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## A NEW MAYOR: MORTINA DEATH WINS ELECTION!

- *Diana Dawkings, Ed in Chief*

After a stunning race involving heartache, scandals, lies and speeches aplenty, the votes are finally in, and *Muse-News Now!* can indeed confirm that Mortina Death takes the lead by the narrowest of margins:

Mortina Death (they/them): 45  
Christopher Politick (he/they): 44  
Evangeline Chevalier (she/her): 38  
Karen Duppelbottom (she/her): 23

*Inside: "Politick's python: a case study" (pg. 7)*

## MAYORAL MELEE MAHEM! SHOCKING SCANDALS!

- *Steve Turl, political correspondent*

Never before in Musefordian history has such a vicious mayoral race been witnessed. In the last week alone, the polls seemed to change daily. Duppelbottom took an early lead after the events of the Fête that looked unmatchable, but when a number of news agencies revealed evidence of just how much Duppelbottom was in the pocket of the Company Company – including having had several of her companies bailed out by them – nothing could save Duppelbottom from gossip, and support for her collapsed. Next came reports that Dr Mortina Death, a professor at MCU, had been shirking their educational duties to frolic in politics. Despite their campaign surviving the allegations, Dr Evangeline Chevalier took their lead, and looked set to win gold, until yet another leak threw doubt on the doctor's

psychological practises, with an anonymous whistleblower coming forward to claim Chevalier had psychically manipulated her husband to leave her. In light of this, several other patients also came forward with similar allegations of manipulation and malpractice. Finally, then, it seemed the only candidate left standing was our very own Politick, who looked set to slowly but surely overtake Death and claim the title for yet another term. Yet when all seemed lost (or won), one final scandal arose, with rumours resurfacing that Politick's pet python Julia attacked a town hall employee, allowing Death to pip him at the last hurdle.

After such an intense, scandal-ridden race, the likes of which Museford shall hopefully never see again, all we at *Muse-News Now!* can say is: We welcome Death!

## COMPANY COMPANY RAISES A STINK

- *Josephine Asher, Journalist*

Losing the mayoral race isn't the Company Company's only concerns this week, as the megacorporation was rocked by an online data leak. A document published online by an anonymous user, who some have identified as the legendary hacker, `_xX69theRealMystro69Xx_`, revealed that the Company Company (formerly the Coffee Company) has numerous hidden connections to less savoury markets: crude oil drilling, fracking, palm oil plantations, and more. With the environment a huge issue

in the recent Museford election, this revelation has raised some uncomfortable questions: we ask, is the Company Company right for our city? Despite the bad press, dwindling public support, and a major dip in their stock price (the first downturn for a month) the Company appears set on their current course, and has announced big plans for further expansion, including a rumoured acquisition of much of central Museford. *Inside: "What about housing prices?!" (pg. 11)*

## OUT WITH CLIO, IN WITH CLIO?

- *Coriander Stern, educational analyst*

After Chancellor Clio (the dog's) shocking forced retirement last week, a new candidate has come forward to fill the role: Clio (the cat). Former professor Dr Martin Lombardi has assured MCU that as Chancellor, Clio (the cat) would uphold the role with dignity, grace, intelligence, and integrity. However, Clio is up against some stiff competition, as Bungie the water-skiing parakeet also throws their proverbial hat into the ring. Let us merely hope the Chancellor elections will be more civilised than the mayoral one.

## HARDCASTLE BABY?

*Muse-News Now!* has received evidence suggesting that Lady Hardcastle, local aristocrat and wife of Lord Horatio Hardcastle, Earl of Ditherington, has a secret child. Lady Euginia Astoria FitzSimmons-Hardcastle disappeared from public life 19 years ago, around the same time she is now believed to have been pregnant with a son. A spokesperson for The Hardcastle family has strenuously denied the allegations "These records are clearly fabricated, and we refuse to comment on obvious fake news."

## POOR HOSTS

There have now been numerous reports of receptives gradually losing their ability to host, with some claiming to now be completely unreachable by psychic projection. These unreceptive receptives (colloquially referred to by some as 'unreceptives') seem to be a growing problem, and while some psychics claim the cause is a novel kind of psychic Entity, there is yet to be consensus on what should be done about it.