

BOMBSHELL EXCLUSIVE



UNSEEN ROYAL FAMILY ALBUM

SEE PAGES 12 & 13



GIO'S STRICTLY DONE DANCING



Tensions... Giovanni and celeb partner Amanda

By CLEMMIE MOODIE

UNDER-fire Strictly pro Giovanni Pernice has told pals he is quitting the dance show.

The Italian, 33, said he will not return after allegations over his tough training methods from previous celebrity partners, including actress Amanda Abbington.

And his name was absent from an internal memo listing this year's dancers.

Last night a source said: "Gio remains adamant he's done nothing wrong. But he feels the scrutiny has become too much, and now's the time to make a fresh start."

Full Story — Pages 4 and 5

Under-fire pro tells friends: I quit

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HUNT SAVAGES OPPOSITION'S 'LIES' ON NOT HIKING TAXES

LABOUR OF BLUFF



CHANCELLOR Jeremy Hunt will today draw election battle lines on the economy, warning that Labour will put up taxes "as sure as night follows day".

In a major speech, he will warn voters not to trust Labour "lies" on taxation. It comes amid claims Sir Keir Starmer's party already has a £12billion black hole in its spending plans. Mr Hunt will also point out that, in a recent lecture, Shadow Chancellor Rachel Tax row... Chancellor

By RYAN SABEY and MARTINA BET

Reeves did not mention reducing the tax burden once. He will say: "With no plans to pay for their spending pledges, taxes will go up under any future Labour government as sure as night follows day. "And taxes will go down under a Conservative government because we will do the hard work necessary to keep our economy competitive." Mr Hunt will take aim at Labour's "playground politics" for attacking tax rises that paid for schemes such as furlough - which they backed. He will say: "Conservatives recognise that whilst those tax

risers may have been necessary, they should not be permanent. Labour do not." Mr Hunt is expected to use the speech to signal he hopes to reduce National Insurance. He said the ultimate aim is to continue cutting NI until it is eliminated, but only "when it is affordable to do so". Mr Hunt's speech comes the day after Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer put economic stability at the heart of his bid for Downing Street. But Tories claim voters face plugging a £12billion black hole to pay for Labour's green energy plan. The row centred on an interview given by Shadow Cabinet Minister Steve Reed,

who was asked if he agreed with the Trades Union Congress that Labour's "Great British Energy" company plan could cost £32billion. Mr Reed told LBC: "It may well be." The public will fund 25 per cent of the scheme, which comes to £20billion. Labour has budgeted £8.8billion - leaving a £12billion gap. Energy Security Secretary Claire Coutinho said: "Keir Starmer needs to explain which taxes they would raise to pay for this." Labour said Mr Reed "misspoke". The party said: "The cost of GB Energy is £8.3billion, fully funded by our windfall tax on the oil and gas giants making record profits."



Pledges... Sir Keir

Starmer defends 'flip-flops'

By JACK ELSOM

SIR Keir Starmer last night denied flip-flopping after unveiling a new set of campaign pledges. The Labour leader outlined his six "first steps" for government on a Tony Blair-style pledge card at a rally in Essex. It included a massive land grab on traditional Tory turf with pledges to crack down on small boats and anti-social jobs. But critics accused him of watering down "missions" set out last year, including hitting the highest growth in the G7. There was also no mention of free movement or axing tuition fees. But Sir Keir defended junking previous promises and said: "I'm not scaling back our ambition absolutely at all." The Sun Says and Harry Cole - Page Ten

PM LOOSE-LIPPED ON SEX

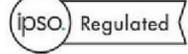
By NOA HOFFMAN

RISHI Sunak yesterday admitted that he "can't quite remember" when he first learned about sex. The PM told the panel on ITV's Loose Women that he had picked up the facts of life "through a mix of things". But he insisted his sex education reform plans will safeguard children, adding: "What's important to me is that we should let kids be kids." Appearing with, left to right, Kaye Adams, Judi Love, Janet Street-Porter and Jane Moore, Mr Sunak also vowed to stay on as MP for Richmond, North Yorks, even if the Tories lose this year's General Election.



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Moscow heave-ho

RUSSIA has expelled Britain's defence attache in a tit-for-tat move. Royal Navy captain Adrian Coghill was yesterday given a week to quit the Moscow embassy. It follows Col Maxim Elovik getting the boot from London last week on the grounds that he was an "undeclared military intelligence officer". Home Secretary James Cleverly also placed new restrictions on Russian diplomatic visas. Vlad To Xi Me? - Page 21

STEER OFF BIKES

OLYMPIC bike champion Chris Boardman yesterday blasted a crackdown against killer cyclists - insisting cows are more dangerous. Ministers backed plans that could see two-wheeled menaces jailed for 14 years if they cause a death. Chris, who won gold at the 1992 Games, said: "Everyone

should obey the law of the road but more people will be killed by cows and lightning than by cyclists. "That's the context and perspective I'd like to put back into this conversation." The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents said cyclists caused two deaths a year on average since 2018.

MIGRANT 'OPT OUT' EU BLOW

THE EU is facing a rebellion on migration as the Netherlands says it will "opt out" of Brussels' rules. The new coalition led by Geert Wilders said it will remove migrants "by force" if necessary. It said the plan is the nation's "strictest-ever" border system.

SHIFT ON SLOTS

PUNTERS will no longer be barred from using debit cards on slot machines, it has been announced. Other changes will allow arcades and bingo halls to have more "Cat B" devices, with a £2 maximum stake. Currently, no more than 20 per cent in adult gaming centres can have a £2 stake,

while Category C and D machines must be lower. Ministers will introduce a two-to-one ratio. But age restrictions will be put on low-stake Cat D games currently open to everyone. Gambling Minister Stuart Andrew said the moves will "modernise the outdated and overly restrictive regulations".

TALK WEATHER With NAZANEEN GHAFFAR

TODAY: Variable cloud and scattered showers for central and western areas but turning drier later. Long sunny spells in the north and far south.

TONIGHT: Daytime showers will ease and clear during the evening to leave most places dry overnight however rain will spread into the south-east later.

OUTLOOK: Scattered thundery showers in the south tomorrow however elsewhere will be drier with bright spells. Long sunny spells on Sunday and a few showers.

SAT 20° SUN 21° MON 19° TUE 19°

SUJIKO

PLACE the numbers 1-9 in the spaces so that the number in each circle is equal to the sum of the four surrounding spaces. Solution on Puzzles page.

				9
	22		26	
		16		16
4				

PUZZLES: PAGE 42

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

SINGERS ENYA, 63, left, and PASSENGER, 40, telly and radio presenter JEREMY VINE, 59, right, Nine Inch Nails frontman TRENT REZNOV, 59, boxing legend SUGAR RAY LEONARD, 68, and comedian and actor PAUL WHITEHOUSE, 66. ● Last night's Health Lottery: 5, 14, 18, 35, 36. Bonus: 16.



Picture: SKIMS



Star couple . . . Cassie with Hunger Games and Peaky Blinders actor Sam

EXCLUSIVE

That's Norfolk 'n aurora

'NORTHERN LIGHTS' ARE GLOW FROM PREMIER INN

By **STEPHEN MOYES**

TWO pals rushed to see the Northern Lights illuminating the sky — only to discover the cosmic glow was the purple signage of a Premier Inn.

Karim Akhtar, 22, and Sully Laurent, 21, were walking home from a night out in Norwich when they saw the awesome spectacle.

But in a hilarious TikTok video they posted, which has gone viral, the excited pair mistook a city centre budget hotel for the aurora borealis.

The hapless duo had visited Iceland in January hoping to see the Northern Lights, and later joked they were disappointed to have "missed them again".

Sheepish Karim, a University of East Anglia pharmacology student from Liverpool, said: "For sure, we thought it was the Northern Lights... you can tell by my reaction on the video."

A rare solar storm led to the aurora borealis dazzling the nation last weekend. The Met Office yesterday said it may be visible again in parts of Britain over the next few days.

Premier Inn joked yesterday: "There's no need to search the skies, Premier Inn is a beacon of light."

We thought premier inn was the northern lights 🤔🤔🤔



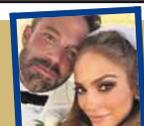
Glow price . . . post as pair reach hotel

AMATO'S SAUCE

By **JACK HARDWICK**

MODEL Cassie Amato looks ready to dive straight into a bit of philosophy with her latest swimwear assignment. The LA-based beauty, 30, who is dating Brit actor Sam Claflin, 37, posed in the Skims bikini and said: "The mind is everything. What you think you become."

THE SORRY END OF BENNIFER 2.0



SEE PAGES 28 & 29



Tribute . . . son Alex

Farewell to BBC pioneer DJ Annie

By JOE HADDEN

BBC Radio's first female DJ Annie Nightingale was remembered by her family and a host of stars at a memorial yesterday.

The Who's frontman Sir Roger Daltrey, The Chemical Brothers and DJs Nick Grimshaw and Pete Tong were among guests saying farewell to the trailblazer.

Primal Scream singer Bobby Gillespie and Paul McCartney's photographer daughter Mary were also paying their respects.

Her children Alex and Lucy led the service at St Martin-in-the-Fields in Trafalgar Square, central London.

Aled Haydn Jones, head of BBC Radio 1 which Nightingale joined in 1970, said: "Annie was a world-class DJ, broadcaster and journalist."

"Throughout her career she championed new music and new artists."

Nightingale died at home in January aged 83 after a short illness.



Falling . . . mortgages

Banks in flood of property loan cuts

By JONATHAN KANENGONI

THREE high street banks have cut mortgage rates on more than 100 deals in a boost for borrowers.

Following weeks of rising home loans, HSBC, Barclays and TSB have all announced more affordable products.

Barclays will reduce fixed rates on purchase and remortgage deals by up to 0.45 percentage points on Friday.

It will also cut the rate on a five-year fix from 4.77 per cent to 4.32 per cent for borrowers with a 40 per cent deposit.

HSBC will reduce rates on more than 100 deals fixed at two, five and ten years for homeowners and landlords.

And TSB has cut rates on some of its two and five-year deals by up to 0.1 percentage points.

Nicholas Mendes, of the broker John Charcol, said there was "significant potential" for more cuts in the coming weeks.

DANCE SHOW SHOCK AS

TWIST & OUT



Gruelling training . . . Amanda in rehearsals



Spotlight . . . Gio during a break from training

● Gio not on new Strictly list

● Pro eyes 'fresh start' in TV

BALLROOM champ Giovanni Pernice had started negotiations to do another series of Strictly Come Dancing before deciding to quit.

The BBC was said to be "very keen" to continue working with the Italian - who has faced allegation from celebrity partners over his tough training methods.

But an internal memo of this year's professional dancers for the show has been circulated without his name.

And The Sun can reveal that Giovanni, 33, had told friends he will not be returning and is instead seeking a

EXCLUSIVE by CLEMMIE MOODIE
Assistant Editor, Showbiz

fresh start on other TV shows. His shock move comes after The Sun first revealed tensions between the dancer and actress Amanda Abbington, 52, his celeb partner last year.

She quit in October after a series of bust-ups which left her in tears.

Sherlock star Amanda later told The Sun on Sunday she had been diagnosed with mild post-traumatic stress disorder following her stint on the competition. Claims from other celeb partners then emerged.

Last night a source told The Sun: "Gio feels the scrutiny on him has become too much, and now is the

time to make a fresh start. He wants to focus on other TV projects, and feels he's achieved all he can on Strictly, having won the trophy back in 2021 and reaching the final an unprecedented four times.

"He remains adamant he's done nothing wrong other than being a hard taskmaster, but knows his style of training isn't to everyone's liking - especially in this day and age."

"He has a lot of other exciting projects in the pipeline right now, and he's just super-excited to get cracking on them. This, now, is his priority."

The news comes four weeks after Giovanni began contract talks with the BBC to do another year of the hit contest - marking its 20th anniversary.

The star, who has been relaxing on holiday abroad, told bosses he is currently taking a three-week break to mull over his decision.

However it seems unlikely he will change his mind.

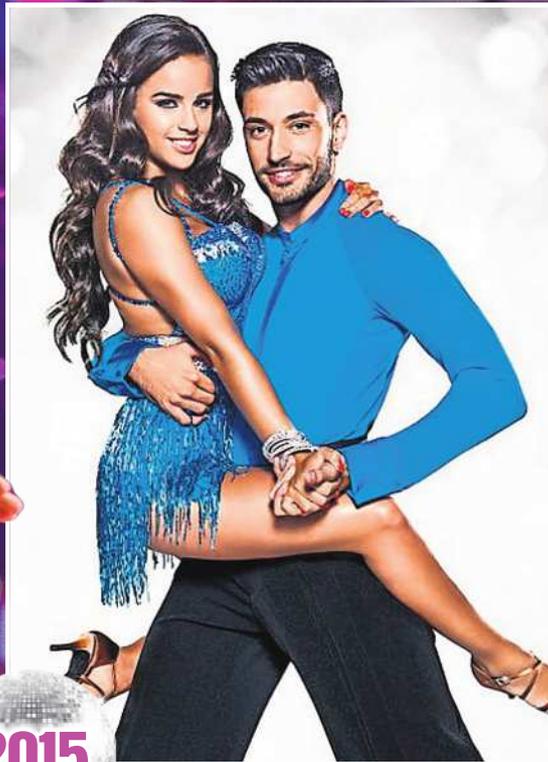
Gio joined the show in 2015 and has become a fan favourite - reaching the final in his first year with actress Georgia May Foose, and triumphing in 2021 with EastEnders star Rose Ayling-Ellis.

Giovanni recently defended his training methods, and said Amanda could have got to the final if she had stayed. He told a podcast two months ago: "I am a perfectionist, 100 per cent, but it comes from a perspective of caring. I think all of the profes-

STAR CONFIDES IN PALS



Ballroom pressure . . . Amanda and Giovanni perform last year



2015

Debut . . . Gio's first year with actress Georgia

Gio feels the scrutiny has become too much...it's time for new projects
— A SOURCE LAST NIGHT



Winner . . . lifting trophy with Rose

2021

sional dancers are in the same place. It's a shame because, in my opinion, she (*Amanda*) could have gone all the way."

Amanda reported her pro partner's alleged behaviour to the BBC around the time she left, and Giovanni was spoken to by a duty-of-care counsellor. The actress also later demanded to see footage of the pair in rehearsals.

Other claims against Giovanni also emerged. At least three other celebs were said to have struggled to adapt to his volatile methods — with *Laura Whitmore*, *Ranvir Singh* and *Richie Anderson* all reportedly unhappy. In March it was claimed that Amanda, ex-Love

Island host *Laura* and GMB star *Ranvir* met for an "emotional summit" to discuss their shared experiences with him on the show.

They discussed making a formal complaint to the BBC.

Laura previously revealed she was "extremely uncomfortable" at being paired with Giovanni on the 2016 series. Speaking in 2018, she said: "I'm still not ready to talk in depth about my experience on the show. In the end I felt broken."

"I cried every day. And I really was broken, both mentally and physically, by the end."

The negative reports have not gone down well with some of Gio's fellow pros on the show, which

won a TV Bafta on Sunday night. Some were "not happy" with the BBC's decision to stand by him, and think he is right to quit.

A source said: "Many of the other dancers, who take their work extremely seriously and try to give the celebs the best experience possible, have been mortified by recent headlines."

"He's not the easiest guy to work with, because he's such a sportsman in his desire to succeed, and has fallen out of favour with some of the female professionals especially. They've all been told he's quitting, and think it's the right decision for everyone involved with the production." Giovanni has been

holidaying in Dubai with girlfriend *Molly Brown*, and the pair have now flown to a European resort.

No announcement has yet been made by the BBC, with the full list of pros released later this year.

Earlier this year it screened *Giovanni and Anton's Adventures* in Spain, a travel series featuring him and *Strictly* judge *Anton Du Beke*.

Another series was understood to have been commissioned.

Last night a BBC spokesman said: "The professional dancers for *Strictly Come Dancing 2024* will be announced in due course."

A spokesman for Giovanni declined to comment.
clementine.moodie@thesun.co.uk



Our coverage . . . of claims on dancer

How the drama's unfolded

By **ELLIE HENMAN**

2015: Giovanni joins *Strictly* and reaches the final with *Georgia May Foote*.

2016: Partnered with *Laura Whitmore*, who later says her experience with Gio left her in tears every day.

2018: Makes the final again, this time with *Faye Tozer*.

2021: Wins with *EastEnders* actress *Rose Ayling-Ellis*.

SEPTEMBER 2023: Paired with actress *Amanda Abbington*, who threatens to quit in early weeks following rows.

OCTOBER 2023: She pulls out of live show for "medical reasons" and then quits altogether.

JANUARY 6, 2024: Amanda demands the BBC hands over rehearsals footage after seeking legal advice following claims she was left with PTSD.

JANUARY 7: The BBC refuses to launch probe into Giovanni despite a string of concerns, including from another former dancer partner, *Ranvir Singh*.

JANUARY 9: The Sun reveals the BBC is standing by Gio.

JANUARY 13: Amanda reveals she has received death threats over the row.

MARCH 16: Amanda, *Ranvir* and *Laura* meet to compare notes on how Gio treated them.

MARCH 23: BBC in a bind as bosses are "undecided" on if Gio should get a celeb partner.

MARCH 31: Giovanni to hold a crunch meeting with BBC as it is revealed he clashed with a fourth partner, *Faye Tozer*.

Chance to shine solo

By **CLEMMIE MOODIE**
Assistant Editor, Showbiz

FRANKLY, housewives' favourite Gio's position on *Strictly* had become untenable. One unhappy celebrity partner is unlucky. Four is unacceptable.

No one wants to be associated with a headline-stealing taskmaster who makes his partners cry.

He grew up in dance schools where crying through exhaustion was the norm. But in 2024, on a glossy Saturday night dance show, this isn't normal.

Gio is incredibly good looking, charming and talented and has already been flooded with "exciting TV offers".

This, then, is Gio's cha-cha-chance to shine, solo, and win over a whole new legion of fans — not just the housewives.

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FANS CRACKDOWN

**You're
not singing
any war**

BEY HAS A SPRIG IN HER STEP

By JACK HARDWICK

TREND-setting superstar Beyoncé shows her perennial sense of style — in a pair of shoes supported by an inverted red rose heel.

The US singer, 43, proved again she's cut from a different cloth in a slashed black gown, fedora, feather boa and those artistic heels.

As a thorn winner, she'd be a shoo-in for a best-dressed award.



EUROS' INSTANT FINES FOR INSULTING SONGS

EXCLUSIVE by NICK PARKER and ROB PATTINSON

ENGLAND fans who offend locals by singing songs like "Ten German Bombers" face instant cash fines at Euro 2024.

UK police and the Foreign Office have been briefed that culprits will be marched straight to ATMs in Germany and ordered to pay up.

Fines are expected to be up to a month's wages — with supporters instructed to declare their income.

German sources confirmed the cash crackdown will be launched to deter boorish behaviour among the 300,000 fans expected during the tournament.

A police source said yesterday: "The Germans have made it clear they will step in to stop threatening or anti-social behaviour. This includes offensive songs about World War Two."

Authorities warned war-related chants may inflame tensions in cities like Frankfurt and Cologne, which were blitzed by the RAF and where England are to play.

Michael Johnson, of the UK Football Policing Unit, said British cops mingling with fans would first warn unruly fans before German counterparts step in.

He told The Sun yesterday: "Our officers can say, 'Come on guys — you're in Germany singing the Ten German Bombers song and it's really not a good idea.'"

"If you still do that, you are likely to be arrested — you've had your warning."

He said fines may also be dished out



Tough . . . German police this week

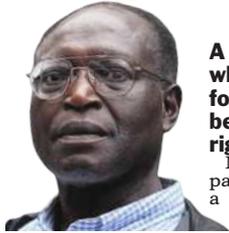
for drunkenness and urinating in the street. It comes amid travel and security warnings for supporters heading to the tournament, which kicks off on June 14.

Rail unions are threatening to strike as they claim they cannot guarantee fans' safety after decades of under-investment.

Police are also reported to have been hit by a £460million funding "black hole".

There is a CCTV shortage too, with laws limiting large-scale surveillance after the Cold War. Stefan Bisanz, who has worked for the military police, said: "When you have hundreds of thousands of fans, yes, it will be very difficult to manage this with no CCTV."

47 YEARS LIVING HERE BUT 'STILL NOT BRITISH'

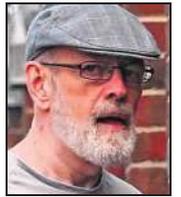


By ANDY ROBINSON
A RETIRED shopkeeper who has lived in Britain for nearly 50 years has been told he has no right to be here.
 Nelson Shardey, 74, has paid taxes for years, sat on a jury, and even earned a Battle... Mr Shardey

Scandal of brave Nelson

police bravery award for tackling a robber.
 He arrived from Ghana in 1977 on a student visa but stayed following a coup there.
 Nelson then started working in a series of jobs before running a newsagent's in Wirral, Mersey-

side. But after applying for a visa in 2019 to return to Ghana following the death of his mum, officials refused the dad of three indefinite leave to remain.
 He was told to apply for a route to settlement, which can take ten years at a cost of around £7,000. Mr Shardey, who is recovering from prostate cancer, said: "Telling me to go through that route is a punishment, and it's not fair in any way."
 "I don't understand this fuss at all because I put my life, my whole self, into this country."
 He is challenging the decision in court. A Home Office spokesman said: "It would be inappropriate to comment on active legal proceedings."
The Sun Says — Page Ten



Free bid... murderer

Girls killer Pitchfork parole to go public

By JULIA ATHERLEY

CHILD killer Colin Pitchfork's next parole hearing will be in public, officials have decided.
 The 64-year-old, who raped and strangled two 15-year-old girls, will face the board in July.
 Pitchfork was jailed for life in 1988 after killing Lynda Mann in 1983 and Dawn Ashworth in 1986, both in Leicestershire.
 Parole hearings are typically in private. But following law changes to remove the secrecy behind the process, they can be held in public in certain circumstances.
 Caroline Corby, of the Parole Board for England and Wales, said: "Mr Pitchfork's case is a high profile one. There is therefore public interest."
 The Ministry of Justice said the Lord Chancellor is in "full support" of the hearing being in public.

May fear on court

EX-PM Theresa May has slammed Euro judges for abusing their powers.
 But she stopped short of calling for Britain to quit the European Court of Human Rights.
 PM Rishi Sunak has said we could walk away if judges again thwart his Rwanda migrants plan.
 In 2016 Mrs May was in favour of ditching the ECHR instead of the EU.
 Asked about her current position she said: "My view now is that we should stay in the ECHR."
 "What is worrying people has been an accretion of power. And it's that I think people would want to see being reformed."

Evictions new high

MORE than 2,500 households were told to leave rentals between January and March this year.
 Ministry of Justice figures show "no-fault evictions" rose 19 per cent to a six-year high.
 And 7,863 landlords issued section 21 notices in the same period, up 15 per cent on last year.
 Since the government pledged to abolish hated no-fault evictions in 2019, 96,000 renters have been evicted from rented homes for no reason.
 Tom Darling, of the Renters' Reform Coalition said: "These figures are a bleak illustration of the scale of the rental crisis."

RED-DY ARROWS

The RAF's new nine-jet Red Arrows aerobatic team are poised to start a 60th display season after six months' training.



40K FACING WATER BUG

By ALEX WEST

BOTTLED water supplies were being handed out yesterday after a contamination scare threatening 40,000 people.
 Twenty-two have been infected with a parasite and 100 have reported diarrhoea-type illness symptoms in Brixham, Devon, said Public Health England yesterday.
 South West Water has set up bottled water supply stations in the town where Eden Park Primary and Nursery School shut because it could not get hold of any.



At the ready... water station in Brixham

Mega event

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Selected stores. Subject to availability. Coke Zero 12 x 330ml was £6.30 now £4.15 (€0.11 per 100ml). Weetabix Minis Chocolate Chips 500g (€0.35 per 100g), was £3.50 (26/03/2024-24/04/24), was £2.50 (25/04/24-15/05/2024), now £1.75 (16/05/24 - 19/05/24). Weetabix Minis Fruit and Nut 500g (€0.35 per 100g), was £3.50 (26/03/2024-24/04/24), was £2.50 (25/04/24-15/05/2024), now £1.75 (16/05/24 - 19/05/24). Chocolate donuts 12 pack was £3.45, now £2.00 plus 50p in your cashpot. Laundry plastic storage hamper light grey 55 litre was £15, now £7.50. Higher prices charged in at least 339 Asda stores. Asda Rewards: App and mobile data required. Terms and conditions www.ASDA.com/rewards *Asda Pounds must be spent at Asda in store or online. Excludes George.com and Asda Express. Offers available from 16/05/24 to 19/05/24. May exclude Asda express and small stores, see ASDA.com/smallstores

CLARKSON BEATS MOVIE HUNKS



2nd

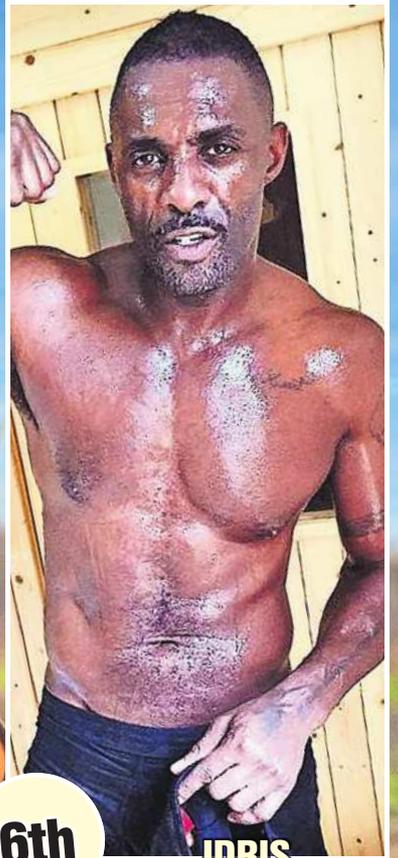
TOM HOLLAND



So at-tracked to you ... heart-throb farmer Jeremy with one of his piggy pals on his show

**WINNER
BRITAIN'S
SEXIEST
MAN**

JEREMY CLARKSON



6th

IDRIS ELBA

FARM AN ORDERLY QUEUE, LADIES..

By **ROD MCPHEE**, TV Editor

TV farming star Jeremy Clarkson has fans who want to get mucky with him — as he is voted the UK's sexiest man again.

The 64-year-old topped a list including actor hunks Tom Holland and Idris Elba.

His unlikely poll triumph comes as the third series of Clarkson's Farm hit a record 36million views

Jezza voted UK's sexiest man

in less than a fortnight on Amazon Prime, with 6.4million streams for the first episode alone.

An insider said: "Jeremy would always say the show's success was the only thing he really cared about — so for that alone, he has 36million reasons to be cheerful."

"But secretly he's probably as chuffed and slightly embarrassed

in equal measures about his 'sexiest male' tag. He'll no doubt be getting a ribbing from girlfriend Lisa Hogan, not to mention farm manager Kalob Cooper."

Sun columnist Jeremy has been seen hilariously helping pigs to mate at Diddy Squat on the new series, as well as getting emotional over animal deaths. And it seems

to have sown a seed with female viewers, according to the sexiest fella survey by dating site Illicit-Encounters. Two thousand of its members were asked to rank 50 of the "most famous, culturally relevant names" from the past year.

Former Top Gear host Clarkson followed up last year's success with another win, pipping Spider-

Man star Tom, Prince William was third followed by England manager Gareth Southgate, Peaky Blinders star Cillian Murphy and Luthur hunk Elba.

TV personality Romesh Ranganathan, I'm A Celebrity winner Sam Thompson, endurance athlete Russ Cook and TV host Dermot O'Leary completed the top ten.

A spokeswoman for Illicit-Encounters said of Jezza: "The latest series of Clarkson's Farm has shown he can tug at heart-strings. Clearly his farmer look continues to set hearts racing."

rod.mcphree@thesun.co.uk

**REST
OF THE
TOP 10**



3rd PRINCE WILLIAM

4th GARETH SOUTHGATE

5th CILLIAN MURPHY

7th ROMESH RANGANATHAN

8th SAM THOMPSON

9th RUSS COOK

10th DERMOT O'LEARY

THE Sun SAYS

Keir's o-mission

KEIR Starmer's six lacklustre pledges are far from a blueprint for the better Britain he wants.

Leave aside that he has made many before this, to the public and his party, and kept almost none.

Even taken at his word, his ideas are vague, their funding entirely uncertain, and most could equally have been announced by Rishi Sunak.

Take delivering "economic stability". Chancellor Jeremy Hunt has mainly delivered that already, with inflation near the two per cent target, mortgages to follow and National Insurance slashed.

The Tories would cut NHS waits and tackle jobs too. Who wouldn't?

And while Starmer at least recognises illegal migration is a problem, his "Border Security Command" seems to rebrand what already exists. Plus, he would scrap Rwanda even if it works.

Great British Energy, and Ed Miliband's 2030 "Net Zero power" fantasy, would never survive contact with reality.

In 1997 Tony Blair promised specifics to judge him by: Class sizes under 30, 250,000 off the dole and so on. Starmer's aspirations are woolly by comparison.

Where is the housing revolution or the NHS's reinvention? We sorely need both.

What is Labour's big offer? Voters are still waiting.

Covid jackpot

HOW about a new public inquiry into why the Covid public inquiry is costing us £300,000 every DAY?

What is this preposterous £94million-and-counting circus for, beyond being a wealth-creation scheme for lawyers?

We do not believe it is genuinely sifting evidence to form a dispassionate conclusion. It long ago decided who and what was to blame – Brexit, then Boris and his wicked Tories. Every sinew is being strained and every convenient statistic cherry-picked to support that.

We doubt it will conclude anything useful when it reports . . . in late 2026.

God help us all if China's bat-bothering boffins unleash a new virus before then.

Nelson's a Brit

BRITONS have an acute sense of injustice.

That's partly why migrants arriving on small boats to cheat the system offend us. And it is why the plight of 74-year-old Nelson Shardey offends us too.

Because while officials grant virtually anyone asylum, they threw the book at a man who has lived here blamelessly for 47 years thinking he was British.

Retired newsagent Nelson, originally from Ghana, put two kids through uni, did jury service and won a bravery award. Now he's told he'll be 84 before he can officially stay permanently . . . and it will cost him thousands.

Is this the Home Office getting "tough" on migration? What a joke.

Target the REAL problem, arriving daily at Dover. And tell Nelson he's a Brit.



Harry Cole

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POLITICAL EDITOR

WHAT is about wannabe Downing Street svengalls and dressing like tramps?
First we had shoeless galaxy brain Steve Hilton running around No10 in shorts. Then Dominic Cummings, who permanently



HERE'S THE SKINNY ON MORGAN

dressed like he had slept in a skip and possibly had. Rishi Sunak's right-hand man Liam Booth-Smith is famed for his Danny Zuko-esque

leather jackets and Austin Powers approach to shirt buttons and chest hair. Now Sir Keir Starmer's strategy guru Morgan McSweeney, left, appears to have got the memo. While

everyone was suited and booted for Labour's big event yesterday, he was lurking in the wings wearing skinny jeans.
"More like Morgan McScruffy," huffed one sartorial source.

From Ed Stone



to milestone?

CARD TRICK
... Starmer with pledges yesterday. Below, Miliband and infamous 'Ed Stone'

A BETTER PLAN A BETTER FUTURE

- 1 A STRONG ECONOMIC FOUNDATION
- 2 HIGHER LIVING STANDARDS FOR WORKING FAMILIES
- 3 AN NHS WITH THE TIME TO CARE
- 4 CONTROLS ON IMMIGRATION
- 5 A COUNTRY WHERE THE NEXT GENERATION DO BETTER
- 6 HOMES TO ACTION ON

"I'M not scaling back our ambition at all," said Sir Keir Starmer yesterday as he scaled back his ambition again.

A weird shadow election campaign began this week, with both the PM and the man hoping to replace him tearing chunks out of each other in speeches that could be given on the stump.

Except there is no election yet. And with Rishi Sunak telling TV's Loose Women yesterday that we are all safe to book a summer holiday, it seems there won't be for at least another four months.

But they're off and both playing the same old tunes – with Sunak declaring you can't trust Labour to keep the country safe.

For his part, Starmer is very pleased with his new New Labour-style pledge card.

Tony Blair promised his five pledges for the 1997 election to great effect, and they've taken on something of Labour folklore ever since.

The lore of people who think The West Wing is an instruction manual rather than a mulchy TV drama love pledge cards.

You would have thought that would have died a death when some clown advising Ed Miliband in 2015 told him to chisel his pledges into a whacking great bit of limestone, but no.

Yet could Sir Keir's latest list of promises to ditch when they become politically expendable actually have the reverse effect to Blair's?

Is his lack of detail and woolly feel actually less of an Ed Stone and more of a milestone around his neck? Hear me out. Many voters may well think that it's tea in England and time for the other side to have a bat. But taking that sentiment for granted is very dangerous.

It's the Ming-vase-over-the-minefield time of the electoral cycle. Labour are ahead and they don't want to do anything

to cock it up. So no one is really saying anything.

Whenever they do suggest something of note – like Starmer aides floating the idea that keeping Rwanda flights going in office might not be the most bonkers idea ever – they tie themselves up in knots.

I get it. There's a paranoia in the Labour psyche that defeat has been snatched from the jaws of victory time and again.

The party's history is littered with nearly men (and they're always men in Labour). But this is just taking the Mick – and the voters – for granted.

Starmer's card is a masterclass in nothingness, barely a pledge made and less detail even than his promise of guiding "missions" last year.

The bonus sixth point shoehorned on the end to recruit an extra 6,500 teachers is the closest we get to a tangible promise.

Mandate of dust

The vow to create a Border Security Command sadly falls over on the fact there already is one, it is just called the Small Boats Operational Command.

"Delivering economic stability?" Cool plan, bro. How?

"Cut NHS waiting times?" Whoever would have thought of that?

Setting up Great British Energy? No one is quite sure what that one means but Labour's Steve Reed admitted on the airwaves last night that it "may well" cost £82billion by 2035.

Blair promised in 1997: "No rise in income tax rates, cut VAT on heating to five per cent and keep inflation and interest rates as low as possible".

Quizzed after his big speech, Starmer specifically refused to rule out putting up taxes, so no wonder that one didn't make the cut. Also missing was any mention of endemic violent crime, the millions on out-of-work benefits, housing, defence, eye-wateringly high levels of legal migra-

tion et cetera. The Tories want to make this election about "borders, benefits and bombs".

And they will spend the next six months, like the rest of us, trying to work out what Starmer really thinks on those trickiest of issues.

But the problems will not stop at polling day for Starmer if he really is going to try to remain this tight-lipped.

Labour aides say that's the plan and not to expect a manifesto heavy on details. If, as the polls suggest, he does actually win in the autumn, it will be on a mandate of dust.

"The soft Left are called the soft Left because they ARE soft" one battle-scarred veteran of the New Labour era told me recently.

Starmer is from that middle rump of Labour, and they will think they've got their man in if he wins.

A chivvy from the backbenchers here, a favour from No10 there. Sops to the unions to soften the sharper edges of policies sprinkled about.

How long before it is public rows within the Labour Party that are setting the government's agenda, rather than battles with the Opposition?

Pretty soon a rudderless Starmer project could lose its way without some actual policies backed by the public and at a PM's disposal to say "you may not like this but the voters endorsed it".

Without dipping his party's hands in the blood of what he actually wants to get done, Starmer is setting himself up to follow his party, rather than to actually lead it.

Vagueness cuts both ways – he needs to lock in the detail to have any hope of getting anything done.

"Keep this card and see that we keep our promises," read Tony Blair's pledge card in 1997.

Chance would be a fine thing.

WELL here's a sentence I never thought I would write. Theresa May told a pretty good joke.
Breaking the habit of a lifetime to break bread with assorted

Westminster hacks this week, the ex-PM turned the screw on her (multiple) successors and their many books.
First she suggested Liz Truss's Ten Years To Save



The West was better suited to the science fiction section of Waterstones, and "given her record, Ten Days would be

more appropriate." But May, left, saved her most brutal putdown for old enemy Boris Johnson.
Where should his upcoming memoir be placed? "Current affairs."



'Success'... Cleverly

Training boost to aid rape probes

By JULIA ATHERLEY

MORE than 4,500 cops have now been specially trained to investigate rape and sexual assault – as the Home Secretary vows to increase prosecutions.

It comes a year after the roll out of Operation Soteria to all police forces in England and Wales.

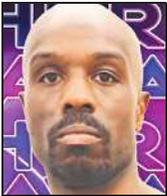
Arrest rates are up a quarter in the past three years for sex offences.

And cops referred 1,429 adult rape cases to the CPS in the last three months of last year – up from 590 three years ago.

New data shows the charge rate for rape is at 2.6 per cent. Labour says the Government is being "far too slow" to improve outcomes for victims.

Arrest rates for sexual offences, which are often not reported, were up by 25 per cent in 2022/23 compared to 2019/20.

Home Secretary James Cleverly said: "We will continue to drive up prosecutions and put more offenders behind bars."



Tragedy... Sheriff

Ring fans in funeral cash bid for boxer

EXCLUSIVE by ANDY ROBINSON

BOXING fans have raised thousands for the family of a fighter who died in his first professional bout.

Middleweight Sheriff Lawal, 29, collapsed in the ring after being knocked down by Portuguese Malam Varela, 33, on Sunday night.

His sister Katherine set up a GoFundMe page to help pay for a funeral after the sudden death at Harrow Leisure Centre, in North West London.

Last night, more than £10,000 had been raised towards its £15,000 goal.

Flowers were left at his St Pancras Boxing Club in London, where coach Claire Williams has raised £2,600 for Sheriff's family through a separate GoFundMe page.

She wrote on it: "He went out doing what he loved but it shouldn't have been this way."

She said Sheriff was studying nursing at North Middlesex University.



Picture: ARTHUR EDWARDS

MA'AM FROM THE PRU

By MATT WILKINSON, Royal Editor

THE Queen revealed the King is "getting better" after cancer treatment before joking: "Well, he would be if he behaved."

Camilla was at a garden party yesterday in Rye, East Sussex, with Sybil Fawcett actress Prunella Scales, 91, and her hubby Timothy West, 89, who has spoken movingly of his wife's dementia.

Charles was in good spirits last night at a Royal Opera House gala to celebrate outgoing music director Sir Antonio Pappano.

Party queen... Camilla meets Timothy and Prunella, and, below, Charles at the opera. Inset left, Pru as Sybil

UNSEEN ROYALS: PAGES 12 & 13

HORROR FALL FROM WINDOW

ALAM, 5, PLUNGES 15 FLOORS TO DEATH



Tragedy... window, circled, Alam fell from

A BOY of five died when he fell 150ft from the 15th floor of a tower block yesterday morning.

The tragic lad, named locally as Alam Makial, accidentally tumbled from a kitchen window after getting up early to go to primary school.

Emergency services rushed to the scene after being called at 5.58am to the Jacobs House building in Plaistow, East London. But Alam was pronounced dead at the scene.

Witnesses described seeing his father Makial crying over him and screaming: "My boy, my boy."

The boy's auntie, Maryan Hadafof, said the Arsenal-mad footie fan had opened the kitchen window after

By THOMAS GODFREY

waking up early for school, while his father and mum Sophie slept.

Accompanied by Alam's grandmother, Maryan said at the scene: "He went in the kitchen and opened the window. He got up early to go to school. He was a lovely boy."

Alam fell from a window which can be opened to its full extension by pressing a button on the inside.

Maryan added: "His mother has complained to Newham Council about that window."

"She sent five emails about how they open, and said they were not safe for her kids, but no one did anything."

The family were said to be of Somalian heritage but Alam was born in the UK.

Around a dozen family members

and friends were seen entering the home with provisions for Alam's heartbroken parents.

Another relative said the boy's mother could "barely speak" after learning of the tragedy.

Locals and staff from the New City Primary School, where Alam attended, also came to the home to lay flowers.

The Met Police said: "The death is being treated as unexpected and enquiries are under way to establish the full circumstances."

A Newham Council spokeswoman said: "The council is continuing to establish the facts regarding this tragic incident. Until we have further information we're unable to make any further comment."

"Our priority is to support the family at this devastating time."

thomas.godfrey@the-sun.co.uk



Accident... Cresswell

Play-offs Charlie in police car crash

By ED SOUTHGATE

A FOOTIE star's motor crashed into a police car at a stadium yesterday before a crunch match. Leeds United's Charlie Cresswell is understood to have been at the wheel of the Land Rover Defender. The accident happened as players arrived at the club's Elland Road ground to prepare for yesterday's Championship play-off second leg victory against Norwich City. Cresswell, 21, was an unused sub in the 4-0 win.

Pictures from the scene show the Land Rover and a severely damaged West Yorkshire Police car.

Emergency services attended the scene, near to the club ticket office, shortly before 10.15am.

Police confirmed an officer suffered minor injuries in the crash.

The force said that inquiries were "ongoing" into the circumstances of the collision.

See SunSport - Page 49



Charged... Gaberova

6th 'spy' denies working for Putin

By JONATHAN KANENGONI

A PAINTER and decorator yesterday denied being a member of a network spying for Russia.

Tihomir Ivanchev, 38, appeared at the Old Bailey alongside five fellow Bulgarians who have also denied espionage charges.

They are said to have carried out surveillance for Vladimir Putin's regime while living in the UK between August 2020 and February 2023.

Ivanchev, of Erith, South East London, denied conspiring to gather information useful to an enemy between August 30, 2020 and February 8, 2023.

Orlin Roussev, 46, Bizer Dzhambazov, 43, Katrin Ivanova, 32, Ivan Stoyanov, 32, and Vanya Gaberova, 29, were held last year. They are said to have monitored targets for "potential abduction".

Ivanchev was arrested on February 7 as part of an ongoing investigation.

They are set for trial on October 28.

UNSEEN PICS OF ROYALS

Picture: PAOLO ROVERSI



Princess Kate in 2021

THE regal beauty of the Princess of Wales shines through as she poses in a white Alexander McQueen dress before her 40th birthday.

No wonder snapper Paolo Rovarsi described taking the portrait as "a moment of pure joy".

Picture: ANTONY ARMSTRONG-JONES



Charles & sister Anne in 1956

MIRROR, mirror on the wall who was the fairest of them all?

Princess Anne and her brother Charles look reflective in 1956.

The photo of the now King and his younger sister was taken by Lord Snowdon, who became their uncle when he married their aunt Princess Margaret four years later.

Picture: CECIL BEATON



Royal Family in 1943

KING George VI and Queen Elizabeth with their daughters Elizabeth and Margaret at the height of World War Two in 1943. The family portrait was taken in Windsor by Sir Cecil Beaton, who captured The Blitz and Hollywood glamour.

Picture: CECIL BEATON



Elizabeth in 1942

THE future Queen played her part in the war effort, inspecting troops and then joining the Auxiliary Territorial Service in 1945.

This 1942 image by Cecil Beaton shows her aged 16 as Colonel of the Grenadier Guards.

By GRANT ROLLINGS

PREVIOUSLY unseen photos of the Royal Family are on display for the first time.

Intimate images, including one of four regal mums with their babes in arms, will be unveiled at Buckingham Palace today.

