

Dark Times

Volume 10, Issue 8

August 2009

The Carnage continues

Dark Times Staff Writers

The chaos which has wracked Glasgow over the past months has deepened in July, with yet another massacre of mortals occurring in the troubled domain. This most recent incident exceeds previous attacks in both scale and audacity, occurring on the fringes of the city centre in a busy hotel.

Police understand that in the early hours of the 23rd of July, a small number of people entered the hotel, first killing the night porter. Following that, the group rampaged through the hotel, killing guests as they went, using mostly blunt objects or some heavy bladed weapons. Guests were killed in the halls, or in their rooms, some of which were forced open. Many of the bodies were mutilated, with some of them thrown from the hotel windows.

Strathclyde Police's current theory is that the attackers were potentially gang members high on illegal drugs and seeking to make a name for themselves. No positive identification has been made, although police are currently examining CCTV footage which shows a 6 foot masked figure in black, who entered the hotel first, and bludgeoned the porter to death with a lead pipe.

The individual is then believed to have opened a side entrance to allow entry to the other attackers while avoiding further CCTV.



Among the victims of the evening's horrors was an MSP for Glasgow Springburn, who was staying in a room with two young women who were also slain, but have not yet been identified. The room was booked under the name of Steve Massol. A total of 55 people were killed that night, a further 6 are in critical condition in Glasgow Royal Infirmary.

Large cat menace

Dark Times Staff Writers

In an unusual but allegedly genuine story, a puma was believed to be responsible for an attack on a horse near Thornhill, Dumfries on or

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around the 17th of July. The evaluation that a puma was responsible was made on the basis of the wounds the horse suffered, and previous questionable sightings of a large sandy coloured cat in the area. However, to more enlightened inhabitants of the world, it must be questioned if a large cat in the UK is the most likely explanation.

Adding an unexpected twist to this tale, coincidentally or otherwise, footage emerged a few days ago of a large black panther in Helensburgh, Argyle. The cat, which appeared to be the size of a Labrador, was filmed for around 2 minutes walking along a set of railway lines.

These are just the latest of the ongoing efforts to keep the big cats in Scotland alive enough to be useful Masquerade tools. It remains to be seen whether this story is linked to the unusual occurrences in Dumfries last month,

Emergency services strike

Dark Times Staff Writers

The worldwide swine flu epidemic, which has hit Scotland hard this year, has begun to take its toll upon the public sector in Glasgow. It seems that many employees from transport, police, healthcare and particularly fire and rescue have been remaining at home in quarantine. Staff claim that they are simply following the official advice issued in relation to swine flu. However, others have suggested that many of those who are currently off work are exploiting the situation in order to stage an informal and potentially illegal strike action in protest against Glasgow City Council's handling of the ScotWear case.

As a result of the absences, public services are stretched to the limit of their endurance. While the city can continue to function for now, it cannot be far from breaking point, and many observers have started to speculate on the outcome should that happen. It now seems unlikely that the city will survive the coming months unscathed.

Meanwhile, in an effort to offer a scapegoat to the House of Lords in their final appeal, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue have been conducting an internal investigation to establish that rogue employees were responsible for the ScotWear damage, and SFR is therefore not liable. All levels of the organisation are expected to be affected by the witch hunt

Glasgow darkens daily

Dark Times Staff Writers

The atmosphere of Glasgow has darkened further this past month, with policing tactics becoming more aggressive, and police even withdrawing entirely from certain areas within the city. The strain upon individual officers has been taking its toll, with a huge increase in accusations of police brutality and many citizens afraid to leave their homes. In areas where police no longer patrol, looting and small scale riots have become commonplace.

As a result of these disturbances, talk has turned to bringing in the Territorial Army to establish checkpoints and patrol the city, which would effectively amount to a form of martial law. This drastic measure is almost unheard of in the United Kingdom, except in Northern Ireland, memories of which will be strong in the minds of many of Glasgow's residents.

Coupled with increasing swine flu related absenteeism among police and rescue services, the degeneration of Glasgow's social structure is expected to accelerate unless urgent steps are taken. The recent spate of murders has only increased pleas to the UK government to intervene in a substantial and swift way.

Great Britain by Night

Margery Houndsworth-Stone, Clan Toreador, Ancilla, Harpy of London

Welcome, my avid readers. The month of July brought many wondrous occurrences with it. The most dramatic and obvious has to be when in the

middle of court, in the middle of an discussion with Sir John Houblon, childe of Harderstadt, in the middle of a sentence, Queen Anne simply got up and ran out of the room. I myself cannot ever remember seeing our beloved ruler running, but there we were in front of a moderately well attended court. It would have been good to know what Sir Houblon had just told her. That kind of rumour is purview of the Elders, but if anyone is in the know I'd love to hear it.

Apart from that: more troubling news from Glasgow, which seems to be trying hard to match London and Birmingham for their crime statistics this year, has reached my ears. I am off course not referring to the neonate Brujah who forgot his position in the pecking order and dared to attempt to dress down his elders and betters. According to my sources the attempt failed so badly the neonate in question had to run out of the building lest he lose what little self control he has, but such occurrences seem commonplace in the 2nd city of the Empire. No, I mean the talk of massacres, of military grade ordnance being used on police stations, of riots and curfews, of police and fire service on strike. Glasgow, though in turmoil in kindred circles for the last decade or so, has until now stood strangely proud. Its crime was never as bad as in the other major cities in the country and quite a large area of the city was well policed. Still, that seems to have come to an end in one fell swoop. It will be interesting to see whether

Glasgow manages to rise again like a phoenix out of the ashes or whether it is now thoroughly stuck in the mire of social disorder.

It is also worthy of note that so far nothing much has occurred on Isle of Portland. Apart from Queen Anne's sudden departure from court no signs have been seen of the direct confrontation between Severn and London escalating.

Last but not least I have heard rumours about Aurora. I am not yet sure what this all about but the word seems to be mentioned only in hushed conversations away from other listeners. If anyone knows what this is about please tell me.

Let it be known that David Manning, of Manchester has traded the debt of Mark Sawyer-Smith, Sheriff of York, to David Stone, of York, ancilla of the Camarilla for the substantial debt over Jason Petterson, of London, ancilla of the Camarilla.

Let it be known that Eve Harrington-Mitford, of Glasgow, ancilla of the Camarilla is indebted to Edward Bulwer-Lytton of London, the former Scourge of Norfolk, ancilla of the Camarilla.

Let it be known that Marcus Leavenholme, of London, ancilla of the Camarilla is indebted to Iain Dunnoch, of Dundee, ancilla of the Camarilla.

**Dark Times is accepting submissions.
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