

Official Information Packet

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## EURO $10^{\text {TH }}$ ANNI - STOKES BARN, MUCH WENLOCK <br> Please read this document in full - there is a great deal of important information included that you will need for your reference.

## INTRODUCTION

Euro $10^{\text {th }}$ Anni has been in the planning for several months and promises to be a brilliant weekend located in a converted barn and cottage, surrounded by fields in the English Countryside. Several of our members have been working hard in the months running up to the event preparing food plans, welcome packs, decorations and more!

For those joining us for the first time, and those who are veterans of Tower events, we hope you have a great time! This pack does include information on what to expect and a reminder that there are quite a lot of us in a small space so there will be tiffs and tears but we'll get through them all.

## LOCATION INFORMATION

## Stokes Barn

Stokes Threshing Barn \& Granary is based just outside Much Wenlock, Shropshire

## DRIVING DIRECTIONS

## Finding Much Wenlock - from the M6

Northbound on the M6 exit at Junction 10A / Southbound on the M6 exit at Junction 11. Join the M54 and stay on until Junction 6, taking the first exit off the roundabout and continue to follow signs for Much Wenlock.

When approaching from any other direction, Much Wenlock is $1 / 2$ way between Bridgenorth and Shrewsbury on the A458

## Finding the Stokes Barn Complex

Entering Much Wenlock from Telford on the A4169 you will be confronted with a T-junction (you will be facing the Gaskell Arms Hotel), turn right onto the A458.
The Barn is located just $1 / 4$ of a mile outside Much Wenlock on the A458 heading towards Shrewsbury. As you leave Much Wenlock you pass between the national speed limit sign and Stokes Barn is the 2nd driveway on the left (about 100 metres).
Stay on the right-hand side of the drive. Follow the lane round to the right and up the hill where it will lead you to Stokes Threshing Barn, Stokes Cottage and The Granary.
Please park in the car parks provided (not in the courtyard area).

## AIRPORT AND STATION PICK-UP AND DROP OFF'S

You are responsible for your transportation to and from the site. Please insure you have planned your pick up and drop off's before you arrive at the event. Be sure to exchange phone numbers with your travel partners in advance and remember not all our attendees will have UK mobile numbers!

## ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

## Check-In

We have a large number of people to check in on Friday and quite a lot to process so please aim to arrive $\boldsymbol{a t}$ the appointed time. Be prepared to follow the outlined procedure and have any materials you may need to assist in your check in (e.g. ID).

- Check in time is between 4 and 5 pm. If you are going to arrive after 5 pm on Friday you must contact Sonea Sedai or Rhianna Sedai and let them know the anticipated time of your arrival so they are able to arrange a late check-in for you. If circumstances arise that unexpectedly prevent you from arriving before 5, please contact Sonea.
- Check in will include:
- Confirming your arrival at the site
- Obtaining your name badge for the event
- Signing liability and photo release forms
- Receive welcome pack etc.
- Sign up for special activities
- Provide your name, address, and additional contact information for emergency purposes.


## Sunday Departure

We must be completely checked out of the site by 4 pm Sunday afternoon but are aiming to clear out by 1 pm . This includes cleaning the space and returning everything to how we found it. You must check out with Sonea Sedai before your departure from the site.

PLEASE NOTE: Leaving before the site is deemed clean by the owners is not acceptable unless we have prior notice. There will be no getting out of the clean-up. If for any reason you do need to leave early we will task you separately. The event management team will not stay late and clean up after you, we have long drives home too.

There may be a local pub lunch but this will be voluntary and TBC on the day.

## ROOM ASSIGNMENTS

Please remember your sleeping bags ensure that you have made and confirmed arrangements in advance.

