

Shire of Adora – Meeting

Tuesday 6th May – 7:00pm

Meeting commenced: 7:07 pm

Attendance: Maelgwn, Gwenhwyfar, Ælfred, Hrodebert, Aoife, Brian, Mathias, Micha, Arabella.

Apologies: Phalkon, Anders

Chairperson: Maelgwn (Warwick)

Minute-taker: Gwenhwyfar (Renee)

Item #1 – Acceptance of Previous Minutes:

Motion to accept previous minutes from the 1st April 2025.

Moved by: Ælfred

Seconded by: Hrodebert

Motion passed.

Item #2 – Ratifying Decisions Since Previous Meeting:

Approval to advertise Flametree Ball on Saturday 14th June with the proposed budget and pricing structure: \$30 adults, \$20 discount (musicians), \$15 minors 12 and over. Under 12s Free. No family rates. Non-member indemnity fees apply.

Hrodebert, Ælfred and Drystan all agreed via Adoran Officers group chat and email on 25th April.

Item #3 – Events and Activities:

Midrealms Meet-ups

Gwenhwyfar reports that the meet-up on April 2nd had 6 adults, and the one on April 30th had 9 adults. At the last meet-up she brought warm “Irish Tea Brack”, which is a loaf made from dried fruits soaked in tea and whisky, and enjoyed by all there.

Gwenhwyfar ran a group poll on Facebook to ask about possibly moving the time-slot half-an-hour later, to run from 6pm to 8pm; based on observations that many attendees consistently arrive later than 5:30. The result of the poll (as of today) was 7 votes to move the time later, and 2 votes to keep the current time.

In light of the majority opinion, Gwenhwyfar moves that the regular time for the Midrealms Meet-up at Wandandian be changed to 6pm-8pm. Micha seconded. All in favour, except for Mathias, who abstained from the vote.

Rowany Festival 2025 (April 16th – 22nd)

Brian says the Festival stewards have advertised next year's dates already. Gwenhwyfar says it was a very fun event with great weather, and congratulations to Maelgwn for being our Shire champion in the Fire Tourney. Maelgwn thanks the Adoran cheer squad for their support during the Fire Tourney. Adora had a very prominent procession on the war field. The new brazier worked incredibly well. Hrodebert said his first festival was "very entertaining".

Micha's Rapier Training & Archery Day (May 24th)

Hrodebert says he probably cannot get the targets from his storage shed. Micha says he has an archery target for the occasion, so there is no problem, and enough equipment for a couple of beginners. He hopes the weather will be good. There is now a dog present, which could be an issue. Maelgwn suggested tying the dog on a lead if it is able to jump the fence.

Sussex Viking Festival (June 7th)

Æthelflaed of the Wild Seas is the point of contact. (Not present). Contact her if you wish to be part of this demonstration/encampment. If you are part of the demo, the event is free; otherwise you need a ticket to attend.

Flame Tree Ball (June 14th)

Gwenhwyfar asks what discount rates will the shire authorise. Currently musicians are \$20. All agree that royalty shall be free. An additional discount rate of \$20 for the cooks was added to the proposal document.

Rhys Howitt (Cristoval) is running the kitchen, with assistance from Alys Dietsch, and says they can also provide food for lunch within the current budgeted rate of \$13 per head, so we will (in theory) not need to charge an additional fee for lunch. Gwenhwyfar recommends to our bookings officer (Maelgwn) that it might be best to ask in every booking if they intend to be there for lunch, so we can give an estimate of numbers to Cristoval.

The timetable structure was discussed, and the times set for the event. The heavy tourney will run concurrently with the dance practise. Times can now be advertised. Further details regarding the A&S competition will be posted on the webpage in due course.

Gwenhwyfar moves that the council accept the current proposal document "Flametree Ball Event Proposal 2025" (in DropBox). Maelgwn seconds. All in favour. Motion passed. Yay.

Adoran Walking Event

Anders not present. Carry over.

Cold War

Maelgwn has had one expression of interest in stewarding that event. Please let Maelgwn know if you are interested in being part of this. No proposed date yet.

