



# QUID NUNC *Quarantine Edition*

The Official Newsletter of the Barony of Ruantallan

Oct. A.S LVI 13th Edition

## Feminine Perspective

**The Feminine Perspective:** By Isolda Fairamay

### The Heraean Games

The Tokyo 2020 Olympics will finally happen this summer after a year hiatus due to Covid 19. This will be a notable year for gender equality at the Olympic Games with almost 49 percent of the athletes being women, and it will be the first time a known transgender athlete will compete. The Olympic Games have come a long way since 1900, the first year women participated in the games.

When the Olympics began, dating way way back to 776 BC, women lacked legal and political rights, so were therefore banned from the games. How rude!

There was, however, the Heraean Games. Writings from the Greek geographer Pausanias talk of this group of athletic festivals for women only, held in honour of the Greek goddess Hera.

The Heraean Games took place every 4 years and



**THE GREEK GODDESS HERA.  
ROMAN COPY, ORIGINAL C.  
5TH CENTURY BC**

happened in the same stadium as the ancient Olympic Games, though it was limited to running sports. Only virgins were allowed to enter, but they were at least afforded knee-length tunics that covered the left shoulder and breast in which to compete as opposed to being completely nude like the men. Winners would be given a wreath of olive branches and a cow or ox meat that was sacrificed for Hera. It is surmised that these games began in the first few centuries AD, though there are no records to give us an accurate date. A lack of



**BRONZE FIGURE OF A RUNNING GIRL. GREECE C. 520-500 BC**

historical data for women? No surprise there. Here's hoping this year's Olympic Games news will cover all genders equally.

Sources:

- *Laurel Hubbard: First Transgender Athlete to Compete at Olympics*. June 21, 2021. BBC News. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-57549653>
- *Tokyo 2020 first ever gender-balanced Olympic Games in history, record number of female competitors at Paralympic Games*. March 8 2021. International Olympic Committee. <https://olympics.com/ioc/news/tokyo-2020-first-ever-gender-balanced-olympic-games-in-history-record-number-of-female-competitors-at-paralympic-games>
- *Women at the Olympic Games*. Topend Sports. <https://www.topendsports.com/events/summer/women.htm>
- *Ancient Heraean Games*. Health and Fitness History. <https://healthandfitnesshistory.com/historical-athletes/ancient-heraeen-games/>
- *Cynisca and the Heraean Games: The Female Athletes of Ancient Greece* by Shirsho Dasgupta. The Wire. <https://thewire.in/history/cynisca-and-the-heraeen-games-the-female-athletes-of-ancient-greece>
- Photo #1 source : <https://healthandfitnesshistory.com/historical-athletes/ancient-heraeen-games/>
- Photo #2 source: [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/G\\_1876-0510-1](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/G_1876-0510-1)



## June 2021 Grand Ruantallan Caravan

The Grand Ruantallan Caravan arrived on a Friday evening and began with a virtual Bardic circle where Dame Sarra Graham was host and performer. Her family shared some amazing old songs that we asked to be repeated when we gathered again. Many thanks to all who performed and all who came to listen.



**EDWIN LORD WEEKS, ARRIVAL OF A CARAVAN OUTSIDE THE CITY OF MOROCCO**

Edwin Lord Weeks - <http://www.filestube.com/6Gveb6balsdLxqLvPb4QJo/105-Old-India-in-Paintings-Wallpapers-Collection-zip.html>

The Grand Caravan began the next day. For Two days we had vendors scheduled on the hour to present their wares, answer questions, take sales orders, or contact Information for custom services. There was everything from silk saris, various garb, leatherwork, bead jewelry, and more.

A schedule of vendors and their wares was listed on the website so that participants could plan to be online for the sessions of their desire.

It was such a success and was well received by vendors and participants alike that it is requested that we repeat this event in the fall. We hope to have more vendor options.

Stay tuned for a fall return of the virtual Grand Ruantallan Caravan.

Hosted by Esperanza De Cordoba

**PHOTOS OF WEARS FROM  
CARAVAN**

**LEATHER BELT AND BELT BAG  
FROM LORD EDWIN THORN**

**NECKLACE EARRINGS AND VEIL  
PIN FROM ANNORA**

**TROLLEN WHEEL AND  
HANDKERCHIEF FROM LADY  
FREIDA OCOILEEN**

**SILK SARI FROM LADY ESPERANZA**





# Ruantallan Picnic

## Ruantallan Picnic

This past September the Baron and Baroness decided that we had been house bound far too long and determined to have a picnic where we could mingle and socialize together even if only for a day. The Picnic was held at our Baronies favourite camping place LORDA (although camping was not allowed by the Kingdom at this time).

We had to wear masks, socially distance and bring our own picnic fair but it was very pleasant to meet with others and socialize in person. There were a few vendors present to sell their wares.



There were physical activities as well including Rattan fighting, Live Steel fighting and Archery.

Both forms of fighting were lively and seemed to be very invigorating for the fighters.

Archery proved to be very popular as the Archery Marshals were busy the whole day with the many Gentiles wanting to try out archery and with the Royal Rounds.

A good time was had by all who attended the picnic.

A nobleman with his entourage enjoying a picnic. Illustration from a French edition of *Le Livre de chasse de Gaston Phébus* ("The Hunting Book of Gaston Phebus"), 15th century.

