

DARK TIMES

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CAMBUSLANG COMBUSTION

Strathclyde Police were rocked this month, when a number of decorated officers were lured into a trap and killed in an explosion which consumed a Cambuslang warehouse in flame.

Armed officers were responding to a call that a group of men had entered the warehouse carrying a body and showing



signs of a gunfight. On arrival, it was radioed in that the officers had been attacked by a masked man who fled into the building. However, as the officers searched the building, there were no reports of anyone having been found inside.

The search was drawn short though, as an explosion rocked the entire building,

while most of the officers had descended into a basement. One officer remained by the door and was hurled fifteen feet from the building, where he was found by emergency services responding to reports of the blast. It took firefighters a full eight hours to fully quench

the blaze, by which time most of the building had collapsed, obliterating most of what was inside.

Meanwhile the officer who was thrown from the building was taken to hospital, where he remains in a critical condition. Due to the extent of his injuries, and significant lung damage, doctors are not

BONFIRE BRIGADE

The month of October saw a marked decrease in the protests which have caused such disruption on Glasgow's streets. While a hardy few continue to huddle round their bonfires every night, there are far less of them each sunset. The police continue overt monitoring of the situation, but it is clear that more than October's rain has damped the protestor's spirits.

Following the arson of the King's Theatre and the tireless efforts of Glasgow charitable organisations to raise the profile of the restoration fund, a benefit concert was held in the City Halls last month. Fronted

by local favourite Samantha Merton, the concert brought together a plethora of Glaswegian talent, including stars of stage and screen. While modest in its setting, the concert is said to have raised considerable funds for the renovation of the buildings damaged by the arsonists, and Ms. Merton was heard to comment "Every penny donated will help rebuild our heritage, brick by brick".

Meanwhile the bodies of the young woman and child recovered from the burned out King's Theatre are still to be identified.

BOON TRADING:

- *None this month*

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NATURE VS NURTURE (VOL 1) - DARIUS

Good evening fellow kindred, I hope the evening finds you well or atleast in an amicable mood.

Firstly, I must beg your forgiveness if when reading this entry you feel somewhat insulted, it is not my intention, I merely wish to indulge in some friendly and intelligent discussions.



far from Caine attempting to create progeny but could also be one who has decided to abandon their childe for one reason or another - leading to the Childe potentially mutating its own blood in an attempt to become accepted into the Camarilla.

Shouldn't we accept and teach Caitiff so that they do not become

nuisances or walking breaches of the traditions?

This point came up rather late in the debate and was voiced by both sides. Shouldn't the Camarilla, who professes to hold domain over all kindred so that we do not become beasts or bring the wrath of mortals upon us, accept Caitiff for what they are? Kindred who are different to each other, kindred who work harder than any other to become accepted and prove their un-life to everyone in the domain.

Shouldn't we as members of the Camarilla take an active interest in making sure these kindred are taught and become useful members of society? I'm sure that if you keep your eyes on the boons owed and traded, you will find that Caitiff can be useful and worth their own salt.

Why should we give their weaknesses and need to be accepted credence?

This was a question that wasn't voiced very loud, but was heard by a few in the vicinity and I'm sure will be echoed around the globe.

"SHOULDN'T THE CAMARILLA, WHO PROFESSES TO HOLD DOMAIN OVER ALL KINDRED SO THAT WE DO NOT BECOME BEASTS OR BRING THE WRATH OF MORTALS UPON US, ACCEPT CAITIFF FOR WHAT THEY ARE?"

After a discussion during one court session, where a debate was turned into a court entertainment session between two bodies - one representing the reasons why Caitiff are worse than Anarchs and the other representing why Anarchs are worse than Caitiff, some interesting and seemingly indoctrinated views were shown from several members of the debate.

So, my first entry into Dark Times, I am afraid is going to be "in the deep end first" as it were.

Caitiff

Why are Caitiff hated so much? Is it not their sire that creates or abandons them? Or in some cases gets destroyed before one can be taught?

