

Dark Times

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Riverside museum delayed

Dark Times Staff Writers

Building works on Britain's largest museum project have stopped after discovery of Iron Age artifacts during excavation work.

Less than one year ago the Lord Provost of Glasgow, Bob Winter, cut the first turf at the site of Glasgow's major museum building project, the £74million Riverside Museum.

The museum, designed by internationally renowned architect Zaha Hadid, was conceived several years ago to house the city's transport and technology collections and was expected to be completed 2011. It was expected to attract up to 1 million visitors a year, by creating a more accessible and environmentally stable home for Glasgow's significant Transport and Technology collections, including exhibiting stored materials not currently on public display. The location within Glasgow Harbour was chosen to

celebrate the river Clyde, and also to allow visiting craft to berth alongside the museum.

Professor Bill Hanson of Glasgow University, an expert on Roman archeology, especially frontier studies and acculturation, archaeological methodology and aerial archeology, said "We hope to establish the size and significance of the finding before the end of 2009 so that the museum can be finished before the games of 2014, but these things cannot be rushed."



Antoninus Pius fetching record prices in both Christie's and

Great Britain By Night

Margery Houndsworth-Stone, Clan Toreador, Ancilla, Harpy of London

September was an unusually quiet month. There was brief excitement with artifacts from the period of

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Sotheby's. Some rumours of potential price fixing came to mind but were quickly put to rest. The far reaching effects of the London Stock Market computer crash as well as the general downturn of the banking system have been felt across both the city and the country. I wonder who is tightening the thumbscrews on the market at the moment.

In our circles little has been brightening up the dull nights. Prince Aldworth though came to our rescue. After the debacle of asking any old anarchy to come and break some cameras for him he blamed, Dr Robert Hume, of Glasgow, ancilla of the Camarilla for this mistakes, and extracted a major boon from him. As part of repaying his debt he made Dr Hume visit the courts of York, Birmingham, Severn, Manchester and London and give a heartfelt apology. All I have to say is prince Aldworth, next time at least try and hide the strings.

The only other entertainment was another great soirée held by Marcus Leavenholme, of formerly of Severn, now of London and the duel between Luke "Buck" Rodgers, of Severn, Neonate of the Camarilla, and Cameron Swift, Scourge of London, Elder of the Camarilla, ending unsurprisingly in Mister Rodger's defeat. Of course this does little to solve the underlying problem of Luke's failure to honour his debts.

There have been many rumours heard through the month, most hardly believable but interesting none the less. The choicest of those are the Isabella Montague has kidnapped the darling of Lady Eleanor and tried to blame prince Aldworth in order to have Edinburgh make a move on the domain of Glasgow and her herself Stewart of Glasgow.

Along the same hardly believable lines we heard that the Stewart of Dundee has been secretly entering the domain of Glasgow in order to put the pieces into play for a take over plot.

Lastly we heard that a sizable number of anarchy veterans from the war have been spotted in Liverpool. It might be another almost annual meeting to discuss strategy and renew alliances.

Let it be known that Isabella Montague, Primogen of Glasgow, esteemed elder of the Camarilla is indebted to I, Margery Houndsworth Stone, Harpy of London,

Ancilla of the Camarilla.

Let it be known that Luke "Buck" Rodgers of Severn, once an ancilla is to be treated with the respect that is usually reserved to the lowest Caitiff and is no longer considered an ancilla.

Let it be known the Doctor Robert Hume, keeper of the Masquerade of Glasgow, Ancilla of the Camarilla is substantially indebted to Prince Aldworth, Prince of Glasgow, Elder of the Camarilla.

A Cautionary Tale

Ritchie

A long time ago, in a domain far far away, a group of Catholics asked the Lord of Eboracum to be allowed in his city. The Lord, a protestant, considered briefly and then said. Catholics, as long as you don't venture into my city you can find yourself somewhere to live on my land, you have to abide by all my laws, and be productive, but as long as you adhere to these rules we can live in harmony. And for some years there was harmony. The Catholics build a little church by the sea, they kept the citizens safe, made sure there was always enough to eat and worked well for the community. The lord of Eboracum though saw that the small part the Catholics were living in prospered far more then his own city and so he send the black knight, his sheriff of the line of Veddhārtha deal with the Catholics. So the black knight waited until all the Catholics were asleep inside their church and had his men burn it to the ground. When it was time to be awake the black knight returned to the ruins gloating when he spotted a single catholic returning from elsewhere. He grabbed the catholic and tortured him, trying to find out whether his henchman had failed in their murderous deed, but while he was torturing the valiant prince Troile showed up and demanded he'd stop. The black knight was appalled the prince Troile, not on his own lands would dare to order him around and so attacked. The fight was brief and prince Troile was victorious, rescuing the last catholic and taking him back to the promised land. The black knight liked his wounds for some months before showing up right here in Glasgow briefly.

So take from this what you will.

Paper Boy needed

Editor-in-chief

The press is only of use if it is delivered to its target audience. We the Dark Times have always enjoyed an amicable relationship with the court of Glasgow but in recent days first Prince Aldworth had the dark times censored, and then raped our last delivery contractor. We understand that this job is therefore dangerous and will require adequate payment. Be assured we can offer a competitive pay packet.

Of course this danger is only brought on by the fact that prince Aldworth is trampling over elders and neonates alike, casually murdering, raping and pillaging to his heart content. Sooner rather than later his crew will mutiny and then a new captain will come forth. A captain who will hopefully understand that biting social commentary is designed to allow people to see their flaws, and armed with that knowledge eliminate the flaws rather than shoot the messenger.

