

Temple Tribune



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WEEKLY NEWS

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NEW MUSEUM OPENS

The grand opening of Templetown's showpiece flagship blue riband Museum of Antiquities was opened to much fanfare by Mayor Temple himself. The museum showcases a number of the wonderful examples of the craftsmanship from our antecedents in these areas, excavated from the locale by the delicate hands of the navvies and miners that work tirelessly to bring the trappings of the modern era of industry to our lands. A select group of locals was invited to peruse the collection, tirelessly catalogued by Dr Fairfax, our resident Englishwoman, who was on hand to explain the provenance and likely uses of some of the artefacts on display.

The Temple Tribune was lucky enough to be part of this group, and witnessed several awe-inspiring remnants of ancient times. Many of these are believed to be many hundreds and some even several thousands of years old. Should you, dear reader, be able to visit, TT was especially impressed with one particular exhibit: an extremely primitivistic mural on wood of some form of worm, snake, dragon, or perhaps a particularly savage length of midden that threatens the person that birthed it, which while crude and childlike in its design and execution, is so remarkably preserved that it might have been painted but a few days ago.

Visitors on the opening night included civic leaders such as Mr Abe Colman, Mr Pride McGuinness, representatives from the Children of Jefferson and other local groups. The mayor wishes to remind people that visiting the museum outside of the towns regular hours is by prior appointment only and those without an appointment will be turned away at the town gates.

Dr Fairfax was approached to comment on the opening, but she was tired and emotional and was unable to receive visitors, along with many of her closest associates - no doubt testament to a highly successful opening gala.

The mayor would like to thank to tireless work of Dr Fairfax and Mr Cabot for their ongoing efforts in collecting and cataloguing the various artefacts recovered from the mayors extensive mining efforts. Local people are reminded to present any artefacts or



recovered items to the museum for assessment and that any 'private collections' are outlawed.

SAFE UNDER WATCHFUL EYES

Mayor Temple has acted decisively to restore confidence in Templetown's security for residents, prospective settlers, and visiting traders. Rumors of unacceptable levels of horseplay amongst Templetown's security had been growing. One local family who asked to remain anonymous for fear of reprisals explained how one member of Templetown's militia's hijinks had interrupted their Saturday preparations for Sabbath. "It really wasn't anything much, and I really don't want to make a fuss of something so minor, so please don't identify me" said the unnamed patron of the Smith family of Drovers Stead, the house with the pastel blue door just east of Templetown, "But it was upsetting to see our youngest son's arms being torn off by one of those beasts, and the smell of burnt stump from where our Agnes had to use her iron to cauterize his flesh is hard to shift from the drapes. Please don't publish anything that could identify us. We don't want any trouble. We just want to give a decent burial to Michael's arms and clean off the worst of the congealed ichor that the beast leaked over Meemaw after we emptied a full four revolvers into it to draw its attention away."

This was just the most recent in a spate of shenanigans that had led to widespread accusations that the men of the militia had little accountability and had become drunk on power. However, the truth could be that they were drunk on something more potent: Mayor Temple's announcement that the militia have been disbanded coincided with the removal of Templetown's own Doctor with a public stripping of his position. Some have alleged that it was an addiction to medicinal preparations

made to the Doctor's recipe that was responsible for this reckless behaviour.

But Doctor Johnson is not the only casualty of Mayor Temple's action to root out those that betray his trust and abuse positions of power in Templetown. There have been rumors that Marshall [redacted], the Federal representative of law in Templetown, had been fomenting trouble in various forms, with some of the most sensational reports that he had been seeking to remove Templetown's patron through underhanded abuse of the powers of a so-called 'hanging judge'. This base attempt at subversion is a clear demonstration of how dangerous it can be for Federal approaches to overreach in the Western territories, where their limited local knowledge increase the risk of deception by miscreants such as the former Marshall. In these troubled times and troubled territories many are clear that the only way to ensure security is to put faith in the strong leadership of local men that have a proven record in building civilization in even the most savage parts, rather than in the Federal Government, especially as it must struggle of failing to prevent the recent savage assassination of Lincoln.

The mayor is quoted as saying 'These new professional lawmen will bring more humanity to law enforcement in the territory. The Dr had caused the deaths of many through his reckless actions and while the matter was left to law enforcement to resolve I approve of the outcome'.

The new sheriffs provided us with the following statement

The Sheriffs Moxley would like to formally announce their position in Templetown as the new enforcers of law and order. There is currently a recruitment drive underway for additional security forces within Templetown, to support the upholding of law and order.

