

THE GATEKEEPER

Barony of Unser Hafen

January 2016



Contents

[Kingdom Calendar](#)

[Announcements](#)

[Guilds - Activities - Gatherings](#)

[Craftsman's Guild](#)

[Cooking Corner](#)

[Steward's Guild](#)

[Calligraphy and Illumination Guild](#)

[Armorer's Guild](#)

[Links to Facebook and Website](#)

[The Court of Unser Hafen](#)

[Baronial Officers](#)

[Rammes Keep Officer List](#)

[Brumbär Halten Officer List](#)

[Letter from the Baro and Barono](#)

[Letters from Officers](#)

[Article:](#)

[Henry Needed an Heir](#)

kingdom calendar

February
2016

6

Barony of Caerthe

[Tri Baronial A&S Competition](#)

K/Q

Killian

7	College of Saint Goliass	Southern War Practice		Bela
13	Shire of Aarquelle	As You Wish: Boys & Girls Club Fundraiser		Suzanne & Aegeon
23-29	Kingdom of Atenveldt	Estrella War	K/Q	Norah & Rachel
March 2016				
12	Barony of the Citadel of the Southern Pass	Crown Tournament	K/Q/P/P	Giovanni
12-20	Kingdom of Gleann Abhann	Gulf Wars	K/Q	Sarah & Gilbert
April 2016				
9	College of Saint Goliass	Kingdom A&S		Torcail
29-1	Kingdom of Artemisia	Known World Heraldic and Scribal Symposium		Dunkr
30	Barony of Unser Hafen	Unser Hafen Investiture		Iago
30	Barony of al-Barran	Albuquerque Renaissance Faire		Elisee
May 2016				
14-15	Shire of Aarquelle	Coronation	K/Q/P/P	Generica
26-30	Barony of al-Barran	Grand Outlandish XLIII		Otto
27-30	Barony of Caerthe	The Siege at Inlandish		Angus & Reynhard
June 2016				
3-5	Barony of Dragonsspine	Dragonsspine Champions		Abigail
17-27	Society	SCA 50th Year Anniversary Celebration		Llewellyn and Elina
23-26	Shire of Plattefordham	Northern Realms War		Ailidh
30-4	Shire of Drygestan	Keepers of the Dry Stone		Thomas
July 2016				
1-3	Barony of Unser Hafen	Heroes and Legends		Alexander
8-10	Barony of Caer Galen	Caer Galen Defender		Finn
15-17	Shire of Aarquelle	Aarquelle Highlands Rapier Camp		Bora & Aegeon
21-24	Shire of Rio de las Animas	Defender of the Silver Pass		Gareth
29-31	Shire of Draca Mor	Summer Tournament And Games (STAG)		Faelan
30	Barony of al-Barran	Nock on Wood		Sabiha
August 2016				
20-21	To Be Determined	Crown Tournament	K/Q/P/P	
31-5	Kingdom of the Outlands	Battlemoor VII		Alasdair & Bennet
September 2016				
16-17	Canton of Hawks Hollow	Northglenn Pirate Festival - DEMO		Katelin
23-25	Barony of al-Barran	al-Barran Champions		Mordygann
October 2016				
November 2016				

