The Gull Island Gazette

MALADY HEIR TO WED CHILDHOOD SWEETHEART!

At a private function last night, Hugo Malady officially announced his engagement to the beautiful Nova Grey. The glittering event took place at Turnstone Manor, the stunning mansion it is rumoured the pair will inherit.

Guests included Hugo's best friend, bohemian artist Luke Cleary, and Nova's adoring parent Hillary Grey. Also seen were Hugo's glamorous younger sister Charm and radical American doctor Seth Jerome.

Hugo's elegant mother Lady Emily Malady commented: 'I am so glad that dear Hugo has finally grown out of his wild ways and decided to settle down with Nova, who has been a constant source of love and support to him since their childhood. I have no doubt that they will be very happy together and would like to take this opportunity to publicly welcome Nova into the family.'

The wedding will take place in the spring of this year. All villagers wishing to congratulate the happy couple are most cordially invited to watch the ceremony.

The *Gull Island Gazette* would like to add that the late Sir George Malady, who died tragically after contracting a mysterious rash two years previously, will be greatly missed. We have no doubt he will be looking down from the heavens and smiling to see his only son Hugo wedding such a lovely lass.

BEWARE THE ROMANY CURSE!

With Little Bleakly's wild and wanton Winter Solstice celebrations looming, we at *The Gull Island Gazette* have been investigating the legendary Romany curse that has haunted the island for the past decade.

It is said that the mysterious deaths began happening after a Romany tribe were summarily ordered to leave the island by the third-generation Lord Archibald Malady in 1882. The fleeing Romany vowed revenge, and ever since there have been mysterious deaths on the islands on that very same night.

Most recent was the tragic death of the late Sir George Arthur Malady, who contracted a mysterious and deadly rash on the eve of Winter Solstice two years ago.

Percival Reeves, valet attendant to Lady Malady who has lived on Gull Island for 30 years, foretold further doom saying: 'There's a curse alright. All these young 'moderns' may laugh but there will be tragedy on Gull Island on the eve of Winter Solstice, you mark my words.'

Bohemian beauty of Romany lineage Freda Karamazova had quite a different perspective on the subject. When *The Gull Island Gazette* asked for her opinion she was outraged:

'Nonsense, there is no Romany curse on this island. Such a rumour is the stuff of fairytales. I come from a long line of Romany ancestors and we are passionate people but we are not crazy! These deaths must have just been terrible coincidences.'

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Whatever the truth, you'd best keep your wits about you this Saturday and your reporter will have his lucky rabbit's foot close at hand – just in case!

The Winter Solstice Celebrations are to be held at the Village Hall at 7.30 sharp. Ceremonies will be opened in the traditional way by a speech from the Malady family's present Lord, the dashing Sir Hugo!

GULL ISLAND GOSSIP

Famous cartographer to make new map of Gull Island!

Little Bleakly is thrilled to welcome newcomer cartographer Louis Le Roux to Gull Island. He has been commissioned by the British government to make a new and more accurate map of the islands perilous coast.

Charm Malady returns from prestigious etiquette school in Berlin

The Gull Island Gazette's reporter spied the young Charm Malady back from her term of study in Berlin's famous etiquette school. Our little Charm is very nearly a lady now with just one term of study with her governess, the excellent Fräulein Louisa Winter, to go.

She told *The Gull Island Gazette* that she is looking to pursue a career in acting and is determined to become the next Greta Garbo: watch out, Hollywood!

Lady Emily Malady rumoured to be attending Winter Solstice party

Rumour has reached the gazette that the elegant Lady Malady will be attending the Winter Solstice party this weekend. This will be the first time the glamorous and reclusive Lady Malady has attended a public function since the tragic death of her husband two years ago. Little Bleakly looks forward to the honour of her presence!

Hate-mail

The Gull Island Gazette has been receiving reports from all sides of a mysterious hate-mail writer. Village librarian Jens Svederborg had this to say about the letter that he had received:

'It is preposterous. Hah! Me… mad? I am a perfectly sane and brilliant genius. The writer of this letter must be off of his rocket.'

If you have any information at all on this serious matter please contact us immediately at the *Gazette*.

WAR IS COMING!

Brace yourselves Little Bleakly: war is coming to England, say top political commentators in the city.

'The political situation in Europe is becoming increasingly fragile', said Albert DeClancy, London MP for Westminster. 'The recent alliance between Hitler's regime and General Franco of Spain signals trouble for Britain, you mark my words.'

