
The Chanticleer

Monthly Newsletter of Barony Beyond the Mountain

December, 2016

AS51



Boris



Baronial Officers:

Baron & Baroness - Baron Dorigen of Lewes, baron@bbm.eastkingdom.org, and Mistress Eloise of Coulter, baroness@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Seneschal – Marcus Allectius Felix, Seneschal@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Deputy – Mistress Elizabeth Vynehorn, muirnesue@aol.com & Lady Leandra deLeon, leandrasuz@aol.com

Chatelaine – Lady Gwenllian ferch Llewellyn, chatelaine@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Deputy – Sybill Teller, mpeckham83@gmail.com

Chronicler – Lady Johanna de Glastingburi, chronicler@bbm.eastkingdom.com

Company Captain of Archers – Rumhann MacDuibhsithe an Bhlog Seolta, archercap@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Exchequer – Lady Ciara McRobbie, exchequer@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Deputy - Lord Gwilym of Fflint, willied0296@yahoo.com

Herald – Lord Grimolfr Skulason, herald@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Deputy - Mistress Camma an Daraich, andaraich@hotmail.com

Knight Marshal – Lord Angus Gove MacKinnon, knightmarshal@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Marshal of Fence – Lord Grimolfr Skulason, Grimolfr.Skulason@gmail.com

Marshal of Thrown Weapons – Michael Christian Longstryde, thrown@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Mistress of Arts & Science – Lady Alys du Bois, moas@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Deputy – Elspeth inghean Armstrong, bethneedles@yahoo.com

Minister of the List – Mark of the Red Hand

Web Minister – Lady Sisuire Butler, webminister@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Deputy - Lady Constance Navarre, wolfie603@sbcglobal.com

Youth Marshal - Vacant

Combat Arts

NOTE: Practices are subject to change without notice. Please call ahead.

Archery

CT: BBM – The former Canton of Fennbrycg archery practice: Practice to Tuesdays at 4:30 indoors for the winter at the Norwich Archery Club; crossbows welcome. Contact Bob Smith to ensure practice is on due to weather or other issues at 860-848-3525. \$5.00 for non-members of the club.

CT: BBM - Bowman's Rest: Tuesdays – 5:30 p.m. Burlington, CT - Dorigen & Eloise's at 17 Bittersweet Lane, Burlington, CT. Contact Dorigen at 860-673-2240.

CT: BBM – Woodstock: Practice may still be open by appointment. Crossbows welcome. Contact Krakken at 860-928-0578 or Email: Dean_Whitehead@bose.com.

CT: Dragonship Haven: Sundays, noon-3pm (weather permitting), in Oxford, CT.

MA: Carolingia – Carlisle, MA: Sundays from 10 am to 1 pm - Archery practice runs year round, by Master Peter the Red, at his home at 94 Laurelwood Drive, Carlisle, MA. All are welcome and loaner equipment is available. Contact Peter at peter.carmichael@comcast.net or call 978-287-0808.

MA: Smoking Rocks - Trader Jan's: Practice is open Wednesdays 5:30-7:30PM; Friday 6-8PM at 288 Plymouth Ave, Fall River MA. Lane fee is \$8.00. Loaner gear is available. Contact Owen at Owen_Hudleston@yahoo.com

MA: Quintavia - (Worcester County; Central Mass): Sunday from 1-3 pm weather permitting. Rozi and Brokk's, 472 Gleasondale Road, Stow, MA.

RI: Tobyn's practice: Practice is open by appointment. Website has current information: www.baronyofthebridge.eastkingdom.org. Contact Tobyn 401-741-9130 or Radagast 401-741-9067.

Fencing

Wednesday, 7-9 p.m. Colchester Federated Church, 60 Main St., Colchester, CT 06415
Youth Fencing from 7-8PM

Thursdays, 7:30-10:00 p.m., Keefe Community Center, Hamden, CT (hosted by Barony of Dragonship Haven). Contact the Fencing Marshal

(Christophel) @ fence@dragonshiphaven.eastkingdom.org.
Sundays, 1-5 p.m. at Mary Elizabeth McGrath Educational Center, 130 Elm Street, Millbury, MA (hosted by the Shire of Quintavia).