Some of the arguments and viewpoints during the debate suggested that it is the Sire's fault that the childe is treat so harshly, that it is the Sire who has caused this "unsavoury" thing. From what I understand, this could be anyone and not just a weakness in the blood or from one who could be so



THE CURE - JOHN PETTITT

No longer shall you need to put up with this plague that has come upon us all, for I Professor John Pettitt of clan Tremere have found a cure for these dam irritations a simple injection is what it takes to neutralise the infliction upon you. However that being

said the problem is still ongoing the source has not been found and so my investigations are still ongoing and I'm sure that the end is nigh for this once and for all.

Prof J Pettitt

ARTIST PROTESTS

Horrifying scenes confronted night visitors to some of Glasgow's art galleries, when in three separate incidents, young men walked into the venues and proceeded to set themselves on fire, calling out in honour of a "true artist" called Simon, even as the flames consumed them. The venues for these immolations were the Gallery of Modern Art, Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum and the Centre for Contemporary Arts.

The men, who are still being identified but are each believed to be in their late twenties to mid thirties, entered the galleries through the public entrances. They each carried a flask or container with flammable liquid, though they waited until they were deep within the building before dousing themselves. Reports of what was shouted were confused initially, but it appears the media have settled on variations of "Simon Bale is the only true artist".

Media reports around the subject have been

varied and highly speculative, with much of the discussion revolving around the lack of security which allowed this to

happen. Focus soon turned to the men themselves, what could have driven them to commit suicide in such a painful way and who this Simon Bale character is to cause such intense emotional distress. Initial reports suggest that he is not an easy person to uncover, but that he may be part of the shadier side of Glasgow's cheap accommodation.



GLASGOW IN OCTOBER - SIMON HAILE

Editor's note: this article truncated due to length. Please see addendum.

Dear readers,

This month I wish to talk to you about the value of a good rival or enemy and the enemy of Glasgow. Before I do though I will bring up to date with some of the debts and favours which involve our domain. I have broken them into 5 separate categories. The first are debts internal to the domain where both parties currently reside within the

domain.

Amadeus Edelstein is indebted to Augustus Trenchard and Gail Middlemass. Angus McDonald is indebted to Corvus Brann. Prince Trenchard is indebted to Dominic Leighton and also substantially indebted to Angus McDonald. Derek Feldman is indebted to Prince Trenchard and myself. Dominic Leighton is indebted to Prince Trench...
[continued separately—Editor]

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HARPY HOUR

So it seems that months of disrespect and disregard for Clan Tremere has caught up with Prince Trenchard, as his infamy among the Warlocks spreads across the country and beyond. Describing an entire Clan wholesale as vipers, and requesting that others do not deal with them - such are signs that the

young Ventru Prince is taking a stand which few in Britain have dared to make for many years.

We all have our doubts about Tremere - I am honest enough to admit to my own. Their unsettling past and mystic ways do

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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 - CONT...

not go a great way to inspire trust. And yet, they have become fundamental to the Camarilla, and are treated as such - with few Courts in this country not exhibiting powerful members of the Warlocks. Mutter complaints and snide asides are common, yet kept in a low voice, lest sharp ears (or less natural means) should hear.

By taking a head-on course of conflict, Prince Trenchard is picking a fight which few have the stomach for, and even less in positions of real power. Prince Houlblon's ties to the Tremere are the subject of much speculation, the Prince of Severn counts an Elder of the clan among his Primogen, and even Birmingham sports a nest - though quieter than most. Is Prince Trenchard so confident of his position that he can afford to add Tremere to his list of enemies? Or is this a mark of political naivety? Only time will tell, but it is certain that Trenchard is seeking to make a name for himself - and quickly.

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It all seems to have gone quiet on the Dundee front, at least for the moment. It is rumoured that Ian Dunnoch has returned to Dundee, and the reports of Gangrel encroachment have become fewer - at least for the moment. The more wild speculation would posit that this is either preparation for a grand assault, or an acceptance of defeat by Aberdeen.

I would not place money on either position however, my bet is that with Madame Guil visiting the country, all parties are preparing for the manoeuvring which will come with her gatherings, or else biding their time until her visit is over and the normal course of business can resume. But as to how matters will stand when Madame Guil leaves the home of her grand-childe? Even I can't guess at that.

