



MUSEFORD IN MOURNING: *SHOCK SLAYING OF LOCAL HERO*

- *Diana Dawkins, Ed in chief*

The Muse-News can report that in the early hours of this morning Chad Donovan (34), Captain of the Museford Manetees, our beloved pro-croquet team, was found dead by his fiancée and live-in partner, singer and actress Veronica de Virve. The Museford police department have announced they are treating his death as suspicious, while not releasing further details. However, we can reveal that our exclusive sources within New Finland yard report there are indications of blunt force trauma from his own carbon fibre mallet.

Donovan and de Virve were due to get married in only two days time, and sources close to the actress describe her as “beyond heartbroken”. A Museford Manetees spokesperson described Donovan’s death as a “terrible loss to croquet” and representative of Museford mayor Christopher Politick stated that “our thoughts are with his friends, family and teammates at this tragic time”. He is survived by his cat, Chester (3), and his twin brother, Brad (34), a Manatees B team back-

forward, who was unavailable for comment. The Museford Manatee Fan Association immediately put up a £5,000 reward for information leading to an arrest, and investigations are ongoing (*cont. pg 2-5*)

Inside: “The Life of a Legend: a Croquet star remembered” (pg. 11)

“What does this mean for house prices?” (pg. 16)



A candlelit vigil held outside MCMBI stadium

SsssSUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY AT TOWN HALL

- *Steve Turl, political correspondent*

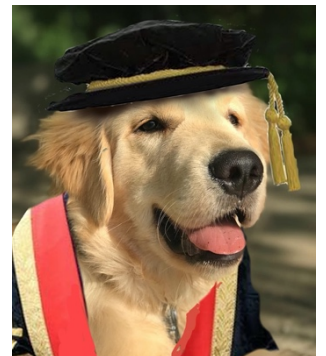
The Mayor, Christopher Politick, is facing further questions today following reports that his pet Burmese python, Julia, has savagely attacked a Town Hall employee on a weekly basis. “It’s just not safe having a great big snake slithering around the place”, commented Ted Barnett (63) “no wonder this town is going to pot”. A spokesperson from CERPENT (*Citizens for the Ethical ResPect of Endangered reptiles*) announced that “Burmese pythons (*Python bivittatus*) are native to wet environments in South East Asia, not government offices in England. When will people learn?” The Town Hall has so far denied the allegations, claiming it

is all a “big misunderstanding” yet many are concerned that this represents a pattern of reptile-related misconduct by the Politicks party. Our paper has previously reported over six months ago on long-running accusations that the Mayor is a key player in a Museford-based Komodo Dragon smuggling ring, operating out of the old Teddy Bear and Pancake factory. Although Mr Politicks has always denied such accusations stating “this is a load of rubbish” and “where do you come up with this stuff?” and “what would I even do with a Komodo dragon?” this reporter believes that questions remain. (*cont. pg 5*) *Inside: “Splurge: how huffing Komodo dragon saliva ruined my life” (pg. 12)*

MCU: GOING TO THE DOGS?

- *Coriander Stern, educational analyst*

Questions have been raised about the performance of Museford City University’s leadership, including the Chancellor, Clio (7) re-elected last Autumn with over 85% of the vote. Dr Martin Lombardi (66) commented “look, I have nothing against Clio personally, she is always perfectly cordial in person and very nice to talk to. But in these trying times for British educational establishments, MCU needs a leader with vision, and opposable thumbs.” However others on campus have expressed support for Clio, “the best Chancellor we’ve ever had” according to Eve Stirling (19) second year philosophy student, and some are suggesting that Dr Lombardi has ulterior motives due to his known status as a “cat person”. (*cont. pg 7*)



MONSTER TURD: CANCER CURE?

Following our reporting last week on the discovery of the “Terrifying Turd”, in Museford forest we ... (*cont. pg. 10*)