

DARK TIMES

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2013

NEWSPAPER REVOLUTION

Dramatic news swept over the media sector this month as dozens of editors and journalists were implicated in insider trading and unusual stock market activity around their businesses. The arrests were made as part of Operation Snare – the activities of which were revealed for this first time this month.

Following the high profile arrests of journalists and editors working for most of the Glasgow based news publications, police issued a statement that they were building a case on suspected fraud and insider trading, and that unusual trading and financial activities had been reported.

Following the police statement, and communications with the Financial Services Agency, the Glasgow Herald incurred immediate problems as its shares plummeted amid rumours and reports that it was most heavily implicated among Operation Snare's findings. Within two weeks it had been refused further financing, its major shareholders had sold much of their interests at reduced value and the compa-



ny was facing collapse.

As of the time of printing, the Herald has been placed into administration – London based administrators have taken on the day to day affairs of the company in an effort to find a buyer for the paper who can put it back on a solid financial footing. In the meantime, the paper's printing activities have been put on hold pending a decision on the company's future.

BOON TRADING:

- *Jacqueline Noble owes a minor boon to Lynn Ferguson*

BOOK'S WORDS

With most now taking the new Prince of Glasgow as a foregone conclusion it will not be long before the kindred of the domain are once again lured into declaring allegiance or sides.

The escalating troubles between the domains to the North and East of Glasgow will no doubt see those who have tried profiteering here to profiteer there as well. There will be no doubt that, as seen recently, there will be those who seek to give prudent council and advice. Yes, power to be gained with little thought as to how it is earned let alone how it is

maintained.

Let us hope that any with designs on a future within this domain, or any other for that matter, consider their actions and the consequences of such a little harder than they have of late. Perception is a deceitful gift; blinding those to their true allies and leaving them open to manipulation. After all, not every friend is one that brings gifts and kind words and leaves honesty and tradition at the threshold like some unwanted cur.

Mr Book.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

GLASGOW IN MARCH	2
CHURCH RISING	3
ANTI-SEMITISM	3
MYSTERY IN DARKNESS	4
SWIFT JUSTICE	4
FROM THE ARCHIVIST	4
HARPY HOUR	5

GLASGOW IN MARCH—SIMON HAILE



A lot has happened in March that I want to get to paper and in order to get it out of the way there has been the small gathering organised by me. I am not in the habit to critique my own work and will leave that aspect to others. When you bring that many elders together in close vicinity some sparks will fly, some questions asked and some politicking done. The questions most of the country are interested in hearing, beyond the immediate future of Glasgow and whether Prince Carter and Duke will actually just hand over a domain to the current seneschal Augustus Trenchard, are why Angus and to a lesser degree Marcellus were spared, where will Glasgow stand on Anne and Houblon and what are our thoughts and positions on the Edinburgh, Dundee and Aberdeen issues we have been reading about recently.

“MORE ANCIENT
AND IMPORTANT
THAN THE
TRADITIONS OF
THE CAMARILLA
ARE VIOLATED”

It would be remiss of me to avoid mentioning that Prince Carter briefly attended the gathering, enjoying some of the finer exhibits for a short period of time before informing me that I no longer hold the position of Keeper of Elysium of Glasgow, due to having lost his trust in myself. Strangely, whilst of course being told off in front of the entire contingent of Harpies of Britain by one's prince is to some degree embarrassing, it does free me from some obligations which will make some of the things I am about to write a lot simpler, but more about that later.

In the meantime we have the race to prince. Duke stated that anyone who got 17 approvals from the kindred of Glasgow would be able to have the talk with Prince Carter about becoming the Prince of Glasgow. These votes of confidence can be made in public or private to Duke or Prince Carter. I have previously stated that Augustus Trenchard, the former and current seneschal of Glasgow, had my blessing. I thought that unless he gets himself killed or has a direct falling out with Prince Carter there was little doubt about him becoming the new prince.

For Glasgow this should be an opportunity for growth in the social arena. Aldworth,

for all his abundant qualities, was a brute. Whilst it was easy to stay on his good side those who thought themselves above this menial effort often found themselves punished, exiled, hunted or even executed. For that reason alone Aldworth decided to hold his courts not at an Elysium but instead at a place which had no expectation of safety beyond his hospitality. I had hoped that with Augustus Trenchard, a much calmer, business like kindred, these matters where indeed of the past. Indeed, one of the first actions was to move the court to an Elysium site. And for those whose Sires were lacking in education an Elysium has a simple definition. A place where kindred may gather without fear of harm. Harm to their bodies or minds.

Whilst not mentioned in the Traditions of the Camarilla, Elysium, or safe haven, is a requirement for kindred to meet regularly, ideas to be exchanged, and a society to be formed. Without Elysia there simply would be no Camarilla.

Then, at the first of such courts, this expectation of safety, this trust in an institution which is far older than the Camarilla itself was brutally sundered, broken and betrayed. Under Aldworth, who had to clean Glasgow's rabble out, these things were claimed to be necessary but those days surely most lie behind us. For those who were not party to the events an individual wearing the guise of Angus attacked and immobilised by stake a kindred appearing to be the Brujah Anatos before slinging the victim over his shoulders and calmly departing the main room of the Elysium.

