



The Ramshaven Herald

Quarantine Edition

Anno Societatis LV

Barony of Ramshaven

June 2020

Humour— Medievalized Memes

These memes were a way for game designer Mike Badelin, and artists Alex Komyakhov and Mykhailo Skop of Hiatus Games to keep themselves and their fans entertained during the stress of quarantine. They recently had a medieval-themed board game successfully backed on Kickstarter, *Deus Lo Vult*, but the quarantine has slowed everything down. The art for the game was created by a professional art restorer and icon painter, using the *Grandes Chroniques de France* as the inspiration. They also have a downloadable version of the game which you can print and play. Please do beware that they suggest 13+ as the age category.

Link: <https://www.hiatusgames.com/> Original article: <https://www.boredpanda.com/ancient->



All photographs and articles, with the exception of those labelled otherwise, in this issue of the Ramshaven Herald, were taken and submitted by your Chronicler, Asleif of Ramshaven. If there are questions please feel free to contact me at ramshavenchronicler@gmail.com

Creating a Persona, The Beginning

~By Sibylla of Glyndmere

Who would have thought that choosing a medieval identity for the purpose of learning about a different way of life would be so complicated? Should be easy, right? Pick a place to be from. Pick a name you like. This usually depicts the time period or visa-versa, and if not, a herald will help you get there. Do some research to find out what kind of clothes you would be wearing...wait, or you could find out what kind of clothes you like and then decide on a more refined time period...and figure out what you like to do and that also helps guide you through the persona process. Okay, now it's complicated. Now, start researching deeper into the persona and just see how many rabbit holes you go down...

Medieval Ramblings is a website created to help guide me through the process. The name of the website is everything it implies. In the following pages I will be recording my medieval life as it happens. Because I/we have been doing this for approximately thirteen years *gasp* I have some catching up to do in order to bring my persona up to a manageable speed. My hope is to write it as a journal so that when I learn something new it is recorded. The intent is to write in modern English (so that we can all understand it) in a medieval setting. The life happenings, events, and working days will be a rendition of my actual life while learning about my persona, Sibylla of Glyndmere, a seventh-century, noblewoman. Most of the happenings are shared with my husband, Penda of Glyndmere. We have a small medieval group known as Northgeatham (I will use that name) that belongs to a larger group (Ramshaven), and then an even larger group from there (Kingdom of Ealdormere) and so on which eventually makes us all part of "The Known World." Complicated, right? For media relations purposes, I will not be including these place names and will record the place names as I find them on maps.

Continued below...



Eadwine the Monk, c.1150 CE

Creating a Persona, continued

~

While I write, I will be giving the people I interact with different names to suit Anglo Saxon life, unless they wish to be named, within my time period. Some of the people belong to the medieval group. These people will be mentioned quite a bit at times. It will be like writing an Anglo-Saxon persona for each of them. Some are family although I will not go into too many details unless it directly benefits the story.

Are you with me so far? Because I am just getting into it, there will be changes as I find out more information. I might even change the place names as I discover the landscapes of the places I visit and live but for the most part, I stay within the British Isles. My first rabbit hole for this adventure was to dig into archaeology sites, plan out my list of things to either create or acquire and plot it all on my own map (using Google, of course) to help me keep things straight.

Wish me luck?

Pictures from FOOL

XII the virtual (home) edition



Guolliauc filius Branch participated in the online Early Period Costume and Clothing round table.

~Picture provided by Guolliauc filius Branch.



Mic Cillian participating in online Bardic Circles during quarantine.

~Picture provided by Mic Cillian

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Persona Story

~by Dorothea af Holm

15th Century Danish.

Dorothea is a fisherman's widow. She lives in Holm, a tiny island fishing village granted a special fishing charter by King Christian I of Denmark to fish the Schlei (a fjord). The nearest large town is Schlesvig, home of St. Peter's Cathedral and Schloss Gottorf, and if Dorothea is in the big town, sometimes she sees the Duke and Duchess and their entourage going by. In the past, Norsemen settled the area at Hedeby before crossing the water and settling in Schlesvig, so she sometimes digs up ancient Norse items when she's working in the garden. Her husband, a fisherman, drowned in the Schlei during a bad storm, and now she works on whatever she can to make ends meet. Her house has flowers in window boxes out front, facing the cobblestone street and the cemetery in the centre of town, while out back



her yard slopes down to the water; the boat that used to be moored there sold for tax money. She bakes and cooks for more than just herself, as there are also men in the village whose wives have died, and who need a little extra care. She is a devout Christian woman, and brings baked goods and preserves to the St. Johannes cloister in her village, and would be horrified to learn that some of her daily rituals and superstitions have deep roots in old Norse Pagan beliefs and practices.