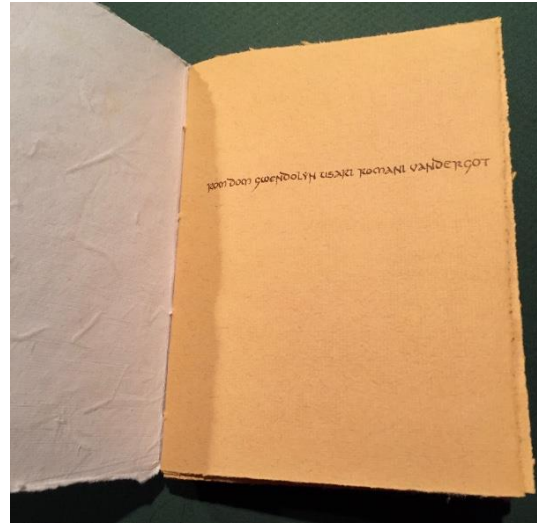
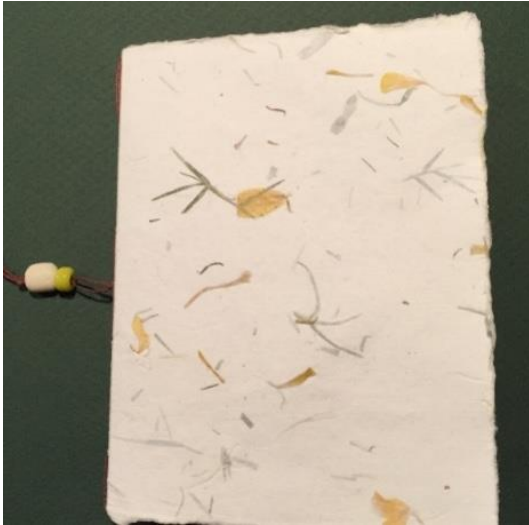
11-12	Kingdom of Calontir	Known World Fiber Arts Symposium	Vincent
12-13	To Be Determined	Coronation	K/Q/P/P

Announcements:

Subscription to The Gatekeeper: if your name needs to be corrected, or you wish to unsubscribe from this newsletter, please email Lady Anne Elizabeth Morley at chronicler@unserhafen.org

The Gatekeeper

The Unser Hafen newsletter has a new name thanks to
Dom Rom Gwendolyn Usari Romani Vandergot.
Her prize is a soft-cover book made for and dedicated to her by
Lady Anne Elizabeth Morley.



Tri Baronial Arts and Sciences Competition is coming on February 6th in the fine Barony of Caerthe. We are in need of judges! There are 93 entries (36 artists)....5 are display only, and only 48 judges. That means more than three entries per judge which is a difficult proposition.

These artists are being brave enough to enter, shouldn't you be brave enough to volunteer to judge? If you have not judged before, I will be available to help you through the process.

I remain always in service to the arts, THLady Killian MacKenzie
ladykillian@gmail.com

<http://kyrrin.wix.com/tribaronial2016>

guilds · activities · gatherings

What's going on in our Barony:

Craftsman's Guild

Craftsman's Guild meets every other week, so the next few meetings will be the 4th and 18th of February and March 3rd, 17th and 31st, always at 6:30 at Wellmark Keep, 3601 El Caminito in Loveland CO. The next few meetings will be devoted to making Largess, and we are having a chip carving class as well.

Lady Rosamonde Carver

970-775-7498

Cooking Corner

The Investiture Feast of the BARONY of UNSER HAFEN

April 30th

CLAY POT COURSE

Honey Glazed Fruit Sticks

Trio of Meatballs with a Trio of Sauces to Dip: gold and green and purple

(Beef, chicken and falafel)

Herbed Breadsticks

Pickle trade -- bring a jar to share!

PIG a DEUX!

Roasted Whole Piglet and Spice Roasted Pork Shoulder

Savory Roasted Parsnips

"Pease Porridge Hot"

A VARIETY of DISHES

3 Cheese Mustard Pie

Honey-Orange Glazed Carrots

Pomegranate Game Hens

Dressed Field Greens

Sourdough Loaves w/herbed and fruited butters

BITES and SIPS

Dried Fruit dipped in Chocolate

Hot Bar: coffees, fresh brewed teas, pots au chocolate

Bring a little mug or cup, relax and enjoy!



Steward's Guild

Join the guild working on learning to be autocrats/stewards, as well as working as a group to present events.

Watch the calendar for meetings.

into the Order of the Trefoil, and charge her to
conduct herself in a manner befitting a member
of this Order. We grant her the right to bear
the insignia of the Order, to wit: Vert, a trefoil
slipped argent within a bordure embattled Or.

Calligraphy and Illumination Guild

Experienced scribes, come polish your style or learn a new script or work on scrolls!

Beginners, come learn the beautiful art of lettering!

All are welcome

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

Please contact Lady Anne so she can prepare space.