Queen Elizabeth, sister Princess Margaret, cousin Princess Alexandra and the Duchess of Kent all showed off their newborns in 1964.

For six decades this family snap by Margaret's photographer husband Lord Snowdon was in a private album. From today the public can see the image at a new exhibition.

It is one of 150 on view, including a pose from the Princess of Wales for her 40th birthday and a reflective look at a young Charles and Anne.

Royal Portraits: A Century of Photography is at The King's Gallery from today until October 6.

FRAME OF

ON DISPLAY FOR FIRST TIME



The Queen & Margaret in 1980

SISTERS Queen Elizabeth and Princess Margaret share a moment in 1980. The snaps, with the pair in matching satin dresses, are from a series taken in Windsor for the Queen Mother's 80th birthday. Fashion photographer Norman Parkinson CBE provided his contact sheet for the exhibition.



NP 98 = 76



77



78.

Pictures: NORMAN PARKINSON/ICONIC IMAGES

Picture: LORD SNOWDON ROYAL COLLECTION TRUST/ ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

The royal mums & tots, 1964

THE Queen cradles her youngest son Prince Edward — surrounded by royal relatives who had all given birth in 1964. Edward, now the Duke of Edinburgh, was born on March 10. Princess Alexandra, left, is with son James Ogilvy, born February 29. The Duchess of Kent, right, whose hubby was Elizabeth's cousin, is with her daughter Lady Helen Taylor, born on April 28. Princess Margaret sits in front with her daughter Lady Sarah Chatto, born on May 1.



1 Queen's boy ... Prince Edward
2 King's cousin ... James Ogilvy
3 Royal issue ... Helen Taylor
4 In line ... Lady Sarah Chatto

'A once in a lifetime shot' of mothers

By **ARTHUR EDWARDS**
Sun Royal Photographer

THE royal who shines through in this remarkable family portrait is the late Queen. To have all those regal mothers with their newborn babies gathered together is a once-in-a-lifetime shot. Tony Snowdon — photographing the monarchy even before he married Princess Margaret — is the master of his art. He uses the natural light from the window and positions Elizabeth in the perfect spot so that your eyes go straight to her. It is marvellous the royals have decided to let the public share this special moment in history.

THRONES

THE Sun

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Ally



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Ross

Unexpected morons in the bagging area

BEAT The Chasers, Bradley Walsh: "Scottish football club Airdrieonians is based in what town?"
 Jonathan Ross: "Aberdeen."
 The Finish Line, Roman Kemp: "Eilish No.3 is a fragrance by what US pop singer?"

Gillian: "Beyonce."
 Roman Kemp: "Seville is the capital of what Spanish region?"
 Kerri: "Italy."
 Roman Kemp: "Dover Castle overlooks what body of water?"
 Steve: "The Isle of Man."

THE hopelessly woke Baftas pretending the final disappointing series of Top Boy was better than Slow Horses and Happy Valley.
 The sad demoralisation of maverick cops who don't play by the rules but get results, like DI Canning on Blue Lights.

Random TV irritations

Gabby Logan describing Rebbecca Spencer's goalkeeping howler at the women's cup final as merely "unfortunate", when she knows it's the biggest brain

fact Wembley's ever witnessed. And My Family & Me plank Ferne McCann claiming, "It's mad that we don't need passports to go to Wales," when the real shock is they don't demand she's inoculated against foot rot and micro-chipped in the arse.



ON THE CASE... Stephen

HOTEL'S RIP-OFF TRAITS

GIVEN the extent to which ITV has ripped off BBC's The Traitors, all reviews for this next show should really be posted on CrapAdvisor.

It's called The Fortune Hotel and is such a shameless, second-hand enterprise, I even recognised one of the contestants, Louie, the self-styled "king of skin", who was making a nuisance of himself on Josh Must Win a few weeks ago.

The reference point for everything else, of course, is Claudia Winkleman's hit show, right down to a master of ceremonies with a ridiculous fringe, which belongs here to actor Stephen Mangan, who comes across less like a TV host and more like the

THERE was a distinct pattern to television events this weekend, which began when a bloke in a dress called Tia Kofi came second last on The Weakest Link.

It was followed on BBC1 by an episode of Doctor Who where a bloke in a dress destroyed all music and planet Earth in the process.

A perfectly awful drama but the most awfully perfect segue into The Eurovision Song Contest from Sweden, won, four hours later, by a sparrow-legged little character from Switzerland called Nemo.

And I hardly need to tell you what Nemo was wearing either, do I?

No? Good, then I'll press on with the backdrop to Eurovision, which host Graham Norton diplomatically described as "quite eventful".

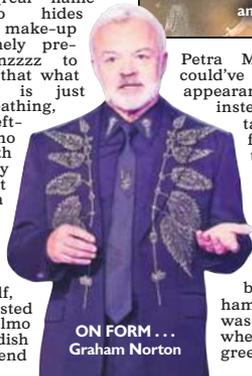
I'll say. So eventful that, by Saturday night, Greta Thunberg and thousands of other pro-Palestinian imbeciles had surrounded the venue and the brave and beautiful Israeli contestant Eden Golan needed 100 security officers for protection.

Toddler tantrum

Fortunately, there were no major incidents on the night, but one like-minded moron had made it on to the contestant roster. A catering-ant bull from Ireland called Bambie Thug (real name Robinson) who hides behind all that make-up and the tiresomely predictable pronounzzzzzz to disguise the fact that what we have here is just another self-loathing, infantilised left-wing bore who cannot cope with a contrary opinion without throwing a toddler tantrum.

More on that little madam in a second.

First, though, the contest itself, which was hosted brilliantly in Malmo by the Swedish Eurovision legend



ON FORM... Graham Norton

Eurovision's infantile irritant Bambie Thug? More Baby Pain Deer



FRIGHT NIGHT... Bambie Thug and Olly Alexander

Petra Mede but really could've done with a live appearance by ABBA, instead of their avatars, to deflect from all the histrionics by those October 7 apologists outside the building.

It meant, on the night, most of the heavy lifting had to be done by Graham Norton, who was in vintage form, whether it was greeting the Spanish

entry by explaining, "She's a year younger than Kylie, but in the context of this competition seems like Dame Vera Lynn", or sending Slovenia's Raiven on their way with this mournful farewell: "You've got to feel sorry for the dancers, 160million people are watching and they've been forced to wear pants the colour of rice pudding."

In these circumstances, it feels wrong to criticise Norton for anything.

If he had a weak spot, though, it was a tendency to be far too generous not just to the UK's Olly Alexander and

his dreadful song Dizzy, but also to Ireland's Bambie Thug, who is no more "the pride of Macroom" than I'm the rose of fecking Tralee.

I say this with a degree of confidence, because the great thing about the Eurovision format is that after Graham, Bambie, Greta, the national juries and all the other schmucks have had their say, the public finally get a chance to vote and upend everything.

A chance I certainly wasn't going to miss, so I picked up the phone and voted for Israel, a place I love, in the full hope and expectation there would

be millions more left sick to the pit of their stomach by the sight of a Eurovision arena crowd booing the only country in the Middle East where gay men aren't criminalised or executed for their sexuality.

It worked beautifully.

First, there was a big fat zero for Britain's Olly Alexander, who'll no doubt blame the snub, in due course, on bigotry rather than the inappropriate staging and the fact he just can't sing.

The real high, though, was watching Israel subsequently leapfrog everyone with 323 public votes, which included 12 points from Britain and ten from the people of Ireland who, unlike Bambie Thug, tend to be fitted with one of the finest bulls' detectors known to man.

It didn't last, sadly. Israel was leapfrogged by Switzerland and three other countries.

But Eden Golan still beat Bambie Thug and for a glorious few hours I could not have been more proud of the UK or happy with the state of the world.

Then, on Sunday night at the Baftas, Joe Lycett accepted the Best Entertainment Performance award wearing a dress. As you were.

QUIZ show answer of the week.
 Correct response should've been "stars", but I prefer this version.

The Finish Line, Roman Kemp: "The flag of Uzbekistan features 12 what?"
 Ryz: "Monkeys."

hotel owner's idiot son-in-law who'll be fast asleep in a club sandwich by midday. There is a significant difference in the settings, however.

Whereas on The Traitors everything takes place around a beautiful and haunting Scottish castle, which sets the tone perfectly for intrigue, alliances and skulduggery, The Fortune Hotel is set in a five-star Caribbean resort, which sets the tone perfectly for the all-day snorkel cruise, with pick-up in the lobby at 11am.

The rest, though, is just deeply dull, cut-and-paste formality. Ten couples are trying to win £250,000, hidden inside one of ten cases, via a series of games, pass-the-parcel exchanges and Room Service challenges where the contestants are asked such searching questions as: "Which guest was caught having a poo in a plant pot in a stranger's garden?"

My money's on the Exec Producer. She's got form.

lookalike of the week



THIS week's winner is Eurovision dud Olly Alexander and Jeremy from Yellow Submarine.
 Sent in by Sam Wilde, Boston.

Great sporting insights

PAUL MERSON: "Trossard did what every winger should do. Get in there and break his neck."

Robbie Savage: "The fans see everything through rose-

scented glasses." Steve McManaman: "Vinicius is unstoppable. Only Neuer can stop him."

(Compiled by Graham Wray)

TV GOLD

THE Swedes' brilliant ten-second recap on the previous 67 years of Eurovision.

Sky Comedy repeating the "Beloved Aunt" episode of Curb Your Enthusiasm on Tuesday.

Amanda Holden finally using BGT's golden buzzer to put through a fringe nutter, like Japanese hair impersonator Nabe, rather than a sob story who's already a cert for the live shows.
 And the two saving graces of

Sunday night's Baftas, which were Timothy Spall's award for the outstanding drama The Sixth Commandment and hosts Romesh Ranganathan and Rob Beckett, who got a genuine belly laugh for their Stacey Solomon introduction on Sunday: "To present this award for Factual Entertainment is the host of Sort Your Life Out."
 "Which is a bit much coming from the person who married Joe Swash."

● **CELEBRITY PopMaster**, Nish Kumar: "Doo Wop (That Thing), by Lauryn Hill, is the sound of me at school. Take Me Out, by Franz Ferdinand, is the sound of me at university."

● **GREAT TV lies and delusions of the week**, The Baftas, Rob Beckett: "Fair to say, last year was an amazing one for British TV."

● **EUROVISION credits query**, "Commentator Service - Ivor Lyttle."

● **THE Fortune Hotel**, Stephen

Mangan: "That was an interesting evening, wasn't it?"

● **EUROVISION**, Graham Norton: "The reaction in the arena to Olly Alexander is sensational. If only they could vote. Maybe they will later."

● **THE Fortune Hotel**, Mike and Adam: "We're fun, cheeky chaps. Our strategy is to be the fun guys, so they want us around."

● **EUROVISION**, "Commentator Service - Ivor Lyttle."

● **EUROVISION**, "Commentator Service - Ivor Lyttle?"





Kidnapped... Muriel

Cop hunt for body on farm

By MIKE SULLIVAN

POLICE will again search a farm for the body of a woman kidnapped for ransom in 1969.

Muriel McKay, 55, was taken from her London home by two brothers who thought she was the then wife of The Sun's owner Rupert Murdoch.

But she was married to his deputy, Alick McKay.

Kidnappers Arthur and Nizamodeen Hosein were traced to Stocking Farm, Bishop's Stortford, Herts. The pair were convicted of her murder in 1970.

Muriel's body was not found but Nizamodeen, now living in Trinidad, recently told cops where he claims she is buried.

Met Police Commander Steve Clayman said: "We have decided to carry out a further search at the farm. Other areas have been highlighted."

PUPPET GOVERNMENT

A Spitting Image puppet of Margaret Thatcher flicking a V sign could fetch £1,000 at auction in Cirencester, Gloucs.



By JAMES GAMBLE

IT'S faster and taller than any other rollercoaster in the UK – and adrenalin junkies can't wait for Thorpe Park's latest epic addition to open next week.

Soaring 236ft above the Surrey attraction, Hyperia will challenge thrill-seekers to "find your fearless", whisking them to 81mph along its 3,254ft tantalisingly terrifying track.

The striking steel structure, which features Europe's tallest loop at 168ft, is set to open next Friday.

But for those not keen to stomach its 14.8 seconds of weightlessness, the park has plenty of other options – for both adventurous fans and those with milder tastes.

The hair-raising, hydraulic-launched Stealth – the UK's fastest coaster until Hyperia takes that crown – rockets riders to 80mph in just 1.8 seconds.

The ten loops of Colossus get riders deliciously disorientated while Nemesis Inferno – immortalised in Channel 4 sitcom The Inbetweeners – is a real test of nerves, as are fellow coasters Saw and Swarm.

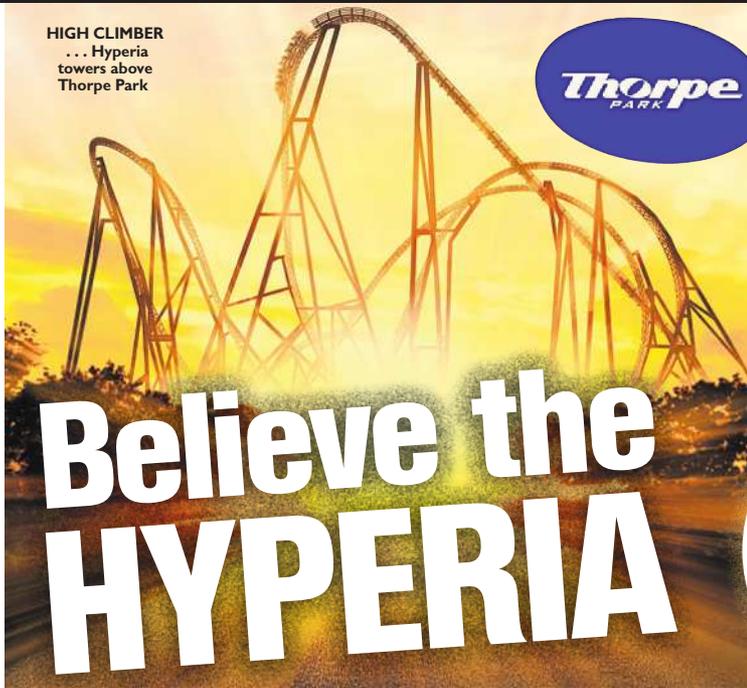
Water rides Tidal Wave, Storm Surge and Rumba Rapids provide much-needed drenchings during hazy summer days.

While Rush – a pendulum that reaches deceptively dizzying heights – Vortex and Zodiac are a perfect start for those who need a gradual increase in g-force.

But if you want to feel the

THORPE PARK OFFER STARTS TOMORROW

HIGH CLIMBER
... Hyperia
towers above
Thorpe Park



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force, then drop-tower ride Detonator certainly delivers, with the hilarious announcer teasing: "Ever wondered what it's like to fall from the sky without a parachute? Shall we find out?"

Little ones don't miss out on fun, with a number of attractions for those under 1.2metres tall, including

Mr Monkey's Banana Ride, the Flying Fish mini-coaster, Dobble Tea Party and High Striker.

After all that fun, the New Orleans Mardi Gras-styled Big Easy Boulevard offers the perfect setting to refuel.

Grab a bite from several food outlets while watching passers-by get soaked by the

Tidal Wave water surges. Or indulge your sweet tooth at CandyPips' extensive pick-and-mix shop.

There are more thrills in store at the Sunset cinema, where 4D films offer a multi-sensory experience.

The Walking Dead: The Ride and Ghost Train promise to spook and scare at

any time of year – though true horror fans should not miss the park's Fright Nights in October.

But for those more partial to a stein than a scream, then the Bavarian-themed Oktoberfest days are a must.

Both Fright Nights and Oktoberfest are included in the Sun Superdays offers.



Margaret,
South Wales

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Honoured . . . Roy

Gong for 'Lion of London Bridge'

EXCLUSIVE
by **STEPHEN MOYES**

A MILLWALL fan dubbed "The Lion of London Bridge" after taking on machete-wielding jihadis received a major bravery award yesterday.

Roy Lamer, 55, was stabbed seven times by the three ISIS terrorists, who killed eight and injured 48 on the bridge and nearby Borough Market in 2017.

He yelled, "F*** you, I'm Millwall" when he confronted the killers in a steakhouse in which customers were trapped.

He told The Sun: "I think scores of people might have died if I hadn't been there, but I'd do it again in a flash."

Roy received the Royal Humane Society's Silver Medal. Secretary Andrew Chapman said: "To say he was heroic is almost an understatement."

Police shot dead the three terrorists, who were aged 22, 27 and 30.



Attacks . . . stores

Epidemic of violent shoplifts at Sports

EXCLUSIVE
by **MICHAEL HAMILTON**

STAFF at Sports Direct and JD Sports have been regularly assaulted and threatened with weapons by violent shoplifters, a Sun probe has found.

Around three attacks are recorded a week – including employees being punched, bitten and nearly run over. One worker in Bedfordshire was hit by a bottle of Prime thrown at them.

A Sports Direct employee needed a CT scan after being battered over the head.

Violent thieves are thought to target sports shops as their merchandise can be easily sold.

A Freedom of Information request revealed 137 cases in 2023 but it will be higher as forces including the Met did not supply data.

Fraser's Group, parent firm of Sports Direct, said: "We continue to bring in additional measures to protect teams."



KIM FLY WITH ME

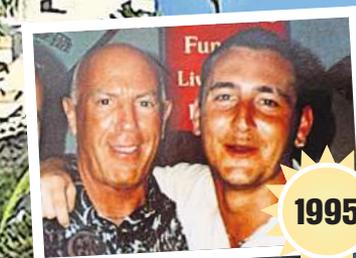


By **ELLIE HENMAN**

REALITY TV's Kim Kardashian hides in plane sight as she poses on a bed in a private jet. The star, 43, pouted in a leather skirt and bustier that was far less restrictive than the corset she wore to last week's Met Gala. That shrunk her waist to just 19in, so no doubt another sigh of relief after take-off.

NOT GETTING BED AND BORED

Groundhog stay



Star-struck . . . Eric with actor Will



GRANDAD HAVING 90TH HOL IN SAME LANZAROTE HOTEL



Fave . . . Eric and resort staff

GRANDAD Eric Willson is looking forward to holidaying in the same hotel in Lanzarote – for the 90th time.

He only got home last Friday but has already booked the same room again for August. Divorced Eric, 78, fell in love with

EXCLUSIVE by **ANDY ROBINSON**

suite 0164 at the five-star Dreams Lanzarote Playa Dorada Resort & Spa on his first visit in 1989.

He said: "I've been fortunate enough to travel around the world to 61 countries, including Cuba and Thailand – but none compare to Lanzarote. The staff at the hotel

treat me as if I'm King Charles and they've already told me they're going to do some big celebrations to make my 90th trip truly special."

"Usually I get a big welcome home – because it does feel like home to me."

Highlights have included meeting actor Will Mellor at the resort in 1995. Eric, of Romford, East London,

also enjoys water polo, darts, archery and quizzes – and belting out Frank Sinatra and Tony Bennett classics at late-night karaoke.

The retired furniture and carpet worker reckons he has spent around £90,000 on his Canary Island passion but added: "It's been worth every penny."

andrew.robinson1@thesun.co.uk

MISSING MAN IN WELL FOR 27YRS

A SUSPECTED kidnaper victim has been freed by police after spending 27 years living down a well.

Omar Bin Omran, 45, was receiving medical and psychological treatment last night following his release.

He claimed he was not able to call for help as his arrested abductor – a civil servant, 61, who lived alone – cast a spell on him, it was reported. Omar was 17

By GERARD COUZENS

when he vanished from Djelfa, a mountain city in Algeria.

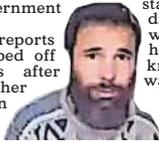
His family assumed he had died in a civil war between the North African country's government and Islamist rebels.

Unconfirmed local reports said they had been tipped off about his whereabouts after the alleged captor's brother aired grievances on

social media during an inheritance dispute. The family alerted police and Omar was found at a sheep farm in what was described as a covered well under haystacks.

A neighbour told Algerian TV station Bilad: "His poor mum died while he was in captivity, without knowing what had happened to him, without knowing that all this time he was really right beside her."

Officials said the "perpetrator of this heinous crime" would be tried with "severity."



Freed... bearded Omar

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'KIND' TRADESMAN



By GEORGIE CULLEY

HE was hailed as "Britain's kindest plumber" for his charitable deeds of fixing boilers for free and assisting the elderly during winter.

But now James Anderson is in hot water over allegations he lied about many of those he supposedly helped – and even passed off someone as a happy customer who was DEAD.

The 56-year-old, who received praise from the King and the late Queen, has issued a grovelling apology following revelations his social enterprise firm, Depher, fabricated stories of aiding the needy while getting substantial donations from the public which he splurged on a new house and car.

Among the deceitful accounts of Depher which stands for Disabled and Elderly, Plumbing and Heating Emergency Response – is Anderson's purported rescue of an 84-year-old woman from suicide. She had died more than two years previously.

Anderson is also accused of publishing another elderly client's private information online – despite them refusing permission.

Social media stories of his heroics made Anderson, from Burnley, an internet sensation during the cost-of-living crisis, netting him a *Pride of Manchester* award, a letter from the late Queen and donations from stars including Lily Allen and Hugh Grant.

Yet his actions are called into question in new BBC documentary, *Scams & Scandals: Britain's Hero Plumber* – Exposed.

Available on iPlayer now, the show unveils a "pattern of lies and allegations of exploitation", according to the broadcaster.

Analysis by the Beeb found that Anderson made at least £2million in donations.

'Best job in world'

Actor Hugh Grant is said to have given £75,000 to the plumber's firm – with Anderson saying the star's generosity "will give hope to thousands". Singer Lily Allen and Emmerdale actress Samantha Giles also reportedly donated.

On BBC Breakfast in 2022, Anderson said he had "the best job in the world", explaining: "I can give."

He added: "We have seen people who have come to the end of their tether and are sick and tired of people saying no to them."

"We want to get them out of that, take away the stigma. We do what we can for everybody."

But Anderson's "hero" status could be heading for the gutter following the BBC investigation.

It claims Depher peddled a false suicide claim that portrayed Anderson as a saviour.

According to the BBC, a post from June 12, 2022, showed a woman with her face covered next to Anderson with the caption: "Shared with permission. A lady, 84 years old rang [Depher and] spoke to myself, she was upset & desperate. She lived 53 miles away in #Preston I drive as fast as I could, when I got there she had a noose ready to commit suicide. All she wanted was hot water! #costoflivingcrisis".

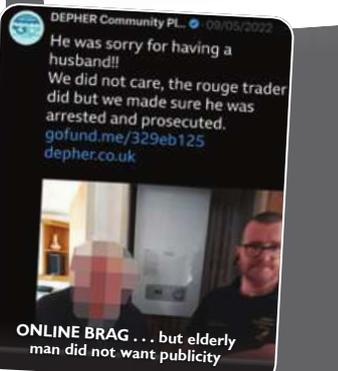
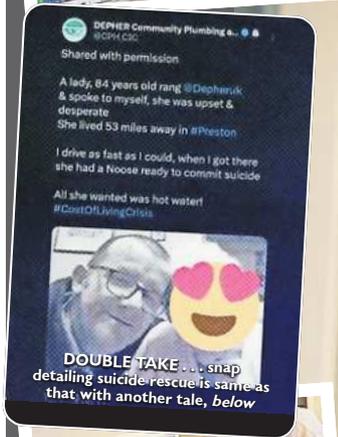
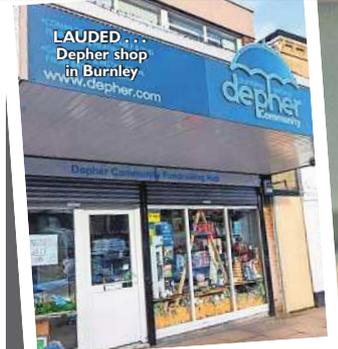
The broadcaster identified the woman as someone Anderson had helped with a free shower repair who had died in February 2020 – a year before her image started to be used online by Depher.

Her daughter told the Beeb the post's claims were "a complete lie" and made it seem Anderson was "using vulnerable people like my mother as a money-making machine".

When challenged, Anderson admitted the post was false and apologised to the family but denied putting the image online himself.

The same image was posted online seven times between February 2021 and August 2023, with varying ages and locations, the BBC reported.

Depher has also been accused of creating misleading posts with an image of a different dead woman.



The firm reportedly posted the picture of a woman with her face blacked out, claiming she had died of carbon monoxide poisoning.

When challenged by the BBC, Anderson reportedly admitted the post was "a lie" and promised to investigate how it was sent from his company's Twitter account.

One former Depher employee told the BBC that many people "didn't consent" to having their photos used on social media and said the company would receive complaints from relatives. Anderson told the BBC that a written consent process for social media pictures was put in place last year.

In another case, Depher was said to have posted videos and photos of a man in his 90s more than 20 times after fitting him a free boiler, despite him declining to be filmed.

PRAISED BY KING APOLOGISES AFTER EXPOSÉ

● MADE UP STORIES OF HELPING PEOPLE

● SPENT DONATIONS ON HOUSE AND A CAR

● CLIENT'S PRIVATE INFO PUT UP ONLINE

● WOMAN HE 'SAVED' ACTUALLY DEAD



HELPING HAND... Anderson with elderly client

IN HOT WATER... James Anderson

How could 'HERO' plumber sink so low?

The posts included information that the man was afraid he would face discrimination because he was gay, according to the BBC.

It says the posts were linked to fundraising appeals for Depher that raised about £270,000.

The man's neighbour told the BBC: "He was a private person, he would never agree to anything like that. That's disgusting. He'd hate it."

Mr Anderson told the broadcaster he "didn't listen" to the man properly and said he should have removed any identifying details.

Safeguarding issues were also raised after a domestic abuse victim was allegedly pictured online with her child and accused of theft – despite no evidence being provided.

In another alleged safeguarding error an elderly woman's bank details could be seen in paperwork

in a photo posted online by Depher, which was shared 11,000 times.

When the BBC alerted the woman, she is said to have been "horrified". Her son reportedly described the post as "absolute exploitation".

The Fundraising Regulator has opened an investigation into Depher in light of the Beeb's investigation. The Charity Commission has also confirmed it had previously rejected Depher's applications to register as a charity after determining it was not charitable.

In an interview with the BBC, the plumber denied some of the allegations but said: "I know I've done it wrong, I apologise. But what can I do? I haven't got a magic stick. I'm not Harry Potter."

Described as one of the "most recognisable faces in Burnley", Anderson left his day job as a

plumber to start Depher in 2017. The firm relies on donations and income from private jobs to give clients free services. It is a Community Interest Company, which means it benefits the public.

Since 2019 it has posted hundreds of stories about good deeds it says it carried out, such as helping pensioners, cancer patients or struggling families. Depher –

thought to have about 13 employees – has used donations to fund food, pay energy bills, do plumbing work and help with funeral costs.

Tales of the good deeds had gone viral, helping Anderson – who has five children with wife Babs – become a celebrity.

He has been a guest on Good Morning Britain, BBC Breakfast, The One Show, Sky News and the Russell Howard Show, lauded as a "hero plumber".

Last year he and Babs featured on Alan Titchmarsh's Love Your Garden, where deserving people have their outdoor spaces renovated.

Anderson posted a statement online ahead of the BBC broadcast apologising for "mistakes" and insisting: "We are taking this very seriously and we are going to change. I'm really

really sorry", he said, adding that his enterprise has changed the way its X account is used and put in place training on safeguarding and data protection.

"If you wish Depher to not continue, please let us know," he said. "I can understand the upset and I can understand the harm that may have been inflicted on certain people through mistakes that we have made, and again I apologise for it."

"For seven years, my heart has been in this. For seven years we have helped countless people. We have saved countless lives."

The plumber also told the BBC he is looking for forgiveness from the country. He said: "I'm really sorry and I will make amends."

The Sun contacted Depher for a comment last night.



GENEROUS... Samantha Giles, Hugh Grant and Lily Allen said to have donated

FUMING AT VAPE PROMO

Row over £3 deal

MORRISONS was blasted yesterday for selling addictive vapes in a bargain bin.

The devices were advertised with the branding, "When it's gone it's gone" – dicing with strict nicotine sale laws.

Shopper Sam Bryan couldn't believe his eyes when he spotted the display in his local supermarket.

He told bosses who immediately acknowledged the display full of £3 bargain vapes was "inappropriate".

The store in Ashford, Kent, said: "This goes against our policies and values, and we are taking this matter seriously. We will take immediate action. I want to thank you for bringing this to our attention and for your concern about the safety and wellbeing of our customers, particularly children."

But despite their commitment to take action, nothing had changed when Sam returned to the store later.



The vapes Bargain bin... vapes

By STEPHEN MOYES

were still on offer in the discount container near the exit. Paramedic Sam, 26, told The Sun: "It's wrong of Morrisons to flog vapes in a discount bin at children's height."

"Their advertising display sends out a terrible message, as the store acknowledged."

Morrisons said yesterday: "There was no reduction in price to the vape products and they have since been removed."



THAT'S A LITTLE ROVER THE TOP

EXCLUSIVE by SARAH RIDLEY

A LAND Rover Discovery crushes the front of another car after its driver lost control.

The Sainsbury's car park £50,000 4x4 smash on Sunday was days after the driver of a VW Tiguan reversed on to a £210,000 Aston Martin just a mile away, right.

Nobody was hurt in the latest crash in Wilmslow, Cheshire. But it came a month after a ticket machine was hit by a car in the same car park. A resident said online: "Another one?!? What is it about Wilmslow?"



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Listeners . . . Bruce

Beeb hit by radio slump as rivals rise

By JACK HARDWICK

BBC radio has suffered a slump in listening figures across all stations while commercial rivals landed their strongest ratings.

Radio 2 saw a year-on-year drop of 8.5 per cent – although the fall for the first quarter of 2024 was just 0.4 per cent, latest Rajar figures state.

Its Zoe Ball Breakfast Show is slightly up to 6.62 million but well down on 7.26m a year before.

Greg James's Radio 1 Show fell from 3.92m to 3.7m over the first three months of the year.

Heart's Breakfast Show with Amanda Holden and Jamie Theakston rose to 4.2m from 3.99m across the same period.

Capital Breakfast now boasts 2.55m listeners while overall figures rose by 1.5 per cent to 6.24m.

The Virgin Radio UK network reached 1.9m listeners. Ken Bruce has helped give Greatest Hits Radio a 50.3 per cent boost to 7.69m after his BBC exit last year.



Sorted . . . Royal Mail

Mail staff pot-laced choc hell at depot

By DANIEL HAMMOND

ROYAL Mail workers scoffed chocolate that fell from a parcel – unaware it contained super-strength cannabis.

Medics were called after the three began "acting strangely".

They suffered panic attacks, but hospital checks showed they should experience no long-term effects.

Staff at a depot in Brighton said they only realised the problem when they saw packaging included the word "THC" – the psychoactive ingredient in cannabis.

One staff member said: "There were some people acting very strange. I imagine it was quite scary for them."

Royal Mail said: "We have commenced an investigation, which will determine whether any further action, including disciplinary action, might be taken. We are also reminding all staff of correct procedures."

ARE YOU VLAD TO XI ME?

By NICK PARKER

WARMONGER Vladimir Putin and China President Xi Jinping spoke of their shared vision for peace yesterday.

Russian tyrant and Ukraine invader Putin hailed his "old friend" on a visit to Beijing. Strongman Xi has stoked global instability by vowing to grab breakaway state Taiwan. The dictators got a guard of honour before promising to strengthen nuclear ties.

Putin said: "We are deepening nuclear cooperation."

Xi, whose proposals to end the Ukraine war have fallen flat, said: "China hopes to see the early restoration of peace and stability in Europe."



Handshake... for Putin and Xi yesterday



Allies . . . leaders of Russia and China



Guard of honour . . . for dictators in Beijing

PUTIN PAL ATTACK MYSTERY

SHOT PM'S LIFE IN THE BALANCE



Emergency . . paramedics with shot PM Fico, right

SLOVAKIAN prime minister Robert Fico's life remained in danger yesterday after he was shot five times in a "politically motivated" assassination bid.

Surgeons spent five hours operating on "complicated" wounds to the abdomen, arm and leg of the Vladimir Putin ally. Fico, 59, had been hit point-blank as he met supporters in Handlova. He was flown to

By NICK PARKER, Foreign Editor

nearby Banská Bystrica Hospital where director Miriam Lapunikova said he was in a "truly very serious" condition in its intensive care unit.

Gunman Juraj Cintula, 71, a former security guard, has been charged with the attempted murder of Fico.

Russian tyrant Putin said yesterday he hoped his friend would soon recover, adding: "This monstrous crime cannot have any justification."

Fico's political allies pleaded for national unity while claiming Cintula had "radicalised himself" against the government's pro-Russian stance.

Interior minister Matus Sutaj Estok said the suspect was a "lone wolf" with "clear political motivation" who

had joined previous anti-government protests and planned the shooting after Fico's ally, Peter Pellegrini, was elected president in April.

But confusion grew over his rationale as the shooter was revealed to have once been a member of a paramilitary group that supports Putin.

Cintula's son told local media: "I have no idea what father intended, what he planned, why it happened – maybe there was some short circuit."

On his election campaign last year, Fico, now a three-time PM, ran on a campaign to cease military support to Ukraine. Yet President Volodymyr Zelenskyy was among those to condemn Tuesday's attack, which US President Joe Biden called "horrific".

nick.parker@the-sun.co.uk

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GOT GOSSIP? CALL OR WHATSAPP THE BIZ BATPHONE WE NEVER SLEEP

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Picture: BRENDAN WIXTED / COSMOPOLITAN UK

Wakey wakey, Sabrina



SABRINA CARPENTER looks like she's ready for a snooze. The US singer is supporting **TAYLOR SWIFT** on her Eras world tour, so it is no wonder she needed a lie down while posing for the *Cosmopolitan* magazine cover. *Inset*. The Espresso hitmaker said: "I'm quite jetlagged because we're all over the world. The hardest thing is turning your brain off and getting everything to quiet down. As well as on tour, fans can catch Sabrina at Radio 1's Big Weekend in Luton next Sunday. I'll be in front of the stage."

HOOPLA GOERS BE-WARE

JESSIE WARE may want to be careful what she wishes for. The *Begin Again* singer, *inset*, has said she wants to see people getting down and dirty during her upcoming headline set at *Mighty Hoopla* festival in Brockwell Park, South London. Asked what she would like to see in the crowd, *Jessie* said: "Am I allowed to say? I want to see eyes, massive. I want to see people kissing each other, I want people on top of each other, people on shoulders. I want people crying, I want people dancing. I want people crowd surfing. I want people having sex. I want it all." I love *Jessie's* music and a good boogie, but this sounds like utter carnage. I think I'll stand at the back with a pint to take in the view from afar.



Picture: RADIKAL ZEE

CAUGHT LIVE

MABEL @The Institute of Contemporary Arts, London

THERE was some *Mad Love* in the room for **MABEL** as she made her live music comeback. The London-born singer, whose famous mum **NENEH CHERRY** was in the crowd to cheer her on, returned to the venue for the first time in a decade to showcase some of her new tunes. "I am so happy to be back," *Mabel* told the crowd as she walked out on stage. "This is where I did my first show ten years ago." Although she said she was nervous, *Mabel's* performance was pitch perfect as she took fans on a trip down memory lane with songs including *Finders Keepers* and *Don't Call Me Up*, which got the loudest cheers of the night. *Mabel's* show was also a celebration for her new single, *Vitamins*, her first release in two years, and it went down a treat. Welcome back, *Mabel*. Don't leave it so long next time.

RAMLA JEYLANI ★★★★★

AFTER years of fighting with her family, **BRITNEY SPEARS** called a truce – only to delete her kind words an hour later. The singer has been publicly locking horns with her mum Lynn, dad Jamie and sister Jamie-Lynn since breaking out of her conservatorship in November 2021. Brit posted a now deleted picture of her family on Instagram and said: "We all have issues with our family but dear God you can't help how much you love them. I'm posting this because my family is absolutely beautiful and I miss them." It's not unusual for *Britney* to delete posts but given recent events, including telling fans she was choosing not to have surgery on a "broken" foot, it is a worrying sign.

OLIVIA EYES UK PAD

LENNY KRAVITZ has been confirmed as the headliner for football's Champions League final kick-off show on June 1, which I was the first to tip you off about three months ago. The US star will perform fan favourites and debut new songs during the show, presented by Pepsi, at Wembley Stadium. Lenny said: "It's going to be such an exciting event ahead of a final that means so much to so many. "We can't wait to show you all what we have in store."

SHE has spent the past week travelling across the country for her *Guts* world tour. But **OLIVIA RODRIGO**, right, could soon be spending a lot more time in the UK, as I've learned she is eyeing up a move here. The American *Good 4 U* singer has told pals she wants to start house hunting for a posh London pad. Given she is dating British actor **LOUIS PARTRIDGE**, it would make sense for her to buy a place – and it would save on plane fares. A source said: "Olivia loves

the culture here and obviously it is *Louis's* home. She flew into the UK early to spend time in the capital ahead of her concert dates and is hoping to be here even more when her tour ends in October. "The music scene is so big in London that she feels like it could be a great place to make tracks in the future. "Plus her relationship with *Louis* is only getting stronger and she feels that having a place in London could make it easier to see him." I'm not surprised she is keen to spend more time here, given

she is such an Anglophile. On stage at London's *O2 Arena* on Wednesday, she said: "I cannot tell you how much I love being in London. I love England so much. "I love English humour, English people, English treats. Every time I'm here I get a suitcase and just fill it up with *Jaffa Cakes* and *Percy Pigs* and chocolate-covered digestives." *Olivia* isn't the only one considering relocating here. Her best pal, fellow US singer **CONAN GRAY**, told us: "I love London. I could absolutely see myself moving here." Honestly,



Picture: RADIKAL ZEE

ELLIE HENMAN'S

allure

With
HOWELL
DAVIES
& JACK
HARDWICK

U2 JUST MATES, ADAM?

Divorced bassist linked to new girl

U2's ADAM CLAYTON doesn't seem to be hanging around when it comes to finding love again.

The bassist announced last month that he and Mariana Teixeira de Carvalho, his wife of ten years, had divorced.

But insiders told me he has now grown close to brand consultant Lainey Sheridan-Young, taking her as his date to the relaunch of restaurant Sushisamba in London just two days after the news of his split broke.

A source said: "Adam and Lainey came to the dinner together and were very close. They were very tactile with each other and seemed incredibly happy together."

"His relationship with Mariana ended some time back, way before he and Lainey grew close."

While Adam and Lainey weren't pictured together at the relaunch, last Friday they posed together at a posh lunch thrown by the Oscars in the capital's Corinthia hotel, inset above.

Lainey's Instagram account also reveals she has spent time with



Adam in recent months, including watching him and his U2 bandmates **ONO** and **THE EDGE** play at The Sphere in Las Vegas in February, and hanging out with him in the US city.

Adam, who has a daughter Alba with human rights lawyer Mariana, confirmed to an Irish newspaper on April 28 that their

divorce was amicable. They married in a Dublin register office in 2013 before having a fancier do in a 14th century chateau in France.

He was previously engaged to supermodel **NAOMI CAMPBELL** (more of her right) and PA Susie Smith but they never made it down the aisle.

Adam has previously admitted that U2's success made him incredibly popular with women, which won't come as a shock to anyone.

He told Q mag in 2001: "I think one of the great things about bands is that they allow you to be irresponsible for longer – whether or not in the end that's a really healthy position to take."

"I guess I've been lucky in that I f***ed about until my mid-30s and now I can have more of a balanced outlook."

I think that's the dream for most of us, being honest.

NEMO DIVES INTO TOP RECORD DEAL



It was a nail-biting final at Eurovision, which saw **NEMO** beat **BABY LASAGNA** to lift the glass trophy.

But now the Swiss singer, left, has bigger fish to fry – and has signed a major record deal here less than a week after the victory.

I can reveal Nemo has been snapped up by respected label Island Records, after impressing bosses with their entry *The Code*.

It is a promising move, given Island has been home to artists including **AMY WINEHOUSE**, **ARIANA GRANDE** and **DRAKE**.

A source close to Nemo, who is non-binary, said: "This is huge for Nemo's career."

"They have been working away in

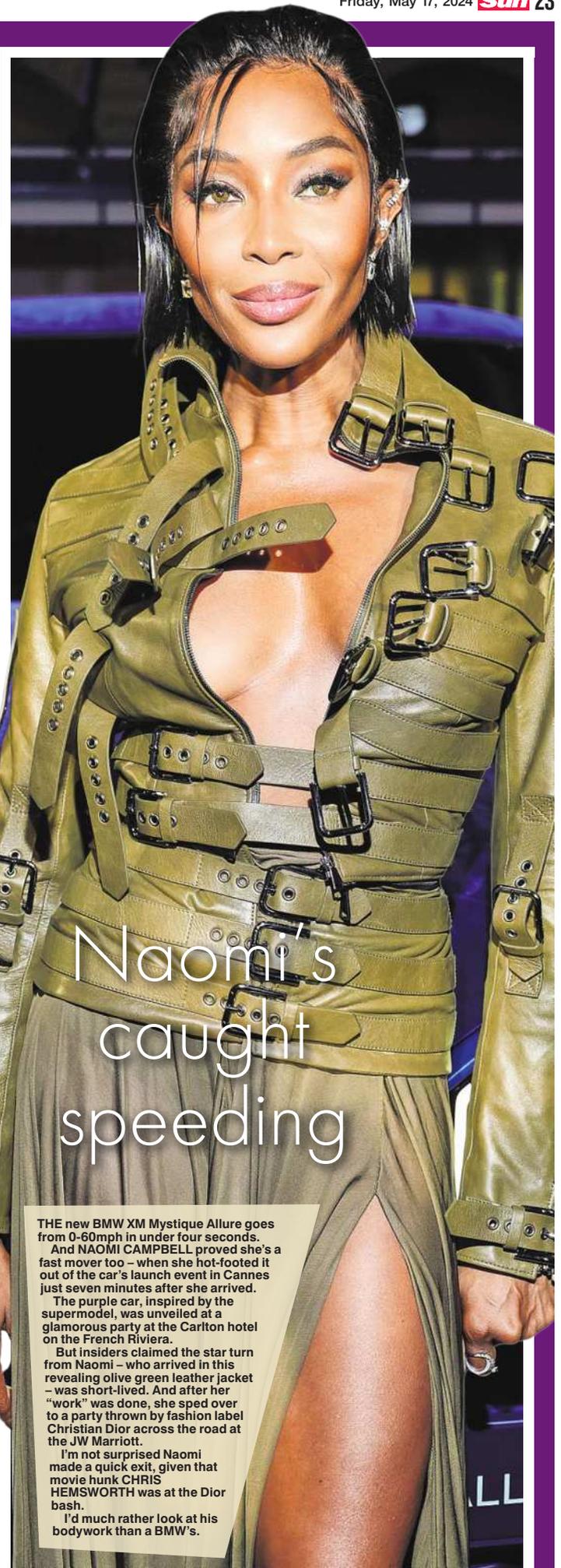
music for years, really honing their craft, and now it's their time to shine.

"Island wants to strike while the iron is hot and get new music out this year."