The Barn

|  | 12 person room | 10 person room | 6 person room |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Naeris Gaidin | Loira Sedai | Manora Sedai |
| 2 | Pip Gaidin | Accepted Prewan | Tim Page |
| 3 | Alwyn Sedai | Shariyan Sedai | Citizen Feon |
| 4 | Alessandra Sedai | Enya Sedai | Morwynna Sedai |
| 5 | Kerna Sedai | Accepted Chiyuki | Vacant |
| 6 | Sa'areah Sedai | Melana Sedai | Vacant |
| 7 | Lucas Gaidin | Accepted Vixen |  |
| 8 | Idris Gaidin | Vacant |  |
| 9 | Recruit Belgareth | Vacant |  |
| 10 | Recruit Thaumiel | Vacant |  |
| 11 | Janos Gaidin |  |  |
| 12 | Vacant |  |  |

## The Cottage

|  | 10 person room | 4 person room | 2 person room |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Recruit Lain | Sonea Sedai | Eleyan Sedai |
| 2 | Maran Sedai | Citizen Adan | Vivianna Sedai |
| 3 | Lorella Sedai | Rhianna Sedai |  |
| 4 | Ubah Sedai | Jayson Gaidin |  |
| 5 | Nyarin Sedai |  |  |
| 6 | Elendria Sedai |  |  |
| 7 | Aduiavas Sedai |  |  |
| 8 | Accepted Loreniel |  |  |
| 9 | Isarma Sedai |  |  |
| 10 | Vacant |  |  |

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Please be aware that there is the need for the events team to be on-site before you all arrive as we need to do a number of tasks in preparation for the event itself. If you do arrive early please consider spending some time in town or, if you have to come directly to the venue, we may well request that you stay in a specific area until we are ready to welcome you properly. Do not aim to be early!

All timings are approximate but if we want to fit everything in, please make sure you are where you need to be if you are tasked with cooking or cleaning. We're not expecting you to get up any earlier than in previous years either!

## Friday 2 ${ }^{\text {nd }}$ September 2011

```
1600-1700 Registration and Welcome
1700-1730 Briefings from Eleyan Sedai and Sonea Sedai
1730-1830 Cooking / Wood Collection
1830-1915 Dinner
1915-1945 Clean up
1945-2030 Official Toast and Awards
2030-2100 Jaeger-run
2100 onwards Euro Idol (barn) / Poker (cottage)
```


## Saturday $3^{\text {rd }}$ September

```
0900-0930 Catering team up and going
0930-1030 Breakfast
1030-1100 Clean up
1030-1300 Festivities Begin!
1230-1300 Catering team prepare lunch
1300-1400 Lunch
1400-1530 Faire
1500-1530 Catering team prepare dinner and Tea
1600-1700 Storytime (barn) / Man Make Fire (outside)
1800-1900 Dinner
1900-1930 Evening preparation / clean up
1930-2000 Mystery event (you will want to be in costume if you have one)
2000-2100 Official Ceremony's
2100 - Late Drinking and being merry
```


## Sunday $4^{\text {th }}$ September

0930-1000 Catering team up and going
1000-1100 Breakfast
1100-1300 Clean up followed by site inspection
1300 - Official Departure
PLEASE NOTE: As mentioned above, there will be no early exits without prior consent - the venue will be handed back to the site manager before official departure.

In case of bad weather there is a foul weather plan but as you would expect it will hamper our activities for the weekend.

## DINING \& ALLERGIES

We have tried to accommodate all the food allergies that we have been made aware of, but clearly we cannot please everyone all of the time. If you feel you need to bring any personal and specific perishable food to supplement the meals provided, please bring it in a bag that you can clearly mark with your name.

Vegetarian options are available at each meal and obviously the vegetarians get priority for these!
Please be sure to let everyone eat before going up for seconds - there will be plenty!
The seating in the barn won't allow everyone to be sat at the table at once so we need you to space yourselves out over the meal time and to leave the benches once you're done.

## MENU SUMMARY

Our team leaders have worked hard to pull together a weekend's menu that suits a variety of tastes and meets the specified needs you mentioned in your registration.

