

DARK TIMES

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JUSTICAR NAVES MAKES SHOCKING (BUT NOT UNEXPECTED) ANNOUNCEMENT!

By *Rebecca Jones*

It is official!

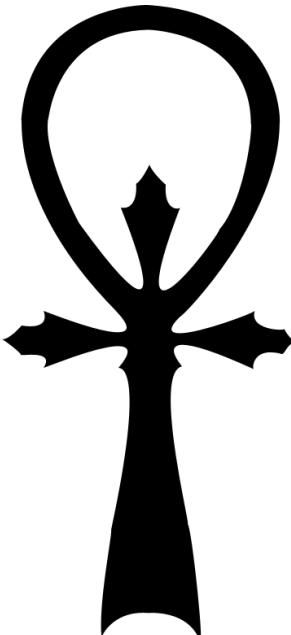
The Justicars are going to seriously consider considering the possibility of the potential addition of an 8th Clan to the Camarilla.

Maybe not the answer the patient Assamites have been waiting for, but at least there appears to be some movement on that front. Justicar Naves made the announcement through Archon Tin at the Paris Court that Archons will begin canvassing the opinion of domains in regards to making the addition to the Camarilla. Archon Tin confirmed that this canvassing was purely speculative at the moment and that no one is to consider it as the final decision on the matter. That being said the Justicar has given the Archons free reign in regards to how they intend to canvass the opinions of their areas.

Some have chosen to visit each and every domain personally whilst some are in the midst of arranging conclaves for all to attend and debate the issue.

Either way the Justicar has asked for the Archons to present him with a report in regards to public opinion by the end of the year. It is not yet known what route Archon Darling will take in the UK, however there has been some speculation that the Archon may try to combine two issues into one, this debate on the 8th Pillar and the finalisation of the UK Audit.

In the meantime, whilst the Archon's prepare themselves for the task, more representatives from the Assamites have started to visit more and more domains, presenting their case to Prince's and Court's throughout Europe, and indeed further afield. Prince



Erika of the domain of Bergen stated, "Any clan is permitted to undergo the right to enter our court."

On the opposite end of the spectrum Prince Frederick of the court of Berlin informed the Dark Times, "No heathen from the east will ever step foot in my court again. Why the Justicar is seeking to taint our traditional ways I do not know. Seven Clans, Seven. It has always been this way, it is this way and it should stay this way."

However, it would appear that the Assamites are not the only clan looking to get in on the action as the Prince of Paris is said to have accepted a most unconventional proposal; to allow a delegation of Ravnos to make their home in his domain, who in turn have agreed to abide by the traditions and the laws of his domain. Time will tell how this little experiment goes, but it would appear that the Assamites have a little competition. It is unclear whether

either of the independent clans wish to join as a whole but it would appear that there is at least enough of them that have since come to their senses and seen that the Camarilla is truly the way forward.

The big question still remains though, what do the current members of the Camarilla think of this? By the end of the year, we will have our answer.

BOON TRADING:

For further information on boons please see your local Harpy

- *Marshal Ney owes the Dark Times 2 minor boons*
- *Ancilla Levi Tius owes the Dark Times a Minor Boon*
- *Ancilla Henry Randall owes the Dark Times a Minor Boon*
- *Elder Savigny owes Dr Roman a Major Boon*
- *Elder Fletcher owes Elder Savigny a life boon.*
- *3 of Elder Haile's Minor Boons have been transferred and paid to Elder Viola DuBois.*

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KINDRED OF GLASGOW

By Angus McDonald, kindred of Paris

I can announce, with no small measure of pleasure, that I have ended the recent Sabbat threat against Glasgow in the person of Bishop Martinez of Madrid. Assisted by my childe Torsten, Levi Tius, and some of my Assamite friends, we counter-ambushed an attack in force against the Court of Marseille led by Bishop Martinez and her pet Tremere.

The Sabbat assault was defeated with the loss of almost 50 veteran Sabbat, although at great cost to the fine Toreador kindred of fair Marseille, including the torporing of Prince Bonnefoy. Luckily I was able to stop Martinez and his Tremere before they finished the Prince for good. All thanks to Mister Tius and his invaluable help. Well done Torsten on another kill! You can boast of your duel with your friends in France and Norway! And another sterling effort from the brave and noble warriors of Clan Assamite.

With the successful defense of the newly acquired Domaiof Salamanca under Mar-

cellus of Clan Gangrel and the removal of the driving force in the push against Portugal by the Sabbat in the person of Bishop Martinez, the Crusade in Spain has maintained the initiative and should maintain momentum over the next 6 months.

I would like to thank Prince Fredrick of Berlin for his very warm welcome and look forward to a return visit in the near future. And my kind regards to Senechal Volga for her gracious hospitality. It was very much appreciated.

For my fellow Gangrel with an interest in the matter, the clan efforts in the Congo bear fruit. The twisted degenerate tribe of Get of Fenris suffered a serious setback this month with the death of the tribe leader's son and his closest companions. Work to safeguard our people there proceeds with great dedication and bravery.

And to my dearest companion, I will be home soon and we shall talk.

PRIMOGEN NEWS

By Lord Finn Huxley, Earl of Leicester, Primogen of Glasgow

My dear friends,

Firstly, for those elders of the Camarilla who value safe, secure, luxury travel, I can announce the expansion of my floating hotel shipping routes not only to the Baltic and northern European coasts, but now to the Mediterranean and soon to the northern ports of Africa. Exotic destinations have never been closer! Please contact me directly for bespoke travel packages or feel free to refer your friends. Please rest assured that reports of pirate attacks are being taken seriously and countermeasures for my entire shipping fleet are being rolled out as we speak.

It is quite strange how things come full circle sometimes. My first act in Glasgow was to create a new Elysium site for my good friend Archon (then Prince) Edelstein, which I outfitted in the style of the Palace of Versailles. And now a year later, I find myself invited to attend the summer ball in the actual Palace of Versailles with another good friend from clan Toreador, Lady Salisbury, the Harpy of London! Advice on attire and the identity of my

plus one would be very welcome! And so, I would like to thank my kind friends in clan Toreador for their gracious invitation and officially open up all of my shipping routes to the elders of the Toreador, even the routes reserved solely for the Ventre at the present moment. It will be my pleasure to exceed your every expectation and I look forward to forging our new relationships.

Finally, my grateful thanks to Queen Anne for her patronage and the Court of London for their stimulating conversation. I look forward to the next Court!

As always my friends, if you require to speak to myself as a Primogen of Glasgow or seek an audience with Prince Brown, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

By Torsten McKenzie, Deputy Keeper of the Masquerade

I seek any information on a growing fashion for young ladies to dress up in angel wings and where this new trend might stem from. Any kindred with any useful information, please speak to me at the next Court. Similarly, any information on a recent city centre murder will be well rewarded. I will withhold details for now but please don't hesitate to get in touch with myself or the Keeper of the Masquerade if you have any information.