"There are a lot of exciting options being explored and it's all moving very quickly, but the world will be hearing a lot more from Nemo."

It has been a long time coming for Nemo, who self-released their first EP, called *Clownfish*, way back in 2015.

SAM RYDER and **MANESKIN** have had successful careers off the back of Eurovision, so fingers crossed the same happens here.



Naomi's caught speeding

THE new BMW XM Mystique Allure goes from 0-60mph in under four seconds.

And **NAOMI CAMPBELL** proved she's a fast mover too – when she hot-footed it out of the car's launch event in Cannes just seven minutes after she arrived.

The purple car, inspired by the supermodel, was unveiled at a glamorous party at the Carlton hotel on the French Riviera.

But insiders claimed the star turn from Naomi – who arrived in this revealing olive green leather jacket – was short-lived. And after her "work" was done, she sped over to a party thrown by fashion label Christian Dior across the road at the JW Marriott.

I'm not surprised Naomi made a quick exit, given that movie hunk **CHRIS HEMSWORTH** was at the Dior bash.

I'd much rather look at his bodywork than a BMW's.

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DEAL OF DAY



GET fit and enjoy the outdoors with the Cross Countess hybrid bike, down from £280 to £140 at Argos. **SAVE: £140**

CHEAP TREAT



AVAILABLE in five colours, Barry M's Velvet nail paint is down from £3.99 to £1.99 at barrym.com.

What's new?

MORRISONS is celebrating the start of summer with 100 new barbecue and picnic foods, including these hot honey olives, £3.



TIME TO GET PICKY FOR FREE FAMILY FUN



Cordially yours...

TAKE a spring walk with the family and have fun foraging for elderflowers.

The end of May and June is a great time to find the plant in bloom. It can be used to create your own cordial.

Here's what you need to know...

ON THE HUNT: Elderflower is abundant across the UK and grows as a small tree or shrub with clusters of sweet-smelling white flowers. It can be found in woods, as well as roadside hedgerows.

Pick from various places so you don't shed a whole tree. Shake the flowers to remove insects and wash them with water.

By LANA CLEMENTS

MIX IT UP: Elderflowers can be turned into a delicious cordial with this easy recipe from The Woodland Trust. You need enough flowers to tightly pack and fill a litre jug or bowl.

Remove as much of the stalk as possible. Cover the flowers with water in a pan and add the zest of one lemon then simmer for 30 minutes.

Strain liquid through a sieve or muslin, squeezing flowers to release flavour. Add 350g of granulated sugar and the juice from half a lemon to each pint of elderflower liquid.

Heat gently for five minutes to dissolve the sugar then skim off any scum.

Once cooled, pour into a clean sterilised swing-top bottle (a four-pack is £5.25 from Hobbycraft). The cordial will

keep for several weeks in the fridge. To serve, mix with soda water and ice, or add prosecco for a summer cocktail.

FLOWER FRITTERS: You'll need 12 elderflower heads. Sift 100g of plain flour, add two tablespoons of sunflower oil and 75ml of sparkling water and mix to a paste before stirring in one tablespoon of sugar. Leave for 30 minutes.

Beat an egg white and fold into the batter.

Get a deep pan of hot oil. Dip the elderflowers in the batter one at a time then fry in the oil, holding them by the stem. Once crisp, lift out, dip into a dish of sugar, then serve.

●All prices on page correct at time of going to press. Deals and offers subject to availability.

TOP SWAP



£89

FINISH off a casual but chic outfit with these gold ballerina flats, above, £89, from Hobbs. Or try New Look's £15.99 take on the trend, below.

SAVE: £73.01



£15.99

Little helper

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SHOP & SAVE

REPAIR damaged and dry hair with Tigi Bed Head shampoo. Normally £21, it's now £7 at poundland.co.uk. **SAVE: £14**



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THE Sun

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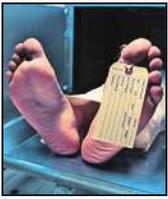
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CRATER SAME SIZE AS BUS



Crowded . . . morgues

Bodies in morgues left to rot

By SAM BLANCHARD

CORPSES have been left to rot in at least a dozen NHS hospitals, a national mortuary probe reveals. Morgues had too little freezer space, kept bodies too warm and took too long to release them.

Some began to decompose in the hospital. One had still not been put in a freezer after 12 weeks.

Since 2022, there have been at least 12 hospitals where corpses started to rot, the Health Service Journal probe found.

Hospitals in Leeds, the Isle of Wight, Blackburn, London, Peterborough, Oxford, Hemel Hempstead, Bolton and Manchester had issues.

Watchdog the Human Tissue Authority said: "We expect establishments to comply with our standards and ensure the dignity of the deceased."

Morgues have been under scrutiny since hospital electrician David Fuller, jailed in 2021, sexually abused more than 100 dead female patients.

It's News For U.S.

A US version of Have I Got News For You is to be launched in the autumn – just ahead of the presidential election.

The limited series – like the BBC version, to be produced by Hat Trick Productions – will be shown on Saturday evenings on CNN.

Hat Trick's Jimmy Mulville said: "It is a great honour. I just hope something interesting will be going on to talk about!"

The UK panel show, with captains Paul Merton and Ian Hislop, has been running since 1990.



Dive-rsion . . . David, left, and Vince measure the colossal crater

Is this Britain's biggest pothole?

BRITAIN'S "biggest pothole" has been revealed after a flooded road finally dried up.

Persistent rain left the whopping street crater – measuring 41ft long, 7ft wide and 8in deep – underwater for months.

The colossal cavity is so large that cars get grounded by it and others have been badly damaged trying to

pass. Locals in Charlton-All-Saints, Wilts, are "fed up" with the council failing to fix it and "papering over the cracks with slapdash repairs".

Retired David Bennett, 76, said: "It's got to be one of the biggest around. The hole stayed underwater for seven months. Riding your bike through it is quite dangerous." He added of repairs: "When you paper

over the cracks, it doesn't last long." Former IT worker Vince Jenkins, 64, said residents have had to warn visitors about the huge hole to prevent extensive damage to their cars.

He added: "People have had their tyres wrecked and cars scraped. "When it was covered in water, delivery drivers didn't know it was there. I'm amazed when they realised and tried to move to the other side, we haven't had a large vehicle go too

far to the right and disappear down the road, as there's a big ditch."

Wiltshire Council's highways chief Nick Holder said it had not been possible to repair while under water.

But he added: "Water levels have now receded to a level that will enable works to be undertaken."

● **HAVE** you seen a bigger pothole? Email your pics to **exclusive@the-sun.co.uk** or WhatsApp them to us on **07423 720 250**.

41ft
LONG
7ft
WIDE
8in
DEEP



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SHAZNAY

Stepping away from All Saints

s f t w INTERVIEW PAGES 39 & 40

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Cocaine miss ban

A TEACHER who dealt cocaine has been banned from class for three years. Stephanie Szymanska, 36, got a suspended jail term in 2022 after being caught by undercover police the year before. When arrested, she quit The Sixth Form College Colchester, in Essex, where she had been working for a term. A Teaching Regulation Agency panel in Coventry said letting her resume her career would "set a bad example to students".

BANGERS & DASH

Speedy butcher Gavin Reynolds, 49, filled and linked a world-record 83 sausages in a minute at his shop in Clifton, Beds.

CAREER TRACK FOR TEENS

CHOO YOUNG?

Train driver age set to drop to 18

By DANIEL HAMMOND

TEENAGERS will be able to qualify as train drivers under plans to ease a staffing shortage.

The Department for Transport (DfT) aims to cut the minimum age from 20 to 18 by introducing an apprenticeship for school leavers.

It says the average age is 48 and, with the workforce projected to shrink as staff retire, it wants to "build resilience" into the system.

The DfT is seeking views on how processes to select, train, monitor and supervise drivers can be adapted to support the age reduction.

The Rail Delivery Group, which represents operators, says training takes up to



So unfare! . . . How Kevin the Teenager might look in cab

two years. The average UK salary is £60,055, and it is hoped more young drivers would limit disruption as currently firms rely on staff working overtime and on rest days to run services.

Rail minister Huw Merriman said: "By boosting age diversity and attracting more drivers, we can help

support reliable services while creating opportunities for more young people."

Aslef union chief Mick Whelan said: "We believe there should be enough drivers to cover all available shifts and do not agree with the reliance on rest day working and overtime."

"We've always argued that lowering the age drivers can begin their training will help the industry

"Those at the pointy end of the train should reflect the communities they serve and that includes having young people in cabs."

Andy Bagnall of Rail Partners, which represents private sector rail groups, said: "With driver shortages and an ageing workforce it's critical to secure the skills we need for the long-term."

The RDG said: "Working as a driver is an incredible career opportunity."

...Aldi prices.

Smashed Beef Burgers



£2.99

£1.99

340g



British Minted Lamb Kebabs



£3.19

£2.49

320g



JET SMOKE SCARE

A PACKED British Airways jet made an emergency landing after smoke was spotted in the cockpit at 30,000ft. Flight BA764 from Heathrow to Oslo diverted to Amsterdam, where it was met by a dozen emergency vehicles. The Airbus A320 took off at 5.09pm on Wednesday, landing at Schiphol airport at

7.38pm and causing delays. The 190 passengers and crew were evacuated safely and put in hotels overnight before finishing their journey yesterday on a difference plane. BA told The Sun the diversion was a precaution following a "minor technical issue".

Sun

A MEDIEVAL gold posy ring inscribed "le belle ie" - an Anglo-Norman phrase for "the beautiful game" and referring to love - found by metal detectorist Mark Bowen, 63, in South Kesteven, Lincs, could be sold for £3,500.

SPOT



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just got even cheaper.

Specially Selected Yellowfin Tuna Steak 200g, £18.45 per kg. Cajun Chicken Breast Sizzlers 600g, £6.65 per kg. Smashed Beef Burgers 340g, £5.85 per kg. British Minted Lamb Kebabs 320g, £3.78 per kg. Available from Thursday 16 May 2024 - Wednesday 29 May 2024 while stocks last. Products, prices and packaging are correct at time of print. Products and prices may vary in store, Scotland, Wales, Aldi Local and online. Which? endorsement based on approximately 40 branded and non-branded items compared monthly in 2023.



Probe... at Swaleside

25 prison staff ill as lag curry 'spiked'

By ALEX WEST

PRISON workers had to be taken to hospital after a special curry cooked by lags was allegedly spiked. Up to 25 staff – including civilian contractors – suffered breathing difficulties and raised heart rates, the Criminal Justice Workers Union said. It claims synthetic cannabis "spice" was used in the incident on May 9 at Cat B HMP Swaleside on the Isle of Sheppey, Kent. Nine ambulances were sent and five people had hospital treatment. All were discharged that day. The CJWU said: "It is not unusual for prisoners to be working staff canteens, but they are expected to be a low risk, which clearly hasn't happened in this case." It called for an investigation and for the Prison Service and jail bosses to do more to protect staff. The Prison Service said it is investigating and declined to comment.



End of era... postcards

Stamped out: Hols postcard is history

By ROB PATTINSON

HOLIDAY postcards are almost extinct, seaside traders say. The often saucy promenade favourites used to be the cheapest way to tell friends and family "Wish You Were Here". But spiralling costs and the rise of selfies and social media have all but ended the tradition. Daniel Lumb, of Nol Rock And Gift Shop, on Bridlington prom, Yorks, said: "I reckon we now only sell one postcard every couple of months." "With technology now it's a thing of the past." He has considered producing his own but said he would have to charge customers £2 per card. Royal Mail classes them as letters, charging 85p for second class post. Mark Wingham, of the Postcard Traders Association, said: "Collecting postcards is still a 'thriving hobby' but they are not widely sold."

3 YEARS INTO A MAGICAL REUNION



By JOSH SAUNDERS

THEY broke up just three days before tying the knot after their relationship "crumbled under the pressure".

Now, two decades on, history may be repeating itself for Hollywood couple Jennifer Lopez and Ben Affleck, who are said to have split for a second time after not being seen together for SEVEN weeks.

Affectionately known as "Bennifer", they reunited in 2021 and got hitched two times a year later – the first at the Little White Wedding Chapel in Las Vegas and the second at Ben's £7million Georgia mansion in the US in an A-list-filled bash.

Fans were thrilled by the couple's "second time's a charm" love story. But on Wednesday a source said they "just couldn't make it work" – and yesterday insisted: "It's over."

It followed claims Ben has moved out of their £47million mansion in Beverly Hills – and Jennifer was photographed house hunting without her other half.

The insider said: "The writing is on the wall – it's over. They're headed for a divorce – and for once, Ben's not to blame."

"He's focusing on work and his kids now. Ben already moved out and they will likely sell the dream house they spent two years searching for."

"They'll never stop loving each other, but she can't control him and he can't change her. There's no way it could have lasted."

The last time they were seen together was during a trip to New York in late March – and according to observers it was a frosty affair.

Despite holding hands, Ben frowned while avoiding the cameras and J-Lo stared at the ground before they grabbed meals at Sadelles restaurant in SoHo, and Ceceoni's in Brooklyn.

'She has too much pride to cancel tour'

Perhaps most tellingly, Ben was absent for Jennifer's big night at the Met Gala earlier this month, where she was picked as a co-chair for the event by fashion guru Anna Wintour.

A source said "everyone just assumed" Ben would be there "by her side on fashion's biggest night".

At the time, Ben's representative said he was unable to attend due to working on the action thriller *The Accountant 2*. But a source claimed he had "decided to call it quits" on the marriage.

Despite his supposedly busy schedule, Ben was able to make an appearance at the live recording of TV's *The Roast of Tom Brady* just a day before the Met Gala.

He ripped into the American football legend in a seven-minute speech – but instead of his comedic digs drawing attention, it was claims that he had undergone plastic surgery.

That led to further tension between the couple, according to an insider, who said the actor was "furious" because he was "getting slammed for fillers and Botox that Jen pushed him to get".

They added: "She's convinced him that everybody in Hollywood does a little facial maintenance, including his good friends like Matt Damon."

In the days leading up to the sensational claims, reports claim the couple had struggled to get past issues that plagued their relationship in the past.

It couldn't come at a worse time for Jennifer, whose North American tour for album *This Is Me... Now* starts next month but has had very little interest from fans, leading to crisis talks about cancelling all 30 dates.

Resale sites are reportedly snagging tickets for as little as £7.90, and large blocks of seats are still available.

A source said: "Promoter Live Nation doesn't want Jen to feel embarrassed when she goes out on stage and sees empty seats."

"But she has too much pride to cancel the tour. They can't convince her to change course." Despite claims



AWKWARD

Heated discussion on the red carpet at LA film bash

SPLASH NEWS



TENS

At 2023 Gra



UNCOM

In the docum



2002

First time around at a film premiere

2021

An item again at Venice Film Festival

WE DO... wed in 2022

The sorry e

that the pair are getting divorced, many of the songs Jennifer will perform on tour are about her and Ben's reconciliation.

The tracks' loving lyrics seem to contradict how Ben and Jennifer have appeared together over the past year.

Problems for "Bennifer 2.0" became clear on the release of her Prime Video documentary *The Greatest Love Story Never Told* in February.

Throughout the film, which gave an insight into her love life and new album, Ben seemed uncomfortable.

In one scene he described their private moments as "sacred" and rolled his eyes while Jennifer gushed lovingly about him.

He said: "Things that are private, I'd always felt are sacred and special. So this was something of an adjustment for me." Jennifer admitted that Ben felt "uncomfortable" about

being her muse and he suggested they wanted to find a middle ground to avoid revealing too much about their romance.

In the doc, he said: "Getting back together, I said, 'Listen, one of the things I don't want is a relationship on social media'."

"Then I realised it's not a fair thing to ask. It's sort of, like, you're going to marry a boat captain and you go, 'Well, I don't want the water'."

"We're just two people with different kinds of approaches trying to learn to compromise."

Jennifer said: "I don't think he is very comfortable with me doing this [but] he doesn't want to stop me."

The couple last year often seemed to be at loggerheads in public. In a video that went viral in May, Ben was described as looking "stressed" and "miserable" on a coffee

run in LA and appeared to slam a car door after helping Jennifer into the passenger seat.

That same month, footage showed them amid what appeared to be a heated row in a car at a set of traffic lights in Beverly Hills.

Ben pointed directly at Jennifer, who turned away to look out of the window.

And at last year's Grammy Awards, Jennifer appeared to snap at her husband during a tense exchange which the couple tried to play down.

Ben told *The Hollywood Reporter* that they hadn't realised "the cameras were

N...IT LOOKS OVER FOR J-LO & BEN



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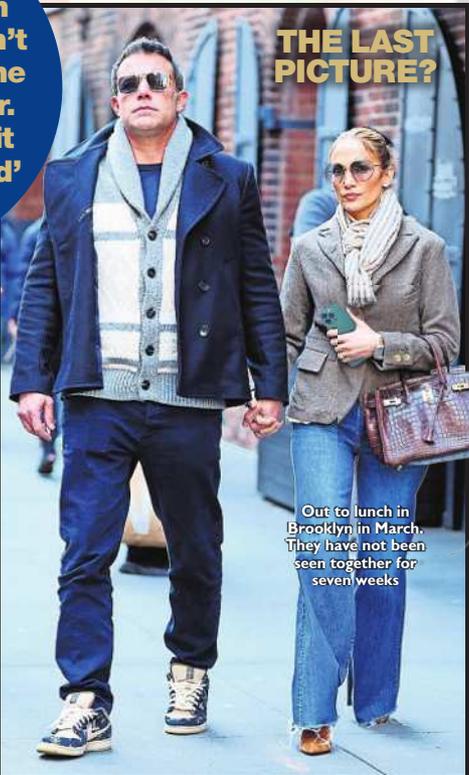
CAR CRASH 1



Ben appears to slam the door after holding it open for Jen in LA

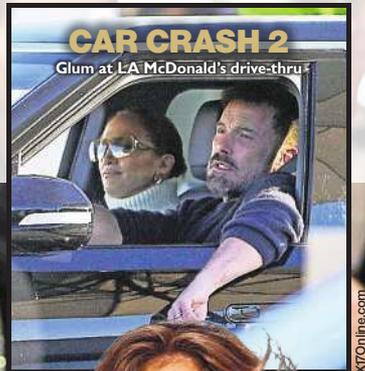
BACKGRID

They'll never stop loving each other but she can't control him and he can't change her. There's no way it could have lasted'



THE LAST PICTURE?

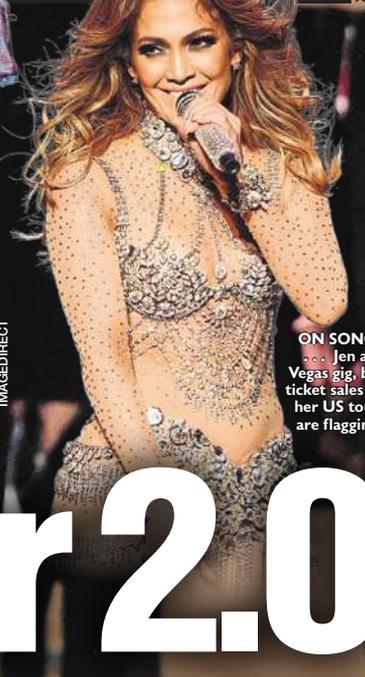
Out to lunch in Brooklyn in March. They have not been seen together for seven weeks



CAR CRASH 2

Glum at LA McDonald's drive-thru

X7Online.com



ON SONG
... Jen at Vegas gig, but ticket sales for her US tour are flagging

IMAGEDIRECT

end of Bennifer 2.0

rolling" when he whispered his plan to "slide away" and leave her sat next to TV host Trevor Noah. He recalled: "She goes, 'You better f---ing not leave.' That's a husband and wife thing."

According to insiders, the couple's struggles have revolved around Ben's want for privacy and Jennifer's love for being in the spotlight.

That same issue cropped up during their first relationship, which began shortly after Jennifer divorced her second husband, dancer Chris Judd. Ben and Jen became an item in March 2002 and were engaged four months later.

At the time, Ben had gushed: "I'm in love. I want to have a family and she's the only person I've ever

met who made me entertain the thought of doing that."

Their relationship hit the rocks the following September and they postponed their wedding just three days before the big day.

In a statement at the time they said: "When we found ourselves seriously contemplating hiring three separate 'decoy brides', at three different locations, we realised that something was awry."

"We began to feel that the spirit of what should have been the happiest day of our lives could be compromised."

They announced they had split after 18 months together in January 2004. Jennifer married the singer Marc Anthony six months later yet split up with him in 2014.

Meanwhile, Ben tied the knot with actress Jennifer Garner, but their

13-year marriage ended in 2018. His preference for keeping relationships out of the limelight was made clear again in J-Lo's documentary this year.

Recalling their split, he said: "The catalyst for that was the amount of scrutiny around our private life."

"I had a very firm sense of boundaries, initially, around the Press. While Jen, I don't think objected to it in the way I did."

It's fair to assume Jennifer having a documentary and an album dedicated to their romance would have been far from Ben's dream scenario.

And now the couple may well have split up for good, with sources claiming they were unable to work past their differences.

An insider said: "They waited almost two decades to get back together - but in the end they just couldn't make it work."

Friday



6am Breakfast (S)
9.30 Morning Live (S)
10.45 Defenders: Busting The Bad Guys (R,S)
11.15 Homes Under The Hammer Property auctions. (R,S)
12.15 Bargain Hunt Ben Cooper and Kate Bliss help the teams find a bargain in Exeter. (S)
1.00 BBC News (S)
1.30 Regional News (S)
1.45 Hope Street Niamh and Ash chain themselves to a tree to prevent a new landowner from cutting it down. (S)
2.30 Money For Nothing (R,S)
3.00 Escape To The Country Nicki Chapman helps a family find a home in Norfolk. (R,S)
3.45 Garden Rescue In Gloucestershire, Charlie Dimmock finds an impressive cottage garden. (S)
4.30 The Finish Line Craig, Priya, Mark, Christine and Deborah compete. (S)
5.15 Pointless Quiz show hosted by Alexander Armstrong and Gabby Logan. (S)
6.00 BBC News (S)
6.30 Regional News (S)

6.30 am Money For Nothing (R,S)
7.15 Garden Rescue (R,S)
8.00 Sign Zone: Antiques Roadshow (R,S,SL)
9.00 BBC News (S)
1.00 Impossible Quiz show hosted by Rick Edwards. (R,S)
1.45 Mastermind Double bill. (R,S)
2.45 Great Coastal Railway Journeys Michael Portillo heads to the Orkney Islands. (R,S)
3.15 Dogs In The Wild: Meet The Family Rescuers in South Africa try to combat Broken Heart Syndrome. Last in the series. (R,S)
4.15 Summer: Earth's Seasonal Secrets The challenges posed by the season to various animals. (R,S)
5.15 Flog It! David Harper and Philip Serrell examine items in Norfolk. (R,S)
6.00 Richard Osman's House Of Games Yasmine Akram, Stephen Mangan, Ingrid Oliver and Tom Rosenthal take part. (R,S)
6.30 Mascal Wareing Simply Provence The chef visits a man who create chocolates with unusual flavour combinations. (S)

6am Good Morning Britain (S)
9.00 Lorraine Entertainment and fashion news. (S)
10.00 This Morning Daily magazine, featuring a mix of celebrity chat, showbusiness news, lifestyle features, topical discussion, health and beauty advice and more. (S)
12.30 Loose Men An all-male panel to mark Mental Health Awareness Week. (S)
1.30 ITV News (S)
1.55 Regional News (S)
2.00 ITV Racing: From York Ed Chamberlin and Francesca Cuman present coverage of day three of the Dante Festival from York, including the **3.45 Boodles** Yorkshire Cup. Plus, action from Newbury. (S)
4.30 Tipping Point: Best Ever Finals Compilation of some of the show's most dramatic endgames from the arcade-themed quiz show hosted by Ben Shepherd. (R,S)
5.00 The Chase Quiz show hosted by Bradley Walsh. (R,S)
6.00 Regional News (S)
6.30 ITV News (S)

6.30 am 3rd Rock From The Sun Triple bill. (R,S)
7.45 Everybody Loves Raymond Four epiisodes. (R,S)
9.40 Frasier (R,S)
11.10 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA The chef visits a Japanese restaurant in California. (R,S)
12.05 C4 News (S)
12.10 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA The chef helps a restaurant in California. (R,S)
1.05 Find It, Fix It, Flog It Simon O'Brien repurposes an old butcher's block. (R,S)
2.10 Countdown (S)
3.00 A Place In The Sun In Famagusta, eastern Cyprus. (R,S)
4.00 Narrow Escapes Amy and Wes continue their journey into London. (S)
5.00 Come Dine With Me: The Professionals Professional chefs in Sheffield battle it out for a £1,000 prize. (S)
6.00 Four In A Bed The payments are disclosed and it is revealed who has won. (S)
6.30 The Simpsons Homer gets far more than he bargained for when he gets Flanders a job. (R,S)

6am Milkshake!
9.15 Jeremy Vine (S)
11.15 Storm Huntley (S)
12.45 Friends Double bill. Part two of two. Carol and Ross spice up their marriage. Then, a gift lands Chandler in trouble. (R,S)
1.40 5 News (S)
1.45 Home And Away Bree gets flirty with Levi in an attempt to get a rise out of Remi. (R,S)
2.15 The Stranger In My Home A man hires a woman to house-sit for him, but she ends up posing as his new girlfriend with no intentions of leaving. Thriller starring Anna Marie Dobbins, Vivica A Fox and Jason-Shane Scott. (2020) **CCO** (S)
4.00 Bargain-Loving Brits In The Sun In Manilva, children's entertainer Natalie is booked by a local family friendly venue to host a Halloween event. And one of Colin's pygmy goats seems to have gone into labour. (S)
5.00 5 News At 5 (S)
6.00 Police Interceptors Spenner and rookie Phoebe pursue of a speeding driver. (R,S) Followed by **5 News Update**

Common sense guaranteed.

Join us from 6.30am today.



Listen here:



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7.00 The One Show Live magazine show, hosted by Alex Jones and Roman Kemp. (S)
7.30 MasterChef (21/24) The semi-finals come to an end with the participants tasked to present a plate of food inspired by three of the inspirational cooks who have preceded them in the MasterChef arena. (S)
8.00 Granite Harbour (3/3) Lindo and Bart face a race against time to save innocent lives. Meanwhile, the depth of betrayals are finally revealed. Thriller starring Romario Simpson. (S)
9.00 Have I Got News For You (7/10) A guest host fronts the satirical quiz inviting Labour MP Jess Phillips and comedian Glenn Moore to join in the fun alongside regular team captains Ian Hislop and Paul Merton. (S)
9.30 The Young Offenders (2/6) Conor takes a job at the fishmonger's, still desperate to get back with his former flame Linda. (S)
10.00 BBC News (S)
10.30 Regional News (S)
10.40 The Imitation Game The story of Alan Turing, who broke vital Nazi codes during the Second World War, but was condemned for his homosexuality. Fact-based drama with Benedict Cumberbatch and Keira Knightley. (2014) **CCO** (S) Followed by **Weather For The Week Ahead**
12.35 -6am BBC News (S)

7.00 Grand Tours Of Scotland's Rivers (5/6) Paul Murton continues his journey down the River Forth, travelling from the picturesque Trossachs to the Kelpies statues in Falkirk. (S)
7.30 Beechgrove Garden (7/26) Calum Clunie plants out a bed to produce cut flowers all summer long. (S)
8.00 Gardeners' World (10/32) Monty Don moves his tender succulents outdoors, and Adam Frost meets a Leicestershire couple who have created a garden boasting a year-round display of bulbs, tubers and corms. (S)
9.00 Hidden Treasures Of The National Trust (2/6) Cameras focus on teams who care for Clivedon House and Polesden Lacey, luxurious mansions on the edge of London that have long played a pivotal role in society. (S)
10.00 QI (17/17) More of the best moments from the U series hosted by Sandi Toksvig. (S)
10.30 Newsnight (S) Followed by **Weather**
11.05 Rob And Rylan's Grand Tour (1/3) Rob Rinder and Rylan Clark set off on a cultural tour of Europe. (R,S)
12.05 Secrets And Spies: A Nuclear Game (R,S) **1.05 Sign Zone: Panorama** (R,S,SL) **1.40** Andi Oliver's Fabulous Feasts (R,S,SL) **2.35-3.05am** David & Jay's Touring Toolshed (R,S,SL)

7.30 Emmerdale Tom continues to manipulate Belle, Laurel gives Gabby food for thought, and Kim is jealous when she finds Lydia and Rose bonding. (S)
8.00 Coronation Street David falls under suspicion of attacking Nathan, Simon falls back into bad habits when Leanne goes away, Kevin reads some worrying information online, and Steve and Demi invite the Metcalfes to a dinner party. (S)
9.00 It'll Be Alright On The Night Featuring outtakes from Heartstopper, Plebs, and Coronation Street, and the moment Jordan North can't remember the name of the show he is presenting. (S)
10.00 ITV News At Ten (S)
10.30 Regional News (S)
10.40 ITV Studio Sessions (3/6) Clara Amfo is joined by Tom Walker, who performs new music alongside his biggest hit and a favourite cover song. (S)
11.10 Casino Royale James Bond pursues an international criminal responsible for financing terrorist organisations across the world. Spy thriller starring Daniel Craig, Eva Green and Mads Mikkelsen. (2006) **CCO** (S)
1.35 Shop On TV **3.00** EFL Play Off Semi Final Highlights. Action from the Championship second-leg matches. (R,S) **3.35** Unwind With ITV (S) **5.05-6am** Katie Piper's Breakfast Show (R,S,SL)

7.00 C4 News (S)
7.30 Unreported World Amelia Jenne investigates the illegal logging trade in Romania, where a so-called timber mafia is chopping down Europe's last remaining virgin forests. (S)
8.00 Double The Money (3/6) The challenge gets tougher as round 3 sees the remaining teams afforded one week to double £1,000. Hosted by Sue Perkins. (S)
9.00 Gogglebox The armchair critics share their opinions on what they have been watching during the week with cameras capturing their instant reactions. (S)
10.00 Late Night Lycett (6/8) Comedian Joe Lycett's comedy series continues its second run with an unmissable live night of mischief, mayhem and fun from his home town of Birmingham. Featuring celebrities, local heroes and, of course, Joe's favourite auntsies. (S)
11.05 Joe Lycett: More, More, More! How Do You Lycett? How Do You Lycett? The performer's first stand-up show in several years. (R,S)
12.05 FILM Mean Girls A teenager is befriended by her new school's most popular girls. Comedy starring Lindsay Lohan. (2004) **CCO** (S) **1.45** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (R,S,SL) **2.30** Come Dine With Me (R,S) **4.35** Grand Designs Australia (R,S) **5.30-6am** Beat The Chef (R,S)

7.00 Jane McDonald: Lost In Japan (3/4) The presenter explores Kyoto, a place of beautiful shrines and temples, atmospheric tea ceremonies and geishas dressed in exquisite kimonos. (R,S) Followed by **5 News Update**
8.00 The Big Steam Adventure: Here We Go Again! (3/4) The travellers take to a T3 train, restored to her former glory, for a journey through the Dorset countryside, and enjoy sights including Corfe Castle and Chesil Beach. (S)
9.00 Sue Perkins: Lost In Thailand (2/3) The comedian heads south to Phuket, the country's largest island. Making her diving debut in the tropical waters of the Andaman Sea, she learns how destructive humans can be to the fragile coral reefs. Sue also visits Khoa Phra Theo Wildlife sanctuary, where she learns about the plight of gibbons. (S)
10.00 Queen's 30 Greatest Moments The rock band's career highlights, from their first TV appearances through to the Oscar-winning biopic. (R,S)
12.00 Queen: A Night At The Odeon (R,S) **1.15** PlayOJO Live Casino Show (S) **3.15** Secret Scotland With Susan Calman (R,S) **4.05** Great Artists (R,S,SL) **4.30** Divine Designs (R,S,SL) **5.00** Wildlife SOS (R,S,SL) **5.25** Entertainment News On 5 (S) **5.35** Thomas & Friends: Big World! Big Adventures! (R,S,SL) **5.45-6am** Paw Patrol (R,S,SL)

REGIONAL VARIATIONS

S4C: 6am Cwyl 12.00 Newyddion S4C A'r Tywydd 12.05 Codi Pac 12.30 Heno 1.00 Y Sîn 1.30 Cais Quinnell 2.00 Newyddion S4C A'r Tywydd 2.05 Prynhawn Da 3.00 Newyddion S4C A'r Tywydd 3.05 Y Ffôn 4.00 Awr Fawr: Clobobs 4.05 Digbi 4.20 Bendithmwl 4.30 Pentre Papur Pop 4.45 Awyr Iach 5.00 Swn: Dennis A. Dannedd 5.15 Byd Rwtsh Dai Potsh 5.25 Swn Ni 5.30 Un Cwestion 5.50 Newyddion Ni 6.00 Radio 6.30 Garddio A Mwy 6.57 Newyddion S4C 7.00 Heno 7.30 Newyddion S4C A'r Tywydd 8.00 Alun, Chris A Kiri Yn Seland Newydd 8.55 Newyddion S4C A'r Tywydd 9.00 Rybish 9.30 Rybish 10.00 Welsh Whisperer: Ni'n Teithio Nawr! 10.35-11.40m Ni Yw'r Cymry BBC ONE WALES: 7.00-7.30pm **ITV1** Iolo's Valleys 10.40 Rewind: 60 Years Of Welsh Pop 11.0 **FILM** The Imitation Game (2014) 1am Sam Smith Live At The Royal Albert Hall 2.00-6am BBC News BBC TWO WALES: 7pm The One Show 7.30 **LIVE** Scrums V 9.30-10.30pm Hidden Treasures Of The National Trust

FILMS **★★★★** Brilliant **★★★** Very Good **★★** Good **★** Not Bad **★** Poor (R) Repeat (S) Subtitles (SL) Sign Language



By ROD McPHEE
TV Editor

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Sun **tvbiz**

NEWBIES . . . Thea and Hannah

DANNII'S SHAKING GIRLS UP

TWO new singletons are heading into the I Kissed A Girl masseria to stir things up. This weekend it's time for the hopefuls to get dressed up for a VIP party with the help of show host **DANNII MINOGUE**, before she surprises them with the late arrivals. And the newbies – singer Thea and student Hannah – will complete the line-up before a vote-off this weekend. If that doesn't already promise enough drama, it soon comes to light that R&B artist Thea is already closely acquainted with one of the girls in the Italian masseria. And the old flame is certain to ruffle a few feathers. Hannah teased of her appearance: "You can expect, love, tears and mystery . . . happy tears, sad tears and a whole lot of love – I guess you'll have to watch to find out." The series continues on Sunday at 9pm on BBC Three.

DERMOT O'LEARY is heading to Ireland for a new travel series, as I revealed last month. The five-part ITV1 show sees the TV host head back to his family roots on the Emerald Isle to discover its secrets. He said: "I can't wait to embark on this trip, to explore two of my great loves – Ireland and food."

LAUREN: STRICTLY DESTINY

DANCING on Strictly was in **LAUREN OAKLEY's** blood. The pro star, who joined the line-up of dancers in 2022, revealed that she is following in the footsteps of her mum, who appeared on the original BBC ballroom series Come Dancing. She revealed on BBC Radio West Midlands: "My mum was on Come Dancing as a dancer." Hostess **TRISH ADUDU** joked: "You were always destined to be a dancer, then?" To which Lauren added: "I know – she won the British Championships when she was pregnant with me, so technically I was dancing before I'd even been born. "When you're a dancer and you've made it on to Strictly, you've made it. I'm there – and I'm really happy to be there. I feel very grateful and lucky."

More listings:
Pages 32 & 33

BRITAIN'S GOT ... JUGGLING STRIPPERS

...AND A FACE FULL OF SPAG BOL FOR SIMON

PULLING STRINGS . . . Natalie sings and slings spaghetti

SMILES . . . Bruno

SAUCY . . . Simon splattered with spaghetti bolognese

SHARING SPLATTER . . . Si gets Amanda

IT'S all hotting up on Britain's Got Talent tomorrow thanks to a striptease with a twist. A pair of jugglers prove they can take multitasking to the next level as they show off their skills while stripping down to their pants. Judges **SIMON COWELL**, **BRUNO TONIOLI**, **AMANDA HOLDEN** and **ALESHA DIXON** will be left jumping out of their chairs as the Messoudi brothers then put their clothes back on – all while juggling. Reacting to the performance, Simon jokes: "I've never seen Bruno so happy in my life." Elsewhere, things get messy as a food fight breaks out between the judges and one act, seeing Simon and Amanda splattered with spag bol. They sit at a table with Canadian opera singer **Natalie Choquette**, who performs while scooping the pasta dish into her mouth. The series continues tomorrow night at 7.30pm on ITV1.

I'm a Corrie star ..get me in there

SOAP FAVE ALAN UP FOR THE JUNGLE

CORONATION Street's Alan Halsall is back in the running for this year's I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out of Here! The actor, who has played Tyrone Dobbs on the ITV1 soap for 26 years, was due to go into the jungle in 2023. But it is believed an injury which required a substantial knee ligament operation meant he had to turn down the offer. A TV insider said: "Alan was gutted when circumstances meant he couldn't be considered for the line-up last year. "I'm A Celebrity producers were also disappointed because they often like to have a Corrie star in the mix, and he is a particularly popular member of the cast. "Alan and the show bosses are just glad he's now in a position to be part of this year's show – though the

official line-up is months away from being confirmed." The actor had reconstructive knee surgery at the start of November. However, that is the month when the celebrity contestants fly to Australia, ready to go into the jungle with hosts **ANT** and **DEC**. **'Months of rehab'** Last year was one of the unusual years when no Corrie star appeared on I'm A Celeb, although it did feature two soap stars with ex-EastEnder **Danielle Harold** and Hollyoaks hunk **Nick Pickard**. Alan's op meant he had to take a short break from filming Corrie, although he was still seen on

screen on the cobbles of Weatherfield because the soap is filmed two months ahead of the episodes being aired. Immediately after the op to reconstruct his anterior cruciate ligament, he posted a picture of himself recovering in bed on Instagram. It came with a message: "I have been told the surgery went really well. "I know I have a long nine-12 months of rehabilitation ahead of me, but I'm sure with the support of family & friends I'll get there. "Any rehab tips or advice?" Given that time frame, he should be completely back on his feet by the time the next series kicks off Down Under in seven months. Just in time to put his body through hell again.



IF IT AIN'T BROOKE...

BLUE Lights star **SIAN BROOKE** has revealed that she ditched her original surname **Phillips** to avoid being confused with another actress. She met stage and screen veteran **Dame SIAN PHILLIPS** while studying acting – and learned that the birth name of the Goodbye, Mr Chips star was actually **Jane**. Sian told Virgin Radio: "Trying to pick a new name is difficult when you've had yours for 18 years. "In the end, my dad went to the National Portrait Gallery and went round and wrote out all these names. One of them was **Brooke**, and there we are – the rest is history."

THE BBC will mark the 80th anniversary of D-Day with a special day of programming. Alongside seven shows paying tribute to those involved in the 1944 invasion, special episodes of **The One Show**, **Antiques Roadshow**, **Bargain Hunt**, **Countryfile** and **Newsround** will air on the BBC from June 5.

