

# The Vine

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ILLUMINATED LETTER O

# Regnum



KING & QUEEN OF LOCHAC

AONGHUS MAC GRIOGAIR MHIC RAGHNAILL &  
BARONESS GINEVRA LUCIA DI NAMORAZA



BARON AGOSTINO & BARONESS ELIZABETH  
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CHAMPION OF THE SWORD  
CHAMPION OF THE BOW  
CHAMPION OF THE RAPIER  
CHAMPION OF ARTS & SCIENCES  
BARD OF ANEALA  
PAGE OF ANEALA

LORD DINO DE MALTA  
LADY LEFLAEDA AELFWYNNSDOHTIR  
NOBLE CAMILLE MAUPIN D'FRANCOIS  
SIR ANDRE DE MONTSEGUR  
HON GWYN CANTOR  
COOPER OF ANEALA



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# Quene Katherine's Highlights

## Bal d'Argent

In the hopes of finding a willing dance partner, I travelled across the full breadth of Lochac to attend the Bal d'Argent in Aneala. It was splendid to see just how many people there know how to dance (some with interesting regional variations!). Also most pleasing to me:

\* opening the Bal with the gracious Sir Nathan Blacktower and Ballo del Fiore, and dancing the Known World Pavane with Master Delbert von Strassburg

\* yes, Master Del, who turned up after long years across the seas as a major surprise for now-Mistress Elizabeth Severn's Pelican ceremony (and I thought Norm DaPlum in the bookings form would be a dead giveaway that shenanigans were afoot...)

\* granting Captain Imar mac Mailcollum and the Company of Havelleon a Letter of Marque to ply their honest maritime trade in Lochac waters, for just a small consideration and a rather large bottle of very good rum, heave ho me hearties!

\* the dexterity of Master Pantera and the Honourable Gwyn Cantor in their flying flagwork on the lists field -- they would do the Sienese palio proud!

\* the elegance and joy exhibited by Their Excellencies of Aneala, Agostino and Elizabeth, in their competitive tassel kick galliarding

\* the ever-growing tragic tale of Master Crispin Sexi's precious lost item of clothing; he should henceforth be referred to at all times as "Crispin, The Garterless"

\* being able to finally deliver a Silver Pegasus that had chased the Honourable Lord Edmund Kerr around the world and back again over the course of Our reign

\* watching a pas d'arms where all combatants saluted an inspiration, the first time I have seen this in Our reign (outside the obligatory consort as condition of entry for Crown Tournaments); chivalry is alive and well and living in the west

\* expanding the Royal Menagerie with Igor, the rat creature of the niiight, who provided welcome entertainment for some of the youngest members of the Barony

\* and more music and dance and song and dangerously delicious morsels than one could ever wish for

Thank you, Aneala, may you always dance to such a joyous beat,

Katherine the Quene



# Baronial Missive



Greetings to the Populace of Aneala,

It's been a big month! We hope you have enjoyed it as much as we have.

Early in October, the Canton of Dragon's Bay ran a demo at the Armadale Highland Gathering. Reports from those in attendance suggest that it went very well and that the Canton should be commended on a well-run demo. It included all the fan favourites – static displays, fighting demonstrations, and even some dancing!

The Barony then spent October preparing for Bal D'Argent. Dance practices and sewing sessions throughout the month ensured that the Barony was a hive of activity in preparation for visitors from across the Kingdom to visit our shores.

Bal D'Argent was a busy event, with esteemed visitors including Queen Katherine herself coming all the way to our Barony. Here is a summary of just some of the key moments of the event:

- Mistress Elizabeth Severn was elevated to the Order of the Pelican – congratulations!
- Captain Imar mac Mailcollum and his Kingdom of Havelleon group were given a Letter of Marque. They paid the necessary taxes and presented a well-received gift of rum to Her Majesty.
- Queen Katherine returned Master Don Donnchadh's white scarf, which he had given her to wear at Western Raids and she then wore proudly as she travelled the Kingdom.
- The Honourable Lord Edmund Kerr, visiting from far-off Drachenwald, finally received his well-travelled Silver Pegasus – an award presented at Western Raids that made it all the way around the world to Edmund's house... and then back to Aneala again for presentation!
- Queen's Cyphers were presented to Aife ingen Ehdach, Leonie de Grey and, visiting from Politarchopolis, Cripin Sexi.
- The Rapier award was presented to Camille Maupin d'Francois – a fitting award for the Baronial Rapier Champion!
- The Red Wyvern award was presented to the Honourable Lord Zaven Zeytuntsi.
- Frances Affrica Ray won the popular vote competition for best Argent garb.
- Leoflaeda Aelfwyns Dohir won the Guild of the Silver Rondel Silver Serif dance competition.
- Baron Agostino won the Guild of the Silver Rondel competition for best dancing for a non-member, after an intense tassel kick tie-breaker against Baroness Elizabeth.
- A number of Anealans joined the Guild of the Silver Rondel – well done on demonstrating competency across a number of dance genres!
- The vast majority of attendees at the Ball wore white (or silver, or off-white) garb; brilliant work at dressing on theme. Visiting Guild member Baroness Medb ingen ind lasachta noted that it was the most attendees dressed in white that she had seen at a ball in many, many years.
- Lord Marx Lamprecht was awarded a special tassel and congratulated on being the best of the Venans in the Pas D'Armes.



# Baronial Missive



· We presented Kierun of Aneala with a Cygnet award – Companion of the Order in the field of Martial enterprises.

As well as those items of note, there were also classes, a great many dances, a delicious finger food supper by the Honourable Lady Bella Romana Valori, and a Pas D'Armes tournament. A busy weekend showcasing some of the best that Aneala has to offer!

As our Missive this month is very late, we can also report that so far in November we have seen Coronation happen (afar, in Rowany) and now welcome King Aonghus and Queen Ginevra to the throne of Lochac. We sent in our fealty via the Crux Herald.

And already in events this month, the Blue Feathers of Aneala attended the Pride Fairday to run a small demo. It was well attended and overall a successful day. Later in the month, Aneala will have a presence marching in the Pride Parade and on December 3rd we will have our traditional Toys for Tots tournament.

We look forward to seeing everyone at Toys for Tots or another gathering before the end of the calendar year.

Yours in Service,  
Baron Agostino and Baroness Elizabeth

Baronial Fealty Scroll to the new Crown.



To Aonghus and Ginevra, King and Queen of Lochac, here do we Agostino and Elizabeth, Baron and Baroness of Aneala swear fealty. We swear that we will obey Your lawful commands in all matters that concern the Kingdom of Lochac, that we will faithfully maintain Your lands and, mindful that the harmony of the Barony springs from our deeds, that we will treat with courtesy and justice those of every degree, until the King departs from his throne, death takes us or the world ends. In witness whereof we have set our hands this Spring coronation day, Anno Societatis fifty-eight.

Agostino

Elizabeth



# Lochac Cooks Guild



Some Recipes from Bal De Argent by THL Bella Romana Valori

## **Custard Tarts with Pomegranate Syrup**

Tiny Shortcrust tart shells

Custard: 400ml cream, 5 eggs, 50g sugar

Cook on low heat on stove until thick, stir often.

Pour into shells immediately as it sets fast.

Pomegranate Syrup: pomegranate juice & sugar 1/1 ratio

Boil, stirring regularly, to dissolve sugar and reduce liquid and thicken

Cool and spoon onto custard tarts

Decorate with Gold Leaf.

