

# The Bard's Banner

Fall  
AS XLIII



Welcome to the Red Wax Inn  
Winged and Finned  
Welcome to the  
Fields of Gold

# The Bard's Banner; Volume 1, Issue 1

## Summer AS XLIV (2009)

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*The Bard's Banner* is published (hopefully) 4 times per year, on a seasonal schedule. It is a publication of the Shire of Tir Bannog, in the Principality of Tir Righ, Kingdom of An Tir, of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. It is not a corporate publication of the SCA, nor does it delineate SCA policy.

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This publication shall recognize those that submit articles, photos, etc. You won't be paid for your submission, but you will have the thanks of myself and our readers.

If you find you need to contact me over something herein, please send an email to:  
[kj2mill@lakescom.net](mailto:kj2mill@lakescom.net)

Lastly, this publication is meant for the enjoyment of all; share it amongst yourselves and your friends. At the end of the day, if I've made someone smile, I've done my job.

-Piers Lakewood (Kevin Miller)

## **Welcome!**

Hail and well met, fellow SCA'ians, and welcome to the first issue of the new Bard's Banner! My name is Piers Lakewood and I shall be your guide for news on the happenings in the Shire of Tir Bannog and beyond.

Over the course of the first few issues of the Banner I want to highlight the events of the North, the people who live here and their passion for what they do. I hope to include stories, reports and other writings from our members (as this will make my job much easier!) and photos are always appreciated.

Despite my being the Editor for this humble magazine, this is my first attempt at a semi-regular publication, so please bear with me over any missed deadlines, all the probable missed thank-yous, and the inevitable mangled grammar. Like Tir Bannog itself, the Bard's Banner hopes to grow from its humble beginnings into something proud, strong, and beautiful.

Furthermore, I have also found whilst traveling the North that we often do not get by in this unforgiving land without the help of our neighbors. Therefore, I hope to make use of the people of Cae Mor and Cold Keep in keeping us informed of what is happening in their "neck of the woods." To this end our first issue contains a report from the Kitimat High School demo held in June.

Another (hopefully) regular column in our magazine will be the Book Nook, in which our very own HL Tewel Gover will tell us of some of the many good Medieval books on the market, which will hopefully inspire us to all go out there and get reading.

Finally, the Banner will try to contain a list of coming events in the North. Due to the unpredictability of my publishing schedule, though, I will be unable to accept event copy unless it is FAR in advance of the coming event.... and even then don't put all your reliance upon me, for I may be unable to get the Banner out in time to properly announce it.

Speaking of publishing, I currently hope to bring the Banner to the populace 4 times per year (basically, a Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter format). If I find myself having extra free time, or I get an influx of reports, photos, or whatever else I see fit to print, there may be an extra issue or two as time goes by. Again, bear with me and we'll see what we can accomplish!

One final note: for those of you who wish to aid me in this endeavor, please feel free to send items of interest to:

[kj2mill@lakescom.net](mailto:kj2mill@lakescom.net)

Reports on local events, cool web sites, event photos, A&S projects and photos (did I mention photos?) are all acceptable. Thanks!

-Piers Lakewood, Editor

## **Tir Bannog Business**

### Tir Bannog Shire Meeting/Practice

June 7th.

(editor's note: the bimonthly practices in Houston have been a great way to do Shire business, as well as keep in touch with our northern neighbors...)

1) Lord Madyn Vach was presented with the regalia from his win of the Cold Keep Archery Championship (the regalia was a mixture of returned gear and keepsakes)



(MOS Lord Sighere "congratulates" Lord Madyn on his Archery Championship)

2) The addition of Master of Stables Sigehere and A & S officer Serena Duran du Paz was announced and the appropriate paperwork was done and will be sent off.

3) Lord Piers Lakewood announced his plans to start a newsletter for Tir Bannog featuring news, events, etc.

