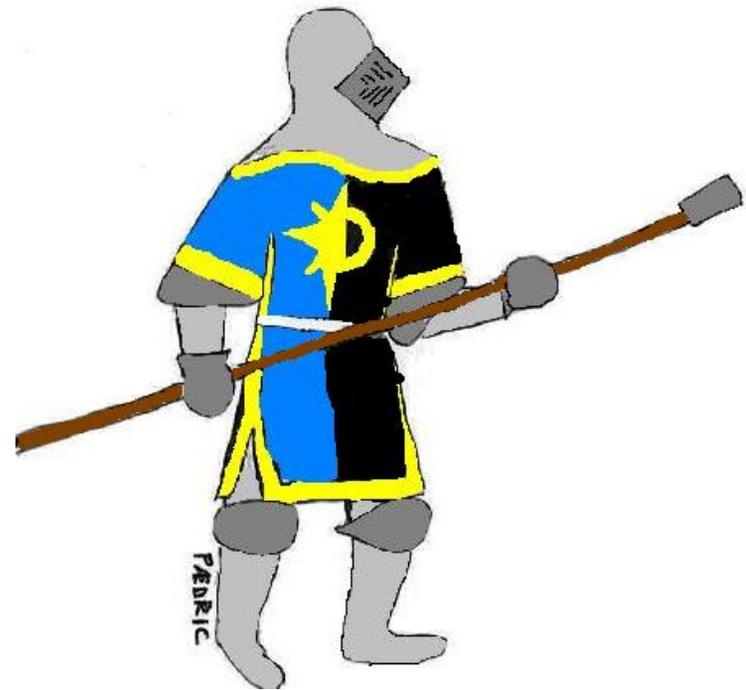


The Shadow Knows
c/o Pat Mullins
410 S Randolph St
Bryan, TX 77803

The Shadow Knows

July AS XLVI (AD 2011)



Newsletter for the Shire of the Shadowlands
The Capital of Ansteorra



Their Royal Majesties

Lochlan Dunn And
Gwen verch Cynwrig de Ynys Mon
crown@ansteorra.org

Officers of the Shire of the Shadowlands

Seneschal

Sir Rhodri ap Gwythyr
Paul Foster
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Herald

The Shire of the Shadowlands does not
Currently have a branch herald.
If you need assistance with heraldry please contact
the Orbis Herald (Southern Regional Herald) at:
southern@herald.ansteorra.org

Hospitaller

Vacant

Knight Marshal

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CAMA Advisor

Lady Catan ingen Michl
Kristin Denton
catan_ingen_michel@yahoo.com

Calendar of Events From the Kingdom Calendar)

July 2011 (A.S. XLVI)

1-3..... Out of Kingdom: Known World Dance Symposium - Mynydd Seren
(Bloomington, IN)
Out of Kingdom: Battlemoor II: Outlands 25th Year (29th - 4th) - Outlands
(Rye, CO)
8-10..... Crown Tournament - Adlersruhe/Bonwicke (Mobeeti, TX)
15-17..... King's Round Table – Steppes (Dallas, TX)
22-24..... Fiber Arts College (Off Calendar) –Rosenfeld(Tyler, TX)
29-31. Ansteorran Heraldic & Scribal Symposium - Bordermarch (Beaumont, TX)
Out of Kingdom: Pennsic XL

August 2011 (A.S. XLVI)

5-7 Out of Kingdom: Pennsic XL
12-14..... Out of Kingdom: Pennsic XL
19-21 Central Region Academy of the Rapier and Steppes Artisan –
Multi-Group Event (Athens, TX)
26-28..... OPEN

Populace Meetings

August 2, 2011 Location TBA
Sept 2011 Date, Time and Location TBA

Practices

Practice	Time	Location	Contact
Archery	Sun 3:00PM	Austin's Colony Park	Lord Ronald ronald_the_archer@yahoo.com
Chivalric	TBA	TBA	Felix Benny_wro@yahoo.com
Rapier	Thur 7:00PM	Bee Creek Park, C.S.	Lady Kolfinna kolfinnakyrii@yahoo.com

Guilds

Guild	Time	Location	Contact
Brewers	2 nd &4 th Wed 6:30	Catan's House	Lord Josef cj2308@yahoo.com
Blacksmithing	1 st Wed 6:30 PM	TBA	Lord Josef cj2308@yahoo.com
Cooking	3 rd Wed 7:00PM	Isabelot's House	HL Isabelot isabelotdeforens@gmail.com
Dance	TBA	TBA	TBA
Scribes	2 nd &4 th Mon 7:00	Kaitlyn's house	

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The Shadow Notes

Charter Painting Guild has been replaced for the summer with Open A&S Night every Monday Night at Kaitlyn and Rhodri's. Come paint charters, bring your current A&S project, work on armor or just hang out.