We meet in her kitchen in Loveland.

For more information contact

Lady Anne Elizabeth Morley

monroefischer@icloud.com, 970-669-9213

Armorer's Guild

Contact Lord Gerrit d'Orleans for information.

firemoth13@gmail.com

Archery Practice: See the Unser Hafen Populace Facebook page for Unser Hafen Archers at: [Unser Hafen Archers](#). Contact Lord Thomas Marston, 970.599.0714

Baronial Business Meetings: Third Friday of every month, Perkins Restaurant at Crossroads, dinner at 6:00, meeting 7:00 – 9:00. Contact seneschal@unserhafen.org.

Blacksmithing & Bowyer's Guild: Contact Master Thorfinn Greybeard, 970.667.1284

Brewer, Vintners & Cordials Guild: Contact Master Thorfinn Greybeard, 970.667.1284

Calligraphy and Illumination Guild: Wednesdays at 7:00 pm. Contact Lady Anne Morley, 970.669.9213, monroefischer@icloud.com

Cantores Lupini: Currently on a Break. Contact Lady Danielle de la Rochelle, mol@unserhafen.org

Chandler's Guild: Contact Lord Liam MacMillan, 970.622.0132, bill.colby@comcast.net

Craftsman's Guild: Every other Thursday. Contact Lady Rosamonde Carver, aands@unserhafen.org

Equestrian Practice: Contact Lady Cecelia O'Connor, 970.420.6652

Fighter Practice: 2:00 pm, Sunday afternoons at the Fieldhouse, CSU through April.

The Worshipful Company of Leathercrafters: Contact Lady Cecelia O'Connor, 970.420.6652



[Website](#)



[Unser Hafen Yahoo Site](#)



[Facebook](#)

THE COURT OF UNSER HAFEN



**His Excellency
Baro Tracker**

baron@unserhafen.org

**Her Excellency
Barono Meadhbh Daingen int Slebhe**

baroness@unserhafen.org

Court Stewards - Clan MacColla

Court Herald - Sir Felix Sniumi

Largesse Coordinator -

Defender - Sir Alexander McAndrew

Protector - Lord Cornelis van Veere

Warden - Lord Thomas Marston

Equerry - Mistress Katrin von Hohenzollern

Arts & Sciences Champion - Lady Rosamonde Carver

Pencerdd Bard - Lady Danielle de la Rochelle
Baronial Guard - Lord Khal Gan, Sir Kolgrimr Olafsson
Morgan of Dragonsspine, Lord Fredrick of Long
Ladies in Waiting - Lady Danielle de la Rochelle,
Lady Gwenhwyvar ferch Tewdrig

BARONIAL OFFICERS

Seneschal:

Jarl Freana Geardson
(Stewart Fairburn)
seneschal@unserhafen.org

Chancellor of the Exchequer:

Lady Elyse
(Deb Brannock)
exchequer@unserhafen.org

Barbican Pursuivant Herald:

Lady Saffiya bint Faris al-Dani
(Joshi Solomon Freville)
herald@unserhafen.org

Knight Marshal:

Sir Felix Sniumi
(Matthew Hoelscher)
knightmarshal@unserhafen.org

Marshal of Fence:

Lord James MacPhearson
aka Haggis

Quartermaster: OPEN

Hospitaller/Chatelaine:

Lord James MacPhearson aka Haggis
(Nolan Smith)
hospitaller@unserhafen.org

Chronicler:

Lady Anne Elizabeth Morley
(Marjorie Monroe-Fischer)
chronicler@unserhafen.org

Webminister:

Mistress Richenda de la Selva
(Ann Fairburn)
uhwebminister@gmail.com

Archivist:

Mistress Theresea die Tanzerin
(Terry Foppe)
archivist@unserhafen.org

Scribe:

(Nolan Smith)
fence@unserhafen.org

Captain of Archers:
Lord Thomas Marston
(Ronald Whittaker)
archery@unserhafen.org

Minister of Arts and Sciences:
Lady Rosamonde Carver
(Kathryn Vinson)
aands@unserhafen.org

Lady Perryn Coelbrand
(Robin Lagro)
scribe@unserhafen.org

Minister of Lists:
Lady Danielle de la Rochelle
(Nikki Wasinger)
mol@unserhafen.org

Seneschal of Rammes Keep

ramskEEP_seneschal@unserhafen.org

Templar Sergeant of the UNC Middle Ages Society

aka Brummbär Halten

Baldwin de la Berne

(Dane Banner Barnes)

barn8810@bears.unco.edu

Letter from the Bako and Bakopo

Greetings to Our Populace of Unser Hafen!

