

England's Medieval Festival

at Herstmonceux Castle

Aug 27, 28, 29 2005



Souvenir Programme £3

Gardens and Grounds of HERSTMONCEUX CASTLE



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The castle is not open to the public, however guided tours are conducted at an extra charge and subject to availability, but due to the operation of a busy working university we strongly advise you phone for confirmation of times before your visit.

While you are here don't forget to visit the Gift Shop, Tea Room, Visitor's Centre, Children's Woodland Play Area and Nature Trail

Open Daily 16th April - 23rd October, 10am – 6pm
(Last admission 5pm) Closes at 5pm during October

Herstmonceux Castle, International Study Centre Hailsham, East Sussex BN27 1RN

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England's Medieval Festival at Herstmonceux Castle

Hail and Well Met!

Welcome to the 13th England's Medieval Festival at Herstmonceux Castle... or maybe that should be, Welcome Back. For visitors, re-enactors, performers and tradespeople alike, the Festival has become an annual event. Even so, no two Festivals are alike; new faces appear and displays get bigger and more spectacular each year.

Work to put the Festival together is a year-round process. The goal is always to create something unique; a real one-of-a-kind event with a very special



Photos throughout this programme are reproduced by kind permission of Jane de Weck, John Lai, Steven George and Markus Brinkmann.

blend of history, spectacle and fun for the whole family. What we want you to experience – and, if you're a regular visitor, what you've enjoyed in the past – is something that just can't be experienced anywhere else.

History has never been such fun!

Clive Geisler
Clive Geisler

Managing Director,
Malcolm Group of Events

General Information

FESTIVAL SITE MAP : page 5

PERFORMANCE TIMETABLE : page 4

FIRST AID : see Site Map for location.

MISSING CHILDREN : should be reported to the Festival Office.

DOGS : to be kept on a lead and admitted at owners risk - loud cannons can cause distress. Owners responsible for waste disposal - site bins available. Keep well away from show birds and horses.

LOST & FOUND : should be reported to the Festival Office.

PRIVIES (PORTABLE TOILETS) : located throughout the site.

DISABLED PARKING : is available via the entrance from Church Road, please display your disabled badge.

CREDIT CARDS : are accepted at the ticket marquee.

TELEPHONE : is located on the west side of the Castle outside reception.

SHUTTLE BUS : operated by Eastbourne Buses. First bus departs Polegate Station at 9.30am and thereafter on the hour and half hour from both the Castle and Polegate Station. Last bus leaves the Castle at 6pm.

BABY CHANGING & FEEDING: facilities in Kids Kingdom.

Please dispose of your rubbish in the designated areas.

Further Information

As part of our commitment to review and improve the Festival each year we welcome your written comments. Write to us for inclusion in our 2006 Mailing List

36 Acacia Close, Stanmore, Middlesex, HA7 3JR Tel/Fax: +44 020 8416 0398

Website: www.EnglandsMedievalFestival.com email: info@mgel.com

- All events, activities and performers are subject to change or cancellation
- Visitors are not allowed to record and reproduce any pictures, video or sound of England's Medieval Festival at Herstmonceux Castle except for personal use, without express written permission from the organisers

Medieval Speech

Good gentle folk, whilst you stroll the paths of the village, you are bound to meet our villagers and members of the court. It would be well if ye could converse with these goodly folk in the language of the day.

