



# Fallen Leaves from Glen Rathlin

Volume I # 2      Spring Edition  
April to June 2003 or A.S. XXXVIII

## *Herald's Gulder!!*

Hi, Robin of Dalriada here with the second season of our incipient shire's unofficial newsletter.

By the way 'Gulder' is an Ulster-Scots term meaning 'a very loud shout to attract attention', quite fitting for a herald I thought.

Okay, this issue we will have the Insula Draconis Calendar for the six months April to September 2003, some news about our incipient shire's first formal event to be held in August and any other bits and pieces that turn up.

## *Robin of Dalriada*



## *Unicorn's Inspiration*

This is the shire's first Formal event so we want to make as good an impression as possible.

### **Unicorns Inspiration** **1-3 August 2003**

Compete in Arts and Science, Heavy, Rapier and Archery (the archery competition will be in the form of an IKAC (see opposite)) to win the honour of being the Unicorn's Inspiration.

#### **Site:**

Ardnally Scout Activity Centre,  
109 Old Milltown Rd, Belfast,  
County Antrim, BT8 7SP  
Site opens 6.30pm Friday 1st August  
Closes 4pm on Sunday 3rd August.  
Crash space is provided (mattress on  
hall floor).

#### **Cost:**

£15 Sterling per adult, includes crash  
space, feast and lunch (Saturday and  
Sunday). All bookings require pre-  
payment, all bookings must be made  
by 25th July 2003

*All cheques made payable to*

**SCA Northern Ireland Club**

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**Griffin Segreant Sinister**

## Forthcoming Events

See Kingdom Calendar for full listings

10<sup>th</sup> May **At the Mark**  
Nelson, Wales  
Contact [maryf@cix.compulink.co.uk](mailto:maryf@cix.compulink.co.uk)

6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> June **Warbands IX** **K**  
Edzell Castle, Scotland  
<http://www.montgomerie.demon.co.uk/warbands2003.htm>

19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> June **RP**  
**Drachwenwald 10<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration**  
Duren, Germany  
<http://www.drachwenwald.sca.org/events/dtyc/index.htm>

12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> July **War of the Roses**  
Flintheath, England

18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> July **Feast of St. John**  
Pont Alarch, England

1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> August **Unicorns Inspiration**  
see this issue, Glen Rathlin

12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> September  
**Champion of Lough Devnaree**  
Lough Devnaree Republic of Ireland

Our own practices continue the first Saturday of the month unless notified otherwise on the mailing list.

If you want a specific workshop or practice to be run contact our Minister of Arts & Sciences (MoAS) & have a chat about it.

## What's an IKAC?

IKAC stands for Inter-kingdom Archery Competition.

The IKAC consists of four divisions: Open, Open/Crossbow, Period and Period/Crossbow.

### OPEN:

In the Open division, recurves and longbows, both period and modern, may compete by the standard IKAC rules. There is no poundage limit. The rounds and general rules are the same for all divisions.

### PERIOD:

The main intent of the Period division is encouraging the use and construction of gear with a more period appearance in our SCA archery. Period style longbows or recurves may still be shot in the Open division as well.

The target is a 60 cm, five colour face. For the Open and Crossbow divisions scoring is:

Gold	=5
Red	=4
Blue	=3
Black	=2
White	=1

Lines count as the higher score.

Arrows passing through, falling out, or bouncing off the target face count as three points. Scoring is on the honour system: you may count and record your own score, our fighting is based on honour and so is our archery.

Archers may compete in all divisions. Archers may shoot both recurve and

longbow in the Open division and enter the Period division separately. If you shoot a period style bow, you must shoot separately in Open and Period to enter a score for both divisions.

All competing archers are required to hold SCA Membership. Status may be confirmed with the Registry. The competition may be shot at any official Kingdom or local event (regular practice sessions which are periodically announced in the appropriate newsletter count as official events--otherwise, official events are all those announced in the appropriate Kingdom or local newsletter.

Archers may shoot for official score at as many competitions as they can attend, and may shoot for official score, in each division, once each day of a multi-day event. Archers may shoot more than once in a particular division per day, but only their top complete round of that day will be officially counted. Shooting need not be continuous (it may stop between ends as conditions require), but must be completed the same day to be counted.

There must be at least two people present at any shooting of the competition for the scores to be official. This means a minimum of an Archer-in Charge and one shooting archer or two shooting archers, one acting as Archer-in-Charge.

## Format

There are six rounds: three regular target rounds of two ends of six arrows each (at 20, 30 and 40 yards) and three speed rounds at the same distances. The distances must be measured out, not paced.