If you are fighting, practicing, or just hanging out in the heat this summer make sure to stay hydrated! Drink plenty of water or Gatorade, stay away from caffeinated or alcoholic drinks!

Open House at Texas A&M is coming up! This year it will be on SATURDAY, September 3, at Reed Arena. This is our main recruiting demo of the year, please plan to help in any way you can.

The Shire's summer project this year is to make a new, fabric cover for the Shire's carport pavilion, the frame for which was recently excavated from the depths of Bastian and Solange's garage. When completed we will have a free standing, movable pavilion which can be used for Open House and at the archery range.

Thanks and Credits

Cover – Shadowlands Fighter – Art by Lord Pædríc OMullan (Pat Mullins) – all rights reserved. The Shadow Reader – Reviews by Lord Pædríc OMullan (Pat Mullins) – all rights reserved. All items used with permission from the original creators.

Officer Reports

From the Seneschal

What about the SCA excites you? What are you passionate about? I encourage you to not wait for someone else to do something. Get involved and do what you enjoy doing. Whether it is dancing, bardic, leather working, fighting or whatever, get in there and start some action. If you really want to but don't know how, come talk with myself or Kaitlyn and we will be glad to assist you in getting started.

Rhodri

From the Treasurer

The May report has been filled out and only needs a signature before it is completed and sent off. Other than that, there has been little activity financially within the shire. Open house is approaching. No doubts we'll devote a little money toward flyers, water, or ice for the Demo. We're in the turn-over period for the TAMU Student Organization. Changing officers and getting everyone certified is crucial so we can get places for the open house and such.

-Kolfinna

From the Hospitaler

OFFICE VACANT

From the Knight's Marshal

Hey everyone, hope summer is going swell and that everything is not too hot. Fighter practice has decided to stay Sundays at Austin Colony Park and is at 5pm....sunday...Austin Colony...5pm...so I hope to see some more lovely faces to come out and play. Have a wonderful July and enjoy your day!

Felice

From the Rapier Marshal

Very low attendance this month. We averaged two and a half fighters per week. Those of us who show up had a great time. I've tried to contact fighters who are here during the summer (believe me, there's no shortage) to identify what it is about a practice they enjoy most. I'm trying to make the practices appealing to the fighters--remember these practices are about you. So, come out and have fun, or let me know what you'd like to see at practice. I'm still trying to identify if there is someone interested in taking up the Marshal position. Contact me if you are that someone.

-Kofirna

From the Archery Marshal

Greetings Shadowlanders,

We had a good turnout for archery on Shire Activity Day with 12 archers participating. Several shire members took the opportunity to try archery for the first time. I believe all participants had a good time and hope to see you all at the shire's regular archery practices. Speaking of archery practice, for the month of June, we had an average attendance of 4 archers.

For the summer, archery practice is Sundays, 5 - 7 PM, at the archery range in Austin 's Colony Park . Newcomers and novices welcome. Loaner equipment will be available. Watch the list for updates!

Ronald fitz Robert

From the Minister of Arts and Sciences

Greetings from your Minister of Arts and Sciences! Let me start by reminding you of a few things we have discussed regarding A&S activities over the summer. Cooking guild will continue so long as there is interest and those willing to cook as will brewing, so for those staying in college station over the summer free up your Wednesday nights. Also charter painting on Mondays will continue as more of an open A&S night so bring any projects you have to work on and enjoy great company while working on them.

We are still trying to get dance practice back up and running so if anybody could find a place possibly for next school year please let me know so it

can be arranged as early as possible to ensure a convenient time for everybody.

Enjoy your summer everybody!!!

Lady Caitlin Labouche

From the Chronicler

Well, I'm still here. As far as I know no one has applied for the office of Chronicler, so I am still it, at least for another 6 months. If you are interested in taking over at the beginning of next year, let me know and I will help you get started.

