

Dark Times

Volume 12, Issue 8

June 2011

Hospitality Amnesty

Viscount Charles Augustus Aldworth, Prince of Glasgow

My fellow Kindred, as you are aware from last months edition there is an amnesty on any Kindred introduced to the domain in the past decade. I would like to confirm that this is indeed true. I, as Prince of Glasgow, will honour any agreement reached between any Kindred of one of the 7 clans of the Camarilla, and in good standing and the Prince of the time, provided they can prove to me that such a deal took place.

I would like any and all Kindred who are part of this Domain to be full and dutiful members, and to be able to take part in the events of society, and of course to keep within the bounds of Camarilla law, as per the traditions.

However I will not have my leniency abused by any tom, dick or harry, if no deal was ever reached, please just come to me and ask for my hospitality. I am sure if you are deserving it shall be granted.

Yours in faith,

Viscount Charles Augustus Aldworth, Prince of Glasgow

The words of Aldworth

Dark Times staff writers (Peter based on a recording of the original interview)

After all this time, what, during the 2nd part of your reign, makes you want to account time as ruler of this Domain?



Well it came to me after seeing Alexander Turpy's recent letter to the editor and his reply. I saw Mr. Turpy thought the paper had a very biased view and unreasonably so. Of course the editor disagreed and tried to justify the decisions he has made in what to publish. I of course have always thought that the paper has

been stood against me, and as Prince took steps to try and censor it. However after seeing these recent articles I thought why not benefit both of us, allow the paper to prove it is an unbiased paper and to allow me to show that I am not the monstrous

In This Issue

- **Hospitality Amnesty**
- **The words of Aldworth**
- **Your answer**
- **Room at the top**
- **Old habits die hard**
- **The man**
- **Roman is a gloamin'**
- **Great Britain by night**

tyrant that I have perhaps been painted as.

As you say, who could read this article and not assume that a monstrous tyrant hasn't doctored the results?

Well, ask what you want, and you'll hate the answers. If I wanted this to be a oil painting of my best side, it would show. I'll tell you the hard facts of my leadership, and we'll see what people think then.

How do you compare the number of final deaths in this Domain, under your reign, to the other two princes who border your rule, Rothschilde and Murillo?

Well lets start with Murillo, a powerful Kindred by any means. Far more powerful than any of his peers, thats how he held power for so long, and some say thats how it should be. I say different. In the old days yes, but these are new nights. Under Murrillo you had a menagerie of all manner of foul creatures attend his 'courts'. Werewolves, fairies, Settites and god knows what else. Plus the number of attacks and threats to the domain that just went on without repurcussions. The Glasgow O for example, who never have been so much of an issue if, as Prince, he had the foresight to see how this would have caused problems. The Sabbat were in Glasgow for so long and done untold damage to our glorious Elysium sites, not until it was almost too late was anything done. I even did a report for the man on that. Which was ignored. It is this attitude that led him to assigning the Argus, the mongol statue as a Sheriff, and between the two of them couldn't run a bath. For the first few months of my rein, as your paper did highlight, I had to meet out judgments on crimes committed under his rein and left unpunished. For these problems and others I knew, for the good of the Camarilla, he had to go.

Rothschilde was a completely different kettle of fish. Perhaps this is hubris, but I feel that I was left with a gaggle of scum and mongols, with a few diamonds in the rough after Murillo. In the name of the Camarilla I did this, and I think we are better placed for it now. However people witnessed this, and certainly were not used to it. So Rothschilde had the good fortune to follow me, and have a relatively stable Domain to rule over. The kindred of Glasgow liked him, and he ruled with a steady and firm rule. However Glasgow had, I hope, established itself as somewhere you would be punished for breaching the domains and the scum of

the Camarilla don't automatically think to reside, so his black cap, as it were, saw so much less use for it.

Could it not be said that Rothschilde simply had different methods to deal with trouble makers and dissidents?

Certainly. I think he showed a great deal more leniency that I did in some cases, I remember having the discussion with Rothschilde and others in open court on the matters of breaching Elysium. Myself and others cited death as the only punishment, and technically as it is written, is the case. However in the situation she found herself in, the Kindred in question was given the choice to bond herself one further step to the Prince or leave the domain. Perhaps that was a better option, certainly Rothschilde believed so. Perhaps though I am more of a traditionalist. But I certainly wasn't the only one who would have sentenced the kindred to death for the same crime had they been in the chair.

