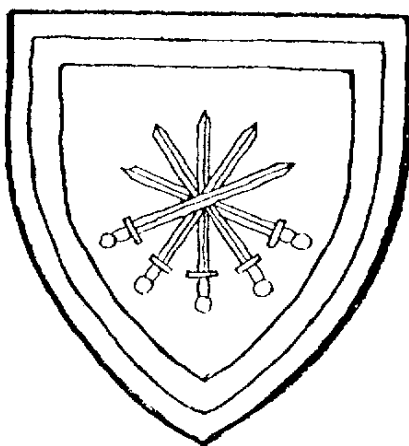
Azure, in sinister chief a drakkar affrontee Or.

The Barony's name and device were approved on the LoAR of May 1986. A similar badge was approved on the LoAR of July 1987. This badge was most recently returned in the form, "Azure, a drakkar affrontee Or", for conflict with the device registered to Francis Pesket of Arundel, "Per chevron Or and azure, a long ship affrontee under full sail, counterchanged". This differs by not having the line of division for one point, and there is another minor for changing the position of the one and only charge. Consulting herald: Thorfinn Hrolfsson.

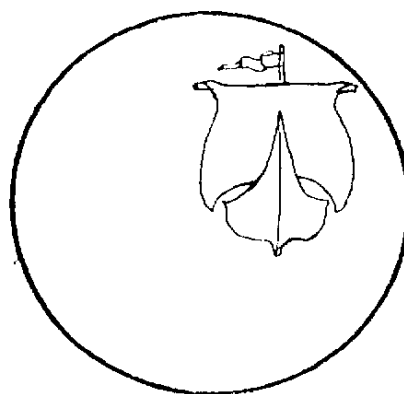
11. Kenelm



12. Kilic



19. Stormhold



The following submissions were REGISTERED by the Laurel Queen of Arms on 26th March XXIII (1989):

Faelan O Taithligh. Name and device. Per bend sinister azure and vert, a stag's head affronty erased argent, attired Or, in chief three mullets in fess argent.

Gilchrist Morgan. Name and device. Argent, a cross doubly parted and fretted, on a chief azure two tankards argent.

Gillam Adestan. Name only.

James Nightstriker. Name and device. Sable, two lightning bolts in saltire between in fess two swords palewise and in chief a decrescent, all within a bordure Or.

Lavinia of the Tyrol. Name and device. Per bend sinister Or and vert, ermined Or, in dexter chief a harp vert.

The name was submitted as Lavinia of Tyrol. As Green Anchor has noted, in English this is referred to as "the Tyrol" so we have added the article. Note that the Lavinia of classical fame was associated with Latium, not the north of Italy.

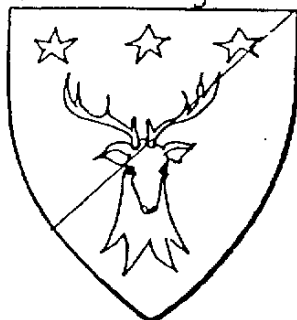
Myfanwy Elen o Gaerfyrddin. Name and device. Quarterly argent and azure, four owls within an orle, all counterchanged.

Timo Auliksenpoika. Device. Sable, a pale argent between two swords inverted Or, a chief argent.

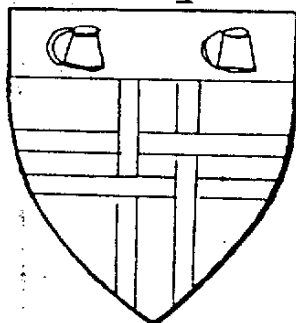
West, Kingdom of the. Title for Black Wing Pursuivant.

William Elleison. Name and device. Or, two chevrons cotised and in base an armored arm embowed fesswise sable.

