

# DARK TIMES

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## GLASGOW RIPPER STRIKES AGAIN



Glasgow has seen its share of death and trauma, the city attracts all manner of gangster, murderer, smuggler, criminal, thug and kingpin. Men come to Glasgow to die – or for the bold few to make their fortune. For the most part though, they keep their heads down and their profile low. Even in a city as corrupt as Glasgow, it doesn't pay to draw too much attention from the authorities – they tend to be swift and brutal in response to the worst atrocities.

Unlike other cities though, Glasgow has more than its share of those who don't understand that precaution, or think themselves above it – or else lack the logic or sanity to even comprehend it. Serial killers, cultists, assassins; all have been seen here. And many of them have escaped capture, continuing their bloody work as they choose.

One of the examples of this, in recent years, was the serial killer dubbed the Glasgow Ripper, for the way his crimes mirrored those of Jack the Ripper committed a century earlier. He has been silent for more than a

year though, after terrorising the city with a spate of prostitute murders in a trademark gruesome style.

Now though, it appears he is back. And any measure of restraint he may once have had has vanished. His act of return was a hideous tableau – five known whores, laid out, brutally butchered in the same old fashion, but with five words carved into their foreheads: "YOUR NIGHTS ARE NOT SAFE."

No doubt the authorities would have preferred to keep these words quiet, to avoid raising a panic, but the discovery of the prostitutes' bodies was made by a number of schoolchildren taking an alley shortcut the next morning, and the news swiftly spread after. Even within a matter of days, panic has begun to rise and speculation that the city is simply unsafe after dark. Given our interests in the night, this is a potential problem on a significant scale – and a challenge for Glasgow's ruler in months to come.

### BOON TRADING:

- *The minor boon owed by Simon Haile to Ricky "The Faceman" has been repaid*
- *Louisa Stephenson has passed the minor boon owed by Tobias Weaver to Simon Haile*
- *The minor boon owed by Tobias Weaver to Simon Haile has been repaid*
- *Mia Sanders owes Levi Tius a major boon*
- *Levi Tius owes Norman Vine a minor boon*
- *Levi Tius owes Dale Balford a minor boon*

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## SKULL FRAGMENTS



I do hope you are all carrying on with the search for fragments of the skull of Loukianos the Seer. Although I haven't yet heard of any being recovered, I know these things take time – with luck some of you are closing in.

I would like to extend thanks to Simon Haile for the invitation to his recent event – a true triumph for Glasgow's social scene. I had some interest from those who attended in my own skull fragment – perhaps I will find another chance to bring it to your city and show what the search is all about.

In the meantime I shall simply remind you of the details of those who possess pieces of the skull now, and tell you of my latest find-

ings. I believe that one of the fragments may soon pass to a new owner – that which forms part of the lepidopterist's collection. I cannot say if it will be easier or harder to find and obtain once that comes to pass though, nor can I say why this is happening now.

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".

The Archivist

## WHO ARE THE BROTHERHOOD?

"ENCOURAGING THE TRADE OF KNOWLEDGE AND TRAINING AMONG ITS MEMBERS WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COST"

Across many of the Courts in England, a faction has been gaining ground, mostly among the younger and less experienced Camarilla members. Known only as the Brotherhood, this coterie of sorts distinguishes its members with a braid of three intertwined colours.

It seems that the Brotherhood has made its popularity by encouraging the trade of knowledge and training among its members without additional cost; opening up avenues of experience for young Kindred who wouldn't otherwise have such a chance. Although the appeal of this has primarily been to neonates and ancilla, there are a few Elders among their number.

Although the spread of knowledge unchecked among young and untested Kindred had caused some disgruntlement among the Elders of the south, few had gone out of their way to oppose the Brotherhood's work. That is until Parson Orr, the Nosferatu who once served Queen Anne as Sheriff of London, took it upon himself to question a Brotherhood member about their purpose and how far it had gone.

The questioned Kindred was no one special, a Malkavian neonate for two decades in London without achieving any significant renown. Yet when Parson Orr questioned, denigrated and punished Kellan Jerboa – a known Brotherhood braid wearer who would not cooperate with Orr's interrogation – Orr may have bitten off more than he could chew.