Margery Houndsorth-Stone - Harpy of London

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Madame Guil's reputation precedes her, and it is a formidable one. Even among the heady ranks of the Justicars, her capacity for uncovering the truth is legendary. The plots she has uncovered, and the Elders she has condemned to the Final Death, would make the most jaded of Kindred shiver. To look at her, the Mistress of Tears, is to know danger in its truest sense - rarely will your thoughts take you so close to the precipice. Tread softly, even in the halls of your mind, and observe the proper courtesies and you may (but only may) prosper.

Edward Williams - Harpy of Severn

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Kind regards



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

Dark Times

[Editor's note – Dear Kindred,

Please find the below article, the continuation of that found in November's edition of our publication. Unfortunately, it has fallen out with the limits of length that we were forced to apply, and has had to be produced separately from the usual pages of our newsletter.

Many apologies to Elder Haile.

Yours, as always]

Dear readers,

This month I wish to talk to you about the value of a good rival or enemy and the enemy of Glasgow. Before I do though I will bring up to date with some of the debts and favours which involve our domain. I have broken them into 5 separate categories. The first are debts internal to the domain where both parties currently reside within the domain.

Amadeus Edelstein is indebted to Augustus Trenchard and Gail Middlemass. Angus McDonald is indebted to Corvus Brann. Prince Trenchard is indebted to Dominic Leighton and also substantially indebted to Angus McDonald. Derek Feldman is indebted to Prince Trenchard and myself. Dominic Leighton is indebted to Prince Trenchard and myself. Elizabeta Edelstein is indebted to Prince Trenchard. Elodin is twice indebted to Alexander Barker, twice indebted to Hector and once indebted to myself. Evelyn is indebted to Markus Brand. Gail Middlemass is indebted to Prince Trenchard and Derek Feldman. Henri Devereaux is substantially indebted to myself. I, in turn, am twice indebted to Prince Trenchard, and once to Dominic Leighton and Elizabeta Edelstein.

The following debts are granted by members of the domain and hence will also be enforced by the domain. Alexander the Brujah is indebted to Heather Jackman of Manchester. Angus MacDonald substantially indebted Prince Carter of Manchester. Prince Trenchard is substantially indebted to Nicolette Du Clair. Marcellus is substantially indebted Prince Carter of Manchester. I myself am indebted to Prince Carlisle of Edinburgh and substantially to Eleanor Plunkett of Edinburgh and Robert Melik of London.

The following debts are held by member of the domain over those out with the domain and hence will be enforced in the court of the debtor.

Alan Gibbons, Scourge of York is indebted to Prince Trenchard. Drake Anderson is indebted to myself and substantially indebted to Prince Trenchard. Hercule Bastian Rothschild, former Prince of Glasgow, is twice indebted to Angus McDonald. Levi Tius is indebted to Alexander Barker and substantially indebted to Prince Trenchard. Margery Houndsorth Stone, harpy of London, is indebted to Prince Trenchard. Philip Armaclock III is indebted to Darius the Caitiff. Sam Riley is indebted to Scott Naismith. Simon Rubin of Manchester is indebted to Prince Trenchard.

The next category are those debts of note held by those out with the domain over others out with the domain. That list, as you might imagine, is far too lengthy to include in this article but upon request can be made available. Usually request focus around one kindred such as which debts are known to be held by and over a certain kindred. The final group are debts in which one or both parties are believed to be deceased. Those debts will still be kept on the books in case the reports about the destruction of a certain kindred prove to be premature. For the domain of Glasgow and its debts the following kindred are assumed to have perished. Charles Augustus Aldworth, Israel Thompson, Julius Montgomery, Nathan Kyte and William Chauncey.

I will periodically publish updates on those lists and am of course open to requests on the current position of public debts to any member of the Camarilla in good standing. With this out of the way I can now come to what this month's article is about; rivals and enemies. It has long been said, traditionally in preparative to a wedding that the quality of a man can be surmised by the company he keeps. People often interpret that to mean to judge a man by his friends and companions but in our world friends and companions are just rivals who have not been given sufficient incentive to turn on you yet. In an enemy or rival though you can trust.