It has been a very busy few months. Brewer's Feast in November was everything we'd hoped for and more! We enjoyed the hospitality of the Barony of Fontaine Dans Sable while witnessing the Coronation of King Bela and Queen Anna. We were please to see that so many of our populace had traveled so far to witness it. Our December War Practice served to work off all the wonderful food that was provided by the Shire of Windkeep at Hunters' Feast. The Barony of Al-Barran welcomed us at their Mid-Winter with fun and food. The start of the new common year of 2016 saw us celebrating 12th Night with the Barony of Caerthe. And the festivities did not end there! The Shire of Plattefordham impressed us with their amazing hospitality at their Candlemas celebration. The end of January will see us in Dragonsspine, celebrating Candlemas with their good populace.

We would like to welcome HE Jarl Freana Geardson as our new Seneschal. He has jumped in with both feet and many organizational skills and experience.

February 6th is the setting for the Tri-Baronial Arts and Sciences. We hope to see many works entered or displayed by our fantastic artisans, as this is an area where our Barony excels. In addition, we will be honored to witness the Investiture of Sir Alasdair MacDubhghaill the Scot & Mistress Diana Doria as they assume the Coronets of Caerthe. Please join us for this grand event!

February also will bring WAR!! Shine your armor, hone your weapons and join the Crown of the Outlands and the Coronet of Unser Hafen at Estrella War. Caerthe is organizing a War Truck to transport equipment to the Outlands camp on site. Sir Robert Magnus and Mistress Jeanne-Marie Dubois are the points of contact if you have questions about pick-up and delivery of your equipment. Don't forget that carpooling is a fun way to make new friends!!

In March, Their Majesties, Bela and Anna, will host Crown Tournament to determine Their Heirs. This will take place in the Barony of the Citadel of the Southern Pass. We look forward to visiting with our Southern Cousins at such an auspicious occasion.

In addition to Kingdom Arts and Sciences competition, hosted by the College of Saint Golias, and the Knowne World Heraldic and Scribal Symposium in Artemisia, April will bring the Investiture of our Successors. Our gratitude to Lord Nicolaau Machado, Lady Safiyya bint Faris al Dani, Lord Val Bjorn Juleson and Lady Rosamonde Carver for their willingness to represent our wonderful Barony to the Knowne World. At the time of this letter, the polling has not taken place and the Crown has yet to decide who will assume the Coronets of Unser Hafen. This polling will take place on January 31st at the CSU Field House, starting at 2:00 pm. All are invited to meet the candidates and voice their opinions to the Crown. If anyone is unable to attend, letters to the

Crown at crown@outlands.org will be accepted until midnight on the night of the polling. Once Their decision is made, the announcement will be available on the appropriate communication sites. After that, Investiture will be on April 30th. Location and times will be linked on the Outlands calendar soon.

Many changes are in the wind and it's times like this that the Officers of our Barony are invaluable assets to us. Our appreciation for their dedication to the Barony is beyond expression.

