

The Ancient Arts Fellowship invites you to



# BEORGVVIC



I remember those times  
we talked over our mead –  
there on the benches we  
made our boasts  
heroes in the hall, about  
hard fighting  
now we can discover who  
really has courage.

Poem of the Battle of Maldon 991

## When

October long weekend (3rd to the 5th of October) 2009. The site is open for arrivals on Friday afternoon and everyone must be out by Monday afternoon. If you wish to stay on site after AAF leave you must make a separate arrangement with Danelaw.

## Location

The event will be held at the Beorgwic end of Danelaw's 120 acre property. It is about 2 hours drive from Canberra and 3 ½ from Sydney. The property is covered with pine trees and has varied terrain with a creek running through it. The views of the surrounding mountains and cliffs add to the atmosphere. The forest is dense enough to allow a separation between period and non period areas without requiring a long hike to your tent. We have several period looking covered structures, including a forge, tavern, craft area and kitchen hut. The beauty of Dunghaven is that we are able to create a permanent site that offers the ability to try out period constructions and to achieve a great atmosphere. We are very grateful to Danelaw for allowing us to hold Beorgwic on their property.

## Site Information

The site offers good camping areas, pit toilets and a central long fire bench for socialising. There is no water on site so please BYO all the water you wish to drink or use over the weekend. Also plan to take your garbage home with you. The nearest shops are a long drive, so don't plan on ducking out for something. Please build a fireplace for your fire (there are lots of rocks).

Danelaw have a no filtered cigarettes on site policy. If you wish to smoke please bring roll your own or a pipe. ANYBODY found littering butts on site will be asked to leave the site, so don't bring them.

There are maps and directions on the AAF website ([www.aaf.org.au](http://www.aaf.org.au)) and we will be putting up signs. The AAF has a mobile that works on site, if you have issues please ring 0439 782 752 and we will tell you where to go. There is a public phone in Nerriga if you need it.

When you get to front gate it will have a black code padlock on it (along with several normal metal ones). The code for the padlock will be sent to you after you register, please ensure that everyone you know is coming has the code and knows how to open the lock.

To open, turn the tumblers to the code, then squeeze the metal shank down into the black body of the lock, it will click then spring open. If it does not open check the tumblers are set on the code, give in a shake and pull then try squeezing again.

When you arrive please obey the parking signs and don't block the road. The site manager (Badger) will be around to greet you and direct people to camp sites. Please register ASAP with Alex to receive your token, check the timetable and confirm workshops etc.

## Danegeld & Bookings

Cost is \$80 for Adults, \$40 for 12-17 year olds, if paid before 19<sup>th</sup> of September.

Extra \$20 for Adult payments made after the 19<sup>th</sup> of September. Under 12s are free.

The application form has prices for single day rates etc.

Please book as early as you can as many activities etc depend on numbers and there is also a limited amount of people we can cater for. You will not be considered fully booked until we receive your payment.

Application forms etc are available on the website ([www.aaf.org.au](http://www.aaf.org.au)).

The AAF runs Beorgwic with the aim of breaking even and all profits from the event are channelled back into making the event better. Danelaw is paid a Danegeld that helps pay for maintenance & improvements to the site.

## Market

There will be a market held in the main area over Saturday lunchtime. If you have anything you would like to sell, bring it along and we shall endeavour to entice some traders to attend.

## Tavern

There will be Tavern this year, stocked with many interesting ciders, beers, meads and exotic spirits. Details to follow, also remember there is no drinking water on site so bring plenty.

## Catering

There will be a Feast on Saturday and Sunday night, the menu is below. We have catered for vegetarians (not vegans). If you have other special dietary requirements, please check the website for recipes and email us any questions ASAP.

There will be simple kids food served before the feast, please check website close to event for menu.



### SATURDAY

Svenska Kottbullar (Swedish meatballs) and sauce  
Falafel and hommos

Braised beef  
Honey Glazed Root Vegetables  
brie tart

Mouchelet (Lamb Stew)  
Autumn garden soup

Honey saffron custard with ginger biscuits  
Spiced apple drink

### SUNDAY

Lombard chicken pasties  
Mushroom pasties

Pork in spiced wine  
Honey Glazed Root Vegetables  
Brie tart

Cider baked lamb stew  
Autumn garden soup

Spiced Pears in red wine  
Spiced apple drink

## Workshops

The workshop timetable can be downloaded from the website. Please CIRCLE the workshop/s of your choice on the timetable and send it in with the application form. Please note the following:

- a. First in, first placed. We will let you know which workshop you are booked for.
- b. There is a limitation on numbers for most workshops, please do not apply for everything.

It might be possible run extra sessions of some workshops, depending on demand and we are still happy to add more workshops and can arrange tools, materials etc if given some warning.

Descriptions of some of the workshops are below and more will go up on the website.

Soapstone Lamps. An opportunity to make and learn how to use a soapstone oil lamp. Due to the nature of this workshop (sharp tools etc.), children may not attend.

How to use a drop spindle. Learn how to comb wool and spin it using a drop spindle. Numbers for this workshop depend on the number of spindles available (still being made), so if you own one and want to learn, bring it along.

The Great Girly Head-thingy Talk. Wearing period head-gear finishes any costume. Worn well they look great and feeling comfy but that's not always easy. Finding the right way to wear a veil can be tricky so the aim of this workshop is to share ideas, tricks, techniques and designs for making and wearing period headwear. Bring along anything you have in the way of headwear and any tricks you've learnt. Complete novices are welcome – the aim is to learn from each other.

