

The Fourth Australian Medieval

Easter MCMLXXXVII



CONVENTION

An information
booklet.

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A BRIEF INTRODUCTION.

It takes organizing an event on this scale for one to appreciate just what a brief introduction means!

David Sanders
On behalf of 1066
and the Convention Committee.



THANKYOUS

Especial thanks to Anne Davey for the Mountain of Work she conquered, whilst the rest of us got lost in the foothills.

And to the Marshalls, Beverly and Barry for their beautiful sight and even a mountain!

To Roland Dunkerly for the cartage over hill and past all wells of the Tasmanian Rovers.

And to all our comrades from the beautiful land of New South Wales, from charming little Victoria, from South Australia (home of wine and crows), the perplexing City of Canberra (where the Queen sits sometimes...I hear), yet lastly and certainly not leastly our siblings from the Shakey Isles, New Zealand, the warmest of thanks for your support of this IVTH AUSTRALIAN MEDIEVAL CONVENTION.

WELCOME.

FRIDAY.

11a.m. Arrive and register.

Noon 'til 1p.m. Lunch.

1p.m. 'til 2p.m. Free time to explore the grounds and settle in.

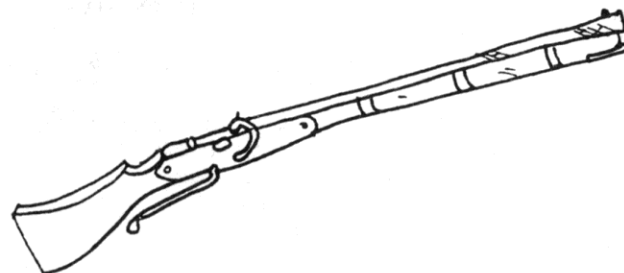
2p.m. 'til 4p.m. Dance Workshop conducted by the **Early Dance Consort.** Individual combats.

4p.m. 'til 5.30p.m. Medieval games and activities.

6p.m. 'til 7p.m. Dinner.

7.30p.m. Video Night.

If you are lost or confused as to events or locales just look for the red and white ribboned folk, who will resolve your most perplexing queries.



A NOTE ON HAND GONNES. Owing to the danger of such devices, practice at such an art MUST only be undertaken after informing a Convention Committee member and a clearance given. The same range rules as laid down for the archery will apply, most importantly to wit, compliance with the directions issued by the range marshal.

SATURDAY.

8a.m. 'til 9a.m. Break your fast.

9a.m. 'til 10a.m. ARCHERY TRIALS.

10a.m. 'til 11.30a.m. Lecture conducted by the
Caligraphy Society.

11.30a.m. 'til 1p.m. **Combats.** DARK AGES.

1p.m. 'til 2p.m. Lunch.

2p.m. 'til 5.30p.m. **Combats.** MIDDLE AGES.

6p.m. 'til 7p.m. Dinner.

8p.m. **Althing** and Bonfire atop the Mountain.

The ALTHING is the Conventioneer's forum for all issues, questions and suggestions pertaining to the interaction 'twixt the various Societies across Australasia. One of the major concerns of the ALTHING is to decide which Society will host the next Convention.

SUNDAY.

8a.m. 'til 9a.m. Brekky.

10a.m. 'til 11a.m. Lectures. To be advised.

11a.m. 'til Noon. Lecture on costumes conducted by
CYNTHIA HARRIS.

Noon 'til 1p.m. Lunch.

1.30p.m. 'til 3p.m. CRAFT MARKET.

3p.m. 'til 5p.m. Medieval games and activities.

Finals of the Archery.

7p.m. **The Feast.**

Meanwhile, on Lindisfarne,...



WAITER, THERE'S A VIKING IN MY SOUP!