Hello, nice to see you! • **Hail and well met!**

What time is it? • **How stands the hour?**

It's 4.30 • **'Tis twixt four and five**

Stay and eat • **Tarry and feast**

Please wait on me! • **Prithee attend me!**

I'm thirsty! • **Parched I am!**

I'm hungry! • **I'm in need of victuals!**

Where are the toilets? • **Whither be the privies?**

What is your name? • **What be thy title?**

How are you? • **How farest thou?**

What's the matter? • **What ails thee?**

Where are you from? • **Whence dost thou hail?**

What do you do? • **What be thy trade?**

Will you marry me? • **Wilt thou favour me with thy hand?**

I need first aid • **I am in need of a physick**

Where are you going? • **Whither away art thou?**

Goodbye • **Fare thee well**

Hurrah! • **Huzzah!**

PERFORMANCE TIMETABLE

TIME	DAILY Siege Site (Castle front)	DAILY Battlefield (Castle back)	DAILY Jousting Arena (Castle east side)	DAILY Kids Kingdom (Castle west side)
10.45 am	Grand Parade		Grand Parade	Grand Parade
11 - 11.45 am	Siege of Herstmonceux Castle		Skill-at-Arms Tournament	
12.00 pm	Living History Siege Camp	Living History Battle Camps	Ladies of Herstmonceux Musical Ride	Devilstick Peat - Jester
12.30 pm	Living History Siege Camp	Living History Battle Camps		Rusty Bear or Puppet Show
1.00 - 1.45 pm	Display of 15th Century Fighting Techniques	Living History Battle Camps	Skill-at-Arms Tournament	Wizard Zong's Magic Show
2.15 pm	Living History Siege Camp	Ladies of Herstmonceux Musical Ride	Falconry Display	Rusty Bear or Puppet Show
2.45 pm	Grand Parade	Grand Parade	Grand Parade	Grand Parade
3.00 - 3.45 pm	Living History Siege Camp	Battle for Herstmonceux Castle	Skill-at-Arms Tournament	Wizard Zong's Magic Show
3.45 - 4.30 pm	Living History Siege Camp	Living History Battle Camps	Dressing of a Knight	Devilstick Peat - Jester
4.30 pm	Living History Seige Camp	Living History Battle Camps	Jousting Tournament	
GATES OPEN 10am - GATES CLOSE 6 pm				

Market Lane and Craft Marquees open throughout the day • The Grand Parade will progress from the Kids Kingdom to the Jousting Arena; back to the front of the Castle in the morning and straight on to the battlefield at the back of the Castle in the afternoon • Performances throughout the day at the Village Square Stage from various musicians and entertainers • The Siege Camp and Living History Village in front of the Castle will be closed during the morning Siege • The Archery Competition will take place throughout the Castle grounds at all times except during the Siege and Battle • Times of shows may vary, please see the board at the Festival Office for daily additions, changes and updates.

The Brewers Arms



Herstmonceux

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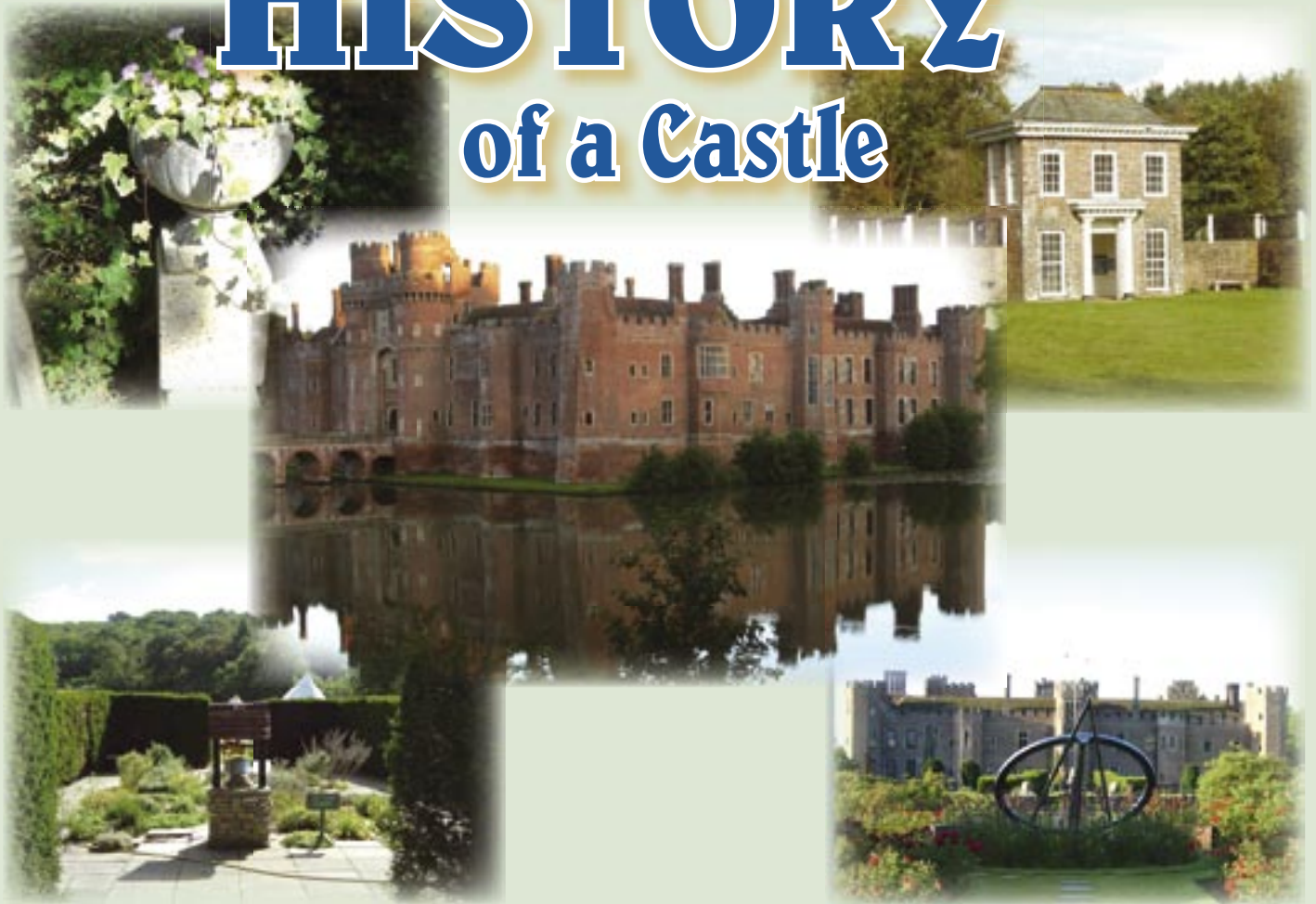