Yours in Service

Tracker and Meadhbh

Baro and Barono of Unser Hafen

LETTERS FROM OFFICERS

From the Seneschal:

As the new Baronial Seneschal, let me introduce myself. My first SCA event was in the mid-seventies when a friend of mine invited me to dress up and join his SCA friends and do an impromptu demo at a showing of Monty Python and the Holy Grail. This was in Fort Collins, called in the SCA at that time as the Canton of Goldenveldt. I then moved to Ansteorra, then a Principality of Atenveldt, where my serious start in the SCA began. We became a Kingdom and there I was knighted, became Kingdom Seneschal, and married Mistress Richenda (Laurel) - the Kingdom Minister of Arts and Sciences. We decided to move to the Outlands, then a Principality of Atenveldt. Before moving I resigned my knighthood, and was made a Master of the Pelican and then a Master of Arms. We moved to the Shire of Caer Galen in the early 80's. I became the Atenveldt Kingdom Seneschal and Mistress Richenda was Outlands Principality Exchequer and Shire Dance Mistress. We became Crown of Atenveldt and after that moved to Caerthe. We had fun at events at the Shire of Stone Haven (now Unser Hafen). My last assignment was Outlands Deputy Earl Marshal for Fence and was able to get the first rules put in. Following my professional career to Missouri, we moved to Calontir. We played for awhile, but now raising children, and moving three more times for my City Manager career, we took an extended break from the SCA (15 years). About once a year we went to an event, but we did not have the time to invest like we wanted to. I retired last year, and we moved to Fort Collins – where it all began so many years ago.

Getting back into fighting has been a challenge. After being sufficiently beat up, I am now working on going from SCA minimum armor to something more substantial. I have also started rapier fencing, which is much more interesting than the epees we introduced to the Kingdom in the late 80's. Richenda and I started attending the monthly business meetings, the Steward Guild meetings, Craftsmen Guild meetings, and helping at events. Mistress Richenda volunteered for the Baronial Webminister post, and then I volunteered for Seneschal when Lord Gerrit announced he was stepping down.

The Barony has another busy year ahead. The Investiture of the next Baron and Baroness is scheduled for April 30, the June Faire demo, July 4th weekend camping event (last year's Heroes and Legends), Newcomers, and Brewers Feast. The Barony will be hosting Tri-Baronial Arts and Science Competition next year and so the work for that begins soon. Other events are also being discussed – everyone ready for some dancing?

Those of you who are already participating as an officer or putting on events, thank you. For those of you who are not, follow what I did, attend the Monthly Business Meeting, the Stewards Guild and the Craftsman's Guild –volunteer your time for events, become a Deputy to an Officer. It does not matter if you are in your first year or tenth year of the SCA – your help is needed. The SCA has so much to offer, but only if you put yourself forward. If you are not sure what you can do, talk to me.

In Service,

Jarl Freana Geardson

From the Barbican Pursuivant Herald;

Greetings from the Barbican Pursuivant, Your friendly Herald of bookish endeavor:

I have a few business items to share with you this new year.

First, the time has come for me to secure a deputy for the Herald's office position. The primary duties of this office include assisting with the research and submission of names/devices. Submissions may come from individuals, households or the Barony. There will be reporting required, as requested by your Kingdom counterpart and you will have to manage the transfer of submission fees. There can be other duties involved, but what is described here will be your main activities in this office. One does not have to have extensive experience as a Herald to perform these duties – simply an interest in the process and some organizational skills. Depending on the results of the upcoming Baronial Polling, a deputy will need to step up either by the end of April or by the end of August. Please contact me at herald@unserhafen.org if interested.

Now for a bit of general business. Have you ever wondered how the Crown and Coronets keep track of all the awards that are given out year after year? Precedence, a ranking of all members based on their SCA accomplishments, is tracked at the following website: <http://wimble.outlandsheralds.org/>

If you have received awards, you can look up our own name alphabetically or by group to see a record of your achievements. You can also link to "Awards by Kingdom or Barony" to see what the different awards are in Unser Hafen and throughout the Outlands. This website even has a breakdown of which individuals are members of the various Orders under "All Awards and Orders for the Outlands and Baronies".

In general, awards are reported to the Wimble Herald who responsible for updating this database, within a week of being given though sometimes awards have been known to go missing. Should you ever see an award you have received has not been updated to the Order of Precedence, simply let your local Herald know and an update can be easily requested.

I hope any who reads this little entry takes some time to explore the awards of our Kingdom and Barony.