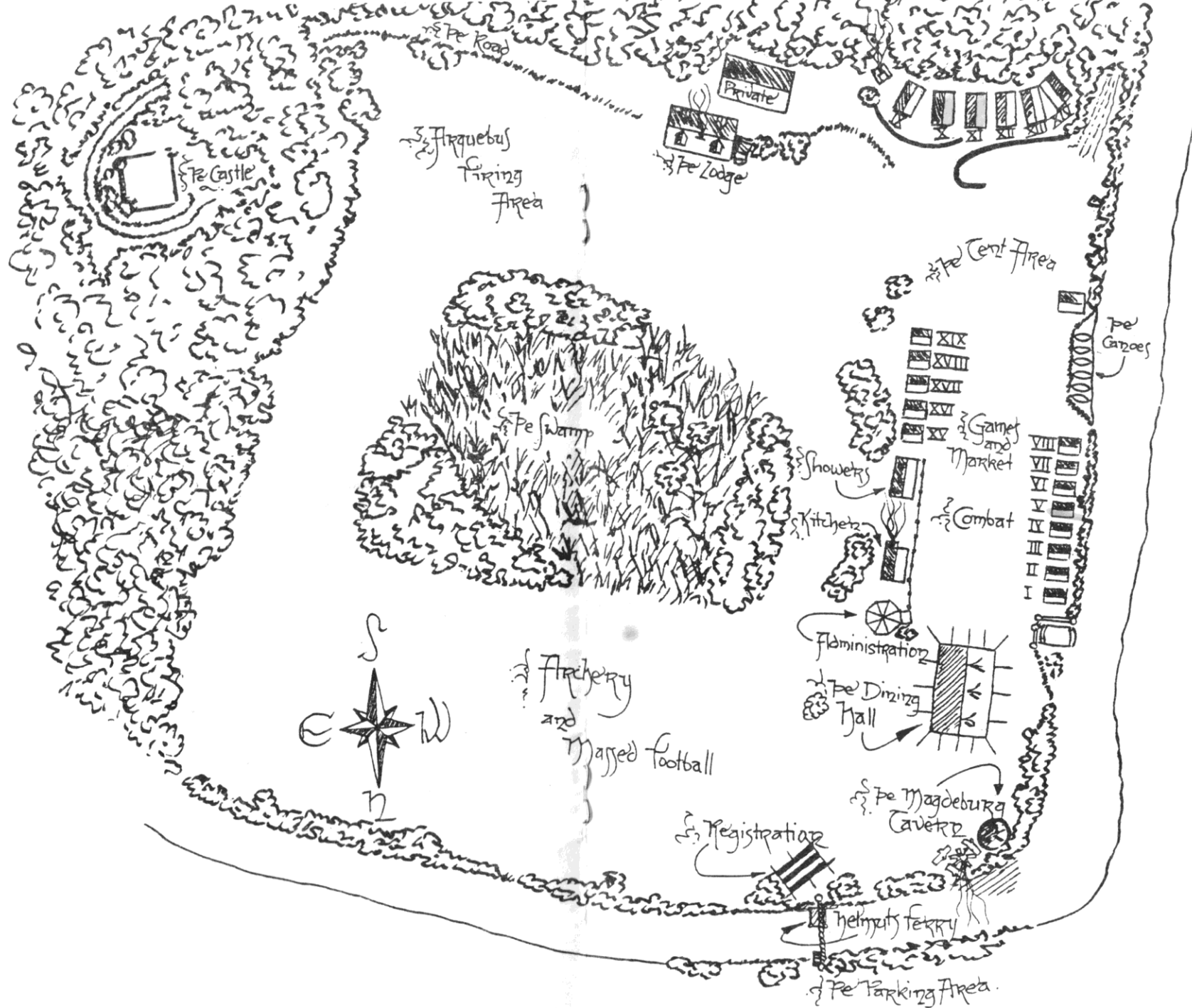
MONDAY.

8a.m. 'til 9a.m. Breakfast.

9a.m. 'til Noon. Free time.

Noon 'til 1p.m. Lunch.

1p.m. DEPARTURE.



The Gentle Art of Mass Football.

Originally played between the town gates of opposing teams, Mass Football was neither gentle nor an art. Teams consisted of as many folk the Ham could muster. Age, sex or status was no bar to entry. The game was played with a tough skin ball stuffed with beans. This hard shapeless lump was taken to a point generally agreed on to be a mid point, some sign given as to a start and then the first team to get the ball into the opposition goal mouth (the town gates) was declared the winner.

There were no other rules than those concerning the start and the scoring. Players frequently carried cudgels, knives and all manner of weapons into the game and death and injury were common enough visitors to the players. Of course nowadays football deaths, stabbings and injuries emanate from the crowded terraces, but one can see from the passions unleashed in the English Football Mob just what passions must have been unleashed in the mob of the ancient English football game!

The game we will be playing will be closely akin to this ancient game, the exception to the older game being these. We will be playing in a loosely defined field, we shan't bring weapons into the game and we'll try not to hurt people too much.

So when you hear the call go out for the Mass Football Game, do join in. Even if you just run around the rucks avoiding the ball and hollering for your champions, you'll still be continuing a great sporting tradition that began when the world was still young.

Raymond Walsh.



GENERAL COMBAT RULES FOR MELEES.

i) You must have signed the indemnity form before commencing any combat.

ii) Every combatant has the right to refuse enter or continue any combat for any reason whatsoever.

iii) All combat is voluntary.

iv) **NO PERSON IS TO FIGHT IF:**

iva) Under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

ivb) Harboursing the intention to injure maim or kill.

ivc) Not wearing a helmet and gauntlet.

v) No combatant is to deliver a blow they cannot pull.

vi) No head blows in the melee situation. No stabs to the head, neck or face, under any circumstances.

vii) No blows to the kneecaps or below.

viii) Any legitimate blow upon the torso shall be deemed a death blow, depending on the type of armour worn and that of the weapon used.

ix) Any legitimate blow upon a limb shall be deemed an incapacity of said limb, depending type of armour worn and the weapon employed.

x) If you are killed in combat, fall upon the earth, lie relatively still and don't get up 'til the combat has ended.

xi) Disputes arising from combats should be resolved off the field.

xii) All equipment to be checked prior to melee to ensure said equipage is free of burrs sharp edges or loose fittings.

xiii) No deliberate breaking or damaging of others equipment.