Friday

Sun TV 4-PAGE SECTION

FREEVIEW

BBC THREE *Freeview 23*

7pm Top Gear; The Catch Up **8.00** Dubai Hustle **9.00** Paranormal: The Girl, The Ghost And The Gravestone **10.00** **FILM** Gringo. A businessman has to fight for survival when he crosses the line from law-abiding citizen to criminal. Action comedy starring David Oyelowo and Charize Theron. (2018) **11.45** Dinosaur **12.10** **FILM** It's What She Would Have Wanted. Short comedy film written by and starring Holly Hall. (2022) **12.20** Paranormal: The Girl, The Ghost And The Gravestone **1.20-2.20am** Glow Up: Britain's Next Make-Up Star

BBC FOUR *Freeview 9*

7pm TOTP: 1996 **8.00** TOTP: 1991 **8.30** TOTP: 1977 **9.00** TOTP: 1984 **10.00** Bananarama At The BBC **11.00** 1984 At The BBC. Featuring Wham! and U2. **12.00** The 80s: Music's Greatest Decade? With Dylan Jones **1.00-2am** Bananarama At The BBC

ITV2 *Freeview 4*

6am CITV: Craig Of The Creek **6.15** DC Super Hero Girls **6.25** Jurassic World Camp Cretaceous **6.50** Teen Titans Go! **7.20** Scooby-Doo! Mystery Incorporated **7.45** Be Cool, Scooby-Doo! **8.10** What's New Scooby-Doo? **8.35** Scooby-Doo And Guess Who? **9.00** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **9.20** Catchphrase **10.00** Veronica Mars **11.00** Dawson's Creek **12.00** Secret Crush **1.00** Dress To Impress **2.00** Family Fortunes **3.00** Veronica Mars **4.00** Dawson's Creek **5.00** Dress To Impress **6.00** Celebrity Catchphrase **7.00** Family Fortunes **8.00** Bob's Burgers **9.00** **FILM** The Invisible Man. An abused woman flees for her life, but then fears her apparently dead partner has come after her. Thriller starring Elisabeth Moss. (2020) **11.25** Family Guy **12.25** American Dad! **1.25-2.15am** Bob's Burgers

ITV3 *Freeview 10*

6am Classic Emmerdale **7.00** Classic Coronation Street **8.05** Endeavour **10.15** The Royal **11.20** Heartbeat **1.30** Classic Emmerdale **2.35** Classic Coronation Street **3.45** Marple **5.55** Heartbeat **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** Shetland **11.40** Lewis **1.30-2.30am** Upstairs, Downstairs

ITV4 *Freeview 26*

6am Great Racehorses **6.20** Minder **7.15** The Sweeney **8.15** Robin Of Sherwood **9.20** Magnum, PI **10.20** Kojak **11.25** BattleBots **12.30** Robin Of Sherwood **1.40** Magnum, PI **2.40** Kojak **3.40** Minder **4.50** The Sweeney **5.55** Robin Monsters **6.30** British Touring Car Championship Highlights **8.00** The Motorbike Show **9.00** Auf Wiedersehen, Pet **10.05** All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite **12.15** EFL Play Off Semi Final Highlights **1.20-2.05am** Minder

E4 *Freeview 13*

6am Hollyoaks **7.00** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **9.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **10.00** Young Sheldon **11.00** Modern Family **12.00** The Big Bang Theory **2.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **3.00** Modern Family **4.00** Young Sheldon **5.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.00** Hollyoaks **7.30** Modern Family **8.00** Teen First Dates **9.00** **FILM** World War Z. A UN investigator travels the world to find a cure for a zombie virus that is bringing human civilisation to an end. Thriller starring Brad Pitt and Mireille Enos. (2013) **11.20** Naked Attraction. Two women look for new partners. **12.25** The Big Bang Theory **1.30-2.25am** Brooklyn Nine-Nine

ENTERTAINMENT



Sky Showcase 6pm The boxers hit the scales in Usyk Vs Fury Weigh-in

NEWS SHOWCASE

6am Sky News Breakfast **7.00** Breakfast With Anna Jones **8.00** Caught On Dashcam **9.00** Nothing To Declare **10.00** River Hunters **11.00** Wildlife ER **12.00** The Flash **1.00** MacGyver **3.00** Hawaii Five-0 **4.00** S.W.A.T. **5.00** The Simpsons **6.00** Live Usyk Vs Fury Weigh-in. Boxers Tyson Fury and Oleksandr Usyk hit the scales. **7.30** Heavyweight KO's: The Best Of **8.00** Rob & Roshes Vs Anthony Joshua Revisited **9.00** The F1 Show **10.00** The Tattooist Of Auschwitz **11.05** Never Mind The Buzzcocks **11.50** Hold The Front Page **12.45** Resident Alien **1.40-2.35am** The Force: Manchester



CAR ROYALTY ... Rolls-Royce Silver Spirit is restored in series opener

BANGERS & CASH: RESTORING CLASSICS

Yesterday
The Bangers team were in the presence of vehicle royalty last night... but the calibre of the motor was marred somewhat by the fact it won't start and its windscreen wipers won't stop. That's a challenge the ace restorers were more than willing to accept to return the 40-year-old Rolls-Royce Silver Spirit to its former glory – and hopefully sell on for a tidy profit, of course. This entertaining spin-off series follows the journey of a vehicle purchased at Mathewsons classic car auction in North Yorks, before

last night

being repaired, restored then re-auctioned in a bid to find a loving new owner. It's been dubbed The Repair Shop for motors and, with gentle background music and enthusiastic car fixers at its centre, it's easy to see why. As Paul Mathewson, who along with brother Dave and dad Derek runs the family firm, explains giving classic cars a glow-up doesn't usually spark a sizable cash return. That said, he was confident their latest purchase might change their luck. The red Roller had barely been driven, with a paltry 7,500 miles on the clock. All that needed fixing was the interior, as the seats had seen better days, its engine flushed out and reworked, an exterior paint spruce up – and a new motor for those wipers. And after laying down £13k for it, plus £3k on parts and materials and £6k labour costs, the classic car sold at auction for £26,500, making them around £4k profit. Elsewhere on the series four opener, the

MORE4 *Freeview 18*

8.55am Food Unwrapped **9.30** A Place In The Sun **10.25** New Life In The Sun **11.25** Find It, Fix It, Flog It **12.30** Come Dine With Me **3.10** Four In A Bed **5.50** Château DIY **6.55** Celebrity PopMaster TV **9.00** The Twelve: Cinderella Murder **10.15** 24 Hours In A&E **12.25** 8 Out Of 10 Cats Does Countdown **1.25-2.25am** 24 Hours In A&E

SKY MIX *Freeview 11*

7am Border Security: America's Front Line **8.00** Nothing To Declare **9.00** Motorway Patrol **10.00** Highway Patrol **11.00** Stop, Search, Seize **12.00** Motorway Patrol **1.00** Border Patrol **2.00** Border Security: America's Front Line **3.00** Nothing To Declare **4.00** Stargate Atlantis **5.00** Stargate SG-1 **6.00** Stargate Universe **7.00** Star Trek: Voyager **8.00** The Rookie **9.00** Forensics: Catching The Killer **10.00** An Unexpected Killer **11.00** Britain's Most Evil Killers **12.00** Grimm **1.00-2am** Night Cops



BBC Three 10pm David Oyelowo and Charize Theron in action comedy Gringo

DAVE *Freeview 19*

7.10am Modern Wheels Or Classic Steals **8.00** World's Most Dangerous Roads **9.20** Top Gear Patagonia Special **12.00** Storage Hunters UK **3.00** Top Gear **5.00** Hairy Bikers' Best Of British **6.00** Rick Stein's Cornwall **7.00** Richard Osman's House Of Games **8.20** Would I Lie To You? **9.00** QI **9.40** Would I Lie To You? **11.00** At Christmas **12.00** Would I Lie To You? **11.00** The Shield **12.00** Mock The Week **12.40** Would I Lie To You? **1.20-2am** QI

DRAMA *Freeview 20*

7.10am All Creatures Great And Small **8.00** Doctors **9.15** Classic Holly City **10.35** Classic Casualty **11.35** The Bill **12.40** Classic EastEnders **2.00** Pie In The Sky **3.05** Lovejoy

SKY ATLANTIC

6am Fish Town **7.55** True Blood **10.05** Billions **12.15** Game Of Thrones **1.20** Ray Donovan **3.30** True Blood **5.40** Billions **7.55** Game Of Thrones. Jorah and Tyrion run into slavers. **9.00** The Pacific. The soldiers are greeted as heroes in Melbourne. **10.00** The Tattooist Of Auschwitz. Lali strives to get medicine for Gita. **11.05** The White Lotus **12.15** House Of The Dragon **1.30-2.35am** Euphoria

SKY WITNESS

6am Stop, Search, Seize **7.00** Border Patrol **9.00** Air Ambulance ER **10.00** The Force: Manchester **11.00** Bull **12.00** New Amsterdam **1.00** 9-1-1 **2.00** FBI: Most Wanted **3.00** Caught On Dashcam **4.00** Border Security: Australia's Front Line **7.00** Caught On Dashcam **8.00** Chicago Med. Crockett clashes with the Chief of Oncology. **9.00** Chicago Fire. Violet clashes with her new partner. **10.00** Chicago PD. Intelligence and SVU team up to track down a prolific offender. **11.00** The Equalizer **12.00** The Cleaning Lady **1.00-2am** Blue Bloods

GOLD

7.10am Desmond's **8.05** Keeping Up Appearances **9.25** Ever Decreasing Circles **10.00** Are You Being Served? **10.40** Open All Hours **11.20** Last Of The Summer Wine **12.40** Keeping Up Appearances **1.20** Ever Decreasing Circles **2.00** Open All Hours **2.40** Dad's Army **3.20** Are You Being Served? **4.00** Last Of The Summer Wine **5.20** Open All Hours **6.00**

4.15 All Creatures Great And Small **5.20** Birds Of A Feather **6.00** Keeping Up Appearances **6.40** Last Of The Summer Wine **8.00** Father Brown **9.00** Sister Boniface Mysteries **10.00** New Tricks **11.20** Soldier, Soldier **12.30** Lovejoy **1.40-2.50am** When The Boat Comes In

REALLY *Freeview 17*

6am Fantasy Homes By The Sea **7.00** The Shopping 8.00 Salvage Hunters **10.00** The Yorkshire Auction House **11.00** Antiques Road Trip **12.00** Money For Nothing **1.00** The Repair Shop **2.00** My 600b Life **4.00** Animal Cops Houston **6.00** The Yorkshire Auction House **7.00** Antiques Road Trip **9.00** Help! My House Is Haunted **10.00** Ghost Adventures: Taverns Of Terror **12.00** Unexplained: Caught On Camera **1.00-2am** Paranormal: Caught On Camera

YESTERDAY *Freeview 27*

6.10am Secrets Of The Transport Museum **7.10** Classic Car Garage **8.00** Abandoned Engineering **10.00** Narrow Escapes Of World War II **11.00** War Factories **12.00** Great British Railway Journeys **1.00** Antiques Roadshow **2.00** Bangers & Cash **4.00** Narrow Escapes Of World War II **5.00** War Factories **6.00** Antiques Roadshow **7.00** Secrets Of The London Underground **9.00** Abandoned Engineering **10.00** Bangers & Cash **11.00** Abandoned Engineering **12.00** Great British Railway Journeys **1.00-2am** Secrets Of The Transport Museum

W *Freeview 25*

6.25am My Kitchen Rules: Australia **8.00** Tipping Point **11.00** DIY SOS: The Big Build **12.20** DIY SOS: Children In Need Special **1.00** Tipping Point **4.00** My Dream Home **6.00** Tipping Point: Lucky Stars **8.00** 999 Rescue Squad **9.00** Inside The Ambulance **11.00** The Catherine Tate Show **1.00-2am** Nigel Slater's Dish Of The Day

QUEST *Freeview 12*

6am How Do They Do It? **6.30** Shed And Buried **7.00** The Repair Shop **8.00** American Pickers **10.00** Chasing Classic Cars **11.00** Goblin Works Garage **12.00** How Do They Do It? **1.00** Money For Nothing **2.00** The Repair Shop **3.00** Shed And Buried **4.00** Salvage Hunters **5.00** The Yorkshire Auction House **6.00** Wheeler Dealers **7.00** Find It, Fix It, Flog It **8.00** Salvage Hunters: The Restorers **9.00** Saving Lives At Sea **10.00** Cornwall Air 999 **11.00** How Do They Do It? **12.00** Wheeler Dealers **1.00-2am** Supertruckers

Keeping Up Appearances **6.40** Dad's Army **8.00** Only Fools And Horses. Christmas special from 1993. Del visits the dentist. **9.50** Not Going Out. Lee imagines a perfect life with Lucy. **10.25** Mrs Brown's Boys **11.50** Dad's Army **12.30-2.25am** Only Fools And Horses

COMEDY CENTRAL

8am Most Ridiculous: Friends **8.35** Most Ridiculous: All Abroad **9.00** Impractical Jokers **10.00** Home Improvement **11.00** Last Man Standing **1.00** Friends **9.00** Lee Evans Live: The Different Planet Tour. On the 115th date of the tour, Lee Evans plays all characters in a head-spinning skit, chases his rogue piano around the stage, and wonders why all mums can pick up hot things! **10.30** The Comedy Central Chart Show. Music video parody by Jamie-Lee O'Donnell. **10.35** **FILM** Office Space. Comedy starring Ron Livingston. (1999) **12.20** The Ricky Gervais Show **1.15-2.15am** South Park

ALBI

7.10am Murdoch Mysteries **9.00** Miss Scarlet And The Duke **10.00** Elementary **11.00** Shakespeare & Hathaway: Private Investigators **12.00** Father Brown **1.00** Death In Paradise **2.00** Murdoch Mysteries **4.00** Elementary **5.00** Father Brown **6.00** Shakespeare & Hathaway: Private Investigators **7.00** Elementary. Holmes is reunited with his estranged brother in London. **8.00** Death In Paradise. First episode of the Caribbean detective drama starring Ben Miller. **9.00** Father Brown. The priest investigates

SPORT



Sky Sports Cricket 6pm England v Pakistan in International T20 Cricket

SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT

6am Sky Sports News **7.00** Good Morning Sports Fans **9.00** **LIVE** NRL. Canberra Raiders v Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs. Kick-off at 9.00. **11.00** Super League Gold **11.05** **LIVE** NRL. Manly Sea Eagles v Brisbane Broncos. Kick-off at 11.05. **1.00** **LIVE** PGA Championship Golf. **7.00** **LIVE** EFL. Southampton v West Bromwich Albion. Kick-off at 8.00. **10.45** Fury V Usyk Weigh-In **11.00** **LIVE** PGA Championship Golf. Coverage of day two of the second Major of the year. **12.00-6am** Sky Sports News

SKY SPORTS PREMIER LEAGUE

6am PL Greatest Games **7.00** PL Legends **8.00** PL Best Goals **9.00** PL 100 Club **10.00** Total Football **5.00** PL 100 Club **6.00** PL Legends **7.00** PL Preview **7.30** PL: The Big Interview **8.00** Fantasy Show **8.30** Gary Neville's Soccerbox **9.00** PL Preview **9.30** PL: The Big Interview **10.00** PL Icons **10.30** PL Retro **12.30** PL Icons **1.00-3am** PL Years

SKY SPORTS FOOTBALL

6am EFL Cup Retro **8.45** SPFL Highlights **9.00** Scottish Premiership Round-Up **9.15** SPFL Highlights **9.30** EFL Highlights **10.00** EFL Cup Retro **12.00** EFL 3.00 Bundesliga Weekly **3.30** Scottish Premiership Round-Up **3.45** SPFL Highlights **4.00** EFL Cup Retro **6.00** EFL **6.30** EFL Highlights **7.00** **LIVE** EFL. Southampton v West Bromwich Albion. Kick-off at 8.00. **10.45** EFL Highlights **11.15** Scottish Premiership **11.30** SPFL Highlights **12.00** EFL Highlights **12.30** EFL Greatest Games **1.00-2am** EFL Cup Highlights

when a man is found hanged. **10.00** The Red King. With the True Way confirmed to be involved in Cai's death, an obvious suspect emerges. **11.00** Elementary **12.00** Evil **1.00-2.15am** Unforgettable

SKY COMEDY

8am Will & Grace **9.00** The Conners **10.00** Mr Mayor **10.30** Girls **11.40** Entourage **12.50** Vice Principals **2.10** Girls **3.20** Entourage **4.30** Mr Mayor **4.55** Will & Grace **5.45** The US Office **7.00** The Conners **8.00** Will & Grace **9.00** Sex And The City **10.15** The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon. American chat show. **11.15** Insecure **12.30** Yvonne Orji: Momma I Made It! **1.45-2.20am** Barry

DISCOVERY

6am How It's Made **7.00** Gold Divers **8.00** Building Off The Grid **9.00** Combat Dealers **10.00** American Chopper **11.00** Wheeler Dealers **1.00** Building Off The Grid **3.00** Gold Rush **4.00** Alaska: Homestead Rescue **6.00** American Chopper **7.00** Wheeler Dealers: Dream Car. Mike and Elvis try to trade their way to a dream Audi Q7 for engineer Aaron. **8.00** Gold Rush: White Water. Desperation pushes the miners a step too far in their search for gold. **9.00** Moonshiners. Amanda and Kelly attempt to make a famous Appalachian apple brandy. **10.00** Blowing Up History. Experts use cutting-edge tech to investigate the Red Pyramid. **11.00** Combat Dealers **12.00** Gold Divers **1.00-2am** Moonshiners

SKY SPORTS ACTION

6am NFL Highlights **8.00** **LIVE** Super Rugby. Hurricanes v Moana Pasifika. Kick-off at 8.05. **10.00** Betfred Super League Highlights **10.15** Women's State Of Origin **10.30** **LIVE** Super Rugby. Rebels v Chiefs. Kick-off at 10.35. **12.30** Women's State Of Origin **1.30** Fight Night International **2.30** Top Rank Boxing Archive **3.45** Fight Night **4.45** Top Rank Boxing Archive **6.00** Fury V Usyk Weigh-In **7.30** Fight Night **9.00** Bruno V Tyson **11.45** Glimpse At Greatness **9.30** Joshua V Usyk: Dethrone The King **10.00** Bruno V Tyson **11.45** Top Rank Boxing Archive **12.00** Total Access **1.00** NFL Highlights **3.00** **LIVE** Super Rugby. Fijian Drua v Reds. Kick-off at 3.05. **5.30-6am** **LIVE** Super Rugby. Brumbies v Crusaders. Kick-off at 5.35.

SKY SPORTS ARENA

6am State Of Origin Rugby League **8.00** Women's State Of Origin **8.30** World Club Challenge **8.45** My Icon: Pam Cookey **9.00** **LIVE** NRL. Canberra Raiders v Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs. Kick-off at 9.00. **11.00** Super League Gold **11.05** **LIVE** NRL. Manly Sea Eagles v Brisbane Broncos. Kick-off at 11.05. **1.05** My Icon: **1.15** Betfred Super League Highlights **1.30** Unbeatable **2.00** PDC Classics **2.30** My Icon **2.50** **LIVE** Indian Premier League. Mumbai Indians v Lucknow Super Giants. **7.00** NBC's Pro-Football Talk **9.00** NFL Highlights **11.00** One Championship Weekly **11.30** PDC Classics **12.30** Unbeatable **1.00-5am** Premier League Darts

SKY SPORTS CRICKET

9am Women's International T20 Cricket **1.00** Best Of The Women's World T20 **1.55** IPL **2.50** **LIVE** Indian Premier League. Mumbai Indians v Lucknow Super Giants. **6.00** **LIVE** Women's International T20 Cricket. England v Pakistan. **10.00** IPL **11.00** Dreams Of A Nation **12.00-4am** Women's International T20 Cricket

SKY SPORTS GOLF

6am PGA Championship Golf **6.30** PGA Tour Champions **7.30** Living Our Best Life **8.00** PGA Championship Golf **8.30** McGinley & Chamblee At The PGA Championship **10.00** **LIVE** Ladies European Tour Golf. The German Masters. **1.00** **LIVE** PGA Championship Golf. Coverage of day two. **12.00** PGA Champs Official Film 2000 **1.00** Golf Academy **1.55-3am** PGA Champs Official Film 2018

RADIO



Virgin Radio 6.30am Actor Tom Burke joins Chris Evans and the team

VIRGIN RADIO *DAB virginradio.co.uk*

6.30am Chris Evans **10.00** The Ryan Tubridy Show **1.00** Jayne Middlemiss **4.00** Ricky Wilson **7.00** Ben Jones **10.00** Stu Elmore **1.00** Harp Kaur **4.00-7am** Rich Williams

TALKRADIO *DAB talkradio.co.uk*

6.30am Mike Graham **10.00** Alex Phillips **1.00** Ian Collins **4.00** Peter Cardwell **7.00** Kevin O'Sullivan **10.00** Andre Walker **1.00** Martin Kelner **5.00-7am** Cristo Foufas

TALKSPORT *1053, 1089MW talksport.com*

6am TalkSPORT Breakfast With Alan Brazil **10.00** Jim White And Simon Jordan **1.00** Hawksbee And Jacobs **4.00** Andy Goldstein And

team were excited by their purchase of a 50-year-old Honda C70, which unbeknown to them, had become fashionable again.

This motorbike needed dismantling to its core, nearly every part needed replacing.

They paid £2,128 for it, and racked up £4,287 in parts and labour costs. The restored bike then sold for £5,500 at auction, its old number plate went separately for £610, meaning they didn't quite break even, not that it mattered too much.

The Mathewsons' philosophy is they've saved a classic from the scrap heap, so sometimes it's not all about the dosh.

STUART PINK



BROODING . . . Richard as Rebus

REBUS, BBC iPlayer & BBC Scotland, 10pm: It's not the first time that Ian Rankin's Rebus novels have made it on to the small screen – but they've never been done quite like this.

Darker and moodier, the series begins as a younger DS John Rebus (Richard Rankin, no relation) is involved in a nasty accident alongside a criminal.

A year on and hot-tempered Rebus remains a man on the edge – both at work and home.

An assault in the streets of Edinburgh means he has to confront his past, plus he's trying to end a toxic affair and be a part of his daughter's life.

A slow build, but with plenty of promising intrigue. If you don't

want to watch on iPlayer, it's on BBC One nationally tomorrow at 9.25pm.

SUE PERKINS: LOST IN THAILAND, Channel 5, 9pm: As Sue's Thailand trip continues, she flies to Phuket and plunges into the Andaman Sea for a spot of diving and, er, litter picking.

Back on dry land, she discovers how some of the jungle's animals are in danger of becoming extinct due to poaching.

And she learns about the work of The Gibbon Rehabilitation

picks

Project, the Full Moon Party phenomenon and Thailand's rubber industry and unique water sports.

As celeb travelogues go, this is one of the more entertaining.

HIDDEN TREASURES OF THE NATIONAL TRUST, BBC Two, 9pm: This episode focuses on two plush properties. There's Berkshire's Cliveden House – home to Nancy Astor, the first female MP to take her seat in Parliament, who was known for her then-radical views. Now, a painting of her by John

Singer Sargent is in desperate need of restoration.

Elsewhere, the conservator team at Polesden Lacey in Surrey has a similarly tough task working on a portrait of society hostess Margaret Greville.

ITV STUDIO SESSIONS, ITV1, 10.40pm: Clara Amfo welcomes singer Tom Walker to the studio, six years after he made his big breakthrough with hit single Leave A Light On.

He'll be performing that track, plus a selection of his new material. Tom will also open up about how he fell in love with music, his fears over making a follow-up album and his life away from the spotlight.

KATE NOBLE

TNT SPORTS 1

6am What I Wore **6.30** WWE Raw **7.30** PL Netbusters **8.00** Fight Night **8.15** AFL **10.15** **LIVE** AFL. Sydney Swans v Carlton Blues. **1.30** Fight Night **5.45** Fight Night Live. Coverage of the weigh-in ahead of Tyson Fury v Oleksandr Usyk. **7.30** Fight Night **8.00** **LIVE** French Women's Division 1. Lyon Women v Paris Saint-Germain Women. **10.15** Premier League Reload **10.30** WRC Review **11.30** NBA Action **12.00** WWE SmackDown Highlights **1.00** **LIVE** WWE Friday Night SmackDown **3.30-5.45am** **LIVE** NWSL. Bay FC v San Diego Wave FC. Kick-off at 3.30.

TNT SPORTS 2

6am **LIVE** Badminton. The Thailand Open. **2.30** Inside Serie A **3.00** Fishing **4.00** The Rugby Review **4.45** Ligue 1 Show **5.15** PL Reload **5.30** The Fantasy Show **6.00** PL: The Big Interview **6.30** PL Preview **7.00** Inside Serie A **7.30** **LIVE** Serie A. Fiorentina v Napoli. **9.45** UEFA Champions League Magazine **10.15** UEFA Europa League & Conference League Magazine **10.45** Around the Block **11.00** Fight Night **12.00** Amplified **12.30** Fight Night **1.00** NBA Action **1.30** **LIVE** NBA. **4.30-7.30am** **LIVE** AFL. Collingwood Magpies v Adelaide Crows.

TNT SPORTS 3

6am Ultimate Pool **7.30** NBA Action **8.00** Serie A – Full Impact **8.30** Ligue 1 Show **9.00** MotoGP **10.00** MotoE Highlights **10.30** TNT Sports Reload **10.45** WRC Review **11.45** WSL: Inside Pro Surfing **12.45** Triathlon **2.45** MotoGP Rewind **3.00** MotoE **3.30** MotoGP **4.30** Inside Serie A **5.00** In My Blood **5.30** Around the Block **5.45** Badminton Weekly **6.00** TNT Sports Reload **6.30** MLB: Off the Bat **7.00** **LIVE** MLB. Chicago Cubs v Pittsburgh Pirates. **10.15** MLB Plays of the Week **10.45** TNT Sports Reload **11.00** WSL Challenger Tour **12.00-3.15am** **LIVE** MLB. Baltimore Orioles v Seattle Mariners.

PREMIER SPORTS 1

10am Rugby Union **12.00** NHL Ice Hockey **2.00** LaLiga News **2.30** WSC URC **3.15** **LIVE** IIHF World Championships. Great Britain v Denmark. **6.00** MotorSport **6.30** LaLiga Show **7.00** **LIVE** United Rugby Championship. Edinburgh v Munster. **10.00** Transworld Sport **11.00** LaLiga Match Highlights **12.00-3am** **LIVE** NHL Ice Hockey. League

Darren Bent **7.00** Kick Off **10.00** Sports Bar **100-6am** Extra Time With Martin Kelner

TALKSPORT2 *DAB talksport.com*

6am Sportsday **9.00** TalkSPORT Exclusives **1.00** The TalkSPORT 2 Social **5.00** TalkSPORT Exclusives **7.00** TalkSPORT Exclusives **12.00-9am** TalkSPORT Exclusives

TIMES RADIO *DAB thetimes.co.uk/radio*

6am Chloe Tilley And Calum Macdonald **10.00** Matt Chorley **1.00** Times Radio Afternoons **4.00** Cathy Newman With Times Radio Drive **7.00** Ed Vaizey **10.00** Henry Bonsu **1.00** The Story **1.30-2am** Highlights From Matt Chorley

RADIO 1 *97.6-99.8FM bbc.co.uk/radio1*

7am Greg James **10.00** Anthems With Greg James **10.30** Newsbeat **10.32** Anthems **11.02** Danny Beard **12.45** Newsbeat **1.00** Matt And Mollie **3.00** Party Anthems **4.00** The Official Chart On Radio 1 With Jack Saunders **5.45** Newsbeat **6.00** Dance Party With Danny Howard **8.00** Future Dance With Sarah Story **10.00** Pete Tong **12.00-2am** Essential Mix

RADIO 2 *88-91FM bbc.co.uk/radio2*

6.30am The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show **9.30** Vernon Kay **12.00** Jeremy Vine **2.00** Scott Mills **3.30** Scott Mills' Wonder Years **4.00** Sara Cox **7.00** Michelle Visage **8.30** Michelle Visage's Handbag Hits **9.00** The Good Groove With Gary Davies **11.00** The Rock Show With Johnnie Walker **12.00-1am** Romesh Ranganathan: For The Love Of Hip-Hop (R)

MOVIES



Sky Cinema Premiere 8pm Nia Vardalos stars in My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3

SKY CINEMA PREMIERE

12.35pm My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (12, 2023) ★★★ **2.15** Force Of Nature: The Dry 2 (15, 2024) ★★★★ **4.15** The Equalizer 3 (15, 2023) ★★★★★ **6.15** The Blackening (15, 2023) ★★★ **8.00** My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (12, 2023) ★★★ **9.40** Force Of Nature: The Dry 2 (15, 2024) ★★★ **11.35** The Equalizer 3 (15, 2023) ★★★★★ **1.30-3.05am** Some Other Woman (15, 2023) ★★★

SKY CINEMA CULT CLASSICS

12.30pm Superman IV: The Quest For Peace (PG, 1987) ★ **2.40** Back To The Future (PG, 1985) ★★★★★ **4.10** Back To The Future Part II (PG, 1989) ★★★ **6.00** Back To The Future Part III (PG, 1990) ★★★★★ **8.00** Superman (PG, 1978) ★★★★★ **10.25** Superman II (PG, 1980) ★★★★★ **12.35-2.45am** Superman III (PG, 1983) ★★

SKY CINEMA MAD ACTION

12noon The One (15, 2001) ★★★ **1.40** Man Of Steel (12, 2013) ★★★★★ **4.10** Dragon Lord (15, 1982) ★★★★★ **6.05** xXx: The Return Of Xander Cage (12, 2017) ★★★★★ **8.00** Mad Max (18, 1979) ★★★★★ **9.40** Fast & Furious (12, 2009) ★★★ **11.35** War (18, 2007) ★★ **1.25-3.15am** Pompeii (12, 2014) ★★

FILM4 *freeview 14*

1.20pm The Colditz Story (U, 1954) ★★★★★ **3.20** Dead Reckoning (U, 1947) ★★★★★ **5.25** Carry On Constable (U, 1960) ★★★★★ **7.10** Made In Italy (15, 2020) ★★★★★ **9.00** Carlito's Way (18, 1993) ★★★★★ **11.50** You Were Never Really Here (15, 2017) ★★★★★ **1.40-3.35am** Hallam Foe (18, 2007) ★★★★★

TALKING PICTURES *freeview 82*

1.10pm Sally In Our Alley (PG, 1931) ★★★ **2.40** Melvyn's Talking Pictures 2.50 Ladies Who Do (U, 1963) ★★★ **4.30** Sherlock Holmes And The Woman In Green (PG, 1945) ★★★★★ **5.50** What's On TPTV With Noel **6.00** Worzel Gummidge ★★★ **6.30** Fireball XLS **7.05** Look At Life **7.20** Journey To The Center Of The Earth (PG, 1989) ★★ **9.00** Cellar Club With Caroline Munro **9.05** Visiting Hours (18, 1982) ★★ **11.15** Cellar Club With Caroline Munro **11.20pm-1.05am** The Power (18, 1984) ★★★

GREAT! MOVIES *freeview 34*

1pm Below The Surface (PG, 2016) ★★★ **2.55** Final Recourse (12, 2013) ★★★ **5.00** Cruel Fixation (12, 2019) ★★★ **7.05** Bandidas (12, 2006) ★★★★★ **9.00** Jane Got A Gun (15, 2015) ★★ **11.05pm-1.30am** Badland (12, 2019) ★★

GREAT! ACTION *freeview 42*

1pm Ambush At Tomahawk Gap (PG, 1953) ★★ **2.40** The Last Days Of Frank And Jesse James (15, 1986) ★★★★★ **5.00** Hell River (PG, 1974) ★★ **7.10** Super Eruption (PG, 2011) ★★★★★ **9.00** Reprisal (15, 2018) ★★★★★ **11pm-12.50am** Beyond The Law (15, 2019) ★★

THE Sun
YOUR FREE TV MAG



Queen Vick

Vicky McClure reveals why she loves her "traumatic" new thriller *Insomnia*, how she got "lucky" in her career... and what Line Of Duty fans always shout at her

This week, Vicky McClure reveals how she got lucky in her career and why she loves her traumatic new thriller *Insomnia*.

EVERY SATURDAY ONLY IN THE Sun



dear deidre

Edited by **SALLY LAND**

No matter what the issue, I answer every single problem

Team: JANE ALLTON, HILARY FREEMAN, KALLY LEWIS, CATHERINE THOMAS, CHLOE STRATTON

BOYFRIEND IS AVOIDING SEX BECAUSE IT'S OVER SO FAST

Dear Deidre

SEX with my boyfriend is over in a flash, and I can tell it's starting to get him down. I'm 25, he's 26 and we've been together for six months.

While we've gone from strength to strength since we met, intimacy between us has always been problematic.

At first, I assumed it was because of nerves, but months later he still can't last more than a few minutes.

We've tried countless things to help, from taking it slow to masturbating before sex, but he still struggles.

He does his best to please me in other ways, and while I'm always satisfied, it's clear that he's still embarrassed by it.

He keeps apologising and saying he is hopeless at sex. Though I do my best to reassure him, he has now started to avoid it altogether. We're running out of options and I'm scared he'll start to push me away.

Is there anything we can do? I just want to feel close to him again.

DEIDRE SAYS: Reaching orgasm too quickly – premature ejaculation – is common, especially in young men.

It's a psychological issue, rather than a physical one. Annoyingly, the more he gets in his head and worries about it, the more it's likely to happen.

The way to overcome this is if he tries to let go and take the pressure off himself. Instead of making sex the end goal, focus on things like kissing and caressing.

My support pack, *Want To Last Longer?* offers more practical advice.

He lied about ending affair

Dear Deidre

FORGIVING my husband for his affair wasn't easy but after months of rebuilding trust I have discovered they never stopped having sex.

He had gone above and beyond to reassure me but the only thing that changed was I thought they had finished.

I'm 38, my husband is 42 and we've been married for nine years. We have two daughters together, one is two and the other is five.

He often worked late and at weekends so it took me almost a year to realise something was amiss.

When I found out, he begged for forgiveness and promised he would end their relationship. While I believed him, I was heartbroken and asked for a temporary separation.

For weeks he grovelled until one day I finally agreed to give our relationship another chance. Since then I thought we were working hard together to fix our marriage.

Then out of nowhere, I received a phone call from this other woman. I

HERE TO HELP YOU



IF YOU are worried about anything please get in touch with my team of counsellors and we will do our best to help you. Every email receives a personal response within one working day.

deardeidre@the-sun.co.uk

was so shocked I nearly hung up but then she told me nothing had changed – they were still having sex regularly and he had even told her we were separated.

She even sent me screenshots of their text messages to prove it. I

confronted him but he lied, saying they were just talking and I was the only one he wanted.

Now I don't know what to do and I'm struggling to see a way forward.

The last thing I want is to break up our family but I can't trust him.

DEIDRE SAYS: You do deserve better treatment than this.

While many relationships can overcome infidelity, your husband has shown multiple times that he cannot be trusted.

Worryingly he is still lying despite concrete evidence that he has betrayed you again. Unless he is willing to be honest, there is no way you will be able to heal from this affair.

If he is willing to tell the truth, he then also needs to show real regret, and dedication to convincing you he loves you and wants to turn things around.

My support pack *Cheating – Can You Get Over It?* will help you think it all through. Either together, or alone, some counselling would help. You can find support via tavistockrelationships.org (020 7380 1960).

If you decide to end your relationship, my support pack *Thinking Of Divorce* will help you pick up the pieces.

STRAIGHT, BUT I'M FIXED ON GAY PORN

Dear Deidre

ALL my life I've identified as straight – but have always had thoughts about sleeping with other men.

Now I'm married to an amazing woman but I've become obsessed with gay and bisexual porn.

I'm 34, she's 32 and we've been married for two years.

While I've always known that my sexuality was fluid, I did my best to suppress it. But recently these thoughts have dominated my mind.

Every day I've found myself fantasising about sleeping with men and even had several very sexy dreams about them.

It's starting to consume me, and while the last thing I want to do is cheat on my wife, watching gay porn isn't cutting it any more.

I'm confused about whether I'm bisexual or fully gay and wish I had taken the chance to explore my sexuality before.

I've thought about telling my wife, but I'm worried about how she will take it.

My head is such a mess and I don't know what to do.

DEIDRE SAYS: Human sexuality is complicated and many people need to experiment before they know their preference.

Do not rush into labelling yourself. You may be gay or bisexual. What matters is that you accept yourself.

If you are worried about telling your wife, talking through your feelings with someone outside of the situation first will help.

Contact switchboard.lgbt (0300 330 0630) for support and see my *Gay Worries and Bisexual Questions* packs.

hot topic

MANY people in relationships favour self-pleasure over sex with their partners.

If there are any issues within a couple, sexual relations may not seem as appealing, but the long-term effects of a sustained lack of intimacy can be very damaging for a relationship.

If your sex life with your other half is suffering, my support pack *Hooked On Masturbation* can help you.

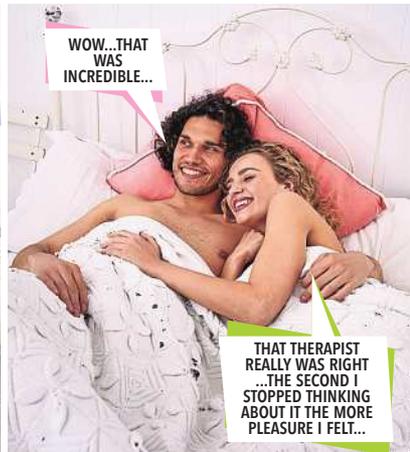
stories

deidre's photo casebook

STEVEN'S SEX STRESS: DAY 5



Clothes by Boohoo and BoohooMAN



CONTINUES TOMORROW

Dear Deidre

SINCE my ex met her new partner, she has moved out of town and won't let me see our two kids.

I am 39 and she is 36. The children, both girls, are nine and seven.

We split up quite acrimoniously two years ago. The girls live with my ex but used to stay with me on alternate weekends and during the school holidays.

A couple of weeks ago, I went to pick them up as normal but nobody answered the front door and my ex didn't respond to any calls or texts.

A couple of days later I found out through the grapevine that she had met a man and moved across the country. The worst part is that I still don't

EX HAS VANISHED WITH DAUGHTERS

even know where. After a few days of trying to get in touch, she finally answered the phone but told me that I couldn't see the girls any more.

Since then, I've been desperately trying to figure out where they are but all I've found are photographs of them on Facebook with my ex's new man.

Even though he has only been around for a couple of weeks, he appears to be taking them out for days on their own.

I'm worried sick, but no matter who I talk to,

nobody is taking me seriously. All I want is to have my daughters back. Please help.

DEIDRE SAYS: Your ex is selfish and her actions are hurting the children, as well as you.

You have a right to see them and they need their dad involved in their lives.

Before you think about getting lawyers involved – and you can get free legal help from citizensadvice.org.uk – appeal to her sense of fairness by explaining how bad this is for your children's confidence and development.

My support pack *When Parents Fall Out* explains the impact this could be having on them.

Families Need Fathers (fnf.org.uk) will also be able to advise you.

THE Sun ON SUNDAY

FREE FABULOUS MAGAZINE



This week, Angela Scanlon on body struggles, fake redheads and stepping into Graham Norton's shoes on the radio.

EVERY SUNDAY ONLY IN THE Sun ON SUNDAY

GET IN TOUCH

If you are worried about something, my team is here to help. Please contact and follow us.

Online: thesun.co.uk/deidre Instagram: @dear.deidre Facebook: @DearDeidreOfficial X: @DearDeidre Post: Dear Deidre, The Sun, 1 London Bridge Street, London, SE1 9GF

Fab DAILY

FASHION

From bum-skimming shorts to flesh-baring blouses, High Street trends simply don't suit normal women, as Fashion Editor **CLEMMIE FIELDSEND** finds out



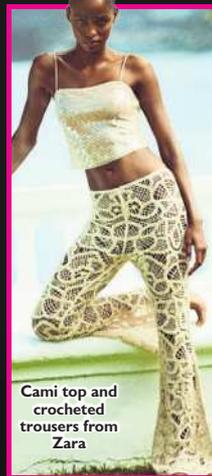
Emily Ratajkowski in 'naked' dress



Sydney Sweeney in low-waist jeans



Backless dress from Mango



Cami top and crocheted trousers from Zara



Mia Regan in bra top dress



Lila Moss in micro shorts

EVERY week, as I scroll through the "new in" section on my favourite fashion websites, my heart sinks as, lately, there is nothing "new in" for me.

I'm a size 10. Well, maybe an 11, as I'm between sizes. I'm certainly not mid or plus size, but if I was to wear the season's styles, I'd look stupid.

This week, Italian fashion house Gucci descended on London's Tate Modern with its cruise collection. Supermodel Kate Moss and daughter Lila, pop icon Dua Lipa and Normal People actress Daisy Edgar-Jones gathered to gawp at Gucci's latest creations.

And they all looked absolutely gorgeous.

I particularly loved 21-year-old Lila's yellow short suit. The rich, buttery colour, the tailored jacket, the perfect little shorts with her even more perfect legs sticking out of them. Good for her – if you've got 'em, flaunt 'em.

The rest of the fashion pack had micro shorts on, too (think a slightly longer alternative to your pants). But it's a trend I wouldn't – and couldn't – wear. Ever.

Love handles

How mortifying to pop to Tesco in Cheeky Girl-style hot pants, or what basically resemble blokes' Y-fronts? I shudder at the thought – and no doubt my fellow shoppers would shudder, too.

But barely-there bottoms aren't the only trend alienating anyone who isn't a pencil-thin 21-year-old.

My job as Fashion Editor is to know what's hot and what's not, what's in shops and what people are wearing. But this season, stores seem flooded with looks I find unwearable – and I'm sure many more "normal" people do, too. For example, I wouldn't be caught dead in the love handles-baring low-rise jeans that are dominating the High Street.

I recently saw a picture of the stunning Sydney Sweeney in a pair – with boyish-looking boxers poking out the top. Despite her beauty, I thought the White Lotus star looked daft.

And I had to ask myself: "What reinforcements has she got holding up her boobs?"

The other thing irritating me about fashion is, if it's not open at



PLEA... Clemmie calls for wearable trends

I'M A SIZE 10 AND IF I CAN'T WEAR THIS SEASON'S TRENDS, WHO CAN?

the back, it's open at the front. While I'm all for body confidence and wearing what you want, there's no way I'm standing on a packed train, or visiting the office, with my stomach, bra and boobs on show. I'd hate to put anyone off their corn flakes.

Unless you have a neat little bust and washboard abs, you'll have a camisole underneath.

I can't wear those either. If you've got more than a handful of a cup size, you'll need a bra. And its straps will be visible beneath the needle-thin straps of your top.

Right now, Zara is the worst offender. When its models aren't crouching awkwardly on top of

kitchen stoves they are wearing crocheted flared trousers and spaghetti-strapped sequin crop tops. After scrolling through the Spanish brand's latest drop, I found nothing for myself.

I'm a 33-year-old M&S woman. From underwear to outerwear, I love them and look to them every week to see what's trending.

They're really nailing waistcoats at the moment. Simple and stylish, they've got them in cotton, linen and a rainbow of colours.

But as Fabulous Deputy Fashion Editor Abby McHale found last week, they aren't designed for women with a fuller bust.

Their tailored fit squashes big

boobs and doesn't fit over curvy hips. It's a trend best left to slender models... and Ronnie O'Sullivan.

Social media is full of mid-size and curvy women who agree this summer's trends aren't for them.

One, Lydia – clearly miffed over Zara's slinky summer dresses – said on TikTok: "Unless you have a stick-thin model-type body, those dresses do not look good on anyone." The alternative is sack-like dresses which scream, "Look, I'm covering up my body!". And who wants that?

Like all women, I have hang-ups. I don't like my arms, waisted dresses don't suit my shape and I

would resemble a pork joint in a cutout. But it's a struggle to find clothing that covers your bust, isn't open at the back, doesn't have cutouts and has sleeves.

Unless it's a jumper. Which isn't exactly summer-friendly.

Luckily, there are exceptions, like utility shirts and trousers, midaxi skirts and draping dresses.

And let's not forget, flats are reigning supreme among footwear. But you couldn't wear many of this season's key trends unless you're in your twenties. And you wouldn't wear them to work!

So, style gods, hear my plea. Next season, **PLEASE** give us some clothes we can actually wear.

Shade of glory – the story of why white swimwear is the sexiest. At fabulousmag.co.uk

FabDAILY

FASHION

Edited by
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Mary Janes

UNDERNEATH the 'Tons floor-sweeping gowns and skirts lie heeled Mary-Jane shoes.

The strapped shoes are huge this season thanks to a heavy influence from catwalk designers such as Chanel and Alaïa and they are synonymous with regency-core, with flat styles are the highest in demand.

According to Google, searches for Mary-Janes are up 50 per cent and ballet shoes up 60 per cent this week alone.

From soft satins to brightly coloured style that will inject colour to any outfit, they are the easiest way to update any of your outfits this season.

And the best bit? They're comfortable.

Cream, £35, Zara
Green, £29.99, Stradivarius



BEST FOOT FORWARD . . .
a young Hyacinth Bridgerton in classic shoe style



Florals

FLORALS go hand in hand with spring and are featured heavily throughout the new series.

These pretty prints are timeless, so no matter what item you buy, it can be a wardrobe staple for years to come.

Searches for fashion with floral detailing are up 122 per cent – and there are plenty of options to choose from.

Try a floral midi skirt, like this one from Mango. It will look great paired with a white blouse or T-shirt and finished off with either trainers for a casual look or heels for a more glam occasion.

If you want to give florals a go but aren't a fan of the pastel shades, this monochrome quilted jacket from Tu at Sainsbury's is a great light jacket for this time of year.

Skirt, £29.99, Mango
Jacket, £22, Tu at Sainsbury's



Nightwear

BRIDGERTON-style fashion doesn't just stop at daywear as the show has become famous for its saucy bedroom scenes, too. Now F&F at Tesco is selling Bridgerton-style nighties and pyjamas.

The range features pastel and floral designs including a wisteria-print two-piece so you can look regal for bedtime.

Primark also has a great pair of satin, floral pyjamas. The shirt and long trousers are designed to sleep in, but they could easily be worn as separates while out and about.

Floral pyjama top, £12; bottoms, £12, both Primark
Satin slip, £22.50, F&F at Tesco

Corsets

THERE were plenty of sexy, waist-cinching corsets on display in the first two series of *Bridgerton* – and it's business as usual for series three.

Searches for "contemporary corsets" have shot up by 74 per cent in the past 60 days, according to fashion app LTK – no doubt boosted by Kim Kardashian's Met Gala attire this month which gave her a 19-inch waist.

While the one worn by Kim and those on *Bridgerton* look like they could cut off your circulation, high street styles offer a little more wiggle room.

This cute satin top from Pretty Little Thing has a zip at the back, rather than lace-up detailing, making it much easier to wear.

For a more understated look, there are some great bodice-style dresses available.

This white one from Marks & Spencer, which has strong *Bridgerton* vibes, has been a big hit for the brand.

