

# The Bard's Banner



Nothing Much Ađo...

Winter

AS XLVII

# The Bard's Banner; Issue 14

## Winter AS XLVII (2013)

### TIR BANNOG OFFICERS

*Seneschal:* HL Tewel Gover (Douglas Jeffery); [cardinal5290@gmail.com](mailto:cardinal5290@gmail.com)

*Deputy Seneschal:* HL Betha of Dawlish (Cyndy Jeffery);  
[betha\\_1838@hotmail.com](mailto:betha_1838@hotmail.com)

*Exchequer:* Lord Piers Lakewood (Kevin Miller); [kj4mill@telus.net](mailto:kj4mill@telus.net)

*Herald:* Lady Alys Lakewood (Jennifer Miller); [kjc3mill@telus.net](mailto:kjc3mill@telus.net)

*Chronicler:* Lord Piers Lakewood (Kevin Miller); [kj4mill@telus.net](mailto:kj4mill@telus.net)

*Master of Stables:* Lord Nikolaas D'anvers (Scott Brown);  
[scottejbrown@telus.net](mailto:scottejbrown@telus.net)

*Chatelaine:* Lady Alys Lakewood (Jennifer Miller); [kjc3mill@telus.net](mailto:kjc3mill@telus.net)

You can also see more about us at our website!  
<http://tirbannog.tirrigh.org>

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome!	.... pg. 3
St. Crispin's Report 2012	.... pg. 3
History of FoGEC, pt. V	.... pg. 6
Tewel's Book Nook	....pg. 8
Upcoming Events	....pg. 10

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.

Copyright 2013 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc

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: [kj4mill@telus.net](mailto:kj4mill@telus.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!



(Remembering the green...)

Here we are again in that time of Winter when the endless grey starts to wear on even the most stoic soul, and a stray ray of sunlight can bring a smile to even the most miserable curmudgeon. You can feel Spring coming in your heart, but your mind knows that it's still months away. Yes, it's that time of the Winter Doldrums.

What makes the Winter seem even longer in the North (besides the obvious) is the dearth of events to attend, mostly due to travel conditions that can go from good to treacherous in a matter of minutes.

As a result of this, our fourteenth issue is sadly event light. Due to said conditions, we only have a partial report on our St. Crispin's Feast from late October. Part 5 of Wlfryd's excellent History of the Fields of Gold Educational Centre follows. Tewel's Book Nook returns after last issue's absence with a double sized set of reviews, and we end with a faraway upcoming event to give you some hope.

So button up that sweater, bundle up under that blanket, get comfy by the fire and dream of a soon to be Spring!

Enjoy!

## ST. CRISPIN'S 2012 REPORT

By HL Betha of Dawlish

A small group of hardy souls (including a couple of first timers!) braved the elements on the 27th of October to attend Tir Bannog's Feast of St. Crispin's. Everyone who showed up had fun.

We were just winding down when the quake hit. Lights swung and we could feel a rocking motion, but no damage. Editor's note: On the 27th of October, a 7.7 magnitude *earthquake* struck near Haida Gwaii, off the British Columbia coast. Luckily, there was very little damage and no serious injuries.]



(Round Lake Hall)

The Heavy fighter of the day was Rhoibhlin. HL Tewel retained the title of Rapier Defender, and the Bardic competition was won by Rhiannon (by popular vote!). The ever versatile Wlfryd won both the A&S Defender title and the Brewing competition.

Thank you to everyone who showed up for our small but enjoyable day. Hopefully the elements will be more agreeable for next year's feast!

## THE HISTORY OF FOGEC,

### PT.5

By Wlfryd of Leedes

### Front Gate and Bailey Wall

The front gate was constructed during the summer of 2008 with the assistance of Tewel, Antonius, Wlfryd, Betha and Rhiannon.