Povoinik – Russian women's cap. The Povoinik is a close-fitting cap made of fine linen, cotton or worn by the women of Kievan Rus as a simple way of keeping their hair out of their face. The Povoinik is very easy to make and is a finishing touch to any Eastern Viking costume.

You will receive a pack containing everything you need to make your first Povoinik and we will bring along some odds and ends for decorating them. If you have any interesting bits of coloured silk, linen or cotton, beads, scraps of tablet-weaving etc to share please bring them along too. The more we have, the fancier we can make them. It would help immensely if participants are already able to hand-sew.

Beginner's forging. This is a workshop for novices to forging. The aim is for every participant to make themselves a simple forged object such as a cloak pin, S hook or fire rake etc.

Open forge. General forging during the times indicated on the timetable.

Historical chests. A presentation on historical chests, including designs and tools used etc.

Forging hinges for chests. A workshop to make the hinges discussed in the historical chests presentation.

Rope handles for chests. Splicing rope to make simple rope loops for carrying a chest.

Monastic sign language. A workshop inspired by the *Monasteriales Indicia*. This text was written in Old English and preserved in a manuscript of the mid-eleventh century. It consists of 127 signs used by Anglo-Saxon monks during the times when the Benedictine Rule forbade them to speak. These indicate the foods the monks ate, the clothes they wore, and the books they used in church and chapter, as well as the tools they used in their daily life, and persons they might meet both in the monastery and outside.

## Kids

There will be some kids activities over the weekend. These will include a bead necklace making workshop, story hour, find the horde before the Vikings do treasure hunt and various games. Some activities might require parental supervision. Please remember that the site has standing water, wombat holes and an archery range when turning your kids loose.

## Archery

To make for a more traditional event we are limiting competition rounds to traditional bows this year. For the games, take-down, fibreglass recurves are welcome but sighted compounds will not be permitted. The Beorgwic range and targets are designed for wooden shafted arrows only so please take this into consideration when planning for the event.

Stave shoot – could you hit the width of someone else's bow in a duel like Einar Tambarskelve? Have a go at the stave shoot to find out. Competitive round – traditional bows only.

The "Harold's right eye' Hastings game – Work in teams to break the Saxon shield wall and take out the King. Archery recreation of the Battle of Hastings. There will be prizes if you can get King Harold's eye. Competitive round – traditional bows only.

Speed round – Six targets, thirty seconds. How many can you hit? Competitive round – traditional bows only.

Map Shoot – at training we often complain that our shooting is around the world – with a map of the globe as a target; it's time to test that theory. Competitive round – traditional bows only.

Gnome hunt – bring your combat blunts for the much enjoyed gnome hunt. Game – open to all bows.

Balloon hunt – there is something very satisfying about the pop when you hit! Game – open to all bows.

Open range times – the Beorg-wic archery range will be open for general use during the weekend. Time will be advertised on the site and a Range Marshall will be there to supervise at all times.

Guidelines for the Archery are available on the website ([www.aaf.org.au](http://www.aaf.org.au)). Archers who do not follow the rules, or display a bad attitude on the range will be asked to leave by the Range Marshall.

## Fighting

The site offers very varied terrain for fighting in. There will be a lot of normal field fights but also some resurrection fights, scenarios, banner forts and any other interesting ideas that the terrain suggests. The fighting will be run using AAF standard interclub rules. The AAF feels that interclub fighting requires an attitude of trying to get the most people having the most fun. Adjustments need to be made to all club's assumptions and styles when they run into other clubs. If you have an opinion about how the combat will be run, contact the AAF's Chief Marshall. There will also be a Tournament on Monday morning. Tournament and AAF standard interclub rules are on our website.

- ◆ All group combat will be head blow, most will be forearm and we will do some involving lower legs limbs if there is enough interest (we will have some vambraces to lend if you wish).
- ◆ Minimum age for combat is 18 or 16 with written permission from parent or guardian.
- ◆ Javelins will be permitted in most fights but restricted in number per person. Javelins should be based on the Conference standard for safety.
- ◆ Minimum armour is helmet and gauntlets. Helmets should be adequately padded and fitted. Gauntlets are armoured gloves. Body armour or protection is strongly advised. If you don't have any body armour please ask as most clubs have some spare armour they will be happy to lend. Also if you dislike fighting lightly armoured folk, bring along that old suit of mail to lend.
- ◆ AAF is mainly a Dark Ages group so our fighting rules are geared toward this level of armour. Armour is not proof versus blows but will stop flicks, draw cuts and deflected cuts. Unarmoured combatants are expected to take any hit from a weapon.
- ◆ Spears up to 3 metres are allowed but remember it's a forest.
- ◆ Fighters who do not follow the rules, have a bad attitude on the field or refuse to follow the directions of the Chief Marshall will be asked to either pull their head in or leave the field.

## More Information

Check out the AAF website for updates or contact:

Michael Brown, Secretary: 02 6242 4882 (h)

Website: <http://www.aaf.org.au>

Or Email: [beorgwic@aaf.org.au](mailto:beorgwic@aaf.org.au) or [council@aaf.org.au](mailto:council@aaf.org.au)

AAF mobile (for the weekend only): 0439 782 752