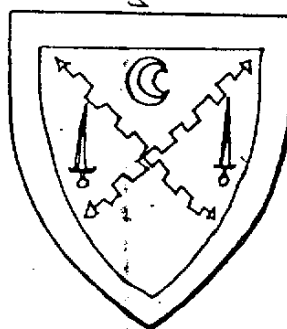
Faelan O Taithligh



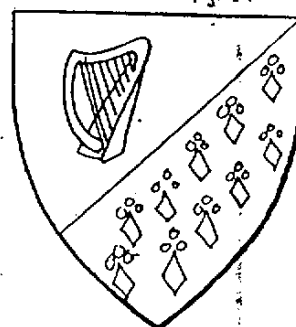
Gilchrist Morgan



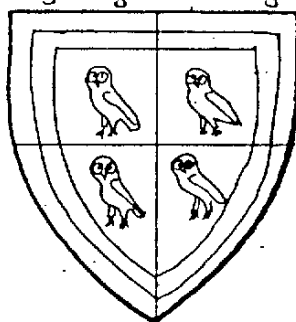
James Nightstriker



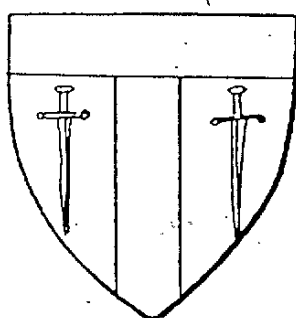
Lavinia of the Tyrol



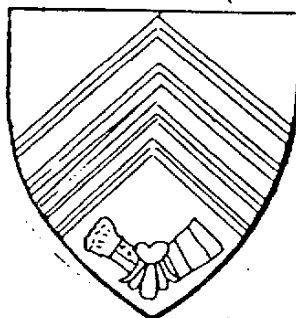
Myfanwy Elen o Gaerfyrddin



Timo Auliksenpoika



William Elleison



The following material is extracted from the covering letter to the Laurel Queen of Arms' March Letter of Acceptance and Return, which was dated 20th May XXIV (1989).

Clearly, the feeling of the College at large is that any plain ordinary which may be placed in the center of the shield (e.g., bend, fess, pale, cross, saltire) may be voided or fimbriated even if it is of the tincture of the field and, even if that ordinary is then charged, the visual distraction is not so great as to diminish identifiability significantly. (In point of fact, for "straight line" charges such as the bend, fess, pale, an ordinary of the field fimbriated would be visually identified and probably blazoned as two of the appropriate diminutive ordinary.)

So be it. Henceforth, any plain ordinary which may be placed in the center of the shield may be voided or given equivalent treatment (e.g., fimbriation if it is of the tincture of the field) without this being considered "thin line heraldry" or excessive fimbriation, even if that ordinary is charged, so long as no other voiding or fimbriation is present on the submitted armory.

Note that this does not touch upon the issue of ordinaries which use complex lines of partition. This area was not really addressed by most commentators, although there seemed to be some "gut feeling" that the addition of the complex line of division again diminished identifiability to a great extent so that, for instance, a cross regularly should not be fimbriated, particularly if it were of the tincture of the field. Laurel solicits commentary specifically on this issue for the August meeting.

ON THE SUBJECT OF THE PROTECTION OF HOUSEHOLD NAMES

For the benefit of those who have not been in on the entirety of this extremely controversial topic, a review is probably in order. The current phase of the discussion of the role which households and household names should play in our heraldic system occurred nearly two years ago when a submitter from Ansteorra submitted a name which used the surname "von Markheim", which is borne by a number of nobles of the West Kingdom (including the current Vesper). This initiated a round of hot debate in the College on the subject of the protection of household names, the potential offense that could be caused if people were assumed to be of households they did not in fact belong to, etc. Some proposed ignoring household names entirely, i.e., changing the rules so that they were no longer protected. Others proposed a sort of "situation ethics" rule whereby only famous households or the households of famous individuals would be protected. Still others wanted extremely strict regulation of the use of household names by individuals, expressing outrage at some names which had been submitted that they felt infringed on well-known but unregistered household names. Complicating the situation was the fact that a group of commentators from the West, which had been given permission by a previous Laurel diverge in the direction of strictness from the general rules of the College and therefore did not send household names on for registration, felt that certain names should in fact be protected against use in personal names or other use, even if not registered.

After some six months of discussion in the College, Laurel issued a "compromise decision". Again, for those who were not around in September, 1987, it may be useful to quote a considerable portion of the decision in full since it summarizes the previous history of the issue:

Armoury and household names have been registered by the College "since the memory of man runneth not to the contrary" (for example, a badge and an augmentation for 'Headless House' were registered in 1973). Protection of the household names was sporadic, to say the least, for some years due largely to technological limitations apparently. In the course of the thorough rehashing of the Rules for Submission that occurred in the summer of 1981, it was decided that, since the advent of a computerized Armorial had removed the technical difficulties, household names should be protected fully and that this should be reflected in the Rules. (Those who were present at the Caerthan Symposium in August of that year may recall the Elmet Herald of the East, one Allison MacCoul of Elphane, doing some significant table-thumping in support of the concept that "what we register we must protect!")