## **Torta Bianca (Ginger Cheesecake)**

Shortcrust pastry for shells

Filling: mix together 500g Ricotta, 6 egg whites, 1/2 cup icing sugar

1&1/2 tsp ground ginger, 1/2 cup cream

Fill tart shells, bake 180C approx 25 mins

Makes about 40 tiny tarts

## **Andalusian Meatballs**

500g lamb mince

80g crushed walnuts

2 eggs

1 Tbs ground coriander

1/2 Tbs ground caraway

1 tsp pepper

1/2 tsp salt

Combine all ingredients in a bowl

Form into small balls and fry in oil until just done

## **Yoghurt Sauce**

500g plain greek yoghurt

1 & 1/2 tsp cumin

Splash of lemon juice

Salt & pepper to taste

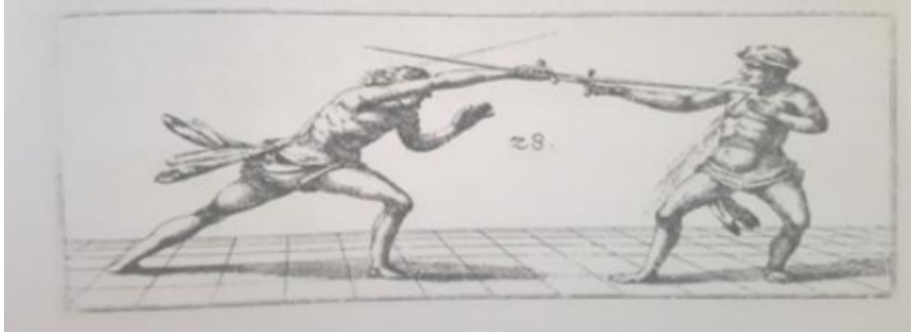
A little bit of finely diced mint would be nice too.





# Fencing Marshal

## Master Don Donnchadh Baillie



### "What is playing at the bind?"

You may have heard the term before, however you may not be completely familiar with its use in fencing. "The bind" is when a fencer engages with an opponents weapon with some level of pressure, that is more than fleeting, in an attempt to control the line before committing to an attack .

Playing at the bind is a significant technique shown in historical manuals.

Typically when swords are binding, the point should be threatening and fencers will "Play at the Bind", changing from weak to strong, trying to gain an advantage, before attacking with a sliding thrust. Generally the fencer who disengages when not in control of the line creates a moment when they can be struck easily with a thrust.

When in a bind it is possible to feel your opponent's intentions through the blade contact. Your opponent can do one of two things at the bind. They can use the strong of their sword to push through your sword, this is known as being hard at the sword, or he can relax from your pressure, known as being soft at the sword, in an attempt to circle around the sword to strike. It is important to learn to be able to feel which of these two actions your opponent is taking, then take the opposite action before your opponent manages to gain the advantage and attack.

A successful bind requires precise timing, control of distance and blade.

There are four binding actions often described in treatise. They are Opposition, Croisé, Bind, and Envelopment.

In the Opposition, a fencer engages an opponent's blade and then extends a thrust in that line, pushing the opponent's blade off line. When done with a straight thrust with just enough pressure to divert the opponent's blade off line. This bind is often referred to in Italian schools as a Glide and its sometimes described as a Glide with opposition. This is a strong attack when used in a straight thrust however it can be completed by engaging in any line. The sword engagement and pressure pushes your opponents blade off line as your sword slides down their blade in a thrust to the target also known as a sliding thrust.

The Bind takes the opponent's blade from any line diagonally to the opposing line. The action can be done from high to low line or vice versa. The bind is then followed with an attack using a lunge or a thrust maintaining contact with your opponents blade, however any attack can be used such as a diagonal cut. When attacking after the bind with a thrust it is sometimes referred to as a Transport and Glide.

The Croisé, also known as the Cross Bind, carries the opponent's blade vertically from one line to the opposite line on the same side. Vertically from high to low or vice versa. This action is sometimes described as a semibind.

An Envelopment is completed by engaging an opponents blade and then completing a full circular motion, maintaining blade contact and returning to the starting position. This action is also referred to as a Circular Transfer. The size of the circle in the envelopment needs to be small, the action completed with the wrist, otherwise the action would be too slow and easily felt by your opponent. The action is generally followed by a gliding thrust continues to maintain a constant pressure and therefore control of the opponent's blade but can be followed by any attack.

In Cut and Thrust combat we are given the option to place cuts, so there may be times when it is better to "Leave the bind behind" and attack with a cut. This is the moment when you decide to disengage from the bind to deliver a cut. If done correctly, leaving the bind can create an opening in your opponents defence that will allow you to strike with a cut. An example would be when you are in a bind and too close to effectively thrust, by stepping away from your opponents blade you can leave the bind and cut to your opponents arm or head. This movement must be done in the same tempo as the voiding step.

By using the binds with correct distance and tempo, you can control your opponents blade and therefore control the line. Maintaining pressure on the bind, sometimes referred to as presence in the bind, you are better able to determine how and when your opponent will react to the bind and therefore best time to attack, either with a thrust or a cut.



