

Lions Faction Pack Up October 2006

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Acknowledgements

This packup has been brought to you by the might of sprogs who believe the pinnacle of communication is to rattle his plastic bowl, with his plastics spoon whilst sticking his tongue out and blowing raspberries.

That and wonderful work by the following people.

Paul Feldwick, Steve Mather, Paul Wardman, Wozzi Foat (despite Raph being dead)
Marianne Wells, Clare Corley

Contact

If you want to get something published in PackUp, you can either email it to Dessie@armengar.org or post it to Derek McAllister, 0/2 6 Kendal Avenue, Glasgow. G12 0DL

If you want to get in touch with the Lions Plot Team, we can be contacted at lionsplotteam@yahogroups.com

Letter from the Editor

Right, I've just finished the plot doc, so have now given some time over to the packup.

Hope ye enjoyed the Gathering, told ye it was going to be big.

Ok, I'll admit I didn't expect to be losing Tremayne and Cormac on the first day of the event, but it started it off with a bang at any rate.

I'm told the death count was somewhere around 40, not quite at Rysarius levels, so we can look on the bright side, that at least your delicate and ever caring plot team still hold the record for number of Lions dead by the end of the event (It's not a target I'm specifically looking to increase though... don't fret too much)

Thanks to all those who attended the Group Leaders Meeting, I think a good few things got discussed there, though at least one thing got discussed to death and let us never ever again mention the letters PvP in polite company, needless to say there were heated debates on that matter. Minutes from that should be up sometime soon, possibly after we catch a breath from planning the winter event.

Group Leaders, can you please ensure that in the meantime your groups are entirely brought up to speed about the salient points raised at that meeting.

Winter event.

By god has this one been a bugger to put together, I dunno what it's been but it's taken a lot longer than I anticipated. I'm hoping it all comes together as one nice big cohesive event which you can get your teeth into, or does it get it's teeth into you.. I'm not too sure about that any more (I need caffeine)

At last count I think we have somewhere in the region of 110 players, and about 30 (ish) monsters.

Event guides for the winter event should be going out shortly (I'll be writing them as soon as I've finished this letter) and an up to date booking list will be

hosted by my glamorous assistant (the beautiful and illustrious Ms Myers) in the very near future (I'm such a dead man)

I'd like to say a thank- you to Mr Graham Mills,

Despite being older than Methuselah himself, Graham was a great guy to work with. The first plot team meeting I attended with him he was straight in there with suggestions about how to do things right, how to get the faction back on track, and that's the way he was right through to the end.

Even now, with Tremayne's career break as a coffee table I get frequent questions from Grey asking if he can help in any way, or what he can do. He represents everything that's great about this faction (except the being VERY old part)

Well he's staying with the Lions (huzzah) and the rest of the 116th will be coming back, making their initial entrance in the Spring, and a veritable horde of them come the main season next year.

To the 116th, what a way to go out lads, ye won't have seen it but as ye ran of just watching the collective jaw of the Lions hit the floor ranks up there as one of my finest moments as a ref.

Anyways.. I'm off to write the event guide, I hope to see ye all in just under 2 weeks, and to scare your socks off.

Have a good one

D

A Letter from the Office of the Knight Defender

As was seen at the Gathering of Nations this year, it is vitally important for the good of the faction, that we are able to provide capable bodyguards for those in positions of authority within the faction, such as the Crowns and the Council. Our enemies would never be happier than if they can deprive us of those who lead us - to cut of the serpent's head, so to speak. I appealed for bodyguards at one of the musters over the weekend, and received a very limited response, and sadly, some of those who responded now lie with the honoured dead of the faction.

So I am reiterating my appeal. Anyone who is interested in aiding this faction, our faction, in keeping those important people in the faction safe, please see me at the earliest opportunity, or contact me via my ley stone (meggido.stone@gmail.com). All who give their time in service to the faction in this way will be rewarded, and where we might not have coin to give you, myself and Jacob will ensure that you are given faction items to aid in your task, and where possible, priority for training in skills that you may wish to learn. Providing protection for the Crowns and the Council, Ambassadors and other notables within the faction is as important a way to serve our faction as contributing to rituals or standing guard on our camp gate, and I can assure those who answer this call that you will be given the honour and respect due you.