Heavy-List Fighting

Tuesdays, 7-9 Middlefield Federated Church, 402 Main Street, Middlefield, CT. Contact: Áine at ainethefearless@gmail.com

Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m. Colchester Federated Church, 60 Main St., Colchester, CT 06415.

Wednesdays, 7 p.m., Barony of Bergental at Bethesda Lutheran Church, 455 Island Pond Rd., Springfield, MA. Contact Lord Harkin MacTighearnan, Knight Marshall of Barony of Bergental for more information.

Thursdays, 8-10 p.m., Keefe Community Center, Hamden, CT, hosted by Barony of Dragonship Haven). Contact Baron Oskgar of the Wood (Stephen Straut-Esden); osgkar@earthlink.net.

Thrown Weapons Practice

Tuesdays from 6 p.m.-8 p.m., weather permitting In the Canton of Ravenhill, 28 John Beach Rd Newtown, CT. Contact Michael Longstryder (Michael Intemann) thrownweapons@ymail.com 203-270-3670 (no later than 8:30 p.m.)

Youth Fighter Practice

Tuesdays, 6:30 pm-8:00 pm at Middlefield Federated Church, 402 Main Street, Middlefield, CT. Contact Aine at ainethefearless@gmail.com

Thursdays, 7-8 p.m. at the Keefe Center in Hamden, CT (hosted by Barony of Dragonship Haven). Contact the Youth Fighter Marshal (Taoisech Holt Kincaid) for more information at youth@dragonshiphaven.eastkingdom.org. Those who are new or need loaner gear should arrive a little early and a marshal will be there assist them. Please bring your own personal protection (athletic cup) and water bottles.

Canton Seneschal:

Ravenhill – Michael Christian Longstryde,
michael.seneschal@yahoo.com

Baronial Champions:

Archery Champion: Lady Ciara McRobbie

Fencing Champion: Lord Grimolfr Skulason

Heavy Weapons Champion: Lord Mark the Red Hand

Thrown Weapons Champion: Lord Rumhann MacDuibhsithe an Bhlog Seolta

Meetings:

Baronial: Monday, December 12 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., at Jo-Ann's Fabric, 1440 Pleasant Valley Road, Manchester, CT. Contact Seneschal Anarra Karlsdottir, t_neill@hotmail

Newcomers Meeting: TBD

Canton:

Ravenhill: Second Monday of the month, at the home of Seneschal Michael Christian Longstryde (Michael Intemann), 28 John Beach Rd, Newtown, CT 06470, 203-270-3670 (Before 9:00 pm), michael.seneschal@yahoo.com.

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Photos by Lady Johanna de Glastingburi and Baroness Eloise

Arts & Science

Middle-Eastern Dance

Sundays, 1-4 p.m., Authur Murray Dance Studio, Glen Lochen Marketplace, 39 New London Turnpike, Glastonbury, CT. Contact Mistress Su'ad (Nancy Barrett) at 860-228-6933 (before 10 p.m.); nancysuad@gmail.com.

Apricot Pie

12 oz package of dry apricots
12 oz white sugar, or 1.5 cups
1 c. white wine (red or rose also works and I used rose)
1 tsp powder fine
1 tsp cinnamon
1 tsp ginger (optional and I didn't use this today)
a double crust pie pastry
Coarsely chop apricots. Cover them with boiling water & let them soak for 10 minutes and drain. Put the sugar, wine & spices in a heavy pan on medium high heat. Let this boil & reduce heat to medium. Add the apricots & simmer 30 minutes on low heat. Roll out the pie dough & put all the fruit & as much of the syrup in the pie shell as looks right to you. Cover with top layer of pie dough. Sprinkle sugar & cinnamon on top. Bake at 350 degrees for 40 minutes or until pastry looks golden brown.