Any Gangrel wanting superior training in combat skills, lores, and powers of the blood can contact me for an introduction to a superior training provider to develop your skill sets. Prices negotiable with the instructor, and travel is essential.

I would like to thank Prince Fredrick of Berlin for his warm welcome. And his Senechal too. I can't wait to make a return journey and see the sights in the Domain. And thanks to my friends among the French Toreador for my new nickname. I hope to keep living up to it!

After fighting in Salamanca recently, I would be happy to speak to my Sire or Marcellus to arrange the logistics of traveling to the front lines in Spain if any of my friends in France or Norway want to experience the war firsthand. Although I am deeply saddened at the loss of several of my kind friends among the Toreador in Marseilles, I am proud to have fought along with the Kindred of that Domain and to have helped turn the tide against such a brutal attack. I will visit again soon and provide what aid I can to help with a Domain I feel is a second home to me.



VENTRUE BUZZ

By Henry Randall

This article has been redacted by the Dark Times at the request of the Glasgow Harpy.

THE WHITE PLAGUE

By Simon Haile, the 'rusting' Rose.

The white plague is ravaging courts in mainland Britain and it is spreading. Whilst many are keeping their status, diseased or still unaffected secret, I am open about the fact that I have contracted the white plague. Fighting the Sabbat in Spain I learned many things, and one of the facts I found most intriguing is that very few of us are prepared for death. Sure we toy with the idea that certain actions are risky, but are we prepared and content that today might be our last day on this earth? I thought that our ancient enemy, the slavering monsters of the Sabbat would be prepared, but in their minds and eyes you saw the same questions and the same doubt as I have seen in those of many of the friends I have lost along the way. This disease forces me to come to terms with the fact that someone has engineered something which in a few short month might become my end, but I am not going to go without a fight.

I know there are other prominent elders in various domains who also have this plague and so, rather unsurprisingly I am putting all my efforts into aiding the efforts into finding a cure. I am no Doctor, and so whilst I might not work in a lab actually analyzing the disease I do what I can, provide funds and equipment to those in need, recruit mortal and immortal specialists to the cause and assist in any way I can.

With that in mind I had an idea, well of course I stole it from others who had the idea before me, but I appropriated it for the circumstances I find myself in. In essence, lets assume that this disease will be cured, and that therefore the team or individual who discovers the cure is going to find himself faced with highly motivated kindred that will do anything for this cure. In order to prevent the madness that might erupt I thought that maybe a collective bargaining situation could be reached, assuming that the harpies and movers and shakers of the Isles agree.

Let's assume that a team effort leads to the cure, in that instance I would propose that

each kindred receiving this cure would owe a minor debt to each uninfected member that has significantly contributed to the cure. And let's assume a lone individual comes up with a cure, I would propose that each kindred receiving their cure would owe them a major boon.

Of course forcing boons on people is not what we admit in public to be doing. But with a structure such as this in place you would be able to tempt the brightest kindred minds into either joining a team working on the cure or striking out themselves with their own resources. No one needs to take the risk of breaching traditions, ambushing those very scientists, if they know that once a cure has been found it will swiftly be made available, at a reasonable price.

I, of all people, know the frustration when you find yourself indebted due to circumstance, but I would much rather we got the best people in the world working on this, with an arrangement in place to safeguard them and us, the patients. And if anyone thinks a handful of minor boons or a single major boon is too much to pay for the cure, then they need not accept it and instead hope to weather out the plague on their own.

So if you have nothing else to contribute to the efforts of finding a cure, but you think this might be a good idea, then speak to your harpy or whomever else you think might have the sway and see what they say.

Plague Helpline
**If you or anyone you know has been
 affected by the plague,
 we're here to help**
Contact Dr Angelica Grand on 0800 376 2020

RIGHT TO SIRE

JUANITA FREEMAN of Clan Ventrule has been granted the right to sire by the Prince of Porto.

JACK GILL of Clan Malkavian has been granted the right to sire by Prince of Norfolk.

FIRST PRESENTATIONS

JAIME WADE, Lional Montgomery of Clan Toreador presented his childe Jaime Wade to Prince Yvette Thornton and the Prague Court.

PATRICIA RIOS, Ollie Hughes of Clan Malkavian presented his childe Patricia Rios to Prince Mikelson and the Carlisle Court.

FINAL DEATHS

IAN BLACK, met his final death in Denver, Colorado by execution.

TONY BARRETT, met his final death in Denver, Colorado by execution.

MATT MANNING, met his final death in Denver, Colorado by execution.

JAN HAYES from Marseilles met her final death in a Sabbat attack in Marseilles.

ON THE MOVE

HEIKU of Clan Aassamite was presented to the Berlin-Court and was welcomed by Ventrule Prince Frederick



THE FINDHORN FOUNDATION ECO-COMMUNITY (SCOTLAND)

By Hugh Manatee

Findhorn, one of the most famous spiritual communities, teaches us about living together. It is an eco-community in Scotland based upon spiritual principles. The Findhorn Foundation is a spiritual community, ecovillage and an international centre for holistic education, helping to unfold a new human consciousness and create a positive and sustainable future.

Dr Clive Beechum; Holistic Specialist, Spiritualist and Guru said:
 "Meditation in its various forms - such as sitting quietly, singing, dancing, being in nature, working - is practised at Findhorn as a means to connect with and listen to our inner source of wisdom. Before group activities commence, we stop, attune to the wisdom within, attune to each other and to the task, and then move forward."

"By doing so, we contact the part of our consciousness that recognises our unity. From this comes a sense of shared motivation and purpose which can result in action that serves each individual, the group as a whole, and life itself. Tasks are often achieved with ease, peace, joy and beauty, and sometimes with new and unexpected solutions to problems."

Wow, just Wow. This is what we have been waiting for a breakthrough of spirituality to control our inner beasts. No longer let your blood boil and the beast rage, no. Find inner peace through spiritualism and meditation.

This has reached RED, ORANGE AND YELLOW on the Manatee meter! RED FOR RIGHT, ORANGE FOR ON AND YELLOW FOR FUCK YES!



Right on yes guy's! If this does not motivate you to seek change in yourself to calm the boiling blood of rage in your veins, tell me Glasgow what *will* calm your cold hearts of rage?

The Findhorn Foundation we salute you for your endeavours!
 Come along and be part of the change!
 You know who you are,
 We know who you are,
 You shall soon know us!

WHY THE WHITE PLAGUE AFFECTS YOU AND THE PEOPLE THAT ARE RESEARCHING THE CURE

By Serafina Fox

For months now this unknown disease has been ravaging the mortals and more recently our own kind and for months we have not had any indication of the origins of this plague or if it can be cured.