Dress, £39.50, M&S
Top, £24, Pretty Little Thing



Jewellery

IF there's one thing the cast of *Bridgerton* never scrimped on, it is jewellery.

From big earrings and chunky necklaces to bold bracelets and rings, the characters really show off their wealth.

Luckily, you don't have to break the bank to hop on board this trend – right now the high street is bursting with affordable *Bridgerton*-style bling.

This necklace from Primark gives a regal feel with its pearl and initial detailing, while these shoulder-skimming butterfly earrings from Zara will make a statement.

Necklace, £3.50, Primark
Earrings, £17.99, Zara



ADD SOME DRAMA TO YOUR WARDROBE, BRIDGERTON STYLE

Netflix smash *Bridgerton* returned to screens this week triggering a boom in demand for Regency-style fashion. **ABBY McHALE** reveals how to wear looks inspired by the super-saucy period drama . . .



'I'm in awe of Nicola's confidence'

PENELOPE Featherington is stepping out of the shadows as gossip queen Lady Whistledown for series three – and I am here for it.

As a mid-size woman myself, it is great to see a representative leading lady in the form of Nicola Coughlan, 37, especially in a romantic series. Penelope's

style comes into its own this season, with shades and styles that really flatter her.

Of her more sexy wardrobe, costume designer John Glaser said: "We tried, because of what her character is doing, to show as much skin as possible."

Away from *Bridgerton*,

Nicola's style is one I'm in awe of.

Wearing figure-hugging, bust-boosting outfits, she really knows how to dress her body.

I am someone who often shies away from this style of dressing, but she is giving me the confidence to experiment more.



Satin

IT is the first time that *Bridgerton* has been released during sunny weather and lightweight satin features heavily throughout.

An ideal material for this time of year, there are plenty of statement satin pieces available on the high street.

This pair of satin trousers from F&F at Tesco are a steal and, being lighter than denim, are a great alternative to jeans during the warmer months.

George at Asda's latest G21 collection also features lots of pretty pastel satin pieces. This affordable top is great if you're keen to channel a *Bridgerton* look.

Trousers, £22.50, F&F at Tesco
Top, £14, George at Asda



Puff sleeves

BIG sleeves are a key look for *Bridgerton*, but this series it seems they have ballooned in size.

Penelope's comical older sisters, Prudence and Philippa, sport sleeves so big they're in danger of taking the furniture with them whenever they walk past. Puff sleeves are very much on trend on the high street, too – albeit in a more subtle way.

This mini dress from Abercrombie gives a nod to the look and gets extra points for its *Bridgerton*-esque floral design.

If you want to try the look for the first time, a simple top like this one from Next is a good place to start. The sleeves have a hint of puffiness without being OTT and you can wear it with jeans for a simple but stylish look.

Dress, £58, Abercrombie
Top, £28, Next



Bows

BRIDGERTON fashion comes with an abundance of frills and embellishments – and searches for pieces with bows are up 93 per cent in the last week alone.

Hair bows are an easy and affordable way to hop on board with this trend.

This Toile de Jouy bow from Cider is the perfect addition to any springtime look.

Some may think bows are purely for the Gen Z crowd – especially after the "coquette-core" trend, which celebrates all things pink and girly, took over TikTok this year. But that doesn't have to be the case.

For a more grown-up take, this asymmetrical dress from H&M is perfect.

The bow on the shoulder adds an extra detail, while the dress itself will wow at any summer party.

Hairbow, £3.90, Cider
Dress, £44.99, H&M



Green

THE new season sees actress Nicola Coughlan take centre stage as Penelope – and rightly so.

Previously, she has been dressed in citrus colours, but the garish shades worn by her and the rest of the Featherington family are seen as tacky. With Penelope now moving into the mainstream storylines, she is shown at The Modiste dress shop in the first episode, desperate for an image overhaul.

Revealing why she'll now be decked out in more classic hues, costume designer John Glaser says: "The colour is green, darker than she's ever worn, and there's copper in the dress because it helps to blend in with her hair colour."

This green dress from H&M gives a nod to the *Bridgerton* trend with its silky fabric and empire line cut. Or, if you want to inject some subtle emerald hints into your look, these strappy-heeled sandals from New Look are perfect.

Dress, £27.99, H&M
Shoes, £32.99, New Look



Letters

@the-sun.co.uk

The page where you tell Britain what you think

SORRY but I don't like King Charles's new portrait, *pictured*.

The face is perfect but the red all around looks awful. I am surprised he accepted it. I doubt his mother, the late Queen, would have approved of it.

JANET BURRIDGE

Clacton-on-Sea, Essex

IT seems that many countries in Europe are looking to use a Rwanda-style scheme to curb the huge immigration problem that has spread across Europe.

France's President Macron may need a rethink along with slippery Keir Starmer.



If our Prime Minister can pull this off his poll-rating must surely rise.

BRIAN LEA
Nottingham

WHAT is the PM playing at with the decision to release prisoners early? They are in prison for a reason and shouldn't be let out early just to ease overcrowding.

If needed, put three or four in a cell together.

DARREN SPENCER
Milton Keynes

WHAT an idiot



the egg-throwing protester must feel like after targeting a professional Rishi Sunak lookalike, rather than the real PM. He must be the laughing stock among his friends, the "yoke" is definitely on him.

JOHN ROBERTS
Old Colwyn, Clwyd

WHILE it may be an important step in his personal rehabilitation to return to social media, Phillip Schofield, *pictured*, has had his day. Let some new talent emerge, we don't want entitled Phil back again.

DIANE SILVA
Bournemouth

Pledges are empty, Keir

£50 LETTER
I'VE just watched Keir Starmer outline Labour's six pledges should they be elected.

Behind him sat his Shadow Cabinet, nodding their heads and applauding predictably.

Whatever you think of Starmer, his main problem is the depth of talent he has to draw on.

It's more of a goldfish bowl than a reservoir. A mixture of has-beens and lightweights – Ed Miliband, Yvette Cooper, Emily Thornberry, Wes Streeting and Angela Rayner to name just a few.

STEVE MARTIN
Shroton, Dorset

SLIPPERY Keir Starmer has set out his pledges ahead of the next election but anyone with half a brain cell could see that his figures just do not add up economically.

He is a game player hoping to appease his woke followers. He changes his mind more times than he changes his socks.

KEITH BLADES
Haslemere, Surrey

KEIR STARMER gave the most uninspiring speech on his six steps for change. Refreshed promises with no substance.

It reminds me of Del Boy, this time next year we'll be millionaires but he never told us how.

MYK LOWE
Leicester

HOW can Keir Starmer talk about the Conservatives freeing high-risk convicts from prison?

In 2020, he campaigned to stop dangerous criminals being deported, some of whom went on to commit more crimes.

DAVID PEARSON
Rotherham

HOW honest of West Ham footballer Michail Antonio to speak

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NIGEL FARAGE won't be a political leader in the UK. He's gutless. He wants a job in the US – you can see it a mile off.

PHIL Swanscoe

JUST three years and four months for the machete-wielding robbers who snatched Rolex watches from victims in London in 2022. It was armed robbery – they should've got ten years. Instead, they will be out in 18 months.

JOHN Edgware

MERCY MUROKI, speaking the truth about diversity in The Sun. You are my hero!

BRENDAN B. Honiton, Devon

out about his past mental health problems. Despite earning £85,000 a week, he faced anguish while playing a game he began to hate.

Money, mental health and happiness are three important aspects of our lives that are often interconnected.

But in Michail's case, the money didn't mean a thing as he was not at peace with himself.

I'm glad he's in a better place now, and anyone dealing with mental health problems should seek professional help.

GILLY HOLLANDS
Broxbourne, Herts

MANY people hate their jobs, but I was shocked to learn that footballer Michail Antonio began to loathe football. He even longed

for an injury so he couldn't play. Good on him for speaking out and being honest. It's a real lesson to us all not to be afraid to seek help if we ever need it.

TANYA FRENCH
Banbridge, Co Down

I APPLAUD Energy Secretary Claire Coutinho's plan to fine greedy petrol stations who do not publicly change their prices within half an hour.

It's not only a great idea for stopping profiteering but it could also be a vote winner for the Tories come the election.

JOHN ROBSON
Newcastle upon Tyne

THE Sun's Keep It Down campaign on fuel prices is a good idea for those forecourts that don't lower their prices.

Next we need something done about the insurance companies, then the energy companies. Just bringing these under control would lower the cost of living by a massive amount.

PETE LAMBELL
Davenport, Northants

GREAT to hear that Wolves are calling on Premier League clubs to scrap VAR.

As an armchair fan these days, the system repeatedly spoils my enjoyment of games, particularly when exciting goals have to be checked at length and often ruled out by a fraction of an inch.

Ditching VAR from next season would be the biggest improvement in the game for years.

PAUL MARSTON
Walsall

SO Wolves have invited the other Premier League teams to vote to scrap VAR.

If the vote is successful it would be the best decision in the history of football.

KEY WYMAN
Carlton in Lindrick, Notts



Mystic Meg

with **MAGGIE INNES**

ARIES March 21 – April 20



The calm way you sort out finances impresses family and friends – and they are keen to get on board. Your values chart looks positive, and realising a partner appreciates what you bring to a bond can be uplifting. Winning luck improves when it is linked to a local version of a TV show. "P" names can be significant.

TAURUS April 21 – May 21



Pluto, planet of the unexpected, reigns at the top of your chart. So you could be suddenly attracted to someone a world away from your usual type. This could be such a loving, lasting bond. Work-wise, be open and the right person can hear about you. Luck makes a double visit to a door with a broken panel.

GEMINI May 22 – June 21



Your ability to get other people in a good mood can turn opposition into co-operation when it most matters. A work or home plan can get a green light after all. Sexy fun and luxury treats may make it easy to fall in love. But from today, you're ready for the true challenge of building a future for two. This can link to an Aries.

CANCER June 22 – July 22



Even if you haven't seen certain friends this year, the bond remains strong when you do. This can turn talk towards building a shared business. In romance, your optimistic outlook attracts all kinds of people into your orbit. But it is another Cancer who could be The One – and you will always know you are loved.

LEO July 23 – August 23



Of course you want a project or relationship to be perfect – and it could be very good. But resist setting a standard that is too high for anyone, including yourself. If you start the day single, with challenging Pluto in your marriage chart you recognise genuine passion and will not fall for point-scoring.

VIRGO August 24 – September 22



Your special star skills are listening and learning. With you directing the love action, co-operation replaces quarrels and success pushes out delays. You could fall in love fast when you meet a kinder lookalike of an ex. Gentle encouragement is the best way to help a talented family member progress.

LIBRA September 23 – October 23



As the moon and Venus draw closer, you could face too many love choices. The most important element for you is making clear decisions and valuing loyalty as highly as passion. At work, you can read a boss's mind, and what you find is a surprise. Mars makes sure you stay in front in a profits-based race.

SCORPIO October 24 – November 22



Life is quieter on the surface just now, but still gives you the extra self-esteem that opens important new doors at work. You have great advice to give – but make extra sure it does not come across like criticism. To win the heart that's your perfect match, forget power games and focus on passion games.

SAGITTARIUS November 23 – December 21



Giving freely of your time, love and forgiveness can mark the start of best-ever passion, no matter how old a bond is. Your wellbeing sector is ready for a refresh and any activity that combines mind and body can be the key. The two people who bring luck into your life both have "W" names.

CAPRICORN December 22 – January 20



With Mercury firmly in control of your imagination, you can keep emotions at bay and come to some clever but fair decisions. This can affect family life, career or social status. Later, Uranus stirs up unexpected mischief when you meet an Aquarius with a mind that never stands still and is always fascinating.

AQUARIUS January 21 – February 18



The friendship of Jupiter and the intimacy of the moon work together to make this a remarkable day for you. But you do have to expect the best of the key people in your life, especially in a family or with old friends. If you are a love-seeker, you could walk into a shopping aisle single and come out attached.

PISCES February 19 – March 20



Saturn suggests that a job on the business side of entertainment or sport can help you shine. So do look more closely at this possibility. Equality may feel like hard work in love but, when achieved, you can double the fun. If you wake up single, you can first see your soulmate where journeys begin.

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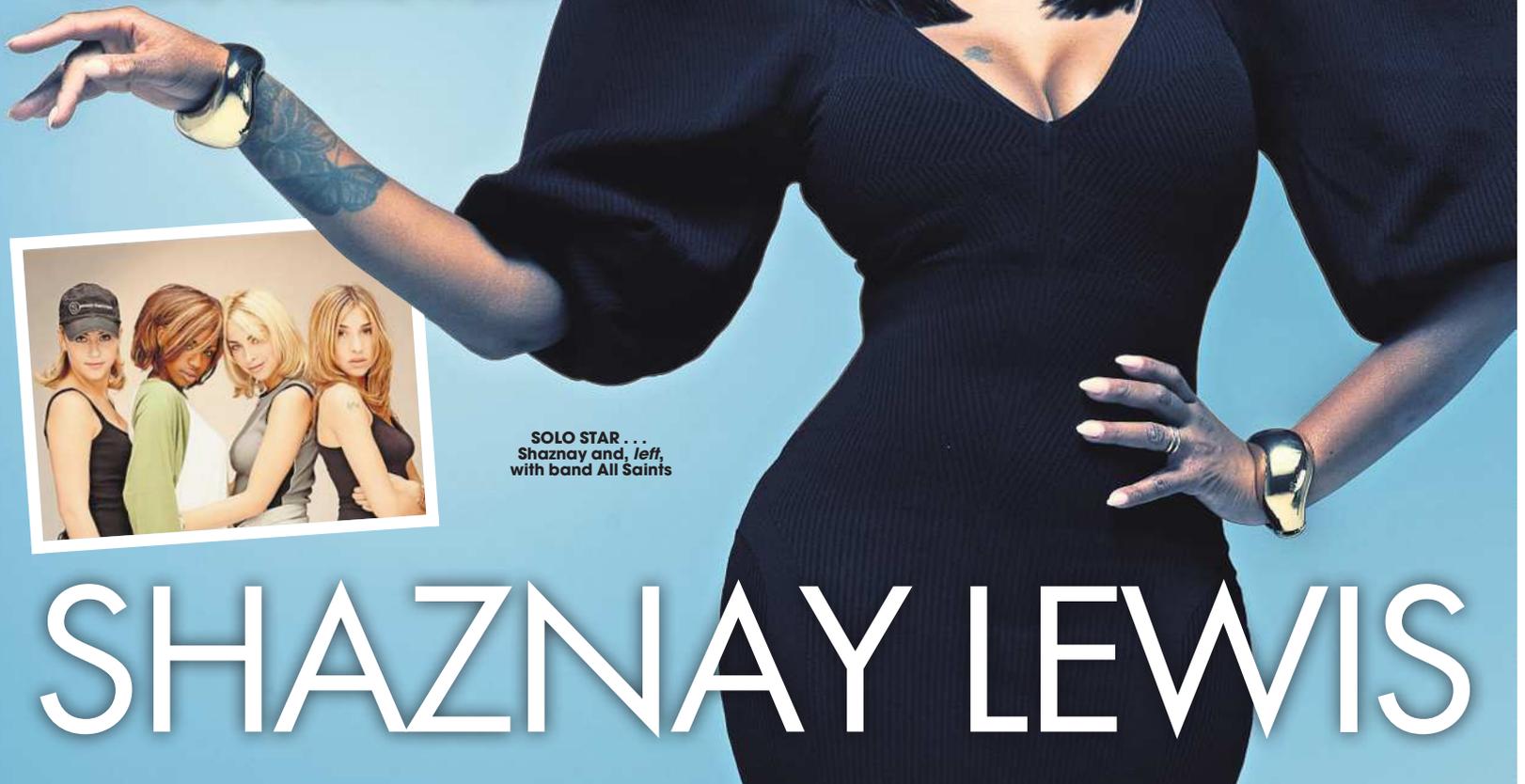
Something

● MOVIES ● GAMES ● MUSIC ● BOOKS

for
the

Weekend

'People like these new songs for what they are, not because of where I come from'



SOLO STAR . . .
Shaznay and, left,
with band All Saints

SHAZNAY LEWIS

'FOR the past 25 years I've been known as 'Shaznay from All Saints'

"So, it was really important to step away from the band and make this record so I could just be Shaznay Lewis again," says the singer.

At rehearsals at London's Metropolis Studios, one of our most underrated songwriters and the real talent in girl group All Saints is preparing to release her second solo record.

The classy pop album Pages arrives 20 years after her debut record Open, and Shaznay admits that the new album came as "a surprise".

"I didn't think I'd ever make another one after my first one," she says. "There were lots of changes at my record label so it took me four years to make that first one. By the time I released it in 2004, I was quite burnt out. "I thought, 'I don't think I'll do this again.'"

Shaznay went on to make two more albums with All Saints then, a couple of years ago after a writing session, she came up with an idea for a song that would become

By JACQUI SWIFT

Missiles, the assured opening track from Pages.

Shaznay laughs remembering the early days of working on the record with producer and songwriter Ben Cullum, brother of jazz-pop singer Jamie Cullum.

"I was in the garden one day and I sat back with my headphones on and listened to this idea. I was really excited about it.

"So, I went to my friend Ben to produce Missiles and it sparked me to do a project.

'I needed to break free'

"I was only calling it a 'project' with Ben at the time as I suppose 'project' is a bit non-committal. But once I'd set myself a deadline and made a certain number of songs, it became an album."

"And then I started to play it to people and, luckily, they thought it was great, so I decided to throw caution to the wind and see what happens. And here we are!"

Warm and forthcoming, Shaznay says this solo comeback feels like she is starting again.

"Even though I've got history, there's a whole generation out there that do not know who I am," she tells me. "And it's exciting. People are liking these songs

for what they are rather than just liking it because of where I've come from. When (*Pages track*) Good Mourning went on to a platform I hadn't heard of called Complex, my teenage son ran into my room saying, "Oh my God, Mum, you are on Complex!"

The new music includes themes of self-love and acceptance and, on the brilliant Pick You Up, there is a spoken word intro by Self Esteem, aka Rebecca Lucy Taylor.

Shaznay says: "Pick You Up came really from someone close to me that had gone through depression."

"I was writing a message to that person, a message of love."

"When I'd written the song, I wanted some sort of spoken word at the beginning and Rebecca is friends with Johan Hugo, the producer of the song. She was amazing because she sent it on the 11th hour. A voice note – and it was just perfect. I haven't met her yet."

"I went to see her (*Cabaret*) show, and I just thought she was

amazing. She's a female force of nature."

Shaznay says making Pages has been like therapy and helped with her own self-esteem.

"Although I'm kind of driven to write songs in a particular way, sometimes it's only actually afterwards I look at it, and it's taught me something about myself as well and given me an understanding about something I was going through that I didn't realise."

"I'm quite confident, but I've been lacking in self-esteem for the past 25 years," she explains.

"I really needed to break free, put my big girl pants on and just get in the car and drive down that road by myself."

"I'd left the management company that manage All Saints and so, when I started, I was on my own, making the phone calls myself. Something was driving me to do this."

In All Saints, she was the least showbiz of the band – alongside Melanie Blatt and sisters Nicole and Natalie Appleton – often missing out on partying to con-

centrate on writing songs. The mum-of-two adds: "I feel really settled. I'm comfortable now with the person that I am, more so than I was 20 years ago."

"Then, I'd come out of a situation working with lots of people and having a huge entourage, to being on my own. So I felt vulnerable and lonely. But now I go home to a family. That's my gang."

Shaznay has been married to her husband, dancer Christian, since 2004 and they have a son Tyler-Xaine, 18, and a daughter Tigerlily, 14, who appear in her video for her stunning single Kiss Of Life – which has a feel of Donna Summer's State Of Independence and features footage of Shaznay pregnant, along with the babies growing up.

Speaking about motherhood, she says: "The song Got To Let Go is about my struggle about letting go of him. My son's got a lovely voice but it's not really his thing, whereas my daughter is musical. She's a natural and plays piano."

"I adore motherhood. It changed me in a good way. Suddenly you understand your own mum more. And there's more purpose. I remember when I got back with All Saints in 2014 and we toured with the Backstreet Boys, it was

the BIG
INTERVIEW

Turn to next page

From previous page

the first time I realised that I'd lost some of my mojo. That tour brought it back and I had a purpose for doing it. I adore them.

"That's why I called this album Pages. I wrote my first album Open 20 years ago from an open perspective as a person. But in that time, I've got married, I've had children – I've grown up, so Pages felt right as now I'm filling the pages of that open book."

On Tuesday night, the singer played her very first solo gig at London's Jazz Cafe to a packed-out audience. One of the highlights was Shola Ama and General Levy performing with her for their joint track, the drum 'n' bass-inspired Good Mourning.

Shaznay says: "That song was produced by Michael Angelo (who was nominated for two Grammy Awards for his work with Sam Smith), and with the track being that style of music, General Levy had to be on it."

"Then Shola, we've been friends forever, and we've always wanted to do something together."

Shaznay says she is influenced by different styles of music and loves the freedom there is today to listen to whatever you like.

'I don't get nervous'

"There are no boxes now," she says. "When I was younger, I used to go to Tim Westwood's night at The Arches in Vauxhall in London and you'd discover a hip hop and R&B act over from America. "But I'd also go to a New Kids On The Block concert too and sing along and scream for Donnie Wahlberg."

She has also found there is far more support for female artists nowadays than when she first started in the industry.

Shaznay says: "There's a lot more sisterhood now, which is great. There also seems to be a lot more togetherness and support between artists and women have become a lot more clued up to any misogynistic behaviour."

"I remember one time with All Saints when Top Of The Pops wanted to record backdrops of us with no tops on. We were adamant we didn't want to do it and it turned into, 'Well, if you don't do it, you can't do the show', which didn't feel right."

"But being in a band, like ours, we were quite renowned for saying, 'No'. We were upfront and it was probably easier to target people on their own. My cover for Pages shows my neck and shoulders, but then that's been my decision. When it's somebody else's decision, it's not right."

"And as for age – I'm 48 now and the only time I remember age being a conversation was probably when we did the Rock Steady single – and I was in my early 30s then!"

Shaznay says she is still friends with her All Saints bandmates and has learnt a lot about her own music style.

"I had the best time on the last two All Saints albums and tours. From a creative point of view, I



she came to watch me on Radio 2's Piano Room and gave me a pouch of crystals to look after me wherever I go. That's the kind of relationship I have with Melanie. "But we are all cool. I love All Saints and I'm proud of what I achieved with them. But that's not what defines me. Then, I was just one of four voices."

"If I was talking about an album with three other people, I don't think I'd be talking non-stop like I am here. Even though I probably would have fully written it, and they wouldn't really know too much about the creative process, so it was different."

"Now I feel like I can freely speak, it's a freedom, it really is."

After a dazzling night at the Jazz Cafe, Shaznay is looking forward to summer, when she has performances lined up at Glastonbury, London's Mighty Hoopla and Flackstock festival in Berkshire.

"I don't get nervous at all, I'm just excited to perform. This is the start of something for me. I love creating and performing. As a person, it's a huge part of who I am. So I don't see me stopping anytime soon. I think I'd have to be dead inside if I stopped."

●The album Pages is out today.

was really pleased with Red Flag and Testament albums.

"But as a songwriter I think the earlier albums are not cohesive and they're rushed. We were flying around the world and chucking songs together and, if they had two hits on there, it was fine. But not for me as a songwriter."

"And it's not any disrespect to All Saints. Melanie will always be like a sister. When I was starting this project, I said, 'I don't think I can do this without you'. And she said, 'You f***ing better!'. Then

Q & A



VILLAGERS

'You have the power to change the world'

CONOR O'BRIEN'S 15-year Villagers journey has led him to That Golden Time. The Irish singer/songwriter's new album is one of profound thought and understated beauty.

If acoustic guitar and piano are his go-to instruments, bouzouki, pedal steel, clarinet and violin give gorgeous textures to these intimate songs.

Here, O'Brien tells SIMON COSYNS all about his latest endeavours.

WHAT inspired That Golden Time and why did you make it the title track?

I am becoming more nostalgic in general. The more I explore this feeling, the more I realise that it isn't simply a symptom of getting older.

We're currently living through the dawn of the internet age and I think that we're only beginning to understand the sheer scope of its impact on our interactions, our intellects and even our dreams. That Golden Time is my personal documentation of this unique time.

What do the album cover's moth and coin symbolise?

The moth confuses artificial light with the moonlight and flies off course just like the human who becomes disoriented by the shiny screens and the bright lights. The "moon" in the artwork is an old Irish 20p coin. The nocturnal moth is seemingly using money as its central navigating system.

The coin itself is not only representative of material wealth, but also of value systems in general. One of the central attributes of the internet age is its ability to present culturally determined beliefs and value systems as eternal, universal truths, resulting in a censorious, tribalistic, fragmented environment. It seems we've been duped into worshipping our isolated selves, consumerism, identity and, ultimately, material gain.

The coin on the back of the album cover is the Lydian Lion from 600BC in modern-day Turkey. The same power relationships and bartering principles persevere throughout these cosmetic changes.

The album has a more intimate feel than the previous Fever Dreams. Why is that?

I made it all myself in my apartment, only inviting extra musicians in at the very end of the process.

The previous Villagers album was created by bringing half-finished ideas to my band in a studio and recording loose jams around these ideas.

This new album was a much more solitary home-baked process. I just couldn't let any of it go; it was all too important to me. It became somewhat of an obsession.

The intimacy comes to the fore on I Want What I Don't Need. Can less sometimes mean more?

It's not something that I consciously work towards, but quite often I find that my songs have most impact when they are almost reduced to a whisper.

I often begin songs as a kind of genre-exercise, employing quite dramatic musical flights of fancy as a way of distracting myself while the words are forming. The fun part is stripping away all of these layers to find the skeletal remains underneath. That's usually when the song begins to show itself.

What was on your mind when you wrote that song?

It's really a song about getting out of your own way. You have the power to change the world. In fact, you do it everyday, however minutely.

It's about how you don't need to be a passive consumer, as much as those malevolent forces in the cloud would currently like you to be one.

You can create things. You can create opportunities which are outside of the paradigm.

I was also influenced by Arthur Schopenhauer's essay On The Freedom Of The Will (1839) and thinking a lot about the concept of free will in general. It's a tricky one, that.

Can you explain why (at least to this listener) Behind That Curtain has an unexpected ending?

Up until this point, the song dolefully describes the mixed feelings of an internal awakening; one in which the protagonist has become aware of previously

(and wilfully) ignored power relationships and the complicated nature of the socio-political tapestry within which they are embroiled.

The sudden shift in tempo and tone, for me, suggests that they have even gone one step further; that they have perhaps even caught a glimpse of God.

How come Irish folk legend Donal Lunny guests?

I am lucky to count Donal as a friend and the addition of his bouzouki on You Lucky One and First Responder is something I'll never take for granted. His musical grace and sensitivity is a glorious thing to behold firsthand.

What about the other musicians making an appearance?

My friend and fellow songwriter Peter Broderick plays some beautiful violin on some of the songs.

The wonderful Brendan Jenkinson adds some magical clarinet. Harpist/multi-instrumentalist Mali Llywelyn sings some incredible backing vocals.

The luscious pedal steel guitar dotted throughout is by the very talented David Tapley of Tandem Felix.

Soprano Katy Kelly adds her amazing voice to the final song on the album, Money On The Mind.

Viola and cello are played beautifully by Annemarie McGahon and Davide Forti. French horn is by the wonderful Fearghal O Ceallachain.

It's 14 years since your debut Becoming A Jackal appeared... can you describe the Villagers journey?

I just keep going sideways like a crab.

And where do you hope it leads?

I've got a feeling that it's all uphill from here on out. I am of the opinion that one should be fully worn-out at the end of every day. I want to use myself up.



Picture: KATY GORNIK

NEW RELEASES

BILLIE ELISH
Hit Me Hard And Soft

SHE describes it as feeling like who she was as a kid, and channels the wilful freedom of youth on this, her third album.

It may not be as commercial as Happier Than Ever but is better for it. Tracks like Skinny are based around minimal guitar lines and hushed vocals with deeply felt lyrics while The Diner is an eerie, dubby stomp.

Looking back to more carefree times, Wildflower is hazy dreampop and Lunch has a crunchier beat and a shuddering soundscape of synths.

Proof, if any was needed, of her unique talent. ★★★★★ JS

SLASH
Orgy Of The Damned

A BLUES cover album true to the Guns N' Roses guitarist's roots, with vocals from a pantheon of rock's superstars.

A version of Hoyt Axton's The Pusher featuring The Black Crowes' Chris Robinson is good old fashioned riff rock.

Crossroads by Robert Johnson gets a modern reworking by Gary Lee Clark Jr, while Iggy Pop and AC/DC's Brian Johnson sing on Awful Dream by Lightnin' Hopkins and Chester Burnett's Killing Floor.

Peter Green's Oh Well, with the husky vocals of Chris Stapleton, show off Slash's fret work. ★★★★★ JS

CAGE THE ELEPHANT
Nose Pail

BACK in the late Noughties, the Kentucky band fronted by the Shultz brothers came roaring out of the traps with their high octane garage blues rock.

Now on to their sixth studio album, we find them exploring a smoother, poppier, radio friendly sound.

Opening track HiFi (True Light) confirms this direction while Float In The Sky has an even softer approach.

At least the Strokes-influenced Metaverse is a welcome reminder of their fast-paced early onslaughts. ★★★★★ SC

BETH GIBBONS
Lives Outgrown

THE arrival of a debut solo album from Beth Gibbons feels like the discovery of a rare and precious jewel.

Her forays into recorded music are few and far between, the last two being her exquisite collaboration with Rustin Man, Out Of Season (2002), and Portishead's Third (2008).

Ten years in the making, this song cycle takes an unflinching look at mortality with Rewind and Burden Of Life leaving an indelible impression. No, note, no word seems out of place and that haunting voice is as expressive as ever. ★★★★★ SC



s f t w

MOVIES

TOP 5 FILMS THIS WEEK

- 1 Kingdom Of The Planet Of The Apes
- 2 The Fall Guy
- 3 Challengers

- 4 Back To Black
 - 5 Tarot
- Chart from *britinfo.net*

BOOKS

Edited by **NATASHA HARDING**

TO us Brits, Dame Kristin Scott Thomas is the posh, frosty one from *Four Weddings And A Funeral* and *The English Patient*.

But in France, the actress, who lived in Paris for decades, is a very different type of national treasure.

She fires up her latest risqué French flick with a barnstorming turn as a dope-smoking, hippie swinger.

But before she pops up an hour in, we have to make do with a pleasant but familiar buddy comedy.

Uptight Blandine (Olivia Côte) has barely cracked a smile since her husband left her two years earlier.

In desperation, her teen son Benjamin (Alexandre Desrosseaux), tricks her into going on a Grecian trip with Magalie (Laure Calamy), the fun, loud school pal she hasn't seen in years.

Writer-director Marc Fitoussi serves up mild hijinx as the bickering pair try to island hop to Amorgos.



TWO TICKETS TO GREECE
(15) 111mins ★★★

as the bickering pair try to island hop to Amorgos.

It ticks over nicely but only really comes alive after a ferry mix-up sees them wind up at a plush Mykonos villa where Scott Thomas's free

spirit lives with her very patient Greek artist boyfriend (Panos Koronis).

Blandine, and Fitoussi, get their grooves back as the film blends raucous laughs with touching human drama.

MARIA, a young girl living in filth and squalor alongside her hoarder mother, is put into foster care.

Years later, the arrival of handsome loner Michael – played by *Stranger Things* star Joseph Quinn – at her foster home triggers her need for compulsive hoarding and dangerous sexual behaviour with the young man.

Director Luna Carmoon draws from her own experiences of growing up in 1980s London, to tell this captivating account about overcoming loss and childhood trauma.

The film stars newcomer Saura Lightfoot-Leon who, as the now grown-up Maria, delivers one of the most memorable performances of the year yet.

There is perhaps too much grime here for everyone – you will feel like taking a very long and very hot



FILM OF THE WEEK

HOARD
(18) 126mins ★★★★★

bath after it – but *Hoard* also feels like the purest and most honest representation of trauma-led adult dysfunction.

The film is often elevated by some impressive perfor-

mances from its two leads. Elsewhere, Maria's troubled mother Cynthia is played with brilliance by the always excellent Hayley Squires.

Not for the faint-hearted, but strangely moving.

Dulcie Pearce AT THE MOVIES



Monster hit? Nope all-star If is a bit iffy

IMAGINE a film that is jam-packed with A-listers, written by an award-winning director and featuring enough cute little creatures to melt the hardest heart.

That would make for a guaranteed monster hit, right?

Alas, no. This tale of *Imaginary Friends* (IF) is so muddled and misguided, you have to be very creative indeed to make sense of it.

It starts with the words from young Bea (Cailey Fleming): "The most important stories we tell are the ones we tell to ourselves."

We see, through the lens of the family camcorder, a creative little girl with parents who adore her.

But her world changes quickly when her mum dies of cancer.

We then meet Bea again as a 12-year-old staying with her grandma (Fiona Shaw) while her dad (director and writer, John Krasinski) is in hospital awaiting a heart operation.

During her stay in the New York apartment, Bea discovers a room where Cal (an utterly miscast Ryan Reynolds) lives with IFs Blue (voiced by Steve Carell) and Blossom (Phoebie Waller-Bridge).

Cal confides in Bea that he helps the IFs who don't have children any more.

LACKING LUSTRE . . .
Ryan as Cal, with IF Blue

IF
(U) 104mins ★★

They have grown up and can't see their made-up mates any longer.

To help the creatures, he takes Bea to the retirement home full of IFs and we are subjected to an overlong and strangely dull sequence where the CGI creations audition for roles to find new owners. By this point,

you still have no idea who Cal is, why Bea's dad is lying in a hospital bed for weeks **BEFORE** his operation, and also how her grandma doesn't notice a 12-year-old in her care has disappeared with a middle-aged man for days on end.

Krasinski has certainly called in plenty of his mates to voice the IFs, including wife Emily Blunt as well as Matt Damon, Blake Lively, Bradley Cooper, George Clooney and Vince Vaughn.

Yet, they're all pretty charmless.

There's lots of racing around the streets of New York for the motley crew – to who or what, we're never really quite told.

And littered with lame gags, the film seems to find itself far funnier than it is.

It has all the ingredients to make a tear-jerker of a blockbuster, but unfortunately, and oddly, this poor man's version of *Monsters Inc* lacks imagination.

FILM NEWS

- A SEQUEL to *Road House* has been confirmed with Jake Gyllenhaal in the lead.
- EDGAR WRIGHT is in talks to direct Sydney Sweeney in *Barbarella*.
- ADAM DRIVER is the lead in Francis Ford Coppola's new film, *Megalopolis*.

MISSING

Charlie Hedges, £10.99

EVERY 90 seconds in the UK, a missing person is reported to the police.

The author has 40 years' experience tracing missing people and has worked on high-profile cases including April Jones, Damien Nettles and David Kelly.

He also crossed paths with Madeleine McCann's parents with his pioneering work on the *Child Rescue Alert* system.

His memoir offers a fascinating insight into why people disappear, how the police find the lost souls and what can be done better.

PICK OF THE WEEK



TRUTH TRUTH LIE

Claire McGowan, £8.99

WHEN a group of old university friends and their partners play a game of two truths and a lie on a luxury break on a private Scottish island, years of secrets surface.

But then an extra slip of paper makes its way into the mix, carrying three chilling threats – everyone here has killed someone, there is no way off this island, you will either kill or be killed here.

But which is the lie? A spine-chillingly dark novel that will keep you guessing to the final page.

★★★★
GEORGIA SIMCOX



SHARP SCRATCH

Martine Bailey, £16.99

LORRAINE QUICK is a single mum and a member of a band going nowhere in 1980s Salford.

Her day job as a personnel officer at a hospital takes an interesting turn when promotion arises.

But when a lethal dose of anaesthetic is deliberately substituted for a flu vaccine, and a second suspicious death follows, it becomes clear a killer is on the loose. Lorraine must find the murderer before they strike again.

Very compelling, the definition of a page-turning thriller.

★★★★
JONATHAN WHITELAW



THE CAMPING BIBLE

Ken and Sim Benson, £19.99

THIS book calls itself "the complete guide to life under canvas" and that's a fair shout.

Whether you are a seasoned camper or going to try living in a tent for the first time, it is full of clever tips. Expect ideas on choosing a tent, how to make one a home, what to sleep on, and camping through the seasons.

Also included is advice on the perfect pitch, what you need for a good night's sleep and how to get the most from your camping stove.

★★★★



The NightBazaar Saeed Younan's naughty milestone
By MARK GWINNETT



YOUNAN Music, a record label that has become a legendary name in the dance music industry, is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year.

Created by the visionary Saeed Younan, the label has been a driving force behind the tribal-tech-house movement.

Its infectious beats as well as captivating rhythms have been helping shape the dance movement for the past two decades.

It has become a favourite among

renowned DJs like Carl Cox, Danny Tenaglia, Marco Carola and many more.

This month also marks the 200th single release, a track called *Naughty* from Saeed in collaboration with Ryan Taft.

We caught up with Saeed this week and he recorded an exclusive mix featuring classics from Younan Music including the new single *Naughty*. To listen, head over to thesun.co.uk/music.

GAMES



Edited by **DEREK BROWN**

ANIMAL WELL
Switch/PS5/PC, £18.99

THE best games now are generally made by clever small teams or even single people toiling away alone. Low budget, low res – great games.

Animal Well is one of those games. You play a blob who has to make its way through an underground world, solving puzzles. You can pick stuff up, use it in weird ways and explore the huge map.

It reminds me of games like *Fez* and *Jet Set Willy*. It's *Animal Well* good.

★★★★★

BRAID, ANNIVERSARY EDITION
All Formats, £12.99

A REMAKE of a classic and another indie beauty. The easiest way to imagine *Braid* is like playing *Super Mario* but you can bend time and space with the touch of a button.

Part platformer, part puzzler, the aim is to collect jigsaw pieces to reveal the story of your lost love.

The puzzles still hold up, and can be tricky. Not everyone's cup of tea, but a game of real quality.

★★★★★

puzzles

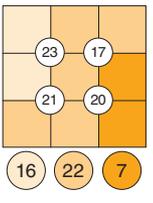
BRAINBUSTER

Can you find the hidden sports equipment in each of these sentences?

- [a] Coming from Jack's satchel, metal cutlery could be heard clanking away.
- [b] That new kitchen roll I bought can absorb a ton of spilt milk.

SUKO®

Enter the numbers 1 to 9 in the spaces so that the number in each circle is equal to the sum of its four surrounding squares. Each coloured area should add up to the colour totals below.



We've got all your favourite brain teasers

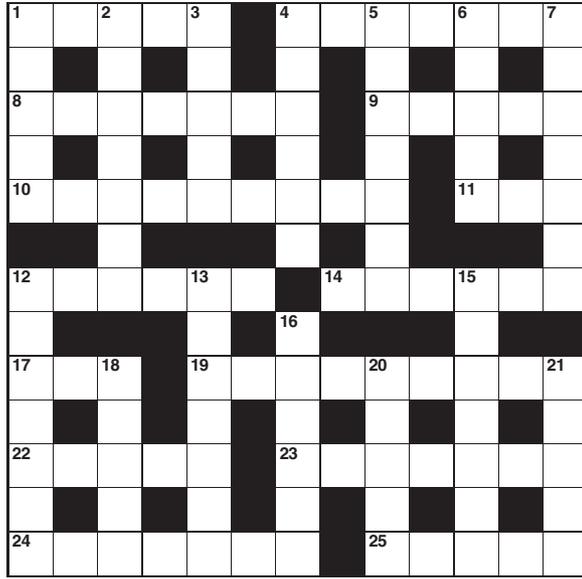
PAGE 2 SUJIKO SOLUTION: Top line 568 middle 179 bottom 423

TWO-SPEED CROSSWORD

Two sets of clues but the answers are the same

Cryptic clues

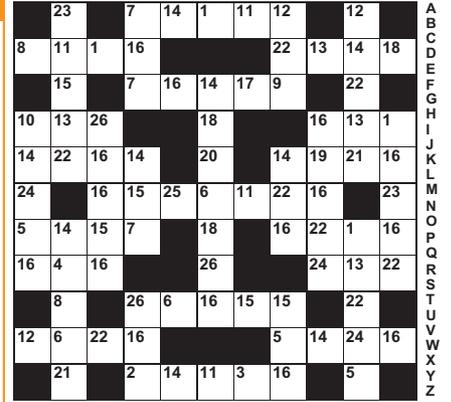
- ACROSS**
- Expert in Rolls-Royce or F1 driver? (5)
 - International hotel next to my city? (7)
 - Actor's first to go over contract? (7)
 - Right on a length? (5)
 - Rearranging tie or meet: depression's cause? (9)
 - Slow and clumsy boat in Bath? (3)
 - Foreign Office having back to wall? (6)
 - Temptress, former lover put in place? (6)
 - A Roman Catholic in Bow? (3)
 - The high point of a sea voyage? (5,4)
 - Discussed more peaceful destiny? (5)
 - Nice lad dancing in cool place? (7)
 - The Royal Marines with sailor in vessel? (7)
 - Lines recited, say, in cathedral? (5)
- DOWN**
- Authentic Frenchman found in kingdom? (5)
 - Keeper cut price in copper and gold? (7)
 - Roadie almost ruined set? (5)
 - Recognition for good exam result? (6)
 - Sappers said to go free? (7)
 - Darkness close: closer for Satanist? (5)
 - Swimmer from Bali changed in hut? (7)
 - Comprehensive cover? (7)
 - Approval for a city council redirecting mail? (7)
 - High-ranking ecclesiastic not yet dead? (7)
 - Apes in epic so misrepresented? (6)
 - Worry about Victor being cut? (5)
 - Setting for public commotion? (5)
 - US lawyer appearing in play now? (5)



Coffee time

- ACROSS**
- Car competitor? (5)
 - Greek port? (7)
 - Abbreviate text? (7)
 - Permitted by law? (5)
 - Rock from space? (9)
 - Container? (3)
 - Agency? (6)
 - Attractive person? (6)
 - Curve? (3)
 - Lookout platform? (5,4)
 - Buddhist fate? (5)
 - Nordic nation? (7)
 - Vacuum flask? (7)
 - Plaintive poem? (5)
- DOWN**
- Sphere? (5)
 - Museum custodian? (7)
 - Wireless? (5)
 - Recognition? (6)
 - Assuage? (7)
 - Hours after sunset? (5)
 - Large flatfish? (7)
 - Across-the-board? (7)
 - Kudos? (7)
 - Senior clergyman? (7)
 - Duplicates? (6)
 - Sculpt? (5)
 - Landscape? (5)
 - This 24-hour period? (5)

WORD WORKOUT



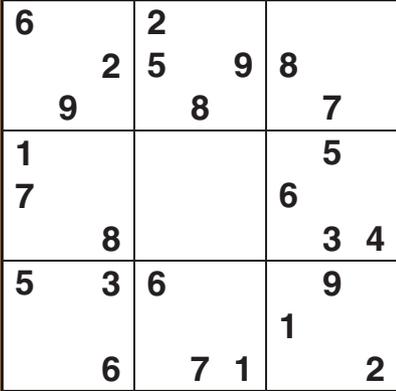
THIS is the world's best brain teaser. Each grid number in our Word Workout game represents a letter. So if you think 4 is the letter A, write A in all the squares with a 4. All the alphabet is used and we have supplied some letters to start you off. We will print the answers tomorrow.