Item #4 – Action Items from Previous Meeting:

#1. Purchase of materials and construction of Adoran Combat Arrows: clarify SCA rules regarding shaft materials. (Anders and Jochen)

CARRY OVER. Anders and Jochen not present. However, on this topic, Micha has a quote on 8mm Tasmanian oak, with very expensive shipping (over three hundred dollars). It would be \$3.56 for 2.4m lengths (giving, ideally, 3 shafts). \$484 total for 75 arrows.

Mathias adds that these lengths are not likely to get straight shafts. If you want minimal wastage, having a steam press to straighten them is a must. Normally due to imperfections you only get 1 or 2 arrows per shaft. He suggests we reach out to Kevin at Dismal Fogs – a very experienced archer who makes a lot of equipment, and knows lots of suppliers. It might cost more, but it may be worth contacting Abbey Archery (in Castle Hill) for pre-manufactured shafts (resulting in a total of \$5.50 - \$7.00 per complete combat blunt). Or Benson Archery in Granville. Or try online (e.g. Temu or Ali-Express) for a sample of cheaper items/materials. Mathias offers his help to Anders in this quest.

#2. Organise Adoran Walking Event: finalise approval of event proposal. (Anders)

CARRY OVER. Anders not present.

#3. Purchase moisture-absorbing sachets for shire fabric gear. (Gwenhwyfar)

DONE. Gwenhwyfar purchased these today from Bunnings, to go in Shire boxes for banners, tablecloths, and loaner garb. The reimbursement form is now in DropBox.

#4. Finish event bid for Flame Tree Ball, including budget. Plus advertise a “save the date” for June 14th in the meantime. (Maelgwn and Gwenhwyfar)

DONE. Event advertised via Lochac Announce on 27th April.

#5. Find a Fire Tourney champion. (Maelgwn)

DONE. It was Maelgwn! Huzzah!

#6. Finish off new banner poles. (Jochen)

DONE. Jochen delivered those directly to Festival.

#7. Coordinate officer succession for Chirurgeon and A&S Minister. (Maelgwn, Micha and Ælfred)

IN PROGRESS. Ælfred says he has handed over A&S officer now. Additionally, the new Kingdom A&S is now in place and catching up on email – Ælfred has not heard back from them yet. Ælfred will make an announcement on the Adoran mailing list, when the appointment is confirmed.

Maelgwn will assist in advertising for a successor for Chirurgeon.

#8. Edit “About the Shire” history webpage seneschal’s list (Ælfred)

DONE. The list of seneschals are now in chronological order, descending down the page.

#9. Rowany Festival – those attending please contact Phalkon if you have not yet done so. (All attendees)

DONE. We had a large, thriving campsite at Festival. Thank you, Phalkon.

#10. Commence process to find new Shire Seneschal. (Maelgwn)

IN PROGRESS. The process was commenced two weeks ago. Applications closed today. Tomorrow will move into commentary period.

#11. Offer retired shire gear to other branches. (Gwenhwyfar)

IN PROGRESS. The unwanted shire gear was not wanted by other branches, and is now listed on Facebook Marketplace. The black plastic utensils went to a local person, for free due to their low value. The other listings (glass pillar candle holders, white ceramic bowls, and assorted jugs) are still active, listed for a small but reasonable price. If they have not sold within the month, Gwenhwyfar will donate the items to Lifeline in Nowra.

In related news, Maelgwn found an old choofer that was gifted to Adora many years ago. Considering that we have not and do not use it, and our fire brazier is not suitable for properly utilising it, Maelgwn subsequently reached out to the Hamlet of Radburne to see if they want it. They said will happily take it, saying that this “strengthens the ties between Radburne and Adora”.

Mathias highly recommends visiting Radburne War (Aug 15-17) in Dubbo for an excellent event, and offers a lift to anyone who makes up to their place in St Marys. He recommends taking off the day before and after to make the journey more comfortable.

Item #5 – Officers’ Reports:

Seneschal (Acting) - Maelgwn

Not much to add. If people would like to be a part of Flametree Ball, contact Maelgwn or Gwenhwyfar. Regular fortnightly meet-ups are enjoyable, combining martial training and arts & sciences.

Reeve - Hrodebert

Hey Neighbour! Accounts are looking good, with the balance at \$15,455.12. Flametree Ball coming up and we are already taking bookings (three processed so far). He has approved reimbursements for brazier and the historian’s book.

Heavy Combat Marshal - Aodhán

Aodhan not present. Wollongong training is happening on the 17th May. Ælfred says he will bring his fencing gear to that.