Thanks to the officers who submitted reports for publication this month. As always, a big thank you to Ronald fitz Robert for doing the printing!

Rædric

From the Historian

In June of that year the Shire had an Activities Day with Archery, dancing, bardic, and a revel. A good time was had by all.

Rædric

From the Web Minister

You can visit the Shire web page at: <http://shadowlands.ansteorra.org/>
If there is any information you would like to see added or updated, or anything you feel should be removed, please contact the Web Minister at: vs.shadowlands@gmail.com

Useful Websites for Newcomers

<http://sca.org/> - SCA Inc. web page
<http://ansteorra.org/> - The Texas/Oklahoma Kingdom web page
<http://shadowlands.ansteorra.org/> - the Bryan/College Station chapter web page
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/shadowlandssca/> - the Shire email list used for discussion, announcements, and activity planning

This Month in the Middle Ages – July

1. In 1097 – Battle of Dorylaeum: Crusaders led by Prince Bohemond of Taranto defeat a Seljuk army led by Sultan Kilij Arslan I.
2. In 1187 HORNS OF HATTIN (Defeat of the Kingdom of Jerusalem by Saladin)
3. In 324 – Battle of Adrianople Constantine I defeats Licinius, who flees to Byzantium.
4. In 1054 brightest known super-nova starts shining, for 23 days.
5. In 1295 – Scotland and France form an alliance, the so-called "Auld Alliance", against England.
6. In 1274 Greek Orthodox and Roman Catholic faiths unite, for only 7 years
7. In 0739 Death of St. Willibald, first known Englishman to visit the Holy Land
8. In 1283 – War of the Sicilian Vespers: the naval Battle of Malta between the Aragonese and the Neapolitan fleets is fought.
9. In 1553 SIEVERSHAUSEN (Maurice of Saxony defeats Albert of Brandenburg); Maurice of Saxony fatally wounded
10. In 1547 A duel was fought at Saint Germain-en-Laye, between Francois de Vivonne, and the Lord of Jarnac, Guy de Chabot. From this duel comes the fencing term of the "coup de Jarnac" or leg cut.
11. In 1433 Henry VIII, King of England is excommunicated by Pope Clement VII
12. In 1543 Henry VIII marries Catharine Parr (his 6th & last wife).
13. In 1558 GRAVELINES (in France, Spanish forces led by Count Lamoral of Egmont defeat the French forces of Marshal Paul de Thermes at Gravelines.)
14. In 1099 Mining begins under the walls of Jerusalem (1st Crusade)
15. In 1189 Elanor of Aquitane, Queen of England, released from her husband's prison
16. In 1498 Legation of Machiavelli to Caterina Sforza, the Countess of Imola and Forti
17. In 1245 Excommunication and deposition of Fredrick II, Holy Roman Emperor
18. In 1290 A treaty safeguarding liberties of Scots against the English
19. In 1333 HALIDON HILL (The English win a decisive victory over the Scots in the Wars of Scottish Independence)
20. In 1247 The Ka-Khan of the Mongols demands homage of the Pope
21. In 1588 Sir Francis Drake and the English first meet the Armada
22. In 1484 LOCHMABEN FAIR (A 500-man raiding party led by Alexander Stewart, Duke of Albany and James Douglas, 9th Earl of Douglas are defeated by Scots forces loyal to Albany's brother James III of Scotland; Douglas is captured.)
23. In 1540 Beheading of Thomas Cromwell
24. In 0478 Death of St. Lupus, who turned Attila from Troyes, France
25. In 1593 Henry IV, Protestant King of France, becomes a Catholic: "Paris is worth a Mass!"
26. In 1581 the Plakkaat van Verlatinghe (Act of Abjuration): the northern Low Countries declare their independence from the Spanish king, Philip II.
27. In 1214 BOUVINES (Otto of Brunswick, Holy Roman Emperor, defeated by Phillip Augustus, King of France)
28. In 1364 CASCINA (Troops of the Republic of Pisa and of the Republic of Florence clash)
29. In 1030 : STIKLESTAD (King Olaf II fights and dies trying to regain his Norwegian throne from the Danes).
30. In 1371 Massacre of the Compagnia del Bruco in Florence, Italy
31. In 0904 Moslems sack Thessalonica

The Shadow Reader

By Lord Pædric O'Mullan

Title - *The Death of a King*
Author - P.C. Doherty
Publisher - St. Martin's Press

The Death of a King is the fictional story of an investigation into the death of King Edward II of England. It tells of the investigation of one Edmund Beche, a chancery clerk, ordered by King Edward III to determine the truth about his father's death.