Bibliothèque National, Paris.

Scanned from Maggie Black's "Den medeltida kokboken", Swedish translation of *The Medieval Cookbook* ISBN 91-7712-380-8.

# Upcoming In Person Events

## Ruantallan Baronial Investiture Anniversary 2021 / AS LVI

Welcome, one and all, to Ruantallan's Baronial Investiture Anniversary!

As the Plague slowly ebbs from our shores, Their Excellencies of Ruantallan have decreed a day of celebration and feasting to commemorate Their most noble ascension to the Baronial thrones, and to rejoice that we may all once again come together and live in the Dream.

The event shall reflect upon the noble virtues that helped see us through the plague or that we saw in others which inspired us.

Date: November 6th 2021

Location: Beaver Bank Kinsac Community Centre, 1583 Beaver Bank Rd, Beaver Bank, NS B4G 1C5

Link: <https://www.ruantallan.eastkingdom.org/events/bia21/>

## Ruantallan Choir Practice

Greetings all, from the Ruantallan Choir director. It's been a while since I've posted to invite you to choir practice, you know, that little matter of a worldwide pandemic, but I wanted to say we are returning to practices this fall, with some Covid precautions. Here's how I expect things to go:

1. We will all mask, and sit as social distance as much as the space allows. We will meet outdoors as long as the weather holds, but otherwise we will meet in my living room with ventilation.
2. Masks will only be removed for refreshments following practice. Refreshments are optional, and we understand if you aren't comfortable to stay.
3. I keep a contact list of who's there, according to SCA requirements. I am following all SCA and NS public health requirements for recreational groups, because while practice is informal, it is considered an official SCA activity.



Master of the Codex Manesse (Additional Painter II) - <http://digi.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/diglit/cpg848/0793>

**CODEX MANESSE, UB HEIDELBERG, COD. PAL. GERM. 848, FOL. 399R, MEISTER HEINRICH FRAUENLOB**

4. We meet on alternate Fridays (mostly, the schedule does jump around a bit) so long as NS public health allows indoor gatherings of 25 or more people. If gathering limits go below that number, we'll put choir on pause until the limits come back up again.
5. Choir practice is open to all SCA members and friends, you are very welcome. As this is a very wide reaching list, and I need to track who comes to practice, I am going to be announcing the individual practice times on our choir page. If you want to be added to the choir page, just let me know, and I will add you. I will also put out this notice through the fall from time to time, so that people looking for choir can find us.

I look forward to making some music with you, and that you all stay safe and well.

Dame Sarra Graham

## Magic Tablet Events

East Kingdom Magic Tablet Online Events

<https://www.eastkingdom.org/calendar-of-online-activities/>

Known World Entertainment Guide

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1xEZAwCca4lQham3TpxfWnonQscG668mmYgIMA18YZ-E/edit?fbclid=IwAR0xFJCCACefl8NZIV24Nc-VanJUCoyRIHbs2E8JzKXSbKWbtwWsA1Bs420#gid=0>

East Kingdom Ministry of Arts and Sciences (links to online classes and recordings)

<https://moas.eastkingdom.org>

East Kingdom Youtube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgrji-lyH1lHYaX8kFPpLIQ>

Barony of Ruantallan Events Page

<https://www.ruantallan.eastkingdom.org/events-and-activities/events-and-demos/>



# From the Chronicler

Lady Asleif Gylfisdottir....

We are so grateful for the efforts of all to reduce the spread of this plague and can see the efforts of all as we can now start to have in-person events again. As we diligently follow the guidance of the Royals and the Baron and Baroness we will be kept safe from the ravages of the plague and have in-person events again. Let us be rejoice in the opportunities that we have missed for the past year and a half and again socialize and have events safely.



Quill and ink image from: <https://image.shutterstock.com/image-photo/quill-pen-ink-well-resting-600w-274453982.jpg>



Are you a fantastic story teller like our Baron?  
Can you out match our Heralds with tales of  
grandeur? Can you do research like our Deputy  
Chronicler? Then send your poems, stories and  
articles to the Chronicler so that our Barony can  
know of your greatness (and the greatness of the  
Barony) through the newsletter.

Email: [chronicler@ruantallan.eastkingdom.org](mailto:chronicler@ruantallan.eastkingdom.org)

A woodcut from William Caxton's second edition of *The Canterbury Tales* printed in 1483

## Want to know More!

Check out these links...

Here are some links to various groups and other online discussions for the SCA.

<http://sca.org/>

<http://www.eastkingdom.org/>

<http://ruantallan.eastkingdom.org/>

Tir Mara A&S discussion group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/266068666886441/>

Canton of Seashire Facebook group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/117730954976944/>

Canton of Distance Shore Group

<https://distantshore.eastkingdom.org/>

Canton of Ynys Y Gwaun

<https://ynysygwaun.eastkingdom.org/>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1529682813926211/>

Stronghold of Ravensdale

<https://ravensdale.eastkingdom.org/>

If you see anything that should be in this publication or if you have any Histories of or Ye Olde Tales of Ruantallan, please contact the Chronicler at the email below.

[chronichler@ruantallan.eastkingdom.org](mailto:chronichler@ruantallan.eastkingdom.org)

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