Yours in Service,

Safiyya bint Faris al-Dani

Barbican Pursuivant

From the Arts and Sciences Minister:

Greetings unto the populace of the Barony of Unser Hafen, from your A&S minister.

We have Tri Baronial A&S coming up Feb. 6th, in the Barony of Caerthe. The site opens 8:30 and closes 6:00 at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Roman Catholic Church, 11385 Grant Dr. Northglenn, 80233. Event Steward: THLady Killian MacKenzie (303) 773-9596. The Registration for entries has already closed but we are in desperate need of judges, so please consider registering as a judge and coming out to cheer on those who have entered.

The Guilds are still meeting in our good barony: Craftsman's Guild meets every other week, so the next few meetings will be the 4th and 18th of February and March 3rd, 17th and 31st, always at 6:30 at Wellmark Keep, 3601 El Caminito in Loveland CO. The next few meetings will be devoted to making Largess, and we are having a chip carving class as well. Armorer's Guild is meeting every Tuesday and in addition to armoring also has

plans for more A&S projects.

Calligrapher's Guild meets every Wednesday, 7:00 at the home of Lady Anne Elizabeth Morley, 1005 Banyan Court, Loveland. Well, folks keep making stuff!

Lady Rosamonde Carver

A&S minister for Unser Hafen
970-775-7498

From the Knight Marshal:

The biggest news in the heavy fighting community has been the start of regular practices at UNC on Saturdays, with excellent early turn out and the hope for continued engagement with the students there. The newest armored fighters of the Barony have been making great progress with both making armor and in their fighting prowess. Estrella War looms in the near future, with the promise of both feats of arms and many other melees in the months to come. Unser Hafen fighters have acquitted themselves well in fields both near and far of late, from sorely testing the melee skill of our friends in Calontir to appearing in local tournaments, and have shown up in great numbers to war practices throughout the northern Outlands. Practices have been free of any reportable injuries, and we have been fortunate enough to see many of our friends from other local groups at our practices.

I would also like to commend the Ram's Keep fencing community for their constant support and presence at our practices, no matter where we had shifted them. Their enthusiasm is contagious, and much appreciated.

Yours in Service,
Felix Sniumi - Knight Marshal of Unser Hafen

From the Marshal of Fence and the Hospitlar:

We have passed the Solstice, and WAR and the Summer events are coming!

We have many new people to the area, and a tone of folks new to the SCA, and that means meet, greet, and pass along knowledge and all that gear that has been filling your basement and attic!

Allow me to be more plain; even the parts, of weapons or camps, garb bits and A&S leftovers, can be valuable to someone new. Got an old rapier pommel? It will have a home. Camp bed with no mattress? Someone has a mattress with no bed. And especially the bits and pieces of projects and tools will have loving homes. There are more new players around Unser Hafen than ever before, so multitask!

Clean house and arm and equip a new player!

Haggis of Unser Hafen,

Rapier marshal and Hospitlar

From the Webminister:

Greetings unto the populace of Unser Hafen from Mistress Richenda de la Selva,

I have been appointed to the office of Webminister for the Barony of Unser Hafen and I look forward to developing its potential. For more on my history, please see the seneschal's report in which Freana details our journey to today.

For our website (<http://unserhafen.wix.com/unserhafen>) to be a useful tool, we need to have content and information to put on it. If you are hosting an event, please send me a flyer on the information. If you are taking pictures, please send some my way. The website is an ideal place to create a photo gallery to track the history of our Barony. I would love to have pictures from the past. If anyone has pictures of the former Barons and Baronesses, please send them (with names attached).

I will also be setting up sections for our guilds as well as a resources tab. Guild members are welcome to take pictures of what you are working on and posting them here. If you

have a Facebook page, send me a link so people can find you. If you come across interesting websites that would be of use to others, please send them this way.

To submit pictures to be posted :

1. Rename the file with year+month + location + names +. For example **2015-05 GrandOutlandish Rosalind Frea Richenda.jpg** .
2. Create a brief description to go with the picture i.e. "Dancing the Troika"
3. Send it to webminister@outlands.org or share to uhwebminister@gmail.com

Writ on this day 25 of January, AS L

RIchenda

From the Chronicler:

Greetings, revered Populace of Unser Hafen!

