

Writing on the World

(S T O W E O N T H E W O R L D ' S N E W S L E T T E R)



The Key to It All (by the Chronicler)



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Hail mighty Stowegians!

It is my pleasure to bring you the 'Key to It All' this month.

The Lord Alfgeirr Aganarsson is having a well deserved rest, from this article, but should be back next month all refreshed.

We look forward to Alfgeirr's new and exciting information about the upcoming events.

It seems that everyone is settling in well to our new meeting place on Wednesday nights. A bigger fighting area and more room in the hall makes it easier all round.

Arts and Sciences seems to be doing well in the new hall. There seems to be a number of people all huddled around the table with various projects going on.

There also appears to be a number of new 'heavy fighters' which gives our existing 'Men of Stowe' some new challenges to

overcome.

A number of people have had the opportunity to learn some fencing. Everyone I talked to enjoyed their lessons and look forward to learning more. A number of 'heavy fighters' have had to change their techniques to adopt to



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fencing but this has helped to make it enjoyable. It is hoped that we can continue to have fencing lessons in the hall after the meeting on Meeting Nights. The Lord Alfgeirr is trying to negotiate with a well credentialed fencer or two so that this becomes a permanent fixture. I believe some Stowe gear has already been purchased to

assist 'noobs' to see if they would like to continue with this discipline.

I would like to encourage any Stowegian that has a particular passion in any of our areas of interest, and who would like to share it with others, to submit an article the Chronicler.

I heard it on the 'grapevine' that the Barony of Rowany is going to participate in this years Blacktown Festival. As we are part of Rowany and it is in our 'patch'; I would like to encourage as may Stowegians as possible to make the effort to attend. It is a great opportunity to recruit people from our area and helps further our interest in the SCA.

Yours in Service

Darrell
(Stowe Chronicler)

People of Stowe

(Your Fellow Stowegians)



WOTW: What is your modern day name?:

Stowegian: Barry Cadwgan.

WOTW: Do you have an SCA name; if so, what is it?

Stowegian: Llywelyn Penbras.

WOTW: When did you join the SCA?:

Stowegian: Late 2011.

WOTW: Why did you join the SCA?:

Stowegian: I was in the SCA back in university (Adelaide University) in the late 80s, the Collage of Blessed Herman the Cripple. I drifted away when I moved first to Melbourne and then Sydney. Then in 2011, I wanted to get more active and it seemed like a good idea. We turned up at a Stowe in the Wowld meeting and never looked back. I wish I'd done it years ago..

WOTW: What are you currently doing in the SCA?:

Stowegian: Slowly getting into fighting (it's difficult to find time to practice and get kit together), the festival, arts and sciences and learning Heraldry. I'm also enjoying my wife's experimenting with period recipes especially Cinnamon, the all-purpose spice.

WOTW: What is your favourite experience in the SCA?:

Stowegian: Feasts!

WOTW: Do you have any interests outside the SCA; if so, what are they?:

Stowegian: Far too many. Reading mainly fantasy and sci-fi, and historical fiction, and historical non-fiction. Wargaming and RPGs.

WOTW: What is your favourite meal?:

Stowegian: Probably the stewed chorizo recipe that my wife learned through the SCA.

WOTW: What is your favourite drink?

Stowegian: I don't really have one.

WOTW: What is your favourite memory as a child and why?:

Stowegian: That's a difficult one. One of the more significant ones is going into a shop in the very early 80s and getting our first Apple 2e computer, with 32k of RAM and cassette tape storage.

Thanks Barry for taking the time to speak to Writing on the Wowld.

Merlin's Crystal Ball

(Knowing the Future and the Past)



Charlemagne

(2 April 742 to 28 January 814)

Charlemagne (Charles I), also known as Charles the Great, was the King of the Franks from 768, the King of Italy from 774 and the first Roman Emperor in Western Europe since the collapse of the Western Roman Empire three centuries earlier but where did it all begin?



The date and place of Charlemagne's birth are debatable but the most likely date-of-birth is 2 April 742 in the town of his father's birth which was Herstal, Wallonia which was a town near Liege in modern day Belgium.

Charlemagne was the eldest son of Pepin (the Short) and Bertrada of Laon.

Charlemagne became King in 768 following the death of his father. Initially Charlemagne was

a co-ruler with his brother Carloman I.

In 770 Charlemagne sought an alliance with the Lombards by marrying the daughter of their King Desiderius.

In 771 Carloman died in seemingly natural but unexplained circumstances meaning that Charlemagne became the undisputed ruler of the Frankish Kingdom. Charlemagne immediately seized his brother's territories but Carloman's heirs took refuge with Charlemagne's father-in-law, Desiderius. By that time Charlemagne had disowned his wife, and Desiderius was no longer friendly.

In 772, when Pope Adrian I appealed to Charlemagne for help against Desiderius. Charlemagne invaded Italy, defeated



Desiderius and assumed the Royal title in 774.

Through military success he subdued the Saxons, Bavarians and managed to push his frontier into Spain. He expanded his Kingdom into an Empire

that included much a Western and Central Europe.

Charlemagne followed in his father's footsteps by protecting the papacy. He removed the Lombards from power in Italy and led incursions into the Muslim parts of Spain. He also undertook a series of large scale military operations against the people in the east forcibly Christianising them along the way (especially the Saxons).

In 800, on Christmas Day, at the height of his power, Charlemagne was crowned Emperor by Pope Leo III.

For the first time since the Ro-



man Empire the 'Father of Europe' had united most of Western Europe. Charlemagne's rule spurred on the Carolingian Renaissance which was a revival of culture, religion and art (mainly through the Catholic Church).