Here at *The Gull Island Gazette,* we urge you all to be on the lookout for any strange newcomers. As we all know, foreigners cannot be trusted and may well be German spies!

We will also be holding a discussion group in the village hall on Tuesday, entitled 'War: What to Expect', which will include a thrilling demonstration by Robin Hardcastle of how to knit your own gas mask, and a talk by Hillary Grey on how to create a satisfying meal using only carrots and common sense.

Nobody can accuse Gull Island of being unprepared should the worst come.

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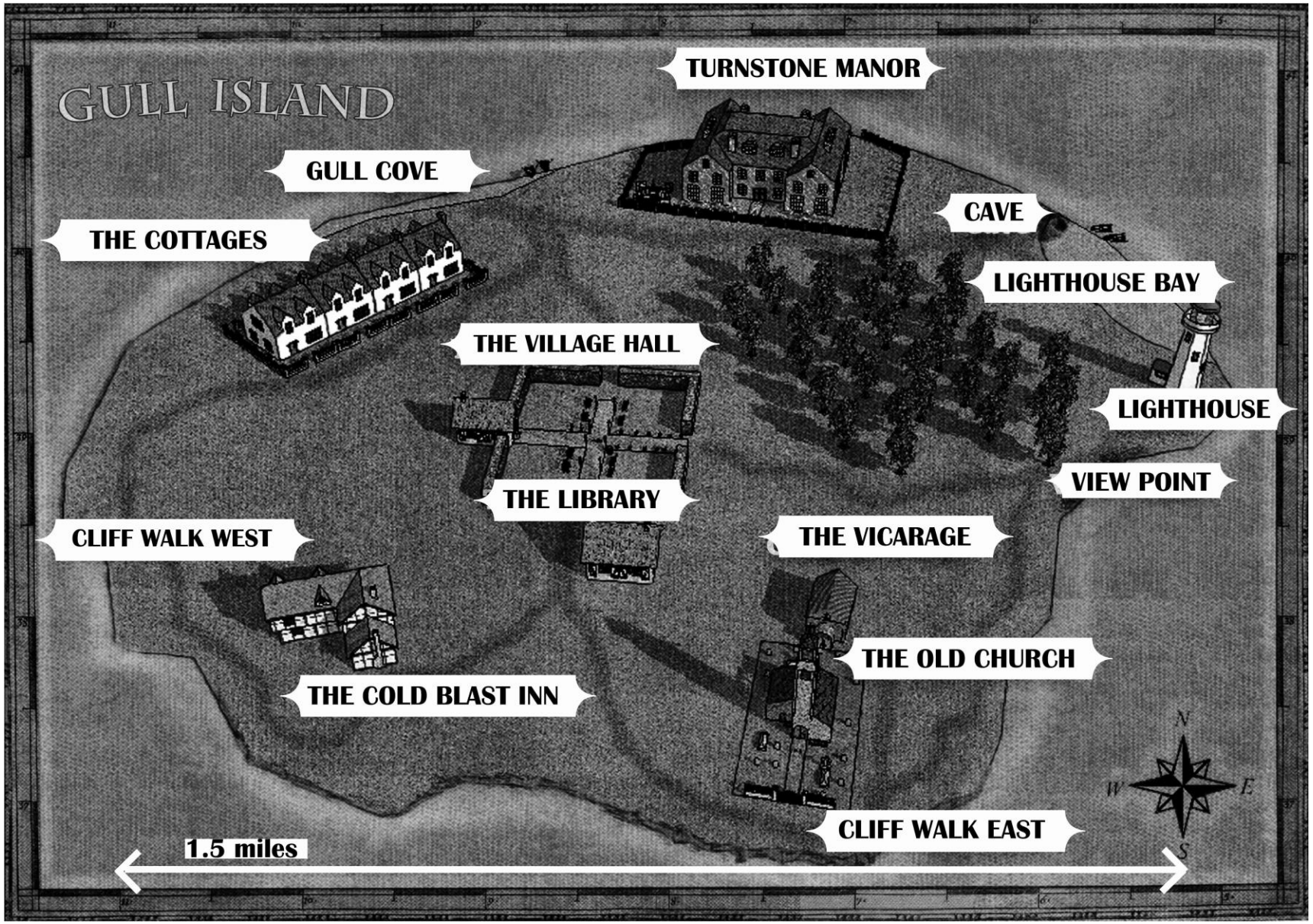

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