

# Annals <sup>of</sup> Eplaheimr

Official newsletter of the Barony of Eplaheimr



ASLVIII, Issue 10, August 2023



# NEWSLETTER

## The Annals of Eplaheimr

Credits: Cover photograph of Their Excellencies of Eplaheimr, by Lady Fianna Rua nic Mathúna

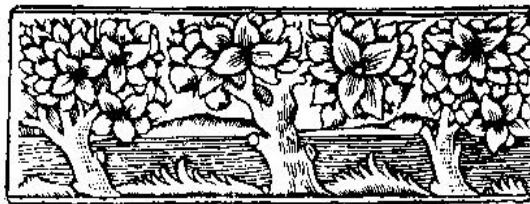
Masthead in JSL blackletter and JSL Ancient. Internal Text in Tahoma. The Annals is created in Open Office. All stock images are royalty free.

### Disclaimer:

This is an issue of The Annals, a publication of the Barony of Eplaheimr, of the SCA Ireland CIC. This newsletter is not a corporate publication of the SCA Ireland CIC, and does not delineate SCA policies. © 2023 SCA Ireland CIC. All content owned by original creators. Please do not reproduce without permission.

## Contents

From Their Excellencies.....	2
Oh Where Art Thou Scroll?.....	3
By Eillisif Gydasdottir OL	
Investiture Impressions.....	5
By Orlaith Chaomhánach	
Countryside Corner.....	6
By Alice de la Wode	
Cumann na Sáirsintí.....	7
What's On.....	9
Blogs and Vlogs .....	10
Baronial Directory .....	11



To subscribe, change email address and submit articles or information, please contact:  
[chronicler.eplaheimr@gmail.com](mailto:chronicler.eplaheimr@gmail.com)

We welcome articles on all subjects of interest to readers. Please submit articles in plain text with images separated out. Please submit images you have taken yourself and own the copyright for (or please forward permission from copyright holder/evidence for image being copyright or royalty free).

Please note that submission for publication constitutes your agreement for your work to be published in the Annals and on the Eplaheimr website.

## Ilchomórtas Coróneád Insulae Draconis Coronet Tourney

17th - 19th November  
Petersburg OETC, Clonbur, Co. Galway

Don't  
Miss  
Out!

Bookings are Open

[www.eplaheimr.org/id.coronet.tourney/](http://www.eplaheimr.org/id.coronet.tourney/)

[www.fienta.com/ilchomortas-coronead-insulae-draconis](http://www.fienta.com/ilchomortas-coronead-insulae-draconis)



# From Their Excellencies



Beannachtaí a chairde! Ba mhaith linn, Banbarúach, buíochas a ghabháil leat as an infheistiú iontach a ghlac sibh go léir páirt ann agus a chuir fáilte roimh chách!

Greetings friends! We, Baronesses, would like to thank you for the colourful and wonderful investiture that you all participated in and making everyone so welcome! A special thanks to piper, Colleen Shanks, for her beautiful music! The pipes are one of the oldest Irish instruments, and can be seen on one of the High Crosses. Thanks to the event staff that made everything run smoothly. Thanks to our household and for their hard work behind the scenes! And a very special thanks to Their Excellencies, Melisende and Etienne for handing over a strong Barony!

The Cumann na Sáirsintí was also introduced at Investiture.  
[ed: more about this on Page 7]

We are fortunate to be a part of Eplalheimr, and it should be known that this Barony is making a splash at the Knowne World (global) level! All of the wonderful work being done is being noticed and praised throughout the Kingdom! We look forward to seeing you soon at events and practices!

I seirbhís don aisling,

Rogned Banbarúnach  
Edel Banbarúnach





## Oh Where Art Thou Scroll?

## *From the Backlog Deputy Signet's Office*

One of the joys of many in the SCA is creating beautiful scrolls recognizing the service, arts, sciences, and martial prowess of members. This gift actually involves a lot of moving parts! Here's a simplified version of the process:

1. Their Majesties receive award recommendations
2. Event autocrats share attendance lists
3. Their Majesties plan awards based on recommendations and attendees at events on Their royal Progress
4. Scroll requests are sent to the signet's office
5. The Signet works with scribes throughout the kingdom to create and send scrolls back to Their Majesties
6. Who recognize the many amazing people of Drachenwald with award and scroll.