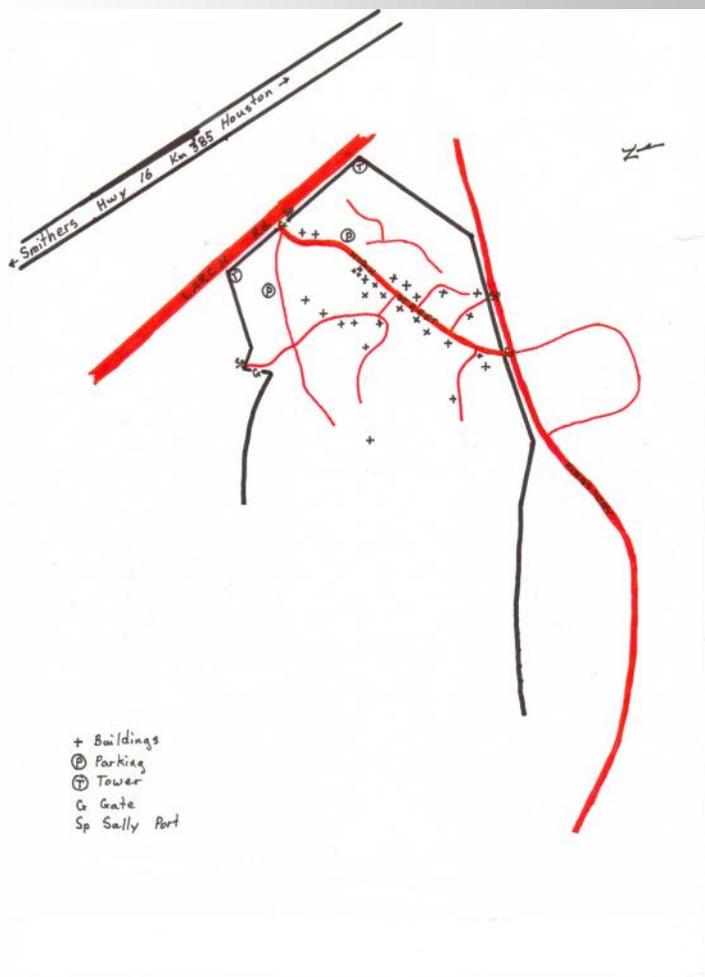
(The front gate takes shape)

By 2009 the Salley Port and about 20 feet of Bailey Wall had been constructed. In 2010 the Bailey Wall doubled in length to reach almost 60 feet.



(The first bastion complete)

In 2011 with the help of Roibhlin, Gavin, Brigid, Emily, Claus, Wlfryd, Rhiannon, Betha, and Tewel the Bailey Wall doubled in length again, reaching the first turning at the Bastion at the corner.



Author's map of the Fields of Gold Educational Centre

## Carpenter Shop



(Ye olde Carpenter's Shoppe, with some not so old tools...)

The Carpenter Shop, located on High Street, was excavated using a bobcat in 2006. Ardwyad finished the digging that Ysabelle and Britta had started. The site sat neglected for the next year as other projects took priority.

When we hired Antonius for the summer in 2008 a large number of projects were completed including the carpenter shop. The cabinets came from the old house of Valarius and Cina, owned by the Jacksons in Kitimat, who donated the cabinets and some doors. Other cabinets came from Katherine Johnsen also of Kitimat.

Wlfryd completed wiring in the shop in 2010 on a wet and rainy weekend. Tewel has reinforced the back door twice after break-ins and Bartholomus and Tewel have installed two dead bolts in the back door.

## Bake Pit

When we hired Antonius for the summer in 2008 a large number of projects were begun or completed, including the Bake Pit, located next to the Carpenter

Shop on High Street. Antonius excavated the hole. Tewel provided assistance as Wlfryd, Ardwyad, and Antonius poured the slab and added the cinder block walls. The Shire of Tir Bannog paid for half of the cost of the grill grates and Ardwyad and Gwyneth paid for the rest.



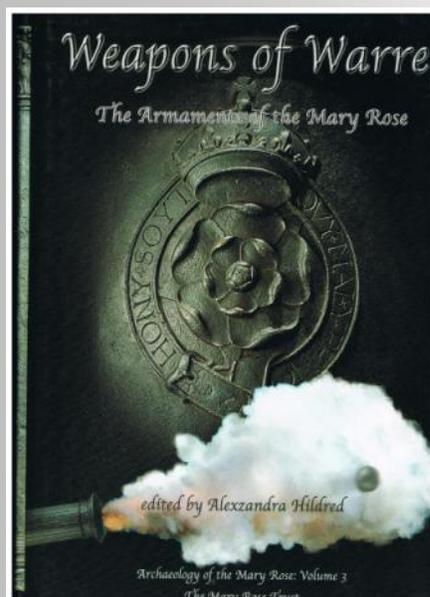
(The Bake Pit, ready to be used)

Wlfryd continued to work towards a post and beam roof for the bake pit, bringing in the logs and skinning them over the two years from 2009 to 2011.