Arts & Sciences Minister - Ælfred

The officer changeover is pretty much complete. There will be an A&S competition at Flametree Ball, with a gardening theme.

Webwright – Ælfred

A webpage has been created for Flametree Ball 2025, with updates still to come. There have been no other changes recently.

Rapier Marshal – Micha

There has been some fencing training recently, at the hall and at Festival. He is currently reading some fencing books, and Phalkon has expressed interest in fencing also, so Micha will be offering training to him. Also, the training day is coming up – he has swords for the purpose.

Micha is unsure of whereabouts of the other two Shire rapier swords – they need to be tracked down!

Chirurgion - Micha

No injuries reported within Adora. Has made some safety posts on the Adoran Facebook page.

Note that at Rowany Festival, Aodhan was injured on the warfield and was tended to by the Festival chirurgions. This falls under Rowany Festival Chirurgion's reports.

Captain of Archers - Anders

Anders not present.

Historian - Anders

Anders not present. He received the history book ordered online, and showed it to people at Festival. Gwenhwyfar says it is very pretty!

Quartermaster - Gwenhwyfar

Gwenhwyfar has continued to update the equipment spreadsheet, and has also spent more time re-organising and re-packing the shire gear into our plastic tubs, plus taking photographs. She has also created labels for the boxes, as well as contents lists. There may also be gear coming from St Malachy that we will need to make decisions about.

Does the Shire want to keep the three-way banner holder? Discuss this later.

Item #6 – General Business

Mathias reports that the Hearth household (formerly Asylum) are selling their old kitchen tent: at 6m x 6m PVC tent with a single wall. It is offered both to the group, and also to individuals privately, for \$600. Contact Mathias if you are interested, or if you know anyone else who is interested. Adora does not currently seem interested. Maelgwn offers Adora's thanks to the Hearth for the offer of purchasing their tent.

Mathias and Arabella were reflecting on St Malachy's steel rose tourney, and began thinking whether an Adoran champion could be decided in a similar manner, who would then fight at the Fire Tourney at Festival, for example. Arabella and Mathias were also considering that since Adora has two dragons on their heraldry, we could have two "dragons" as shire champions, one martial and one based in Arts & Sciences. Perhaps we could have a shoulder capelet for the perpetual champion(s) to wear and pass on. Possibly also a baldric to wear on the field. They suggested we could alternate around the years between heavy, rapier and archery champions. They also had the idea of giving a little dragon in an egg as an individual prizes to keep (as opposed to the perpetual regalia). Mathias says it could be awarded to someone who is being inspiring in these fields/activities, and serves as encouragement and promotion of the activity, not so much prowess in that activity.

Aoife echoed the concept that it would work better as a form of recognition, as opposed to imposing duties on the recipient to spend a year actively "championing" that field of endeavour.

Gwenhwyfar adds that being a small group, there are only few people to ever hold the position, and this may mean the same few people are champions over and over. She suggested this idea could be discussed further in a sub-committee.

Ælfred added that he is not personally too much of a fan of having A&S champions, as even at Kingdom level, so very few people enter or participate actively in A&S activities. Even for martial pursuits, we have such a small number of people who participate, in Adora.

Maelgwn supported the ideas under discussion, and considering that at previous meetings we also discussed the idea of awards and recognition within Adora – this should be a topic that we revisit and develop further as a group.

Date for next meeting: June at 7:00pm on Adoran Discord Channel – day yet to be determined, according to what is most convenient for the current officers and active members.

Meeting closed: 8:45 pm

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS:

Action Item	Person(s) Responsible	Due Date
1. Purchase of materials and construction of Adoran Combat Arrows: clarify SCA rules regarding shaft materials	Anders and Jochen	Next meeting
2. Organise Adoran Walking Event: finalise approval of event proposal	Anders and Maelgwn	When ready
3. Announce new A&S Minister	Ælfred	When ready
4. Coordinate officer succession for Chirurgeon	Maelgwn (and Micha)	ASAP
5. Finalise seneschal succession process	Maelgwn	As required
6. Sell or donate unwanted Shire gear	Gwenhwyfar	When able
7. Find the misplaced Shire Rapier swords	Micha, Gwenhwyfar, and everyone!	ASAP