

The Blue Strand

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER



Inter-College War is an annual event held by the Colleges of Lochac since 1994 to determine who will win the Sword of Knowledge and/or Truth, and usually involving a perceived insult or plot of some kind. The event is open to everyone, but college-aged people are particularly encouraged to attend.

Inter-College War XVIII!!

The College of St Monica calls all to defend her honour!

———— RÚNFRÍÐR KEILISELGR

Did you know that throughout the entire history of Inter-College War, St Monica has never won? It's true, check out the Cunnan Lore page: (https://cunnan.lochac.sca.org/index.php?title=Inter-College_War). Even our farflung backstabbing cousins in the west, the College of St Basil, have won twice!

This year, the College of Blessed Herman (editor's note: *A truly dastardly and ruinous college*) has publicly accused us of 'abandon[ing our] honour by enlisting the aid of mercenaries in 2024'. We refuse to let this most grievous insult pass without consequence.

So if you're into shenanigans, skullduggery, a bit of cheeky deceit, and the chance to finally prove the true might of the SCA in our state, we will be taking the fight to their home barony of Innilgard (South Australia) from July 11th to 14th for Intercollege War.

Site opens: 2pm July 11th
Site closes: Morning of July 14th
Bookings close: 9th July
Price: \$110 plus accommodation (\$45-\$15 depending on type).
Financial assistance is available, payment plans are available.

Location: Roonka Adventure Park, 209B Boy Scout Rd, McBean Pound SA 5357
Accommodation: Dorms available for an increased price, otherwise tent camping.

Activities: Expect classes, A&S, wars, tournaments, a feast and plenty of (controlled) chaos.

Booking form is here: <https://forms.gle/RZ3JuS4xTwxA2ALN6>. For questions, please contact bookingsforblessedherman@gmail.com.

That's all from me! Let's win this thing or at least make it *memorable*.

WHAT'S ON?

June Activities

- 🌀 Thursday 5th June – Fighter Training + A&S
- 🌀 Thursday 12th June – Fighter Training + A&S
- 🌀 Saturday 14th June – Crafthall “Dancehall” & Potluck
- 🌀 Sunday 15th June – Target Archery Training
- 🌀 Tuesday 17th June – Council Meeting
- 🌀 Thursday 19th June – Fighter Training + A&S
- 🌀 Saturday 21st – Sunday 22nd June – Southern Incursion (Bordescros)
- 🌀 Thursday 26th June – Fighter Training + A&S

Coming Soon!