Now we might have some answers, and to the surprise of none, those answers just might have come from the same place that caused this mess. For the past three months the borders of Birmingham has been closed to kindred, no one gets in and no one gets out in order to contain Ground Zero of the plague. This is where it all began, or at least, that is what we have been led to believe. Recent sources have confirmed that the origins of this devastating disease may have had its beginnings as far away as Austria and was brought to the UK in a targeted attack on Henry Newbolt the Ex-Harpy of Birmingham.

By whom you may ask?

Whilst no specific name has been uncovered I think we can all take a guess at which clan we should be pointing the finger at. Is it not interesting then that recent reports have indicated that the illustrious and exemplary Clan Tremere have been working tirelessly this month on a cure according to reliable sources. Even going so far as to pull the incredibly intelligent Dr Langdon of Bordeaux out of retirement to join in the efforts. It is admirable that the clan of wizards

and all sorts of other mysterious things that we will never fully understand, have taken such strong steps towards rectifying this problem, with a speed and gusto that would make one think they were either devoted to saving lives or working quickly to cover something up.

In the meantime the White Plague continues to spread chaos and fear throughout the UK as more of the infected travel to new domains, spreading this curse far and wide. We have had reports that it has recently spread to the domains of Severn, Norfolk and Glasgow and even further reports indicating that it might have spread as far afield as Spain (although these are unconfirmed). Archon Darling has urged Prince's to place strict restrictions on their domain in order to contain this threat whilst a cure is developed which includes; designated feeding zones, a ban on travel outwith and within the domain, reviewing of herd and destruction if found to contain traces of the White Plague. Whilst Birmingham and York are subject to the restrictions of the Archon following an increased risk, domains that are just beginning to see the signs of the plague have been free to make their own decisions. However the longer the UK goes without a cure, the closer these domains come to being in a similar position as Birmingham and York.

However, you do not have to wait for your Prince to put these restrictions in place. Here are 5 top tips on how to protect yourself from the White Plague;

1. Avoid feeding from the source

The most common way for kindred to contract the White Plague is through mortals. Whilst it is infinitely better to drink from the source it may be time to invest in a 'bag only' diet. Some domains have already set up their own system for this however there are a few credible businesses that offer a similar service. We would like to recommend 'BloodHawk' as a reputable source with strict testing processes in place to ensure that every bag that is sent your way is White Plague free.

2. Get yourself and those you are associated with regularly tested

White Plague testing kits are free and available in every Elysia in the UK as provided by Dr Grand and her team. Make sure you get yourself a few to test you and yours tested on a regular basis. Whilst we know of one way the disease is contracted that does not discount other methods, so make sure you take the test yourself a few times, just in case.

3. Reschedule your trips abroad

Containing this disease is key, and with more domains showing signs of infection it might be a good idea to decline

WHITE PLAGUE CONT.

that invitation or cancel that trip. The more you travel the more you may come in contact with the 'infected'. Don't worry about that invitation to the party you just *had* to attend, chances are it will be a pretty quiet affair anyway as more people are either confined or choosing to remain in their own domains.

4. Try to avoid fights and b bonds

And any activity that involves the exchange of b. This is the most common way the disease is contracted so do try to wait to settle all disagreements until after the cure has been found, and wait before taking a chance on getting that rare ability, ask your-

self, is it really worth your life?

5. Fund the Cure

Want to really protect yourself? Fund the people that are looking to cure this. I know, I know, I hear your cries of protest now, 'but doesn't that mean we are funding the very people that may have caused this?' and yes, there is an element to that. However, the key thing is to give them less of an excuse, less reasons to say that have not found it 'yet'. The more we fund what they are doing, the more of an overview we can demand of their process. On the other hand, if it turns out they are innocent ('if'), then you know you have done everything you can in helping them find a cure.

7 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE AMERICAN SABBAT HUNTS

By JP Chocolate

1.The infiltrators are here and increasing in number

More and more Sabbat infiltrators are being found in the Camarilla domains of the great U, S of A. In the past month more than 30 have been found and it is expected that this number is likely to increase as more thorough investigations begin.

2.Sabbat held territories are increasing in size due to events in Spain

One of the reasons for this is due to the recent influx of Sabbat from Spain, or at least that's what the Justicar's office is saying. There is speculation that one of the reasons for this might be due to recent losses they have taken in their Spanish territories leading to members looking towards solidifying control in the Americas. However there are others that believe that the Justicar is simply trying to generate an air of fear to establish her command of the area, create a common enemy to get all the Prince's to fall in line behind her.

3.Justicar Madam Guile is tearing through each domain with a vengeance

The reason for that previous theory is this, Justicar Madam Guile is personally traipsing through the domains to investigate and interrogate rather than leaving all the work to her Archons. Her judgements are quick and ruthless, dishing out the highest level of punishment for the smallest of transgressions. In recent years Justicar Guile has been accused of 'softening' her position in certain matters, but this recent

tirade shows that Madam Guillotine has still got it.

4.Sabbat Sympathisers are on the rise

Whilst infiltrators are being found it is sympathisers that the Justicar and her Archons are finding more of. Camarilla members who are helping friends and brood mates in Sabbat held territories. They claim that the lines between the Camarilla and the Sabbat are thinner and greyer in the Americas, that cooperation can be achieved. As is to be expected this 'liberal' attitude does not exactly sit well with the 'traditional' ideals of both the Camarilla and paragon of the traditions herself, Justicar Madam Guile.

5.All of Guile's Archons are working on this (Except one!)

Every single one of Guile's Archons have been tasked with rooting out Sabbat Infiltrators and anyone associated with them. As the Justicar makes her own way through the Americas, her Archons stay in key positions to ensure that comprehensive investigations are conducted in every state and every domain. Some take to their task with the same gusto as their Justicar, however others are proving to be a little more cautious themselves, not wanting to be accused of stirring up 'witch hunts'. That is, all except one Archon who is tasked with continuing to broker a peace treaty with a group of Garou in the

Deep South. Even then the Archon still found the time to send one of his assistants up to Minnesota only for them to find a Sabbat Sympathiser in the new court of Duluth.

6.Princes are taking action themselves (some in unconventional ways!)

Before the Justicar or Archon's are even setting foot in domains Prince's are ensuring they have done everything they can to find these infiltrators and sympathisers in advance. One Prince, Prince Hank Williams of Memphis, the American Angus MacDonald, Scourge of the South American Sabbat, has been holding frequent hunts throughout his own domain and offering his and his 'Prides' services to any other Prince that requires it. On the opposite end of the spectrum Prince Rosares of New York has been attempting a more unconventional approach, seceding a portion of his domain to the Sabbat as long as they stay there and don't leave it; time will tell if this somewhat 'liberal' idea works, that's if the Justicar doesn't shut it down first.

7.She's looking in to YOU!

No exceptions, everyone is under scrutiny. So if you have any 'Sabbat leanings' now's the time to get a one way ticket back to Spain, because she's coming for you, and she will find you.