Whilst I would cry not a single tear on the disappearance of Anatos down some dark and dingy hole in the ground, after all upon first hearing of Aldworth's demise he asked whether it was myself or Miss Jezabelle he would have to slay to rule Glasgow, I cannot and will not sit idly by whilst customs more ancient and important than the Traditions of the Camarilla are violated. As former keeper of Elysium, I was the only was authorised to remove transgressors against personal safety and civility from an Elysium and Anatos was,



GLASGOW IN MARCH CONT...

at the time, neither.

So, Seneschal Trenchard, and Duke for that matter. After all we cannot know whether Angus, if it indeed was him, acted as the Sheriff of Glasgow or whether it was his ties to Carter, who had it made known that even if all of Glasgow supported Anatos he would not become its prince or hold any office, that made him disregard what we hold dear.

What are you going to do about this serious breach? You have the ability to shape the future of this domain and I wonder whether you want to be known for cowardly ambushing your foes after having giving them the promise of Elysium.

Elder Simon Haile

CHURCH RISING

Easter. A time when Christianity celebrates the rebirth of its Lord, who died and rose again from the grave. This month saw Glasgow's Christian churches come together to stage a vast celebration to mark the occasion and to bring together a population which has been far removed from the welcoming arms of the church.

The culmination of months of outreach, preparation and prayer, the churches of all different denominations are in a much more positive position than anyone would have believed at the beginning of the year, when scandal and impropriety had reduced the religious community to a fractured and strife filled ruin.

Now, however, the prospects seem rosy, with a rise in cross faith initiatives, charitable

works and rising church attendance, with a record turnout at Easter services across the city. Church officials are positive about sustainable numbers, seeking solace from the problems of the city in the arms of the church. There are even more reports of sightings of angels and other spirits of mercy through Glasgow.

After the success of the Easter initiative, church leaders are now talking about a repeat of this in the lead up to Christmas, to build upon the positive signs of the past few months and to restore the churches to their position of old. With the churches rising, and their combined resources being thrown into the push for stability, the results of this year of effort look to be considerable.



ANTI-SEMITISM

For a city with a history of sectarian violence, perhaps it was simply a matter of time before other prejudices reared their head. Yet it seems strange that Glasgow, a city with a small and unobtrusive Jewish population, should attract levels of hatred more usually reserved for the Gaza strip.

Recent months have seen a spate of anti-Israel graffiti, scrawled across walls and strips of ground throughout the city. Now those messages have taken a much more sinister turn, as another "Death to Israel" message appeared this month – carved into the torso of an unfortunate student, thrown from a

moving van outside the Gallery of Modern Art.

Details remain uncertain, pending the results of the post-mortem, but initial reports seem to indicate that the student had no known connection with either pro or anti Israel groups, and police are mystified as to the connection which brought about the attack, or if it is simply a random act of violence connected to the anti-Semitic feeling in the city.

"THE STUDENT
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MYSTERY IN DARKNESS



This month I had a most interesting encounter. Something of a bolt from the blue, but it wasn't blue, it was definitely black that night. She was something though, whoever she was. The smell of the grave, a voice cold enough to send shivers down even my back. She wore the shadows like a veil, but her face still haunts me – or the desire to have seen it at least.

And she came to me, dressed in night and asking for my help. Her voice may have been grim, but her words spoke of rewards, rich rewards if I could find that which she desired. Ah, but if only that had been me. Still, search I did, high and low, until I was certain that her lost...possession...was not in Lon-

don.

It was a sad realisation for me. My lady called, and I could not bring her heart's desire, a failed would-be suitor. Still, she rewarded my time, with a whispered secret – and yet I would have searched for her without promise or prospect of reward. I hide in shadows. I use them, move among them. She became them – more naturally than any I have seen. So if she visits you, bear in mind the rewards, the esteem of the guest and see beyond your fear. And send her my regards, for I fear I may not see her again.

Nosferatu Ancilla - London

"I FEAR I MAY
NOT SEE HER
AGAIN"

FROM THE ARCHIVIST

To all of industry, ambition, and foresight.

The time grows near when the skull must be reformed, or else the resting place of the Cunctator shall remain closed and all the secrets and power therein may be lost again.

Some of you saw some of the visions which I witnessed, when I took my fragment to Glasgow. Some will have seen the truth of the power, and if others wish to do so, please do let me know. But still our search must go on for the other 6 pieces.

I have listed my notes once again upon the holders of the other fragments – anyone with information, or an offer to buy my piece, please come to me, there is much to be gained.

The six - "The shield of commerce, with fiery attentions"; "The forger of a cage"; "The fossil of a lepidopterist of the past"; "A brave man on 8 wheels"; "A feline's collar, to stop it being collared"; "Schooling a class of wild pupils".

Good nights to all, and good fortune.

SWIFT JUSTICE



After 5 days of searching, Theodor McKrowski of clan Tremere was found and brought to justice after a breach of the Masquerade took place on Tuesday 19th March. Seneschal and Elder of clan Tremere Colman Rashleigh himself dealt the final blow as Prince John Houblon found McKrowski guilty of breaching the masquerade by being caught on mortal CCTV cameras feeding on a male human.