CAUTION: The Organisers of England's Medieval Festival at Herstmonceux Castle (The Malcolm Group Events Limited.) and the International Study Centre accept no responsibility for the death or personal injury or for loss or damage to property suffered by any person attending the Medieval Festival as a Spectator, Stallholder, Performer, Concessionaire or in any other capacity whatsoever. This shall apply whether or not such death, injury, loss or damage is caused by wrongful act, negligence, or omissions of the officers, servants or agents or any other person for whose acts or omissions the Organisers or the International Study Centre might otherwise be responsible.



You are welcome to picnic around the gardens.
Please dispose of your litter thoughtfully.

HISTORY of a Castle



Herstmonceux was a prominent village area long before the Castle was erected. There is evidence of Roman relics. The Castle name stems from the 12th Century marriage of Ingelgram de Monceux, a Norman nobleman and the Saxon “Lady of the Manor”, Idonea de Herst. In 1441 Sir Roger Fiennes, Treasurer of the Household of Henry VI, began constructing the Castle, one of the first major brick buildings in England and years ahead of its time, with concentration more on grandeur and comfort than defence.

At the end of the 15th Century the then owner, Robert Hare, demolished most of the Castle, using the bricks to build nearby Herstmonceux Place.

The Castle remained a ruin until 1911 when it was bought

by Lt. Col. Claude Lowther. By 1912 most of the south front was reconstructed and in 1932 Sir Paul Latharn purchased it and completed the restoration. In 1946 the Admiralty bought the Estate for the Royal Greenwich Observatory and it became an important scientific institution during the next 40 years. The Observatory moved to Cambridge in 1988, and the Castle remained void until acquired by Queen’s University (Canada) in 1993 with funds provided by the Doctors Bader. It is now home to the University’s International Study Centre. The grounds of the estate are open to the public from April to October.

During the Festival visit the Castle museum and learn more of the history of this magnificent building. See Site Map for location.

Dr Alfred Bader

Born in Vienna, Alfred Bader fled to England at the age of 14. Although a Jewish refugee from the Nazis, he was interned in 1940 and sent to a Canadian prisoner-of-war camp.

On obtaining his release in 1941, he was accepted at Queen’s University in Kingston, Ontario, where he studied engineering chemistry, following that with a fellowship in organic chemistry. He worked in Milwaukee as a research chemist and in 1951 co-founded Aldrich which today, as Sigma-Aldrich, is the world’s largest supplier of research chemicals.

Bader, one of the most respected men in his field, and his family have earned a reputation as generous benefactors, notable in the fields of chemistry, education and Jewish interests. Bader’s personal philanthropy has been particularly directed towards helping students of chemistry and art history, hence the donation to Queen’s University to purchase and renovate Herstmonceux Castle.

And you thought you knew about . . .

Medieval Costume

by Sarah Thursfield



Those period costumes weren't very practical.

Never forget that it wasn't 'period costume' to the people who wore it. They wore what they did because that's what the technology of the time could produce, and because it conformed to the unwritten rules of dress in force at the time. Medieval clothing may look bulky and awkward to us, but they knew what they were doing: workmen wore short tunics, and women hitched their skirts over their belts to shorten them. Long trailing skirts were the mark of the lady. And remember, too, that keeping warm was a lot more important then – people spent much of their time outside and indoors wasn't much warmer. Extra layers added for warmth and sleeves were designed to be rolled up or tucked out of the way, so your body was warm but movement wasn't restricted.



Peasants had only one set of clothes.

Evidence suggests that the ordinary worker had his everyday clothes, his best clothes, and the old set for cleaning out the pigstys. He would aim to replace his everyday clothes each year, keeping the old ones for 'worst', but his best clothes would be good quality, put away for special occasions and even left to his son in his will.

It was all made at home in olden times.

We love the myth of the self-sufficient peasant family supplying all its simple needs, but they knew that quality came by specialising. So, the peasant woman spun yarn for cash, for a draper who would pay a weaver to make it into cloth and a dyer to give it a good colour (yes - any colour under the sun, if you could afford it, barring a few vivid pinks and purples). You bought your cloth at market and took it to a tailor, because cloth was expensive and only tailors knew how to cut out clothes – and they didn't sell paper patterns. Then you bought your hat from a hatter, your gloves from a glover, your belt from a girdler...and so on. The money economy already ruled. Otherwise, why would towns, fairs and markets have existed?