Cap lxxxij De tortada de orejones. Una tortada grande y buena de orejones, ha de llevar una libra, los quales se lavaran con agua calie(n)te, y despues de bien lavados, echalos en un cao, co(n) una libra de auca; ha se de dexar un poco para encima, y se les echara un poco de vino blanco, y canela, y sazonal, y pondraslo ala lumbre; de suerte que no se queme, porque ellos de suyo son bla(n)dos, y estando conservados, se quitaran, y po(n)dranse en la tortada, y se les echara auca, y canela por encima; despues de bie(n) conservados tambien se les puede echar miel en lugar al auca; pero ha de ser buena, y se pondran en la tortada coziendo a poca lumbre, porque todas las cosas dulces se queman facilmente

Translation: On a pie of dry apricot or peach halves. A large & good pie of dry apricots, bring a pound of them, those which are washed with hot water, & after they are well washed, cast them in a pot, with a pound of sugar; leave a little for on top, & cast to them white wine, & cinnamon, & season it, & set it on the fire; be sure that it does not burn, because they are delicate, & being conserved, remove them & put them in the pie, & cast to them sugar & cinnamon on top; after they are well conserved you also may cast honey in place on the sugar; but let it be good, & put the pie cooking on a small fire, because all the sweet dishes burn easily.

Submitted by Lady Bronwyn Rose of Greyling (B'Rose)

A Message from the Baroness:

Happy December - the season of light is upon us. We've just completed another Yule in conjunction with Bergental, and a fantastic time was had by all. My thanks to everyone who volunteered their time and effort to make the day such a success, but my especial thanks are due to Lady Sybill Teller who stepped up to the job of event coordinator for BBM and did a fine job, and Lady Gwenllian ferch Llewellyn who yet again wrangled the Yule Ceremonies for me. Thank you ladies - you made us proud.

We also need to express our thanks to Mistress Anarra Karlsdottir, who has stepped down as the Baronial seneschale after seven years. With patience and attention to detail the Barony has been well served by her for these many years. While she and I have not always seen eye-to-eye, I have always known that, like me, she has the best interests of the Barony at heart and will always work for the good of us all. It has been a privilege to work with her for our term. I look forward to working with Marcus Allectius Felix, who will be running his first meeting in December. He has some new ideas that make me very nervous, but which are probably good for us, so I am very much looking forward to trying them out. Please join me in welcoming him to the officer staff, and wishing him well.

His excellency and I had a very busy court at Yule - I believe it was the largest amount of business we've done at one time to date. Mistress Shiro, Lady Alexandra Krakkensdottir, and Lord Grimolfr Skulason formally stepped down as our champions of heavy weapons, archery, and thrown weapons respectively. Mistress Shiro and Lady Alex were offered pensions in thanks for their continued service to the Barony, and Lord Grimolfr remains as our champion of fence. Lord Mark the Red Hand, Mistress Ciara McRobbie, and Lord Rumhann MacDuibhsithe stepped up as our new champions, and were immediately rewarded with the obligation to stand through the rest of court. Additionally they received gifts of rattan, target faces, and the pledge of a piece of the next tree we fell. We were also able to conduct some precedence bearing business - after four years, and somewhat anticlimactically, we were able to award Sir Gelleys Joffrey with a Defender of the White Oak. Sir Gelleys was our first champion, is taking time to train new fighters at the Middlefield practice, and is more than deserving. We tried to catch him sooner, but sometimes these things take time.

Other things happen in just the right time, and we were able to award Lady Aine the Fearless and Bertana æt Bapanceaster the Order of the White Oak for their service to the Barony in establishing and maintaining the heavy weapons practice and more recently the youth combat practice. The ladies have had a busy year. Ask Bertana about her spoon. But after discussing at great length whether to award Lady Aine a White Oak for her service or a Defender for her prowess and teaching, His Excellency and I decided to award her both - recognition of service given should not wait. According to the Order

of Precedence this has only happened once before - at the King and Queen's Archery Championship in Anno Societatis 22, Matilde des Isles Froides was awarded both the White Oak and the Sun and Soil. Most of us spread things out a little more, but Aine and Matilde are clearly cut from different cloth.

Other things also happen at just the right time, and we also awarded Lady Sisule Butler the Order of the White Oak. She arrived in our Barony, and some of the first words she ever said to me were "So what do y'all need help with around here?" And when I reminded her of that, her response was "But it's just what I do." A Barony filled with people like that would rule the world, and we are lucky to have her.

But some things - despite our best intentions, some things run late. As I said in court, memory is a funny thing. Everyone "remembered" that Lady Mariot Carllein had long ago been given the Order of the Holly for her excellence in the arts - except that she had not. That is no longer the case. She has for years created beautiful embroidery, and taught it to others, and it was a delight to present her with that award.