THE NIGHT MARSEILLE FELL

By Leo DiVenezia

A dark cloud hangs over the domain of Marseille this month as it found itself subject to one of the most horrific Sabbat Attacks Europe has seen outwith Spain and Portugal for more than a decade. Witnesses to the attack call it a 'massacre' and as members of the court still work to identify all those that were lost during it one can see why. One of the casualties amongst the many that fell that night was the Prince himself, Lord Bonnefoy, who fell into that deep sleep that, if rumours are to be believed, had been calling to him for some time now. His Seneschal has stepped into the breach in the absence of a Prince but there has been no confirmation yet if this is a temporary change or not.

The attack began at near the start of the court and we have been told that advance warning had been given to the Prince prior to it. Measures had been put in place however they proved to be futile against the overwhelming numbers the Sabbat had brought with them. Witnesses confirm that whilst the initial wave of forces cut down many of the Marseille court, additional support came in the form of Elder MacDonald of clan Gangrel and associates which included some members of Clan Assamite, which turned the tables back on the Sabbat. It has been noted that Elder MacDonald was instrumental in the take down of the instigator of the attack, Bishop Martinez, with the assistance of Levi Tius of clan Tremere.

Why the Sabbat decided to attack the domain of Marseilles is unknown at present although there is some speculation from the remaining members of the court who believe that it is due to the frequent presence of Elder MacDonald within the court. One member stated, "don't get me wrong, I'm grateful, very grateful that Elder MacDonald was there, and that he did what he did, but...you cannot deny...where the Elder goes, trouble surely follows."

The Seneschal, now Acting Prince of Marseilles refuted these claims and stated, "This attack could have happened at anytime, anywhere and cannot be blamed on one man, least of all Elder MacDonald. The work he has done in Spain has been invaluable, and if we must weather a few storms in the meantime then we will have the courage to do so. The same courage shown by Elder MacDonald and his associates. Without the assistance of him, his childe, Heiku of clan Assamite and Mr Tius, I doubt very much that the court of Marseille would still be considered a Camarilla domain."

BANNOCKBURN 1314: OUTSTANDING GENERALSHIP OR TACTICAL REVOLUTION?

By Marshal Ney

This month I return to the area of scholarship that perhaps suits my own expertise the best – the field of military history. Having entered into the fray of these pages in the 19th century and the modern day when I first arrived, and then travelling back to the ancient theatre of Athens in the 5th Century BCE, this month I bring us to the high middle ages of the 14th Century. Specifically the year 1314. I take a great enjoyment in this issue, for although I will long remember those noble Scots Greys and the stalwart Gordon Highlanders, hard and capable fighters all, that so frustrated me and the Emperor at Waterloo and elsewhere, the 14th century was a time when men of arms of Scotland and France were the closest comrades and our relations between our two nations were at their strongest, as I believe they are now again.

Considering how important the Battle of Bannockburn is to the Scottish national consciousness, it is unfortunate that we lack any contemporary, first hand account of the battle itself. However, we do have some descriptions of the events from close second hand accounts such as John Barbour's Scots poetry *The Bruce*, Walter Bower's *Scotichronicon*, Thomas Grey's *Scalacronica*, the anonymously written *Vita Edwardi Secundi*, and the *Lanercost* chronicle. Each of these versions of the events have their differences and similarities but they broadly allow us a good overview of how the battle was fought, won and lost. Pieced together, the differing versions generate a consensus that Bannockburn was a remarkable medieval battle for reasons beyond that the numerically inferior Scottish force simply defeated the English one. I will briefly outline the events of the battle that make it a remarkable one and then in the latter part of this paper I will consider whether or not these remarkable features were due to outstanding generalship on the part of Robert I or due to an overall tactical revolution that is taking place in a wider military context in this period.

From Edward II's perspective, the fact that the Scots attack on the morning of Monday 24th of June, 1314, was itself utterly remarkable. The two skirmish actions fought the day before by the Earls of Gloucester and Hereford at The Entry and by Clifford and Beaumont near St Ninian's to the South and North of the New Park respectively failed to inform Edward of the strength and

disposition of the Scottish army, concealed as it was on the reverse slope in the wooded high ground of the New Park.¹ But Edward had no reason to believe the Scots would attack on the following morning. Chris Brown and David Cornell both remind us that all previous experience of fighting the Scots informed the English that Bruce would probably either try and make an orderly withdraw without risking his army or fight the battle on the defensive as Wallace had done at Falkirk.² Therefore, when the Scots attacked, it was a "simple yet devastating move".³ Barbour represents Edwards shock at this turn of events and gives an indication of what made the battle so hard for the English to comprehend - that the Scots intended to fight with an infantry army: "And when the King of England

Saw Scottis men sa tak on hand
To tak the hard feild so planly,
And apon fut, he has ferly,
And said "what? will yon Scottish ficht?"⁴

The attack destabilised English morale but, moreover, Robert had engaged the English in the area of Carseland between the Bannockburn and the River Forth. Robert therefore had brought the English army to battle in a time and place that prevented the English from shaking themselves out into a deployment that made best use of their superior numbers. This was a demonstration of great generalship on Robert's part but effective use of terrain we would not call a tactical revolution. Although we might also censure Edward for showing a lack of generalship in this regard in that he brought the bulk his army between two water ways, restricting his own ability to manoeuvre and overwhelm the Scots on his own accord. In either case, if there is anything "revolutionary" to be found in Robert's tactics it will not be found in his use of terrain but in his use of infantry.

The battle is remembered as a victory of Scottish pikemen over English mounted men-at-arms. And in many ways this is perfectly true. The Lanercost tells us that, after a brief skirmish in which English archers in the vanguard saw off the Scottish forward archers, the English men-at-arms "charged the pikes of the Scots, as it were into a dense forest."⁵ The heavy cavalry was simply unable to penetrate the four schiltrums of densely packed and

disciplined Scottish infantry.⁶ All the primary material testifies that as the English cavalry were pinned in the front line the vast mass of English infantry had no room to manoeuvre between the two water obstacles. Unable to deploy properly in the first place, they "were not arayit on sic maner; For all thair battalis samdyn wer in a [schilrnum]."⁷ Both the *Lanercost* and the *Scalacronica* also remark that because the English were "jammed together" and that the cavalry vanguard "was in the way" the rest of the English army was unable to operate against the Scots and could do little other than fall foul of one other or end up in the water ways.⁸ By all accounts, as the cavalry were broken on the pike hedges so too were the English infantry broken by their resulting poor morale, confusion and, were they could make contact with the Scots (and some surely must have done) by simply being out-fought. While Robert's use of infantry was obviously the key reason for defeating the English and thus another demonstration of his generalship, is this use of infantry at Bannockburn evidence of a larger tactical revolution? Is it perhaps possible that Robert I could have been inspired by the Battle of Courtrai in 1302? In that battle too an army of Flemish militia spearmen defeated a powerful force of French knights and men-at-arms with stunning success. It is entirely possible that Robert I knew of the battle of Courtrai, the news of the event having had twelve years to disseminate one way or another throughout Europe.