There were laws to regulate what everybody wore.

There were indeed: they're known as 'sumptuary laws'. In fact the sumptuary laws may have had more to do with protecting home industries and restricting luxury imports than with keeping people in their places. But that's a matter of debate!

They never washed their clothes.

Well, yes and no. For most of history people have thought of their clothes as two kinds: their 'wearing apparel' which is what you see on the outside, made by the tailor and quite un-washable; and their 'body linen', a plain, loose undergarment big enough to provide a complete barrier between the outer clothes and the more-or-less washed body (more if you had servants to fetch hot water, and a clean shirt for every day of the week; less if you didn't). Any re-enactor will tell you that the arrangement works very efficiently.

Handmade cloth is coarse and lumpy.

We can accept that they could paint wonderful pictures, make fine jewellery and carve and build stupendous cathedrals; so why is it so hard to believe that they could spin fine, even yarn and weave it into cloth with no lumps or holes in? Of course everyday cloth was fairly thick, but everyday houses didn't look like cathedrals either. Handmade cloth was produced by methods which dated back to prehistory, so the skills of spinning, weaving and finishing (the fulling, raising and shearing which gave good cloth its felt-like surface) had a long tradition of skill which very few modern workers can match.



The Hellequin Historical Society

The Hastings Household

Medessae

I Conestabili del Finale

Rotyka

A Household Explained

The Company of the Holy Rood

The Bonivant Household

- Winners of the Living History Encampment Competition 2004.



Shurland Bowmen

House Bonivant is based on the Household of Richard Bonivant who owned Stone Castle (near Dartford, Kent) in the early part of the 15th century. Upon his death

the castle passed to his son Nicholas. Both Richard and Nicholas were successful mercers (cloth merchants) in London. This enabled them to maintain the castle and some 40 acres

of land attached to it. However, as Lords of the Manor they were obliged to provide half a knight's fee in men to fight for the Bishop of Rochester. The Bishop, John Lowe, was a powerful and wealthy man in his own right and it is under his wolf's head livery badge

and blue and white colours that the household fight.

The Bonivants fight as a mixed unit combining both hand weapons and billmen whilst providing covering fire from a contingent of longbowmen, as well as few crossbowmen from the continent. Away from the fighting we have members of the household who proudly tend our prize winning living history encampment, whilst cooking and looking after the children, also the Bishop has provided us with a priest to see to our spiritual welfare.



Medieval Siege Society

The Hartley Household

The Hartley Household (one of the Households of the Medieval Siege Society), led by Sir Christopher Hartley, will be fielding one of the largest combat teams at Herstmonceux 2005, fighting under the Hartley banner 'Sub hoc signo vinces' - "under this sign do we conquer".

possesses a specially-made medieval bread oven (manufactured by 'Jim-The-Pot').

Accompanying the Hartleys will be the sister-group, Pelican-In-Her-Piety, which focuses on Living History, historic cookery demonstrations and other arts & crafts. The group is only one of 5 in the whole of the UK which



An Cumann Duchas Beo Na hEireann

The Paladins of Chivalry

The Whittingham Household

Company of St Barbara

The Decobham Household

The Oxford Household

The Knights of the Black Phoenix

Legation of
the Comte
Guy de
Montmiraque

White Lion
Bowmen

The
Courteneye
Household

Trivium

The Towton
Longbowmen

The Medieval Siege Society Limited (MSS)

is a registered company that organises historical events, re-enacting battles, sieges and medieval life during the period of English history known as "The Wars of the Roses".

The purpose of the MSS is to entertain the public and teach them about Medieval life in England, specifically about warfare in that time and life for the people caught up in these wars. To achieve this we:

- Re-enact battles, often using scripts based on actual events
- Demonstrate use of weaponry and armour from the time
- Wear authentic medieval clothing
- Provide an insight into cooking, crafts,

and medieval society in the Living History Camp.

The society is run entirely by volunteers and comprises a large membership from a wide age range and background.

There are many different aspects of Medieval Re-enactment, and members choose the areas in which they are most interested.

These include:

- Archery
- Fighting with a variety of authentic weapons e.g. swords, bills or spears
- Living History
- Gunnery



The
Company
of St Jude



British
Plate
Armour
Society



FitzAlan
Household



The
Fraternity
of Knights
of Sztum
Land



The
Gruuthouse
Household



The Decobham Household

Representing military life in the Wars of the Roses period and portraying the camp life of a household on campaign is the Decobham Household. Principally a Man-at Arms unit – heavily armoured

knights and soldiers who fight on foot at close quarters with swords and poll-axes. The Household will demonstrate 'Authentic 15th Century Fighting techniques'. Please see timetable for timing.