Our thanks must also go out to Their Majesties Brion and Anna for allowing us the time in Their court to conduct the business of the Barony. Especially given that one of the items of *Their* court was to induct our own Lady Gwenllian ferch Llewellyn into the Order of the Silver Wheel. Gwenllian has worked on behalf of the Barony for... decades, I think. She served as exchequer for Bowman's Rest for years, and then stepped into the Baronial Chatelaine position where she has been instrumental in helping to create the BBM Crack Fiber Demo Team. Very well deserved, and I'm sure merely a sign of things to come.

Additionally Master Ryan McWhyte stepped down as Brigantia Principal Herald for the East, and was created a Herald Extraordinary by the new Brigantia.

This month I will leave you with wishes for a bright holiday season, whichever you celebrate or if you choose to celebrate at all. Come January we can resume our plans - practices, Solstice Shoot, Artifacts, another Yule... but for now, cherish your loved ones, and be kind to one another. Dorigen and I wish you all the best for the coming new year.

~Eloise

Archaeology News

<http://www.archaeology.org/news/>

11/30/16 - PRIEST HOLE MAPPED IN ENGLISH TUDOR COUNTRY HOUSE - NOTTINGHAM, ENGLAND—The Stratford-upon-Avon Herald reports that a research team led by Chris King, Lukasz Bonenbergand, and Sean Ince of the University of Nottingham has used new scanning technology to produce a 3-D map of a priest hole hidden at Coughton Court, a Tudor country house in Warwickshire. A priest

hole was a concealed, secret chamber where a Catholic priest could hide during the religious persecution that followed the English Reformation in the seventeenth century. The priest hole at Coughton Court was first found in a turret of the main gatehouse in the 1850s. It contained a rope ladder, bedding, and a portable altar. "At Coughton, the priest hole is hidden away out of sight, and the 3-D model will really help visitors to understand where it fits inside the building," King said. For more, go to "Letter from England: Stronghold of the Kings in the North." <http://www.stratford-herald.com/62246-scans-give-3d-look-coughton-courts-priest-hole.html>



First Foot

11/30/16 - FOURTEENTH-CENTURY PLAGUE PIT UNEARTHED IN ENGLAND - LINCOLNSHIRE, ENGLAND—Estimates suggest that up to half of England's population died of the Black Death between 1346 and 1353. The Independent reports that a team of archaeologists has unearthed a mass grave at the monastery hospital at Thornton Abbey, in the East of England. The remains of 48 people, including more than 20 children, were found in the grave. DNA testing of tooth pulp obtained from the skeletons has revealed the presence of *Yersinia pestis*, the bacterium that causes the plague. Hugh Willmott of the University of Sheffield explained that the team did not expect to find a mass burial in rural Lincolnshire. The discovery suggests that the small community was overwhelmed by the number of deaths caused by the epidemic. The team also uncovered a Tau Cross pendant in the hospital building. Willmott said that some believed that the Tau Cross could cure skin diseases. Symptoms of the Black Death include egg-shaped lumps in the groin, neck, and armpits that can ooze pus and blood, as well as black spots of gangrenous flesh. For more, go to "A Parisian Plague." <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/archaeology/plague-pit-black-death-skeletons-lincolnshire-children-thornton-abbey-a7446556.html>



Our new Seneschal – Marcus Allectius Felix and outgoing Seneschal - Mistress Anarra Karlsdottir

11/28/16 - PEMBROKE CASTLE SURVEY REVEALS POSSIBLE MEDIEVAL BUILDINGS - PEMBROKE, WALES—According to a report from BBC News, a team from Dyfed Archaeology Trust has conducted a geophysical survey at Pembroke Castle, which was built in the eleventh century, to look for structures destroyed at the end of the medieval period. Parch marks on the ground, seen in aerial photographs taken in 2013, suggested possible outlines for the buildings. The new survey revealed the outlines of several buildings and a well in the castle's outer ward, as well as the outlines of another three buildings in the inner ward. Researchers suggest that King Henry VII, who was born at the castle in 1457, might have been born in one of the buildings in the outer ward. To read in-depth about another castle, go to "Letter from England: Stronghold of the Kings in the North." <http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-38121852>

