

Sixth Australian Medieval Conference

A report from the Conference Committee

The third meeting of the Conference Committee was held at the Conference Site on 19 January 1991. Representatives from Dryhtenfyrd, MARS and the caterers attended.

The opportunity was taken to review the menu and a few dishes were removed or changed because they weren't authentic enough. Provision has been made for vegetarians

attending. The programme was also reviewed and the site layout was agreed on.

The programme will include:

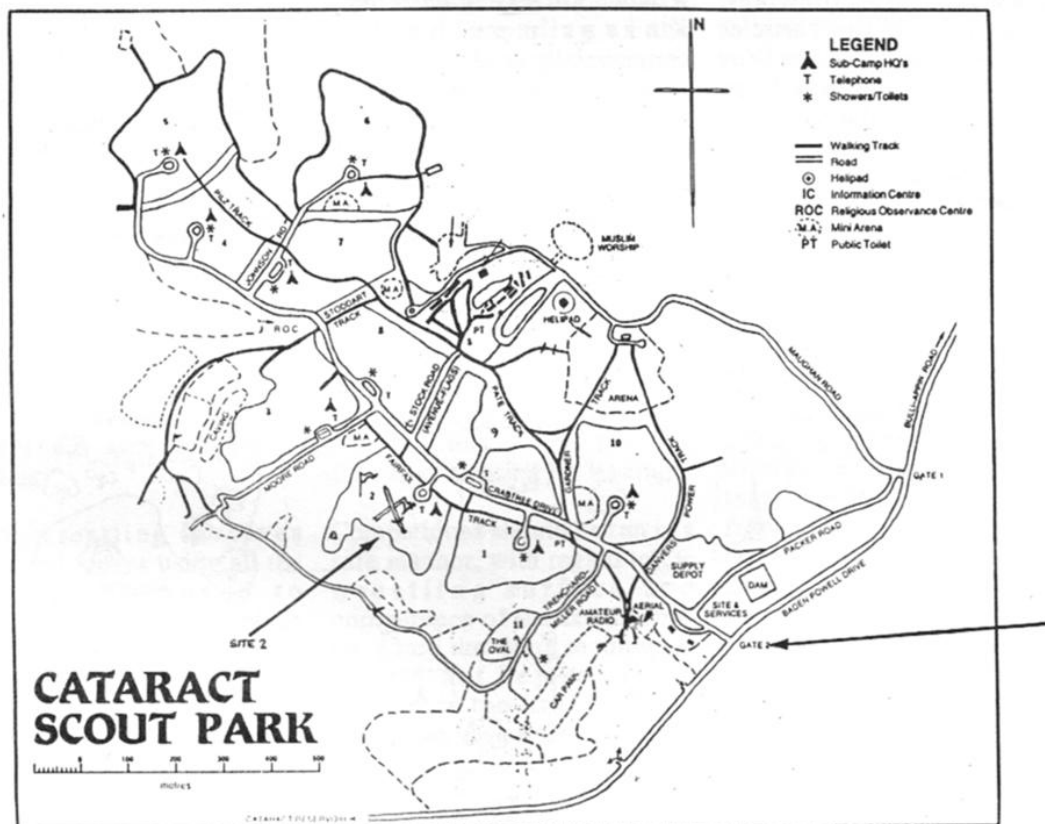
Lectures on Women in the Dark Ages, The transition from the Roman to the Medieval World, Medieval Reenactment and the practicing Archeologist, Military Architecture, The Current and Future Direction of the Movement, Presentation of

Period Music, Drawing of the Longbow; Myth and reality plus at least two others.

A Women Warrior's forum.

Formal combat, bridge battles, possibly a fort battle, Tourney style fighting during the market and informal combat during the **ENTIRE** weekend.

Archery, Costuming, Weapon throwing, Most Virulent



Use Gate 2 to enter the Park and follow the RBD arrows to Site 2.

Curse/Insult, Brewing, Armour and weapon making and Bardic competitions will be held, the Armour and Weaponmaking being one competition with two prizes, one for advanced level and professionals and the other for beginners and amateurs. The final decision will be left to the judges, however we feel that authentic pieces will have a distinct advantage; if your entry is unusual it will stand a better chance if you also supply references. All the competition will be judged on Saturday 30 March.