Clifford Rogers points to the *Scalacronica* as evidence that Robert I had Courtrai in mind when thinking about how he was to fight his own battle. Indeed the passage reveals that fighting on foot was indeed a novel notion for the English:

"[The English] were not accustomed to dismount to fight on foot, whereas the Scots had taken a lesson from the Flemings, who before that had at Courtrai defeated on foot the power of France."⁹

There is consensus in the primary and later secondary sources that Robert's use of infantry represents something new. Norman Housley describes the Scottish use of foot soldiers at Bannockburn as "innovative" for the time. Edwards shock at the sight of Scottish men-at-arms fighting on foot would also serve to demonstrate that this was quite unusual. It is extremely tempting to see, as Andrew Ayton, Clifford and Housley do, a new

BANNOCKBURN CONT.

chapter in medieval warfare that begins at Courtrai and continues through Bannockburn and Mortgarten (1315) and then on through the century where battles are no longer won exclusively through a heavy cavalry charge but by armies of infantry. The later victories of the English over the Scots and in the Hundred Years War were often won by infantry armies with dismounted knights against mounted ones for example.¹⁰ If one accepts that Courtrai marks the beginning of this change in tactics then it would indeed represent a change with enough rapidity and violence to warrant the label "revolutionary". However, Robert I is not merely mimicking the Flemish. To assert that Robert I is consciously trying to replicate the battle of Courtrai is to deny the Scots the wealth of their own experience. John Morris reminds us that the Scots already had experience of fighting the English from the Battle of Falkirk (1298) and long before.¹¹ In that battle too pikemen were used to repel English men-at-arms. Moreover, there is nothing in the other sources to link Robert I's logic train to Courtrai. Rather, in Barbour, Robert demonstrates a cool awareness that the English will attack with mounted men-at-arms and understands that he will lose if he tries to match the English knight for knight due to their superior numbers, horses and arms and armour. Fighting as a phalanx however would provide an advantage over a mounted force.¹² Robert therefore is not making a conscious effort to be part of a "tactical" or "infantry revolution" but is using his own skills as a general and all his other resources to react as best he can to the specific set of circumstances he knows he is faced with in a specific situation. His fine generalship is also demonstrated in the way that Robert prevents Edward from countering his schiltrums by using both the terrain and a mounted reserve to in turn counter Edward's advantage in missile soldiers and other infantry.

The battle was not simply a matter of pikemen defeating cavalry. There were other examples from the Wars of Independence such as the Battle of Maes Madoc (1295) between the English and Welsh or more recently the Battle of Falkirk during both of which English men-at-arms had been frustrated by tight spear formations. At those battles it was the English use of archers to soften and break up the dense spear formations prior to cavalry charges that won them the battle. The English had archers at Bannockburn too. English arch-

ers disappear from the *Lanercost* after the initial skirmish and do not appear in the *Vita* or *Scalacronica* at all. But in Barbour's account we have English archers shooting at the Scots in mid-battle.¹³ Barrow advises that these archers appeared on one of the flanks but that the lack of co-ordination between them, the charging cavalry, or their own defensive spearmen, plus the fact that they could not have been deployed in greater numbers from the start due to the narrowness of the field, made them both ineffective and extremely vulnerable.¹⁴ In response to the English archery, which Robert new could be all too devastating on his packed infantry, Robert maintained and deployed a cavalry reserve of about 500 "light" horses which routed utterly the English archers.¹⁵ This episode reminds us that Bannockburn, like indeed the rest of medieval warfare, was much more a matter of effective combined arms tactics than the contemporary and modern pre-occupation with armoured knights would often have us believe. Indeed, the failure of the French army to defeat the Flemish at the Battle of Courtrai in 1302 could also be attributed to the similar failure of Robert of Artois to use his crossbowmen to soften up the tightly packed Flemish formations.

Moreover, in the wider military context we do have to wonder just how revolutionary the concept of using spears to fight cavalry could actually be. Ayton reminds us that spearmen had in fact resisted cavalry earlier in the medieval period such as at the battles of Legano (1176) and Cortenuova (1237).¹⁶ Morris argues that there is nothing revolutionary in spearmen given that spears have been used for war since time immemorial.¹⁷ Whilst this is doubtlessly true, Morris is perhaps going a step too far here in that the circumstances of the early medieval period had given a prevalence to the mounted aristocratic soldier and delineated society between those who fought (on horseback) from those who didn't fight at all in a way that was not done in classical antiquity. So much so in fact that Robert's choice of tactics at Bannockburn does come across in the sources as remarkable *for their day*. Nevertheless, if one considers such ancient institutions such as, for instance, the Greek hoplite or the Macedonian phalanx, and the advantages they had over cavalry heavy Persian armies then we must nevertheless accept Morris's point that it is hard to call a use of infantry to defeat cavalry "revolutionary" by 1314.

In conclusion, Robert I won the Battle of Bannockburn because he was an outstanding general. He is likely to have been informed of the military events elsewhere in Europe at the time but his actions were more informed from his military experiences in the wars that he and his army had been engaged in. His use of his army, although extremely effective and intelligent under the circumstances it faced was not particularly innovative in the context of the Scottish Wars for Independence. One would certainly not call it revolutionary. Robert's skill was in giving battle at the right place at the right time with the right balance of forces. There is no obvious conscious effort on his part to participate in an infantry revolution as such beyond one hint in the *Scalacronica*. In terms of the wider tactical revolution, despite the shock of contemporaries at the defeat of armoured knights at Courtrai and at Bannockburn, infantry had always been a part of warfare, however much or little relied upon to actually carry the day on the field. One can not really call effective use of infantry a "tactical revolution". An interesting question then, gone unanswered in this paper, might be whether or not it is the pre-occupation with mounted men-at-arms, eschewing the importance of infantry, in the early medieval period between the classical period and the 14th century that is the anomaly rather than the supposed growing reliance on infantry by 1314?