In seemingly unconnected events, minor boons began to be called in over Orr, no trouble for a Nosferatu Elder one would have thought – until one became two, and two became four. It is believed that the cumulative debts being called in together, and the nature of the requests, put Orr within a hair's breadth of being boon broken as he scrambled to fulfil his obligations. Now Jerboa has sought out a new Court, and it may be some time before another Kindred decides to begin a conflict with the Brotherhood.

## FROM SIMON HAILE

A lot has happened over the last month that deserves to be spoken about or requires to be spoken about. For those who missed the excitement of the last court let me summarise it. Then seneschal Trenchard circulated a petition gathering signatures for him to be proclaimed Prince of Glasgow by Carter. Before much of this was done though Israel burst into the court, which on Duke's express behest was not held at an Elysium site, bearing body armour, sword and shotgun. Some shouting about Anatos and shot ghouls ensued and asking him to sit down and calmly discuss matters failed. An altercation ensued and Israel was swiftly subdued and his torpid form taken away not before a sabbatical sigil was discovered on his sword.

More signatures were added to Trenchard's petition and he easily sailed past the 17 needed when Duke appeared. Duke was not pleased with Anatos being allegedly murdered and wished to question Israel. Apparently in the meantime Israel had also been destroyed and Duke was very unhappy about that. Ricky was brought in staked. The ever pleasant Lucretia Reflection was also present and had just received a little bit of a who's who of Glasgow but before it finished and before Duke could make any announcement on what should be done about all this then seneschal Trenchard almost magically produced a shotgun from somewhere and instructed the court to dispatch Duke. A brawl ensued and when the dust settled Duke, one of his henchladies from Manchester and a new arrival where all torpid on various pieces of furniture or the floor and Trenchard, Ricky (who seemed to have recovered from being staked), Angus, Marcellus and everyone else involved looked mighty pleased with themselves.

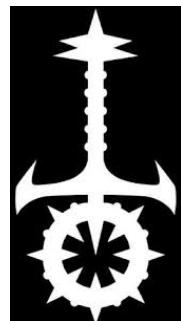
Special mention has to go to Mister Tius who managed to suck someone's blood into himself from halfway across the room in a dramatic display of sorcerous ability. With the fisticuffs ended Mister Trenchard proceeded to claim Praxis of Glasgow on the merit of having aptly dispatched Carter's governor and appointed myself to be his Keeper of Elysium of Glasgow, a position Prince Carter

had seen to remove from myself during my recent gathering.

As concerned individual and at least in one camp's eyes keeper of Elysium I brought up whether we, as a domain, would actually respect Elysium, after all there had been a bit of an incident the month before. Challenger for Prince Trenchard insured the court that under his reign of course Elysium would be respected but his sheriff Angus followed up with a statement that he would not care about where the enemies of the domain took shelter and would dispatch them wherever he'd find them. I informed Angus that words on this issue were going to be had during the month and shortly after this the court was concluded.

As you can imagine the month following that court was rather eventful. Countless discussions on the motivations and consequences of these actions were had. Was this a ploy hatched by Manchester to make Trenchard, really the shoe in for the position, seem strong and independent, after all the two kindred who actually laid hand on Duke are both bound to Carter by blood and boon. While on some level that theory could make sense I have been assured to my satisfaction that this was not the case. If this was challenger of Prince Trenchard's plan then why didn't he just wait until he was Prince a few weeks later? Why were Anatos and Israel allegedly murdered when they had been secured and taken into custody? Assuming they were murdered who would answer for those breaches of the Tradition of Destruction? How would Prince Carter react to this bold and direct insult to his authority? Would he march into Glasgow's court and remove the head of another Prince? Would Angus and Marcellus side with Carter and take Trenchard in Carter's name?

Some of these questions have been answered and the answers to most others should become apparent over the next few nights. So, a few days later, Prince Carter sent his sheriff Aislann as his envoy to deliver his message to the kindred of Glasgow. I



The sigil of the Sabbat

“ELYSIUM  
WOULD BE  
RESPECTED“



## FROM SIMON HAILE, CONTINUED

am your prince. Glasgow is my domain. Hand over the criminals Augustus Trenchard and Ricky Brown and you shall be rewarded, amnesty if you were involved in the plot again him or Duke or with favours if you were not.