This was the state of affairs for some years. At the very end of his tenure, Master Wilhelm passed the name of Hilary Fairhaven (now Nereid), despite the previously registered household of Fairhaven registered to Horrok Haldane of Faulconwood (now Chevron). As this was passed without any comment, it is unclear that it was intended to set a precedent. However, in later discussions during Master Baldwin's tenure, it was treated as if it had been a precedent. In the section of the Rules issued at the end of Master Baldwin's tenure dealing with individual names, no reference is specifically made to Society names and it is a matter of opinion whether the statement on conflict made in NR15b ("Personal names shall not conflict with other registered Society names") was intended to include conflicts with Society households. In the section on Household Name Conflict (NR21b), it is stated that "Conflict will not be considered between household names and personal surnames or bynames" but that can equally be taken to apply only to the registration of household names. In other words, it can be reasonably understood as a one-way proposition, like the "visual conflict test", i.e., that

ON THE SUBJECT OF THIN LINE HERALDRY

The issue of precisely when fimbriation or voiding becomes "excessive" and therefore grounds for return has been raised recently in conjunction with a number of submissions, most notably that of Thessala de Lyons ("Azure on a cross voided argent, a lion couchant Or."). At the time Thessala's device was originally submitted, the feeling of the Laurel staff was that the visual effect of what was actually "Azure, a cross azure, fimbriated argent" surrounding the central (but very small) lion was of a lion as primary charge surrounded by four angle brackets argent. In other words, the feeling was that the identifiability of the underlying charge was so diminished by the fact that it was set off from the field by only thin laths of argent that the charging rendered it unidentifiable.

This point of view was rooted in the long-standing precedent that fimbriation is excessive when it seriously diminishes the identifiability of a charge or charges. This principle was stated as long ago as the draft rules circulated by Wilhelm von Schlusell in the summer of 1981 prior to the Caerthan Symposium:

The College will not register a device or arms which is so cluttered with charges, lacking in contrast, or otherwise complicated, that it cannot be correctly blazoned from across a tourney field by a competent herald when displayed upon a banner or shield. Devices with excessive or complex use of fimbriation may fall under this rule.

Later rulings specifically banned fimbriation of living creatures, "complex" charges, etc. on the grounds of identifiability. (Certain charges which were not fimbriated or voided in period, e.g., flames, were banned on historical grounds as early as September, 1981.) By the time the current rules were issued in the autumn of 1986, the term "thin line heraldry" had become such a commonplace that it could be included in the rules without a murmur defined as "chasing, excessive use of voiding, fimbriating any but the simplest charges, etc."

In an attempt to better define what we should consider "thin line heraldry", Laurel put out a call for research and commentary on the issue. While not as many commentators responded as Laurel would have liked, the results were interesting. Virtually all the examples clearly dated to period were ordinaries. The vast majority of the examples of fimbriation involved ordinaries of one tincture on a field of another tincture (e.g., "Azure, a cross gules fimbriated argent") so that the identity of the charge was reinforced by its tincture, not merely defined by the outline.

Charges voided, (i.e., reblazonable as "X, an ordinary X fimbriated Y") were very rare and generally limited to a few of the ordinaries. For instance, Brault notes the "false escutcheon" which is a matter of debate among heralds but was, probably an orle (which can be blazoned as "an escutcheon of the field fimbriated") and an annulet which was sometimes blazoned in terms equivalent to a roundel voided. A cross voided does appear, although it is uncommon, and the only really complicated charge that appears voided is the famous cross of Toulouse, which has frequently been discussed as an anomaly of period heraldry.

Equally striking was the fact that voided charges were rarely, if ever, themselves charged. Even fimbriated charges where the base charge and the tincture of the field differed were seldom charged in classical heraldry. Indeed, period support is virtually non-existent for the Society usage of an ordinary voided or a hollow charge (e.g., an annulet) as a "frame" for another charge.