NOTE: THESE RULES ARE PROVISIONAL AND SUBJECT DISCUSSION AT THE MARSHALS MEETING.

ARCHERY.

The Archery Competition will be held over two days, Saturday and Sunday. Saturday's meet will be to select through a trial of bowmen, the Five Archers to compete for the prize to be given to the winner of Sunday's meet.

The Archery Contest will be held over two days,

Contestants shall be admitted to the trial by giving their names to the marshal. Contestants will shoot in the order of their names as told to the marshal.

All contestants, on pain of disqualification, will comply with the directions they will be given by the marshal in the course of the contest.

None may go forward of the mark unless told to by the marshal.

None shall point their arrow anywhere but towards the target.

One will cease to shoot when told and may only shoot when instructed to, in both these and in all cases relating to the Contest, the marshal's word is final.

Any dispute with the marshal will receive swift arbitration.

Contestants enter this Contest in accordance with the above stated principles.
Outside of contest times, before you practice with bow, inform a Committee member so as you may be kept out of harms way.
PLEASE.

ALL BOWS IN THE CONTEST MUST BE BARE, THAT IS WITHOUT THINGERMEGIGS ALL OVER THEM.

CONVENTION CLASSIFIEDS.

CONVENTION T-SHIRTS. Yes, your chance to obtain another soon to be collectors item! These superb garments were designed by none other than Sean Powe.

AT ONLY \$9 each and available at the admin tent, these hot little numbers will sell fast.

LOST? Cock an eye out for the folk with the red'n'white ribbons, they'll fix you up.

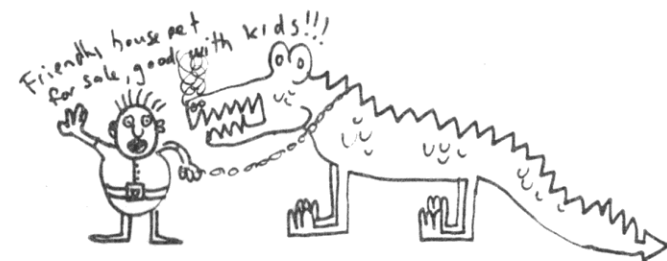


THIRSTY? Try a guzzle or three at the New Magdeburg Tavern. Cheap grog at even cheaper prices. Served by your lovely barmaid, Erica.

Behind the Marquee, down by the river.

USED ARCHERY TARGETS. Take a piece of glory home! Going at a pittance, only \$15.

CRAFT MARKET. Sell your wares to an eager and wealthy clientele. Or swap, barter and haggle with the less fortunate. Spare alms for the beggar, have your fortune told! SUNDAY 1.30p.m. until about 3p.m.



SOCIETIES CONTACT LIST.

ANCIENT & MEDIEVAL MARTIAL ARTS SOCIETY. Peter
& Cynthia Harris. [REDACTED]
New South Wales [REDACTED].

ANCIENT ARTS FELLOWSHIP. Greg House

c/- [REDACTED]

2615 (062) [REDACTED]

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY MEDIEVAL HISTORICAL
RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY. Brett Truckworthy.
[REDACTED] Rd, [REDACTED] City of Parramatta
New South Wales 2152 (02) [REDACTED]

MEDIEVAL MARTIAL ARTS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN
SYDNEY. [REDACTED] 221 [REDACTED] Rd, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New South Wales [REDACTED] (02) [REDACTED]

NEW ENGLAND MEDIEVAL MARTIAL ARTS SOCIETY. Richard
Robinson. 5 [REDACTED] Ave, [REDACTED] New South Wales
(067) [REDACTED]

THE NEW VARANGIAN GUARD. Michael Docherty
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

(03) 021-0000

THE NEW VARANGIAN GUARD KATOOMBA GARRISON
Mountains: [REDACTED]

Katoomba New South Wales 2100 [REDACTED]
City: Andrew Brew. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

PIKE & MUSKET SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

Pierre. 30 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] New South
Wales 2000 (02) 95 0100.

SCIMITAR & SWORD. Graham Billings. [REDACTED]
New Zealand (0650) [REDACTED]

TASMANIAN VIKING SOCIETY. [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] Tasmania 7005.

1066 THE MEDIEVAL SOCIETY. [REDACTED]
City of Parramatta New South Wales 2150
(02) 6 [REDACTED]

VIKING RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Keith Baker. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
South Australia 5113 (08) [REDACTED]