YESTERDAY - ACROSS: Yard, Daft, Adobe, Pixel, Aspen, Fizz, Jape, Ovine, Halo, Crew, Kaput, Squat, Psalm, Snap, Need. **DOWN:** Ado, Does, Dope, Fax, Waif, Glee, Bazooka, Injects, Primp, Hiss, Womb, Atop, Upon, Urr, Aye.

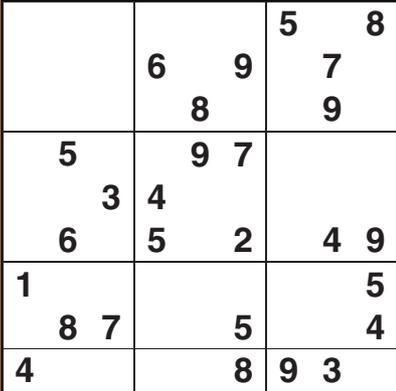
For 4 Extra Clues Call 0901 293 6299
Calls cost £1 plus network access charge.
or text SUNWORD to 64343.
Texts cost £1 plus your standard network rate.

DOUBLE Sun DOKU

TODAY'S TEASER Call 0905 757 0156 for clues or solutions. Cost £1 per minute plus network access charge.



TODAY'S TOUGHIE Call 0905 757 0152 for clues or solutions. Cost £1 per minute plus network access charge.



Calls for extra clues and answers last no longer than two minutes (Sundial answers may vary).
Helpline: 0333 202 3390 (9am-5.30pm).
Service provider: Spoke, W1T 4HD

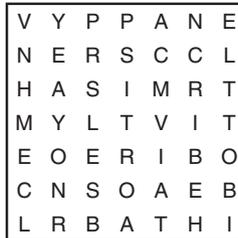
WORDSEARCH

Find seven words about babies. Words can run forwards, backwards or diagonally. Solution below.

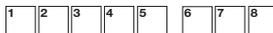


NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING

The recycled paper content of UK newspapers in 2020 was 67%



THE NAME GAME EACH clue leads to a well-known name. Put the initials or stated letters in the appropriate squares to identify a politician:



- 8 & 3 Oleksandr, Arsenal's Ukrainian "inverted" left back, formerly of Manchester City (first two letters of name)
- 7 Billie Joe _____, singer-songwriter of Green Day
- 1 Middle initial of Philip Dick, author of the books on which Blade Runner and Minority Report are based
- 5 & 6 Stage name of the ex-Neighbours actress who had hits with Kiss Kiss and State Of Mind
- 2 & 4 Ms Stevenson, actress who starred in the film Truly Madly Deeply (last two letters of name)

● Yesterday: Athlete LYNSEY SHARP (Danny (Drinkwater), Sharon Horgan, Lisa Stansfield, Ricky Ponting, Jenny (Seagrove)). Another Name Game in The Sun tomorrow.
■ If you can't wait until tomorrow for the answers, just call 0901 293 6298. Calls cost £1 plus your telephone company's network access charge.

30-SEC NUMBERCRUNCH

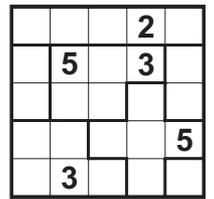
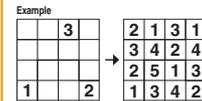
HERE is our fantastic puzzle, the 30-second NumberCrunch. There's no better way to keep your brain trained than playing our great teasers. So if you want to stay ahead of the game, you will love this challenge.

Starting at the left with the number provided, work your way across the three lines one at a time, applying all the mathematical instructions to your running total. Don't reach for your calculator - that would be cheating! Write your final answer in the last box of the line. You should be aiming to complete each round in about 30 seconds. Good luck! Answers below, right.

BEGINNER	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED
39 ÷ 3 + 209 ÷ 6 - 28 Double it + 186 ÷ 4 - 18 ÷ 11	100 + 287 Third of it + 283 Quarter of it - 49 2/3 of it + 324 ÷ 5 + 279	751 - 433 5/6 of it + 2293 50% of it - 1069 ÷ 10 + 3889 ÷ 17 + 4051

SUGURU®

Each cell in an outlined block must contain a digit: a two-cell block contains the digits 1 and 2, a three-cell block contains the digits 1, 2 and 3, and so on. The same digit must not appear in neighbouring cells, not even diagonally. Solution below.



SUNDIAL



SEE how many words of four or more letters you can "dial" using the one at the centre in each word. You can make at least one word using all of them. Don't use the letters more than once in any word. No proper names or plurals

BRILLIANT: 21. EXCELLENT: 17. GOOD: 13. GREAT SCORE FOR KIDS: 8.

YESTERDAY: Abated, baeed, bade, bald, baled, bated, bead, beadle, belated, belted, blade, bleated, bled, bleed, dabble, dale, data, dateable, date, dateable, deal, dealt, debate, debt, delta, ebbled, elated, lade, lead, tabbed, tabled, teed, DEBATABLE.

ending in 's'. Words from Collins Concise Dictionary.

Check today's answers by calling 0905 757 0155 before midnight. Calls cost £1 per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Teaser

8	3	9	5	1	4	2	6	7
7	5	4	9	2	6	3	1	8
6	2	1	8	7	3	4	9	5
1	7	2	3	5	9	8	4	6
9	6	3	4	8	1	7	5	2
4	8	5	2	6	7	9	3	1
5	9	7	1	3	8	6	2	4
2	4	8	6	9	5	1	7	3
3	1	6	7	4	2	5	8	9

Toughie

6	3	8	2	4	1	7	9	5
9	2	7	3	6	5	1	4	8
4	5	1	7	9	8	3	2	6
1	9	5	6	7	2	4	8	3
7	4	2	5	8	3	6	1	9
3	8	6	4	1	9	5	7	2
2	7	3	8	5	4	9	6	1
5	6	9	1	2	7	8	3	4
8	1	4	9	3	6	2	5	7

Two-Speed Crossword
ACROSS: 8 Cha-lice, 9 In-box, 10 E-wing, 11 Incense, 12 E-co-no-mist, 15 Ant, 16 Dip, 17 Dedicated, 20 Ba-nan-as, 22 Top-i-c, 24 L-one-r, 25 Air-head.
DOWN: 1 Scheme, 2 Mag(i)c, 3 Ring road, 4 Gemini, 5 Zinc, 6 A-bun-dant, 7 Ex-pert, 13 Opp-one-nt, 14 Tacit-urn, 16 Da-bb-le, 18 Di-sm-al, 19 De-cad-e, 21 N-or-m, 23 Pee-I (John).

Today's Solutions

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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Luxury... firm's watches

A PREMIER WIN

HIGHER prices and porridge pots boosted **PREMIER FOODS**, with its **AMBROSIA** brand now making £100million a year. Boss Alex Whitehouse has claimed "many of our products are actually cheaper than a year ago".

But the prices are still much

higher than two years ago, before the cost-of-living crisis. Premier's annual sales rose by 15.1 per cent to £1.2billion, while its profits have jumped by more than a third from £112.4million to £151.4million. Its share price has quadrupled in the past five years.

HEALTH and beauty chain **SUPERDRUG** plans to open 25 new shops. Around 500 new jobs will be created by the move. The retailer is also extending seven and refurbishing 60 of its existing stores. It has 780 across the UK and Ireland.

WATER SURPRISE

THE water company ranked last year as the UK's biggest polluter has increased its dividend for shareholders — days after a major sewage leak was revealed. **UNITED UTILITIES** awarded a £334million dividend, or 49.7p a share, after revenues of

almost £2billion and a 17.5 per cent rise in underlying operating profits to £517.8million in the year to March 31. United is accused of leaking millions of litres of raw sewage into Lake Windermere, Cumbria, in February. It said a telecoms fault stopped pumps.

WATCHING OUT FOR TAXMAN!

SNATCHES by "Rolex ripper" gangs have failed to hit sales at the brand's biggest UK seller.

Some 7,000 such watch thefts off wrists were reported in London alone last year.

But **WATCHES OF SWITZERLAND** said the only problem for UK growth was the lack of VAT shopping relief compared to Europe.

Boss Brian Duffy said: "I say to people they shouldn't be overt with obvious symbols of wealth."

"They need to be sensible and sensitive, in the same way you wouldn't wear a beautiful diamond necklace in public." On the other hand, he said the decision to scrap tourist tax relief "seems crazy to us" — and called for it to return, to win back business from Paris and Milan.

The firm posted a 4 per cent rise in fourth-quarter sales to £380million, though that was largely fuelled by US growth. It expects sales to rise from £1.5billion to £1.6billion.

SHARES

- BARCLAYS** up 1.80 to 214.90
- BP** down 1.90 to 489.30
- CENTRICA** up 2.25 to 146.40
- HSBC** down 5.20 to 696.50
- LLOYDS** up 0.52 to 55.02
- M&S** up 2.60 to 278.40
- NATWEST** flat at 326.40
- ROYAL MAIL** up 43.40 to 314.80
- SAINSBURY'S** up 5.00 to 282.20
- SHELL** down 12.80 to 2,829.00
- TESCO** up 4.25 to 306.70

A FAT LOT OF GOOD

DENMARK'S economy is being powered by booming demand for fat jobs, leading to it being jokingly dubbed a "one-company country".

Its government now predicts growth will be twice previous estimates — due to drug firm **NOVO NORDISK**, maker of Wegovy and Ozempic.

The Scandinavian nation's economy is now expected to grow at 2.7 per cent this year, instead of 1.4 per cent. Without it, growth would have stalled.

EASYJET BOSS JOHAN TAKING OFF AFTER 7YRS

easy come easy go...

Runway success... Johan Lundgren, front, is leaving, and Kenton Jarvis, back, will take the controls

EASYJET'S boss is jetting off after seven turbulent years.

The budget airline said Johan Lundgren would be leaving at the start of next year.

His successor will be the company's finance chief Kenton Jarvis.

Mr Lundgren admitted his time at the top had been "intense", with the pandemic's travel restrictions being "an experience you won't forget or want to do again".

He has also had to navigate a tricky relationship with easyJet's founder and biggest investor, Sir Stelios Haji-Ioannou, who tried to oust him in 2020.

At the time, Mr Lundgren said Sir Stelios's campaign against him was "disturbing" and "extremely unhelpful".

easyJet's shares yesterday dipped by about six per cent after the boardroom changes were revealed, but Mr Lundgren laughed off the market reaction to his departure.

He said: "The reaction from investors has been very well-received and there is positive feedback that this is a seamless transition."

Mr Jarvis is seen as a continuity candidate and yesterday told The Sun that he had "100 per cent bought into the strategy".

This means it will be highly unlikely there will be any big change from easyJet's plan to boost its holiday business.

The management changes came alongside easyJet reporting it had narrowed its winter losses to £350million — an improvement of £61million — and it is gearing up for a "record" summer of holiday bookings.

Its fledgling package holiday business has grown customer numbers by 42 per cent in the past year and is expected to deliver profits of £170million this year.

BT BOSS DIALS UP THE ENTHUSIASM



BT'S new boss plans to ditch international distractions and prioritise investment in the UK. Allison Kirkby, who took over from Philip Jansen in March, said funding digital infrastructure "is not something that's nice to do, it's critical for the country".

BT has connected 14million homes and said it would add four million more a year to reach its goal of 25million

by 2026. Ms Kirkby said: "We'll have the fibre backbone of the country better, faster and more efficiently than anyone else."

The Glaswegian has arrived at a critical time for BT — as it balances replacing its old copper network and 3G mobile without raising customer bills too much.

At the same time, its share price has languished due to years of costly investment and

little return for investors. Ms Kirkby tried to sweeten the City on her debut outing yesterday by ramping up cost-cutting to £3billion and upping the dividend by 4 per cent to 8p-a-share.

Still, BT's profits have slumped by 31 per cent to £1.2billion.

The chief exec said the firm has passed the peak of investment and is at an "inflection point on our long-term strategy".

She revealed BT will "intensify its focus on the UK" and look at options for its international businesses, including partnering with rivals and exiting some markets.

BT plans to axe up to 55,000 jobs — 40 per cent of its workforce — by the end of 2030.

Ms Kirkby said no further cuts would be made, but the firm is using AI to remove the need to replace call centre workers.

GOT A STORY?

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BE POLITE . . . Roxanne

CUT THE SMART REMARKS

ALMOST 30 per cent of staff say they have been victims of workplace bullying, according to a recent poll by the Trades Union Congress.

With this in mind, HR expert Roxanne Massey, from Honest HR, believes we need to take more care over how we talk.

She says: "While sarcasm or little remarks may feel good, they won't help change the situation or others' behaviours."

"You never know what others are going through that caused the initial problem, so try to be courteous and find solutions that make work a better place for everyone."

Here, she shares her advice on how common passive aggressive phrases can be said in a more positive way . . .

- 1 Change "That's not fair" to "I need to let you know how I feel. It feels like things are not fair at the moment."
- 2 Instead of "Must be nice to have time to enjoy yourself," try "Tell me your secret; how do you manage to do everything you need to do and have time for that too?"
- 3 Swap "I guess I'll just have to figure it out myself" for "I don't know the best way to approach this. Please can you guide me?"
- 4 When you're overworked, don't use "I don't have time for this." Try "Looking at the things I have to do, I can see that this is a priority to you. What item on my task list shall I take off to get this done?"
- 5 Instead of "That is not my job/above my pay grade," try "I'm not comfortable doing this; it's not something in my area of knowledge."

MIND THE BURNOUT

POOR employee mental health costs firms £51 billion a year, a new report has found.

The study from Deloitte discovered 63 per cent of respondents are experiencing at least one characteristic of burnout.

"Presenteeism", where people work when ill so cannot perform at their full ability, is the biggest factor, costing employers around £24 billion a year.

Meanwhile, almost half of working parents are concerned about their children's mental health, costing UK employers £8 billion, due to its effect on performance, taking time off work or leaving roles.

Yet for every £1 spent on the well-being of the workforce, employers get an average £4.70 back in increased productivity.

Jobspot

TREATZ ice cream parlours are hiring staff for the summer. Apply at treatz.co.uk/careers.

Edited by Jane Hamilton



The section that helps you find work jobs.thesun.co.uk

SLOW AI TAKE-UP

BRITISH workers are lagging behind the rest of the world in adopting AI, according to the 2024 Work Trend Index from Microsoft and LinkedIn.

It found that 75 per cent of high-level staff – known as "knowledge workers" – are using AI globally compared to 69 per cent in the UK.

While four in five UK business leaders believe their company

needs to adopt AI to stay competitive, half are worried their organisation lacks a plan to implement it.

The study also found that 57 per cent of UK bosses say they no longer hire someone for a role who does not have AI skills.

Two thirds would prefer a less experienced candidate with AI skills than a more experienced candidate without them.

BE FUTURE-PROOF

THINK all careers of the future are high-tech? Not so.

The Amazon Future Engineer programme teamed up with researcher Gallup to rank roles both on earning potential and their likelihood of surviving.

The top future job is a marketing, sales and advertising director, based on its high pay, personal interaction and need for original creativity. CEOs and senior staff

also appear to be safe, alongside pilots and electrical engineers.

With non-degree jobs, production engineers and health and safety managers topped the league.

John Boumphrey, from Amazon, said: "We hope the Careers of the Future Index will be a useful tool to help students, parents and career advisers explore the diverse range of promising job paths available."

Full list at tinyurl.com/4erhse9c.



SAFE BET . . . airline pilot

TV DRAMA INSPIRES NATIONAL TRUST JOB CREATION

DEAREST gentle reader, with *Bridgerton* back on TV this week, do you have what it takes to create a garden fit for a Regency romance?

National Trust venues including Berkshire's Basildon Park have provided the lush backdrops to some of the hit Netflix series' most famous scenes.

Now the charity is seeking 19 horticulture apprentices to tend to its rolling acres and preserve them for the nation.

The roles, which are open to anyone aged over 16, will see trainees gain a level 2 horticulture quali-



'FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY' . . . message from Caroline

fication. Positions are available at some of England's most important historic sites, including Stowe Gardens, Bucks, and Clumber Park,

Notts, with jobs on offer in Mount Stewart in Northern Ireland and Llanerchaeron in Wales too.

Caroline Noon, apprenticeship manager at the National Trust, said: "Our level 2 horticulture apprenticeships offer a fantastic opportunity to learn the knowledge and skills required to become a horticulturist here at the National Trust."

"You will help look after our 224 historic gardens, playing a vital role in delivering our conservation and climate change strategies, helping

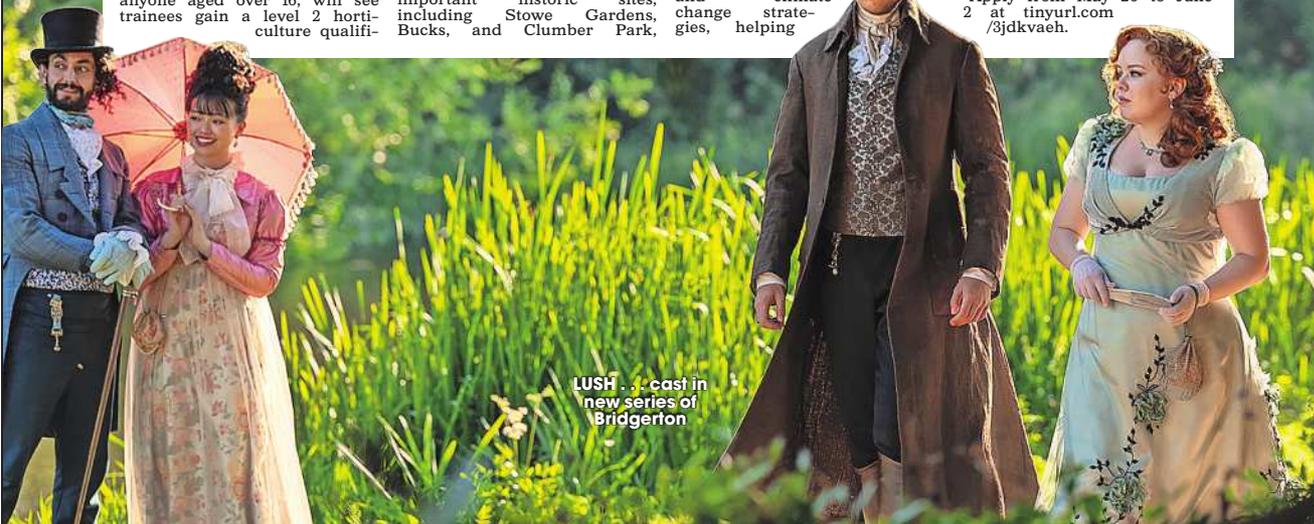
to undertake the regular tasks and horticultural maintenance, conservation, and care of the gardens to safeguard them for the future.

"If you are passionate about gardening and love the idea of working outside, this role could be perfect for you."

The National Trust already has 33 gardening apprentices, and new trainees can work their way up to assistant gardener or gardener roles.

For those who wish to progress further, the National Trust also offers a level 3 horticulture supervisor apprenticeship.

Apply from May 20 to June 2 at tinyurl.com/3jdkvae8.



LUSH . . . cast in new series of *Bridgerton*

Grow your career



NURTURE NATURE . . . ex-teacher Julia switched to gardening

FORMER science teacher Julia Plummer is now a National Trust apprentice gardener working at Kedleston Hall near Derby.

The 38-year-old from Castle Donington, Leics, said: "Much as I loved my teaching roles, there was always something missing, so I took the move. There

are so many reasons to recommend this job to others, such as getting to be out in nature and doing a practical job where no two days are the same.

"It is fantastic for your physical and mental health and there is always something new to learn."

"The most challenging thing at first was stamina.

Having been in a largely sedentary job and this being more physical, it was definitely a change of pace.

"The important qualities you need are a desire to learn and a keen interest in gardening and nature."

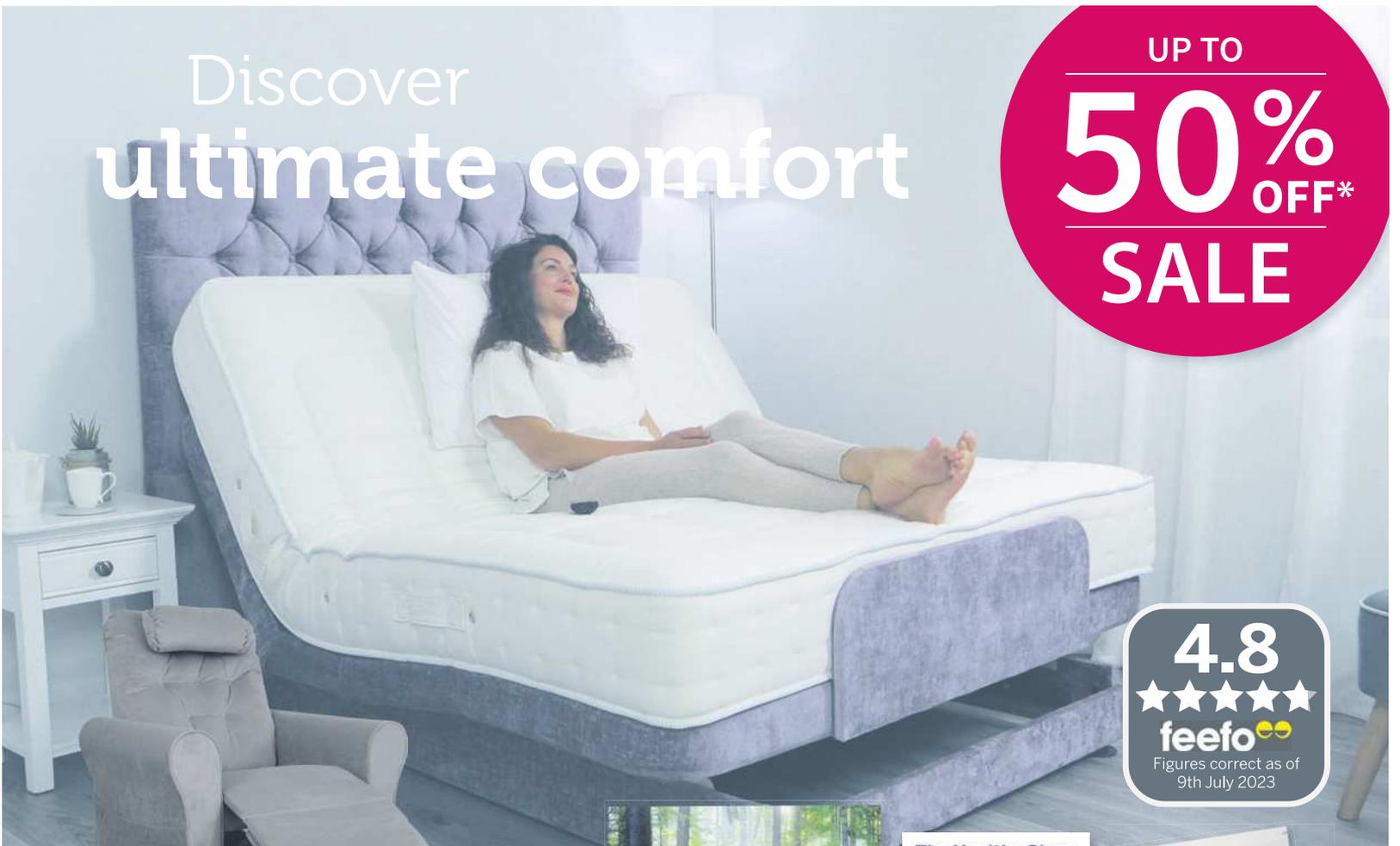
"You don't need any prior experience but it helps to have maths and English at GCSE grade C/4. There

there is an option of completing a functional skills level 2 qualification in these subjects.

"I have met many people in horticulture since starting my apprenticeship and not one of them had any regrets about working in this industry – but many wish they had gone into it much earlier."

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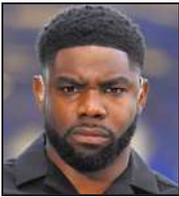


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RICHARDS... 'on fire'

It's city of no love!

By JOSHUA JONES

"ANTI-SEX" beds have been installed at the Paris Olympics sites — after athletes admitted to kinky orgies.

Special beds are made out of cardboard with the frames and mattresses completely recyclable.

The idea is to prevent athletes from getting too hot during the night, while prioritising sustainability.

But they have been dubbed "anti-sex" because they are single frames — and potentially not as sturdy as regular ones.

The Games have a reputation for raunchy behaviour by the Olympians.

And a whopping 300,000 condoms will be made available free in the City of Love for the 9,000 athletes — which works out as two each, every day.

Team GB footballer Micah Richards recalled London 2012 frolics, and joked: "It was the party of all parties. You got all the different athletes, all sorts of different specimens."

"I was on absolute fire."



STRONG... Brown

Sky's time limit

By ROB MAUL

SKY BROWN faces a race against time to be fit for the Paris Olympics.

Britain's world champion skateboarder, 15, tore a knee ligament during a film shoot last month.

It is understood doctors have given her a two-month recovery timeline.

Brown is not at this week's Olympic qualifier in Shanghai — and battling to be ready for next month's event in Budapest.

But she may still go to Paris because she is ranked third in the world.

She said: "Every injury I've had, I've come back stronger. It really puts a fire in my heart."

"Since the last Olympics, I've won every event and I don't want to lose that streak. So I'm going to keep going."

Sport
HENRY SLADE has agreed a new contract with Exeter.
The England centre, 31, who made his Chiefs debut 12 years ago, said: "I call Exeter my home. It just felt right to stay."

SHORT

By PHIL LANNING

LUKE LITTLER proved he is ready to rule the oche by topping the Premier League on his debut.

The darts sensation beat Peter Wright 6-4 in Sheffield to secure his place at the summit. Littler, 17, sent the crowd wild with an outrageous showboat 120 checkout — featuring three double tops — to break Wright's throw and take control of their quarter-final.

He became only the sixth player to top the table after Phil Taylor, Michael van Gerwen, Glen Durrant, Jonny Clayton and Gerwyn Price in the 20th year of the tournament.

The Nuke, who later lost 6-5 to Michael Smith in their semi-final clash, now goes to finals night at the O₂ in London on Thursday as the hot favourite to take the title.

He said: "It does feel special. People said I wasn't ready and the first few weeks explained why I wasn't ready."

"As soon as I got my first win, I settled myself into it and that's why I won four."

"Luke Humphries has had a 100 average every week. I dropped off a bit. But the stats show me and Luke are playing the best — and that's why we are No1 and No2."

Smith took out two ton-plus finishes — 136 and 132 with a double bullseye — to break Nathan Aspinall's heart in their winner-takes-all quarter-final. Smith's 6-3 win clinched the final top-four spot at the O₂.

And Smith, who went on to beat Humphries 6-3 in the final, said: "Nathan outscored me, it was just about holding throw. That 136 went in, then the 132 — and I just knew that would have hurt him."

"I wanted to do cartwheels. I had to keep it calm and just apologise to Nathan. I do feel sorry for him. I want him at the O₂ as well as me."



LUKE AT HIM GO AT TOP

FAN-FARE... Littler laps up cheers from crowd and (inset) an emotional Smith



NORRIS... party time

Lando is a Master

From ISABELLE BARKER in Emilia-Romagna

LANDO NORRIS toasted his Miami win with a whirlwind 24-hour bender that included two rounds of golf at Augusta.

It was the McLaren driver's first F1 victory after 110 attempts.

Norris partied with pal and reigning champ Max Verstappen in Miami on Sunday before jetting to the home of The Masters.

The Brit then flew to the UK for another round of golf with McLaren chief Zak Brown.

Ahead of the Imola Grand Prix practice today, Norris, 24, said: "I had some fun with my friends."

"The first time I slept was Monday night, so it was a long couple of days — but it was all worth it."

Ben will be A OK

By JOHN ETHERIDGE

BEN STOKES is fit enough to bowl flat-out today — when he makes his first County Championship appearance for two years.

And Durham coach Ryan Campbell expects him to "bring his A game".

Durham face Lancashire in Blackpool and England's Test captain turns out in a four-day county match for the first time since 2022.

It is the start of his preparation for six Tests this summer against West Indies and Sri Lanka.

Stokes had surgery last November on his left-knee problem and did not bowl in the Test series in India until the Fifth Test.

Campbell said: "We don't expect him to do everything for us but he's Ben Stokes, he will bring his A game."

GOLF USPGA CH'SHIP

EX-FACTOR

Schauffe leads love-split Rory

RORY McILROY put his marriage woes aside to kick off another Major hunt at Valhalla in style.

But despite opening with a five-under 66 at the USPGA Championship, McIlroy finds himself in the familiar position of playing catch-up behind Xander Schauffele.

The X-man again showed the X Factor as he set a blistering early pace with a nine-under-par 62.

But McIlroy must have just been relieved to get back to business after news he filed for divorce from wife Erica.

And he admitted: "I got everything I could have got out of that round."

"It was a bit scrappy at times but I hung in there. I wasn't totally happy with the way I played — but very happy with the score."

Asked if it was a welcome distraction, Rory (right) replied: "I'm just happy to be here. It's always nice to be inside the ropes."

Schauffele is the

By DAVID FACEY

first player to shoot 62 twice in the Majors. He and Rickie Fowler did that in last year's US Open — after Branden Grace was the first man to go that low at the 2017 Open.

But McIlroy will know there is no need to panic.

World No3 Schauffele led after each of the first three rounds of last week's Wells Fargo Championship but the Northern Irishman claimed a five-shot win on the final day.

It helped explain why the world No2 was confident he could put aside his break-up, and end a ten-year Majors drought, by repeating his 2014 USPGA win at this course.

There were no signs of McIlroy lacking focus as he made the ideal start.

After teeing off on the par-five tenth, he hit a glorious approach to just outside 5ft and sank the birdie putt.

Another birdie followed at the 13th but the round threatened to get away from him after he bogeyed 17 and

then hooked his tee shot in the water at the par-five 18th.

But McIlroy, whose 66 was equalled by Ryder Cup teammate Robert MacIntyre, got back on track with grit... and a big stroke of luck.

The four-time Major winner showed his battling qualities to salvage par at 18, somehow getting up and down from 112 yards.

He was badly out of position after moving across to the first hole, carving his drive into deep rough.

His next shot came out of the thick stuff like a rocket and seemed certain to race through the back of the green.

But, instead, it clattered into the flag, stopped 5ft away, and McIlroy knocked in the putt for a shameless birdie.

Rory's smile grew wider as he strung together a hat-trick of birdies on the fifth, including a chip-in on six.

Schauffele says he is playing the best golf of his career. He said: "I couldn't say if it was any better than the 62 at the US Open last year — but I'll take that score any day."

Tiger Woods finished one over after a couple of three-putts on his final two holes.



IN THE SWING... Schauffele fired a stunning nine-under-par 62

No party for Muz

By ROB MAUL

ANDY MURRAY was knocked out of a second-string tournament in Bordeaux — by the world No 115.

Muzza, who turned 37 on Wednesday, lost 6-4 6-2 in 87 minutes to French journeyman Gregoire Barrere in the second round of the Challenger event.

Returning from an ankle injury, it was one of the Scot's worst defeats in terms of ranking over the past few years.

Murray now heads to Geneva for his final tournament before the French Open — his last appearance at the Paris Slam.

Fellow Brit Dan Evans plays China's Shang Jun-cheng in the quarter-finals after his 6-3 7-6 win over France's Harold Mayot.

CH'SHIP PLAY-OFF SEMI-FINAL

GETTING INTO THE GRUEV



Ilija opens floodgates as Leeds romp to final

By JUSTIN ALLEN

LEEDS will go Marching on Together at Wembley after this Elland Road romp.

Daniel Farke's men finally pulled out their A-game when it mattered by blowing away an utterly abysmal Norwich to book a place in next Sunday's £200million final.

There they must overcome tonight's winner between Southampton and West Brom at St Mary's which is finely poised at 0-0 from the first leg. A rampant first-half showing saw Ilija Gruev, Joel Piroe and Georginio Rutter put Leeds into a 3-0 lead.

Crysencio Summerville added a fourth after the break and, had it not been for some great goalkeeping from Angus Gunn, this could have been an even bigger battering.

Farke said: "It was one of our most complex performances of the season against a really good side.

"Although we went ahead early, they tried everything to get back

Leeds.....	4
Norwich.....	0

LEEDS WIN 4-0 ON AGG

into it so we had to be really switched on at every moment and it was important to defend really well.

"We brought back our defensive A-game. It wasn't perfect – sometimes we were over-excited in possession and over-ridden by emotions but we have a young side and it was a great night for us.

"They were brilliant today and the average age of the side was very young so it was important I calmed them down on the sidelines but now we are focused on the next task."

This was the biggest win in a second-tier semi-final since Barnsley won 4-0 at Birmingham in 2000.

And defender Ethan Ampadu said: "You can see what this means to the fans. Whoever we play next will be hard but we are glad we are here." Norwich had history against them

as only three of the previous 18 sixth-placed sides progressed from the play-off semi-final.

And, although they almost pulled one back at 2-0 down when Josh Sargent was denied one-on-one by keeper Illan Meslier, they barely laid a glove on Leeds.

Following the 0-0 first-leg stalemate at Carrow Road, the hosts came out flying and took a seventh-minute lead.

Bulgarian Gruev curled a low 35-yard free-kick past the unsuspected Gunn for his first goal for the club. It was the fastest goal Leeds had scored in a play-off and their first direct free-kick goal since Raphinha against Leicester in November 2021.

Piroe doubled their lead 13 minutes later. The Dutch striker was in the right place at the right time to meet a Wilfried Gnonto cross.

And it was game over when Leeds added a third in the 40th minute. Piroe motored down the left and his centre to Summerville was

stabbed across for Rutter to fire home off the underside of the bar.

Despite keeping out Gnonto's second-half effort, Gunn could do little as Junior Firpo pulled the ball back to Summerville to slam home No4.

Canaries' chief David Wagner admitted: "We were second best all evening – losing almost every duel.

"We did everything tonight that was the opposite of what was needed. We let in some poor goals and got punished for Josh not taking his chance.

"We have taken a positive step forward. We finished sixth and got into the play-offs.

"And now we must build again in the summer to take another step."

MATCH STATS	
LEEDS	NORWICH
18 SHOTS	4
11 SHOTS ON TARGET	1
58% POSSESSION	42%
540 PASSES	390
475 COMPLETED PASSES	324
34 TOUCHES IN OPPOSITION BOX	7
8 CORNERS	2
14 FOULS CONCEDED	12
2/0 YELLOW/RED	2/0

IN A RUTT...
Rutter fires in Leeds' third



Don't Corb your enthusiasm

By GRAHAM HILL

CARLOS CORBERAN says there must be a collective belief West Brom can reach Wembley — starting with him.

Albion head to Southampton for tonight's play-off semi-final second leg, with Russell Martin's Saints favourites to win.

Corberan has been here before, as two years ago his Huddersfield side beat Luton to reach the Championship play-off final, before losing 1-0 to Nottingham Forest.

And the 41-year-old Spaniard says everyone in the Baggies squad has to be on the same page as him if they are to play under the Arch a week on Sunday. Corberan said:

Southampton v West Brom
2nd leg (1st leg 0-0)
8pm, Sky Sports Football & TalkSPORT 5

"Maybe if they see me head in hands, they will say, 'Come on! How can I believe if he doesn't?' Or if I go in at half-time saying, 'Lads, we're a disaster!'"

"But if I say, 'Lads, we're doing very well!', you can affect the emotion of the players because they believe."

"What I want is for the players to have the image that's in my head in their heads before the game. Not because I'm the best

mind but because we have to be coordinated. I want to share my thoughts with them, I like that we all see the same way."

Meanwhile, Martin is **NOT** expecting the sack if he fails to lead Saints straight back to the Premier League.

But he has held meetings with the top brass about the South Coast club's future.

Martin, 38, who won the Championship play-offs as a player at Norwich, said: "There is pressure every day with this job. My future is going to be here until I am told otherwise."

"I really love what we are building here, something that we hope will be long-term successful. We have the backing of everyone in the club and I really feel that."

SPORTS ROUND-UP: RESULTS & FIXTURES

SKY BET CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY-OFFS SEMI-FINAL SECOND LEG
LEEDS (3) 4 NORWICH (0) 0
Gruev 7 Att: 36,384
Piroe 20
Rutter 40
Summerville 68
Leeds United win 4-0 on aggregate.

LA LIGA - Almeria 0 Barcelona 2, Las Palmas 2 Real Betis 2, Real Sociedad 1 Valencia 0.

BASKETBALL
NBA PLAY OFFS: Boston 113 Cleveland 98 (Boston win series 4-1). **Western** - Oklahoma City 92 Dallas 104 (Dallas lead series 3-2).

CRICKET
IPL
Sunrisers Hyderabad vs Gujarat Titans
Hyderabad: Match abandoned without a ball bowled.

CYCLING
GIRO D'ITALIA (Martinsicuro - Fano, 183.0km) **Stage 12** - 1 J Alaphilippe (Fra) 20:25, 2 J Nieve (Esp) 20:31, 3 J Nieve (Esp) 20:31, 4 J Nieve (Esp) 20:31, 5 J Nieve (Esp) 20:31, 6 J Nieve (Esp) 20:31, 7 J Nieve (Esp) 20:31, 8 J Nieve (Esp) 20:31, 9 J Nieve (Esp) 20:31, 10 J Nieve (Esp) 20:31, 11 J Nieve (Esp) 20:31, 12 J Nieve (Esp) 20:31.

DARTS
PDC PREMIER LEAGUE (Sheffield) **Final:** Smith bt Humphries 6-3. **Semi-Final:** Smith bt Litter 6-5, Humphries bt M van Gerwen 6-3. **Quarter-Finals:** Litter (Eng) bt P Wright (Sco) 6-4, M Smith (Eng) bt A Aspinall (Eng) 6-3, L Humphries (Eng) bt G Price (Wal) 6-4, M van Gerwen (Hol) bt R Cross (Eng) 6-4.

GOLF
PGA CHAMPIONSHIP (Louisville, Kentucky, US unless stated) **1st rnd** - 62 X Schauffele, 65 T Finau, S Theegala, 66 R MacIntyre (Sco), R McIlroy (Nir), 67 B Koepka, B Koelke, T Moore, 68 B DeChambeau, A Hadwin (Can), M Homa, V Hovland (Nor), M Kaymer (Ger), K Kitayama, C Smith (Aus), 69 K Bradley, D Burnstetter (Rsa), D Ghim, L Herbert (Aus), J Spieth, J Thomas, J Weir, 70 C Conners (Can), L Little (Eng) bt P Wright (Sco) 6-4, M Smith (Eng) bt A Aspinall (Eng) 6-3, L Humphries (Eng) bt G Price (Wal) 6-4, M van Gerwen (Hol) bt R Cross (Eng) 6-4.

LADIES AMUNDI GERMAN MASTERS (Munchendorf, Gb & Irl unless stated) **1st rnd** - 68 P Schmidt (Ger), 69 M Oertgen (Swe), E Spitz (Aut), 70 A Foersterling (Ger), N Komulainen (Fin), A Utama (Tha), A Balso (Slo), O McShafey, T Chan (Hkg), T Aradi (Sri), 71 B Law, M Slavnar (Nor), L Fuentstueck (Ger), C Gorle (Rsa), L Sobron (Spa), L Walsh, C Chevalier (Fra), 72 A Prashanth (Ind), H Eriem (Ger), G Cowley, C Gainer, C Palomar-Herbin (Fra), J Mieschke (Cze), I Laklakch (Mor), O Sattayabanthot (Tha), S Gal (Ger), L Osala (Fin), T Malik (Ind), 73 J Gustavsson (Swe), M Folke (Swe), K Rudgeley (Aus), C Hedwally (Swe), K Metraux (Swh), Anne-Lise Cautel (Fra), L Hill, D Zaleswaska (Pol), D Du Toit (Rsa), T Martin, S Bruce (Phi), L Sluman (Pan), C Sawada (Jpn), L Wessberg (Swe), A Walsh (Aus).

TENNIS
ATP & WTA INTERNAZIONALI BNL D'ITALIA ROME ITALY—Men's Quarter-Finals: T Paul (USA) bt H Hurkacz (Pol) 7-5 3-6 6-3, N Jarry (Chi) bt S Tsitsipas (Gre) 6-4 7-5 6-4. **Women's Semi-Finals:** I Swiatek (Pol) bt C Gauff (USA) 6-4 6-3; A Sabalenka (Bir) bt C Collins (USA) 7-5 6-2.

TODAY'S SPORT
(7.45 unless stated)

SKY BET CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY-OFFS SEMI-FINAL SECOND LEG
S'thampton (0) v West Brom (0) 8.0
(Live on Sky Sports Main Event)

SCOTTISH PREMIERSHIP PLAY-OFF SEMI-FINAL SECOND LEG
Raith (2) v Partick (1).....
(Live on BBC Scotland)

SCOTTISH LEAGUE ONE PLAY-OFF FINAL SECOND LEG
Spartans (1) v Dumbarnton (2)..7.30
(Live on BBC Alba)

CRICKET
Second Twenty20 International:
England v Pakistan (Northampton, 6.30pm).

County Championship - Division One—Day 1 of 4, 11am: Essex v Warwickshire (Chelmsford), Lancashire v Durham (Blackpool), Nottinghamshire v Hampshire (Trent Bridge), Somerset v Kent (Taunton), Surrey v Worcestershire (The Oval).

Division Two: Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire (Derby), Glamorgan v Middlesex (Sophia Gardens), Leicestershire v Gloucestershire (Leicester, 11am), Sussex v Yorkshire (Hove).

IPL: Mumbai Indians v Lucknow Super Giants (Mumbai, 3pm).

NETBALL
Vitality Superleague (7.30pm): Leeds Rhinos v Taupo, Manchester Thunder v Saracens Mavericks, Sirens v London Pulse.

RUGBY UNION
United Championship (7.35): Edinburgh v Munster, Zebre v Scarlets.

SPEEDWAY
CAB DIRECT CHAMPIONSHIP: Edinburgh Monarchs v Plymouth Gladiators (7.30pm).

Shaw out of Euros

By NEIL CUSTIS

LUKE SHAW has lost his race to play in the Euros after being ruled out of Manchester United's final two games of the season.

But Harry Maguire, who has missed the last three matches with a muscle injury, is set to make the FA Cup final on May 25 — and the list for Germany.

Shaw, 28, is the Three Lions' first-choice left-back but has not played since February due to a hamstring injury — and suffered a recent setback.

United boss Erik ten Hag said: "Harry Maguire has a fair chance that he will be available for the Cup final but Luke is more complicated."

"Let's say it's less of a chance he will make it but still a very small chance."

Reece in new pain

By JORDAN DAVIES

REECE JAMES will miss the first THREE games of next season after his red card at Brighton — and may not wear a Chelsea shirt again until mid-September.

The Blues skipper, 24, was sent off for kicking out at Joao Pedro during Wednesday's 2-1 win.

James, making his second appearance as a sub after five months out with a hamstring injury, was also sent off at Newcastle in November.

That means a four-game ban, Sunday's clash with Bournemouth and three games next term, which kicks off on August 17.