We still have hope that Aldworth instead of being made to walk the plank will see the error of his ways and instead of lashing out at everyone around him will realise that he is the problem and he needs to change. But then we also hoped that the Munich agreement meant peace for our time and we all know how that worked out.

If you are still interested please contact us through the usual channels.

Boons and Observations: A Cautionary Tale

Isabella Montague, Toreador Elder

To my esteemed fellow members of the Camarilla,

This is my first attempt at such a communication however necessity dictates that I proceed in this manner.

I have decided to write this as an education for the neonates unfamiliar with the custom of boons to advise them to use their wisdom and judgement in utilising this system and also to serve as a warning to us all when this system is made into a mockery.

Now since I trust you are all aware of they types of boon and the circumstances in which they are given and how the prestation system is used to record these boons I shall

not tire your minds nor insult your intelligence by quoting the system verbatim. I shall simply relate to you the cautionary tale I have to tell.

There is one who attends the Glasgow Court who, not content with insulting Elders and Entire Clans has taken it upon himself to make a mockery of the boon system which has held us in good stead since time immemorial and indeed has existed longer than this buffoon. This member who is a neonate has already been deemed to be a buffoon and social pariah within the court for his behaviour towards these Elders, of which I am one, has decided to now abuse and insult the boon system.

This gentleman has taken it upon himself, and as far as I can see he is acting alone with no reference to anyone, to bestow boons to anyone as freely as I spend my money on my wardrobe, shoes accessories, perfumes and so on. For those of you who have not met me you can be assured that I spend my money very freely on these things. This development, when I became aware of it, caused me a great deal of concern. After all for a member of the Camarilla such as this to be giving boons so freely undermines the reason that the system was created as after all it would be very difficult if not impossible for the said neonate to ever fulfil all his boons and consequently he would eternally be in debt to someone. Furthermore the reckless abandon at which these boons are being given would almost certainly lead to numerous conflicts of interest being created, which if left unchecked could create tensions at numerous courts as well as damage any inter-clan relations and could ultimately undermine Camarilla society itself if it were left to fester in such a manner.

As an Elder of the Camarilla who was taught the system properly, I could not stand by and allow this to happen so I decided upon the course of action I have now taken. Given that this gentleman insulted me greatly I decided to use the system in the proper manner to get reparation for the great insult done to myself. I decided that three minor boons would be a start for this neonate to begin to repay his debt to me and consequently he was summoned to my presence, after I had advised his Clan Head of the proposed reparation. This I felt appropriate given that 3 major boons had previously been offered to me with no difficulty or resistance, which had of course began to alert me to this abuse of the system. Naturally I had demurred in accepting 3 major boons from such an individual.

This transaction was witnessed by Tobias Weaver of my own Clan, who has taken it upon himself to keep track of the boons owed within the city of Glasgow and by the

residents of Glasgow to residents of other Domains where appropriate. This neonate was then told the price of reparation to which he replied that he would give me 4 minor boons. This dear reader was the statement which confirmed to me the gentleman's intention of mocking our system and I resolved to continue. The gentleman was told firmly that three minor boons was all I required and these were given, though I may say the gentleman was put out that he could not give more. I dare say had I said a ridiculous figure such as 50 minor boons they would have been given to me with little hesitation and indeed there would probably have been an increased counter offer made.

Once the transaction had been witnessed and since the gentleman made it abundantly clear that he considers the boon system worthless given the contempt with which he has treated it, I decided to deal with his worthless boons in the most appropriate manner. Since the boons were of no consequence to me or of limited value within the Camarilla due to their low worth and the fact the gentleman has decided to hold the Camarilla in contempt by his course of actings, I transferred all of the boons to a known Anarch, using Mr Weaver as an intermediary since I do not consort with Anarchs. Normally I would not have taken such drastic action but given the way with which this gentleman has treated and mocked the system I had to resort to these measures to try and stop this from continuing.

This has the added advantage of educating neonates and serving as a reminder as to how the system should be used properly by us all.

I hope all members of the Camarilla who hold boons from this gentleman, and there are probably a few of you given the behaviour I witnessed first hand, consider their worth very seriously. After all who would like to have in their debt a member of the Camarilla who insults Elders and who makes a mockery of one of our oldest systems of dealings?

Corrections and clarifications

Margery Houndsworth Stone

Boons are usually a well understood mechanism for dealings between kindred. Like other forms of currency they are promise notes underwritten by the person owing the debt. Some boons are almost worthless as the person who promised the service is incapable, unable to perform the service was other reasons like bondage. Other boons are priceless, as the debt might be large and the person owing them extremely powerful. Boons are often traded between interested parties that do not wish to be personally indebted.

The behaviour of the neonate cited above while unusual, some might even say stupendous is not actually in any shape or form a disrespect or even break of the system. As long as he does indeed perform to the owed services when requested he is free to offer each and everyone of us any debt he chooses short of a life debt which of course he can only owe once.

Just as unusual the neonate's behaviour might be, it is also behaviour of the honorable duchess Isabella. She seemed to waste plenty of opportunity as well as empower an anarch to gain a strong hold over a neonate of the Camarilla. Some could see those actions as weakening the power of the Camarilla in Glasgow and Duchess Isabella's actions as support of the growing anarch movement in north west Britain. We have heard plenty of bad rumours about the draconian prince but openly supporting the anarch movement by such an esteemed elder seems rather drastic a measure.

I wonder what the rest of Britain is thinking about her actions.

**Dark Times is accepting submissions.
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