11/23/16 - CANONIZED VIKING KING REBURIAL SITE LOCATED - OSLO, NORWAY—A shrine to a Viking king who was sainted has been discovered in Trondheim, according to a report in Live Science. Researchers from the Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage believe they have unearthed the stone foundations of a wooden church where the body of King Olaf Haraldsson was taken in 1031 shortly after he was declared a saint. Now known as St. Olaf, the king ruled Norway starting in 1016 but was challenged by Canute I of Denmark and died in battle in 1030. Olaf was initially buried elsewhere in Trondheim, but based on reports of posthumous miracles he was dug up and reinterred in St. Clement's Church. In addition to the church's foundations, the researchers have found a small rock platform at the structure's east end that they believe was the base of the church's altar—which may have been built over St. Olaf's new grave. His remains were later moved again to a larger church in Trondheim, where Nidaros Cathedral was then built. Also found at the St. Clement's Church site was a small well that may have been seen as holy. For more, go to "A True Viking Saga." <http://www.livescience.com/56972-shrine-of-viking-king-discovered.html>



Lady Gwenllïan ferch Llewellyn with her Silver Wheel

11/17/16 - DENTURE MADE OF HUMAN TEETH FOUND IN TUSCANY - PISA, ITALY—The Local, Italy, reports that a team of paleopathologists from the University of Pisa found a denture dating to between the late fourteenth and early seventeenth centuries in the mass grave of more than 200 members of the Giunigi family in Lucca's convent of San Francesco. The denture consists of five canines and incisors obtained from different people, covered in a layer of metal. A strip of gold was attached at the base for wearing over the lower gums. A layer of tartar over the surface of the device indicates that it was used for a long period of time. Team member Simona Minozzi explained that scholars know about dentures from this period through historical descriptions, but this is the first known example of them. The team has not been able to match the prosthesis with a jaw from the grave. To read in-depth about the study of microbes in dental calculus, go to "Worlds Within Us." <http://www.thelocal.it/20161117/italian-archaeologists-find-worlds-oldest-dentures-archaeology-history>

11/16/16 - POSSIBLE EARLY CHRISTIAN CEMETERY UNEARTHED IN ENGLAND - NORFOLK, ENGLAND—Live Science reports that a cemetery containing more than 80 Anglo-Saxon burials arranged in rows has been unearthed in eastern England. Based upon pottery found in the fill, James Fairclough of Museum of London Archaeology says the cemetery dates from the seventh to the ninth centuries A.D. Fairclough added that the cemetery appears to be Christian, since there are no grave goods, and the burials were arranged on an east-west grid. Many of the wood coffins, made from split and hollowed oak trees, were found intact, due to the

waterlogged environment. Six of the graves had been lined with planks, and may be the earliest such graves in Britain. Fairclough's team also found the remains of a timber structure that may have been a chapel. The skeletons from the cemetery will be analyzed for information on sex, age, and possible family connections. To read in-depth about an Anglo-Saxon kingdom, go to "Letter from England: Stronghold of the Kings in the North." <http://www.livescience.com/56892-anglo-saxon-cemetery-england.html>

11/14/16 - MONKS' GRAVES FOUND AT RUINED FOUNTAINS ABBEY - RIPON, ENGLAND—The Herald Scotland reports that a team of researchers from the National Trust, the University of Bradford, Geoscan Research, and Mala Geoscience used ground-penetrating radar to find more than 500 graves, holding as many as 2,000 bodies, in rows curving out from the east of the church at Fountains Abbey. The monastery, located in North Yorkshire, was built in the early twelfth century, and closed in 1539 under Henry VIII. During the Victorian era, workmen uncovered some of these graves, and reported that they found several tiers in each. The new study agrees that the monks were buried in "bunk beds," or graves separated by stone partitions, perhaps in order to protect them from damage during later burials. The monks may have believed that it was important to preserve their physical remains for resurrection on the Christian Day of Judgment. For more, go to "Legends of Glastonbury Abbey." http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14885383.EXPERTS_DISCOVER_500_GRAVES_AT_MONASTIC RUIN_S_IN_NORTH_YORKSHIRE/