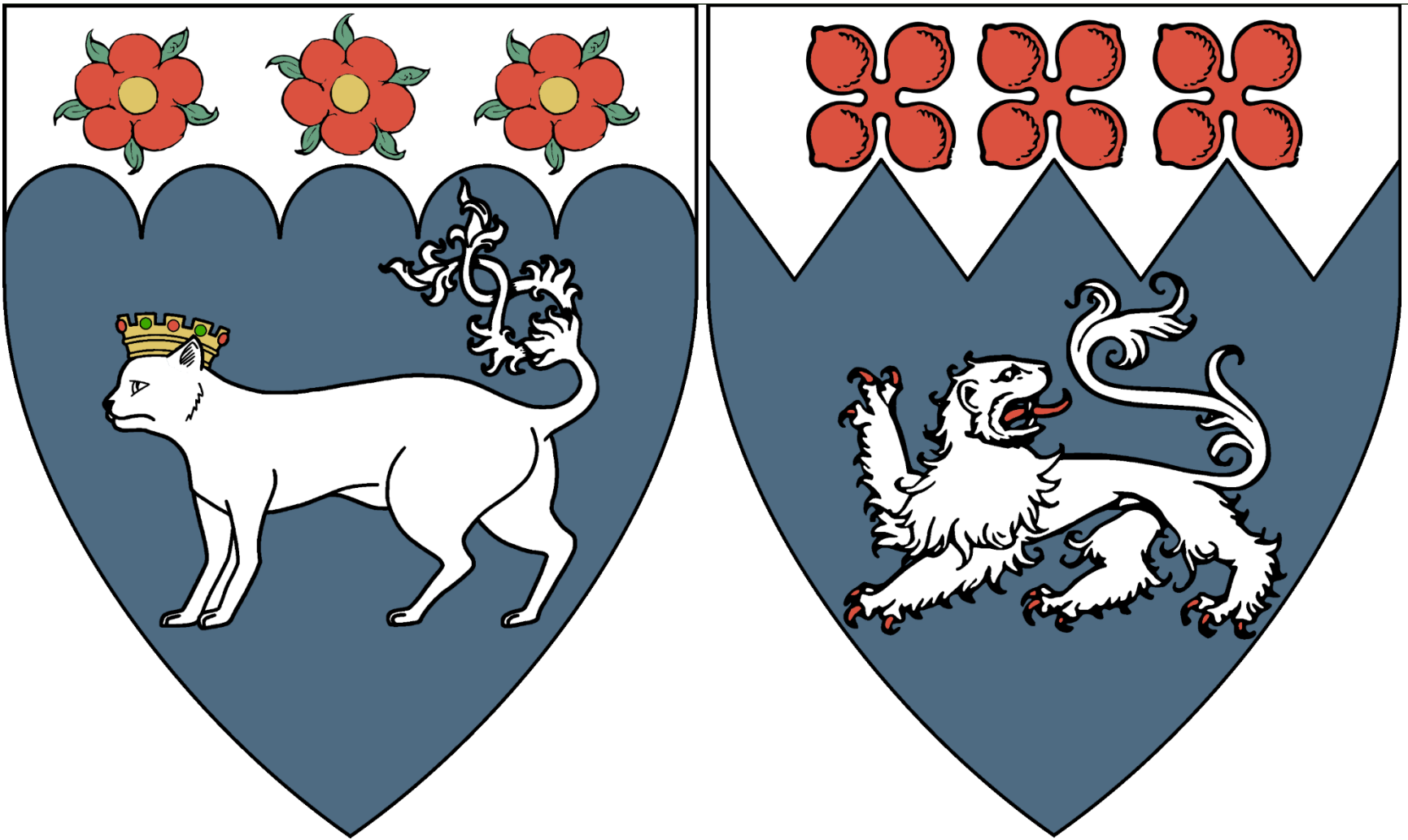
- 🌀 Date TBA – Ironbeard Challenge

Crafthall!

Dancing, bardic circle and potluck!

June's Crafthall is set to include a dance class taught by the lovely Mistress Aliette. Then as the sun vanishes from our sky, we shall have a potluck – bring your favourite dishes – followed by a bardic circle complete with a fire to round out the day. Garb is not required, but it is encouraged, for that amazing garb swish when you dance.





Spot the Difference!

Answers on Page 5

———— OLLIVIER LE FLOCH

How many differences can you spot in the above two heraldic designs? Turn to Page 5 for the answers!

Poetry Corner:

Ebb and Flow

———— JOANNA OF BREADWOOD

Thou wouldst not know I walked the earth
Centuries ago, before thy birth
I became the dust drifting down
Into the crust of the ground
Where these innumerable feet do tread
There once I lived, and now am dead
And the stones that I bore with mine own hand
Time, it wore them into sand
Thou couldst not know that I have seen
Both ebb and flow, for what they've been.

Thy daylight has sunken to an endless night
On misery drunken, hidden from sight
Didst thou forget? We rose up from mud
Through streams of sweat and rivers of blood
How did you all become so old?
The fire which burned now empty and cold
So much did we give that thou mightst strive
Not even to live, to barely survive?!
Thy bones are hollow, caretaker of none;
In shadow thou'lt wallow, instead of the sun?