¹ The estimates for the size of the two armies are very disparate in the primary texts. G.W.S. Barrow's estimates on balance appear to be the best, about 6,000 men on the Scottish side including 500 horsemen and about 15,000 infantry on the English side and 2,000-3,000 mounted knights and men-at-arms; Barrows, *Robert Bruce*, 2005, p.271-273

² Brown, *Bannockburn, 1314 : A New History*, 2009, p.269-71, 273; Cornell, *Bannockburn*, 2009, p.196-7

³ Cornell, *Bannockburn*, 2009, p.196

⁴ Barbour, *The Bruce*, XII. 445-449

⁵ *Lanercost*, trans. H. Maxwell, p.207-8

⁶ Barbour, *The Bruce*, XI. 303-347; Barbour here stipulates that the Scots were divided into four "battalis", the vanguard commanded by Sir Thomas Randolph, the second by Sir Edward Bruce, Roberts I's brother and Earl of Carrick, the third by Walter Stewart and Lord Douglas and finally the fourth commanded by Bruce

BANNOCKBURN CONT.

himself. The *Lanercost*, the *Vita Edwardi Secundi* and the *Scalacronica* state that the Scottish army was drawn up in only three "columns" or "divisions" but no details beyond that save that Bruce was in the rear column. In this matter, the extra detail in Barbour's account compels belief but I think the accounts can be reconciled by assuming that there were indeed only three of the Scottish "battalis" engaged initially and that Bruce held himself and the fourth division in reserve and committed himself later, possibly at the same time he committed his cavalry reserve; Grey, *Scalacronica*, trans. H. Maxwell,

p.460-1; *Lanercost*, trans. H. Maxwell, p.207-8; *Vita Edwardi Secundi*, trans. N Denholm-Young, p.52

[7](#) Barbour, *The Bruce*, XII. 427-429

[8](#) Grey, *Scalacronica*, trans. H. Maxwell, p.460-1; *Lanercost*, trans. H. Maxwell, p.208

[9](#) Grey, *Scalacronica*, trans. H. Maxwell, p.460-1

[10](#) Rogers, "The Age of the Hundred Years War", in Keen, 1999, p.142; Housman, "European Warfare, c. 1200 -1320", in Keen, 1999, p.120; Ayton, "Arms Armour, and Horses", in Keen, 1999, p.202

[11](#) Morris, *Bannockburn*, 1914, p.47

[12](#) Barbour, *The Bruce*, XI. 289-301

[13](#) Barbour, *The Bruce*, XIII. 41-49

[14](#) Barrow, *Robert Bruce*, 2005, p.296-297

[15](#) Barbour, *The Bruce*, XIII. 50-88; This small reserve of "light" cavalry contradicts the *Vita* which insists that none of the Scots was on horseback - *Vita Edwardi Secundi*, trans. N Denholm-Young, p.52 Barbour

[16](#) Ayton, "Arms Armour, and Horses", in Keen, 1999, p.202

[17](#) Morris, *Bannockburn*, 1914, p.47

WHAT CAMARILLA CLAN ARE YOU REALLY?

By S. Kington

1. How do you like to spend your evenings?

- a. At the theatre with the rest of the 'it' crowd
- b. In the woods, going for a nice long run with the rest of the pack
- c. Sitting in the boardroom discussing the financial times and how important we all are
- d. In the latest underground rave party and getting into fights
- e. In the bath, with a tuna fish and The Doors playing on repeat
- f. Hiding behind doors and creeping up staircases, listening to all the secrets
- g. Sitting in our secret locations, reading up on the latest knowledge

2. You're heading out for a night on the town, what do you wear?

- a. Only the very latest fashion, I wouldn't be caught dead(er) in anything else
- b. Wolf skin. Where we're going we won't need anything else
- c. A finally tailored suit from only the most exclusive tailor shop
- d. A black leather jacket
- e. Purple and Green of course, and a raspberry beret
- f. Black
- g. Magic Robes filled with secrets

3. What do you want most in the world?

- a. To be young and beautiful forever

- b. To be a werewolf
- c. World domination
- d. Carthage back
- e. A banana
- f. A less masquerade breaking name
- g. To be included

7. Who is your favourite European Camarilla Prince?

- a. Prince Francois Villon of Paris
- b. Prince Leslie of Aberdeen
- c. Lady Anne Prince of London
- d. Prince Carter of Manchester
- e. Prince (artist formally known as) of your mind
- f. Prince Ricky Brown of Glasgow
- g. Prince Secrets McSecrets of unknown location

Answers at the bottom of page 14

5. What is your favourite meal?

- a. Anything that looks good, artists preferably
- b. Doesn't matter so long as I get to hunt it
- c. Only the most exclusive of the exclusive, I have allergies
- d. Something that will fight back
- e. September
- f. No eyes preferably, can't be bothered chasing down my food
- g. Oh I can't tell you that, it's a secret

6. What is your favourite colour?

- a. Red; like the colour of a rose
- b. Forest Green



HARPY HOUR

Go ahead and take your pot-shots at him, I think you will find that his skin is a little tougher than you give him credit for. What he lacks in etiquette and respect for his elders, he makes up for in the services he provides for them. Never forget that even the smallest mongrel might have a couple of wolves on their side.

Far, Harpy of Edinburgh

Well finally, it would appear that now that a few other domains have contracted this blasted disease we might actually see some progress in finding a cure! Took you long enough! Or was it just that a certain clan whom shall remain nameless (because really, who needs to name them at this stage, we all know who I am talking about) was bidding their time until they could swoop in like the heroes they think they are. To be honest, I don't care if you started this but you can damn well finish it, isn't that what we keep you around for anyway? Or do we have to turn to our new friends in the East for answers?

Ann-Jacques, Harpy of York

Look at all the finger pointing, the slightest little thing goes wrong and you all run around crying "the wizards did it, the wizards did it!". Come on, it's getting old now, can't we find someone else to blame? How about the Queen whose crown is slipping, don't you think she would do *anything* to stay in power, even if it meant destroying half of Britain? Isn't it odd that London seems relatively unaffected? A big bustling city like that...come on, you've seen the Zombie movies, it's always the cities they hit first. So why not this time?

Sarah Miles, Harpy of Birmingham

Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear. Can't catch a break can you, if it's not the members of your court, it's your own clan that are running around carrying little whispers about all the little mistakes you've made. And you do try so very hard. Never you mind what they say my little rabble rat, soon you'll help take down the mean old goat and then everyone might finally see there's gold under all that grime.

Lucretzia Reflection, Harpy of Manchester

What a disappointment, I was sure by now someone would have shown that young

upstart what happens when you take what isn't you. I expected fireworks, explosions, at least one shaking fist. You've let me down Prince's, you've let me down.

Lady Salisbury, Harpy of London

What a pity little the little neonate needs the help of a zombie to make an impression on the court. What's wrong? Can't stand on your own two feet? Do you need daddy to hold your hand? Hand holding and molly coddling isn't going to get you anywhere, you're not 'in' and you never will be, especially if you keep associating with that pariah, I hear even good old Queenie has changed her mind about him.

Joseph Carroll, Harpy of Norfolk

It can't be easy having such a bumbling excuse of an Ancilla in your clan never mind your court. Careful who you insult boy, some trespasses cannot be forgiven and don't expect your new friends to jump in and save you every time. For the first time in a long time I actually pity the court of Glasgow rather than simply thinking them undeserving of my attention.

Ryan Harding, Harpy of Severn

Seems like someone is feeling a little threatened in their position. Maybe if you actually submitted something to the Dark Times you wouldn't feel that way. Then again, it's not like your replacement would be any better, but then that is what I have come to expect from the Green City.