Scroll by Baroness Eloise



Table numbers created by Camma and Randall

11/10/16 - SHAKESPEARE'S CURTAIN THEATER EXCAVATED - LONDON, ENGLAND—The Guardian reports that an excavation at the Curtain Theater by researchers from the Museum of London Archaeology has uncovered a rectangular stage some 45 feet long that was built over a passageway with doors at either end. It had been thought that the early Elizabethan theater had a polygonal structure, but the excavation has revealed that the building was rectangular in shape, and that it had timber galleries and a courtyard of compacted gravel built for theater goers. "The question is now whether Shakespeare and other playwrights were writing plays specifically for this kind of stage—which would have required a completely different style of interaction compared to a thrust stage with the audience on three sides," said senior archaeologist Heather Knight. The excavation also revealed that the theater was purpose-built behind a structure that faced Curtain Road. Fragments of green-glazed money boxes that held entrance fees have been found. These boxes were smashed in a "box office," where the money was counted. Glass beads and pins that may have come from the actors' costumes were recovered, along with drinking vessels and clay pipes. For more, go to "Richard III's Last Act."

<https://www.theguardian.com/culture/2016/nov/10/shakespeare-write-henry-v-suit-london-theatre-the-curtain-odd-shape>

11/10/16 - NEW THOUGHTS ON THE DEMISE OF GREENLAND'S NORSE SETTLEMENTS - TASILIKULOQ, GREENLAND—Science Magazine reports that the North Atlantic Biocultural Organization has analyzed data on the settlement patterns, diet, and landscape of the Norse living in Greenland from the eleventh century to the mid-fifteenth century, when they disappeared. It had been thought that the Norse were primarily farmers whose crops and livestock failed to support them when the Little Ice Age set in, but new evidence suggests that the Norse spread to Iceland and Greenland in the pursuit of walrus ivory, which was highly valued in medieval Europe. Analysis of human remains from Norse cemeteries indicates that the settlers relied more heavily on marine animals for food as temperatures fell and it became harder to farm, even

though pollen and soil data show that the settlers were more skilled in farming techniques such as irrigation, fertilizing, and allowing fields to rest than had been previously thought. Climate change and stormy seas would have made hunting and the ivory trade more difficult, too. "We used to think of Norse as farmers who hunted," explained Thomas McGovern of Hunter College. "Now, we consider them hunters who farmed." For more, go to "Vikings, Worms, and Emphysema." <http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2016/11/why-did-greenland-s-vikings-disappear>

11/8/16 - VIKING TOOLBOX UNCOVERED IN DENMARK - ZEALAND, DENMARK—Science Nordic reports that a 1,000-year-old toolbox containing 14 iron tools was discovered at Borgring, a Viking ring fortress, by metal detectorists. "The toolbox is the first direct indication of life that we've found around the fortress," said archaeologist Nanna Holm. The tools are thought to have been kept in a wooden box near the east gate of the fortress, which was damaged by fire. "It looks like the fire was brought under control before it spread, and afterwards they laid two layers of clay inside the gate," Holm explained. "In each layer we find a fireplace, and we found the toolbox in the youngest layer." The evidence also suggests that the gate eventually collapsed, burying the toolbox. Such valuable iron was usually melted down and reused, making the tools, including spoon drills, a drawplate for making thin wire, a piece of chain, and a clink nail, a rare discovery. For more, go to "The First Vikings."

<http://sciencenordic.com/archaeologists-discover-viking-toolbox>



Breads by Randall

11/7/16 - VIKINGS MAY HAVE RISKED RAIDS FOR "WEALTH AND STATUS" - ABERDEEN, SCOTLAND—The Telegraph reports that research by Mark Collard of the University of Aberdeen and Simon Fraser University, Ben Raffield of Simon Fraser University, and Neil Price of Uppsala University supports the idea that young Viking men may have been driven to raid other lands in the pursuit of wives, rather than as part of a battle against the spread of Christianity. They say that social inequality and the rise of polygamy in the Iron Age world meant that there were few women available as potential partners for young, poor men. They explain that by raiding, young men would have been able to accumulate wealth and power quickly, and thus improve their chances of gaining wives. The researchers cite recent research that suggests that Yanomamo tribes in South America practice intervillage raiding in pursuit of wives for polygamous marriages. They also say that the graves of members of Viking

raiding parties belonged to young men rather than seasoned veterans. For more, go to "The Vikings in Ireland."