Thou holdest within such eddying doubt
But the tide that goes in again shall go out
Dost thou claim an agony never sung?
Child, we are the same, only thou art young
Thy path unfolds so shrouded before thee
But it does unfold, as it did for me
When all was lost at the close of the day
Morning melted the frost and opened the way
Art thou fully shattered? Canst thou yet go on?
The pieces may be scattered, but never are they gone.

It all becomes dust drifting gently by
So those who live must, but wake up and try
To live while they can, to bear their own stone
To become a new man when the old one is grown
The autumn leaves are falling, give way to Winter's sting
The darkest of days shall break forth into Spring
This I have seen, and well do I know it
All is as it's been, but I cannot show it
For thou wilt not hear a word I have said
Thou standest so near, but I – I am dead

Thou spiralst so sweetly like a ribbon through the sky
Thou art lost completely, thou knowest not why
Thou holdest within thy eddying doubt
But the tide that goes in must also go out
Caretaker of none, thy bones are so hollow
Dost thou know light will ever darkness follow?
Canst thou keep going with that broken heart of thine?
If the river just keeps flowing the water will be fine
Didst thou forget? We rise up from mud
Through torrents of sweat and oceans of blood

Thou wouldst not know I walked the earth
Centuries ago, before thy birth
I became the dust drifting down
Into the crust of the ground
Where these innumerable feet do tread
There once I lived, and now am dead
These stones I bore with mine own hand
And time, it wore them into sand
Thou couldst not know, but I have seen
Both ebb and flow, for what they mean.



The role of the webwright is to look after the website and mailing lists. You will also be responsible for putting the newsletter up on the website, so we here at The Blue Strand (okay, that's the royal we, it's actually just me) think it is a very important job!!

Seeking a New Webwright

The Barony of Krae Glas is seeking a new webwright!

———— RÚNFRÍÐR KEILISELGR

Greetings! Are you an avid internet user? Do you enjoy perusing websites and referencing online materials? Are you good at communicating via online methods? Do you have an interest in content management and information sharing?

If so, then we have a role for you!
Kevin's term as Krae Glas Webwright has come to an end and we are seeking a replacement.

The Webwright (also known as Webscribe) is in charge of creating and updating group Web pages and mail redirections, and keeping group communications and information flowing smoothly.

This role requires:

- current SCA membership and be aged at least 18
- capabilities in Website page creation, HTML, graphics manipulation, associated site management, associated computer/email support and a good sense for both accretion and rapid turnaround of useful information - it's the most important part of the job!
- reliable email and internet access

The workload includes such elements as:

- Typically monthly updating of websites, especially group calendars, events and other notices and other timely material, removing outdated material while preserving important resources and historical information.
- Reporting to or attending group meetings.
- Notifications to mailing lists, checking lists for notices or comments and adding to online calendars or to special pages.
- Mailing list moderation: mostly deleting spam and occasionally assisting subscribers.
- Advising and assisting Webwrights for sub-groups as required.

- Active monitoring of local discussion and announcement lists is essential, other lists and relevant social media very desirable. Twice-annual checking/reporting of page visit statistics and numbers subscribed to local email lists is desirable.

You'll find more detailed information about this role in the Officer Job Descriptions Document at <https://seneschal.lochac.sca.org/resources#officer>

If you are interested in this role, please email an application by 9 June 2025 to webwright@lochac.sca.org, with a courtesy copy to seneschal@kraeglas.lochac.sca.org.

Please include your membership number, mundane and SCA names, any relevant website management experience, and your general experience in the SCA - as well as outlining why you think you'd be suitable for the role.

If you have any questions regarding the role, its responsibilities and requirements, please don't hesitate to contact me at seneschal@kraeglas.lochac.sca.org.

Yours in Service,
Lady Rúnfríðr Keiliselgr

New Officer Progress:

Applications Opened <<< *we are here (closes 9 June 2025)*

Consideration Period

Shortlist for Commentary

Consultation Period

Notice to Candidates & Scheduling

Confirmation & Handover schedule



Tablet Weaving Inspiration

Why not start a new tablet weaving project?