There will be medieval games such as Ring the Bull, a Chess tournament using medieval rules, Nine Man's Morris etc. running at various times and a Speed and Accuracy contest between the archers and gunners.

We are now looking for artists, photographers and advertisers. We want cartoons, drawings, photographs and short articles for the conference booklet. You may retain your copyright on your own work. Advertisements are welcome and will attract a small charge to help cover printing costs.

The Conference fee is now \$150 until 16 March 1991 when it will go up to \$200. If you feel you are impoverished but still want to go then get in touch with me. If your group feels that these prices are excessive, then why not host the next conference in 1993? (*Well said - ed.*)

Day tickets cover all the activities of that day and include all meals. Prices are as follows:

Friday, Sunday, Monday \$45
Saturday (includes fair and Banquet) \$55

Archery Requirements - A recurve or longbow of any construction, six wooden feather fletched arrows. State Law and site regulations effectively ban crossbows.

Six arrows will be shot at each target from 20 metres. The targets will be based on authentic originals.

Knife and Axe Throwing - Knives may be any commercially available or home made throwing knife, axes may be any single handed style. Each contestant has nine throws (in three groups of three) at a target from three, five and

seven metres. The point of the knife or axe must land wholly within the target area to get those points.

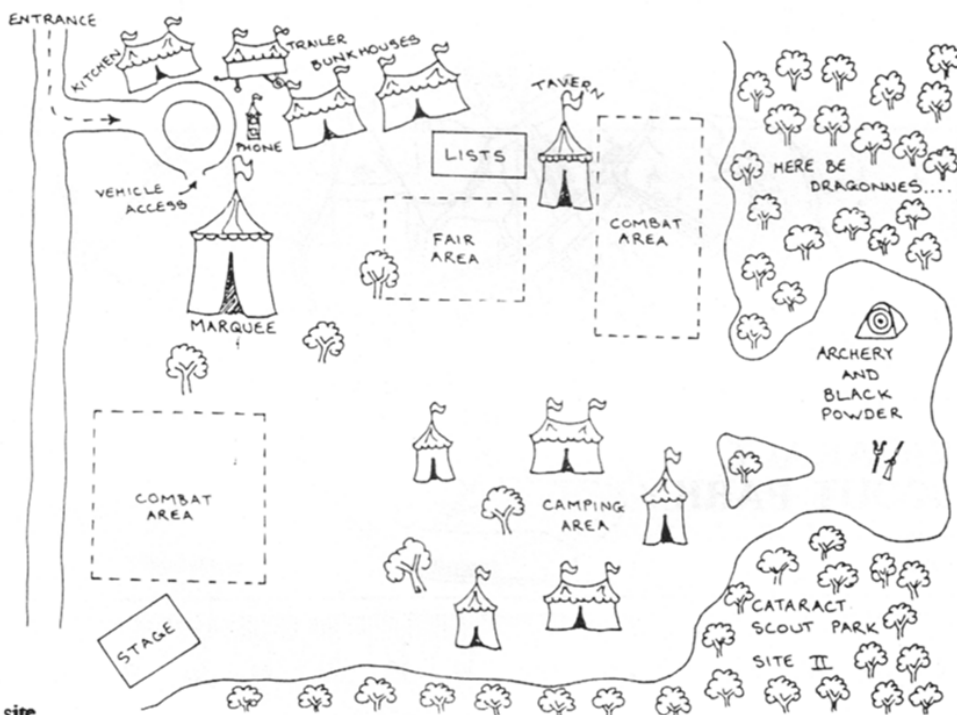
Costuming, Brewing, Armour and Weaponmaking and other practical competitions will be judged by a group of judges appointed for that purpose. The Bardic and Insult/Curse competitions will be judged at the main banquet by public acclamation.

Getting There:

Follow the map to Appin, take the Appin - Wollongong Road and follow the **RED** arrows to the site. If you are coming from the South, turn off the F5 at the Picton - Wollongong Road, from the north, or west, go through Cambeltown. If you are coming through southern Sydney or Wollongong take the Picton turn-off from the Princes Highway.

See you at Cataract on March 29,

Wayne Robinson
Conference Committee.



The camp site.