So, would you put the discrepancy in the number of slain kindred attributed to princes down to a lower tolerance of percieved crimes, a difference in management style or an obsseive tendency to follow the Lextalionis to the letter?

Well again, between Murillo and I certainly tolerance. He could and I couldn't. Nor could Rothschilde. Management style doesn't even come into it with him, he didn't even see it to be a problem to consider tolerance. Rothschilde and I, definitely management style. I don't think anyone has an obsession with the ways it should be or once was. I've already said I don't think it should be the most powerful who should rule, which certainly will shock some of my cousins. That being said however, it certainly is helpful when your trying to achieve your vision. When it comes to crime and punishment I feel it's important to have a starting point but always allow room for mitigating circumstances.

For Kindred outside the Domain who think they could make their future and fortune in Glasgow, what advice would you have for them to keep from breaking rather than making it?

Well the traditions are well documented wherever you are, and if they aren't I'd ask that you don't come to this Domain. The 6 rules of the Camarilla and of

course the Pax Vampirica, Elysium. I'd demand the applicants, as it were, to abide by these rules. I'd also ask that anyone wanted to reside here would make themselves useful for the domain, or at least have their goals not opposed everyone else in the domain. Not that I would say an invaluable Kindred would have a get out jail free card for crimes against the Crown, but as advice, I'd say a Kindred who has helped the domain would have past service in their favour as opposed to someone who hadn't.

Your answer

Anatos

What would I say to you?
What would you want me to say?

Where would I get to go?
Where would you want me to go?

Why would I stay here?
Why would you want me to be gone?

When would I ask the question?
When would you give me an answer?

By Anatos

Room at the top

Dark Times Staff Writer (Duncan)

The gang violence which has raged through Glasgow during 2011 seems to have finally petered out this month, after inflicting untold damage on the city and its residents. Violent crime figures fell dramatically over the course of July, and this publication can shine a light on some of the reasons underpinning the turnaround in Glasgow's fortunes.

One of Glasgow's criminal families found itself embroiled with encroaching Russian gangs, resulting in running battles across much of their area of operations. Small arms fire became commonplace and for a time, Glasgow became the gun crime capital of Europe, second only globally to cities like Los Angeles or Johannesburg. However, as suddenly as the violence sprung up, it dissipated again, with the aftermath showing that the Glasgow contingent were effectively wiped from the map, while the Russians were equally decimated.

Once upon a time, this might have opened the door to Glasgow's other significant native criminal group, but they have had their own difficulties, with intensive police scrutiny making it difficult to take any action without inviting the wrath of Glasgow's "finest". Certainly it seems that Meldrum is intent on keeping a lid on their activities, and thus stifling a potential source of conflict.

With these three factions largely out of commission, great swathes of Glasgow are now unclaimed. While smaller groups and factions are still in existence, their chains of command have been severed, along with their connections and access to supplies, leaving them wary to make any overt moves. All in all, things are unsettled in Glasgow, with everyone watching each other for the first moves. It may take months for the situation to resolve, but for now an uneasy ceasefire has taken hold in the east end.

Old habits die hard

Editor-in-chief

Last month Prince Aldworth informed me of the amnesty that would be given to any kindred who had prior acceptance from one of the princes of Glasgow who preceded him. He asked me to pass this message on to any kindred I might know as a number of the members of Glasgow's court withdrew when the troubles started at the turn of the millennium. In the spirit of cooperation and on good faith I complied with the request and informed those who I knew that the offer had been made. I now wonder whether I should have known better.

In any case, Theobald Alexander, a respected member of the Camarilla and clan Nosferatu, who was most active in Glasgow under Prince Galton, based on that offer, accepted Prince Aldworth's word and ventured to seek him out, in order to reintroduce himself and be re-accepted under the terms of the promise made.