4) We discussed the Fields of Gold site. The Eric is coming along nicely and will be mostly done for the Fields of Gold. Grandstands and benches have been added. The privies have been redone. So much stuff has been done I know I am missing some. We discussed the Fields of Gold event and reminded everyone to put in award recommendations for deserving people in our shire and we have to make a concerted effort to get some largesse completed for their highnesses.

5) A quick Baronial Committee meeting was held to discuss where we were in the proceedings, and how we can all help. It was decided to start mentioning the push for Penwlas to the "world at large." Lord Nikolaas also stressed the importance of the Officer Reports being received by Kingdom on time.



(Lord Nikolaas wows the crowd with his speech)

#### Shire report from Lady Alys, July 27th

1) Preparations for 2009 St. Crispins: Based on the feedback that overnighting was not available at the proposed Houston site, Josie has booked the Glenwood Hall for St. Crispins this fall. The deposit

cheque was arranged. Tewel shared that the principality exchequer office would like us to create a tentative budget as part of the plan for any event, so Liam and Alys will need to meet to get that organized soon.

Items to add to the proposed budget include food, hall rental costs, and float money.



(HL Liam and Lady Alys "debate" over the budget plans)

2) Alys was thinking that it would be nice to approach a Smithers area school to see if there is a student group who might be willing to work as servers for three hours for the feast. This would allow SCAdians attending the feast to be able to sit and enjoy the experience. She wondered whether Tir Bannog funds could be freed up to provide a donation to the group. If this is not an option, the Lakewoods will consider whether to put forward their own donation.

And on the same note, the Lakewoods had been discussing clothing for the servers. They have been looking at purchasing tabards for servers to wear (either shire funds for purchase or Lakewood funds). This would allow servers to look period without the time and expense of our group making a large number of tunics. If shire funds are put forward then tabards would be added to the Gold Key supplies.

We were thinking the style two in black and white would be most appropriate cost and appearance wise. See [www.garbtheworld.com](http://www.garbtheworld.com) for more information.

3)Tewl informed us that one of the cheques previously issued to the Glenwood Hall group was not cashed in a timely way, and expired. A replacement cheque was reissued to them.

4)A custom grilling grate has been purchased for the Fields of Gold site, by the group holding a wedding there on the August long weekend. The wedding group had approached Tir Bannog wondering if the shire was interested in donating a portion of the cost of the \$480 grate, as the grilling grate will be left at the Fields of Gold site. It was decided that Tir Bannog would donate \$200 for the cost of the grilling grate.

5)We thought it might be fun to consider an "end of the summer season" social at the Fields of Gold site... a great opportunity to try out that grilling grate!! We were looking at the last weekend of September as a potential date.

6)Exchequer papers were forwarded to Nik from Tewl (via the Lakewoods and their cart)

An update on the tabards:

It was decided to order the tabards with Shire money. Alys ordered 6 medium size, and 2 large, on 15 August 2009. We received an email from Garb the World on the 27<sup>th</sup> of August stating that our tabards would be shipped on the 28<sup>th</sup>, so we should be seeing them soon.

## Flashback in time at Mount Elizabeth

(Press Release: June 9, 2009.)

Members of the Society for Creative Anachronism invaded Mount Elizabeth on Friday, June 5, for their biannual presentation to grade eight Social Studies students. A tent village was set up outside the cafeteria with four pavilions and five stations for students to travel through.

Upon arrival at the village students were issued a passport with five squares to collect stamps from the five stations the SCA had set up. LS Betha ran the textiles and fashions pavilion, Antonius and Miguel ran the arms and armour pavilion and provided a rapier demo at lunch, Mebd ran the games pavilion, LS Rhiannon cooked and explained medieval foods while Lady Cecelia and LS Wlfryd had a collection of arts and sciences projects on display. On the reverse of the passport was a worksheet for students to fill out..