In Service and Duty

Lanceman Megiddo Stone
Void Lance, The Prince Bishop's Men
Aide to the Council, Office of the Knight Defender

*House Darkendale
Cordially invites members and guests of the
Lions Faction to attend the wedding of*

*Adara Darkendale
High Mage of the Lions Faction*

and

*Megiddo Stone
Aide to the Council, Office of the Knight
Defender
Lance-Corporal of Void Lance*

*On Friday evening of the Winter
Campaign on Akamon.*

From The Office of The Viceroy (acting).

Regarding lost friends...

Well, The Cataclysm and Cadre Battle's have been and gone and Erdreja is still with us. I for one am relieved to still be alive and offer my condolences to all those who have lost close friends and family in what amounted to a significant loss to all factions, not just our own.

From my own lists we have lost many this year as follows.

Crown Prince : Nathaniel Tremayne

Wonders of War : Dorn

Renowned : Nym, Champion of Creation, Mog, Former Crown Prince, Collumn Trowbridge, Greatest Armourer of this and many age, Sister Bethanie, Champion of Good.

Lochlan Douglas, Thronдор Aquila, Scratch, Sniff, Balor, Tycho Aquila, Martin Hetherington, Silk Fairfax, John Caill, Colm Blackhelm, Deidric Talthor, Stonetree Rockwood, Rannak the Maker, Tirriq Moonshard, Lanceman White, Thadeous Goodram Sen R' Los, Kia, Navarre, Hyena, Siseal MacFionnbharr, Nicholas Aetherson, Donacha, Bran, Fion, Halad ap Risca, Anri, Samuel L. Cod, Cormac, Petal, William Thorne, Polaris, Crog, Pernesius, Neomedes, Tynian, Gamorran, TorAndre, Apples, Oliver Fitzoliver, Fizaritan Sen'Rios, Dalziel Douglas, Jerusalem Steel, Masada Steel, Graves, Walker, Swiftwing, Mandrake Darkendale, Laura Kydd, Olaf Svenson, Wilberforce Dark, Archon, Leafwine, Dara, Alais, Kotkel

Rest now old friends with whatever Ancestor you served, we pay our respects to you all.

Regarding times ahead...

For the rest of us the year is not finished yet and this is no time to rest on our laurels. Back home an old foe has reared his ugly head. Scirroco, leader of the Sengulian breed who call us foe has struck against us and it is high time we showed him who rules around here. So ready yourselves all you can for the fight ahead, it will come all to soon and only by fighting together lead by our new Knight Marshall - Lexandro De'Averg for Queen Tope & Lantia do we stand to take back what is ours from just one of those who would take our lands and lives.

Regarding The Guilds...

As many of you will know I have not long been in the roll of Viceroy, I only took over after my predecessor Foot note stood down after the sad loss of his adoptive daughter this Summer. I wish Foot Note well in the future and hope time really does heal all wounds.

I would like to take this opportunity to say that we need to ensure that the Guilds are our friends. Without them helping us in training and the supply of specialists goods and services we would be have a much harder time fighting against Factions and others who would see us eradicated or enslaved if they could. If possible I urge you all to spend at least some time getting to know the Guilds next year to help keep us a force to be reckoned with. And if that doesn't encourage you then I will also add you can make good money down there too.

Special note should be given to all our Guild Liaisons, Capt. Albony Foxwhelp (Bards), Pygmalion (Commerce), Cara (Healers), Fionnuala (Incantors), Curala (Mages), Dante Childe (Militia), Lithowey D'el (Alchemists), Odessa Thorne (Archers), Blane (Scouts). Some are old hands, a good number of you are new and dropped in at the deep end. Without your help arranging training for so many Lions over the Winter would have been complete hell for me (Armourers) and I thank you all. Remember, let me know what's going on in your guild and how I can help you do your jobs.

I would also like to give notice that I now have both a second as Armourers Liaison and an Aid.

Prohet is my new apprentice and Second and Hellena my Aid, both of Hydra.

You two have great potential and am grateful for your help this past weekend.

Finally a couple of personal notes...

Collumn Trowbridge,

Collum was my master for a good number of my early years down at The Armourers Guild. A mainstay liked by all he was quite probably the greatest Armourer seen in this and many an age in all of the Factions. It seemed nothing was beyond he couldn't repair. From regularly fixing warriors armour mid battle to get them back in the action, fixing our camp gates when some pest broke them, fixing a factions artefact when they were careless enough to let it get broken to re-forging the Orb of Magic in one of the most high powered rituals I have ever seen, while wearing the Crown of the Void as loaned to him by the immortal pattern 'Void', a deed not done in 7000 years. These deeds only matched by the countless weapons, armour and shields he made, most of which went to the Lions to help keep us alive. Rest easy in the Halls of Waylund Smith, you were truly a legend amongst us all.