BIND



Attack with a Thrust



Attack with a Cut



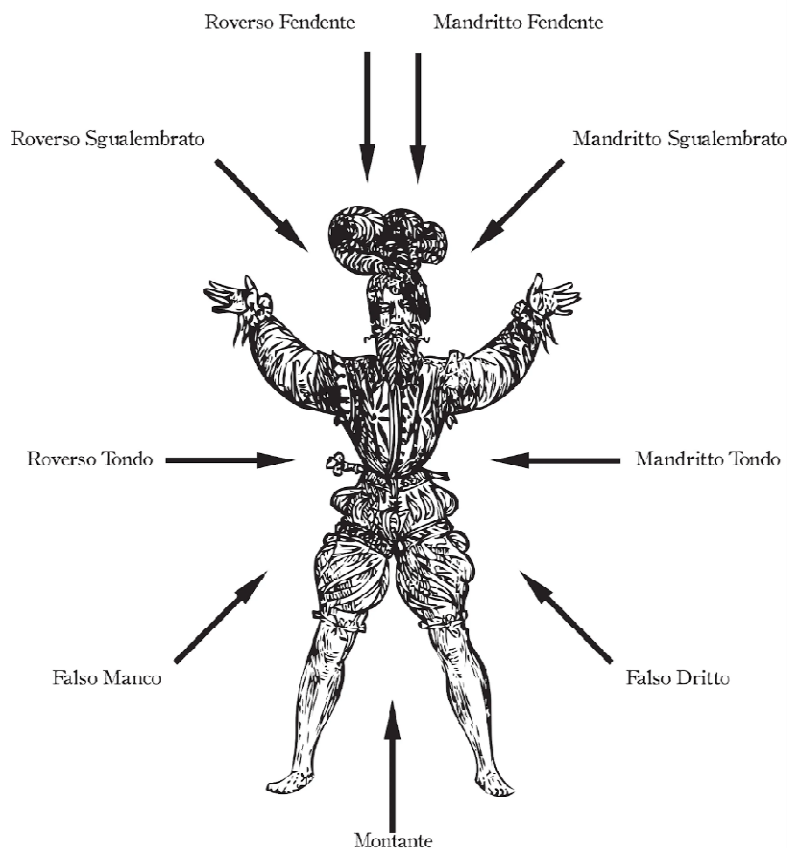
# Fencing Cuts and Grips

Here in Aneala, we have usually fenced in English with English descriptions for the cuts and attacks. Most of the cuts, thrusts and attacks that I teach have come from Italian, and it is not uncommon that we have masters come across and teach, using the original Italian language to describe the moves.

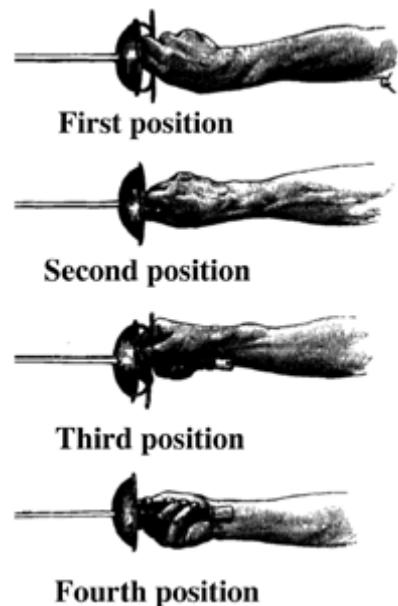
Here I present to you a short list of Italian words, a diagram of common cuts, and a diagram of hand holds/positions.

Italian	English
Roverso / Reversa	Reverse
Fendente	Slash
Madritto	Cut
Squalebrato	Diagonal
Tondo	Lit. Round (horizontal arc)
Falso	False
Manco	Remainder
Dritto	Straight
Montante	Upright