Set up for the day began at 05:50 AM with the arrival of the pavilions. Set up continued until 10:00 with three pickup loads coming from Wlfryd and Rhiannon's, including a suit of armour on stand. Students arrived at 10:15 and stayed until lunch. The demo ran through the lunch hour; it is amazing at how little chivalry the crowd displayed and how they expected fighters to cheat. [*ah, such are the expectations of the unwashed masses... which is why we're out there to teach them!* - ed.] Students returned for the first class of the afternoon and were on site until about 13:45. Cleanup and take-down began at that time. We were gone by 15:30 from the school.

There is an agreement in place at Mount Elizabeth that if the SCA does the two demos each year for the grade eight Social Studies students then we do not have to pay rental of the facility when we host the Penguin Crusade in April.

Respectfully submitted by Wlfryd of Leedes.



(Mount Elizabeth Secondary School, Kitimat)

# Fields of Gold

Once again this summer past (July 10 – 12) hosted Tir Bannog's Fields of Gold, held in Quick, BC. This, the 13<sup>th</sup> F.O.G. Event, hosted the largest ever crowd, with over 60 people attending over the weekend.

The site also hosted a Royal Visit from Prince Raknar and Princess Chiara, who traveled North with their entourage to grace us with their presence. Both Prince and Princess were said to be impressed by the site and the people therein; indeed, during Court they complimented our Shire and her neighbors (Cae Mor and Cold Keep) on our hospitality and friendliness. Thank you both again for your kind words!



(Prince Raknar and Princess Chiara bestow a long overdue AoA to an old friend, Sigehere)

However, kind words were not their only contributions to the event. Prince Raknar had words of advice and wisdom for all fighters to dwell upon, and during their Court they handed out awards for all ages and all reasons.

Awards of Arms were given out to Lady Serena, Lady Medb, Lord Bartholamus and Lord Sigehere. Eric and William became the latest recipients of the Burning Ember. HL Tawl was awarded his Order of the Silver Pillar "for service to the Principality," and HL Liam was awarded the Order of the Hafoc "for dedication to the martial areas towards bettering the Principality."



(Alisdair hands over the regalia to the new Heavy Defender of Tir Bannog, Khudyka)

Besides the visit from the Royals, the annual FOG tournaments were held on Saturday. In the Rapier Prize Tourney, HL Josephine Blackthorne outlasted HL Liam Dughlus to win. The Heavy Tourney to declare a new Defender of Tir Bannog was won by Khudyka. In the Archery Tourney, Finn managed to beat out the favorites, Madyn and Markus, to claim the title of Archery Defender. The valor and chivalry displayed by all combatants in all three tourneys was great to see, and truly befitting such noble warriors. Gentlemen and Ladies, congrats to you all for coming, and we hope to see you on the field next year.



(A well struck blow on the field of battle)

The Helm lunch auction raised \$235.00 for the Shire, and the Archery Shoot raised \$50.00 for the Travel Fund. For Extraordinary contribution to the building

and improvement of the Fields of Gold site, T-shirts were given to Wlfryd, Rhiannon, Tewel, Betha, Bartholamus, Marcus and Siban, with one in holding for Calum who was unable to attend.

The Midsummer Rose award was shared this year by Medb and Hjordis, and although their thoughts differed on the way to choose a Gallant Thorn, both in the end picked Finn as their choice!



(Eager bidders eye up the Helm lunches)

A night archery shoot was held Saturday night, complete with glowing arrows. Sunday morning the Shire put on a pancake breakfast for friends and guests alike. By Sunday evening, the majority of the participants had left the site, and another successful Fields of Gold event was put to bed.

Congratulations and a heartfelt thank you to all those who worked so hard, both "on stage" and behind the scenes; without you, none of this would have come to pass. Thanks to all who made the effort to come and attend during the weekend; without you, there would be no reason to put on such a show, and the enjoyment of the event would be lessened. For those of you who could not make it but happen to read this, please come next year to help us make Fields of Gold bigger and better than ever!



(HL Josephine and HL Liam squaring off in the Rapier Final)



("Hmmm... from this angle it looks like it hit the target.")