We're excited to host the European 10th Anniversary event in England, and have several meals highlighting local food and traditions. The majority of the meat is being provided fresh from a local butcher at a very reasonable cost, allowing us to support the local community with this event!

Vegetarian options (like veggie sausage, veggie roast) will be provided for the main meals, and food will be labelled.

Hungry at / or between meals? We've got bread, jam, assorted cereals, fruit and crisps for you to nibble on Saturday and Sunday! Coffee, tea, and soft drinks will be available throughout.

## A friendly note!

It is always a challenge to feed a large group of people, and we've worked very hard to ensure that there is plenty of good food and drink to go around.

Alcohol is not provided (with the exception of the Goldschläger toast, which is provided only to those of legal age to drink in the UK with proper ID (18)). If you're a fan of soft drinks (like the Amyrlin), please consider bringing a small stash for your own use as there is only a limited supply for the whole group.

## Friday Dinner - Pizza Night

A variety of pizza's, jacket (baked) potatoes, hot and cold salads, and other picnic-like side dishes

## Saturday Breakfast - Full English Breakfast

Fry-Up (Scrambled eggs, bacon, beans, mushroom, sausage, etc.). Cereals will also be available.

## Saturday Lunch - Ploughman's Lunch

Bread, cheese, apples, pickles, cold meats, and several salad options

## Saturday Afternoon - Afternoon Tea

Tea, scones and cream

## Saturday Dinner - Traditional Roast

Roast turkey, Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, mixed vegetables and stuffing

## Sunday Breakfast - Revenge of the English Breakfast

Fry-up and left overs

## DELEGATION OF ROLES

This year we are not running a committee scheme when it comes to cooking and cleaning. Instead we have pre-planned who is doing what so that it is fair! What you will find is the event management team doing just as much as everyone else, including their roles throughout the weekend. Please keep that in mind when we ask you to do something at a specific time - we will chase you if you aren't there too!

The list of tasks will be available on the day of arrival.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

While every member and guest is expected to be responsible for themselves and their own well being, we do have members in place to help in this regard. Some of them include:

Sonea Sedai (Mistress of Revels) - Sonea is the main event coordinator. She can be contacted for information regarding schedule, activities, general questions, and can be sought out in case of an emergency.

Naeris Gaidin (Master of Revels) - Naeris has been involved in the planning of the event so will be able to answer any questions in the absence of Sonea.

Jayson Gaidin (Head of Events) - Jayson has developed the majority of the entertainment activities so if you have any specific questions please direct them to him.

We have a significant number of Board Members, Directors, and Administrators in attendance and between them they will manage any disputes or general member problem during the event.

We have several qualified First Aiders in the group to deal with any minor incidents. In the event of a medical emergency, we will have you transported to the nearest hospital or clinic.

Please be aware of the following safety concerns:

- Be careful when handling recreation equipment, especially if you plan on playing with practice swords. Please read the rules for each game prior to participating. You are responsible for your own safety, although all events will have allocated safety staff. If you have had any alcohol you will not be permitted to participate in any of the weapon events.

If at any point you damage or find any damaged items on site then please inform Sonea Sedai so she can report it back to the venue manager. Damages will be charged to the individual if they are not accidental.

## SECURITY

As much as we would like to believe that everyone is honest and trustworthy, unfortunately that is not always the case. All items are brought at your own risk - the rooms do not have locks so cannot be secured to prevent people accessing them. This year we have the entire site to ourselves but please try and avoid bringing valuables - drunken accidents happen all too easily.

## REGARDING NOISE LEVELS

We ask that all members be courteous of fellow members who may be sleeping; especially between the hours of midnight and 9am. The Administration reserves the right to ask members to quiet things down if it is getting unreasonably disruptive. Sonea Sedai and Naeris Gaidin will be serving as Event Leaders and as such they are there to help you with any minor issues that come from co-habitation, and we ask that you listen to them if they ask for activities to be moved elsewhere, or to quiet down. We have separated both people and activities so that the noisy activities are in the barn and the quieter ones are in the cottage, we would appreciate it if you could respect that at all times.