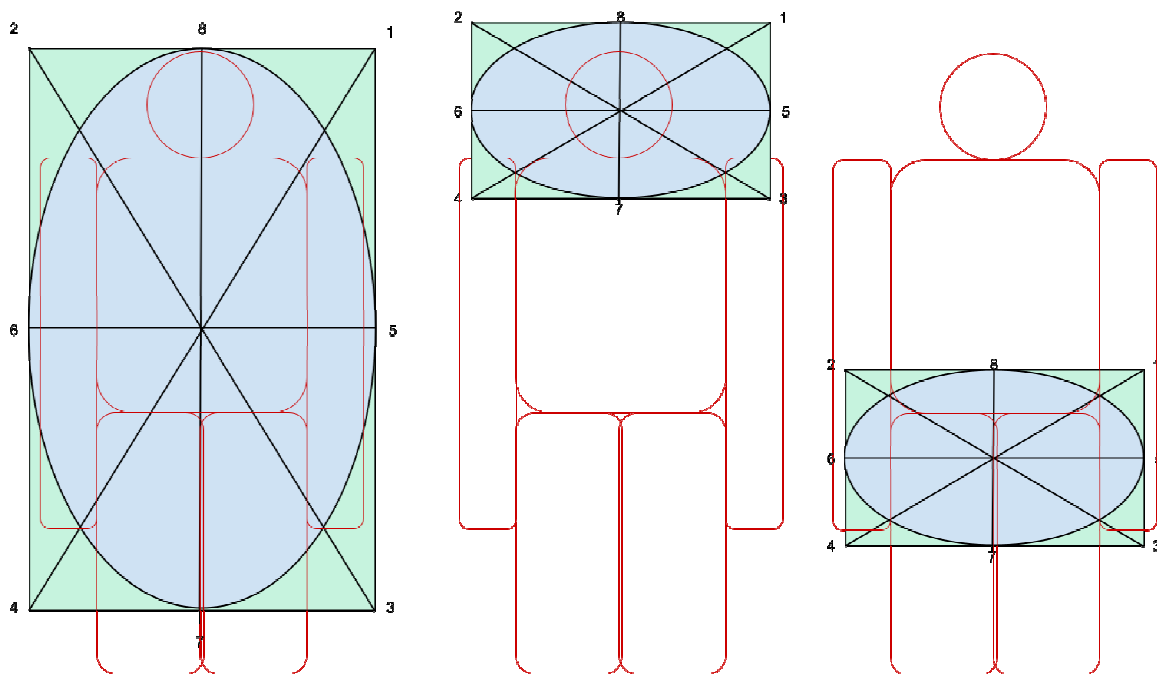
Italian	English
Prima	First
Seconde	Second
Terza	Third
Quartatta	Forth



## Top View, hand positions/ grips



You will notice that the cuts form an asterisk; a combination of a + and an x. These 8 slices form the basis of much of European fencing, often referred to here in Aneala as “the 8 cuts”. The central point of the 8 cuts can be focused on the head, the upper torso (heart) or the groyne/thigh. I have illustrated this here:



Your sword can begin its cuts from any ward that you have learned, however not all cuts are possible or even advisable from the ward position.

To break this down, if your hand is to your side or behind you, you will find that there are 3 cuts that are very effective and efficient in timing (fastest tempo) to reach your opponent, 2-3 cuts that are generally a bit slower but still timely enough (moderate tempo), 1-2 cuts that is slow and clumsy, and usually 2-3 cuts that are not possible (each ward will have a variation of these that adds to 8 cuts). Have a play with this concept and discover which are which.

The idea of this is to create a feeling of how you can bring your sword to bear on the preferred target of the opponent in front of you from any ward, or at worst wherever your sword has ended up after perhaps being deflected by your opponent. This creates the ability to flow with your blade.

Flow is where your sword continues to move from ward to attack to ward to attack. A ward can be an intentional location you wanted to end up, or it can be close to the accidental location your sword and hand have got to. By knowing how to move your sword into a cut along the asterisk to your attack from any position, you form the basis of always being able to move back into attack.

Maestrø Panterø Pantera di

# BAL D' ARGENT



Queen Katherine returning Master Donnchadh's White Scarf she has worn during her Reign



Camille Maupin de François, Awarded the Order of the Rapier



The Honourable Lord Edmund Kerr is the last of the Kerr's in this long chain of the Kerr Courier Network



The Great Tassel-off!

Pirates, ahh, I mean Privateers presenting Rum to Queen Katherine



## DARLINGTON DEMO

Date: Saturday 18th November  
Event type: Demo  
Tourney: Darlington Hall  
Owen Road Darlington  
Steward: Bella Valori  
Time: 9:30am setup  
10am Start  
12:30pm Potluck lunch  
2pm - Packdown and leave by 2:30pm  
Price: Adults \$5, Minors free  
Non-Members \$10 per adult and \$5 per child

Recently we had a small pavilion display at the Darlington Arts Festival to promote the SCA.