In a perfect world, there would always be plenty of time between each of those steps, plenty of scribes, no delayed mail, no missing attendees, etc. Unfortunately, that's not always how it works – and that's when the backlog signet's office comes in to play.

When a reign ends, the Signet's office looks at the list of scroll requests from the reign for any not given out during that reign for whatever reason. That list is then sent to the Backlog Signet's office.

The backlog signet works with scribes who may have scrolls still in process or still in transit, as well as issuing new assignments, to complete scrolls and get them delivered to so many awesome folks in Drachenwald. **But we need your help to do it!**

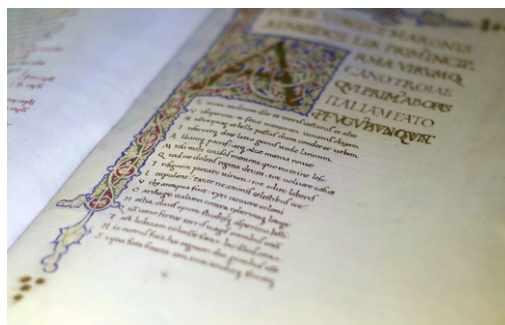


If you're missing a scroll from an award fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/qmBP3XzEERFRTD4S7> or email the backlog signet at: [backlog@drachenwald.sca.org](mailto:backlog@drachenwald.sca.org) .

At a minimum – we'll need SCA name, award, date given and by which crown. More information is always welcome! The basics can be found on the OP (here: <https://op.drachenwald.sca.org/>).

If you are a scribe with backlog assignments / scrolls you're still working on – please let us know as well!

This form <https://forms.gle/E2HVC9TF9QPd1Wtr9> or via email as previous.



If you would like an assignment or want to try out scribal arts – please reach out!

Backlogs are a wonderful way to try without feeling time pressure, and I'd be happy to help you learn.

**For Everyone!** Award Recommendations are a delight to Their Majesties as They are unable to be everywhere.

Please send them at:  
<https://op.drachenwald.sca.org/recommend>



By Ellisif Gydasdottir,  
mka Libby Cripps  
Backlog Signet Deputy

Not sure what to recommend? It's ok! Their Majesties can adjust as needed.

Awards are all listed here:  
<https://drachenwald.sca.org/offices/herald/drachenwaldawardsorders/>

## Chronicler's Note

Volunteering to make backlog scrolls is a great way to get started making scrolls for Kingdom, Principality and Barony. There aren't the same time constraints or urgency as there might be for scrolls that have deadlines because they need to be handed out to the recipient at the same time as they receive the award.

The Annals are published quarterly on the 5th February, May, August and November. Please send submissions to the Chronicler by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the relevant publication date.

[chronicler.eplaheimr@gmail.com](mailto:chronicler.eplaheimr@gmail.com)



# Investiture Impressions

By THL Orlaith Chaomhánach



Let me tell you about the weekend of the Baronial Investiture, a weekend of large emotions, fun, and vehicular misadventures. The scene for our tale is the Burren Outdoor Adventure Centre, a wonderfully eccentric building nestled into its stone walls, grand sparse mountains and brilliant patches of sheep manicured green.

Joining us were Their Majesties King Sven and Queen Siobhan and Their Highnesses Prince Alexandre and Princess Eularia, and their Excellencies the Barons Cynnabar from the Kingdom of the Middle, and it was a true joy to have them there for the event. There are few things as endearing to the Irish sensibility as the sounds of excellent company clearly having a great time with stories, games and mischief.



It was a warm and pleasant time throughout, the kitchen was more present in the centre of things than can happen at other sites as the warm, delicious cooking smells overlay all my memories of the weekend. Baron Malachy of Cynnabar had challenged His Majesty and the fighters of Drachenwald to a Tourney, which was most enjoyable for viewers and fighters alike!

Up on the campsite - raised on its platform of green against the rocky skyline - everyone's colours shone all the more brightly in between the showers. The archers loosed arrows and the fighters lent that peculiar mix of great comradery, encouragement and metal and board war sounds to the background of all our activities. On the Saturday evening our siege engineers contributed to the great humour of the event with an excellent show of engineering or just winging it in good spirits for an appreciative audience (thanks all!).

But for me the stand out memories are of the pockets of truly affecting emotion at the courts. There are events in our calendars where Court has to play a more significant part of the event than others and Investiture is definitely one of those.



