

Myself and five other members of the Astolat militia accompanied magistrate Joan de Clements in investigating the incident involving the family of Genevieve Fletcher.

We first heard of the issue when Genevieve, a citizen living in the town of Brightway, approached Dot Bower. She explained that her family were expected to have arrived the previous week but they had yet to arrive. Genevieve informed Dot of the route her family had been planning on travelling.

The following day our party, the six of us militia and magistrate Joan, set out. We began travelled down the Coombe road, towards Rhonwen's Fall, Greenfalls. We went slowly, investigating each of the minor settlements on the journey.

When we were one day away from the border to Miaren we were attacked by what appeared to be bandits. Our party of seven were outnumbered heavily, I didn't try to count only defend myself. The bandits rushed us, focusing on taking down the magistrate and anyone who tried to defend them. A knot of five broke off, took the artefact and ran off, protected by the rest of them. The mob retreated slowly, as the three of us still up regrouped. When it was clear we weren't going to pursue them the bandits fled.

Four of our number had fallen, to five of theirs. Dot picked up Joan whilst I stabilised the only one of theirs who was still breathing and magistrate de Clements began interrogating them. She was able to uncover that the group had been approached by a group calling themselves 'The Harvesters'. We turned back to Brightway, to return the bodies of our fallen. Whilst there we tried to track down and speak to Genevieve Fletcher but couldn't find her. Her neighbour Thomas Smith, informed us that she had headed to Casinea to visit with family there and wasn't expected back until after the Spring Equinox.

I believe that the name 'The Harvesters' is a reference to a group of highborn magisters who used to operate in Casinea during the second interregnum.

Sam Wainwright