Ex-Chelsea midfielder N'GOLO KANTE is in the France squad for Euro 2024, two years after his last appearance.

Sport

CHRIS BASHAM, 35, will leave Sheffield United in the summer after playing 394 times for the Blades. George Baldock, Oli Norwood, Wes Foderingham and Max Lowe have also been released.

SHORT

777 hit by clubs axe

By MARTIN LIPTON

WANNABE Everton owners 777 Partners suffered a double blow as they were booted out of Brazilian AND Belgian football.

The investment firm's two figureheads, Josh Wander and Steve Pasko, got axed from the 777 board earlier this week.

And within hours of a Brazilian court suspending their ownership of Rio-based Vasco da Gama and calling for an independent examination of their accounts, 777's stake in Standard Liege was seized by the Belgian judiciary.

It follows allegations of money still owed from their takeover in 2022.

Toffees owner Farhad Moshiri refuses to give up on the sale, despite 777's failure to meet Prem chiefs' financial demands.

Andrew Dillon



OUR COLUMNISTS ARE THE TALK OF SPORT

Antonio strife a wake-up call

FRAZZLED STARS NEED REST



WHEN highly paid footballers moan about their workload, most people roll their eyes, mutter about having a 'real job' then get on with their day.

But there is something about Michail Antonio's concerning revelations about his mental health that strike a different chord.

Charismatic, engaging, outwardly confident and built like a prize bull, surely nothing can touch such a successful athlete with a life most young men dream of?

So for West Ham's 67-goal, all-time leading Premier League scorer, a veteran of more than 16 seasons in the game, to admit he has cracked, is a big deal.

One of the drivers behind the 34-year-old striker's reluctant advance into therapy is the now relentless football calendar, coupled with the similarly incessant levels of scrutiny.

Trying to put the ball in the net for a top-flight team is a minor part of the job.

Simply wondering where your passport is, or feeling secure enough to turn on your phone without receiving 50 gigabytes of abuse, is taking over from the role you have been hired to do.

Antonio revealed he is now divorced, and what's behind it is his business.

But one of his old team-mates, Robert Snodgrass, once told me how

he spent an entire season commuting from Essex to Aston Villa while on loan, forcing him to eat at motorway service stations en route.

His reward for trying to be a good husband and dad by being at home each night?

To be singled out for putting on weight by then Hammers manager Manuel Pellegrini.

It's ironic that Jamaica international Antonio chose to air his deepest-held secrets on the High Performance podcast, because his struggle to cope with the "constant" of football has significantly harmed his game.

Yes, top footballers are paid vast amounts but are we getting to a situation where that is not really the point? The latest cry for help from someone who should be enjoying every waking moment could not be better timed.

Just 24 hours earlier, Fifa's announcement that the spectre of the dreaded '39th game' is being revived must send a shudder through every Premier League dressing room.

A 'working group' will establish whether it's feasible for domestic games to be played abroad.

Manchester City v Arsenal could yet become part of a travelling circus, with the players as performing monkeys.

And it will not be played anywhere within a 500-mile radius of the Etihad or the Emirates.

Nope, it's the Far East, the US or, most likely, Saudi Arabia. Not so

long ago, Fifa's El Presidente Gianni Infantino met the 20 Premier League captains in the wake of his brainwave to hold the World Cup every two years. He was told to shove it.

Next season, teams in the Champions League and Europa League will play two extra games — eight instead of six — in the new 'league stage'.

Then comes the expanded Club World Cup every four years.

The players aren't slumming it. They get well looked after.

But does first-class-plus travel make up for physical and mental exhaustion any more?

Antonio is expected to join West Ham on their pre-season tour in Florida, where they face Crystal Palace. Last year, it was Tottenham in Australia.

And all the while, every kick, every missed header, every facial expression or behavioural aspect of his life will be tracked by social media.

Antonio has around 800,000 followers combined on X, Instagram and TikTok.

Clubs know that every social-media post is an indirect way to get their hands into the pockets of the fans paying over the odds for replica shirts with their heroes' names on the back.

If it's got to breaking point for Antonio, who plays for a mid-table team, one not even playing in Europe next season, what must it be like for those at the summit of football?

More games, more travel, more money, more pressure, more social media. Give it a rest.



EMERY... success

Villa are fantastic

WELL played Aston Villa for making club history and qualifying for the Champions League for the first time.

It's refreshing to see a new team join the top table, and boss Unai Emery and the players fully deserve their success.

Unfortunately, elevation to elite European competition can sometimes change the feel at a club.

Manchester City, Arsenal and Manchester United have all become victims to an influx of new fair-weather fans jumping on the bandwagon at the expense of traditional hardcore supporters.

I am quietly confident this won't happen again at Villa though. To get 'tourist' fans, first you will need people to go on holiday to Birmingham!

★ **STOP press!** Lenny Kravitz will play Wembley in the build-up to the Champions League final.

Cracking act and, with VAR delays expected to take the June 1 game between Real Madrid and Borussia Dortmund well into the night, maybe he could start his set with his 1991 hit 'It Ain't Over 'Til It's Over'. Just a thought.



JOHN FURY... headbutt

Head for trouble

WHOEVER wins between Tyson Fury and Oleksandr Usyk tomorrow will be officially crowned the 'undisputed heavyweight champion of the world'.

But given the behaviour of Fury's dad this week, headbutting strangers who dared to chant the name of his son's opponent, you get a sense that anything but victory for the Gypsy King will be very much disputed until there is a rematch.



PULLMAN... will be missed

BRIAN ONE OF A KIND

BRIAN PULLMAN will mean nothing to the vast majority of people reading this.

Yet to hundreds, if not thousands of football journalists down the years, he has been a source of tea, biscuits and longevity at Chelsea.

This weekend marks the last of Brian's near-56 years working for his beloved Blues, before retiring from his part-time job as the welcoming face at the

training ground ahead of every press conference.

At 86, his eyesight isn't what it once was, but his forensic knowledge and passion for Chelsea remain undimmed by age.

And fair play to the Stamford Bridge club.

With time passing, they have paid for a taxi to get Brian to and from his post, where he stands on duty like an unflinching Sergeant Major.

With football changing ever

more rapidly, people like Brian are becoming more scarce when what they provide, in terms of certainty and reliability, should be more cherished.

And apart from all that, Brian is something of a miracle.

Since starting in 1968, he has seen around 30 managers come and go in the Chelsea guillotine, yet he hasn't been sacked.

Plenty of very famous managers could do with knowing what his secret is.

DRESS TO IMPRESS
... Arsenal's Saka and City ace Kovacic show off new strips

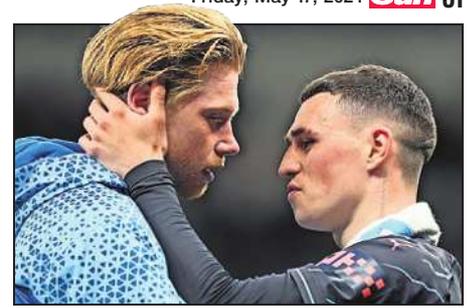
KIT'S ON THE LINE



ARSENAL and Manchester City will NOT wear next season's new kits for their Premier League title showdowns. The top two — separated by two points — go into battle for the crown on Sunday. The Gunners need to beat

Everton at the Emirates and hope City slip up at the Etihad against West Ham. Both sides have this week revealed their fresh home strips for the 2024-25 campaign — Arsenal kitted out by adidas and City with Puma. It is customary for

clubs to don their new threads on the final day to spark up some early sales and promote it ahead of the off-season. But both contenders have chosen to stick with this season's design as they chase glory.



MAGICIANS ... City wizards De Bruyne and Foden

FODEN'S 4

From Back Page

season as he chases a **SIXTH** Prem crown. But the England star believes there is more to come from him in the future. He added: "I'm playing with a lot of confidence, I'm playing in a position where I can affect the game a lot more, playing more centrally, and I feel my game has gone up another level.

"I'm still only 23, there's a lot more to come. Working with Pep who, for me, is the best manager in the world is only going to help me. "I feel like my game has come on massively this year. Now I'm getting the rewards I've worked so hard for."

A win guarantees the title — and City will still finish top if they match second-placed Arsenal's result against Everton. After playing the Hammers, City will have six days to prepare to face neighbours Manchester United in the FA Cup final at Wembley for a second successive year.

Then Foden can turn his attention to trying to help England win the Euro 2024 finals.

He added: "If we can win these next two finals we'll go into the tournament full of confidence." Foden picked up the

	PLD	GD	PTS
1 Man City	37	+60	88
2 Arsenal	37	+61	86

FWA Player of the Year with 42 per cent of the vote to beat City teammate Rodri and Gunners ace Declan Rice.

It was a double triumph for City as Bunny Shaw picked up the Women's award.

Meanwhile, City star Kevin De Bruyne never expected to be on the brink of a sixth Prem title when he joined Manchester City's OAPs nine years ago.

The Belgian, 32, is the longest-serving player in Guardiola's squad, having joined for £54million back in 2015.

When he first arrived in Manchester, the City squad was full of ageing legends like Vincent Kompany, Yaya Toure and David Silva.

KDB, bought from Wolfsburg said: "When I came here, it was a very different team — full of older legends. In Pep's first season, a lot of people were in their 30s so we needed a rebuild and I was probably one of the first pieces at the time.

"I would have never expected to win five titles or all the things we've done. It's been incredible."

MIKEL BIDS TO TURN TIDE



PERSONAL TRIAINER
... Arteta's uncle Ibon Amatrain is a surfing legend who taught him to control his emotions

Uncle's surf lessons KO'd fear factor

MIKEL ARTETA goes into Premier League title D-Day on a wave of optimism despite the odds being stacked against his Arsenal side.

The Gunners boss needs a win over Everton on Sunday while hoping West Ham deny Manchester City victory at the Etihad to emulate Arsene Wenger's champions of 20 years ago.

But Arteta is no stranger to facing his fears when his back is against the wall.

From the age of six, the Spaniard was thrown into the deep end — quite literally — learning to ride waves in his hometown of San Sebastian on La Concha Beach alongside his surfing uncle Ibon Amatrain.

Amatrain, 55, is considered a minor celebrity in the Basque Country, hailed as one of the best big wave surfers in Europe for decades.

Nicknamed Sensei, he now passes on his knowledge to the next generation, including his three sons Ikre, Adur and Eki — as well as teaching yoga to the locals.

And it was during those fun-filled, yet formidable, beach days that Arteta, now 42, embraced fear head on.

Arteta explained: "Ibon was an inspiration for me, as an athlete,

competitor, someone who connected me with nature and challenging fear when you are on those big waves.

"He used to take me when I was six, seven, eight years old, to face the difficulty with courage and find a way to survive.

"When you are under the water you have to find your own way to do it. It was so fulfilling."

Yet it was not always plain sailing for ex-midfielder Arteta during his playing career, which started at the famed La Masia academy in Barcelona and ended at the Emirates in 2016.

After experiences at Paris Saint-Germain and Rangers, he decided to return to San Sebastian in the summer of 2004 with Real Sociedad in order to be closer to his family.

Arteta recalled: "I get the news that my parents are getting divorced. I felt so guilty.

"I didn't know if that was because of me and trying to pursue my dream. I felt responsible.

"But at Sociedad, it was a disaster. It never worked. I never felt connected. I felt I had disappointed my family."

Everton swooped in January 2005 in

a career-defining switch before joining Arsenal on deadline day in August 2011.

Eight years later, having served as Pep Guardiola's assistant at Manchester City during that time, he was hired as Gunners manager.

Arteta said: "It was very complicated to manage, problems with the ownership, problems with the supporters.

"No real clear identity to build the club and how to play — but the issue was much deeper. The issue was in our roots. It was all a mess.

"After a lot of changes, I did a lot of research to understand what was happening.

"We needed to convince people we were willing to take this club to a very different place."

In almost five years in charge, Arteta has transformed the Gunners into title challengers — one game away from ending two decades of title despair.

His accomplishments have been recognised, receiving The Royal Order of Isabella the Catholic at the Spanish Embassy in London on Wednesday — a prestigious honour.

A Hollywood-style epic finale is needed to add another crown to his collection, much like the script of Arteta's favourite film: *Gladiator*.

He said: "I've watched it many times. There are clips that are very significant. "I feel very attached to it all — the soundtrack, the music. I feel very good watching it."



ROYAL SEAL OF APPROVAL ... Arteta wears prestigious gong

CITY ED ACHE

By MARTIN BLACKBURN



EDERSON is out of Manchester City's vital last two matches this season after scans revealed a fracture to his eye socket.

The keeper (left) went off in Tuesday's win at Spurs after a collision with Cristian Romero.

He will miss Sunday's Prem finale with West Ham and the FA Cup final six days later, though deputy Stefan Ortega was set to face Manchester United anyway.

Masters Etihad party pooper

PREM chief Richard Masters is at Arsenal on Sunday — avoiding any backlash from Manchester City fans.

By MARTIN LIPTON

and Nottingham Forest following their points punishments this season for financial failings.

And the top-flight boss will not be handing over the Premier League trophy to Pep Guardiola and his team if — as expected — they beat West Ham to seal an unprecedented fourth straight crown.

Chair Alison Britain will head a Prem delegation at the Etihad, with Masters at the Emirates in case there is a last-day upset and Arsenal are champions.

City have an uneasy relationship with League bosses after being hit with 115 charges for alleged breaches of financial rules.

The case is due to be heard by a commission in the autumn.

Chief executive Masters (right) is the most public face of the Premier League.



THE BIG VAR DEBATE SHOULD IT



RED MISSED
... United escape after Amrabat foul on Gordon not given by VAR

TOO VAR

From Back Page
keep VAR but for offsides only. I would scrap it for everything that is opinion based. Offsides are factual and not subjective. "It is so difficult to lose a game on an offside goal when a player is two or three yards offside. Everyone makes mistakes, linesmen make mistakes, so that is why I would keep VAR for that."

"But I would not have it for red cards or penalties because, even now, people disagree if a decision is right or wrong."

VAR is a hot topic inside the dressing rooms of all 20 Prem clubs.

Maguire added: "There is a split. Some players want to get rid of it. VAR offsides do kill goal celebrations a bit."

"I don't want to see penalties decided by VAR — just let the referee make the decision."

"There have been far too many soft penalties this season. Penalties decide football matches and are such an important part of the game. Obviously, I'm a defender and I'd say that."

"It should be a clear and obvious penalty. It is the same with red cards — let the referee decide."

"We want our game to be a contact sport. We want the game to be aggressive."

Supporters groups have backed Wolves' call to scrap VAR — which would require 14 of 20 votes to make a change.

It is expected most Prem clubs will oppose the proposed move, with Maguire's United boss Erik ten Hag (inset) adamant English football cannot reverse its decision. Ten

Hag said: "I don't think there is a way back. In principle it makes football more fair but there are some problems."

"We have to find the solutions to these problems, make improvements."

But Maguire added: "It is going to divide opinion and a lot of people will want to keep it. Equally, the popular thing at the moment is to say get rid of it. It probably does need to be done better."

"The automated offsides are coming in next season and that will improve it."

Wolves Supporters Trust say they are "incredibly pleased" with the club's stance and added: "VAR has taken the enjoyment out of the game we all know and love."

And the Football Supporters Association, citing a survey of almost 10,000 fans which found barely five per cent happy with VAR, said: "There are more correct decisions than ever. But 19 out of 20 fans find VAR makes football less enjoyable."

Maguire is hoping to overcome a calf injury to face Manchester City in the FA Cup final at Wembley on May 25.

Before then, the big boxing fan is relishing tomorrow's heavyweight clash between Tyson Fury and Oleksandr Usyk.

Maguire, 31, said: "It is a fight that everybody wants to see."

"We are both WOW Hydrate ambassadors and I have been in contact with Tyson over the last few years now."

"He is a big United and England fan and I wish him all the best."



Checking the

MARTIN LIPTON



KEEP IT - We

CHIEF SPORTS REPORTER

can't go back

It has meant more correct calls!

FAST forward 12 months to May 18, 2025.

After 89 minutes at Molineux, Wolves, needing to win their last game of the season to stay up, are beating Manchester United, who require a point for Champions League football.

A ball over the top sends Rasmus Hojlund racing away. The flag stays down. Hojlund scores. Wolves are relegated.

And on the way home, the dejected Wolves fans see the still image on their phones.

Hojlund was 2ft offside. No question. A shocker.

It means at least a year in the Championship, £100million income drop, a firesale of the squad. While United bank an extra £50m.

But it's OK. Every one of those fans, plus smiling boss Gary O'Neil and the Wolves board, will line up to say: "No worries. It's what we voted for. Rough with the smooth."

Yes. And I've got a bridge to Ireland to sell you.

That Wolves have had the thick end of some shockers this season is unquestioned.

The opening game of the season at Old Trafford, when they were denied a stick-on penalty. Those two awful spot-kicks given for Newcastle and Sheffield United.

Anger leads to overkill. So when Wolves' last-gasp goal against West Ham was RIGHTLY chalked off for offside, with Tawanda Chirewa interfering with Lukasz Fabianski, the fury and indignation went off the scale again.

And that is the trouble with football. That **NOBODY** accepts any decisions against their club.

That it must be down to "big club bias". Or "home crowd pressure". Or "incompetence". Or "they've been bought". Which is precisely



GONE TOO VAR ... Wolves chief Jeff Shi wants action

as referees' chief Webb readily acknowledges.

He wants to recruit more VAR specialists rather than asking Premier League refs to sit in judgment on their mates.

To speed up the process, too. Everyone knows those interminable waits are too long. And, if he can persuade lawmakers on the International FA Board to agree, to play out the VAR conversations to fans in the ground and at home in real time.

But the fact is, this season 46 'goals' have been chalked off by VAR, 30 of them for offside.

Goals that would have counted, wrongly, in the past. And left the victims crying foul. Demanding change. Calling for VAR.

In truth, if you want a system that gets most decisions right — which is what the demand was — then there will always be costs. The main one is the end of that guaranteed moment of pure joy and elation when the ball hits the net and the ref blows to point to the centre spot.

Now it is tempered, sometimes, just in case...

But with the Prem now due to bring in Uefa-style, limb-tracking semi-automated offside technology next season, most offside decisions will be quicker.

And it will be the computer that judges, not Stockley Park.

Despite the furore and the acclaim of many fans, the majority of Prem clubs will vote against Wolves' proposal.

They will be right to do so.

CHALKED OFF

A TOTAL of 46 goals have been ruled out this season — 30 for offside — with Chelsea and Wolves the biggest losers.

	GNA	GNC	Net		GNA	GNC	Net
Arsenal	2	2	0	Luton	1	1	0
Aston Villa	6	7	+1	Liverpool	3	2	+1
Bournemouth	3	3	0	Man City	0	0	0
Brentford	1	2	+1	Man Utd	4	1	+3
Brighton	2	2	0	Newcastle	2	0	+2
Burnley	2	3	+1	Notm For	1	2	+1
Chelsea	6	2	+4	Sheff Utd	2	3	+1
C Palace	2	3	+1	Tottenham	1	4	+3
Everton	1	4	+3	West Ham	3	2	+1
Fulham	0	3	+3	Wolves	4	0	+4

Fulham (Goals not allowed) GNC (Goals not conceded)

STAY OR GO IN PREM?

review system

DAVE KIDD
CHIEF SPORTS WRITER



DITCH IT - Wolves boss Jeff Shi is right to call a vote

Football's about high-tempo glory...not VAR

THREE cheers and a hearty slap on the back for Wolves chairman Jeff Shi.

For mentioning the unmentionable, for speaking commonsense to deaf ears, for proposing that VAR should be scrapped.

Shi is doomed to failure. His suggestion is unlikely to even go to a vote at next month's Premier League AGM.

And if it does get that far, it has a cat in hell's chance of receiving the two-thirds majority required to carry such a radical proposal.

But in one statement on Wednesday, Shi proved that he will be the brightest man in that meeting room.

He claimed VAR has led to numerous unintended negative consequences that are damaging the relationship between fans and football, and undermining the value of the Premier League brand.

And he is absolutely spot on. The argument against VAR is wide-ranging and yet completely basic.

If you believe that football is a sport, to be enjoyed in all its spontaneous, high-tempo glory, then you are against VAR.

If you believe that football is a business, that it is far more important than a mere game, that forensic evidence must be applied, that we must reach the closest point to ultimate justice at all costs — and if you also believe that match-going supporters are irrelevant — then you are in favour of VAR.

A few of us have argued long and hard for the abolition of VAR — indeed some of us predicted this current sewage show before technology in decision-making was even introduced.

The standard reply is that 'it can't happen, it won't happen, so we have to make the best of it'.

That is because the argument is framed largely by self-interested TV companies who want football to be all about their 'product', referees who see VAR as 'more jobs for the boys', and



dramatic late winner in FA Cup history — only for his effort to be scrubbed out by VAR due to a toenail offside.

That was where VAR had been leading. That was the endgame. The desire to promote forensic evidence over visceral drama. It was the moment when video killed the football star.

The counter-argument will centre on robot linesmen, on changes in the offside law simply to make VAR look less ridiculous, on telling paying punters inside stadiums what the hell is going on.

The idea they trumpet is that any step back away from technology would make football look Neanderthal.

Cricket uses technology, rugby uses technology, American football uses technology.

Yes, but those sports are fundamentally different, more stop-start, than football. And technology is far from a panacea in those other sports, too.

There is a route back from this madness and it is to Shi's immense credit that he recognises it.

And yes, self-interest is at play. Wolves have been horribly affected by dismal VAR calls, more so than any other top-flight club. PGMOL chief Howard Webb rings them most Mondays to apologise.

But Shi's motivation is irrelevant because he is fundamentally right.

Football is a sport. It is part of the entertainment industry.

It is not, primarily, a business. It is not an exercise in forensics. It is not about ultimate justice.

It is supposed to be fun. It is supposed to be about the glory of a 120th-minute Coventry City winner to cap the greatest comeback ever seen at Wembley.

Wolves won't win the argument next month — but at least they have acknowledged that there is an argument to be had.

And one day soon, they might actually win it.



EURO BLOW... Toon are seventh after Man Utd loss

Tripp to Oz a real drag

By OSCAR PAUL

KIERAN TRIPPIER is fuming at being dragged to Australia when he should be resting up for England's Euro finals assault.

The Newcastle star, 33, finishes the Premier League season at Brentford on Sunday.

But instead of having a couple of weeks off before the Euros, Trippier will make the gruelling 21,000-mile round trip to Melbourne for a money-spinning friendly against Tottenham.

The defender declared: "My expression says it all!

It's not ideal because it's a tournament year. I understand why the club is doing it, I've done it at Tottenham and Atletico Madrid, but it's not ideal.

"We're players, we've got to do what's right for the club to move forward, and hopefully it goes smoothly."

Trippier, Toon teammate Anthony Gordon and Tottenham's James Maddison are hoping to make England's squad.

And Trippier added: "It's not just England, you've got so many nations.

"We've just got to get on with it but, as a player, it's not ideal.

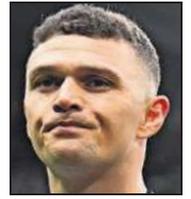
"It's not like it's in Benidorm round the corner, it's 25 hours away!"

England have two pre-tournament friendlies — against Bosnia at Toon's St James' Park on June 3 and Iceland at Wembley on June 7.

Three Lions boss Gareth Southgate then confirms his 26-man squad for the finals in Germany.

Their opening game is against Serbia on June 16.

And Trippier's mood will only worsen if New-



TRIPPIER... gruelling

castle fail to qualify for Europe. Wednesday's 3-2 defeat at Manchester United saw them slip to seventh place.

If Manchester City beat Man United in the FA Cup final, then seventh would get a Conference League spot. But that would go to sixth if the Red Devils win.

Toon have lost 11 on the road this term.

Boss Eddie Howe said: "Europe is now out of our hands. Wednesday was not good enough but it's been the story of our away form."

"It was probably always going to go right to the end of the season and we're still fighting."

BELGIAN DOUBT

TICKET sales for Belgium's home Nations League clash with Israel have been put on hold — over security fears.

For the September 6 fixture, the Belgian FA said: "We are in permanent contact with the security services, the city of Brussels and the federal government. The security situation is being analysed."

Belgium's Euro 2024 qualifier against Sweden last October was abandoned after a gunman — believed to be responding to events in Gaza — shot dead two Swedish fans in Brussels.

Ray of Son

By TOM BARCLAY

SON HEUNG-MIN urged everyone connected to Tottenham to help Ange Postecoglou push for success.

Postecoglou hit out after Tuesday's 2-0 home defeat to Manchester City — a game some fans wanted to lose to stop rivals Arsenal winning the title.

The angry Aussie boss said the match exposed the club's "fragile foundations".

Yet captain Son (left), who missed a big chance at 1-0, said: "It's the gaffer's first year and he's brought so much positivity.

"Now everybody — the club, players and fans — has to be all together in this. He has definitely shown that he can bring success to the club."



HEAVYWEIGHT BOXING

FURY V

Watch Wally Downes Jr's latest vids from Riyadh
thesun.co.uk/boxing



Coming tomorrow
COLIN HART'S
 big-fight prediction



FOLLOW THE BOUT LIVE ON THE BLOG
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...then read
DAVE KIDD'S
 report online and on
THE Sun
 digital newspaper app



It'll sound deserted..

SAUDI NO STAGE FOR MEGA FIGHT

IT is the single greatest individual sporting title on the planet – the undisputed heavyweight championship of the world.

It is the crown worn by Muhammad Ali, Mike Tyson, Rocky Marciano and Jack Dempsey. And it is an honour which has not been bestowed for a quarter of a century.

Yet when Tyson Fury steps into the ring to face Oleksandr Usyk for the ultimate accolade in prize-fighting, he will do so in the dead of an Arabian night, in front of a largely disinterested crowd, one with little atmosphere or sense of occasion.

What ought to have been The Greatest Show on Earth will feel like a ding-dong held in a vortex. The Saudification of elite sport is reaching crisis point – from the civil war in golf, to the march of football's filthy-rich Saudi Pro League, to the awarding of the 2034 World Cup.

But this event, at Riyadh's Kingdom Arena, in the early hours of Sunday morning local time, is a true crown jewel, allowing the Sheikhs to bask in its reflected glory, to marvel at their own wealth and power.

Cristiano Ronaldo's Al-Nassr met Lionel Messi's Inter Miami at the same venue earlier this year but that was an exhibition match, this is the real deal.

The tragedy for British boxing is that it currently holds the balance of power in the heavyweight division – thanks to Fury, Anthony Joshua and several other decent contenders.

And boxing had regained its place at the heart of Britain's sporting consciousness, thanks to a series of packed-out stadium shows, which showcased the unrivalled adrenalin rush provided by this sweet science.

A decade ago this month, Carl Froch knocked out George Groves in a world super-middleweight bout which filled Wembley Stadium – and boxing rediscovered its own pulling power.

Joshua capitalised with four

From **DAVE KIDD**

CHIEF SPORTS WRITER IN RIYADH



successive heavyweight title triumphs at Wembley and Cardiff's Principality Stadium – starting with the epic, era-shifting success which retired the once-dominant Wladimir Klitschko in 2017.

But Fury's one-sided domestic scrap with Dillian Whyte, which lacked intrigue or jeopardy, managed to sell out at Wembley, too.

Those events – along with AJ's shock defeat by Usyk at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium in 2021 – were big nights out, spectacles which stopped the nation, quickened pulses and rattled eardrums.

And while Fury will always be a controversial figure, due to a failed drug test and a waning tendency to make hugely offensive remarks, he is also an outstanding showman, a compelling live act with a unique brand of brutal vaudeville. It is not just the Gypsy

King's ringcraft – which allowed him to out-box master craftsman Klitschko and out-punch the explosive Deontay Wilder – but the magnificent silliness of his overblown ring walks and post-fight karaoke routines.

Fury craves a rapt audience and he will not get one in Riyadh.

It was Joshua and his boss Eddie Hearn who sold out to Saudi first.

Fury has merely followed the gold rush.

He has largely been a 'road fighter', who dethroned Klitschko and Wilder on their own home soil of Germany and the US respectively.

But this occasion ought to represent a rare moment of purity for boxing.

That word 'undisputed' represents a gold standard, a precious occasion when sporting integrity rises above the political machinations of boxing's rival governing bodies.

The fact that Usyk will put his WBA, WBO and IBF belts on the line, along with Fury's WBC title, as well as the notional 'lineal'

crown which links him back through history to Tyson and Ali and Marciano, should be something to celebrate.

But there will be precious few fight fans travelling to Saudi Arabia for tomorrow night's contest, which could decide the identity of an undisputed heavyweight king for the first time since Lennox Lewis defeated Evander Holyfield in 1999.

This desert nation is completely dry of alcohol and lacking in amusement.

The daytime temperatures yesterday reached 107F – too hot for sunbathing, difficult even to walk in – and it will be uncomfortably hot when Fury and Usyk get it on in the early hours of Sunday morning.

Saudi Arabia's dismal human-rights record, which makes its forays into world-level sport an exercise in sportswashing, demeans this and all other sports who take the royal.

That will always be the most serious argument against this or any other major sporting event being held in Saudi.

Although, Ali's all-time classic 'Rumble in the Jungle' against George Foreman was also staged under the watch of a brutal regime – that of Zaire's President Mobutu, a genocidal lunatic.

But tomorrow night, it is the near-silence of a largely apathetic crowd which will hit home as sharply as a Fury uppercut.

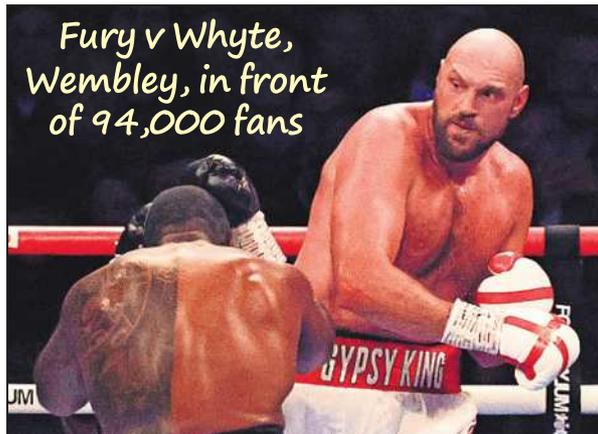
The pay-per-view crowd will feel the lack of authenticity through their TV screens.

Joshua claims he will fight at Wembley for the first time in six years this September – perhaps in a world-title eliminator against Daniel Dubois, Filip Hrgovic or Wilder – and that would be welcome.

But should he ever fight Fury, that greatest all-British bout of all time would surely go to the highest bidder – and the highest bid is always from the Saudis.

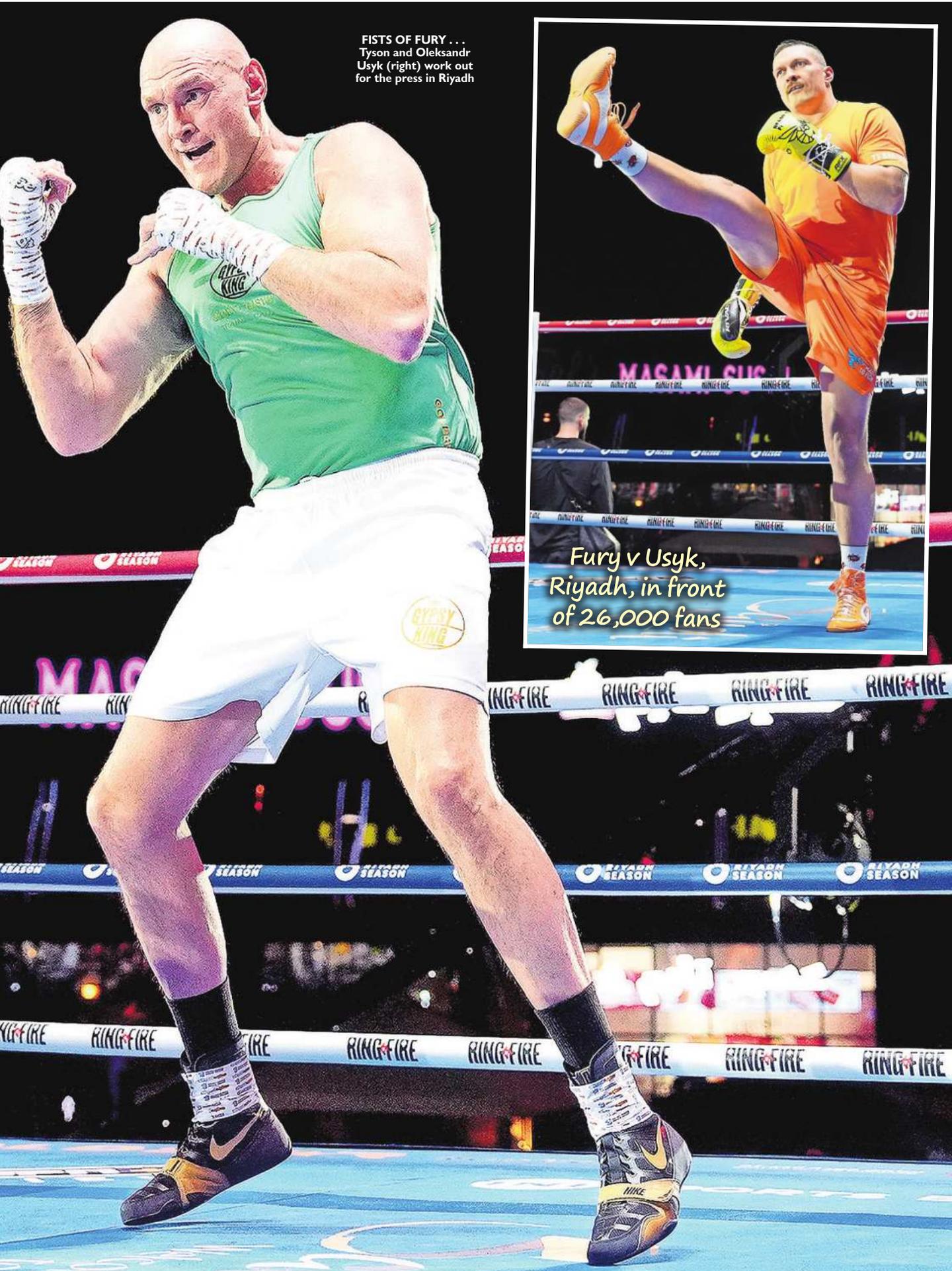
British boxing has lost its way – 4,000 miles out of its way, in the deathly hush of an Arabian night.

Fury v Whyte, Wembley, in front of 94,000 fans

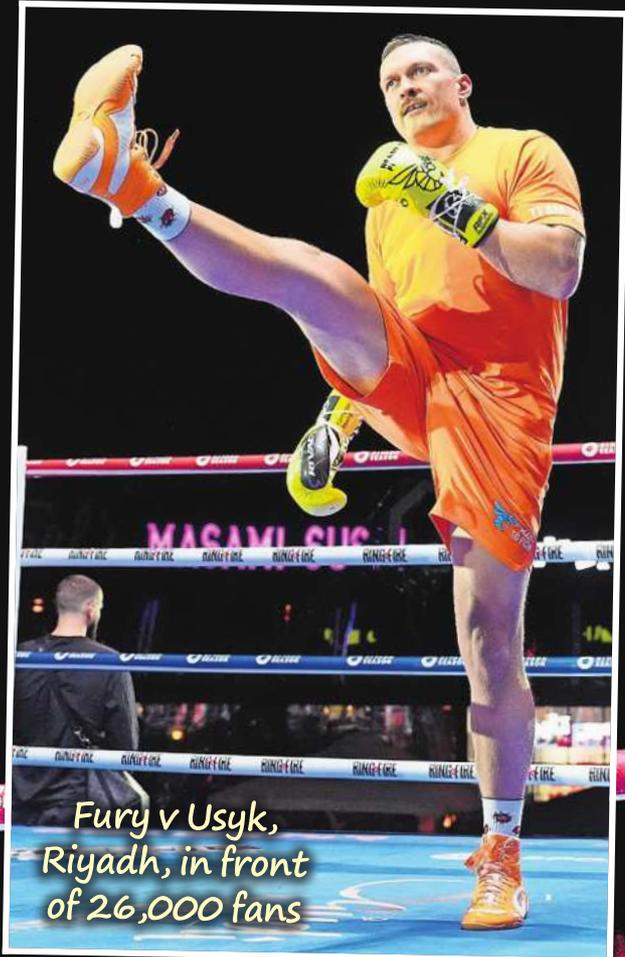


USYK SHOWDOWN

TOMORROW, **sky sports** box office **talkSPORT**
RING WALK SCHEDULED FOR 11pm



FISTS OF FURY...
Tyson and Oleksandr Usyk (right) work out for the press in Riyadh



Fury v Usyk, Riyadh, in front of 26,000 fans



RIVALS... Fury and Usyk face the media last night

CUT

From Back Page

guts all over the ring. I'm not concerned.

"It wasn't a massive cut, it was only seven stitches, it's not like the 47 I had after Otto Wallin."

The flesh around the scar looks fresh and Fury is talking like a man with his physical and mental health in peak condition.

And the Morecambe heavyweight, who is bipolar, added: "The best version of me is any version where I'm happy."

"I'm always happy when I'm boxing — I'm getting paid and getting laid."

"I get paid a s**t ton of money every time I fight."

After two years of trash talk, contract rows, two cancelled bouts and a stray headbutt, the pair will finally clash.

Fury bottled his first face-off chance with Usyk last night when he refused to go eye-to-eye.

He had promised to use the press conference to wind up Ukraine's 37-year-old hero.

In a flame-covered suit,

I've been paid and laid..I'm happy
- TYSON FURY

he looked away from Usyk's determined gaze, preferring to dance and pose — much to the crowd's disappointment.

Fury told them: "Thanks to all the fans who travelled over to support me because I know times are hard."

"I have nothing to say apart from I'm ready for a fight, whether it's tough or easy."

"I'll pray for him, that we both get home to our families, because that is what it is all about."

"Me and Oleksandr are going to put on a fantastic show for the world to watch."

When asked why he did not face-off with Usyk, he added: "He's a scary-looking dude."

"I'm just here to relax now and wait until I get into the ring."

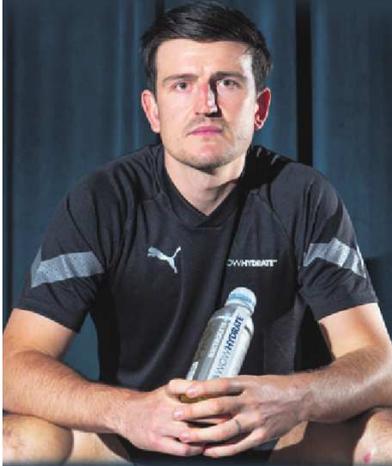
Usyk said: "I'm happy to be here. I'm excited and grateful. Let's make history."

And when asked what he was doodling at the start of the event, he added: "That drawing was my homework."

"It's a poem. I will not show it now. Later."

thesun.co.uk/sport
Sun Sport

HARRY MAGUIRE
EXCLUSIVE



'Tech goes too VAR'

By CHARLIE WYETT

HARRY MAGUIRE wants to scrap VAR for penalties and red cards — and only keep it for offsides.

Prem clubs will vote whether to axe the technology at their annual general meeting next month after Wolves' controversial proposal.

Manchester United and England defender Maguire spoke out ahead of the June 6 motion, saying: "I would
 Turn to Page 52

LEEDS INTO THE PLAY-OFF FINAL

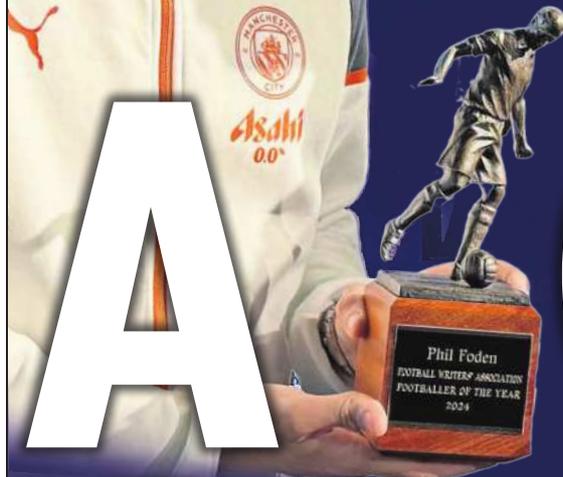
Match report – Page 49



8-page racing pullout inside



Foden: Four PL titles in a row will not be repeated



WRITE RESULT... Foden with his award last night

By MARTIN BLACKBURN

PHIL FODEN says Manchester City must take their chance to win a fourth straight Premier League title on Sunday — as it may never be done again.

Pep Guardiola's men will ensure they become the first club in England to achieve the feat by beating West Ham at home.

Foden has been key to their success and last night picked up the Football Writers' Association Footballer of the Year award.

And the playmaker said of achieving four titles in a row: "It would mean a lot to us because it's never been done before."

"It's history and I don't think I can ever see it being done again. "It's something the team understands and we're looking forward to trying to get it done."

Foden, still only 23, has scored 25 goals and picked up 11 assists in all competitions for City this
 Turn to Page 51

A CUT ABOVE



Fury: No worries if gash opens up

From WALLY DOWNES Jr in Riyadh

TYSON FURY has no fears of his cut reopening in tomorrow's undisputed world heavyweight title fight with Oleksandr Usyk.

The Gypsy King suffered the gash above his right eye (inset) during a sparring session just a fortnight before their proposed February 17 showdown.

But Britain's WBC champion insists there is no lasting damage as he prepares to seize the WBA, WBO and IBF belts from southpaw Usyk here in Saudi Arabia.

Fury, 35, said: "The cut's the cut and if it opens up, it opens up. "It's a fight and I've had plenty of cuts before, plenty of blood and
 Turn to Page 55



GREEN GIANT... Fury trains in Riyadh ahead of tomorrow's Usyk fight

Ray: I've got my life back after hell of booze and drug shame

JOCKEY Ray Dawson has lifted the lid on the mental torment and embarrassment after doing his time for drink and drugs.

Talented Dawson, 30, is back in the saddle for the first time at Newbury today following the end of a six-month drugs ban.

He was caught by the BHA at Bath on August 19 last year, barely 12 hours after going on a drinking binge at a pub where he met a stranger who then sold him cocaine.

The rider was struggling to deal with the break up of a relationship with the mother of his daughter Lila.

Dawson told me: "When I failed the test to be completely honest I didn't take it well. I was extremely ashamed.

"I felt incredibly embarrassed I was back in a position again that had happened before. I

EXCLUSIVE

By MATT CHAPMAN

beat myself up quite bad and was very hard on myself.

"I was depressed and riddled with anxiety and fear."

Accepting the issues and support are always key to recovery. Dawson (right) said: "The first few months were very difficult.

"I struggled to see a positive outcome. Luckily I was supported by pretty much everyone – family and friends and also the trainers I work with.

"It was odd because everyone around me had forgiven me – but I couldn't get to the point of forgiving myself. I had a negative view on myself. I thought everyone else would have that."

Dawson, who lives just outside Newmarket, has been assisted in

his recovery by the Sporting Chance charity and Alcoholics Anonymous.

He said: "Slowly and surely I started feeling better and that was mainly down to Sporting Chance and their guidance.