As far as I am aware nobody seems to have taken Prince Carter up on the offer, but there have been meetings in the Elysia of Birmingham, Manchester and Glasgow of various representatives from various domains about the situation. There are also some larger concerns at play. Prince Carter already holds two large cities now with Glasgow as his third domain he might be seen as having Imperial leanings and we all remembered what happened when Lady Anne, seneschal to the great Mithras, attempted to take over the country one domain at a time. Furthermore the attack on his governor in open court and the lack of support shown to him might indicate that unless he travels there himself he might not have the support required to rule the city, a city which by his own decree he had no real interest in ruling in the first place. Weigh that of against the grievous insult of having been ousted out of an area claimed as his own by mere ancilla of the Camarilla with the aid of those who are known to be bound to him by blood and boon.

Prince Carter is in a difficult position. He cannot let Glasgow go without appearing to have been bested by the ancilla Trenchard and done little to uphold the Traditions and Elysium in a city he claimed as his domain. He cannot keep Glasgow without a significant show of force which would give more weight to those who claim he is attempting to take more than just Glasgow and weakening him at home. The only way to save face and still let Glasgow go is if a higher power than himself ensured that the breaches of Tradition and Elysium were adequately punished and decreed the future of Glasgow to be without his rule. A higher power such as a Justicar or an archon speaking on their behalf.

Likewise challenger for Prince Trenchard is in a tricky situation. If the matter boils down

to a conclave and Carter challenges him directly there is little doubt as to the outcome, unless he can find an extremely formidable second to answer the challenge in his place. At the same time a conclave or justicars investigation though might give him the chance to prove that he does indeed hold the support of the city; that the destructions which occurred were either justified or not done at his behest; and that he is truly the best candidate to ensure Glasgow stays stable for the future.

So in short both sides are best served to defer judgement on the matter to a higher authority and so it is likely that whilst you are reading this either a Justicarial investigation is on the way or you find yourself at a conclave, in any case you will be at an Elysium. Swaying the outcome of such a conclave or investigation, now that is where the skill of an advanced kindred politician lies.

Before I leave you for tonight I will take a short while to get back to the topic close to my heart. Elysium. The Pax Vampirica is rarely written down because it is assumed that every Sire ensured that his childe respect Elysium as to do otherwise would reflect poorly upon their choice if nothing else. No matter who by the end of tonight or the next court rules Glasgow we will ensure that the laws of Elysium for the city are clear and available to all. As, according to one camp at least, Keeper of Elysium and as, in the eyes of the other camp, the former keeper who has not been replaced yet here are the basic tenants of Glasgow's Elysia.

1. Elysium is a safe haven for all kindred. In coming to Elysium you are assured that no harm will come to your body or mind and that you are not subjected to any unwarranted exertion of force or power.
2. Elysium is a safe haven for the arts. No art work will be harmed or destroyed at Elysium and no performance unduly interrupted.
3. The Masquerade is to be kept at all times.
4. Elysium is neutral ground and does not favour any faction, sect or coterie.

“OUSTED OUT  
OF AN AREA  
CLAIMED AS HIS  
OWN BY MERE  
ANCILLA“



## FROM SIMON HAILE, CONTINUED

5. Elysium are harbours of civilisation and so every attendee is required to act with decorum and civility.

This means even if a member of the Sabbat came to a an Elysium in Glasgow, as long as he abided by the above rules he would be allowed to speak say his piece and leave again without persecution. He would not be jumped as soon as he left the physical building but instead be allowed to leave unmolested. We would have to take solace in the fact

that we now knew the enemy and have learned more about him, potentially enough to on other occasions hunt them down and destroy them.

If you are in any doubt as to what is and is not permitted at Elysium enquire with myself or the newly appointed keeper of Elysium.

Elder Simon Haile

## A PARTING MESSAGE

We all want to help one another. Human beings are like that. We want to live by each others' happiness, not by each other's misery. We don't want to hate and despise one another. In this world there is room for everyone Jew, Gentile, Anarch, Sabbat and Camarilla like the days of old. The good earth is rich and can provide for everyone. The way of life can be free and beautiful, but we have lost the way.