The regular ends of the Open and Period divisions shall have a limit of 90 seconds. Each speed round is to be shot in two ends of 30 seconds and as many arrows as can be loosed in that time, for a total of 60 seconds and an indeterminate number of arrows per round.

The archers may begin drawn and aimed, to release upon command. In shooting a speed end, you MUST draw your own arrows, NO ONE may hand them to you. If an arrow is in flight at the end of 30 seconds it will be counted.

## Equipment Allowed

### General

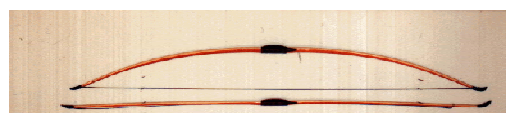
No archer may use any post 1600 material or technique that gives an unfair advantage to the user. Recurves or longbows of any material are allowed, this includes solid fibreglass and fibreglass and wood bows. Compound bows are not allowed. Bows with cut out risers (which allow you to see through the riser from the side) must have the riser openings covered with cloth, leather, etc., so as to present a solid surface and an appearance more in keeping with medieval archery. No stabilizers or balance bars, no non-period string releases, no kissers, no clickers, no working Berger buttons, no bow quivers, no form of string walking and no bow sights except as stated in the Open/Crossbow division or simple limb marks in the Open. Feather fletched wooden arrows are required. Broadheads are not allowed. Equipment must conform to the spirit of medieval archery.

## Period Equipment:

### ARROWS:

Wood shafts of any wood, cane or bamboo are allowed. Fletching must be of feathers. Except for crossbows, which may use other materials used in period for bolts, such as parchment, etc. Crossbows may use either period style bolts or cut down wood arrow shafts. Points may be of any style except for broadheads.

Nocks must be self, reinforced or built up (no plastic nocks). Reinforcing or build up materials may include: horn, bone, ivory, leather, hardwood or other natural materials used in period. Crossbow bolts may use metal for reinforcement.



### BOWS:

Period style recurves and longbows of any material are allowed. Modern style recurves or longbows with full or partial centre cut risers are not allowed. There is no weight limit, maximum or minimum. Crossbows will shoot only in the crossbow divisions.

Period style bows are defined as: Any style of bow that can be documented as used in pre 1600 archery, from Stone age bows to English longbows. Construction materials should be mainly those that were used in period for the making of that style of bow. Modern materials such as synthetic glues, finishes, fibres (strings) or artificial sinew are allowed as long as their use does not give an unfair advantage in performance over period materials. Fibreglass may be used as a substitute for horn and or sinew in the construction of period style recurve

bows such as Arab, Turkish, Mongol, etc., but no modern features such as full or partial centre cut handles are allowed. The bow must have the appearance of a period laminate bow. Composite longbows (of different woods or backed with sinew or rawhide, etc.) are allowed. When in keeping with the style of bow, grips may be made narrower than bow limbs. Bows do not have to conform to the persona of the archer.

### **BOW KITS:**

Bows made from kits where the archer does the final tillering and finishing count as having made the entire bow. Laminate bows where the archer does the final assembling and tillering count. Crossbows where the archer does the final assembly and tuning count.

### **RELEASE AIDS:**

Archers may use any period style release appropriate for their bow, but are not required to do so. For example, an archer may use a glove or tab instead of a thumb ring while shooting an Eastern style bow.

### **STRINGS:**

Modern string materials are allowed, as well as period materials.

### **ARROW RESTS:**

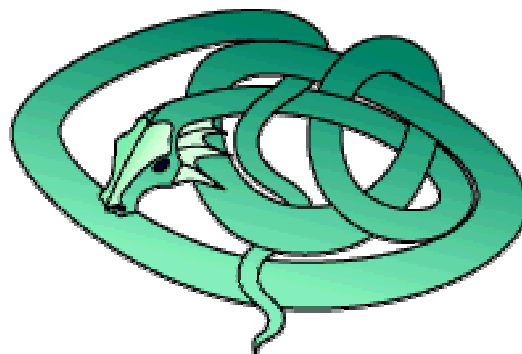
Non-period arrow rests are not allowed. Built in full or partial windows are not allowed.

### **NOCKING POINTS:**

Non-period nocking points are not allowed.

### **SIGHTS:**

Placement of sighting marks on bow limbs is not allowed. Sighting marks may not be placed on the ground.



*Dragon in Celtic Style*

### **Chivalry Ball 2003**

Chivalry Ball was the name of the February event organised by our sponsoring shire Flintheath which was attended by Robert d'Audrieu and myself Robin of Dalriada.

We began with the larks with an early flight 7.30 or so and a relaxed wait at the airport for our pick up. It was here that we realised one major problem within the SCA; recognising people in mundane dress!! We met up with Ulf de Fribois and Stefanya flying in from Edinburgh and Heather, our pickup, graciously transported us all to the scout campsite.