It's important that everyone who has business at court feels like their moment matters, and I have always been impressed in Drachenwald with how excellent a job is done in making people feel appreciated and - I'll say it - loved.





On this occasion there was a lot to recommend the experience of Court; beautiful music, I don't think anyone could have missed Lady Marina's excellent Carnyx to help with the entrances, amazing style (our new Baronesses really know how to make an entrance!). I was lucky enough to have an excellent view of the whole thing from behind the thrones, a position I recommend to everyone to try in any capacity at least once.

There is truly nothing more pleasing than seeing the faces of people who receive awards, and we were lucky enough to see many. I am not, generally, one to tear up for reasons sad or happy, but there were many points in all the courts where clearly we had an attack from the invisible ninjas slicing onions. Baroness Melisende's speech inspired them, and Baron Etienne's absence due to losing his father, the funeral having taken place just the day before, must have invited at least 100 more, Baroness Rogned's words to her son still more.. well deserved awards to lovely people... you can see where this is going.



Photo credits: Lord Kier of Eplaheimr, Baroness Melisende Fitzwalter



## Alice de la Wode's Countryside Corner



**Hawthorn berries** or haws *Crataegus monogyna* (the Latin name refers to the single seed/stone within) Good to harvest between now and the end of November. These make a fantastic ketchup when pared with wild spices but, even better than that, they make a very nutritious and delicious fruit leather for which there are lots of recipes online.

**Silverweed** *Potentilla anserina* the roots of these are really good at this time of year up until the end of October or so. The roots, which are about the thickness of a pencil, are excellent fried tasting very like potato crossed with artichoke. They can also be scrubbed and boiled or steamed. This plant was considered a famine food and its starchy goodness was much valued. I'm sure the same would have true in medieval times.



**Elderberry** *Sambucus nigra* The berries are ready when dark purple and the bunch droops heavily downwards. The berries need to be stripped from as much of the toxic twiggly material as possible, a fork is good for this. Elderberries need to be heated to drive off the cyanogenic compounds. The juice can be boiled with added sugar to provide a warming tonic that will ward off even the severest of colds and flu. Elderberry wine (with added blackberries) is one of the best country wines. Elderberry vinegar makes for an exceptional, fruity salad dressing.



# Cumann na Sáirsintí



The Cumann na Sáirsintí program was introduced at Investiture. The following is about Cumann na Sáirsintí, please feel free to ask many questions if any clarification is needed! This program is for all unbelted, all non-peers!

The rank of Sergeant is a unique tradition from the Kingdom of An Tír which began when An Tír was a principality situated a very long way from the Crown of the West. This is similar to the geographical distance of Eplaheimr within the Kingdom of Drachenwald. Historically, candidates for sergeants were tested in all the skills of knighthood such as arts, sciences, warfare, courtly manners, dancing, heraldry, and games. Therefore, when the Crowns of the Kingdom of the West did come to An Tír, they could be assured that these fine gentles were worthy of consideration. The rank of Sergeant has spread throughout the Baronies of An Tír and to some other Kingdoms. The ranks have since evolved to include other areas of interest in the Society.

The ranks for the Barony of Eplaheimr, in line with other programs within the Knowne World, are:



**Sáirsint** (Sergeant): specialising in heavy weapon fighting.

**Scoláire** (Courtier/Scholar): specialising in courtly/arts & science skills

**Pionsóir** (Gallant): specialising in rapier skills

**Boghdóir** (Yeomen): specialising in war/missile/archery skills

**Lansaí** (Lancer): specialising in equestrian skills

These ranks have been developed to allow individuals the opportunity to demonstrate martial prowess, commitment to service, pursuit of the arts and sciences, and/or dedication to the chivalric qualities, and developmental ideals esteemed within the Society for Creative Anachronism.

The goal of Cumann na Sáirsintí (the Sergeants) is to provide subject experts within the Barony and throughout the region, who exemplify a commitment of service to the populace of the Barony. These are not honours, they are ranks. This means that they are not given as an award by someone for past work done. Instead, there are a set of tests/trials. If the candidate passes all of the trials, they will receive the rank. If they do not pass one of the tests, they do not receive the rank. The Sáirsint retains this rank until such time as they should become Peer, when they would return the rank and regalia to the Barony. We invite any member of Drachenwald to compete at the trials for the rank of Sáirsint; however, there would be an expectation of fealty, in keeping devotion and loyalty to the Barony of Eplaheimr. Members of Cumann na Sáirsintí are recognised as ambassadors of the Barony. They work with the current Baronial Champions to help foster the skills and ideals of their chosen area of study. They are expected to have devotion to and loyalty to the Baronial Royalty of the Barony at large.



