

DARK TIMES

DECEMBER 04

MARATHON FLASHER

POLICE ARE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR A SERIAL "FLASHER"! HE HAS BEEN SPOTTED TWICE IN THE LAST TWO MONTHS RUNNING THROUGH THE STREETS PARTIALLY CLOTHED. BOTH TIMES, HE WAS SEEN BY PEOPLE LOOKING OUT THEIR BEDROOM OR LIVINGROOM WINDOWS LATE AT NIGHT. DESCRIPTIONS OF THE MAN VARY BUT SOME WITNESSES STATE THAT HE SEEMED TO BE WEARING KNEE-HIGH LEGGINGS AND SOME SORT OF RAGGED, CUT-OFF JACKET.

IT COMES AS NEW CRIME FIGURES SHOW A RISE OF ALMOST A THIRD IN THE NUMBER OF FLASHINGS IN THE CITY OVER THE LAST YEAR.

POLICE PROBING THE SEX CRIMES SAY THE RISE IN THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS FROM 99 TO 120 OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS HAS BUCKED THE TREND OF DWINDLING FIGURES OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

SEXUAL CRIMES, WHICH INCLUDE RAPE AND LEWD AND LIBIDINOUS PRACTICES, ALSO INCREASED BY SEVEN PERCENT, WITH POLICE SOLVING 39 FEWER CRIMES THAN LAST YEAR.

GEORGE SQUARE SET FOR MAJOR FACELIFT COSTING £450,000

GLASGOW'S FAMOUS GEORGE SQUARE WILL BE TURNED INTO A BUILDING SITE FOR THE SECOND TIME IN SIX YEARS AS PLANS WERE UNVEILED YESTERDAY FOR YET ANOTHER MAJOR REFURBISHMENT.

THE THREE-MONTH PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN JANUARY, AND WILL COST IN THE REGION OF £450,000.

THE PLANS WILL ALSO INCLUDE AN OPEN-AIR RESTAURANT OR CAFE'.

THE LATEST FACELIFT WILL ENTAIL RIPPING UP THE SQUARE'S DETESTED REDDISH-PINK SURFACE, WHICH WAS FORCED UPON GLASWEGIANS WITHOUT CONSULTATION BACK IN 1998 WHEN BULLDOZERS MOVED IN TO FELL SEMI-MATURE TREES IN FRONT OF THE CITY CHAMBERS AND DIG UP PREVIOUSLY GRASSED AREAS. THE CONTROVERSIAL MOVE SPARKED FURY AMONG GLASWEGIANS AND EARNED THE FOCAL POINT OF THE CITY THE NICKNAME "RED SQUARE".

THIS TIME CITY COUNCILLORS HAVE BEEN MORE CAUTIOUS, AND HAVE BEEN SURE TO AT LEAST COURT PUBLIC SUPPORT. DIRECTOR OF LAND SERVICES AT GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL BOB BOOTH SAID: "THE SQUARE WILL BE A BUILDING SITE BECAUSE IT WILL BE A FAIRLY MAJOR EXERCISE - BUT WE BELIEVE THE ENDGAME WILL BE WORTH IT. WE WILL TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO RUN SEWERS, LIGHTING AND WATER TO A POINT IN THE SQUARE SO IF THE COUNCIL DECIDES TO DEVELOP A CAFE' OR RESTAURANT IT WILL NOT REQUIRE THE AREA BEING DUG UP AGAIN."

ARTICLE FROM [HTTP://NEWS.SCOTSMAN.COM/](http://news.scotsman.com/)

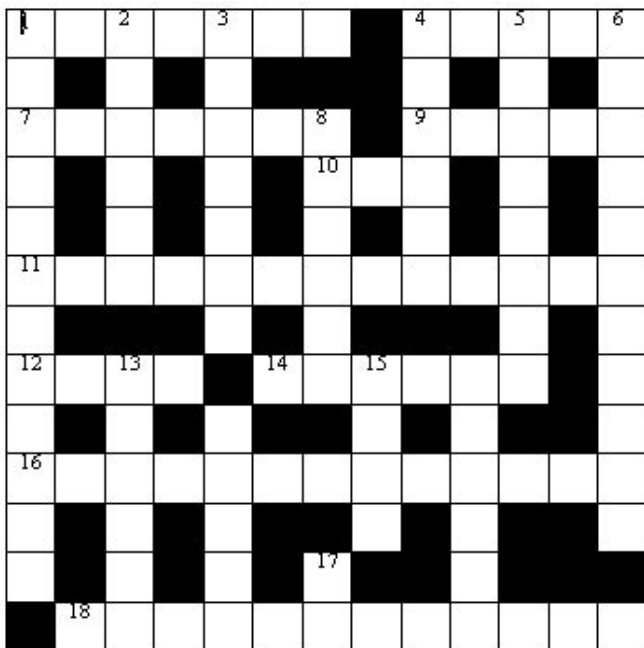
OUT OF CHARACTER NOTE: NO GAME IN JANUARY

THERE WILL NOT BE ANY MEETING HELD AT THE START OF JANUARY BECAUSE OF THE HOLIDAY SEASON.

THE NEXT GAME WILL BE HELD ON THE 2ND FEBRUARY AND ORDERS SHOULD BE IN FOR THE 20TH OF JANUARY.

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ACROSS

- 1 FELT TO BE TREATED IMPARTIALLY ON THIS PART OF A GOLF COURSE (7)
 4 BODILY FLUID THAT CALLS OUT FOR ITSELF
 7 PREFERRING SAGE IT'S A BIASED ATTITUDE (7)
 9 RELIT THIS BUILDING PROFESSION (5)
 10 WHAT YOU DO WHEN HUNGRY (3)
 11 CONDUCTING TESTS IN A SCIENTIFIC WAY (13)
 12 & 17 DOWN. ENROL (4, 2)
 14 UNNOTICED OR INVISIBLE (6)
 16 IT'S A SHOCKING WAY TO DIE (13)
 18 IS RATS PSYCHO WITH THIS SCIENCE (12)

DOWN

- 1 STERN PIKE FAN CAN PRODUCE THIS NOVEL MONSTER (12)
 2 ACE PIC, OF POLAR REGION (6)
 3 HORSE OPERA (7)
 4 THIS BADGE CAN WEIGH A LOT (6)
 5 NOTHINGNESS (8)
 6 RANGED ME NET WITH THIS TYPE OF MADNESS (11)
 8 MONSTER, TAKING OUT LAST OF TESTAMENT TO PREACH (6)
 13 THEY LAY SIEGE TO TROY (6)
 15 POORLY LATIN WORD WITH A BIT OF KICK TO IT. (4)
 17 SEE 12 ACROSS

SOLUTION TO KINDRED CROSSWORD NO 1

ACROSS

- 1 CONTRACTS. 5 SAD. 7 CROSS. 8 COURTS. 9 USE. 11. ECHO. 12 SPUR. 13 BAT
 14 ART. 16 AMMO. 17 MINT. 18 EAR.
 19 MEAN. 21 AND. 23 KINDRED
 24 A KNIGHTS TALE.

DOWN

- 1 CORRUPTION. 2 POSFERATU. 3 ANCHOR.
 4 TOURISM. 5 STUBBORN. 6 ASS.
 10 EXTREMES. 15 TEASING. 16 ARMED.
 20 ADEPT. 21 AMP. 22 DARK.