Charlemagne died in 814. He was laid to rest in his imperial capital of Aachen in today's Germany. His son Louis the Pious succeeded him as Emperor.

Monks Corner

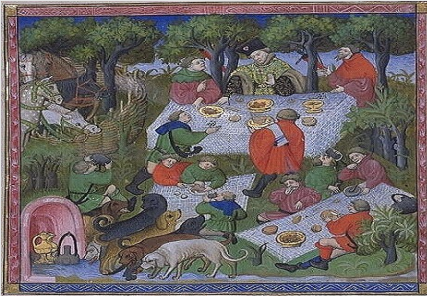
(Learning about the SCA — Feasting)



Feasting

HELP!!! I've been invited to a feast and I don't know what it is. What do I do there? What do I take?

I suppose the first course of action is to find out what a feast is.



Well, I've been told that a feast is a social occasion where you sit down for a meal. It can be informal with a few friends or a grand event. A feast will often include entertainment and have a special theme.

Often you are required to bring your own feasting gear which is a collection of eating utensils, plates, bowls, candles and table linen usually carried in a feasting basket or chest.

Sometimes at the feasts you may be responsible for bringing your own



beverages. If the site is a 'wet' site or a discreetly 'wet' site (depending on the modern rules and the governing body of the hall or area), and you are of legal age, you may bring alcohol. This must be drunk in a responsible manner. Please find out the require-

ments for beverages before attending. *Note: 'Wet site' means alcohol is allowed. 'Discreet wet site' means alcohol is allowed but must be out of site and a 'dry site' means no alcohol is allowed.*

When you enter the Feasting Hall, probably for a grand event, you are usually required to sign in. After signing in you may be given instructions on where to sit and stow your gear.

For a grand event there will be a 'high' table. You must not sit at this table unless you are invited.

Do not move any personal items, tables or chairs without permission.

Lights may be lowered or turned off to allow for the candles to be bought out. Ensure that the rules of the hall and, therefore, the rules of the feast allow for candles. In some instances open candles may be allowed. If not, covered candles may be allowed or closed lanterns. These also may not be allowed so battery operated candles may have to be used. It is wise to find out the requirements before attending the feast.

Food may be served in various ways. If served in courses the herald may announce each course. Sometimes all the courses are served at once. In the Medieval Period it was usual to serve both a savoury, a sweet dish, vegetables and meat. In the SCA it is usual for soups to be served as the first course and dessert as the last.

If you have dietary concerns and need information on the food then you should contact the Feast Steward before the ingredients are purchased. In some instances they may be able to make some special considerations.

Between courses one or more of the servers may come along to collect scraps.

Also, between courses or other times Royalty or the Barony may come around to conduct small pieces of court business. Bards may come around to entertain the diners.

It is alright to talk to your friends and at the end of the feast there may be an opportunity to wash your dishes.

Feasting Gear

Must Haves:

- A sturdy basket or small chest for carrying your feasting gear
- Plates
- Bowls
- Silverware
- Goblets
- Napkins
- Tablecloth
- Dirty Dish Bags

Nice to Have:

- Pitcher (Jug)
- Salt and Pepper
- Slop Bowl
- Tidbits
- Small serving plate for Tidbits
- Candles
- Matches
- Bottle opener



- based on the 'Court: Feast' in the 'Known World' Handbook



STOWE CONTACT DETAILS

The Canton of Stowe-on-the-Wowld is an SCA group in the Barony of Rowany, Kingdom of Lochac (geographically Western Sydney NSW Australia). The Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) is a worldwide organisation dedicated to the study and recreation of pre-17th Century Europe with activities such as combat, feasting, minstrelsy, costuming, embroidery and much more.

We meet every Wednesday at 7-30 pm at the Toongabbie Scout Hall at 99 Bungaree Road, Toongabbie where we have fighter practice, many arts and sciences projects (not to mention much socialising) happening.

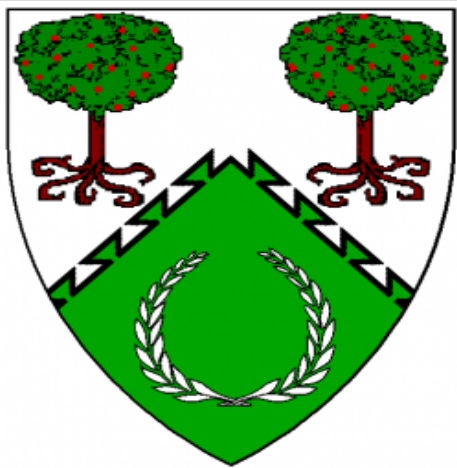
Meeting: 7:30 pm Wednesday Nights
Toongabbie Scout Hall
99 Bungaree Rd
Toongabbie

Email: stowe.seneschal@gmail.com

To keep in touch with happenings in and around Stowe, or to ask any questions, please feel free to join our emailing list, Stowegians. This list is moderated, the List Caretaker will ask you to verify who you are.

For more information about the Canton of Stowe on the Wowld, contact the Seneschal.

Email: stowe.seneschal@gmail.com



As previously stated the Canton of Stowe on the Wowld is part of the Barony of Rowany.

The Baron of Rowany is Baron Loyola Juan Sanchez Mendoza and the Baroness is Baroness Annora Martin.

The Barony can be contacted via the website in the contacts section: rowany.lochac.sca.org



THE QUILL (from the Chronicler)



I would like to invite members of the SCA from Stowe on the Wowld to submit articles for consideration in our new Newsletter—Writing on the Wowld.

Articles can be historical, about creating or making things, advertising events and so on that would interest the readers.

Please email Durant Blanc d'Airelle at the following email address: greenandwhite2009@hotmail.com and put SCA News Letter Article in the Subject line of the email.