## TEWL'S BOOK NOOK

By Tewel Gover

*Weapons of Warre The Armaments of the Mary Rose; Edited by Alexzandra Hildred*



This is Volume 3 of the archaeology of the Mary Rose, consisting of 2 books and a DVD.

The first book details the cannons, guns and other powder fired weapons found or inventoried on the

Mary Rose. As this is a museum quality series, there are a lot of details on where the various cannons etc. were found on the wreck site and the most likely layout on board the ship. The detail that still exists on the guns is amazing and even more so when you consider how long they sat in the salt water. There were both iron and 'brass' guns on board and although earlier archaeologists downplayed the iron guns as relics the reproduction cannon was able to make some very impressive shots. The book contains sketches and photos of a number of the guns as they were on the sea bottom, being raised, and during restoration work. There are over 100 pages devoted to the 15 guns of 'brass' listed on the Anthony Roll as being on the Mary Rose. In this is a chapter on the building and firing of a reproduction of a main deck culverin using as closely as possible 16<sup>th</sup> century techniques. This included building the carriage based on the one that held the gun they were reproducing.

There were 76 iron guns and 50 handguns listed in 1546 as on the Mary Rose. Most of the guns were of wrought iron construction but there were 4 cast iron guns found proving that the manufacture of cast weapons was not only known of but practiced in England by then. The 160 pages dealing with the wrought iron guns have information of all the guns recovered including the markings on them that could include their weight and maker. Sketches, pictures, radiographs, charts, tables, information gathered from period and modern sources and hands on work are skillfully combined to give a very detailed glimpse into the cannonry of the Mary Rose.

The 4 cast iron pieces were muzzle-loading small guns called hailshot. They have a bore length of about 30 cm and a rectangular bore averaging 6 X 2.5 cm, tapered to the breech and shot 20 to 30 iron dice. A reproduction of one of these was also made and test fired.

The last chapter covers the various types of shot, molds, tools, and powder carried aboard the Mary Rose. There were both iron and stone balls, spike shot, canister and lantern shot, and of course dice shot found at the wreck site. There is also an interesting section on the types of powder and how it would be produced that draws on various manuscripts and surviving samples, not restricted to the Mary Rose.

The second book covers incendiary devices, handguns, archery, hand to hand fighting, and armour & personal protection in part 3. Part 4 covers tactics and other conjecture based on the artifacts found and other information gathered from known sources.

One of the most interesting devices found has to be the gun-shield. These were round shields that were strapped to the forearm and incorporated a small gun that fired through a hole in the center of the shield. Several of these were found and after borrowing a couple of gun-shields from the Royal Armoury they were able to do a detailed analysis and identification of the parts of these unique guns.

There are over 130 pages devoted to the archery equipment and archers of the Mary Rose. There were the remains of 172 longbows and 2303 complete arrows (7834 fragments), together with 4 chests for the bows and 7 for arrows. 22 leather wrist guards were also found, plus 1 of horn and 1 of ivory. As these are museum based books there are lots of charts and details on the construction, materials, and storage of both the bows and the arrows. It also covers some of the personal artifacts recovered near the skeletal remains that have been identified as archers.

The hand to hand section covers weapons from pikes and bills, through daggers to swords, as well as the

belts, scabbards, and hangers that went with them. I am constantly amazed by the amount of items that survived the long time underwater. Although most of the iron has completely corroded away, the wood, copper, leather, and various other materials have come through remarkably well.

There has only been 1 positively identified breast-plate recovered from the Mary Rose so most of the armour finds have been based on the straps, buckles, and other secondary finds. This combined with the inventory lists of the Mary Rose and other ships from the same period allow the authors to conjecture what armour would have been associated with the human remains recovered.

The fighting the ship chapter goes into the sailing of a ship like the Mary Rose and how this would have affected the tactics used. It covers the spread of fire of the various guns on board and possible reasons that the ship sank so quickly. It also diagrams several of the sections of the battle showing where each side was and how the winds and tides influenced the battle. There is information on the layout of the guns and other defences on the Mary Rose and how they contributed to the Tudor fighting ship.