This being so, the question remains whether this is one of the areas where the "authentic" is at war with the "creative" perception of the Society. To put it another way, although most commentators would agree that the period precedent for such frames is weak, is there a general consensus in favour of tolerance of non-period style in this area and, if so, where does the dividing line fall?

On the basis of commentary in the College on the submission of Thessala de Lyons, it must be concluded that the College does in fact have a rather high tolerance for voiding and fimbriation, even in conjunction with other charges, so long as the charges in question are simple geometric charges (i.e., ordinaries) and are primary design elements placed at the center of the shield.

The press of opinion still seems to be against permitting a chief or flaunch or bordure to be fimbriated, even though these would be as identifiable as Thessala's cross because these are by definition on the visual periphery of the shield and therefore inherently have less visual impact. A majority of the "frame designs" which have come before the College in the past have involved "frames" which were by definition closed (e.g., annulets, mascles, stars of David) and therefore were not only more identifiable in and of themselves, but also focused attention more closely on the charge framed. In virtually all cases, however, they were central to the design (i.e., placed at the center of the shield).

household names cannot conflict with personal names but personal names could conflict with household names.

When the submission of Alanic Liutpold von Markheim first came before the College, various Western heralds commented adversely and made some serious and well-considered suggestions for amending the situation as they considered it to stand. Summarized, they suggested that "famous" Society households with manufactured names be protected from infringement so long as only members of the household had registered names including the household name. Response to this suggestion from many heralds was immediate and strong: some felt this was an excellent idea, others felt that it was unfair to the "obscure" households, still others considered that it would be a convention impossible to administer with equity because of the difficulty of determining what was a "famous" household.

On the whole, this discussion has been an exercise in conflicting "gut feelings" and abstract theory for many members of the College. Laurel included. Many felt uncomfortable with the concept of someone calling themselves "Petunia of Bellatrix" or "Frodo von Halstern", but at the same time felt that there was something wrong with the concept of fame (or infamy) as a primary criterion for protection.

In considering this issue, we felt it necessary to evaluate the basic functions of our rules and to consider why the Society protects names and armory against conflict. The discussions at the recent Symposium were very helpful in this regard, pointing as they did to the fact that our rules on conflict are designed to prevent confusion and avoid creating offense. If someone appears, through their name or armory, to be someone or something that they are not, that can cause confusion or offense or both.

Clearly, the use of household names in personal names gives the impression that the person bearing that name is a member of the household in question. If they are not, then confusion is created and offense may be created, depending on the circumstances. Viewed in this light, it becomes apparent that Brachet and Vesper are correct in assuming that the Society must have a vital interest in preventing infringement of household names.

However, Gold Falcon, Crescent and the members of the College who have objected that the Western proposal is unworkable and places undue stress on the undeniably subjective criterion of "fame" are equally correct. As the history of the submission in question makes clear, a name that may be of unsurpassed fame in one or two kingdoms may be nearly unknown in others (the submitter's name was changed to Markheim by the *Heralds of Ansterra* to avoid a technical problem!). The names Elandris and von Halstern may convey immediate meanings to a subject of the East or of Atlantis, but mean nothing to Caid; while Griffin Freethold may mean nothing east of the Mississippi.

This being so, it seems that the only just and reasonable path is to protect household names but to protect only registered household names. This will ensure that the name in question has been deemed free of conflict with protected mundane or Society entities, has been judged compatible with the period ambience of the Society and is not in and of itself offensive. By protecting all registered households, we avoid any accusations of favoritism and encourage selection of household names which are consonant with the goals of the College and the Society as a whole. Furthermore, since all registered households are included in our database with crossreferences in the Armorial, conflict checking is not only practical but convenient. Finally, since the rules on conflict place restrictions on what may be registered as a household name, this should not unacceptably reduce the possibilities for personal name registration since a majority of pre-existent placenames from fiction, mundane history or Society geography cannot be registered as a household name.

PRECEDENT: Registered household names shall be protected by the College of Arms. Such household names shall not be included in personal names of those not members of the household without specific permission from the individual to whom the household name is registered. Such household names shall also be protected against infringement by the names of Society branches, Society awards or other Society households.