Petal,

Tank, Alchemist, Giant amongst men in height, alcohol consumption and gingeriness. I've lost count of the times you were there for us all and the laughs we shared. Don't get so drunk that you spew on us all from the heavens on one of Ebric's & Nox's stellar pub crawls. Rest easy old mukka.

Runt Spinesplitter McEwan – Viceroy to the Guilds (Acting) and Armourers Liaison.

OOO Runt is brought to you by Steve Mather, ley gobshite (trying to behave) who can be contacted by either the following means.

email - logicus@lrp.demon.co.uk

phone - 0117 958 8745 (Week nights 6pm - 10pm, weekends take pot luck but not too early / late please)

From the High Ritualist (via scribe, of course):

Many many thanks to you all.

It has now been a year since Rua's death, and my subsequent assumption of her duties. It's been a hard year, what with cataclysms, cadre wars and the usual inter-factional business, and demand on rituals has rarely been higher. I'm sorry that we (by which I mean the LRC) has had to be somewhat stingy on giving out ritual slots to groups this year, but there have been higher matters to pursue. Of course, that's mostly dealt with now, so next year (hopefully), we'll be able to be a lot more generous when it comes to helping people out.

However, it still requires people to contribute, to come up with the ideas in the first place, and, ideally, to give me some form of script, or at least an idea of how to achieve their goal. This year has been a long scramble, with people (not just Lions!) coming up to me with a vague idea of something they might like, and oh, the ritual is in one hour, can you manage? Generally, amazingly, we have managed. This has actually garnered something of a reputation among the other ritualists out there, and I believe the mages guild as well: if you need a ritual done on a moment's notice, talk to the Lions. Of course, it's always better when we have time to plan!

Assuming that we get appropriate ideas soon enough, I, and the rest of the LRC, will work on prioritising them, and working out when they'll be. Hopefully then we can tell our likely contributors well in advance, and so you will have time to organise and see which rituals you are likely to be available for. This _should_ result in less of a scramble, but I fully expect people to come running up to us requesting a ritual to be done at the last moment!

And once again, thank you all for being there and being so helpful. I really couldn't have managed this year without you all.

Rhapsody

An Open Letter to Queen Tope

Queen Tope, Prince Hengist, Knight Marshal Cormac,

My Queen, my lords, my friends, I hope this letter finds you well! However, if you are reading this then I will be gone.

Hopefully as you read this, I will already be home with my people, along with all the soldiers of the 116th.

We believe we have found a way to return to where we came from and by the cataclysm, will have evacuated all our troops. Small numbers are already being sent through the small void gates that have been opening. The command team will be the last to go through. I hope you don't think we have abandoned you. I firmly believe that the lions will be standing tall after the cataclysm which is why the command team of the 116th will stay with you for as long as possible before making the journey home.

I'm sorry I could not tell you my plans beforehand but I think you would have tried to stop me. It has been my utmost honour to have served as you Knight Captain. I have served in the 116th for many years and have been to many places but none as welcoming as the peoples of Lantia. A home away from home! But all of us have yearned for so long to be able to go home.

Personally for me, the fall of Nathaniel Tremayne from the righteous path of Inquisitor, has thrown me into turmoil. I fear for my pattern and fear that at the end I will not go to the All-Father. He has used us for personal gain and has now abandoned us to our own fate. This was the catalyst that has driven us to take drastic measures to get home.

I have learnt a great many things while with you all and believe I am a better person for it. I have made so many friends and have shared in your victories and failures, your sorrows and joys.

Thank You All

May your ancestors protect you.

Knight Captain Raphael Aziriah
116th

Bring & Buy Sale

I have been talking with a number of the populace, who have expressed a desire to help both those less fortunate within the Lions, and the faction as a whole to rebuild following the famine, the cataclysm and the conclave attacks. To this end I will be organising a collection of old clothing and unwanted sundries, for sale at the upcoming parliament.

Any offers of clean, good quality clothing, tankards, etc. would be most appreciated, and anything handed in will be offered for sale in exchange for donations at the parliament. This will be on Friday night and dependent on not being attacked too heavily at the time - trying to sell anything in a battlefield situation is, while possibly stylish, neither big nor clever.

All proceeds will go to the faction coffers to be used to rebuild, and anything which is not wanted will be distributed to the refugees and homeless of the faction, of whom there are sadly many.