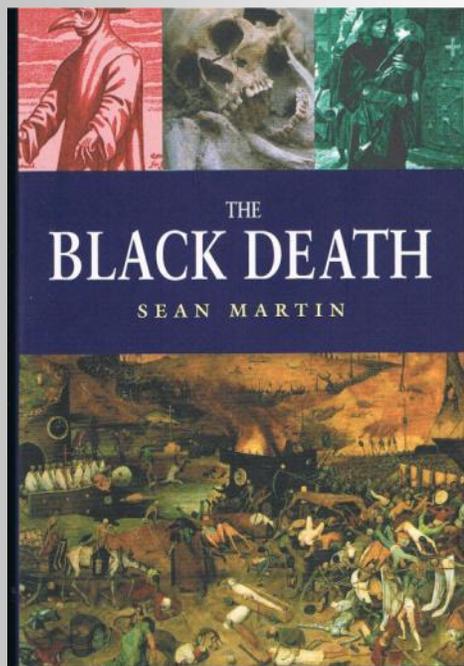
It ends with a short section on the recovery process and possible future dives to add to our knowledge of this very important piece of England's history.

The DVD contains 3 videos, a number of image galleries, and spreadsheets and databases listing various inventories recovered. 2 of the videos are about the recovery efforts from 2003 to 2005 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> is an excerpt of a documentary on the making and firing of the reproduction weapons.

Although much more detailed than most people would need, (do you really need the dimensions of

all 172 longbows?) there is a lot of information well laid out. If you are interested in Tudor war technology or just want to improve the authenticity of your kit, these books will keep you engaged for days.

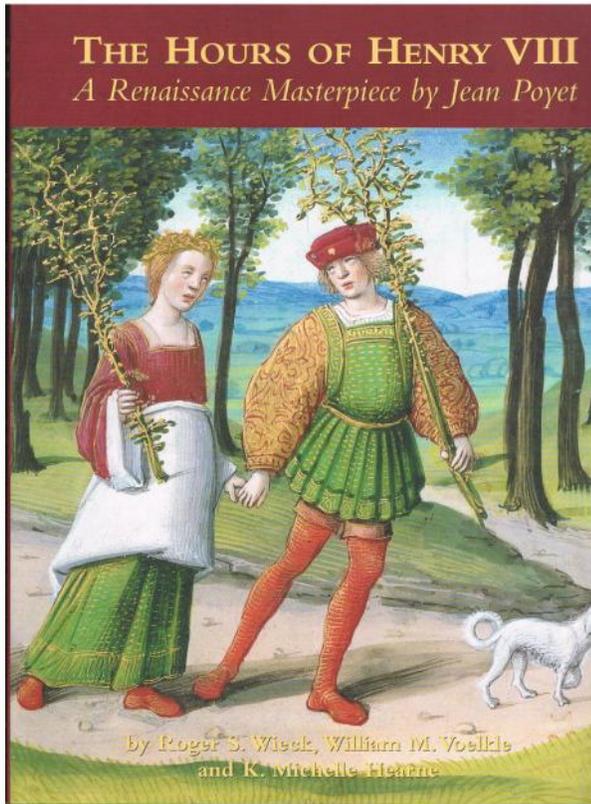
### *The Black Death by Sean Martin*



This is a somewhat gruesome, but fascinating book about the bubonic plague of the 1300's. It traces plagues back to the Old Testament and fills in the history of where the plagues surfaced and their route to Europe. Using reports from the times, he has built a very detailed record of the causes, spread and effects of the various types of plague that combined, earned the name Black Death.

There are several Appendixes, one of which covers selected plagues up to 2006 when the book was written. This is a small but very interesting book that will have you wondering how you would fair if health standards slip.

*The Hours of Henry VIII* by Roger S. Wieck, William M. Voelke, and K. Michelle Hearne



This is much more than a coffee table book but one could spend several hours just examining the beautiful artwork.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

May Defenders (Cold Keep): May 4, 2013, Cold Keep (Prince George). Details TBD.



(Soon the Sun will return...)

Although not commissioned by him and likely never owned by him, *The Hours of Henry VIII* is typical of the high end Books of Hours being produced in France and other places in the 1400's and 1500's. This book focuses on the works of Jean Poyet, a largely overlooked artist of the time.

After a couple of chapters that explain the purpose, use, and workmanship that went into a book of hours with a bias towards Jean Poyet's works, we get into reproductions of the pages from the *Hours of Henry VIII*. The full colour plates start with the calendar with a description of what is portrayed including the margins. It continues to the Gospel lessons, Saint's days and special events early Christianity. The artwork is beautifully reproduced and not only conveys the artistry of the times, but also displays the fashions of that time.