Needless to say, things did not turn out well for Mister Alexander. First he was informed that the court was not an Elysium and while Prince Aldworth frowns upon violence at his court no one is protected from any of the people present. There is nothing to stop anyone from invading your thoughts, swaying your emotions or quite simply forcing their will upon you. I personally wonder why anyone would risk these

threats to their body and mind for the paltry reward on offer, but being sensible is not one of the accusations leveled at many members of the court of Glasgow.

Prince Aldworth then informed Mister Alexander that he required further proof of his prior acceptance and time to do his own fact checking into Mister Alexander's history and reputation. In itself a very understandable precaution, after all giving someone a period of grace while these checks are being carried out is prudent. Were it not for what followed I would accept Prince Aldworth's handling of the situation as entirely in line with his outlined proposal. A second meeting was arranged but what happened next beggars believe. Prince Aldworth publicly revoked Galton's word of acceptance! That is right, he stripped Mister Alexander of any and all protections afforded to members of the Camarilla.

To reiterate he left Mister Alexander without any protection to his continued existence, or his sanity, or his own ability to make decisions in a room with around a dozen predators having just publicly stated that he was fair game to any and all members of his court and on top of that of course in a non Elysium environment. Needless to say Mister Alexander decided to extricate himself from the extreme danger he found himself in and fled whilst being pursued by the very seneschal on who's suggestion courts were no longer protected.

At this stage Mister Alexander decided to continue hiding himself away from Prince and any members of his court who might wish to make use of the fact that he was been declared as unprotected but the matter does not end there. Maybe Prince Aldworth was not pleased that no one in his court had taken him up on the opportunity he had so graciously given them. I can only speculate here but whatever the reason he then decided to attempt to destroy Mister Alexander.

Under the auspice of the arranged second meeting Prince Aldworth surrounded himself with his executioner Angus and a large number of heavily armed men in an Elysium and forces Mister Alexander to approach him.

Mister Alexander's experience allowed him to see the trap for what it was, disable enough security outside to approach unobserved and meet Prince Aldworth in the guise of a member of Prince Aldworth's security

team informing the Prince of the fact that some of his security had been disabled and claiming that Mister Alexander had fled into the sewers. At that point Prince Aldworth confirmed to his executioner that Mister Alexander was indeed to be executed upon their next meeting.

Mister Alexander managed to flee the area before his deception was uncovered and hopefully has taken steps to prevent a similar ambush from ensnaring him in future.

Prince Aldworth had claimed to give out an amnesty to those who previously were accepted in Glasgow and has now subtly changed the wording of his pledge as to not actually be braking the letter of his own commitment, only the spirit. He now claims that the amnesty only covers "*any Kindred introduced to the domain in the past decade*". This of course would not cover Mister Alexander who was introduced to the domain almost a century ago. It would in fact only cover those kindred who had chosen to be introduced to Glasgow after the troubles started. That is after it was known that the court of Glasgow associated with the infernal and other destructive powers. A strange decision to prevent any long established Camarilla members from coming forward an in fact when they do trying to affect their destruction whilst claiming to be hospitable and following the traditions of the Camarilla.

Of course whether the current pledge to those introduced more recently will be upheld is subject to further speculation. After all the previous pledge lasted exactly until the moment it was first tested.

Also where does this leave me? I have been given assurances that I can continue publishing the Dark Times without censorship as long as I adhere to certain conditions. I will of course keep my word, given by proxy, to Prince Aldworth, but I am not sure I expect him to keep his. After all a single deed speaks much louder than a thousand promises. In order to protect myself I had to destroy a trusted servant and reporter who had served me for a number of decades as I could not longer guarantee his loyalties and like Mister Alexander he could at any moment be called to Prince Aldworth's side. I have been forced to only use disposable assets when continuing my work with Prince Aldworth. Whether that is enough remains to be seen.

In the meantime you, the reader, suffers the consequences. It means that certain interesting stories, like the car bombing of the family of Rangers board member David King, cannot be covered as I have no capacity left.

Who knows whether in a years time there will even be a Dark Times. Maybe I will just be another problem which apparently "*for the good of the Camarilla*" has been eradicated.

Editor-in-chief

The man

By Anatos

The man

There are rules you know
Said the man in the suit, standing over me
Looking at me like I was dirt,
Judging me with those ice blue eyes
Brown hair cropped and beard trimmed.