"I lost control and drained the man. I didn't think about the CCTV cameras in the area and I didn't see the taxi driver who pulled

up" said McKrowski as he hung his head in shame.

All human witnesses have had all memories erased and all CCTV tapes have been destroyed. A 35-year-old man named Leroy English who has a history of violence has been set up as the scapegoat for this murder. The Prince also placed restrictions on feeding within Finsbury Park, London due to the increase of CCTV cameras within the area.

By Drake Anderson
24 March 2013

HARPY HOUR



Speculation and rumour continues to surround the outcome of the race to become Prince of Glasgow, although most of the commentators seem to have concluded that Augustus Trenchard is a shoo-in for the role – so long as he stays on the right side of Prince Carter. With the Brujah Prince's relatively easygoing reputation somewhat stretched by recent months' intrigues, nothing is quite as predictable as it once was in that regard.

And in the meantime, the strife between Edinburgh and Aberdeen has reached a height where a peaceful resolution seems increasingly more unlikely. Representatives of each Court have been seen visiting cities around the country, discussing behind closed doors with Elders and those with sway.

This contest cannot be seen as a simple argument though, considering the forces arrayed on each side. If it comes to a show of strength, Aberdeen is backed by Inverness, another Gangrel held domain, and Cruithni to the South may well be stirred to assist his own blood. In addition to which, the Prince of Aberdeen counts Reginald Albertson among his principal supporters, one of the oldest Ventrué on the island, and often forgotten – but should not be discounted as a real force.

And on the other side, Edinburgh. Led by Carlisle, the only Toreador Prince on a Ventrué island, holding one of the older and more powerful Courts, a rock of stability which was carved out long ago and held since. Edinburgh boasts political talent to rival anywhere, the only domain requiring two Harpies, and when Edinburgh speaks the

whole of Britain listens. If politics are at play, Edinburgh is in its element.

And so the battlelines are drawn, sides chosen, and the conflict framed. Now all that remains is to establish who can turn matters to their advantage, and whose reputation must inevitably suffer from their failure.

Best Regards,
Editor in Chief

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Glasgow – a city of turmoil and strife since the millennium. Yet as with the diamond in the rough or the poetry of Wilfred Owen, such a place has the potential to allow for greatness to shine where it might otherwise be lost.

Such was the case this month with Simon Haile, whose performance shone like a beacon. The rest of the evening was sufficiently entertaining, with many esteemed guests, yet it was Haile's own contribution which made the night a true success. A demonstration of an Elder's grace and a Toreador's talent, for all to see.

Edward Williams, Harpy of Severn

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The excellence of Simon Haile's performance melted all but the most bitter of hearts. Those exclusive few included Prince Carter who was heard to dismiss Simon as Glasgow's Keeper of the Elysium citing a lack of trust as the reason. Will Haile's response be as graceful as his musical talent has shown us he can be?

Margery Houndsworth-Stone, London

“THE
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The Dark Times accepts submissions, and any Kindred should forward their contribution to the address to the left. We look forward to your efforts.

Yours,

Editor in Chief of the Dark Times

DARK TIMES - BRINGING LIGHT TO
THE SHADOWS

HARPY HOUR CONT...

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Thank you Simon Haile for inviting us to your event. Glasgow's hospitality culture was far better than rumour would have us believe.

Karen Walls, Aberdeen

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What an honour, to have a marvel of the decade declared in my honour. Simon Haile's performance rang out across a room, through a building, but its ripples will spread on for years to come – Clan Toreador, and others beyond, do not forget such a display of grace and skill.

The accommodations for the performance were very fitting – luxurious, and very well appointed, with many wonderful artworks and curios to draw the attention. Feeding vessels of quality and pedigree were provided, and nothing about the night felt unprepared or uncared for.

The visitors came from far and wide, with representatives of each major Court, who mingled throughout the evening and marvelled together at the performance which brought all to the city. The gossip of the night was light for the most part, with some turning to the recent upheavals in Glasgow, and others to the struggle with Aberdeen and Edinburgh. With Prince Wallace in attend-

ance, any conversation about Houblon and Anne was understandable one-sided, so long as no London resident was in earshot.

One more novel aspect – the true position of Donald Bassingthwaite; many have wondered, but none know for certain. He's been seen in London, seems to be resident there, but hasn't been heard to be declared for Houblon. The whispers are rising though, and the time is drawing near when his allegiances may well need to be declared.

For myself, while I spoke with all who were available, I tried not to be drawn into too much of the political mire, instead I enjoyed the atmosphere of the night, drank in the splendour and the skill of our host, and all on a night where I was privileged to be the primary guest, an honour I shan't forget.

Any gossip about Life Boons or other boons? – I reckon we can save that for next month, since the Life Boons will be recorded this month.

Lady Eleanor Plunkett, Edinburgh



A monthly summary of
British Camarilla news,
politics, gossip and rumour,
straight from the Harpy's
mouth.