We would like to follow that up with a demo at our regular monthly A&S day in Darlington to show prospective members more of what we actually do at events.

We will be setting up a list field and 2 pavilions for the populace on the lawn in front of the hall.

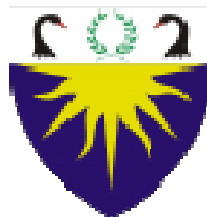
Activities we would like to see on the lawn:

Fencing Tournament  
Armoured Combat  
Lawn Games—we will have a Kubb set  
Music & Dancing

We will have access to the hall so we can still do Arts and Sciences inside or on the balcony.

Please wear garb and bring items/projects to show off.

You are welcome to bring chairs and rugs but do not bring pavilions.





## PRIDE ACTIVITIES

Date:	Sunday 12th November
Event type:	Pride Fair Display
Tourney	Hyde Park, Vincent Street Perth
Stewards	Skjaldadís Bragadóttir & Isolde van Wilravenssijde
Time	9am - setup 10am - Fairday opens 5pm - Fairday closes 6pm - Packdown and leave
Price:	Non-Member \$10 per adult and \$5 per child

The Barony of Aneala will be running a stall at PrideFEST Fairday! Come and chat to the queer community & allies of Perth about who we are and what we do.

Please wear garb, and bring along any display items or A&S projects that you'd like to show off. You will need to sign in, so please bring your card.

## PRIDE PARADE

Date:	Saturday 25th November
Site	Russell Square, James Street & Shenton Street, Northbridge
Stewards	Skjaldadís Bragadóttir & Isolde van Wilravenssijde
Time	7pm meet & sign in
Price:	Non-Member \$10 per adult and \$5 per child

Clan Blue Feather in Aneala will be participating in the WA Pride Parade! Join us to display your pride in your identity, or your allyship & support.

This year's theme is Brave, so wear your medieval best. Armour is encouraged if you can march in it!

More information to come following the Mandatory Entrants Briefing on Thurs, 16 Nov.

Please bring your membership card for sign-in purposes, as this is an SCA event.

We will meet in Northbridge around 7 and sign in.

The parade will commence at 7.30 with an official smoking ceremony. Marchers will then commence at 8pm along Aberdeen St, William St and James St before finishing at Russell Square around 8.30 pm.



## TOYS FOR TOTS

Date: Sunday 3rd December  
Event type: Tournament  
Site: Garvey Park - Picnic Area 1,  
1 Fauntleroy Avenue, Ascot  
Steward: Aife ingen Ehdach

Time: 9 am Set up begins  
10 am Opening court  
10.30 am Heavy tourney  
12.30 pm Lunch / A&S judging  
1 pm Rapier Tourney  
3 pm Closing court  
3.30 pm Pack down

Price: Non-Member \$10 per adult and \$5 per child

The entrance fee is an unwrapped toy to be donated to the Variety Toy Bank. This cannot be a food item, they only accept toys.

Join the populace of Aneala for a relaxed picnic in the park with a potluck lunch.

There will be a heavy tournament held in the morning and a rapier tournament in the afternoon as well as an A&S competition with the themes of children, toys and games.





# Baronial Activities

**Regular activities occur unless superseded by an event**

## **Baronial Council Meeting.**

3rd Friday of each month, room opens at 7pm for a 7:30pm start.  
Contact [Baron and Baroness](#)

## **Baronial Training**

Sunday from 10am. Lake Monger Primary School, Dodd St, Wembley

**Archery** . (Contact [Archery Marshal](#)).

**Armoured Training.** (Contact [Armoured Marshal](#)).

**Rapier Combat.** (Contact [Rapier Marshal](#)).

## **Combined Training and Arts & Sciences**

2nd Sunday of each month. 10am to 1pm  
Spearwood Primary School, 73 Gerald St, Spearwood

## **Darlington Arts & Sciences**

Varied Saturday's of the month. 10am to 1pm  
Darlington Hall, 3 Owen Road Darlington  
Contact: [kerryn@ladybirdpainting.com.au](mailto:kerryn@ladybirdpainting.com.au)

## **Canton of Dragon's Bay**

Please check the [Dragon's Bay website](#) for details

## **Other non-SCA events of interest**

Music and Singing. For times and venues, contact [Lady Isabel](#).