As you have no doubt noticed, our newsletter has a new name! Thank you to Sir Alexander for the suggestion of renaming the newsletter, and to Rom Dom Gwendolyn Usari Romani Vandergot for the new name.

I hope that you enjoy the articles included in every newsletter. If you have an article to present, or a subject that you would like to know more about, please contact me at chronicler@unserhafen.org.

Yrs in Service,
Lady Anne Elizabeth Morley

Henry Needed an Heir

by

Lady Anne Elizabeth Morley

Divorced, Beheaded, Died,

Divorced, Beheaded, Lived.



British school children learn this little ditty to help them remember the history of Henry VIII. History seems to only push the idea that Henry had a voracious appetite for women. Well, perhaps he did, but there was an important reason for these six wives - Henry needed an heir.

The English monarchy, perhaps all monarchies, run by maintaining the family lineage by providing an heir. Women were thought of as ornaments, certainly not monarchs. So the king required boys, preferably several, to maintain the line. Sons could die in battle, were sickly, or simply not adequate to the task, so multiple sons were highly desirable. Henry II and Eleanor of Aquitaine had five sons, yet their first two sons died before their father, so the third, Richard I succeeded his father. Richard had no legitimate heirs, and Henry's fourth son also died before his father, so the next in line was John. All of Henry and Eleanor's daughters were skipped over for their sons. It has only been since 2013 that an elder daughter can displace a younger son in succession to the throne. ¹

When his elder brother Arthur died at age fifteen, it was suggested that he marry Arthur's widow, Catherine of Aragon. Although her mother, the Queen of Spain, protested vigorously, the marriage took place as soon as his father died, and the two were crowned King and Queen. Catherine bore Henry a boy who lived only 52 days.² The only other child that lived was Princess Mary. Mary was not the son that Henry needed, but he remained a dutiful husband (with two mistresses) until one of Queen Catherine's household, Anne Boleyn, caught his eye. Anne's elder sister Mary was then the King's mistress, and had born him a son. Mary was married at the time, but the child looked so much like the King that he was called 'Young Master Carey, the King's Son.'³



Strong-willed Anne had no intention of becoming another mistress. For her it was marriage or nothing. Henry was caught between a rock and a hard place. The Catholic church, the only Christian church at the time, would not recognise a divorce. But Henry needed an heir. Henry found a passage in the Bible book of Leviticus saying that a man was forbidden to marry his brother's widow. Although Queen Catherine claimed that her marriage to Arthur had never been consummated, Henry fought the Church, asking for an annulment. The Pope refused. The battle lasted six years until Henry decided to break with Rome and become head of a new church, the Church of England. A divorce was granted by the newly reformed church, and Henry secretly married Anne. Just in time, as seven months later, Anne gave birth to Princess Elizabeth.

The pressure was now on Anne to give Henry his heir, but it was not to be. She lost two children by miscarriages, so her value as his Queen was quickly diminishing. Henry's eye was already on one of her ladies-in-waiting, Jane Seymour. Perhaps she would be the magic that he needed to produce the desperately needed heir. This gave Anne's enemies in court ideas to find reason to remove Anne as Queen. She was accused of having affairs with her musician and friend, another courtier, and her own brother. Whether or not these charges were at all true will likely never be known, but the three men were hanged and then while still alive, disemboweled and quartered. Rather than the usual axman, Henry brought in a swordsman

from France to behead his Queen with one easy blow. Within 24 hours of Anne's execution, Henry and Jane were betrothed. 4

Finally, Jane bore Henry the son he so desperately needed. Edward was born on the 12th of October, 1537. Jane never recovered from the birth, and died two weeks later. She is the only one of Henry's wives to be buried with him in the tomb that he was already having prepared at Windsor Castle.