Edward II was the son and heir of King Edward I. He reigned from his father's death in 1307 until 1327, when he was deposed by his wife, Queen Isabella, (called the She-Wolf of France) and her lover, Roger Mortimer. Edward was not a wise king, or a good ruler. He was not much liked by the people of England. Due to his sexual preferences there is some question as to whether he was even the father of Edward III. While it is impossible that Edward III's father was William Wallace, it may well have been Roger Mortimer or someone else. But I digress.

After being deposed, Edward II spent some time in prison, where he died. There has always been some question about the facts surrounding Edward II's death. Did he die of a fall? That was the official story at the time. Did he have a red-hot poker shoved up his... um, inserted into his body in such a way as to leave no visible mark on the corpse? That was widely rumored at the time.

Edmund Beche, in *The Death of a King*, travels across much of England, from Gloucester, where Edward II's body lies to this day, to London, to King's Lynn, where the old Queen is comfortably confined, to France and even Rome in search of the truth. Along the way he comes to wonder whether Edward III really wants him to learn the truth. After a great deal of investigating, and some further digging, Edmund eventually does figure out what really happened to Edward II (at least for the purpose of the story.) His discoveries are ... surprising.

The Death of a King is written as a series of letters, mostly from the clerk Edmund Beche to his friend, Richard Bliton, Prior of Croyland Abbey. The letters are written to provide a record should anything untoward happen to Beche during his investigations.

Published in 1985, *The Death of a King* was the first effort at historical fiction by P.C. Doherty, who holds a doctorate in history from Oxford University, where his thesis was on the relationship between Edward II and Isabella. He has since gone on to write several stand-alone medieval mysteries, and several series, such as the Hugh Corbett Medieval Mysteries, and the Canterbury Tales of Mystery and Murder. I recommend them all.

The Shadow Reader

By Lord Pædric O'Mullan

Title - *Dissolution*
Author - CJ Sansom
Publisher - Penguin

Dissolution is a tale of murder and mystery set in England during the reign of Henry VIII. More specifically, it is set in the late 1530s when the Church of England has but recently been established and the monasteries of England are being dissolved, their wealth and properties being claimed for the royal coffers.

Matthew Shardlake is a barrister in the service of Thomas Cromwell, the King's Vicar General. He is sent, with his clerk, Mark Poer, to the Monastery of St. Donatus, in Scarnsea, Sussex, to investigate the murder of a royal commissioner, himself sent to examine irregularities in the administration of the monastery. When Shardlake and Poer arrive they find evidence of embezzlement and treason, smuggling and sexual misconduct, but little which might lead them to the identity of the killer. Upon further investigation, they find evidence of financial improprieties, and an extra dead body. Further, people are still being killed, and it looks like Master Shardlake might be one of the intended victims. The difficulty in identifying the murderer, or murderers, is not in finding a suspect, but in narrowing down the long list of potential killers. Is it the Prior, a strict disciplinarian who seems to support the reformist cause? The burser, who may be selling monastic lands for far less than they are worth? The infirmarian, a Spanish Morisco with extensive knowledge of medicaments and herbs, both curative and toxic? The infirmarian's assistant, a young woman of no family surrounded by supposedly celibate men? The Carthusian monk, sent to Scarnsea after the rest of his brothers were executed for refusing the King's oath of allegiance?

Dissolution is CJ Sansom's first novel, and it is not quite as well written as some of his later efforts. But the story with its complex twists and turns is well thought out, and the historical detail is excellent. Sansom includes a map of the Monastery of St. Donatus on the front and back flyleaves, which helps keep track of the action going on all around the monastery. He also adds a historical note at the end which helps put the novel in its proper historical context.

Dissolution is a complex and compelling, if a little roughly written, tale of a little known time in Tudor England. The first book in the Matthew Shardlake Tudor Mystery series, I highly recommend it as well as the books that follow it.