

DARK TIMES

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CHANGING TIMES

This month saw some changes in the political landscape which, while not earth shattering taken individually, may be the beginning rumbles of a landslide of sweeping transformation to Britain's nights.



Dundee. Those who have any opinion on the matter have a little over a year to make those opinions known to Madame Guil, with a formal decision being reached by the end of 2014.

The first of those changes is one which has been widely speculated upon. Felix Cavendish, who has been running Madame Guil's social gatherings in the country, has been named as her newest Archon. Those who have attended parties hosted by Cavendish in the past have commented that these recent events lacked his customary precision. Since it is unlikely that Madame Guil has selected him on the basis of his hosting skills, more than likely he was distracted by other duties.

It is suspected that Cavendish will be primarily based in Britain over the next year, which links to the second announcement following from gatherings in Scotland. It was announced that Thomas Carmichael is being formally considered and assessed as a Prince in his own right over the domain of

Speculation around the subject is of course rife. Why is Carmichael being considered as a Prince now? Is it coincidence that it occurs at a time when Dundee's fate seems uncertain? What importance does Justicar Guil's relationship to Carmichael play in the matter? And how much of all of this has been orchestrated by Prince Carlisle?

Of most interest though, the most anticipated reaction to come, is that of Prince Leslie. Leslie has made claims to the Domain of Dundee for years, with growing tensions most recently. Now he has a platform for his grievance, an opportunity to bring the matter to a head. So the question will be asked - when all is said and done, what does he have to show? Time will tell if the bluster has any solid basis.

POLICE INVESTIGATIONS GRIND TO HALT

Investigations into recent violent events in Glasgow appear to have stalled this month, with police remaining silent on both the explosion which cost the lives of several officers and on the as-yet unexplained deaths of art protestors linked to the enigmatic "Simon Bale".

Both investigations have undoubtedly been

hampered by the deaths of each of the survivors in their hospital beds. The policeman thrown from the explosion in a Cambuslang warehouse last month is reported to have briefly rallied and regained consciousness before passing away without speaking to his family or colleagues who were present at the time. This, coupled with the death of the only

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POLICE INVESTIGATIONS (CONT.)

young man to have survived his self-immolation, has left police without concrete leads in both investigations.



It would appear that little progress has been made on the police's investigation into the explosion itself. Forensics experts brought over from Northern Ireland examined the

ruin and determined that a gas main had been interfered with, but were unable to determine the mechanism by which it was triggered. No other remains have been found in the warehouse, and it would appear that the policemen killed died for nothing, a fact that must seem particularly cruel to their families.

No further details have emerged about Simon Bale, the man named by the men who committed suicide in prominent arts venues in the city last month. Police have appealed for witnesses to the men's movements prior to entering the museums and anyone who may know what drove them to their actions.

FELIX CAVENDISH WRITES...

"THE MUSIC OF AMADEUS EDELSTEIN AND THE SCULPTURE OF HENRI DEVEREAUX WERE BREATHTAKING, EASILY TRIUMPHING IN THEIR RESPECTIVE FIELDS."

Good evening to all, and my thanks to the residents of Glasgow for an entertaining and rewarding Caledonia Nocturnis. I hope that, despite some minor issues, the guests enjoyed the weekend and found something to occupy their attentions.

From the point of view of Madame Guil, many of the best qualities of the Domain of Glasgow were on show, with a depth of artistic talent which would surprise those who have heard only the brutal stories Glasgow tends to attract. While some of the performances were unrefined - at times charmingly so - the music of Amadeus Edelstein and the sculpture of Henri Devereaux were breathtaking, easily triumphing in their respective fields.

Combat was of course a hot topic, but was dominated by the Sheriff of Glasgow, with respectable performances by Vint Greywood and Alexander, both of Clan Brujah. Vint Greywood also distinguished himself in a contest of wits, in partnership with Simon Haile, a combined force to be reckoned with, edging out the other pairings. Finally, Prince Trenchard succeeded in a contest of mind and will.