Greed has poisoned men's souls; has barricaded the world with hate; has goose-stepped us into misery and bloodshed. We think too much and feel too little. More than machinery, we need humanity. More than cleverness, we need kindness and gentleness. Without these qualities, life will be violent and all will be lost.

Israel Thomson

"WE HAVE LOST  
THE WAY"

## THE HARPY OF MANCHESTER...

**[This article was not delivered in the usual way and has not been verified with Lucretia Reflection]**

Well Glasgow is certainly an interesting place. I arrived at the court (not under Elysium laws) and heard gunshots which preceded me finding two guards unconscious outside. I met a rather nice Malkavian who was himself new and noticed the bodies and introduced him to the now Prince (dickhead) seneschal whose care for other kindred goes as far as hi you're new why don't you suck my glorious dick whilst I prepare a coup that will definitely get us all killed. What happened to nice Ventrue who actually care about his hoes that



he pimps for money? There was a nice interesting fight but that got quickly replaced with politics. This fight started by Prince

Dickhead the 3<sup>rd</sup> involved some brujah who don't deserve the honour of being called brujah as they were all killed. Well in the end I say 'welcome to Glasgow please don't forget to change the diapers of the sheriff as you leave as he smells like shit from all the hiding he did during the fight.' Oh wait did anyone notice the Assamite in the corner talking to Haile. I bet you didn't over all the sound of fighting.

Yours sincerely the harpy of Manchester

# Dark Times

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The Dark Times is a publication for the benefits of members of the Camarilla only and is made available at the monthly court held by the Prince of Glasgow. The newsletter should only be made available to other Kindred, and all care should be taken to ensure that it cannot breach the Masquerade.

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

What a truly astonishing month. I say astonishing, though perhaps I overstate. Surprising? Mildly startling? Perhaps in truth this is the old definition of insanity, trying the same thing and expecting different results. Just when it seemed Glasgow might step out from the shadow of its past and allow for a peaceful transition, in stepped a new generation of tyrant to take the place of the old.

It's possible I am doing Augustus Trenchard a disservice, after all, the nuances of such things cannot be reduced to a single matter. However by all appearances, it would have been a simple matter to have met the conditions set by Carter to recognise a new Prince of Glasgow. Such things are ordinarily managed behind closed doors, but Carter threw the doors open and refused to work behind the usual veil.

Instead of doing as asked though, Trenchard saw fit to declare an attack upon Carter's representative, Duke, and turned the Court of Glasgow to the attack. Whether he did so with the powers of his Clan, or by pre-arranged plan is unclear, though his aid from Angus and Marcellus (bound to Carter with life debts) shows that he was able to sway those who mattered in the moment.

Ordinarily, such a move would mean death. And it may yet – Carter's fury is terrible to behold when enraged, and he has had a great deal to be angry over in recent times. Yet there are rumours that the British legacy of

Princes aiming to hold more than their own city is being seen more and more as a destabilising influence throughout the Camarilla, and it will not be tolerated forever. Even if Trenchard holds his own claim though, he has made a powerful enemy; his actions will not be forgotten soon.

Best Regards,  
Editor in Chief

Henry Newbolt – This month saw a great deal of turmoil and strife. Tempers may be running high, but such is not a temperament in which to decide matters of import to the Camarilla. Let wiser heads prevail, and let us seek a resolution which may lead us forward and not downward. I am confident, and hopeful, that this can be achieved – and is already underway.

Edward Williams – For Prince Carter to bestir himself and travel from these shores to Europe must have been a matter of considerable importance. Given the recent events in his domains, I would not take the news of such a journey lightly, and I have heard that the Brujah are stirring – unsurprisingly. Perhaps their discussions will result in simmering tension, to be hoped, as an overflow will scald all around.

Lucretia Reflection – Ah, Glasgow. You lulled me into a false sense of security with my first visit but now I understand why you have such a reputation for violence and instability. Such pointless rebellion and betrayal would have left me utterly breathless if I had breath in the first place. You have small islands of manners and decorum but at your last court they were overwhelmed by the waves of violence. I wish you all the luck with your chosen path, Glasgow, because you are going to need it.



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