Each candidate submits a written (scribed with calligraphy and illumination) request to the Baronial Royalty to enter the trials and be judged by experts in each field. The passing "grade" would ensure the candidate would have to be, for example as a Sáirsint specialising in heavy weapon fighting, a dependable middling or better fighter, but would have to be much better at each of the other, non-fighting skills, than what the requirements for Knighthood demanded. Therefore, when a member with a rank of Sáirsint from Eplaheimr was being discussed by the Peers of Drachenwald they would only have to be concerned with that person's fighting prowess. The fact that he or she was a Sergeant would ensure that all the other requirements had been met and then some. There would be no question that the prospective knight had all the other graces.

The trials are designed to help the candidates improve their knowledge of their chosen specialty/category, and to increase their knowledge of various aspects of history. While the trials are specific, they will show that each candidate has reached a certain level. This is a serious and self-reflective body of work that is very personal to each candidate. They will have from 6 months to one year's preparation. The information will be available to them online, for ease. The final Trialacha Cumann na Sáirsintí (Sergeants Trials) will occur at a weekend event toward the end of the first year after the first Investiture of the new Baronial Royalty (in congruence with the Baronial games) wherein the final tournaments of combat, and arts, courtly graces, and others will be completed and the Sergeants will be made. Many of the trials will be performed over the first year coming up to the Trialacha Cumann na Sáirsintí. There will be a checklist available for the candidates to retain and have signed off during the year to put toward the Trialacha.

### The current proposed trials would be:



Further Information  
from An Tir sources:

[Adiantum](#)

[Terra Pomaria](#)

RANK	Sáirsint	Scoláire	Pionsóir	Boghdóir	Lansaí
TRIALACHA					
Scribal Study	X	X	X	X	X
Heraldry	X	X	X	X	X
Dancing	X	X	X	X	X
Persona development	X	X	X	X	X
Service	X	X	X	X	X
Courtly graces	X	X	X	X	X
Chivalry	X	X	X	X	X
Leadership	X	X	X	X	X
Medieval games	X	X	X	X	X
Bardic	X	X	X	X	X
Arts submission	X	X	X	X	X
Practical & Domestic Sciences	X	X	X	X	X
Wargames	X		X	X	X
Combat	X		X	X	X
Gaeilge language	X	X	X	X	X
Research methods		X			

We believe that this programme will greatly benefit the members of the Barony, the island of Ireland, and the Society. It will assist in their own growth and visibility throughout the Kingdom displaying the prowess and specialty of Cumann na Sáirsintí. We would hope that this may encourage similar programmes in other Baronies throughout Drachenwald.





# What's On

## Féile na n-Úll 25 – 27 August, Jim Kirwan Scout Centre, Clara, Co. Offaly

Come join us for a weekend preparing for a bountiful autumn in Eplaheimr. There will be campfires, stories and song under the stars, apple shoots (archery), apple bobbing, and hopefully tournaments for fencers and armoured combatants alike.

[More Info](#)[To Book](#)

## Champions of Lough Devnaree 8 – 10 Sept, Crawfordsburn Scout Centre, Bangor

Come and join the people of Lough Devnaree as we compete for the tile of Champion of Lough Devnaree in Archery, Fencing, Heavy and A&S

[More Info](#)[To Book](#)

## Pen and Sword II 15 – 17 Sept, Sigginstown Castle, Co. Wexford

The Shire of Dun in Mara is pleased to invite all of those with a love for the flashing blade or the flourished quill to join us at Sigginstown Castle for a weekend of classes and camaraderie.

[More Info](#)[To Book](#)

## Ilchomórtas Coróineád 17–19 Nov, Petersburg Centre, Clonbur, Co. Galway

The Barony of Eplaheimr is honoured to be hosting the Coronet Tournament to discover the heirs of the Principality of Insulae Draconis amongs the rugged grandeur of the wild Atlantic west of the Barony. Come and bear witness to this feat of arms.

