



# THE MYSTVINE



## MYSTHAVIANS CELEBRATE CANDLENIGHTS

This year's Candlenights celebrations are in full swing with Mystdhavians getting well and truly in the festive spirit. Hundreds gathered at last night's illumination ceremony, where Lord Mayor Denys Pole made his customary remarks to a convivial assembly.

As expected, there was much focus on the biggest event of the year – the lifting of the mist. Mayor Pole described it as “remarkable and unexpected; opening the town to a literal world of opportunity; but also exposing our way of life to the whim and mercy of the unknown”. He went on to praise those who have begun to explore the surrounding region.

As is tradition, clerics of the Church of the Unknown lit a candle for each of the four souls lost to the mist in the past year, followed by a minute of silent reflection. With the mist gone, it seems likely that this practice has been observed for the last time.

Adorning the square was a 60ft tall tree illuminated by illusionists from the Mysthaven Academy of Magic; small cheeses, decorated by local children, hung from its branches. Choirists from the Church of the Known provided a festive soundtrack, performing numbers such as “An Orphan is for Life, not just for Candlenights” and “Who Ate All the Mince Pies”.

As he concluded his speech, Mayor Pole speculated that the coming year would yield further discoveries as adventurers push deeper into Elsewhere.

## NEW INVENTION WILL TRAIN NEXT GENERATION OF ADVENTURERS

Tinkerer and town menace Herbert Fitzsprocket has demonstrated a wondrous apparatus with which he means to train future generations of adventurers.

The Magical Adventurer Training Environment, or MATE, can separate a person's consciousness from their body, allowing them to experience an alternative reality without the risk of harm or death.

Using first-hand accounts of the creatures found in Elsewhere, Herbert has been able to recreate an alternative reality populated with these creatures.

Fitzsprocket's previous contraptions have earned him an unfortunate reputation. Earlier this year, an experimental weapon developed by the retired transmutation professor was responsible for the creation of an arcane anomaly on the Southern Moor. The anomaly remains in situ and is being carefully monitored by the Academy of Magic.

Speaking exclusively to The Mystvine, Fitzsprocket said: “This new device has been thoroughly tested and found to work as expected within strict trial parameters. All test subjects were returned to their bodies unharmed.”

Herbert plans to continue developing his invention, promising extraordinary new levels of realism.



## ALL SIGNS INDICATE WE ARE NOT ALONE – SAYS PROFESSOR

Professor Jaina Umbridge, curator of the newly established Other Cultures exhibition at the Museum of Cusiosity, has spoken out about recent discoveries.

“All signs indicate that we are not alone,” said the professor at her monthly lecture. “Recent discoveries indicate populations of civilised humanoids have resided in the areas around Mysthaven.”

Amongst the evidence that she has evaluated are coins recovered by adventurers from an infested cave system beneath the Mysthaven mine and quarry. “Those coins got into that cave somehow,” says the professor, “there is definitely scope for further exploratory expeditions.”

Lord butterfass, Mynister of Dypplomancy, said he was “feeling hopeful about the possibility of making contact with civilisations that do not wish to kill or enslave us on sight”

## NEWS in BRIEF

A selection of exquisite antique rugs has sold at auction for 200GP. The rare lot was offered by an anonymous seller, and attracted the attention of Mysthaven's wealthiest. The winning bidder, Lady Grainger, told the Mystvine that she was delighted with her acquisition.

A series of late-night disturbances at the derelict Merryweather mansion appear to have an innocent explanation. Following reports of strange noises and flashing lights, the Mysthaven WI have come forward to claim responsibility.

In a brief statement, a WI spokeswoman has told the Mystvine that their members have been carrying out essential maintenance and restoration work.

The mansion has been abandoned since all four members of the Merryweather family disappeared without trace over a decade ago.

Recently uncovered documents, verified reluctantly by the town council, reveal that the WI are beneficiaries of the assumed-deceased family's estate. They have submitted plans to the town planning committee, asking for permission to convert the property to a care home for the elderly and infirm.

Construction of a new watchpost, situated close to the Mysthaven border with the Western Woods, has been completed.

The project was commissioned after the recent open meeting of the town council, and in response to the growing Gurblyn threat. The outpost will allow an early warning in the event that the Gurblyns launch an attack on Mysthaven.

A second project to lay a new road to the Old Forest is nearing completion, but has suffered setbacks due to recent inclement weather.

Mayor Pole has praised the Guild of Masons for their hard work.