Initial verbal response to this ruling was positive with several Principals calling Laurel to praise the "Solomonic" nature of the decision. Rather quickly, however, opinion in the College shifted in reaction to a number of lengthy "minority reports" from influential members of the College. Several of the commentaries used the rhetorical tactic of *reductio ad absurdum* effectively as they assailed the policy on the basis that household names registered in the past (e.g., House Smith and Caer Llewellyn) could prevent registration of names like Peter Smith or Emrys ap Llewellyn today.

Although the names actually returned over the past year and a half for "household name conflict" were minimal (a fraction of one percent of the total number of names submitted in that period) and most of those were for conflict with a half dozen "old time" household names, the controversy continued unabated, with several of the heralds who had originally proposed "situation ethics" protection of household names swinging about to oppose registration or protection of household names at all.

While this controversy was going on in the College, Laurel sought to gain general permissions to conflict for several of the more "generic" of the household names which had caused problems. Unfortunately, these proved difficult to gain, in some cases because the person to whom they had been registered had galloped, in others because that person felt that they should be protected fully (this included at least one member of the College of Arms). At the same time, she received a considerable amount of correspondence from local heralds and non-heraldic members of the populace which indicated that the feeling in the College of Arms as to the "laissez faire" attitude of the populace with regard to household names might not be correct.

As one compelling reason for continuing enforcement of protection of household names against infringement by personal names was a perceived "demand" on the part of the populace for such protection and a strong conviction that equity demanded "equal protection under the law" for previously registered household names, Laurel determined to give the populace an opportunity to comment on the issue through a poll in *Tournaments Illuminated*. (Partial results of this poll were included in the February cover letter; the remainder appears below.)

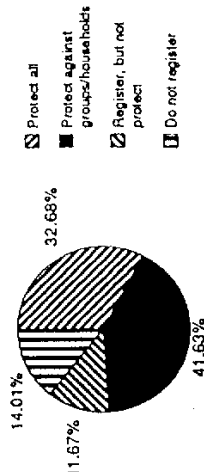
From the response to the poll, it is clear that the populace does not wish the College of Arms to "get out of the household name business", as one member of the College put it. Less than 15% of the sample felt that household names should not be registered at all. Nearly three-quarters of the sample felt that the names should be protected, although there was some discussion as to the level of protection required. As the graph on the next page shows, about one-third of those responding felt that the present level of protection was appropriate while a slightly greater proportion felt that household names should be protected only against official and unofficial (i.e., household) group names.

This being the case, Laurel feels justified in responding to the cries of the College of Arms and modifying the protection afforded to household names.

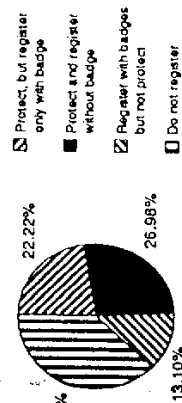
PRECEDENT: Effective immediately, the registration of a household name will not carry protection against infringement by others who may, through use of the name in their personal names, claim to be members of the household. Household names will continue to be protected against infringement by the names of official groups, orders, heraldic titles, other household names, etc. For example, the name of House Smith would not prevent registration of the name Peter Smith, but would prevent registration of House Green Smith, the Order of the Iron Smith and the title of Poor Smith Herald.

As noted above, a substantial majority of those responding to the poll were solidly in favour of some sort of protection for household names. The chart below illustrates the dimensions of this majority.

HOUSEHOLD NAMES



ALTERNATE PERSONA NAMES



The range of opinion on alternate persona names was much more varied and there was a substantial minority who felt that they should not be registered at all. However, these numbers were somewhat swollen by those who were not "voting" on the alternate persona issue at all, but misinterpreted the question to be one on non-Western personas. For a significant subset of those responding that alternate personas should not be registered, an alternate persona was identical to a Japanese or Chinese persona. Indeed, a number of the comments on this issue, were they to be transferred to a mundane context, would have to be considered disturbingly racist! This being so, it does not seem reasonable to make any significant changes to the current policy at this time, although the responses will no doubt be fertile ground for discussion at the Symposium.