Katie Redding, Harpy of Dundee

I cannot even begin to countenance why anyone would listen to an inept blustering idiot Ventrue over the carefully crafted witticisms of a refined and elegant Gangrel. Do you even know who you are coming up against young one? Your tough skin won't save you every time little blue blood. And that little birdie with the claws can cut much deeper than you think.

Dougal Douglas, Harpy of Aberdeen

So who is all going to this event held by Harold Gold in Vancouver? A fight for a broken sword? Only a Gangrel can win it? Why the hell does a Gangrel need a sword never mind a broken one- oh- sorry, Shattered Sword. Turns out Lord Lott's tired of keeping it safe so he's passing it on to the next generation of Gangrel. Seems like it's more trouble than it's worth, still, snatching the highest honour of the Gan-

grel Clan, that's got to me worth something, even if the sword isn't.

Morag Cunningham, Harpy of Inverness

The rumours, the gossip, the intrigue and of course your company has kept me thoroughly entertained, fellow birds. Such fun conversation this month. I'm slowly settling into the swing of things, do you not think? It would seem however that there is opposition to my current enjoyment. Place your bets now my friends. I will take on all challengers. I would be doing Glasgow's reputation a disservice to do otherwise, no?

Sebastian Fawkes, Harpy of Glasgow

What a pleasant surprise it was to receive Prince Brown of Glasgow in our court this month, the first Prince to visit our relatively new court and from a recent invitation from elsewhere in England, is unlikely to be the last. However does this mean that Prince Brown endorses Prince Mikelson's claim to the domain of Carlisle? I suppose time will tell, however if he doesn't, perhaps the next Prince directly to the south of our border will.

Dianne Duncan, Harpy of Carlisle



A Harpy, wings disclosed.

10 (MORE) THINGS THE TREMERE DON'T WANT YOU TO KNOW

By JP Chocolate

1. Tremere have invented several spells and rituals designed to make kindred life easier. The spells are almost universally kept to themselves.
2. Tremere instantly know when one of their number is in the Sabbat. Nobody knows how they do this, but it is suspected that the Sabbat Tremere are still working closely with their Camarilla allies for their own interests.
3. Tremere have been known to practice spells and rituals on unsuspecting animals. They have found that ghouled animals work best for this, and are often responsible for other kindreds' pets going missing.
4. Tremere have control of a number of higher-up mortal staff, meaning clearing up masquerade breaches is remarkably easy for them as a clan. When someone they dislike breaches the masquerade, they allow it to go unresolved to make the other kindred look worse.
5. Tremere have the power to dispose of the Sabbat once

6. and for all, they simply choose not to use it because the Sabbat is useful to them. Tremere are responsible for the death of Jesus Christ, Buddha, Mohammed and several other key religious figures, making them the single biggest antagonist to all world religions.
7. Tremere are suspected demon worshippers.
8. Tremere set themselves up in a position of power in every court they enter, never the top spot, but close enough to the top spot that they are able to exert control over the decisions made for the domain. Princes need to be wary of accepting their friendship. If you are already friends with a Tremere, it may be too late.
9. Tremere have access to subtle and secret arts that are almost impossible to detect, making them able to control other kindred and cause them to act out of character and even do certain things against their wishes.
10. Tremere have brought back dinosaurs, they keep them in a secret underground bunker in Vienna and are waiting for the right moment to release them.



KINDRED ART OF THE MONTH!

By Rosalie Gypsy

The Soulful music made by the Bourbon Street Three is taking not just New Orleans by storm but the rest of the Americas as well. One cannot throw a stone in the Big Easy without hitting some aspiring jazz player and the city has been home to some of the greatest jazz musicians we have had the pleasure of hearing. However, The Bourbon Street Three bring a new kind of 'haunting' melody that seeps into the minds and hearts of anyone that hears it. I had the unique experience of being able to witness their latest performance in the Old Opera House on Bourbon Street and there was not a single dry eye in the house, including my own.

The Bourbon Street Three compromising of a piano, bass and saxophone, played by Timmy, Tommy and Tony De Nouveau-Journee respectively, have been playing as a band for years, even before they were released of their mortal coil into clan Toreador. However, it has only been in recent months that the brothers have had the capacity to really show off what they can do, no doubt due to their new mysterious patron. "Before we met Mr Rich, as we like to call him, we'd been playing on the same instruments we had 50 years ago, nothing could have parted us from them, except Mr Rich," said Timmy, "I don't know what it is about these ones, but the music they play it's like nothing we've ever heard or played before. It's like we're not playing the instrument, it's playing us."

Members of the New Orleans court regularly attend their performances and the trio are often invited to play at least for part of the night at each court by Prince Laurent of Clan Ventre, although those regular visitors to the N'Aawlins court will know whose really behind such requests. Either way it would appear that the Bourbon Street Three are the next big thing, now if only we can figure out who this Mr Rich is and where he got those instruments!

The Bourbon Street Three can regularly be found playing in Lafitte's Blacksmith Shop bar in New Orleans on a Friday night.

The Academy,

Experts in a wide variety of skills are ready to aid in diagnostics and possible resolution of supernatural, occult, and mundane issues. Please contact the following mailbox with details and your query will be examined and evaluated. If appropriate an agent will be in touch to further the investigation as per your needs.

Investigations@theacademy.com



I'm not really one for idle gossip—the required beginning for anyone who is about to engage in idle gossip—but things really have been heating up haven't they? A certain someone who was clinging tenuously to his position of power must be awfully glad that all his detractors are suddenly terribly distracted by all this plague business, how convenient for him. It's especially convenient when you consider that a good number of the previous Glasgow princes are, rumour has it, infected.

Wouldn't have anything to do with your pet Tremere now, would it?

There's said to be something worse lingering under Glasgow, yet another threat looming on the city, one really must wonder what terrible curse has been laid upon this place that it is so constantly barraged by bad luck. It might have something to do with certain Glasgow kindred's tendency to go and find these terrible, dangerous things and poke them with a stick to see what happens.

Newsflash, Glasgow, it's never anything good.

Still, maybe we'll all make it through these trials and who knows, perhaps those who are currently distracted by more urgent business will resolve their immediate troubles and be able to get back to what's really important—making Glasgow great again. No, wait, that one has terrible connotations doesn't it?

How about this, perhaps they'll get back to making Glasgow better for the many, not the few.

XOXO



SAFE BLOOD AND SAFE RETAINERS

A paid-for advertisement by Henry Randall

The white plague is spreading, that is a fact and if you are in one of the domains where the plague has been discovered then it is likely that in your surroundings there are already mortals who have caught the disease. Not necessarily your herd, but maybe your gardner, someone in your security detail or the individual who is trying to explain to you which APPS are hot right now.