*For God, For England and the
House of York
A Cobham A Cobham*

Company
of 1415

The Dogs
of War

Sgeimh
Solais

The
Erpyngnam
Retinue

The
Company
of the Red
Crow

Mounted Tournaments



Many sports originated as exercises in preparation for combat. Conversely various sports started as some form of warfare and have mutated into sport.

The Duke of Wellington is well-known for saying that "the Battle of Waterloo was won on the playing fields of Eton".

Away from the battlefield every opportunity was taken to practice fighting skills and mounted tournaments became a huge source of entertainment for both participants and spectators. Tournaments included several types of events.



Jousts

In a joust two armoured knights would ride towards each other on horseback carrying a blunt ended lance. Separated by a barrier called a tilt, the idea was to unseat the opponent from his horse. Points were awarded depending upon how and where contact was made. Although a form of entertainment, accidents were common and deaths often occurred. Spectators would sit in a Royal Box by the side of the arena and often a Lady would tie a scarf to a favoured knight.



Dressing a Knight

It was a time consuming affair dressing for a tournament. Knights were helped into their armour by squires who were young men learning to become knights themselves. Often knighted on the battlefield for their bravery, they started as pages, practising their fighting skills with wooden swords and shields.

Destrier will perform a fully armoured jousting spectacular once a day throughout the Festival. Visit the Knights' Camp to see the 'Dressing of a Knight'.



Skill-at-Arms

Thankfully the horse is no longer needed for war. The disciplines required for combat however have become an international sport.

Over the centuries little has changed in the skills required by a cavalryman. Here at England's Medieval Festival we are running a mounted Skill-at-Arms Competition that is broadly based on international rules but with a distinctly medieval character all of its own. It is hoped, as years go by, to encourage more foreign competitors to take part and to make it a truly international competition, the highlight of Britain's all too short mounted skill-at-arms season.



3 tournaments will be held throughout each day

1st Tournament

Cabbage Cutting - better known as 'TheTurks Head'. Cabbages to be cleanly cut - at the gallop.

Individual Pegging with Sword - wooden pegs taken from the ground at the gallop with a sword.

2 Oranges & Peg - each orange (at head height) to be sliced in half and the peg lifted from the ground with a sword. Requires co-ordination, suppleness and a good eye. Speed is essential.



2nd Tournament

Quintain - a shield on a pivoting arm must be struck with a lance at speed and with aggression. If this is not done, the sack is likely to swing round and strike the rider.

Throwing Spears - to be thrown over-arm at the gallop. Hitting the target may be easy but hitting the centre for full marks is not.

Tentpegging - supposedly Alexander the Great started this sport by training his cavalry to pin elephants' toenails to the ground. We have to make do with 3-inch wooden pegs. Pegs must be taken at the gallop on the end of a lance.



3rd Tournament

Skill-at-Arms course - here the rider is tested with a variety of weapons. Firstly the bladders must be stabbed with a dagger as the rider jumps. The dagger must then be discarded into the bucket that is provided and a sword picked up for the purpose of running the two dummies through the heart. The sword is left in the last heart and a lance is picked up. An attempt should then be made to collect the two rings (at rider's head height) on the lance, followed by the taking of a peg from the ground. The hole in the rings is 2.5 inches wide. This trains the rider to find the weak spots in his opponent's armour.



Riders competing (late entrants excluded from this list) include:

*Sir John de Norreys • Lady Celia de Norreys
Jacky Chandler, Maid of the Middle Ages and Counting
Sir Gerald Nott • Squire Laughalot
Squire Smith Terror of Tilt Rails • Don-Jon
Duchess Dudeney of Ditchling • Duke Dudeney of Ditchling
Squire d'Allsorts • The Yorkshire Raven*



Archery



A most terrifying element of medieval warfare was the sight and sound of a flight of arrows from the enemy. Many considered the longbow a superior weapon as a skilled longbowman could aim at and hit a target from 90 metres away and fire up to 12 arrows a minute. Crossbows were slower to load but even more accurate and were favoured by castle defenders, having the safety of castle walls behind which to reload. Both the Longbow and Crossbow are honoured here at England's Medieval Festival with the



Tournaments are open to one class of medieval Crossbow and four classes of Longbow - Ladies, Gentlemen, Juniors (12-15) and Cubs (under 12).

Awards will be according to entry.



English Archery Competition. Attracting Archers from throughout Europe, the competition is sponsored by the Medieval Siege Society who design and set the targets to test the skill and accuracy of competitors. It is staged at different points around the grounds of the Castle throughout the day and between sieges. Archers will compete to better the score of last year's winner and individual prizes are presented daily. On completion of the Festival a trophy will be presented to the best overall Archer, along with an engraved hand made period dagger, thanks to the generosity of Rod Matless, a Living History Trader.



Visit the Living History Encampments for information on these weapons which were instrumental in transforming England into a medieval superpower.