NAME CROSS REFERENCE LIST

Crua Australis Herald

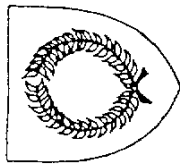
Printed 11/6/89

NAME CROSS REFERENCE LIST

Crua Australis Herald

Previous Name or Nickname	Registered/Current Name (* denotes an unregistered name)	HID
Ademar d'Esciduell	Morag Ameredih	213
Aelfloek Althro	Elharth Myddfal	95
Aethla of Irlie	Myfanwy ferch Dafydd	221
Agro d'Aix	Myfanwy ferch Dafydd	221
Aislinn de Valence	Nissan ap Howell	173
Aislinn gan Eindargard	Poli Tiko Polia, Shire of	326
Amalthea of River Haven	Politachopolis, Shire of	326
Angarhad of Chester	Thrainn Jangrimason	333
Anne de Huguete	Reynardine de Clifford	236
Antonia Ambrosia	Reynardine de Clifford	236
Antonia Ambrosia l'Ilina*	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	238
Arian ferch Eynion	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Arianwen ferch Eynion	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Arianwen ferch Eynion	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Arnvald von Hagenburg	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Astrid of the Vale	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Astrid of the South	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Bianca Congilio	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Bianca of Dismal Fogs	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Bradoe MacCarrum	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Broderick MacDathi	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Bronwen ferch Elisius	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Bryn of the Quavers	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Caitlin O'Harrigan	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
David of Aneila	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Del Delson	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Donal of Ross	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Douglas MacAlan	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Douglas MacTalla	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Duncan Shieldsbane	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Edvard Vaker	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Gemma Gairtachdaich a Fraoch	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Gemma of the Heath	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Gerraint Scholar	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Gerraint of Swinford	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Gerraint the Grymme	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Gerraint the Scholar	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Glynhyvar of River Haven	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Greth de Trobridge	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Guy le Lornbad	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Gwynfor the Grey	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Gwynfor Lloyd	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Hamish MacLain	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Hamish Morgan	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Hamish of Col	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Haos Windchaser	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Heather of Surtmhold	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Hugh Louis de la Laurin	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Isabeau Chantecuse	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Isabella degli Conarini	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Isabella Conarini	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Jack Cameron of Loch Swan	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Kane of the Marsh	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Kane Skavameister	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Katherine the Friendly	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Kenneth ap Howell	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Kyrri of the Eagle's Nest	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Lachlan of the Eagle's Nest	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Lachlan of the Eagle's Nest	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Lindore of Bernmoethyn	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Llyn Orii, Shire of	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Maeva tr Mikla	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Maeva Torfadottir	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Richard de Montfort of Hastings*	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Frederick Ludovicus van der Meer	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Estia of Irlie	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Agro Agwesi*	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Aislinn de Valence	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Aine of the Hounds	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Angarhad of Chester	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Anne de Huguete	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Antonia Ambrosia	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Antonia Ambrosia l'Ilina*	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Arian ferch Eynion	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Arianwen ferch Eynion	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Arianwen ferch Eynion	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Arnvald von Hagenburg	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Astrid of the Vale	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Astrid of the South	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Bianca Congilio	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Bianca of Dismal Fogs	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Bradoe MacCarrum	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Broderick MacDathi	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Bronwen ferch Elisius	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Bryn of the Quavers	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Caitlin O'Harrigan	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
David of Aneila	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Del Delson	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Donal of Ross	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Douglas MacAlan	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Douglas MacTalla	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Duncan Shieldsbane	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Edvard Vaker	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Gemma Gairtachdaich a Fraoch	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Gemma of the Heath	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Gerraint Scholar	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Gerraint of Swinford	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Gerraint the Grymme	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Gerraint the Scholar	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Glynhyvar of River Haven	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Greth de Trobridge	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Guy le Lornbad	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Gwynfor the Grey	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Gwynfor Lloyd	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Hamish MacLain	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Hamish Morgan	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Hamish of Col	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Haos Windchaser	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Heather of Surtmhold	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Hugh Louis de la Laurin	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Isabeau Chantecuse	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Isabella degli Conarini	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Isabella Conarini	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Jack Cameron of Loch Swan	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Kane of the Marsh	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Kane Skavameister	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Katherine the Friendly	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Kenneth ap Howell	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Kyrri of the Eagle's Nest	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Lachlan of the Eagle's Nest	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Lachlan of the Eagle's Nest	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Lindore of Bernmoethyn	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Llyn Orii, Shire of	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Maeva tr Mikla	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240
Maeva Torfadottir	Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada	240

If you discover any name missing from this list, or a mistake, then contact the Crua Australis Herald immediately. He will then make sure the new information is included in the list. This list was last updated on 9th April A.S. XXIII (1989).



the society for creative anachronism, inc.