## CLOSE QUARTERS LIVING

Living in close quarters with a lot of people can be challenging. There are several things you can do that will help keep things running smoothly.

- Keep your items tidy, don't throw things on the floor or allow it to accumulate in piles; remember you are sharing with others. This makes packing and clean up much easier, plus it drastically cuts down on the amount of lost items.
- Respect other's sleeping spaces. Don't sit on their beds without asking (or put your feet up on them). Avoid using your room as a place to socialise where possible. If any of your roommates are sleepy then please respectfully continue your conversations elsewhere.
- Please be aware of your behaviour - make sure you aren't engaging in any behaviour which you or others might be uncomfortable to walk in on, etc.
- Room rubbish bins will be emptied by the room occupants. If you have any particularly gross (or personal) rubbish, please be polite and remove it yourself.


## WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT

TarValon.Net events can be daunting when attended for the first time. It can be especially challenging for people who have never met friends off of the internet before, or for people who are generally not accustomed to being around a lot of people for a few very intensely social days! Our events usually last for an extended weekend, which is a lot of time to spend around people you may or may not have met before.

Our members are usually a very friendly group. Many people are initially surprised by how many people recognize them on sight and how warmly they are greeted. Many of us view our friendships here as being just as valuable as our friendships elsewhere. We do a lot of hugging and snuggling, particularly on the first day when we are just seeing a lot of our friends for the first time in weeks, months or years! However, please keep in mind that everyone has their limits, and some of us are more physically affectionate than others.

Because we have been a community with real life gatherings for so long, many of us have met in person several times. As such, we are comfortable around each other. We have each other in our homes, our family members have met community members, we talk on the phone with each other - we are involved with each other both online and off. At events, we spend a lot of time snuggling, laughing, telling stories, and hanging out in groups.

If this is your first event, you may feel a little uncomfortable jumping into what appears to be a close-knit group. Be assured, we welcome seeing new faces! We have an incredibly diverse membership, and one of the great things about our events is getting to know all the different people. If you're a first-timer, jump right in! If this is your tenth event, reach out to someone you don't see much. We're a stronger community because of our real life interactions, and that includes meeting new people.

Members attending an official function are expected to behave in full accordance with the Code of Conduct. Members who fail to comply may be asked to leave the event and will not be granted a refund. If disciplinary action is needed at a real life event, it may result in suspension or termination of membership. Everyone should be a responsible guest, which means respecting personal property and space, as well as helping with set-up, clean-up, and costs. Underage drinking is not allowed, and illegal drugs will not be tolerated. Either will result in disciplinary action, up to and including your dismissal from the community.

## LIABILITY

TarValon.Net does not take responsibility for anyone; including his/her actions, safety, and possessions, when attending a function. All who attend take full responsibility for themselves and agree to hold TarValon.Net Inc. and its Administration, Officers, and Board of Directors harmless in the event of an unforeseen occurrence.

## HOW TO SURVIVE TOWER FUNCTIONS

Our Official Events and Conferences usually involve large crowds and lots of people, new experiences, and stressful situations. This is a guide to surviving those times.