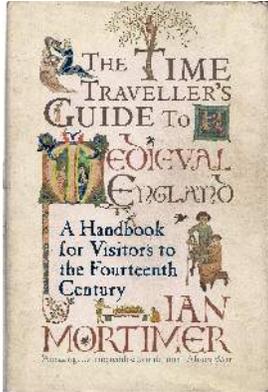


(A grand time was had by both young... and younger!)

# The Book Nook

by Tewl Cover

## *The Time Travelers Guide to Medieval England* Ian Mortimer

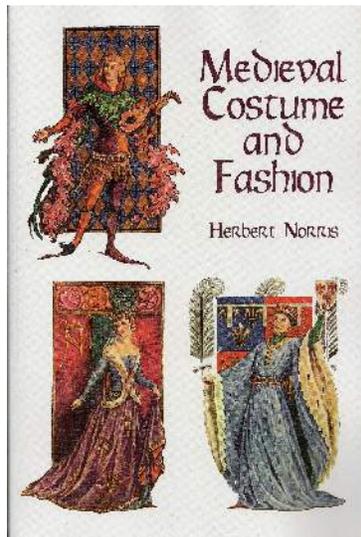


This is an excellent guide to the 14<sup>th</sup> Century. It starts off with the smells and sights as you approach Exeter and cross Shyte creek. All the way through you get to experience life in England. The chapters are: 1) the Land-scape; 2) the People; 3) the Medieval Character; 4) Basic Essentials; 5) What to Wear; 6) Travelling; 7) Where to Stay; 8) What to Eat & Drink; 9) Health & Hygiene; 10) The Law and 11) What to Do.

As you can see this book covers a lot.. The author believes that history isn't a static collection of facts, but a living, interdependent organism. While reading it, I was often transported to the 14<sup>th</sup> Century. I thoroughly enjoyed reading it from cover to cover and it is one that I will dip back into whenever I wish to connect with the past..

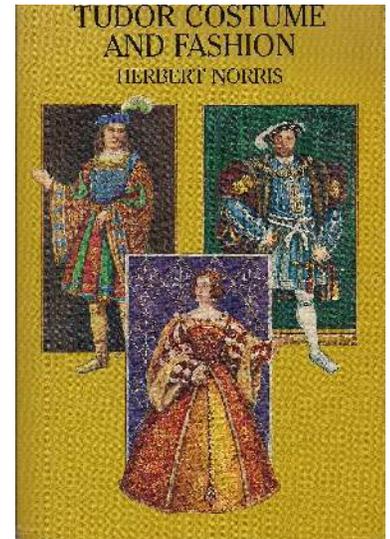
## *Medieval Costume and Fashion* *Tudor Costume and Fashion* Herbert Norris

Two of the four books printed from Herbert's planned series of six books covering costume from early Europe to the nineteenth century, these are not books to teach you how to make the clothes they wore. Instead they show how the times and society influenced and changed the fashions. In these



books you will find everything from how trims changed to how to behave at your Lord's table. Each section has a listing of the people and events that shaped that period. You will find detailed notes on hair styles, boots, social strata, arts, transport, and many other facets of the times.

There are numerous illustrations that show not only the clothes, but also jewellery, decoration, heraldry, and much more. That isn't to say that the book fails to give practical information on making garb. There are sketches of details from hats to shoes. You do need to be able to develop a pattern from the picture, but the simple line drawings give a clear idea of how the clothes should look when finished. These books are a cornucopia of information that you can pour over or just dip into when you want to get a feel for how things were in the times covered therein.



## Upcoming Events

Autumn Celebration: October 3-4<sup>th</sup>, Cold Keep  
(Prince George, BC)

Burning Man Social: October 10<sup>th</sup>, Boar Mountain  
Hold (Burns Lake, BC)

Feast of St. Crispin's: October 24-25<sup>th</sup>, Tir Bannog  
(Houston, BC)