Here at Quiet Removals and the Bloodhawk delivery service we can offer any and all assistance you might require. We have have your staff tested and anyone who is discovered as a carrier of the disease safely removed and quarantined. At first decrees where made that any infected mortal should be culled, but looking at the numbers this would result in a masquerade stretching death toll as the disease is spreading. Of course should you wish us to make the problem discretely disappear we can also provide the service. As soon as a cure is available your people can be returned to you, safe in the knowledge that

nobody tampered with them. In the meantime their every needs can be met, including regular vitae deliveries from you, if required.

In the meantime Bloodhawk is working together with Doctor Angelica Grand and her team to ensure that all blood delivered has been tested and is 100% disease free. If you are in doubt, why risk feeding from an uncertain stock but instead be safe in the knowledge that each drop of blood has been tested and hence cannot have gotten ill since the round of testing has been done. Prices start from as little as a minor boon for a month's supply and a major boon for a long term arrangement, and payment is only due after you had the opportunity to enjoy the agreed quantities of clean blood.

Give us a call on 07779-325-527 and see whether we can make your problems disappear.

Quiet Removals
Watch your problems disappear

100% discreet
07779-325-527

I, Tim Booth fully endorse the services of Quiet Removals operated by Ancilla Henry Randall of Clan Ventrule. His services have been invaluable to many respectable kindred within the Camarilla, including myself, and as such would highly recommend this service to anyone that finds themselves in a bit of a tight spot.

An endorsement of Quiet Removals from Ancilla Tim Booth.

To Contact, Email Dark Times with Reference

FOR SALE

NOKIA FOR SALE SILVER CHARM BRACELET £100 ONO.

REF: FSCHA40 DREAM-CATCHER minor boon - scare the monsters away.

REF: FSDRE41 FISHING ROD. Fish still attached £100 ONO

REF: FSFIS42 PERSONAL CHEF / MIXOLOGIST. Let me bring your taste buds back to life. Price negotiable.

REF: FSCHE43 DOG LEAD. Dog not included. WARNING DO NOT ATTEMPT TO USE ON GANGREL. Major Boon.

REF: FSDOG44 MUSIC BOX. Plays 'We'll Meet Again'. Minor boon ono.

REF: FSMUS45

WANTED

CEMENT AND A COFFIN. It's innocent guys, I swear. Price negotiable.

REF: WACEM35 GET AWAY DRIVER, must know Enochian, salary negotiable

REF: WADRI36

ANY INFO on whereabouts of MR KING. Last seen in Berlin in May 2017. Will offer Major Boon.

REF: WAKIN37

A HANDBAG. Last left at Victoria St - the Brighton Line. Major Boon for its return.

REF: WAHAN38

ANY INFO on the ELDER STONE. Price dependant on information

REF: WAELD39

PEN PALS

NAME: Ricky 'the Face-man' Brown

LOCATION: Glasgow, Scotland

CLAN: Nosferatu

AGE: 90

LIKES: Bloodmeade, cigars and stepping on toes

DISLIKES: Being told what to do and having to do anything myself.

LOOKING FOR: Pack-mates

REF: BROWNR0021

NAME: Neonate Levi Tius

LOCATION: Glasgow, Scotland

CLAN: Tremere

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE EDITOR

Due to the 'White Plague' the Dark Times will not be accepting any For Sales or Wanted Ads in relation to Herd or Disciplines for the time being. We apologise for the inconvenience

AGE: 2

LIKES: magic, plagues and puppeteering

DISLIKES: mudbloods, water and falling houses

LOOKING FOR: more puppets

REF: TIUSLE0022

NAME: Sebastian Fawkes

LOCATION: Glasgow, Scotland

CLAN: Gangrel

Age: puppy

LIKES: long walks in the park, fetch and begging for treats.

DISLIKES: being Harpy

LOOKING FOR: attention

REF: FAWKES0023

NAME: Ethan Fletcher

LOCATION: Glasgow, Scotland

CLAN: Malkavian

AGE: 30?

LIKES: purple, green, ties, must like blood I guess, staring intensely into the middle distance, magic I think and hotels?

DISLIKES: No one. I am friendly.

LOOKING FOR: Please be my friend, I need a friend, I am a good friend.

REF: FLETCE0024

Mama Matilda's

Dining to Die For



Dear Sam,

Due to one minor incident, that was totally not my fault, it would appear that my entire clan have decided I am no longer part of the 'it' crowd. This has become something of a problem as I can no longer go to any parties or any balls without someone in my clan turning up and ruining my night. How am I supposed to stay up to date with all the latest gossip if they keep freezing me out. Please help Sam, I don't know who else to turn to.

-Pariah

Dear Pariah,

My heart bleeds for you, truly it does. Now listen here little Toreador, yes, it's that obvious, the only way to get back on top is to play the game and that game is blackmail. Yup, best thing you can do is to find out as much dirt as you can on those above you and hold it over their heads until they are forced to recognise you. Why do you think the Boon system was invented? The way I see it you've got two options, either fade in to the background a dying wallflower or come and play in the mud with the rest of us.

Love Sam



Dear Sam,

How do you get rid of a dead body, it's really starting to smell now.

Lost



Dear Lost

Well, let's start at the beginning, here's how you do it.



<Note from the Editor: This has been redacted due to legal reasons>

Love Sam

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

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

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Reader,

It was very interesting to witness the rise in quality of the submissions this month to our fine paper, however, even then we did, unfortunately have to make some small cuts. Not only that but it would appear that some people simply do not have the confidence in their own ability, to be printed by their own merit instead of having to pay for it, (although we are grateful for the extra ‘income’). Do not be disheartened however, there is always next time and what is more, the Dark Times is not offering a ‘Journalism’ course to anyone that might be interested, which will of course include an ‘internship’ here at the Dark Times in one of our European offices. The cost for the course will simply be your own time and dedication in helping us produce, format and deliver the Dark Times to the masses and by the end of the course there will be not only the opportunity to make a little extra cash / boons but the potential for a full time position on the paper as well. With so many budding writers out there, surely there is someone that wants to take us up on this offer?

Then again, most of you may have other pressing matters on your mind. Perhaps you are involved in the White Plague Cure research, either in the day to day analysis or in the funding of the operation, either way you do admirable work and I commend you for your efforts. Or perhaps your interests are of a more martial bent, perhaps you have taken up the crusade in Spain to rid us of the other plague that haunts us in the form of the Sabbat, another admirable course of action which should also be commended. Or finally, maybe you have taken up a position on the recent political debate in regards to the Assamites, maybe you have backed your own horse in this race and are driving it forward with everything you’ve got, again commendable.

In any case, it is commendable to be involved, it is commendable to get stuck in and get your hands dirty in whatever manner you think appropriate. There is no longer any option to sit on the side lines and those that do, well, in a year from now your peers may look to you and say “And what did you do in 2017?” and woe betide you if your answer is “I stayed at home and counted matchsticks.” A new dawn is coming, it’s time to get with it or get pushed off the train, because quite frankly and honestly; you’re just dead weight.

The Editor of the Dark Times

