

Unto their Excellencies, their Majesties and the populace of The Barony of Ynys Fawr does Declan of Drogheda send greetings!

Firstly a short introduction. I started in the society in March 1993 in the then Shire of Politarchopolis. In March 1996, I moved to Ynys Fawr and have lived here ever since. I held the office of Baronial Herald for two years in the early 2000s. I have been a founding member of two cantons: Hunters Isle (Ynys Fawr) and Eissen See (Politacopolis) My personal society interests include rapier, recorder playing, heraldry, singing, feasting and wayfaring.

Where you would like to see the Barony in several years time?

In three years hence I would like to see the benefits of a fairly major recruitment drive starting to take effect. The average age of the populace would start to drop and a new level of energy and enthusiasm would start to take hold. In five years, building upon that enthusiasm, there would be several strong and vibrant groups in the Barony that would be a sustainable mix of young and old, families and singles with strong representation in Burnie, Devonport, Launceston, The Huon Valley and Hobart. The groups would have an excellent balance of activities and regular feasts. By the seventh year I would like to see the prospects of one of those groups naturally (without animosity or angst), progressing to the stage of becoming a Barony in their own right.

What you would like to focus on as B&B?

Increasing membership and general numbers, an increase in Art and Science involvement without impinging on the already excellent levels of involvement in the Arts Martial. On a more ceremonial note, I would establish a new award for courtesy and politeness at the Baronial level (with the token having a suitably nautical theme as all Ynys Fawr awards have). This would not replace the Shining Beacon in any way shape or form!

What you see the role of B&B as being?

The role of a Baron is for encouraging and inspiring the Barony onto bigger and better things. A Baron that leads by good example, inspires by good grace and courtesy and is a natural focal point for the group without dominating the group negatively. Also being involved in a number of activities with different Ynys Fawr groups statewide will help those groups thrive.

How you would approach court/the populace?

I would approach court in the traditional informal Ynys Fawr manner with minor changes to pace. I would hold short courts at the beginning and end of events with a longer middle court if necessary. A short court is generally a good court. I would mix an appropriate blend of fun and seriousness (as needed) within court and respect the theatre that is inherent in court.

I would approach the populace with respect, courtesy and a quiet dignity. I strongly believe that I should treat people as I would like to be treated myself. I would try to be personally accessible within the limits of my time and mundane needs.

Your thoughts on recruitment, growth, officers, meetings, i.e.; operational Stuff.

We need to recruit on a wider basis through demonstrations and picnics. We also need a stronger college base to funnel newcomers into the SCA and hopefully some will stay on and help grow the Barony. We also need to focus on recruitment within the wider Tasmanian community. This will strengthen the SCA in Ynys Fawr.

The officers of Ynys Fawr perform an often thankless task and I have great respect for the role that they play in the running of Ynys Fawr. I would respect the officers right to do their jobs in the way they best see fit. I would prefer to be an extra pair of helping hands if needed/requested.

Regular short meetings are a good way of helping glue the barony together. I see no need to change the present meeting structure.

"Mission Statement"

My Catchphrase would be "Double the numbers, double the fun!"

A summary of my mission, would be to grow the Barony to double it's present membership size, strengthen and appreciate the officers of the group and prepare the groundwork for the setting up of a second Barony on the island.

I would be a dignified Baron with a strong interest in the Arts and Sciences. I would also involve myself with the Arts Marshal side by re-establishing rapier. I would run court in a slightly more formal fashion than at present and travel to the north of the Barony as often as time and finances permit and take an active interest in all that happens in the Barony.

The time I intend to serve as Baron of Ynys Fawr is for a maximum of three years.

Yours in Service.

Declan of Drogheda.