So if you are interested in helping, bring your money and see if you can find a bargain while helping the faction.

Lancecorporal Iolanthe Swan
White Lance

OOO: This is basically an IC bring & buy to let people pass on old kit, and pick up new stuff to expand their IC wardrobe. It's being held IC, so IC money only. Anything which is unwanted at the end of the weekend will be offered to Lionsplot and if they don't want it, I'll give anything decent to a charity shop and chuck the rest.
- Marianne

Missive from the Lions Quartermaster

Dear Lions,

Our faction has survived the cataclysm but we have taken some dire loses. We have lost a Prince, our War Leader, our Head of the Council, our Keeper of the Secret Seal, our Master armourer, our Gate Captain and many many others. This leaves the Lions council somewhat in disarray with few people left to organise and lead our great faction.

In just a few short weeks comes our Winter Parliament and it is my proposal that we indeed have a parliament, a true meeting of Ranked Lions whose main task is to discuss and decide on the future of this great faction. As Lions Seneschal, under direction from Queen Tope, I invite all the following Lions (in no particular order) to attend a council meeting at 9.30pm on the Friday night of the Parliament in October or to send a second in their place.

Queen Tope
Prince Hengist
Ivory du'Bois – Head of the Arcane council
Rhapsody – High Ritualist
Lexandro – Acting War Leader
Adara – High Mage
Alana – High Diplomat
Ezekial Crane - High Incantor
Lenia – Acting Keeper of the Secret Seal
I'vad – Factions Weapons Master
Jacob Shwartz – Knight Defender
Elrood Brond – High Healer
Runt McEwan – Acting Guild Liason
Siobhan Douglas – Assistant Quartermaster (to give accounts of the quartermasters office as my second as I will be busy chairing the meeting and taking minutes)

Please send your acknowledgements to my ley to let me know whether you will be able to attend or whether you will be sending a second and I will reply and forward a copy of the agenda to you.

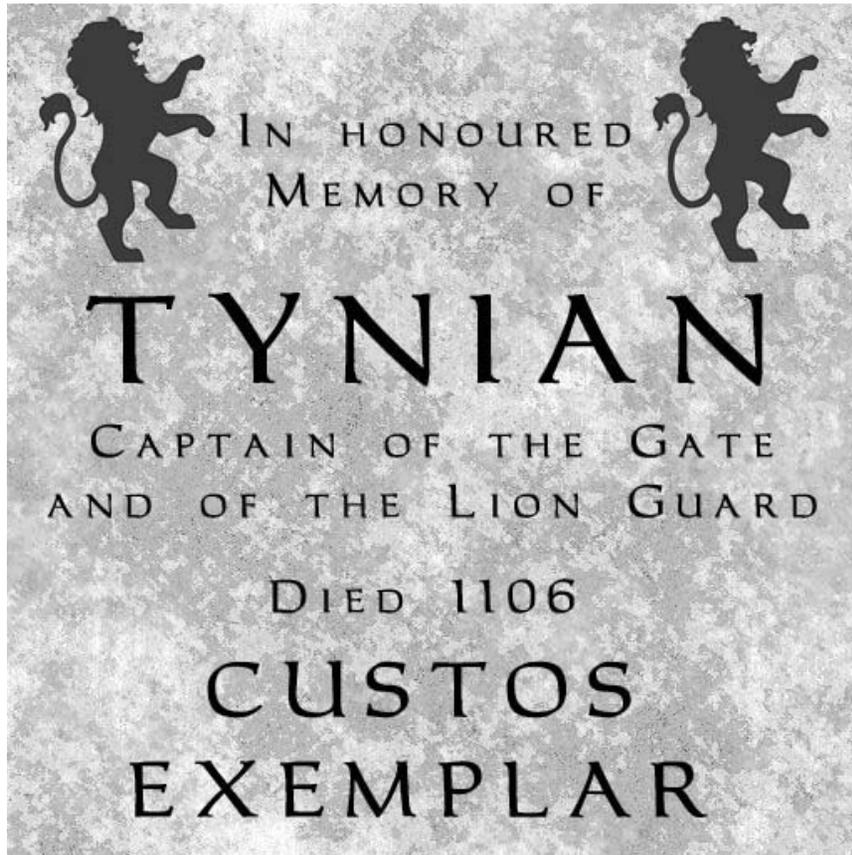
If anyone not on this list would like to attend (or if I have missed anyone) please contact my ley at silveryone_666@yahoo.com

Many thanks for your co-operation and understanding in these hard times. As one we will rebuild and ensure that the strength and cohesion of this great faction never wavers.