The debates were a mixture of interesting performances, dominated by the preparation of Hector Rozalees and the passion of Amadeus Edelstein, with each triumphing in one debate. Each victor was granted the opportunity to have an audience with Madame Guil, to discuss matters of greatest import to them.

Following the event, I shall be returning to Glasgow once more, in order to pass on any further rewards, information, or personal communications from the Justicar herself - in addition to a prize to Mr Tobias Weaver, who supplied a most impressive collection of masks to bring flavour to the evening.

So after a weekend of civility, political debate and spirited displays of skill, I look forward to renewing my acquaintance with you all this month. I wish you all success.

Felix Cavendish

On behalf of Madame Guil, Justicar of Clan Toreador



ANONYMOUS WRITES...

Everyone knows Trenchard isn't the man for the job. He got it because there was no one better and no one wanted to take it from him. Now he's held up by the real powers who think he's handy. The real Princes should have squashed him on the first day, not letting his head get so big.

Don't believe me? Let's look at what he's done recently. A bit of a laugh, but there was a contest at Madam Guile's party - you had to be strong in mind. What did he do? He sat and made sure no one else could have a go, chasing away any competitions. Doesn't sound like someone confident in his mind to me. Maybe he was just real desperate to see the boss though.

Another from that night? Turns out, he was supposed to be talking about the Accounting. Until he got that one. Random Tradition, but give him one he doesn't want and

he backs out. Can't imagine the host of honour was pleased with that - pulling out cos he doesn't like one of the six rules we all have to follow - him included. Still, why was he worried about the accounting - I hear you asking? That's where it gets most interesting of all.

Last month, or the month before, there was trouble with someone in his court. A little knob who kicked up fuss. No big deal, he gets a hiding and it's all good. Except there was talk about breaches of the traditions and should be be killed. Bigger deal maybe, but who cares about some no body. Oh wait, he's been given a new sire? A sire who totally failed to do his job? And it's one of Trenchard's special friends? Well, that might result in a bit of downfall - you can't just ignore those things...

“OH WAIT, HE'S BEEN GIVEN A NEW SIRE? A SIRE WHO TOTALLY FAILED TO DO HIS JOB? AND IT'S ONE OF TRENCHARD'S SPECIAL FRIENDS?”

PRISON BREAK

Robert Blake, the architect of Glasgow's newest prison gave an honest and frank opinion of his new facility, three months after it was fully opened for use by the Scottish Prison Service.

“The SPS cut quite a few corners when translating my vision for the facility into reality,” were the damning words of the winner of the 2013 Royal Institute of British Architects National Award. Mr Blake provided evidence of the original design of the wall security systems for examination by the Herald Newspaper, which confirmed that the flaws which allowed two prisoners to escape the high-security facility were not part of the planner's vision.

The break-out was in Mr Blake's opinion, “inevitable”. “With the ham-fisted way that the implementation was managed, it would only be a matter of months before a prisoner figured out the lack of electrification of that section of fence. In addition, the loss of the postern guard tower left the key

area unmonitored.”

The SPS has allegedly been in negotiations with Mr Blake's firm, Turning Corners, in an attempt to bring him back to review the design and oversee the improvement works required. Mr Blake refused to comment on this at the time of writing. A Parliamentary enquiry into the fiasco has been launched. The escaped prisoners are currently still on the run, and the Police have warned the public they may be armed and dangerous. Anyone with information relating to their whereabouts should contact 08000 898 965.