Picture an older woman preparing eels and vegetables for her daily pottage out the back of her little stone house with a horizontally split front door, watching her cats stalking bugs in the yard that slopes

down to the waters of the fjord. Fishing boats dot the water, and she waves. The distant bells of the cathedral ring out.

(Today, Holm is part of Schleswig, the narrow slip of water between island and shore filled in at the beginning of the 20th century; and Schleswig itself is no longer part of southern Denmark, but of northern Germany. My mother's side of the family is from this area, and the



house and yard I describe is that of a 600 year old house in possession of my Opa's cousin's descendants).

Medieval herring fishing in Scania (published 1555).

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sk%C3%A5ne_Market

Cannabis from Antiquity to the Middle Ages



Cannabis sativa. Illustration from the "Vienna Dioscorides" 512 AD adapted from *De Materia Medica* by Dioscorides, 1st century BC.

What is the difference between hemp and cannabis?

They are, in fact, the same plant. The difference is that one was bred for industrial fibre production, and the other was bred for the production of THC (tetrahydrocannabinol), the chemical which gets you 'high'. The original, wild *Cannabis sativa* plant was something in between the two in form, function, and use.

Origins-

Archaeological evidence is sparse, but *Cannabis sativa* (from the Greek word *kannabis*) may have originally come from Central Asia (the area between the Caspian Sea and Mongolia), or South Asia (the area between the Himalayan mountains and the Indian Ocean). The etymology seems to follow that an earlier, late-Paleolithic or early Neolithic word denoting the seed and fibre uses of the plant originated in the Indo-Iranian root word of *kan or *ken, and a later word denoting the narcotic uses of the plant spread from the areas of Iran or Northern India. Associated words from various cultures- Armenian- *kanep*, Bulgarian- *konop*, Old English- *hænenp*, Old Norse- *hampr*. The word *kannabis* was a Greek transliteration of the Thracian name for hemp.

To read the full article please go to: <https://wyrtwiching.blogspot.com/2020/06/cannabis-sativa-from-antiquity-to.html>

Canton of Der Welfengau



In December of A.S 16, Lord Tsvetan ~ having seen a vision of a great silvery griffon of ruby eyes and flaming tongue ~ gathered together with four other

gentles to form the Canton. The device of Der Welfengau was registered in A.S 20.

Currently, A&S as well as meetings, rapier practice, and armoured combat are being held from 10-12 at Riverside Park by the fire station on Speedvale. Summer gatherings and practices are planned for June 16, July 7, July 21, August 18, and September 10. Please come join us!

For more information please consult sca-guelph@yahoo.com or see us on the gathering page (Facebook) Canton of Der Welfengau unofficial <https://www.facebook.com/groups/266085027122/>

Their Excellencies, Baron Penn and Baroness Lucia host:

Craft and Gaming Day

A monthly gathering held on the first Sunday of the month (usually)



Canton of Bryniau Tywynnog



The name "Bryniau Tywynnog" (pr: BRIN'-ee-aw Te-WIN'-og) means "Sandy Hill" in Welsh. It is a name rooted in local history.

Fight practices

take place every Thursday evening from 7 - 10 pm at Scholar's Hall in Kitchener.

Everyone is encouraged to attend the business meeting and share their thoughts. Meetings take place on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month, from 7:10 pm until the business is taken care of, at Scholar's Hall in Kitchener. These happen at the same time as Fight Practice.

Armouring Nights offer a chance to get access to tools, materials, and help in regard to building of armour and other projects. Armouring Nights happen *approximately* every other Wednesday from 7:00 - 9:30 pm at the home of Edward, Rylyn, & Jobjorn in Waterloo near Columbia & Fischer-Hallman. Contact Edward for directions and to confirm the schedule and meeting agendas.

News and group plans are shared on the Barony of Ramshaven gathering pages (Facebook) For more information please contact Seneschal Eyrny at: bryniau.tywynnog@gmail.com

Middle Ages on the Green

An annual event usually held on the third weekend of August,



Canton of Northgeatham



A little easier to say than most can comprehend but when written in this form, North-geat-ham, it becomes clear.