AYLA ROSENDORN

Left to right: <http://www.tabletweavingintheoryandpractice.co.uk/?m=1>, https://wiki.eastkingdom.org/wiki/Svana's_A%26S_Projects#Silk_Laurel_Belt, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=io1teowbVkg>, <http://ladyelewys.carpevinumpdx.com/tag/tablet-weaving/>, https://wiki.eastkingdom.org/wiki/Svana's_A%26S_Projects#Hedeby_Bag_with_Tablet_Woven_Trim, https://wiki.eastkingdom.org/wiki/Svana's_A%26S_Projects#Hallstatt_band_for_Birka_Reproduction_Kaftan_by_Sefa_Hrafnasd%C3%B3ttir, https://sagawoolcraft.com/?page_id=244, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lx0FlpuoUvA>, <http://www.tabletweavingintheoryandpractice.co.uk/2023/>, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zo74mvVzfBg>, <https://www.keithweaves.com/knots-more-knots-and-rotating-knots/>.

People who got all of the differences correct:



Heraldry is pretty fun, right? If you really enjoyed this spot the difference, you're probably something of a herald yourself.

Spot the Difference - Answers

How many did you find?

OLLIVIER LE FLOCH

1. Nothing for type of cat. [Aleit de la Thomme, R-Calontir, Dec 2013]

2. No difference is granted for...the number of tails [Malachi Mac Kenzie O Corrigan, R-Calontir, Sep 2009]

3. The presence of a crown on an animate charge does not carry difference [Dalla of Southron Gaard, A-Lochac, May 2019]

4. There is no countable difference for the head orientation [Isabella Hildebrand, R-Meridies, Sep 2014]
5. There is no countable difference between passant and statant [Myron Duxippus Draco, R-East, May 1996]

6. Engrailed, indented and invected lines of division were used interchangeably by period heralds [Ellisif í Reykiarvik, R-West, June 2019]

7. Flowers with four, five, or six petals all conflict with each other. [From Wreath: Few-Petaled Flowers, Jan 2025]
- If you got all of these correct, congratulations!

Editor's note: *Sorry non heralds, you've been bamboozled XD*

From the editor

Technically it's all from me, but still

Hello.

Are you like me and interested in going on a newsletter related power trip?

You could have an article about whatever niche topic you want added to this very newsletter!

You could be as unhinged as me. It could happen.

Send any write ups (between 100-400 words) completely without context to joannabraidwood@gmail.com. Make it happen.



About the editor

Joanna of Braidwood is probably a little mad.

If you made it this far, thanks for joining us.

That's all folks!

Regnum:

- Baron – Baron Jon Dai of the Lane
bandb@kraeglas.lochac.sca.org

Baroness – Baroness Margie of Glen More
bandb@kraeglas.lochac.sca.org

Acting Seneschal – Lady Rúnfríðr Keiliselgr (she/her)
deputyseneschal@kraeglas.lochac.sca.org

Reeve – THL Baroness Elizabet Hunter (she/her)
reeve@kraeglas.lochac.sca.org

Chronicler – Lady Julia of the Ravens (any)
chronicler@kraeglas.lochac.sca.org
- Arts and Sciences – Lady Joanna of Breadwood
artsandsciences@kraeglas.lochac.sca.org

Chatelaine - Hjortetakk Gorgonites (they/them)
chatelaine@kraeglas.lochac.sca.org

Captain of Archers – Maude atte Weylete (any)
archers@kraeglas.lochac.sca.org

Armoured Combat Marshal and Fencing Marshal – Muireach mac Gréine
marshal@kraeglas.lochac.sca.org
fencing@kraeglas.lochac.sca.org

The Blue Strand is not an official publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) and does not delineate SCA policy. The official newsletter for the Society in Australia is Pegasus, which is available from the Registrar at registrar@sca.org.au.