For honour, for justice, for truth, for the Lions!

Kirsten Geyer

Obituaries



Alais

I wasn't lucky enough to know you very well, but I knew enough to know you were a good person. You were smart and forthright, and your insight into a situation was always direct, with just the right level of sarcastic pragmatism to mean I was never sure if you were serious. I suspect you probably were. I'm very glad I met you, and I wish I'd had longer to get to know you better.

Robin Ashwine

Sister Bethanie Dyzgati:

I know you did a great deal of great things, but I'll always remember you as the woman who was my friend. You looked out for me when I was down, as you did for countless others. No matter how busy or upset you got, you always thought of others, and never left anyone feeling anything other than good about themselves. And I'll always be grateful that you took time out from organising the Feast cadre to bring Jutah and I together. I'm glad and honoured whenever I was able to help you in return, though I know the balance was always on your side. I know I'll always miss you.

Robin Ashwine

Prince Tremayne:

I know we had our differences - heck, we had them loudly and often when you were Warlord. But we both had the best interests of the Lions at heart, and I always liked and respected you for that. You had a way of uniting all the faction together and taking the time to listen to everyone and even if you didn't agree with some of us most of the time, you explained why. I hope you knew how much that was appreciated.

Robin Ashwine

Prince Bishop Fizaratan Sena R'Ios

You were my dear cousin, my apprentice, and my friend. You had the courage to do what you thought was right, and the humility to take advice in the spirit it was offered. I know you were uncertain but to my mind, that made you a great Prince Bishop. You had a great way of thinking around problems and you were I'll miss you, Coz.

Robin Ashwine Sena R'Ios

Esmund Walker

He didn't die a Lion. His new unit acted against the Lions, and I know many people now see nothing but ill in him, but Esmund was in many ways one of us.

He came to Avalon from Albion as a young Lanceman, and fought bravely for many years. When the Lions came to Lantia he came too, but when we circle bombed the Calebii under a flag of peace he couldn't stay, and that as the faction acted as Vipers he would join that faction instead. Whether his gesture was helpful or otherwise is a matter for debate, but he left for the sake of his principles. He joined the Stoneburgers initially, and later the Faculty, but he remained tied to the Lions and often made a point of looking out for us when he could. As Lord Walker of Albion he tried to move to the Harts to be with his wife, but the Vipers would not release him.

He died on Sunday of the Gathering finishing a years-long crusade against the Conclave by killing the lich that was their final leader, but was killed by the lich's bodyguards. He sacrificed himself doing something incredibly dangerous to save Erdreja, and I'm proud to have known him and called him a friend.

Spare a thought for Esmund Walker. Be forgiving of his faults, and remember the good times, not the bad.

Robin Ashwine

Tor-Andre

When I had to choose a Master of Thought for the Order, it was not a difficult decision. Tor-Andre was the obvious choice. While the Master of Arms is chosen for courage and bravery, the Master of Thought's role is to remind us that sometimes charging into a battle may not be the wisest move. The Master of Thought teaches us to consider our actions, and always ensure that what we do is what is best for the Order, the Lions and Edreja.

That the Order has just undergone a major re-organisation and re-consideration of its place in Edreja is primarily due to Tor. He made us look at ourselves, find where we were lacking and work to improve it. Those who knew Tor know that he was equally at home in light-hearted banter as in deep and philosophical discussions on the nature of the Order of Celestial.

Tor-Andre was a good man and a fine knight. His contribution to the Order will be sorely missed.

Elrood Brond
Grand Master of the Order of Celestial
High Healer of the Lions Faction

Gamorran

Anyone that met Tope recently will no doubt have noticed a well-armed, heavily armoured, Knight of Celestial close by. That was Gamorran. He was the queen's bodyguard, and because of his unswerving commitment to his duty of protecting her life, he was also the Order of Celestial's Master of Physik.

Gamorran's single-minded dedication to the task of protecting our queen was as astonishing as it was admirable. It was easy to see nothing more in the man, but there was much more to be found, for anyone that cared to look. Gamorran was brave, friendly and fun. He was a good man to have around in a fight, and a good friend with which to share a beer and a joke. His appointment to the position of Master of Physik caused some surprise, since the post has been traditionally held by a healer, but I have never met anyone more dedicated to the protection and preservation of life.

Gamorran's death was a great loss to the Order and the faction.

Elrood Brond
Grand Master of the Order of Celestial
High Healer of the Lions Faction