Representing yet another medieval skill – the art of side saddle riding;

The Ladies of Sidearms



We must remember that it is only comparatively recently – within the last 100 years in fact – that it has been normal for any woman to ride cross saddle. For the rest of history since the very early middle ages, the normal way was side saddle in some form or other. If a lady needed to be carried anywhere on a horse, she sat sideways.

Early medieval side saddles were an adaptation of a man's saddle of the time, with a high pommel at the front and cantle at the back and a low backrest on the right hand side and the lady sat sideways with her feet on a short board called a planchette.

As on this type of saddle she could have very little control over the horse, she was

usually led, perhaps by a groom or a squire, and usually at a walk.

The side saddle developed only slowly until the late eighteenth century, by which time it had developed a single horn over which the rider could hook her right leg and hold herself more firmly in place. Thus she had more control over the horse and could dispense with being led.

The final development happened in the mid nineteenth century when ladies wanted to go hunting and needed a more secure seat to go galloping and jumping. A second horn, called the leaping head was developed so that the rider could brace her left leg and hold with that as well as the right and be far more secure.

Our team of lady side saddle riders are wearing costumes which have been especially created for England's Medieval Festival and are in our corporate theme colours of yellow and blue. They are modelled on drawings showing dresses worn by ladies at the court of Edward IV. They are high waisted and have long bat-wing sleeves with a tight inner sleeve. The skirts are extremely long and hats also extended the long theme and are high and pointed.

The team will demonstrate how much horse control by the fairer sex has developed since the middle ages by performing for you a side saddle display to music.

Market Day

'To a medieval fair came all manner of men'

Medieval fairs were great occasions and an excuse for festivities which could last for several days. Along side performers were traders who travelled from far and wide to sell their wares and England's Medieval Festival is no exception.

The trading areas cover shopping through the ages - ponder a while at the blacksmith, discuss your ailments with the apothecary, need a new set of armour or medieval boots



Hungry or thirsty?

The Buxom Wench Tavern, The Jester's Inn and the Food Courts offer a fine selection of food and beverages to suit all tastes.



made to measure? This is the place to start looking.

Stalls range from the authentically medieval within the Living History Encampments where demonstrations are given in to the making of many of the displayed items to Medieval Traders Row which offers medieval related goods and through to more contemporary handicrafts in the Maid Marion and Robin Hood Marquee with traders on Market Lane offering a wide variety of more day-to-day items.



Foreign

Invasion



Sgeimh Solais

Sgeimh Solais meaning 'Light of Beauty' - from a Celtic High King's daughter, join us from Germany and have been staunch supporters of the Festival since 1998. Their 10 strong members portray the late 14th-century household of Lady Oriel de Wells, Duchess of Lincoln. Loyal to Lady Oriel are her ladies in waiting, a castellan, a knight, archers, guards, a blacksmith and servants and if you're wondering how they manage it..... most of them play more than one character.

The core of the group attending this year consists of the Duchess herself, Lady Aliena and Sir Cedric Stapleton, accompanied by their archers - Sean, Allan and Cedric.

The first international group to have appeared at Herstmonceux, Sgeimh Solais are also members of the Medieval Siege Society and will participate in the sieges and the archery competition.



Legation of the Comte Guy de Montmiraq

From Germany based on a semi-fictive character, the camp of the Comte Guy de Montmiraque represents a travelling group of medieval knights, archers and musicians.

The Gruuthuse Household

The Gruuthuse Household represent Lord Louis of Gruuthuse, son of John the fifth and Mary of Steenhuis, Gruuthuse; a wealthy and powerful 15th Century family of Bruges, Belgium. The old Flemish word 'gruut' means peeled barley or wheat which was the main ingredient for beer-brewing. The lords of Bruges had the monopoly for the sale of this very important product. They soon became known as the 'Lords of Gruuthuse' (huse = house).



I Conestabili del Finale

A Company of Italian mercenary soldiers from "il Finale" within the Dukedom of Ferrara. Identify them on the battlefield by the cry of "mia fe" (my faith)!

Trivium

In 1999 in the town of Bernau, near Berlin in Germany, the group Trivium was formed to keep alive the memory and spirit of a battle fought in 1432 which saw fierce combat between local Bernauer fighters and Bohemian Hussites. The Bernauer's defeated their enemies and an excuse to celebrate was formed (though tasting the regional beer has never needed much of an excuse).

Trivium has subsequently built a nationwide reputation for performances of dancing, sword-fighting and fairy-tale re-enactment of stories depicting medieval folklore.



The Fraternity of Knights of Sztum Land

From Poland we welcome The Knights of Sztum Land on their first visit to Herstmonceux. Having presented themselves to audiences across Europe they pride themselves in being amongst the First Pilgrimage of Polish Chivalry to see Pope John Paul 11 in Rome.