Chivalry Ball had a contest of chivalry at it, where each male was given a bag of 10 tokens (glass beads), as where the ladies. The ladies were to give these out for acts of great chivalry

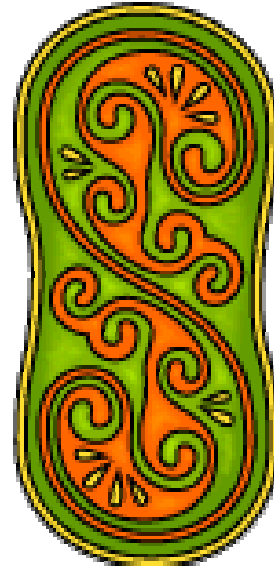
and courtesy and could ask for one from a Lord upon witnessing an unchivalrous act. Thus was most amusing as people ebbed and flowed throughout the day gaining and losing tokens as they went. A small heavy fighting tourney was held on the field but the planned archery was cancelled due to the lack of an authorised steward. The ladies had a class in favour-making, most of which were given to their Lords in the Eric to wear.

Mistress Caitlin graced us with dancing classes, which were well received and entertaining to watch as well as participate in. The feast had prizes for the best-garbed and best table presentation presented as well as the Chivalry award to the person with the most tokens. Neither Robert nor myself won (ahhhhh...), but neither did we end up with less tokens than we started with. We met Ariel, the future Crown Principality Seneschale again here; as well as our sponsoring shire's officers like Aidan Le Maister their Seneschal, Lord Aldwyn Ducalon their Pursuivant and the Crown Cygnet of the Isles Lady Trinite Ducalon their MoAS. We were made most welcome by all and it was greatly appreciated. Also at the event was the good Captain Molly from Germany whose belly dancing skills were one of the feast highlights.

Next morning, the standard dishevelled beings emerged from the crash hall and began the long road to consciousness. Sunday's activities were mainly social and rightly so. The good gentle Saranac left us off at the airport again in the afternoon for our return to the shire.

All in all, a most enjoyable event and well worth repeating especially for couples, a chance to

show your devotion and courtly love to all.



**Celtic Shield Design**

### **Contributions Wanted**

Any and all contributions are welcomed and needed for this publication, as it's your newsletter! In particular, send me details of events you have travelled to so we can share your experience with the shire at large. Send by e-mail as a MS Word doc or TXT file to [aldarragh@ntlworld.com](mailto:aldarragh@ntlworld.com) or by snail mail to 30 Bendigo Street Belfast BT6 8GD.

## Calligraphy Class

Recently the shire was privileged to host a calligraphy class run by THL Etienne Fevre at our practice in March (1/3/03). The class ran all day long with a lunch break and was designed so as to enable participants to have a complete or almost complete piece by day's end.

The morning was spent with set up and practice in two hands; a basic Celtic miniscule or uncial from the Book of Kells and a basic French Blackletter hand taken from the Tres Riches Heures manuscripts. This was true hands-on work with the teacher checking with each student and helping where required with any difficulties.

The basics of dip pen use and ruling of guidelines had been covered earlier in the week at an evening penmanship class ran by Robin of Dalriada to ensure everyone started the class with the same basic skill level.

The afternoon session then covered illumination styles to match these scripts, simple Celtic (not knotwork) and basic European 14<sup>th</sup> / 15<sup>th</sup> century. This later period covered the basic ivy and acanthus leave border and was amazing to see how simple an effect they could have on a piece.

THL Etienne had brought along some examples of his earlier work to 'inspire' us as well as later works of great magnificence. This was a small workshop of 7 people at his request so as to provide the maximum availability of aid from the tutor and worked admirably. I know it has inspired me to go further along the scribal paths; I volunteered to help with some of the

illumination of invites to Tenth Year for the Isles Cygnet and did so. Hopefully it will encourage other members of the shire to try their hand at new things such as calligraphy. Remember even the medieval scribes made so-so scrolls sometimes ☺

My thanks again to THL Etienne for gracing us with his class; I believe I speak for the shire as a whole when I state how much his efforts to help us in developing our Arts & Sciences have been appreciated.



## Who's Going Where?

Glen Rathlin populace presences for the immediate future include...

Lord John de Barri  
Lady Madeline de Chelle  
Paul son of Brian  
Caitriona of the Ravens  
Njall the Mercenary...

In attendance at **WARBANDS** at Edzell Castle, Scotland

Robert d'Audrieu  
Robin of Dalriada...

In attendance at **TENTH YEAR** at Duren, Germany.

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