Scribes. Tuesday nights. Contact **Mistress Leonie**

Dancing is on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month.

Contact [Baroness Elizabeth](#).

## **Event Booking Policy**

Payment for all bookings must be made in advance of the event by the date advised in the booking confirmation email. If payment is not received by the due date your booking will be cancelled.

Payment may be made either online or at any Westpac bank branch.

## **Event Cancellation/Refund Policy**

Cancellation can be made at any time up to the close of bookings with a full refund provided for any event payment already made.

Cancellation after close of bookings will be accepted in the case of illness with a refund provided. Please contact the booking officer ASAP prior to the event.

Refunds (full or partial) for any other reason are at the discretion of the event steward together with the seneschal and/or reeve and will be dependant on expenses incurred.

Participants are reminded that if they are unwell or showing cold or flu-like symptoms, they must not attend.



# Local Lochac Guild Contacts

## Royal Fibre Guild of Lochac

For those interested in the arts, crafts and history of all textile matters. We encourage the doing, researching and teaching of fibre related skills as seen in pre 1600 cultures. We include weavers, spinners, dyers, cord makers, felters, knitters, njalbinders and lace makers.

**Contact** Baroness Elizabeth: [aneala@aneala.lochac.sca.org](mailto:aneala@aneala.lochac.sca.org)

## Royal Guild of Defence

Researching and teaching of the period martial arts of Europe, as detailed in the various extant fencing and wrestling manuals.

**Contact** Master Dameon Greybeard :[dameongreybeard@gmail.com](mailto:dameongreybeard@gmail.com)

## Worshipful Company of Broiderers

The aim of the Company is to advance the study and practice of pre-1600 AD European needlework in Lochac and in the Known World.

**Contact** Mistress Leonie de Grey: [degrey@fgcint.com](mailto:degrey@fgcint.com)

## Performers and Entertainers Guild of Lochac

This guild is dedicated to the promotion, encouragement, learning and performance of bardic, theatrical, instrumental and all other entertainment arts within an SCA context.

**Contact** Isabel: [genierachel@iinet.net.au](mailto:genierachel@iinet.net.au)

## Lochac Brewers Vintners and Imbibers Guild

We share a common interest in brewing and wine making as practiced in the Middle Ages, and the responsible consumption of said beverages.

**Contact** Wolfgang:

## Lochac Cooks' Guild

Members of the Lochac Cooks' Guild aim to practice cooking in the style of the Medieval and Renaissance periods, research and study period cooking and make available information on all aspects of period cooking as it pertains to the Society for Creative Anachronism

**Contact:** Bella Valori [kerryn@ladybirdpainting.com.au](mailto:kerryn@ladybirdpainting.com.au)



# SCA Group Websites

Barony of Aneala (Perth, WA)	<a href="http://aneala.lochac.sca.org">aneala.lochac.sca.org</a>
Canton of Dragons Bay	<a href="http://dragonsbay.lochac.sca.org">dragonsbay.lochac.sca.org</a>
College of St Basil the Great (UWA)	<a href="http://stbasil.lochac.sca.org">stbasil.lochac.sca.org</a>
Kingdom of Lochac (Australia & New Zealand)	<a href="http://lochac.sca.org">lochac.sca.org</a>
SCA Corporate (Australia)	<a href="http://sca.org.au">sca.org.au</a>
SCA Corporate (World-wide)	<a href="http://sca.org">sca.org</a>



TACUINUM SANITATIS.  
14TH CENTURY.  
MEDIEVAL HANDBOOK OF HEALTH.  
BOAR HUNTING. FOLIO 96R



# About the Vine

This is the November 2023 issue of the Vine (Volume 30, Issue 7), a publication of the Barony of Aneala, the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.).

The Vine is available from Aneala's web site <http://aneala.lochac.sca.org>. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc. and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. The official newsletter for the Society in Australia is Pegasus, which is available from the Registrar at: [registrar@lochac.sca.org.au](mailto:registrar@lochac.sca.org.au)

The closing date for submissions to The Vine is the third Sunday of the month. Advertising, including event flyers should preferably be in Word format. Please send original source documents and associated images separately.

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<https://www.tania-crossingham.com/illuminated-letters-gallery>

**Side Borders** – Rome 1572 Add MS 35254. © British Library Board

Bal de Argent photos by Joshua Davidson