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/11/05/viking-raiders-were-only-trying-to-win-their-future-wives-hearts/>

11/4/16 - LEGENDARY MEDIEVAL WELL

UNCOVERED IN ENGLAND - RAINHILL, ENGLAND—

Discovery News reports that archaeologist Jamie Quartermaine of Historic England Heritage uncovered St. Anne's Well on private land in northwest England that had been buried by years of farming. "The fabric of the well is consistent with a medieval date," Quartermaine said. The structure, built of sandstone blocks and surrounded by a small, three-roomed structure to accommodate pilgrims, was associated with a nearby priory. Legend has it that the waters had healing powers, especially for eye and skin diseases, but there were also tales of a curse uttered by a sixteenth-century prior on the neighboring landowner. Pilgrims continued to travel to the well into the nineteenth century. They entered the shallow basin, descended two steps, and then submerged themselves in a four-foot-deep pool fed by the well below its floor. A stone conduit, now gone, carried away the overflow. Wooden edging will be placed around the well to protect it from farm machinery. To read about another discovery in northwest England, go to "Artifact: Silver Viking Coin."

<http://www.seeker.com/medieval-cursed-well-found-in-england-2075932607.html>

11/2/16 - NEW THOUGHTS ON THE ABERDEEN

BESTIARY - ABERDEEN, SCOTLAND—BBC News reports that high-definition images of a medieval illuminated manuscript that once belonged to Henry VIII have revealed previously unknown marks on its pages. Art historian Jane Geddes of the University of Aberdeen said that the marks in the margins of the Aberdeen Bestiary indicate that it had not been finished and "tidied up" by the monks who created it for a wealthy individual, as had been thought. Rather, the marks suggest that the book was part of a monastery library. Sketches have been found in the margins, and prick marks on many of the images may have been made when illustrations were transferred to another copy. Some of the marks on the pages provide a guide to pronunciation for reading aloud. And, there are dirty finger marks on the bottom corners of the pages from turning them, and finger marks on the top center margins, perhaps made when turning the book around to show the illustrations to listeners. It is now thought that the manuscript could have been seized by Henry VIII during the dissolution of the monasteries between 1536 and 1541, rather than created for one of his ancestors. To read about one of Henry VIII's warships, go to "Mary Rose and Vasa." <http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-37848382>



Gift to Bergental filled with their awards

Pension of Aelfgiva of the Hazel Thicket

Dorigen and Eloise, by Grace of Their Majesties of the East Baron and Baroness Beyond the Mountain and Overlords of Ravenhill to all to whom these presents shall come, give good greeting upon this feast of saint Lucius, anno societatis LI.

Wherefore it is known to all that in charity and filial devotion we have previously granted unto our well beloved Aelfgiva of the Hazel Thicket the rights of agistment and pannage in that certain forest of Tunxis. And in recognition and gratitude for her further service we do permit her to assart and put into cultivation ten or twelve acres of that forest which is within the messuage of Hartland, as we learned by inquisition that it would be small damage to the baron and baroness if we should grant to Aelfgiva permission to assart and cultivate ten or twelve acres of the said wood and to hold it assarted and in cultivation to her for so long as we hold these lands in the name of the king.

Pension of Lady Alexandra Krakkensdottir

To all those to whom these presents shall come, pay heed to the words of Dorigen and Eloise, baron and baroness Beyond the Mountain.

Know that we, in consideration of the good and loyal service given to us by the Lady Alexandra Krakkensdottir are moved to grant her that in the Forest of Nipmuck she should have herbage for five beasts, and should have one horse and five pigs quit of pannage in the said park, all logs and branches wind fallen, and the lop and top of all trees cut down, if not cut down for the use of the manor of Roseland there or sold for so long as we shall hold these lands of the king. Dated 3 December 51 Brion III.

*Congratulations
to the following gentles who
received their awards
at Yule:*

*Lady Carllein – Companion of the Holly
Sir Gelleys - Defender of the White Oak
Lady Sisuilē - Companion of the White Oak
Lady Aine – Defender of the White Oak &
Companion of the White Oak
Lady Bertana æt Bafanceaster –
Companion of the White Oak

Lady Gwenllian ferch Llewlllyn -
Companion of the Silver Wheel*



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Jane Brezzo
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