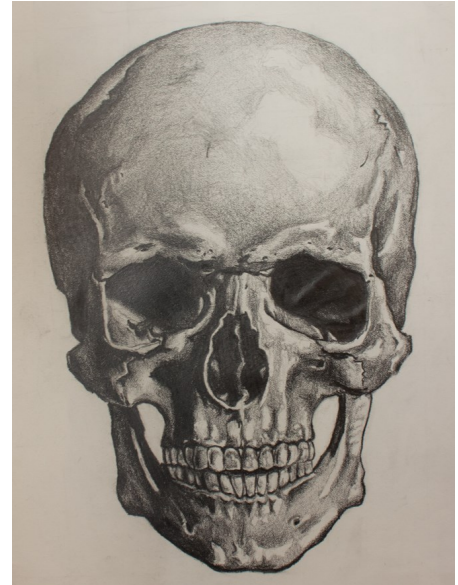


ANONYMOUS STRIKES AGAIN

I know where you keep the little
Piece of your soul
So you won't go to Hell when I
Crush your skull with my maul
And grind your corpse on stone

It's far flung.
Deep in the dark of moss
Green chambers of dread and loss
But I won't rest 'til it cracks 'tween my
teeth
And your eyes go hollow

I have the one thing
You'll fail to deceive with
Your machinations and schemes
The one thing your mind can't invade
Fury.



SIMON HAILE

“FEAR NOT THAT I
WILL COME AFTER
YOU FOR
ENJOYING
LEONARD
ELSCHENBROICH
AND THE
EMINENTLY
WORTHY NICOLA
BENEDETTI“

The month of November has certainly been interesting. Of course I will write about the gathering held by Justicar Guile in Doune Castle but first let me pick up on a few things of note. The tradition of domain, what it would take to breach it, how it is enforced. The wording of the tradition is in its commonly accepted English Translation is: *Thy domain is thine own concern. All others owe thee respect while in it. None may challenge thy word while in thy domain.* Three simple statements and quite clear I always thought. In spite of this we had people being extorted for services merely for without express invitation entering another's domain and trespassing as it were. Briefly it appeared that this was sanctioned by our esteemed leader Prince Trenchard, but that mistake was swiftly corrected when on the Prince's instructions the culprit was indebted to each of the wronged parties, i.e. the people previously extorted.

I hold domain over various aspects of within the domain of Glasgow. This includes amongst others institutes of higher learning, theatres, galleries and performance spaces. All members of the Camarilla of Glasgow in good standing though are not only permitted, but in fact

invited to enjoy them, so fear not that I will come after you for enjoying Leonard Elschenbroich and the eminently worthy Nicola Benedetti playing some nice pieces commonly attributed to Brahms. As long as you are respectful and don't interfere with the domain everyone should be happy.

Before I write too much for the editor to include I shall none the less speak about the Doune Castle gatherings arranged for the pleasure of Justicar Guile. Many expected this to rival the Winterball for the event of the season but the event was very much at and for the pleasure of the Justicar. Mr Cavendish, someone who after Marcus Leavenholme, who come to think of it has been awfully quiet this past year, has often been the 2nd choice of kindred event planning. Whereas the Winterball goes out to impress and entertain its guest, here the guests were the entertainment. A series of sometimes serious and often comical competitions where instigated where the members of the domain of Glasgow could compete with one another. Some claim the events were marred by Mister Cavendish's perceived ineptitude. The rules outlined by him for the duels then were consequently ignored and not followed whilst he was adjudicating the duels, he stated an event would last until the end of the night to only

SIMON HAILE (CONT.)

tell some people later that it would be an hour, and an entire promised event, the masque competition was simply omitted completely. Of course though these nay sayers would be wrong, one does not rise to Mr Cavendish's reputation without the ability to manage some simple competitions. Of course those niggles and deviations were deliberate and our reactions to them part of the entertainment of Madame Guile.