Board of Directors • Post Office Box 360743 • Milpitas, California 95035-0743

Reply to:

May 24, A.S. XXIV (1989)
Cecelia Weisenberger
721 North 8th Street
Leavenworth, KS 66048
(913) 661-0823

To the Laurel Sovereign of Arms, the Principal Herald of the twelve Kingdoms, and the College of Arms:

From Cecelia Weisenberger, Board ombudsman for the Laurel office:
Greetings!

At the April Board meeting, the question of allowing Australian flora and fauna in Society heraldry was appealed to the Board of Directors by Master Gereint Scholier (Crux Australis Herald), Baron Tovey Woolmongere (Lochac Principality Seneschal), and Master Thorfinn Hrolfsson (Hund Pursuivant). The Board of Directors would like to have your input on this question.

Mistress Alisoun's most recent registration of a Lochac beast appeared on her LOAR in this wise:

Michiel Dammary the Mischievous. Badge. Argent, in bend three platypuses naiant bendwise minister to base gules.

While a number of commentators objected strenuously to the use of a beast unknown to western Europe in period, the wording of the current rules dictates acceptance of the platypus as a charge: 'Objects, living things, or design elements not normally used in heraldry, i.e., which are not to be found in standard heraldic reference works, but were known to humanity prior to 1601, may be accepted as charges on a case-by-case basis. The guideline for acceptability is whether there is one recognizable form.' It would indeed be offensive to deny that the aboriginal natives of Australia are a subset of humanity (although this has, of course, been done in the past...). The issue then is reduced to whether there is a single recognizable form for a platypus: since there is, the charge must be accepted.

The three gentles who appealed this decision to the Board wished that the rule that Laurel has quoted (AR7, Time Period Restriction.) be changed. They asked that the Board of Directors implement the definition in the Articles of Incorporation that defines the S.C.A.'s period of recreation to be 'pre-seventeenth Century Western Culture,' and that paragraph AR7b of the current rules be changed from 'known to humanity prior to 1601,' to 'known in Europe prior to 1601.'

Since the first sighting of the continent of Australia by a European was by Torres in 1605 (he mapped part of the coastline, but did not land), and the first European to land in Australia was Dirk Hartog in 1616, any knowledge of any Australian flora or

fauna before the end of our period would not be possible. Indeed, the east coast of Australia was not discovered before Captain James Cook's voyage in 1770, and was not settled by Europeans until 1788, nearly 200 years after the end of our period; the flora and fauna of Australia was not commonly known in Europe until then.

The Laurel Sovereign's objection to this has included the feeling that, in order to be consistent, if Australian flora and fauna may not be registered, neither may Oriental or American charges unless they can be proven to have been known by Europeans prior to 1601.

We would very much like to hear your opinions on this. I see the question before the Board in this way:

1. Should the current rules for submission as well as any future rules be modified to limit charges to those known in Europe prior to 1601?
2. In so ruling, will the Board also be ruling that those same restrictions and limits must be placed on Oriental and American charges, or is this merely a matter for further discussion in the College of Arms?

You'll notice that these are among the important topics for discussion that Mistress Alisoun has included on her questionnaire in your 'official rules draft kit.' I would ask that your comments on this topic be sent, not only to the Laurel Queen of Arms, but also to me (as your ombudsman) and to the Corporate Secretary (to be included as official correspondence for the July Board meeting). Materials to be considered at the July Board meeting, to be held in Ann Arbor, Michigan, on July 22, 1989, must be received by the Corporate Secretary by July 7, 1989. The Corporate Secretary's address is:

Cliveden Chew Haas
P.O. Box 360743
Milpitas, CA 95035-0743

As the ombudsman for the herald's office, I would also be most interested in seeing your letters of comment on the proposed new rules for submission.

In this, as in all things, I hope to remain, through service to the Society,

Your servant,

Cecelia Weisenberger
Cecelia Weisenberger
Laurel ombudsman

cc: Board of Directors
file