There comes a time, usually around a century after your transition into the permanent night, where you question the purpose of your existence. By now you have watched everyone you knew from your former life grow old and die. Your first few generations of mortal pawns have also gone through this cycle. You have likely achieved your initial set of goals you have set for yourself and

wonder now what the point of it all is. What does it matter whether wake up another night, amass more wealth and more influence in the mortal world when inevitably it all grows old and perishes. Sure you can meet with your peers and attend social functions but to what end. At this point many start slipping into longer and longer absences from the world. Others seek new and fresh forms of entertainment, willing to break their own rules, set for their safety, merely to experience something new. Some find solace in selecting some worthy to pass the on their curse or gift. At that point there is nothing more reassuring though than an enemy who like you does not age.

Suddenly every night were you do nothing is one your enemy will use to get ahead of you. Nothing you have built up for yourself is safe and all those safeguards, deceptions and traps you have laid need to be carefully maintained. Now the endless parade of nights ahead of you shrinks down to just the next few decisions. What can I do tonight to either protect what is mine, or take the fight to them and force them to defend their own holdings? All those tasks you delegated as not important for your direct attention suddenly become important again. If one priceless violin you send with your trusted servant to Villon as a gift for some occasion and he opens his gift only to find a painting of Violetta, his beloved childe, in a rather compromising situation with the Nosferatu Justicar, you carefully examine what you can and cannot afford to delegate.

It is simply impossible for an ally to give you such a boost in motivation. It is for that reason that a good feud follows certain unwritten rules. If you staked your rival and kept him in your basement, set them up to the point that Prince would execute them or otherwise completely disabled them you have lost your motivator. You come to rely on your opponent and the prospect of losing them and the stabilizing influence they exert on your life becomes too much to bare and so before long you find yourself actually protecting your enemy from others, after all if someone was to best them it was going to be you and no one else.

Having established just how important a good enemy is to ones continued existence choosing them needs to be done with the utmost care. They need to competent and able to indulge in the feud. They need to in their own way rival your powers and influences. They need to be able to understand the subtleties of a good feud and have shown that they adhere to the implied social contracts. They need to be someone who you can afford to lose to occasionally without great shame. They need to challenge your mind and your abilities.

This in turn brings me to the city of Glasgow. Glasgow, you see, has an enemy or rival. Likely it was a kindred who struggled to find a rival powerful and competent enough to challenge them and so they have decided to pick an entire domain as their enemy. If you look back through the history of the last dozen years you will find countless plots against the city and its inhabitants. They involve old favourites such as the Anarch movement, the Sabbat or Werewolves as well as the church, the inquisition, faeries, wizards, witches, hunters and more recently poison crystals in our food supplies and protestors who indulge in the use of flammable liquids. Each individual incident might be a coincidence but if you view them together a picture emerges. The blood thief, the ripper, the demon, the blood disease, the countless perished elders are all signs that something sits behind a veil and directs this assault upon the city. At the same time it never actually destroys it as otherwise the great game would be over. There is a reason Anne or a different powerful elder didn't claim the city when her protégé fell. There is a reason Prince Carter never intended to keep Glasgow.

Without consciously realizing it we are constantly at war with our enemy, he motivates us to grow stronger, protect our assets and push ourselves. He makes each and every one of our decisions matter. This is the reason why in a few years in Glasgow a neophyte can grow the skills and reputation to be accepted as an elder. This is the reason why those outside the city find it easy to disagree with our decisions but are hardly ever seen in our support.

For long enough we have given this puppeteer a free run at us. We have dispatched his agents without ever actually following back their strings to his liar but I say we should step up our efforts. We should take the time and the care to work out why they chose to pick on the city. I doubt it will be easy but ultimately the battle for Glasgow can be won and it can be won by us. We merely need to actually work together on these issues. We should discover who is directing the firebrands, who is poisoning our food supply and who is riling up the churches. While they might well be different individuals behind them no doubt sits a more shadowy enemy who thus far it seems has been ignored. No longer, I say, it is time to take back our city.

Elder Simon Haile
Primogen to Prince Trenchard
Keeper of Elysium of Glasgow

[The following addendum to this article was provided by 'Anonymous']

"Bored now"