Please speak to either Sheriff Lydia Moxley or Sheriff Lymon Moxley who will be based in their office in town to apply. Remuneration for taking on a security role will include \$10 per month and use of the bunkhouse.

The Mayor's Office has asked that we remind local residents that any sightings of Town Security outside of the town limits should be reported to the Mayor's office immediately. All residents are advised to keep their distance and under no circumstances are they to be attacked or expelled.

IN MEMORANDUM WINIFRED 'WINNIE' BRAITHWAITE



Over recent days many will have learned of the sad death of Winifred Braithwaite. Winnie was well known to many in Templetown and the surrounding area for her tireless commitment to supporting Mayor Temple and his drive to further Templetown as a shining beacon of opportunity, freedom and transparency in the Dakotas. This commitment was never on display more than in her final days. In full support of Mayor Temple's drive to promote the manifest destiny of our settlement Winnie had garnered wide support for an open debate about how to ensure democratic process is at the beating heart of Templetown's future.

Winnie was much loved by her colleagues, those whose interests she represented, and her string of former lovers and illegitimate children. An important care in the community figure, in her spare time she helped establish a sporting club for disadvantaged foundlings, with the Winnie Braithwaite Soccer Football Club coming to be widely recognized as a friendly force for good in the settlements outside of Templetown's limits, where along with Winnie its members often resolved local disputes with tact and diplomacy.

Winnie slipped away quietly a few nights away, when her corpse was found in peaceful repose by locals, drained of blood and devoid of several of its most tender vital parts. Local law enforcement has dismissed any notions that this murder may be related to other similar related murders undertaken in New York and also London. A small funeral was held the following day attended by close friends and Mayor Temple. Held in the highest regard by the Mayor a reward of \$100 is offered for information relating to the capture and execution of her killer.

MAYOR QUASHES RUMORS OF ELECTION

Despite several rumors of an upcoming election (the first on record for Templeton) Mayor Temple has stridently denied any such action will take place. The mayor is quoted

'As the founder on Templeton and defender of the Black Hills Territory I have no intention of allowing some carpet bagging, interfering, capitol man to meddle in the safe and ordered running of MY town'.

This sentiment has been backed up by those closest to the Mayor and several people have also offered assurances that there is no sign the Mayor is planning for any election activity. Though this reporter notes that more than often that usual the Mayoral Office has been let empty and unlit.

NEW DOCTOR IN TOWN

As reported elsewhere in this edition, speculation as to the identity of a Templetown official suspected of inappropriate behavior recently reached fever pitch. There had been numerous allegations that a Mayoral employee had been responsible for a number of misdeeds, including the plying of younger members of the town's security division with narcotics in exchange for unknown pleasures. It is clear that Mayor Temple was taking these allegations extremely seriously, seeking only to keep the full depth and rigor of his investigation concealed for reasons of propriety and due process. This extremely thorough investigation was concluded extremely quickly by the Mayor himself as the best man for the job, and led to the revelation that Doctor Johnson had been involved in a number of practices that, for the sake of those of lesser constitution that might read this, cannot be reported.

With the removal of Doctor Johnson from his position, it is with great delight that Mayor Temple is able to announce that Professor Polidori has been appointed as Templetown's new resident physician.

Professor Polidori brings with him the wealth of knowledge that can only be accumulated through many years on this earth, including as the Temple Tribune understands a number of the most prestigious European universities such as Oxford, Cambridge, and Hull.

We understand Polidori has a fine and wide-ranging understanding of the liberal arts and of the sciences of both the natural and the other sort. But he is in possession of

more than a treasure trove of knowledge. He owns a fine selection of exotic plant and animal specimens gathered from expeditions around the globe, as well as anthropological material including preserved trophies taken by the exotic cannibal pygmy tribes of the southern hemisphere. Any of these could make fine exhibits in Templetown's new museum, and many townsfolk anticipate with excitement the prospect of the Professor giving Mayor Temple a little head for his and the people of Templetown's pleasure.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The articles, valuables and possessions of the late Dr. JJ Johnson are to be auctioned on FRIDAY NIGHT.

SOLDIERS SIGHTED

Several reports have reached the town of soldiers both to the East and the West of town. While these rumors are unconfirmed many of those making the reports are well respected in the greater Black Hills area. The Mayor's office offered no comment when approached on the subject.