Saint George

The Patron Saint of England

A Medieval Relationship



Saint George was born in 270AD in what is now Turkey, and served in the Roman Army reaching the very senior rank of Tribune of the Imperial Guard – the equivalent of a Colonel in today’s Army. He defied his Emperor in refusing to give up his Christian beliefs and was tortured and executed as a result on 23rd April, 303 AD. Prior to his death he had freed his slaves, sold his property and distributed his considerable wealth amongst the poor. He was made a saint and revered by many churches, so too in many countries, including England, Portugal, Ukraine and Russia.

He was greatly venerated in Anglo Saxon Times, with churches dedicated to him. Richard the Lion Heart in 1199 placed himself and his army under the special protection of St. George before his departure for the Holy Land. Henry III ordered the feast of St. George to be on 23rd April and Edward I ordered the Banner of St George to be borne before

the monarch. Edward II founded the Order of the Garter in 1345 under the patronage of St George and in 1386 Richard II ordered his soldiers to bear the sign of the arms of St George.

Thus St George became England’s Patron Saint and his reputation was enhanced by the fable of him killing a dragon – an allegorical tale of the triumph of good over evil.

His flag, the Red Cross on a white background was used by the crusaders and is today the flag of England.

The Royal Society of St George, whose patron is Her Majesty the Queen, is dedicated to ensure that his day is celebrated. The Society also aims to foster the love of England and Englishness, to keep fresh the memory of those in all walks of life who have served England and the Commonwealth and to combat all activities likely to undermine the strength of England or the Commonwealth.



FREE PRIZE DRAW

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Simply complete the following questionnaire and hand it in at the Information Booth or send it to:

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Questionnaires must be received by 1 October 2005. • Some restrictions on the prize do apply.

Name
Address
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Tel Fax Email

How did you arrive at the Festival?
 Train/Bus Shuttle bus On foot Car

Have you attended any previous Medieval Festivals at Herstmonceux Castle?
 Yes No

Would you attend next year’s Festival?
 Yes No

Do you consider England’s Medieval Festival value for money?
 Yes No

How many in your party?.....
Please place me on your mailing list for details of future events
How did you hear about England’s Medieval Festival?

What did you enjoy most about this year’s Festival?
.....
.....

Tick all appropriate boxes

<input type="checkbox"/> Mailshot	<input type="checkbox"/> Radio	<input type="checkbox"/> Press ad	<input type="checkbox"/> Library
<input type="checkbox"/> A friend	<input type="checkbox"/> Press Article	<input type="checkbox"/> Road signs	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourist Office
<input type="checkbox"/> Repeat visit	<input type="checkbox"/> Website	<input type="checkbox"/> The Castle	<input type="checkbox"/> Posters/leaflets
<input type="checkbox"/> Pub	<input type="checkbox"/> Restaurant	<input type="checkbox"/> Shop	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

What did you least enjoy?

Any other comments or suggestions

.....

The Year ... is 1471

and these
are troubled times



Joan de Dacre, Lady of Herstmonceux Castle, has a lot on her mind. After years of peace those terrible times, the Wars of the Roses, have begun again. And her husband, Sir Richard Fiennes, is away far from home.

Sir Richard, builder of Herstmonceux Castle, is a staunch Yorkist and supporter of Edward IV.



Edward was forced off the throne and out of the country by the previous ruler, Henry VI, in a coup led by powerful Lancastrians. Now the exiled king has returned with the support of many a southern lord and the City of London.

Loyal Sir Richard has answered the call to arms and is even now at Edward's side awaiting battle. But

Lady Joan also faces immediate danger; family, honour and title are involved. Many years ago, Sir Richard was made Lord Dacre when Lady Joan's father died. This was bitterly contested by Joan's brother, the ardent Lancastrian Humphrey Dacre. He believes the title and lands should be his. His elder brother was killed in battle by the Yorkists and he is out for revenge and gain.

On learning that Sir Richard has left his Castle defended by a mere woman, he sees a chance to settle the score. So as we return to Herstmonceux, the Lancastrian army is closer than ever before; perhaps no more than a day away. Lady Joan fears not only for her husband in the approaching battle but for herself left alone to defend

the Castle. Humphrey Dacre and his supporters are almost at her gates. And Humphrey still holds revenge in his heart. What will he dare if he can breach the Castle's defences? What will be the fate of those within? As she watches from her window she sees armed men approach. Little do they know that Lady Joan will not surrender meekly.



She is prepared to fight!



Living History

Work, Fight and Play ~ A Taste of History

Sponsored by the organizers of England's Medieval Festival, The Malcolm Group Events Ltd, a competition is being held to find the most authentic and interesting encampment. Cash prizes and magnificent trophies will be awarded to those winning participating groups.

Take a step back and see what every day life was really like for the people of the day. Visit the Living History Encampments and learn how they fed, clothed, amused themselves, practiced fighting skills and traded.

