

# D U C T U S

Newsletter of the Royal College & Confraternity of Scribes & Illuminators of the  
Kingdom of Lochac

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Greetings all and welcome to the latest issue of Ductus.

Having taken on the roll of Provost of Scribes in May this year, I wanted to introduce myself and start getting the newsletter of the College of Scribes up and running again.

Over the last few months changes have gradually been occurring in the College of Scribes. We now have a team of people who are involved in building the college and updating it. This team includes;

Caristiona nic Beathain- Provost of Scribes

Keridwen the Mouse- Upper Warden

Aeron Lasaire- Verger

Maeve Iasachta- Verger

A number of other people over the last few months have also contributed to the gradual process of updating the College that we are going through, particularly including Giles Laval and Yseult de Lacy. The newest person to help with the administration side of the College is Jehan de Benne, who will be helping to put the Scribes database up onto the internet; to make it easier to update, access and get reports from.

There are also a number of Warden changes. The Wardens for Scribes are now;

Aneala - Branwen of Werchesvorde

Crescent Isles- Svartr Ormsson

North (Riverhaven and St Florian de la Riviere)- Katherine Alicia of Sarum (Kim Maynard)

Politarchoyopolis- Leonie de Grey (Annette Wilson)

Rowany- Maeve ni Iasachta

Stormhold- Thorfinn Hrolfsson (Steve Roylance)

Other Local Contacts

Agaricus- Marit the Wanderer

Thank you to all these people for offering their services and helping out as I have been getting started as Provost.

There are lots of changes happening in Scribes Guild at the moment. One of these is the re-introduction of this newsletter. Over the next few months as the database is fully updated I hope to be able to let everyone know what rank they have achieved in the Scribes Guild due to scrolls completed. I also hope to let everyone know what the actual state of our Backlog is. However until the database has been thoroughly updated I am unable to give these details with much accuracy. Instead I intend to let you know what the College has achieved over the last seven months.

## **Crescent Isles AOA's**

Due to some confusion over the process of obtaining AOA scrolls for the Crescent Isles when it was part of Caid, no completed AOA scrolls had been given out. Lochac was asked if they wanted to take over this backlog and produce AOA scrolls for the members of the Crescent Isles. For those who had registered their name and device, these scrolls have now mostly been completed. The scrolls were designed by Caristiona nic Bethain, Aeron Lasair and Keridwen the Mouse. These three people and Maeve Iasachta contributed to the calligraphy and illumination. Keridwen the Mouse and Maeve Iasachta are still working on this project, as there are a few more scrolls to be completed for those who have received an AOA as part of a Caid Kingdom award.

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## **Completed Scrolls**

When I took over as Provost there were a large number of scrolls sitting in the files, some of these had been in the files for many years. Many of these have now been delivered to their recipients. There are still many scrolls to find homes for, and in the next issue of Ductus I will put out a list of all of the scrolls still in the files, to see if local scribes can help with contact details for these people.

## **Instant AOA's**

Recently the question of how Instant AOAs impact the College has been reopened. It seems that many of the scribes are against them, although there are a small number of scribes who are very happy with the current system. Regardless of where we go from here, a priority must be to reduce the gradually increasing backlog of scrolls that has accumulated, particularly over the last five to six years. In 2004 the backlog was around 106 scrolls. At current count, without the database being fully updated, the backlog is well over 200 now.

Regardless of where we go in the future with Instant AOAs, a way needs to be found to stop this rapidly escalating back log. We are still in the process of consulting with the scribes to figure out the best way to do this. The long term process will include consulting SCA Lochac members through local lists and Pegasus. I hope that the discussion about how to deal with this will continue on the scribes list and at Festival in 2010.

## **Kingdom AOA blanks**

Many of the old principality blanks have been altered to become Kingdom of Lochac blanks. The original intention was to produce new blanks but it was seen as faster and more effective to alter the current existing blanks to become Kingdom blanks. This has now been completed thanks to Mistress Yseult de Lacy. These blanks are now being given out to anyone who is assigned a Kingdom AOA to complete.

## **Website**

As some of you may have noticed the website is gradually being updated. I hope that this process will continue over the next few months.

Changes that have occurred on the website so far include the updating of contact details for College members.

Changes I would like to see soon include putting up photos of recently completed work by College members. I would like to put up photos of any scrolls done in the last year so that people can see the scribes activity. For this reason I would like to obtain permission from all the scribes to photograph and display their work as it comes into the college. If anyone does not wish to have their work displayed, then their wishes will be respected.

We are currently in the process of putting the Scribes handbook up onto the website in a series of PDFs. I hope to have this completed by the end of December. Once this has occurred the Scribes Handbook will go through a process of being updated to include Kingdom AOAs, Principality AOAs and some of the new AOA scrolls that have been developed since the last version of the handbook was written.

## **Newsletter**

I hope you have enjoyed the new newsletter. I would like to have an issue out every quarter, and to encourage members of the scribes guild to contribute articles. The newsletter will stay an e-newsletter, and will be sent out to those who are on the Scribes list and members of the guild who provide an e-mail address.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year  
Caristiona nic Beathain  
Provost of Scribes

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