UNDERGROUND PAMPHLET RAKES MUCK

Some townsfolk may have come into contact with one of a number of pamphlets that appear to be a deliberate attempt to sow the seeds of disharmony amongst us. These pamphlets are crude in their printing, their writing and their language, and should not be allowed to come into the possession of the young and impressionable. Whilst they may appear amusing and diverting at first, any person reading them should ask themselves to consider the motivations for the disparaging and scurrilous nature of this alternative truth they claim to represent. Whether it they are the product of sick, paranoid minds, or a more sinister attempt to destabilize our bastion of freedom, it is clear that no good will come from heeding them or propagating them.

FOOLS GOLD?

Mayor Temple would again like to remind local citizens that there have been no Gold or other precious metals uncovered in mining excavations around town. Anyone found trespassing within mayor property which includes all excavation sites will be subject to fine or even imprisonment. Any witnessed acts of trespass should be reported to the town sheriffs.

PHOENIX GANG UP IN FLAMES

Over the past few months no gang of miscreants has been a more constant thorn in the side of townsfolk and settlers than the self-title 'Phoenix Gang', a loosely-organized collective of ruffians and rascals, miscreants and murderers to a man. Too long they have preyed upon the weak and even upon the strong when they have mustered enough to intimidate and overrun through sheer weight of numbers. And their enigmatic and mysterious leader has, on the rare occasions he has been seen, made his personal opposition to Mayor Temple and by extension all those he represents explicit.

So it is with no small pleasure that we report the dissolution of the gang. Although Mayor Temple has not made any official statement, it is understood that the gang's leader was witnessed being driven from the area by a charismatic, black-clad figure, and with him his followers have scattered.

Whoever this mysterious savior was the people of Templetown owe them a great debt. With the demise of the gang their stranglehold on the area has dwindled, but all in the area are reminded not to drift into complacency, for the stray dogs that remain may still nip at our heels. For this reason, the bounty on Phoenix Gang members - identifiable by their characteristic yellow masks, as well as their tendency to shout to all and sundry of their allegiance - remains extant. And remember - while they might not always wear their masks, the members of the gang are normal people such as you, dear reader. The remnants of the Gang will walk amongst us. Ask yourself - is your neighbor a member of the Gang? Those charged with Templetown's security doubtless remind all to be vigilant, be pure, and behave.

LOCK UP YOUR CHILDREN Loose-moralled lunatic cult increases its presence in the Dakotas

With numerous reports of gatherings of strange, saffron-robed and flower-draped persons making offerings of prayer and tribute to heathen deities unknown, all well-to-do folk, especially those responsible for children, unmarried ladies, and other weak-minded persons, will want to be more cautious than ever to assure themselves that they are not being co-opted or coerced into unnatural practices. While it is unclear currently what particular far-flung religion this apparent cult is an offshoot from, their peaceful demeanor and altruistic displays to

all they encounter, and espousing of a doctrine of truth and a greater good arouses suspicion in all sensible and God-fearing men, and indeed dark rumors are already circulating: That this cult carries out vile abuses of the person in underground caverns, that they seek to corrupt the young through the aggressive reading of children's stories, and that their overall objective is a peaceful and harmonious society where the poor and needy are supported off the backs of the hard-working. Be on your guard - there is no telling where they might appear to corrupt your daughter!

MYSTERIOUS ILLNESS

Several townsfolk have been struck down by a strange malaise. It appears that lingering in the vicinity of the stone ring recently unearthed south of town can lead to bouts of ill-health, vomiting and rashes appearing on the skin. The town's new surgeon helped by the barber and other local physics has kept the illness abated in those who have suffered.

NEW SHERIFFS IN TOWN & A NEW BROOM AT THE TEMPLE TRIBUNE

The single fundamental thing that separates the human from the beast is our ability to pass our knowledge not only down from generation to generation, but through the written word across our societies with speed and with accuracy. A free press is the cornerstone of civilization, and it is with great pleasure and pride that we in Templetown are contributing to that. The Temple Tribune illuminates our little enclave of civilization and decency with the harsh light of truth so that you dear reader, are abreast of the events around you, and that you might have a vehicle through which to understand your station in society and how you might better it. Under Mayor Temple's leadership our community has become a beacon of freedom and enlightenment in territory of darkness and of doubt.

The written word has power. Remember that when you read, regardless of what it is you read - this publication, or any newspaper or pamphlet. For the written word can be abused. Use it, and hold it to account, and above all question it. Any man, even this editor, can appeal for your trust, and maybe they will earn it. But in Templetown we stand for freedom, and no man, not even the editor of this humble publication can demand your trust.