- People at events tend to hang out in groups. With the amount of people we have attending events now, sometimes those groups are larger, particularly during opening ceremonies and such, and sometimes those groups are smaller, particularly during the day when people drift off to play games, chat, be crafty, or other things. Please realise that you will not be able to talk to everyone or get to know everyone personally. It's very easy to become overwhelmed by everything and feel very alone, even when surrounded by friends. If this occurs, find a quiet spot to rest for a little while, or grab one person for some one-on-one time. After a bit, you'll find that you're ready to jump back into the social fray. A lot of us are computer geeks and, as such, are used to more private time. Expect that you might feel this way, and don't worry if it happens.
- To go along with the above point, living in close proximity with close to 40 people for several days can cause tension. Someone will invariably annoy or piss off someone else. We have a lot of different personalities (many of them quite strong) and not all of them are going to click. Do your best to remember what you like about that person, give yourself some distance, and be generous with your forgiveness.
- Living in close proximity with close to 40 people for several days can also cause other issues. Please remember to take care of personal hygiene. Your roommates, and everyone else, will thank you for it!
- Our events are, for the most part, adult parties. We are doing our best to make it slightly more family friendly, but it is at its heart a bunch of adults staying together. People will undoubtedly drink too
much, people will hook up, and people will do or say stupid things. What happens at an event stays at the event. We don't gossip about who slept in whose room, or who had a hangover in the morning.
- Many of the members at this site tend to joke a lot and enjoy making fun of ourselves (which may include self-depreciating comments about us being a cult, or desires to take over the world). It is vitally important to understand that this is all said in jest. We are not a religion. We are not trying to take over the government. We are not going to all go live in a commune. It is quite safe to drink the Goldschläger. We cannot channel, despite how much we wish we could. And no, we do not think we are better than anyone else. If you hear someone say something that you find alarming, and you are not certain if it is in jest, please ask them.
- At events we tend to refer to each other by a mix of our Tower and our real life names (though Tower names are more common at larger events). It is perfectly acceptable to use either. Titles are generally not used.
- Yes, Novices do dishes and Recruits take out the trash...but so does everyone else. Everyone will be expected to pitch in and help throughout the weekend. Remember that everyone wants to enjoy the event, and cleaning up after yourselves will help ensure that this happens!
- Have one or two "buddies" that you keep track of over the weekend. A lot of people use their Aes Sedai/Warder, roommates, members of their Ajah/Company, etc. for this purpose. It's good to have someone know where you are and how you're doing, particularly at our events that are hosted in larger cities.
- Try to say "hello" to everyone at least once at the event. You will not be able to have a long meaningful conversation with everyone in the span of two days, but do try to meet and greet everyone. A good way to do this is to eat with a different group of people at each meal.
- Get involved in the activities. There is usually a wide variety of activities to choose from, so pick one that suits your mood and spend time with everyone.
- Sleep and water can get pretty scarce at our events. Both of these things are extremely important and can have a drastic impact on your mood and how much you enjoy the event. Please get enough sleep and stay hydrated!
- Have a means to access money. Even at our events that seem to be pretty all-inclusive, unexpected expenses pop up. You want someone to buy you a particular kind of liquor, or you need to give someone petrol money for giving you a lift to the airport. Having a couple of checks or a little bit of cash on hand is always a good idea, even if you don't think you need it!


## COSTUMES

Costumes are not required, but they are a fun part of our events and are highly encouraged! Feel free to wear your costume at any time, or even just at our main events. If you have more than one, we suggest you use your more common travelling costume for Friday night, and your more noble costume for the Saturday night festivities. The costume contest will be held on Saturday night. Have fun!

## SUGGESTED PACKING LIST

Candles
Sleeping bag (pillows are provided)
Wash kit (Please remember to bring your own towel!)
Comfortable shoes and clothing for variable weather \& costuming
Cold/wet weather gear (e.g. a good winter coat and / or waterproof)
Walking boots if desired
Toiletries
Public-friendly pyjamas
Flashlight,
Necessary medications
Camera \& film/memory/battery, mobile phone charger
Anything else you promised you would bring for the event
Cash
Any alcohol you require - TarValon. Net will not provide alcohol for this event
Passport / copies of your travel papers / details of your insurance

## ALCOHOL

No alcohol is being provided by TarValon.net with the exception of Goldschläger for the official toast and for official ceremony purposes. If you wish to drink - bring your own! We have had issues in previous years where members have assumed that everything is 'fair game' and drunk alcohol belonging to others. In order to mitigate that this year we will be providing labels so people can mark what is theirs - if you want something that you didn't bring then ask!