As far as the competitions went Angus and my protégé Adam Edelstein both managed to win two events each. Angus won the armed and unarmed combat whereas Adam won the debate on the clan which contributed most to the Camarilla and in the undisputed highlight of the event the performance art competition with her original piece "A river flows in you". Our Prince won the challenge of the Will and strength of mind unopposed. Vint Greywood and myself won the battle of Wits. Domino won the poker games and our acting keeper of the Masquerade Hector Rosalee won the debate on most important tradition. It is of course no surprise that every elder in attendance won at least won event and that the others were mostly won by Glasgow's rising stars, Adam and Hector. I left one piece for last, Henri Devereaux won the art exhibit challenge with the magnificent

sculpture, "Fury of the child". I went outside to see it in the flesh as it were and if elder Greywood hadn't almost dragged me away to discuss the challenge of wits I might well have missed the masquerade ball. I will have to have it installed somewhere fitting, ideally underground, to savour the raw strengths of its emotions.

Having attended both Aberdeen's and Glasgow's events I am looking forward to seeing what, if any, changes these meetings will have brought to the political landscape. I still believe that the issue over Dundee had nothing really to do with Justicar's arrival, who if we go by her fearsome reputation, is likely after an individual or group of kindred who have fallen from the bosom of the Camarilla. I am looking forward to the Winterball where no doubt this and many other topic will be discussed.

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

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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

Articles over 750 words may not be printed in full in the main publication

HARPY HOUR

A new Prince? A new Archon? A Justicar's visit is rarely without incident, but Madame Guil's trip to Britain seems to have come with its own personal hornets nest. Of course an argument could be made that these disturbances are the result of the events which have drawn the Justicar here in the first place. Still, in all this change there has to be plenty of opportunity, and no doubt some Kindred will prosper.

There are already indications that different factions are exacting their toll for support – with the conflict having been formalised by Justicar Guil, perhaps the services (and the prices) will become more finite – and more considerable in scale.

“Before this year is out, Prince Leslie will present evidence to those who wish to hear it, as to the fate of John Cline and why Dundee should return to the hands of Aberdeen. If any wish to be present for such declaration, please contact me and I will consider the necessary arrangements.”

Karen Walls, personal secretary to Reginald Albertson

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Now that Scotland's issues have been addressed by Justicar Guil, I look forward to her arrival in the Courts of England. Perhaps her presence might address the divides which have been created by Ventrue rivalries between Anne and Houblon. No doubt her reputation for fair dealings with those of high station will be of value in preventing a war before it breaks out.

Edward Williams, Harpy of Severn

Best Regards,

Editor in Chief



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

DARK TIMES

BOON SUPPLEMENT

GLASGOW'S BOONS: ELDER HAILE

A lot has happened in the world of debts and favours since I wrote my last article and seeing that my last article was cut from the publication I have decided to split the section about Glasgow's debts out of the main article. Over the few weeks a number of debts were incurred, transferred and repaid.

First let me speak about elder Vint Greywood. He has incurred a couple of debts to Prince Trenchard, one to neonate Dominique Shaw and one to the acting keeper of the Masquerade Hector Rozalees. He also briefly incurred a debt to myself which he competently and swiftly repaid.

Next we have the very same Hector Rozelees who incurred a debt to Gail Middlemass and Adam Edelstein. He furthermore was briefly indebted to Darius the Caitiff, who traded the debt to Caius the Caitiff who ultimately lost the debt to Domino to whom Hector is still beholden. He incurred two further debts, one to Prince Trenchard and one to myself but both of which he repaid during event at Doune Castle.

Domino, who has been frequently mentioned, won 7 boons in total during the poker tournament. Beyond the ones already mentioned she now holds a debt of Alexander the Brujah, Amadeus Edelstein, Tobias Weaver and two separate debts over Elodin who is still hiding himself from polite society after breaking his word to numerous members of the domain in relations to his ill fated masquerade ball. The debts over Elodin were previously held by Hector and myself. Domino found herself briefly indebted to Prince Trenchard but repaid him on the same night.

Prince Trenchard also did well at the poker game and ended up winning two further debts over Daniel Smith, and Henri Deveraux. The only point which still needs to be made is that I fulfilled my obligations to Elizabetha Edelstein.

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