Wanderings of the Wise Woman of Herstmonceux

By Jo Foreman

I will be at Herstmonceux Castle this August as always, picking my potherbs and simples from around the country lanes, and hedgerows: gathering herbs to dry and use for potions, and remedies.

Here for your delectation is one of my most edible receipts, gleaned from the hedgerows, and maybe the lord's pond or stream.

Pick a few leaves of wild garlic, search the fields for some sorrel, then slip over the fields to my lord's stream, and tickle a couple of trout.

Earlier, I have made some cakes, made with soured milk and



oatmeal, with a touch of salt, and set them to harden in the sun. When night falls, I will light my fire, and set a large stone to warm, First, I put the oatcakes on to brown, and then, when the stone is hot enough, I place my two fish, carefully gutted, and stuffed with a handful of garlic and sorrel leaves for flavour, near the centre of the blaze, so that the skin may crisp, but never burn.

Turn them every few minutes until they are cooked through, and the flesh just flakes from the bones.

Arrange on a wooden platter, with some oatcakes, and maybe a handful of torn salad leaves.....sow thistle, dandelion and the like, and add a few bilberries for colour. Finish your repast with a vessel of blackberry leaf tea, and you will have had a banquet fit for any of our gentles.

(Should you be at the gathering at the Castle, I may be there, and if you ask me, I may be able to help you with some potion or other.)





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perform mediaeval folk dances from across Europe. Their style is that of Gitanos Espanoles (Spanish Gypsies). 'As such our costumes are more colourful and more 'eclectic' than the 'standard' mediaeval garb, although we are authentic with fabrics, colours and fastenings'.



Pyepaddle

A motley group of four raggle taggle musicians. 'Entertaining and performing, we play upbeat medieval music, perform puppet shows and intersperse our act with quotes, quips and poems of a generally loud and bawdy nature to harangue the crowd'.



The Drones Club

We play early European dance music, heavily drone orientated with bagpipes, hurdy-gurdies and percussion and include some performances of medieval morris dance.



Ars Ultima

– The Ultimate Art, Tångman and Anna Sandberg join the Festival from Sweden. The musical repertoire ranges from the 12th to the 16th century including traditional nordic folk music.



Lord & Lady Avallah

Take a few moments during your visit to Herstmonceux and listen to the delights of



Lord & Lady Avallah. Their music conjures imagery of banqueting & romantically portrays medieval England in all its splendour. May you be enchanted by their distinct Arthurian image and the music created by them. The tunes are greatly inspired by the colour & magic of the Festival itself!

Falconry

Falconry is one of the world's oldest sports still regularly practised today and it makes a welcome return to Herstmonceux this year. It is thought to have started in China some 4000 years ago, and has a long tradition in Britain. It was a sport enjoyed by both men and women... though social class often dictated the type of bird

flown. Ladies generally flew Merlins, the smallest of falcons and a species native to Britain. Squires would fly Lanner falcons; Knights preferred Sakers; Princes, Peregrine falcons; Kings hunted with Gyr falcons; Emperors settled for nothing less than an eagle.

Birds on display today include a Golden Eagle, Harris Hawk, Common Buzzard, Red Tail Buzzard, Tawny Owl, Barn Owl, Prairie Falcon, Kestrel, Peregrine Falcon, African Spotted Eagle Owl and a Saker Falcon.

See Site Map for Falconry Static Display location



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Rusty the Bear



Chained, whipped, mistreated and starved into performing, dancing bears were a popular attraction in medieval England, appearing often at fairs and markets throughout the country.

Our own Rusty Bear, however, has many a happier tale to tell. Although he represents the bears of medieval attractions, he is played by a character who has been a force for good throughout the land. Rusty's keeper is Trevor Wayland, who has built a reputation not only as an author of children's stories but as a ventriloquist, actor and puppeteer.

Have-a-Go Archery

Do you have what it takes to be a superman/woman in this medieval super power? You can enter the Festival's very own Have-a-Go Archery here in the Kids Kingdom. Designed for both men and women of all ages, all arrows are tipped with rubber not steel for safety.

So now there's no excuse not to have a go!

Sign up! Shoot straight!

Don't forget to visit the Living History encampments for information on longbows and crossbows and support your Archer in the Archery Competition.

Devilstick Peat

— 'Oh what a fool I am'...he jests!

Jesters might have looked and indeed acted like fools but no self respecting household was without one. Evening meals were lengthy affairs and jesters would entertain between courses. Clad in bright costumes with bells on their hats they were employed to tell jokes and make people laugh.

Devilstick Peat, the biggest fool in the business (and no offence taken), is just that.....the biggest and the best. Working with children's charities far and wide, he spent much of last year in Iraq and this year in Sri Lanka aiding those affected by the tsunami tragedy.



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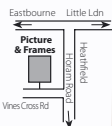


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