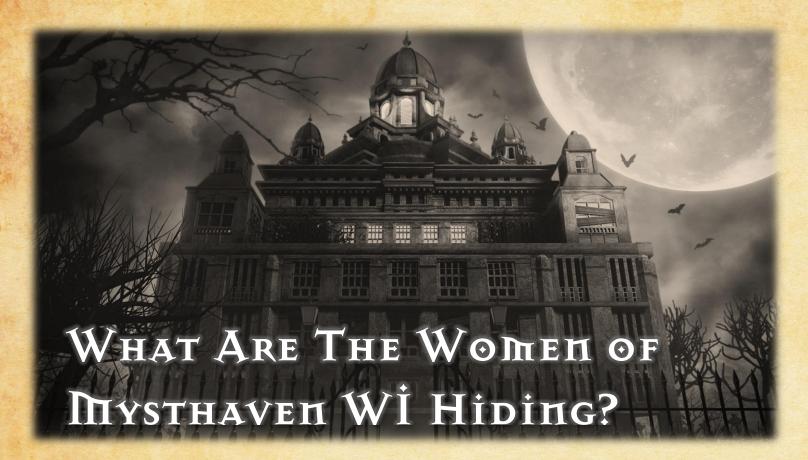
## THE MYSTVINE







Members of the Mysthaven Womens' Institute (WI) annual picnic organising committee returned from their recent reconnaissance trip 'bloodied and dishevelled', witnesses have told the Mystvine.

Setting out last Tysday morning along the unexplored Lake Myst shoreline, WI Vice-Chairwoman Dilys Toughlove was accompanied by Eira Rosynhwyr and local hero Myrtle Mysthaven. Sporting their typical dowdy attire, the three ladies are understood to have set off in search of the perfect picnic spot, packing such delicious treats as homebaked apple pie and ham and mustard sandwiches for the journey.

But their return, the evening of the same day, was shrouded in mystery; as the women trudged through town dragging a large object, wrapped in a blanket, behind them. A local market trader, who witnessed the ladies' passage through town, speculated that they had taken in a spot of impromptu hunting, and were returning with their kill.

Some Mynisters, however, were unconvinced and expressed concerns that the party had made a discovery on their travels. Such concern prompted Mayor Pole to make a statement saying: "If the ladies of the Womens' Institute picnic organising committee did find anything unusual whilst exploring Elsewhere, it is my hope that they will share their discovery with the town. "We must all work together to better understand what lies beyond our borders."

In response, a WI spokeswoman called the Mayor a 'blithering old fool' and said "If our members do come across any worthwhile discoveries on their travels, we will be sure to share them with the town at the appropriate time."

Meanwhile, WI Chairwoman Lenora Whytleigh has announced a very special pensioners dinner will take place in the covered market this evening. The menu includes crab cakes served with thick cut potato chyps and minty mushy peas.

## Council in Awe of Myrtle's Unusual Head

In what is rapidly becoming a grisly tradition, Myrtle Mysthaven has presented Mayor Pole and the assembled town council with yet another severed head.

Describing it as 'truly monstrous', a reliable source inside the council told The Mystvine that the head resembled that of a giant owl.

However, on presenting the gruesome trophy, Myrtle described the beast as a fearsome cross between an owl and a bear and recounted how the terrifying predator stalked her party as they explored the Western Woods.

"Certain that the creature meant us harm, we engaged it and barely lived to tell the tale," she told the enthralled chamber, "such were the ferocity of its attacks with its sharp beak, and sharper claws."

After thorough examination, the head will find its way to the Mysthaven Museum of Curiosity, where new species discovered in Elsewhere are being catalogued.

The council have warned adventurers to be especially careful when exploring unknown woodland areas, where the foliage can provide natural cover for predators.

## Missing Hound Prompts Reward

Lord and Lady Grainger have appealed for adventurers to keep an eye out for their beloved pooch, which has been missing since Moonday.

Barnabus, a hound, was out for a stroll with Lady Grainger and her daughter Elouise, when he caught sight of a hare and gave chase.

Young Elouise told the Mystvine: "When Barny didn't return after twenty minutes, we knew something was amiss. We searched for him and called for him until it was dark, but he didn't show up."

"I've heard about all of the monsters in Elsewhere and I expect he's terrified. I just want him returned to us safely, so I can cook him his favourite food – goose sausages!"

Barnabus disappeared in the area close to the boundary stones South of the town. It is feared he may have wandered into the expansive and unexplored Southern Moor. Lord and Lady Grainger are offering a reward of fifty gold pieces for the hound's safe return.



PROJECTS

Mr Upton, the town clerk, has provided The Mystvine with an update on two important projects.

The reopening of the Mine and Quarry to the East of town has been hugely successful, with new jobs created for some 45 previously unemployed men and women.

In an exclusive interview, foreman Alard Poynter said: "Utilising new techniques we are able to extract rock and metal ore twice as efficiently as we were when the mine closed a decade ago.

"These essential resources will be used to build new infrastructure for the town. This may, one day, include new roads and outposts beyond the boundary stones"

Meanwhile, work to construct a sail boat is said to be progressing nicely under the supervision of Lord Butterfass.

Commissioned by the town council to enable further exploration of the lake, the boat should be complete and ready for its maiden voyage within a fortnight.