[More Info](#)[To Book](#)



# Blogs and



A selection of  
Blogs and Vlogs  
from Eplaheimr  
and around the  
Knowne World.

# This Issue's Theme: Food and Feasting

## The Irish Ages

Lady Maedhbh Rois inghean Uí Chaoimh writes on all things Irish when it comes to period food.

<https://theirishages.home.blog/>

## Alice de la Wode Drachenwald Herbal

Lady Alice de la Wode creates videos on foraging

<https://www.youtube.com/@AlicedelaWodeDrachenwaldHerbal>

## Medieval Cookery with Arpad

Lord Nemet Arpad produces videos cooking directly from Medieval Manuscripts.

[https://www.youtube.com/@Medieval\\_Arpad\\_cooks](https://www.youtube.com/@Medieval_Arpad_cooks)

## The Joy of Seax

Máistir Aodh Ó'Siadhail OP blogs mostly and extensively on food and cookery.

<https://thejoyofseax.tumblr.com/>

## Culina Vestus

Master Giano Balestriere OL writes and publishes on the History of German Food in Europe and the World.

<https://www.culina-vetus.de/>

## In Kiriell's Kitchen

Baroness Kiriell du Papillion OP OL (Lochac) writes about her own experimentation with and interpretation of period recipes.

<https://kirielskitchen.blogspot.com/>

## Féile na n-Úll Apple Festival

Campfires  
Archery  
Camping  
Apple Bobbing  
Twilight Market  
Class on Cordage  
Class on firelighting  
Natural Yarn Dyeing  
Tournaments  
Apple-themed Feast

25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> August

Clara Scout Centre, Co. Offaly

Info: [Eplaheimr Website](#)

**Book**

Book: [Fienta Site](#)

**Now!**

# Baronial



# Directory

## Barony

Baroness Rogned Stengrimova – [baron.eplaheimr@gmail.com](mailto:baron.eplaheimr@gmail.com)

Baroness Adele de Chaddwyke – [baroness.eplaheimr@gmail.com](mailto:baroness.eplaheimr@gmail.com)

Seneschal (Chairperson) – THL Eplaheimr-Jin Ünegen – [seneschal.eplaheimr@gmail.com](mailto:seneschal.eplaheimr@gmail.com)

Exchequer (Treasurer) – Lord Robaird of Eplaheimr – [exchequer.eplaheimr@gmail.com](mailto:exchequer.eplaheimr@gmail.com)

Chatelaine (Recruitment) – Lord Cullain of Eplaheimr – [chatelaine.eplaheimr@gmail.com](mailto:chatelaine.eplaheimr@gmail.com)

MoAS (Arts & Sciences) – Lady Kytte of the Lake – [eplaheimr.moas@gmail.com](mailto:eplaheimr.moas@gmail.com)

Chronicler (Newsletter) – Baroness Melisende Fitzwalter – [chronicler.eplaheimr@gmail.com](mailto:chronicler.eplaheimr@gmail.com)

Marshal (Combar activities) – Lady Marina de Grado – [knightmarshal.eplaheimr@gmail.com](mailto:knightmarshal.eplaheimr@gmail.com)

Herald (Coat of Arms Consultation) – Baron Merlin Sparhawke

## Tuatha

Báile Ceann an-tSiannan (Limerick)

Sheriff: THL Ünegen – [coussotyann@gmail.com](mailto:coussotyann@gmail.com)

Cluain Óir (Galway City & County)

Sheriff: Baron Etienne Fevre – [etiennesca@gmail.com](mailto:etiennesca@gmail.com)

Capall Uisce (Dromineer & North Tipperary)

Sheriff: Lady Marina de Grado – [marinpostir@gmail.com](mailto:marinpostir@gmail.com)

Tir Chroi (Athlone and surrounds)

Sheriff: Lord Robaird of Eplaheimr – [roborourke@gmail.com](mailto:roborourke@gmail.com)

Eiscir Airgead (Clara and surrounds)

Sheriff: Lady Alice de la Wode – [sheriffeiscirairgead@gmail.com](mailto:sheriffeiscirairgead@gmail.com)

Name TBC (Longford Town and surrounds)

Sheriff: Lord Aodhán de Pairc – [aodhanhudson@gmail.com](mailto:aodhanhudson@gmail.com)