"The northern hamlet."

Gatherings are generally held every Sunday from 1pm to 5pm unless otherwise posted on the gathering notification page (Face book) which also includes plans for the day, ideas, and armouring intensions. Meetings include the arts and sciences, discussion of group activities, and socializing while taking in refreshments of tea and sometimes, cake. Did I mention cake? If you wish to be included on the Northgeatham notification page please send a request and you shall be added. Regularly anticipated events for the group include the annual Museum Demonstration held in April at the Bruce County Museum and Archives and Barons' Brouhaha, a bi-annual event, which is usually held in mid July unless the calendar leaves us too close to War of the Trillium and Pennsic War. In this case, Baron's Brouhaha is pushed to a time in August. For further information about Northgeatham please feel free to contact the Chatelaine, Wulfwynne of the Blackwoods at: northgaedhamchatelaine@gmail.com

Baron's Brouhaha

Usually an annual event held in July or August depending on the calendar



**Margaret Trainor-Cook**

Email: ramshavenseschal@gmail.com
 term: December 2018 - December 2020
If you need me, just contact me anytime.

**Christiana du Mundegumry: Exchequer**

Email: ramshavenexchequer@gmail.com
 term: Oct 2016 - 2020
Have been in the counting house, counting out the money and dusting out the coffers. Happy to report that it is all there.

**Sibylla of Glyndmere: A&S Minister**

Email: ramshavenas@gmail.com
 term: October 2019 - 2021
Arts and Sciences are strong in our barony. Please remember to share your photos and your enthusiasm on the gathering pages- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1518968168395297/>

**Asleif of Ramshaven: Chronicler**

Email: ramshavenchronicler@gmail.com
 term: February 2020~ 2022
I look forward to sharing knowledge and remembrance of times in the near and further past, and celebrating our present.

**Wulfric of the Blackwoods: Armoured Combat Marshal**

Email: trweirmeir@gmail.com
 term: July 2016 - 2020
Armoured combat is alive and well. Enjoyed Family Day Fight Practice in Bryniau Tywynnog. Northgeatham has been braving the cold with some great bear pits up in the Great Hall.

**Penda of Glindemere Lord Clerk-Register (Web minister)**

Email: webminister.ramshaven@gmail.com
 term: October 2017 - 2019
Please send any suggestions you may have and please remember to check the Ramshaven website and OP to ensure information is correct. Thank you

**Name: Guoillauc filius Branch**

Email: ramshavenherald@gmail.com
 term: February 2018 - 2020
I'm extremely grateful to Their Excellencies Ramshaven for this chance to serve the Barony, and live out their "call to Adventure."

Ramshaven's Baronial Champions

**Rapier**

Dawn Galbraith

Photo: Cesare de
 Salvase

**Armoured Combat**

Sibylla of Glyndmere

Photo: Dorothea of
 Holm

**Ranged**

Catriona
 inghean
 Ragnaill

**Bardic Arts**Guoillauc filius
Branch

Photo: Dorothea of
 Holm

**Arts and Science**

who will it be?



Word from Your Baron and Baroness,
 Penn and Lucia de Mornaza ...



Email: pennandlucia@gmail.com
 term: May 2017 to Present



reetings unto the populace of
 Ramshaven,

Well goodness. It has been an eventful year so far for everyone, not least here in Ramshaven. FOOL happened in a different venue from usual, thus starting our fourth year as Baron and Baroness with a new Word of the year to match: Connection. In this time of plague and uncertainty we still have our connections to each other to help keep us going strong, such that we can eventually come out the far side of this trial all having kept our friendships and Barony strong. We don't know when we will all be together again in person, but at least we can still see all our smiling faces regularly.

In a time of distancing, Fruits Of Our Labours showed what can be done to build and keep connections across the Known World. Due to (mostly unseen) tireless work behind the scenes, it was a great success, and I expect it will be emulated in other Kingdoms as well as our own. To those who battled the gremlins of technology we offer a heartfelt Wassail! Now that we are on the edge of summer once again, we hope you will always remember to have fun and most particularly stay safe.

Yours in service,
 Penn and Lucia,
 Baron and Baroness of Ramshaven



Colouring Page— DAD Medieval Meme