We've now gotten through the first line of the ditty, so it's time for another divorce. After two years, possibly of genuine mourning, Henry began to look for another bride. Thomas Cromwell sought a bride from a foreign court, sending out painters and agents to bring back news of possible candidates. The famous portrait painter Hans Holbein was sent to the court of the Duke of Cleves to paint his sisters' likenesses. For political reasons, and perhaps Holbein's kindly painted portrait, Henry chose Anne of Cleves for his fourth wife. A marriage contract was sent (which I have been fortunate enough to have held in my hands and studied in the British Library), and Anne came to England. Henry was less than pleased. He called her 'the Flanders Mare.' His lack of desire and political tensions made Anne realise that this marriage was not going to work. She

testified that the marriage had not been consummated, and it was summarily dissolved. 5

Henry's roving eye caught sight of young Kathryn Howard, a lady-in-waiting to Anne of Cleves. A lively girl of 19, she, like all of the others, was doubtlessly pushed towards the King by relatives greedy for power. Sixteen days after his divorce from Anne Henry married Kathryn. 6 Henry was 49, and getting less and less attractive as he aged. In less than a year, rumours spread of Kathryn's infidelity. They had been married in July of 1540, and she was executed in February of 1542. It is thought that she is the screaming ghost that haunts Hampton Court Palace. (Sadly, I have never experienced her ghost.)



A widow twice over, 31 year-old Katherine Parr was noticed by both Thomas Seymour, the brother of Queen Jane Seymour, and King Henry. Despite her desire to marry Seymour, Katherine felt it her duty to accept the King's proposal of marriage. They were quietly married in 1543. (Henry rarely took much time in seeking out a new wife.) As she was of child-bearing age, perhaps Henry still held hopes of a male heir. Katherine was close to all three of her step-children, but it would not appear that she conceived a child. Within four years Henry was dead, and within only a few months Katherine secretly married her true love, Thomas Seymour. Such were the intrigues of the Tudor Court.



Henry's one male heir, Edward, became King at the age of nine. Six years later Edward came down with measles and smallpox, then consumption and died. With no heir, the next in succession was Catherine of Aragon's daughter, Mary. She brought back Catholicism with a vengeance, gaining her the name 'Bloody Mary.' After her death five years later Anne Boleyn's daughter Elizabeth came to the throne, bringing with her the golden years of the Tudor dynasty, and the end of Henry's heirs. From Elizabeth the Crown went to the son of Mary, Queen of Scots, James I and a new dynasty, the House of Stuart.

Notes

1. <http://www.royal.gov.uk/ThecurrentRoyalFamily/Successionandprecedence/Succession/Overview.aspx>
2. <http://tudorhistory.org/aragon/>
3. <http://englishhistory.net/tudor/citizens/mary-boleyn/>
4. <http://tudorhistory.org/seymour/>
5. <http://tudorhistory.org/cleves/>
6. <http://tudorhistory.org/howard/>

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Henry II: <http://www.englishmonarchs.co.uk/plantagenet.htm>

Richard I: http://www.englishmonarchs.co.uk/plantagenet_2.htm

John: http://www.englishmonarchs.co.uk/plantagenet_3.htm

Henry VII: <http://www.englishmonarchs.co.uk/tudor.htm>

Henry VIII: <http://englishhistory.net/tudor/monarchs/henry-the-8th/>

Catherine of Aragon: <http://tudorhistory.org/aragon/>

Mary Boleyn: <http://englishhistory.net/tudor/citizens/mary-boleyn/>

Anne Boleyn: <http://tudorhistory.org/boleyn/>

Jane Seymour: <http://tudorhistory.org/seymour/>

Anne of Cleves: <http://tudorhistory.org/cleves/>

Kathryn Howard: <http://tudorhistory.org/howard/>

Katherine Parr: <http://tudorhistory.org/parr/>

Mary I: http://www.englishmonarchs.co.uk/tudor_8.htm

Elizabeth I: http://www.englishmonarchs.co.uk/tudor_9.htm

James I: <http://www.englishmonarchs.co.uk/stuart.htm>

The

Succession: <http://www.royal.gov.uk/ThecurrentRoyalFamily/Successionandprecedence/Succession/Overview.aspx>

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