There are laws you must follow
Said the judge to the convict, sitting in his box,
Thinking the world was against him,
Knowing that his only freedom was his speech
The decision to be silent or give in.

These are the routes you can take
Said the voice from the Sat Nav,
Giving me directions in that robotic
Non-human way that only a machine
Built by societies needs can do.

These are your choices
I told the man on the ground,
Covered in blood and missing his teeth,
You can live or you can die, but that is your
choice,
You choose and I deliver.

By Anatos

Roman in the gloamin'

Dark Times Staff writers (Thomas)

A surprise find was made at the end of July by an estate agent handling the sale of a commercial property in Bearsden, Glasgow. Surveyors were shocked to find the basement of the office building was full of Roman artifacts and antiquities, believed to be valued at hundreds of thousands, if not millions of pounds.

The items, many of which have been traced to a succession of art thefts just over two years ago, have been shipped for now to the newly reopened National Museum of Scotland for cataloguing, and where possible will be returned to their rightful owners. For any pieces which cannot be identified and returned, it is likely they will find at least a temporary home in the Museum.

A police spokesperson praised the estate agent for their prompt reporting of the find, allowing Strathclyde Police to wrap up a case which had baffled forces across the UK for years. Some collectors had offered rewards for their pieces, and it remains to be seen if the estate agent in question will receive any such funds.

The collection, which shows some considerable taste and selectivity, can be seen on display in the National Museum during the cataloguing process, although it is under high degrees of security to prevent a repeat disappearance!

Great Britain By Night

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

Hello good readers,
The nights are slowly getting longer and I can now at least attend certain late shows for which London's West End is famous. London is a mess with a lot of the previously stable influences being fought over. Most movement has to have been in the government sector with people trying to cut each other's departments, funds and the like. Through the middle of it there are also some persistent rumours that a small new intelligence

gathering group has been set up with an unknown mandate and very obscured reporting structures. To the point that certainly some of the people allegedly overseeing the group have no actual idea what they are doing. Presumably this is another attempt to spy and combat some rival's activities.

Further rumours from the court of Severn have reached me where the after effects of the events surrounding Philip Reilly, the Brujah elder who lost control and attempted to destroy William DeMontford, a Ventrue elder of the line of the Prince of Severn in an Elysium only to be stopped by the ancient Lucien, of Clan Gangrel. It is rumoured that William has recently awoken from the torpid sleep he found himself with his life now being owned by Lucien. It will be interesting to see what Lucien, who has in recent centuries kept mostly out of the politics of Britain, will do with this dept over one of the movers and shakers of the political world.

The incident inside an Elysium neatly leads me to Glasgow where a source inside the court has informed me that Prince Aldworth has, apparently on behest of his seneschal elder William Chauncey, decided to no longer hold his court under the protection afforded by an Elysium. It is not likely a coincidence that a member of a clan known for their abilities to invade the minds of others and force their will upon them has asked for the restrictions on those offenses to be lifted. From a separate source I have heard that Prince

Aldworth failed to destroy a troublesome ancilla of the Camarilla after removing his word of acceptance from him, leaving the ancilla at large in his domain. It appears that with every step forward Glasgow takes, it decides to go two steps back in my estimation.

When I finally do receive the details for the upcoming ball in Glasgow, hint hint, I surely hope that they will include a confirmation that the event itself is safe guarded under the protection of an Elysium and that all accepted guests are protected under Prince Aldworth's word of acceptance into the domain for the period around the ball. Otherwise, in light of recent occurrences, I fail to see how anyone from neighboring domains would dare to accept the invitations.

Let it be known that William DeMontford, of Severn, elder of the Camarilla owes his existence to Lucien, of Severn, esteemed elder of the Camarilla and is to be commanded by him in all things.

Let it be known Niall Ferguson, primogen of Manchester & Liverpool, elder of the Camarilla is indebted to Ritchie, seneschal to Cruithni, ancilla of the Camarilla.

Jacqueline Noble, of Edinburgh, neonate of the Camarilla is indebted to Julius Montgomery, of Glasgow, ancilla of the Camarilla as payment for his Alexander Haddow, of Glasgow, neonate of the Camarilla.

Dark Times is accepting submissions.

All submissions will be printed with the author name provided.

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