"They were key for me getting out of the mental state I was in.

"I got completely involved in their rehabilitation programme.

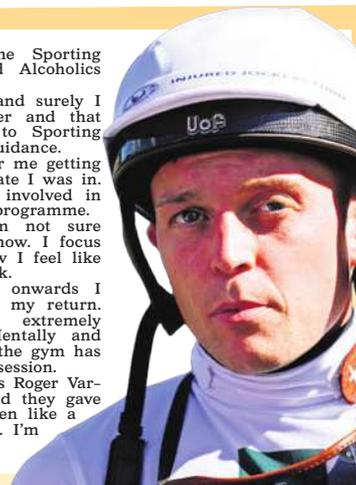
"Without that, I'm not sure where I would be now. I focus on it every day. Now I feel like I've got my life back.

"From New Year onwards I prepared myself for my return.

"I have worked extremely hard on myself. Mentally and physically. Being in the gym has been like a new obsession.

"I talked to trainers Roger Varian and TJ Kent and they gave me hope. TJ has been like a second father to me. I'm

Turn to Page 6



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PUT HIM (BACK) IN THE DERBY

William's costly error

WILLIAM HAGGAS could do with an Economics lesson after watching his horse bolt up in the Dante at York.

Because the top trainer took the colt **OUT** of the Derby last week – and now his owner will have to pay £75,000 to put him back **IN**.

You don't need to be a mathematical genius to real-

By JACK KEENE

ise those sums don't add up, even if Economics did bank £100,000 after thumping his rivals in his six-length ten-furlong rampage up the Knavesmire.

Fortunately for Haggas, the horse's owner just happens to be Sheikh Isa, a son of the king of Bahrain so finding some spare cash

down the back of the sofa will not be the problem.

Haggas (right) has adored Economics from day one but reckoned tricky Épsom and the one-mile-four trip were not what the big beast with the flash white face needed at this stage.

He must be having second thoughts now. There was so much to like

Turn to Page 2



ECO WARRIOR...
Economics dazzles in the Dante at York

SHAKE UP THAT FRIDAY FEELING

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YORK DAY THREE ON ITV: 2.15, 2.45, 3.15, 3.45

TEMPLEGATE

2.15	It Ain't Two
2.45	Botanical
3.15	Devoted Queen (nb)
3.45	VAUBAN (map)
4.15	Lead Artist
4.45	Tropez Power
5.20	Vantheman

TOM PEPPER

2.15	SERAPHIM ANGEL (map)
2.45	Loyal Touch
3.15	Spiritual
3.45	Tower Of London (nb)
4.15	Lead Artist
4.45	Red Mirage
5.20	Pilgrim

TEMPLEGATE'S TRIO: Vauban and Devoted Queen (double) with Vantheman (all York). **TOM PEPPER DOUBLE:** Seraphim Angel and Tower Of London (both York). **SUNRACINGS' MAP:** BOTANICAL (2.45 York). **SIRIUS, Sun On Sunday, nap: TRUE CYAN (1.15 York).**

TRACKFAX...

TIC-TAC: Left-handed, u-shaped track of 2m, 5f run-in. Races of 7f start on a spur. **DRAW:** Low best on the straight. **FAVOURITES:** (2019-2024): 173 have won out of 639 races (34%). **JACKPOT:** 16. **LIVE ON RACING TV**

HOT 'N NOT

TRAINERS with best record in last 14 days: J Chaney 6 wins from 20 runners; A P O'Brien 10 from 41; A Balding 13 from 59; R Beckett 6 from 28; D O'Meara 9 from 47; R Fahey 6 from 32; M Dods 6 from 33; C Appleby 6 from 34; W P Mullins 13 from 94.

JOCKEYS with best record in last 14 days: O Murphy 13 wins from 59 rides; J Watson 5 from 23; J Doyle 6 from 28; W Buick 9 from 44; C Beasley 9 from 49; C Lee 6 from 31; R L Moore 5 from 26; D Tudhope 7 from 41.

TRAINERS who have had the most winners since last win: Mrs A Duffield 43; K Scott 39.

JOCKEYS who have had the most rides since last win: B Sanderson 62; J Hart 33; G Sanna 21.

TRAINER TRACE

FIRST RACE FOR NEW YEAR: 2.45 Epic Poet F & M Meade to D O'Meara; 4.15 Rad Tornado P Chapple-Hyam to J Horton; 4.45 Al Marmar S C Williams to G Tutty; Desert Falcon Sir M Prescott to J Camacho; 5.20 Rainitegeorgia W Jarvis to A Haynes.

RACEFAX: J Gosden won the 3.45 in 2019, 2019 & 2022. F R Burke won the 1.15 in 2022 & 2023.

LONGEST TRAVELLERS: Lyndon B (4.45) trained by J & R Flint, Bridgend, round trip of 516 miles; Glimpsed (3.15) trained by R Beckett, Kimpton Down, round trip of 502 miles; Under Siege (4.15) & Enchanting (5.20), A Balding, Kingsclere, trip 432 miles.

IN THE MONEY

MONEY TALKS: Bright Thunder (3.15) opened 9-2, won at 10-3; Glimpsed (3.15) opened 13-2, unplaced at 9-2; Kaadi (2.15) opened 2-1, won at 10-3; Tropez Power (4.45) opened 9-2, won at 7-2; Call Me Harswell (2.15) opened 15-2, won at 11-2.

TOP TRAINERS

2019-2024 W Haggas 38-205, R Fahey 30-443, D O'Meara 27-381, T Easterby 26-482, J T Gosden 25-112, K Ryan 23-286, M Dods 22-160, A Balding 21-158, K R Burke 20-184.

TOP JOCKEYS

2019-2024 D Tudhope 34-285, C Beasley 20-121, R L Moore 19-140, W Buick 18-134, D Allan 16-196, J Crowley 14-90, O Murphy 14-120, J Hart 13-157.

UNDER ORDERS

SEVEN-DAY WINNERS: Eldrickjones (4.45) won at Newcastle (7f). **Bellarchi** (3.15) won at Ascot (7m). **BLINKERED FIRST TIME:** None. **VIOSORED FIRST TIME:** None. **FIRST RUN SINCE WIND UP:** Sankari (5.20). **WEIGHTWATCHER:** 2.45 Eilean Dubh (won off 92, down 3lb to 89); Kitsune Power (won off 91, down 12lb to 79); 4.45 Al Marmar (won off 87, down 3lb to 79). **JOB JOCKEYS:** O Murphy rides Running Queen (2.15) for Ollie Sangster, 4 from 13, 37%; W Buick rides Devoted Queen (3.15), First Conquest (4.15) for C Appleby, 686 from 2061, 28%; J Crowley rides Kaadi (2.15), Call Me Harswell (2.15) from 337, 27%; O Murphy rides Jubilee Walk (5.20) for J Ferguson, 9 from 36, 25%; R L Moore rides Amestris (2.15) for M Bell, 19 from 86, 22%; K Shoemark rides Ruby's Profit (2.15) for Dr R Newland & J Insole, 4 from 18, 22%; James Doyle rides Gregory (3.45) for J & T Gosden, 65 from 291, 22%; O Murphy rides How Impressive (4.45) for H Palmer, 27 from 120, 22%.

BIG-RACE TRENDS

Yr	G	Ran	Winner	Age	Jockey	Trainer	SP	Wt	OR	Drw	Days	Form
23	GF	6	GIAVELLOTTO	4	Atzeni, A	Botti, M	14/1	9.3	111	7	231	1432132
22	Gd	5	STRADIVARIUS	8	Dettoni, L	Gosden, J	6/4	9.6	118	1	209	101413
21	Gd	5	SPANISH MISSION	5	Buick, W	Balding, A	11/2	9.4	110	2	209	1326117
19	GF	8	STRADIVARIUS	5	Dettoni, L	Gosden, J	4/5	9.4	120	4	209	331111
18	GF	8	STRADIVARIUS	4	Dettoni, L	Gosden, J	4/6	9.1	118	5	209	1121331
17	St	8	BARTMOUTH	5	Moore, R	Stoute, Sir M	11/4	9.1	118	3	244	5311332
16	GF	5	CLIVER COOKIE	8	McDonald, P	Niven, P	5/2	9.1	113	2	16	1154222
15	GF	6	SNOW SKY	4	Moore, R	Stoute, Sir M	5/2	9.0	113	3	244	821423
14	Gd	12	GOSEPL CHOIR	5	Moore, R	Stoute, Sir M	7/2	9.0	115	2	13	177541
13	St	8	GLENS DIAMOND	5	Hamilton, T	Fahey, R A	25/1	9.0	104	4	234	7544604
12	Gd	8	RED CADEAUX	6	McLaughlin, T	Dunlop, E	4/1	9.0	115	4	16	140332
11	GF	8	DUNCAN	6	Buick, W	Gosden, J	11/4	9.0	119	7	287	1493224

TOWER OF LONDON can take the crown jewels in the Yorkshire Cup.

Finishing in the first three last time out has been an important pointer for the Yorkshire Cup. Eight of the past ten ticked that box.

Winners have been aged up to eight... with four and five-year-olds having the strongest record.

You need to be north of 110 on the official ratings with the top three in the betting usually provides the winner.

A recent run isn't important but you need to have won at least four times with a victory at Group level.

Looking at today's contenders on the trends:

TOWER OF LONDON: Aged four, won last time, has a Group win, has a Group win, from first three in betting and is 116 on official ratings. Has five Flat wins. Ticks all the boxes.

3.45 Yorkshire Cup

in official ratings, big price and only second last time. Six Flat wins including at Group level.

GIAVELLOTTO: Aged five, won this last year, only fifth last time out, has four Flat wins including a Group race. 114 on official ratings, just outside the first three in betting.

GREGORY: Aged four, only fifth last time and not first three in betting. Official rating is 111 and only three Flat wins but one was at Group level.

NAQEEB: Aged four, only 104 on official ratings, finished third last time and too big a price.

VAUBAN: Aged six, unplaced last time, has four Flat wins including a Group race with 114 on official ratings. From the first three in betting. His age and last run is against him.

Only **TOWER OF LONDON** fits all the trends and he can take this for Aidan O'Brien (left).



2.15 CLIPPER MARYGATE FILLIES' LISTED STAKES (16 runners)

1	(1)	2 AMESTRIS 30	M Bell 9-0	non-runner	96	£6,043
2	(15)	4 BAILEYS JUBILATION 12	C Johnston 9-0	Jason Hart	89	£2,416
3	(5)	12 BETTY CLOVER 12 (BF, D)	E J-Houghton 9-0	Georgia Dobie	95	£7,838
4	(14)	31 CALL ME HARSWELL 11 (D)	R Fell & S Murray 9-0	Hollie Doyle	92	£17,151
5	(2)	GLORIOUS KITTY	M & D Easterby 9-0	Billy Garrity	-	£68,000
6	(6)	2 INVINCIBLE ANNIE 16 (BF)	K Burke 9-0	Sam James	95	£2,282
7	(16)	1 IT AIN'T TWO 30 (D)	H Palmer 9-0	William Buick	96	£12,885
8	(7)	1 JAYVEE 22 (D)	B Ellison 9-0	Daniel Tudhope	90	£4,050
9	(13)	21 KAADII 25 (D)	K Burke 9-0	Clifford Lee	96	£5,269
10	(8)	44533 LADY DORCHESTER 16 (T)	D F Davis 9-0	David Egan	78	£3,183
11	(11)	3 MAGIC MILD 30	C Cox 9-0	Jim Crowley	93	£3,023
12	(9)	1 MISS LAMAI 27 (D)	K Burke 9-0	Callum Rodriguez	95	£4,860
13	(12)	1 RUBY'S PROFIT 16 (D)	Newland/Insole 9-0	Kieran Shoemark	91	£3,780
14	(10)	41 RUNNING QUEEN 12 (D)	O Sangster 9-0	Oliver Murphy	99	£10,211
15	(3)	41 SERAPHIM ANGEL 9 (D)	T Dascombe 9-0	Pierre Miller	98	£26,990
16	(4)	3 SYBARIS JEWEL 11	B Ellison 9-0	Ben Robinson	86	£3,804

BETTING: 9-2 Running Queen, 5 It Ain't Two, 11-2 Seraphim Angel, 8 Ruby's Profit, 10 Magic Mild, Betty Clover, 12 Kaadi
WHERE FAVOURITES FINISHED: 3 1 3 8 4
2023: Got To Love A Grey 9-0, S James 5-2 (K R Burke), dr, 1, 9 ran.

Sunracing FORM

IT AIN'T TWO (9-2) 184-chased leader, shaken up to lead final furlong, btm (1/4) by Francisco's Piece (9-7) (7 ran) but AMESTRIS (9-2) 12-1 mid-division, headway 1f out, not reach winner, 3/4 MAGIC MILD (9-2) 9-2 chased leaders, ran on inside final furlong, not pace to challenge, 3rd (btm 1/4) SERAPHIM ANGEL (9-2) 20-1 led, headed final furlong, weakened, 4th (2/4) (13 ran) (Newmarket 5f mdn (2) £12,885 good to soft).
BAILEYS JUBILATION (9-2) 25-1 chased leader, ran green in the dip, kept on final furlong, never going pace of winner, 4th of 10 (btm 3/4) to Mountain Breeze (9-1) (Newmarket 5f nov (2) £20,816 good).
RUNNING QUEEN (9-0) 10-3 led after 2f, driven over 1f out, kept on well, bt BETTY CLOVER (9-1) 5-2 1f fav tracked leader, kept on final furlong, held by winner, 1/4 (7 ran) (Salisbury 5f 2yo fil stks (3) £9,450 soft).
CALL ME HARSWELL (9-2) 11-2 led, hard pressed final furlong, ran on well, bt Larchill Lass (9-2) 1/4 SYBARIS JEWEL (9-2) 9-1 prompt, every chance 2f out, outpaced and no extra final 100 yards, 3rd (7/4) (12 ran) (Beverley 5f 2yo mdn (2) £16,200 good to soft).
INVINCIBLE ANNIE (9-2) 6-5 fav tracked winner, pushed along 2f out, stayed on one pace final furlong, btm (1/4) by Francisco's Piece (9-7) (7 ran) but AMESTRIS (9-2) 12-1 mid-division, headway 1f out, not reach winner, 3/4 MAGIC MILD (9-2) 9-2 chased leaders, ran on inside final furlong, led inside final 100 yards, bt Larchill Lass (9-2) 1/4 CALL ME HARSWELL (9-2) 12-1 mid-division, headway 1f out, kept on well, bt Woodhay Whisper (9-2) 1/4 (9 ran) (Windsor 5f nov (5) £3,672 good).
RUBY'S PROFIT (9-0) 12-1 mid-division, quickened 1f out, easily, bt Lucid (9-0) 2/4 LADY DORCHESTER (9-2) 12-1 prominent, driven 1f out, kept on same pace, 3rd (btm 3/4) (7 ran) (Kempton 5f mdn (5) £3,780 AW).
MISS LAMAI (9-2) 6-1 mid-division, ran green when ridden to lead over 1f out, kept on well, won going away, bt Naana's Diamond (9-2) 3/4 (12 ran) (Thirsk 5f nov (4) £4,860 soft).
SERAPHIM ANGEL (9-1) 5-2 dwelt, mid-division, headway to lead inside final furlong, kept on well, bt Flicka's Girl (8-13) 1/4 (9 ran) (Chester 5f 2yo mdn (2) £12,480 good).
GIAVELLOTTO (9-2) 11-2 £68,000 Cotai Groy filly out of Destiny's Kitten,

TEMPLEGATE'S VERDICT

IT AIN'T TWO got the job done nicely on debut at Newmarket last time. She was always up with the pace and just eased clear in the final furlong. There's no penalty for that success and she can take another step forward. **Running Queen** always had the race under control at Salisbury latest and this Kingman filly will be right on the premises again with more improvement to come. **Seraphim Angel** didn't have to hit top gear when winning around Chester's tight turns last week. This is tougher but there's every chance she will progress for Tom Dascombe. **Miss Lamai** went nicely through the mud on debut when winning at Thirsk and can figure if enjoying these better conditions as much. Stablemate **Kaadi** had a bit left when scooting at Windsor and trainer Karl Burke has won the past two runnings of this. **Magic Mild** is another who showed lots of promise on debut.

2.45 KNIGHTS SOLICITORS HANDICAP (2) value to winner £25,770; 1m 2f (16 runners)

1	(10)	2/670- EPIC POET 230 (D)	D O'Meara 5-9-9	Daniel Tudhope	83	£93,711
2	(2)	21231- BOTANICAL 228	R Varian 4-9-8	James Doyle	99	£22,488
3	(9)	1600-8 LORD PROTECTOR 25 (D)	R Carr 6-9-4	James Sullivan	84	£65,353
4	(4)	383-45 THEORYOFEVERYTHING 13 (BF)	D O'Meara 4-9-3	Jason Watson	96	£24,966
5	(1)	311477 KING'S CODE 13 (V)	P Evans 4-9-2	Oisín Murphy	88	£70,852
6	(7)	044-54 MAJESTIC 13	J Channon 6-9-2	George Bass	3	£184,788
7	(12)	715133 ANDALEEP 49 (T;CD)	D & C Kubler 8-9-2	William Buick	94	£146,500
8	(5)	800-96 EILEAN DUBH 13 (V;C)	K Burke 6-9-0	Clifford Lee	92	£103,001
9	(13)	41181- REACH 266 (CD)	M & D Easterby 6-8-12	Joanna Mason	97	£83,033
10	(11)	421-24 STRESSFREE 29 (P*;BF,D)	D O'Meara 4-8-11	Hollie Doyle	93	£30,815
11	(6)	16/162 QITAAAL 13 (D)	C Johnston 5-8-10	Connor Beasley	96	£29,781
12	(3)	6-8122 LOYAL TOUCH 8 (D)	C Johnston 4-8-10	Jason Hart	97	£34,989
13	(16)	00801 QAASID 27 (V;D)	J Camacho 6-8-9	David Egan	92	£62,297
14	(8)	6726-0 THEME PARK 14	N Tinkler 4-8-8	Rowan Scott	86	£20,787
15	(15)	0705-8 KITSUNE POWER 29 (B;D)	E Easterby 5-8-4	Duran Fentiman	80	£43,549
16	(14)	0626-3 BARLEY 15 (P*)	E Easterby 5-8-4	John Egan	88	£20,774

BETTING: 7-2 Botanical, 7 Theoryofeverything, Loyal Touch, 8 Reach, Majestic, 10 Qitaaal, 14 Barley, Andaleep, Stressfree, Qaasid
WHERE FAVOURITES FINISHED: 1 7 2 0
2023: Marhaba The Champ 4-8-13, W Buick 10-1 (K Ryan), dr, 4, 13 ran.

Sunracing FORM

MAJESTIC (8-8) 14-1 held up, ran on inside final furlong, finished well, 4th of 34 (btm 1/4) to Astro King (9-12) **EPIC POET** (9-1) 10-1 mid-division, led final furlong, 22nd (9/4) **EILEAN DUBH** (8-9) 66-1 always towards rear, 25th (11) (34 ran) (Newmarket 1f/4 hcap (2) £103,000 good to soft).
BOTANICAL (9-1) 10-1 fav midfield; led 2f out, stayed on well, readily, bt Mr Professor (9-1) 6f (8 ran) (Hampton 1m hcap (9) £1,308 soft).
LORD PROTECTOR (9-7) 33-1 in touch, ridden 2f out, outpaced, 8th of 9 (9 in) to Bolster (9-9) (Pontefract 1f/4 hcap (2) £3,966 good to soft).
MAJESTIC (9-1) 6-1 held up, headway 1f out, stayed on late, 4th of 13 (btm 3/4) to Liberty Lane (9-7) (Lingfield 1f/4 hcap (3) £33,501 AW).
ANDALEEP (9-4) 22-1 held up, pushed along 2f out, stayed on strongly final furlong, 3rd near end of trip, 3rd of 14 (btm 1/4) to Inspiritus (9-4) **QAASID** (8-13) 12-1 prominent, outpaced 2f out, no extra, 11th (9/4) (Lingfield 1f/4 hcap (3) £33,501 AW).
EILEAN DUBH (9-2) 10-1 in touch, kept

TEMPLEGATE'S VERDICT

BOTANICAL did nothing but improve last season, winning a novice contest at Hamilton before holding his own in a couple of decent handicaps. He ended the campaign with a smart win at Hamilton and should have more to offer over an ideal trip. **Qitaaal** has had three runs this season and went close at Goodwood 13 days ago. He was just collared on the line here and a 2lb rise in the weights gives the Charlie Johnston runner every chance. Stablemate **Loyal Touch** is consistent and went down in a close finish at Chester last week. He is proven over this distance and is back from the same handicap mark. With trainer David O'Meara in good form, his **Stressfree** could easily figure. He didn't fire at Ripon last time but went close at Doncaster on comeback and likes this distance. **Reach** finished last season with a win here and should be competitive from 5lb higher.

3.15 SKY BET FILLIES' YOUNG MAIDEN (3) value to winner £10,211; 1m 2f (16 runners)

1	(4)	6-3121 BELLA RCHI	G Turner	8	£10,211
2	(9)	25-51 BOBBY	K Ryan	9	£10,211
3	(8)	1 BR	K Burke	1	£10,211
4	(1)	1516-7 CAI	C Johnston	1	£10,211
5	(5)	1 DE	C Appleby	2	£10,211
6	(2)	16- GL	R Varian	1	£10,211
7	(3)	14-8 SPI	J & T	1	£10,211
8	(7)	14-11 TR	R Varian	1	£10,211
9	(6)	14-11 TR	R Varian	1	£10,211
10	(1)	14-11 TR	R Varian	1	£10,211
11	(1)	14-11 TR	R Varian	1	£10,211
12	(1)	14-11 TR	R Varian	1	£10,211
13	(1)	14-11 TR	R Varian	1	£10,211
14	(1)	14-11 TR	R Varian	1	£10,211
15	(1)	14-11 TR	R Varian	1	£10,211
16	(1)	14-11 TR	R Varian	1	£10,211

BETTING: 9-4 Devoted Queen, 8 Zanjabeela, Bellarchi, 12 Briar
WHERE FAVOURITES FINISHED: 2023: Sounds Of Heaven 9-2, R

TEMPLEGATE'S VERDICT

DEVOTED QUEEN has won Appley and looks capable class. She had no problem scooting at Kempton last week. **Bellarchi** landed the handicap on Saturday here. She saw capable of disgracing her final couple, this slight fit enough on debut and ran well last month. She was on looking green and she didn't have to hit top gear Newmarket on comeback.

3.15

BOODLES YOR
winner £102,111

1	249-11 A O'B	Runs: 10	Wins: 5
2	0112-2 AL	Runs: 18	Wins: 6
3	153-35 K	Runs: 17	Wins: 11
4	1113-5 W Hag	Runs: 19	Wins: 11
5	1111-1 H	Runs: 17	Wins: 11
6	2113-3 W Hag	Runs: 7	Wins: 2
7	1/10- W Mu	Runs: 7	Wins: 4
8	1/10- W Mu	Runs: 7	Wins: 4

BETTING: 11-8 Tower Of London, 10 Giavellotto, 12 Naqeeb
WHERE FAVOURITES FINISHED: 2023: Giavellotto 4-9-3, A

45 & 4.15

GOING GOOD

CORAL

ES' STAKES (FILLIES LISTED)

LLARCHI 6 (D)
9-2 Sam James 95
F,A,GS,2G) Places: 7 £70,742
Ascot, might be going under radar, player

LENO 30 (D)
9-2 Ryan Moore 98
A) Places: 1 £15,420
Betting, this a big step up, Moore on again

LIGHT THUNDER 20 (D)
9-2 Clifford Lee 92
A) Places: 1 £5,400
Hard to know what form worth, interesting

ROLINA REAPER 12
9-2 Jason Hart 89
GS,G) Places: 1 £5,739
Wanted to prove now, patchy profile last season

POINTED QUEEN 41 (H;*)
9-2 William Buick 99
S,A) Places: 1 £20,953
Goes on, up in class but looks up to this

GLIMPSED 195
9-2 Hollie Doyle 90
S) Places: 1 £5,940
End of last season, best watched on return

SPRITUAL 30 (H)
9-2 Kieran Shoemark 93
S) Places: 1 £10,595
n, needs to step up, juvenile form gives hope

TRUE CYAN 30
9-2 James Doyle 97
S) Places: 1 £12,656
Glyn Gwyn, do better today, could yet be smart

ZENJABEELA 231
9-2 Oisín Murphy 96
A,G) Places: 1 £14,792
could be anything, do better this season

WHEN 7-2 True Cyan, 7 Bolsena, Spiritual, Light Thunder, 14 Glimpsed
SHED: 2 3 2 3
Whelan 141 (J Harrington Ire), drw 8, 8 ran.

ing FORM

GLIMPSED (9-2) 9-2 dwell, in touch, outpaced 2f out, one pace, 6th of 12 (12) to Reg Jubilee (9-2) (Newmarket 1m) £22,684 heavy.
TRUE CYAN (9-2) 13-2 tracked leaders, ridden and no impression final furlong, 4th of 10 (4) to Pretty Crystal (9-2) **SPRITUAL (9-2)** 18-1 never a factor, 8th (8th 6) (Newmarket 7f Grp 3) £48,204 good to firm.
SPRITUAL (9-2) 12-1 set strong pace, headed 2f out, soon no chance with winner when unbalanced 1f out, weakened, 4th of 6 (8th 5/4) to Carla's Way (9-2) **ZENJABEELA (9-2)** 18-1 held up, outpaced 2f out, weakened, 5th (8th 6/4) **CAROLINA REAPER (9-2)** 14-1 chased leading pair, pushed along 2f out, never on terms, last (7/4) (6 ran) (Newmarket 7f Grp 2) £1,660 good to firm.

ATE'S VERDICT

on both starts nicely for Charlie able of coping with this hike in them seeing out this mile when last time and has a lot more to a cosy win in a decent Ascot and isn't tilting at windmills out the mile strongly and looks improvement. **Zenjabeela** was't in a Newmarket Group 2 on start last season after landing of minor races. She's bred for fly longer trip and can figure if on comeback. **True Cyan** won at Newmarket in September in the Nell Gwyn on return only four lengths away when still could run a big race here. **Bolsena** rather winning her maiden at ck but this is harder.

KSHIRE CUP STAKES (GRP 2) 078; 1m 6f (7 runners)

TOWER OF LONDON 48
9-2 Ryan Moore 99
F,AG) Places: 1 £17,246
Ascot, stylish win in Meydan, strongly fancied

QAREEM 27 (C)
9-2 Clifford Lee 91
A,2GS,2G) Places: 5 £203,769
When he's beaten, competition for the lead

AVELLOTTO 48 (CD)
9-2 Oisín Murphy 94
F,2FA) Places: 5 £485,100
but this looks a stronger renewal, bit to find

REGORY 244 (D)
9-2 James Doyle 96
GS) Places: 1 £257,639
n, won at Royal Ascot, go well if ready to roll

HAMISH 27 (CD)
9-2 non-runner 96
F,3S,A,6GS) Places: 4 £695,978
win at Newbury, loses the mud, taken out yesterday

QUEEN 14 (D)
9-2 Jim Crowley 92
A,G) Places: 3 £95,760
best but blew up at Newmarket, check betting

UBAN 192 (T;BF,D)
9-2 William Buick 98
S,G) Places: 1 £117,776
n, below par in Melbourne Cup, one to beat

London, 5-2 Vauban, 7 Al Qareem, 8
SHED: 1 1 3 1-3-5
Atzeni 141 (M Botti), drawn 7, 6 ran.

Sunracing FORM

TOWER OF LONDON (8-10) 9-4 fav held up, headway 2f out, quickened final furlong, led close home, won going away (tchd 15/8) bt Al Nayir (9-2) at GAVELLOTTO (9-2) 10-1 midfield, headway 2f out, stayed on one pace, 5th (8th 3/4) (Meydan 2m Grp 2) £450,472 good.
HAMISH (9-5) 5-2 fav held up, headway 2f out, ridden to lead final furlong, ran on, bt AL QAREEM (9-5) 8-1 held, headed over 2f out, ridden final furlong, stayed on close home, nk (10 ran) (Newbury 1/4m Grp 3) £48,204 good to soft.

up, headway 2f out, went 3rd over 1f out, kept on same pace, 4th of 9 (8th 3/4) to Continuous (9-3) **REGORY (9-3)** 7-1 prominent, led 3f out, headed 2f out, no extra final 100 yards, 5th (5/4) (8 ran) (Doncaster 1/4m Grp 1) £421,355 soft.
NAQEEB (8-1) 8-1 close up, pushed along and no impression 1f out, 3rd of 6 (3/4) to Outbox (9-5) (Newmarket 1/4m Grp 2) £70,888 good.
VAUBAN (8-9) 7-2 fav settled behind leaders, closed 4f out, ridden 2f out, soon weakened 14th of 25 (8th 13) to Without A Fight (8-13) (Flemington 2m Grp 1 hcap 1) £2,993,390 good.

TEMPLEGATE'S VERDICT

VAUBAN is high-class over hurdles and pretty good on the level too as his Royal Ascot win over this trip showed last season. He then won a Group 3 before not enjoying himself when sent off favourite for the Melbourne Cup. He hit the front two furlongs out before not staying the two miles and this trip looks perfect on the level. **Tower of London** won a valuable prize in Dubai last time out in March and is a strong stayer with a turn of foot. He looks a danger for Aidan O'Brien but his 3lb penalty may anchor him. Last year's winner **Gavelotto** hasn't scored since but wasn't far behind Tower of London last time and saves his best for York so could hit the frame. Of the rest **Gregory** is a very talented stayer on his day but might be sharper for today's return.

4.15 DARLEY EBF NOVICE STAKES (2) value to the winner £20,616; 1m (6 runners)

1 1 FIRST CONQUEST 29 (D)
(3) C Appleby 3-9-10 William Buick 99
Runs: 1 Wins: 1 (G) £10,308
Beat Lead Artist at Newbury, penalised but more to offer, one to beat

2 62- DARK TORNADO 251
(6) J Horton 3-9-4 John Egan 95
Runs: 2 Places: 1 £7,605
Changed yards, good form last year, should kick on again, interesting

3 2 LEAD ARTIST 29
(1) J T Gosden 3-9-4 Kieran Shoemark 98
Runs: 1 Places: 1 £4,834
Second on debut, will come on for that, better off with First Conquest

4 LONGHAIRD GENERAL 15
(5) C Lidster 3-9-4 Tom Eaves 81
Runs: 1 Places: 1 £4,760
Quiet fourth on debut, looks a longer term prospect, up against it

5 2 UNDER SIEGE 27
(4) A Balding 3-9-4 Daniel Tudhope 96
Runs: 1 Places: 1 £5,070
Good second on debut at big odds, better again today, in the mix

6 3 MYSTICAL MARIA 122
(2) R Fahey 3-8-13 Billy Garritty 89
Runs: 1 Places: 1 £1,331
Fine third on debut at Newcastle, this much tougher, best watched

BETTING: 2 Lead Artist, 9-4 First Conquest, 3 Under Siege, 9-2 Dark Tornado, 16 Mystical Maria, 15 Longhaired General
WHERE FAVOURITES FINISHED: 3
2023: Mostabshir 3-9-10, W Buick 3-1 (J & T Gosden), dr 7, 6 ran.

Sunracing FORM

FIRST CONQUEST (9-7) 4-1 made all, ridden final furlong, ran on well, bt **LEAD ARTIST (9-7)** 7-2 dwell, ridden to chase winner 1f out, ran on, just failed, ns (1 ran) (Newmarket 1m mdn) £10,308 good to firm.
DARK TORNADO (9-4) 18-1 tracked leaders, ridden 2f out, ran on, 1/4 by Ghostwriter (9-10) (Ascot 7f nov stks) £2,126,200 good to firm.
LONGHAIRD GENERAL (8-1) 150-1

chased leaders, ridden 1f out, kept on, 4th of 12 (8th 9/4) to Paborus (9-4) (Folkestone 7f nov) £24,050 soft.
UNDER SIEGE (9-7) 20-1 in touch, ridden 2f out, stayed on, 8th 1/4 by Economics (9-7) (17 ran) (Newbury 1m mdn) £10,800 good to soft.
MYSTICAL MARIA (8-12) 16-1 held up, headway final furlong, on pace, 3rd of 9 (8th 3/4) to Tournelle (8-12) (Newcastle 7f mdn) £4,587,0 AW.

TEMPLEGATE'S VERDICT

LEAD ARTIST was beaten by First Conquest in a head-bobber when they both made their debut at Newmarket last month. He is 6lb better off in the weights with his main rival today plus he had to come from a mile back at HQ and the line came a few strides too soon. The Gosden runner should be able to turn the tables today. **First Conquest** is still the main threat as there will be improvement to come from Charlie Appleby's son of Teofilo. **Under Siege** was a good second on debut in a big field at Newbury and should have learned plenty from the experience. **Dark Tornado** showed promise on both starts last season, especially when second at Ascot in September and he makes his debut for James Horton here. **Mystical Maria** and **Longhaired General** both have plenty to find.

4.45 YORKSHIRE EQUINE PRACTICE HANDICAP (4) winner £12,885; 7f (20 runners)

1 315-21 ELDRICKJONES 5 (D)
(1) R Fell & S Murray 5-10-3 (5th) Sean D Bowen (5) 98
Runs: 29 Wins: 4 (F,3A) Places: 6 £82,619
In great form on the aw, big threat if bringing that to the turf, player

2 033-75 ANOTHER INVESTMENT 14 (CD)
(6) N Tinkler 5-9-11 Lewis Edmunds 94
Runs: 30 Wins: 2 (F,G) Places: 7 £44,325
Better than bare result at Newcastle, mark slipping, ew contender

3 121836 HOW IMPRESSIVE 19 (T;D)
(4) H Palmer 5-9-10 Oisín Murphy 90
Runs: 24 Wins: 5 (4A,G) Places: 8 £49,190
Busy on aw this year, mark creeping up, may be vulnerable to a few

4 954871 TROPEZ POWER 19 (D)
(5) J & S Quinn 5-9-9 Jason Hart 99
Runs: 30 Wins: 5 (F,4A) Places: 5 £57,907
Beat Eldrickjones at Southwell, lower mark on turf, dangerous

5 6578-6 LYNDON B 16 (P;D)
(13) J & R Flint 8-9-9 Kieran Shoemark 85
Runs: 35 Wins: 4 (4F) Places: 6 £61,901
On dangerous mark but form fallen off a cliff, risky proposition now

6 1125- DESERT FALCON 263 (D)
(18) J Camacho 4-9-9 Ryan Sexton 97
Runs: 7 Wins: 2 (2F) Places: 2 £11,599
Bought out of Sir Mark Prescott's, yard do well with similar types

7 536-06 HECTIC 20
(1) R Fell & S Murray 4-9-8 Hollie Doyle 88
Runs: 12 Wins: 1 (C,F) Places: 2 £24,514
Okay sixth at Doncaster, better again today, ew contender, 2lb drop

8 4-5206 GINCIDENT 26
(16) R Fahey 4-9-8 Connor Murtagh 90
Runs: 21 Wins: 4 (3A,GS) Places: 4 £52,106
Could be on good mark now, yard do well here, interesting runner

9 24080- THE COOKSTOWN CAFU 237 (D)
(15) K Ryan 5-9-7 Rowan Scott 92
Runs: 16 Wins: 3 (S,GS,G) Places: 4 £42,395
Ended last season quietly, handicapper has helped, needs revival

10 4857-1 RED MIRAGE 23 (D)
(8) J & S Quinn 6-9-7 James Doyle 98
Runs: 22 Wins: 6 (S,4A,GS) Places: 1 £64,227
Cosy win on return when backed, up only 3lb, top jockey booked now

11 0899-6 ANIMATE 20 (P;D)
(20) G Harker 4-9-6 Clifford Lee 85
Runs: 13 Wins: 2 (2A) Places: 3 £25,401
Early days for new yard, plummeted down weights but needs revival

12 32-089 BASS PLAYER 22 (T;D)
(9) K Frost 5-9-6 Ben Sanderson (3) 77
Runs: 17 Wins: 1 (F) Places: 3 £27,511
Been very quiet this spring, hard to trust now, can only watch today

13 013800 AL MARMAR 22
(7) G Tutty 5-9-6 Laura Coughlan (3) 80
Runs: 21 Wins: 3 (F,2A) Places: 3 £47,237
No shows since the winter, hard to make case for now, others better

14 -16477 ELIGIBLE 19 (CD)
(14) M & D Easterby 8-9-6 Joanna Mason 92
Runs: 47 Wins: 7 (3F,4A) Places: 10 £60,296
Yard going well this time, won here before, check market today

15 833840 RIOT 34 (T;V;D)
(17) D O'Meara 7-9-6 Daniel Tudhope 93
Runs: 46 Wins: 5 (4A,G) Places: 15 £82,344
Patchy profile, mark looks okay, can't rule out at a decent price

16 31-327 LAHAB 56 (H;*,BF,D)
(3) G Tuer 4-9-5 Sam James 95
Runs: 7 Wins: 1 (F) Places: 4 £11,025
Hood tried for first time, down field when backed at Newcastle

17 9960-8 CAROLUS MAGNUS 13 (T;D)
(19) M & D Easterby 6-9-5 Jim Crowley 79
Runs: 22 Wins: 2 (F,G) Places: 6 £35,813
Form fallen off a cliff, yard won this last year, can't rule out completely

18 664-33 DANZAN 13 (P;D)
(2) T Easterby 9-9-4 David Allan 97
Runs: 73 Wins: 6 (S,F,2A,GS,G) Places: 27 £201,385
Two good efforts of late, that puts right in mix here, mark looks good

19 06242- CHALLET 272 (BF,CD)
(12) M Dods 7-9-4 Connor Beasley 95
Runs: 36 Wins: 5 (GS,4G) Places: 12 £59,494
Lots of good form here, consistent enough at this level, player

20 6248-9 CRAVEN 6 (V;D)
(10) R Fahey 4-9-4 Billy Garritty 77
Runs: 16 Wins: 1 (F) Places: 5 £23,659
Poor at Haydock return, needs to do a lot better here, best watched

BETTING: 9-2 Eldrickjones, 5 Tropez Power, 8 Red Mirage, 10 Danzan, How Impressive, 12 Desert Falcon, 14 Another Investment
WHERE FAVOURITES FINISHED: 1 1-0 4
2023: Eligible 7-9-4, C Beasley 10-1 (M & D Easterby), drw 12, 20 ran.

Sunracing FORM

ELDRICKJONES (9-3) 10-3 fav chased leaders, led 1f out, soon clear, stayed on well, bt Zip (9-5) 3/4 (11 ran) (Newcastle 7f hcap) £14,394 AW.
ANOTHER INVESTMENT (9-9) 6-1 held up, ridden 1f out, nearest finish, 5th of 10 (2/4) to Akkadian Thunder (9-7) (Newcastle 7f hcap) £4,972 AW.

TROPEZ POWER (9-9) 7-2 towards rear, headway 2f out, led inside final furlong, quickened clear, bt **ELDRICKJONES (9-9)** 11-2 stayed on inside final furlong, 7/4 **HOW IMPRESSIVE (9-3)** 9-1 led, headed 1f out, one pace, 8th (8th 3) (11 ran) (Southwell 7f hcap) £10,468 AW.

LYNDON B (9-7) 50-1 raced keenly in rear, never on terms, 8th of 9 (8th 10) to Two Templing (9-2) (Ascot 1m appchap) £10,800 good to soft.
DESERT FALCON (9-1) 9-4 soon led, headed 1f out, one pace, 5th of 7 (8th 6/4) to Capital Guarantee (9-9) (Epsom 7f hcap) £4,773 good.

HECTIC (9-1) 9-1 close up, ridden 2f out, kept on same pace, 6th of 16 (8th 5/4) to Magical Spirit (9-8) (Doncaster 6f hcap) £9,936 soft.
GINCIDENT (8-12) 15-2 mid-division, driven 2f out, no extra, 6th of 11 (4) to Liamarty Dreams (9-4) (Musselburgh 7f hcap) £12,885 soft.

THE COOKSTOWN CAFU (8-13) 20-1 led, headed 3f out, hung left 1f out, 12th (8th 13) to Aphelios (9-9) **ANOTHER INVESTMENT (8-13)** 18-1 ridden 2f out, no progress, 13th (13) (York 7f hcap) £15,462 good.

RED MIRAGE (9-11) 10-3 fav in touch, driven over 1f out, led towards finish, bt Wreck It Ryley (9-1) 7/4 (12 ran) (Gatterick 7f hcap) £4,187 soft.

ANIMATE (9-1) 25-1 rear, no progress, 6th of 7 (8th 13) to Hiroimichi (9-1) (Ripon 1m hcap) £10,308 soft.
BASS PLAYER (9-10) 12-1 held up, never involved, 9th of 10 (8th 6/4) to Obsidian Knight (9-2) (Chelmsford 1/4m hcap) £6,281 AW.

AL MARMAR (9-5) 40-1 towards rear, pushed along 2f out, no headway, 10th of 11 (10) to Sandy Paradise (9-5) (Chelmsford 7f hcap) £4,628 AW.
ELIGIBLE (9-4) 11-2 in last pair, some late minor headway, never involved, 7th of 10 (8th 4) to New Image (9-4) (Southwell 7f hcap) £10,468 AW.

TROPEZ POWER (9-8) 8-1 in touch, not clear run final furlong, kept on, 7th of 12 (8th 5) to Documenting (9-8) **RIOT (8-1)** 25-1 never on terms, 10th (8th 9/4) (12 ran) (Chelmsford 7f hcap) £16,842 AW.

LAHAB (9-9) 10-3 fav set steady pace, headed 1f out, soon weakened, 7th of 9 (4/4) to Danielsflyer (9-6) (Newcastle 7f hcap) £7,328 AW.
CAROLUS MAGNUS (9-2) 17-2 held up, ridden 1f out, late headway, 8th of 16 (6/4) to Crack Shot (9-9) (Newmarket 1m hcap) £20,616 good.

DANZAN (9-0) 7-1 led 4f out, ridden if out, headed towards finish, 3rd of 15 (8th 1) to Wobwobwob (9-1) (Thirsk 8f hcap) £5,234 good to soft.

CHALLET (9-3) 4-1 led 3f out, headed 1f out, no match for winner, 8th 5/4 by Spirit Catcher (10-1) (12 ran) (Ripon 1m hcap) £4,773 soft.
CRAVEN (9-6) 11-1 weakened 1f out, 9th of 11 (13) to Mereside Dva (9-2) (Haydock 7f hcap) £8,374 good.

TEMPLEGATE'S VERDICT

TROPEZ POWER won on the all-weather last time and looks very well handicapped back on turf. His best run on grass came when second in a similar contest to this last season and he likes to finish late off a fast pace which he should get here. He got the better of **Eldrickjones** last time but the topweight has scored since and is another right in the hunt with a good claimer on board. **Red Mirage** was a cosy winner at Catterick and is best over this distance. A 3lb rise for that gives him every chance again. **Danzan** has been running well over 6f but does stay and has solid place claims for Tim Easterby. **Another Investment** won a similar contest to this over course and distance last year and is only 5lb higher. He's fit from the all-weather and is in the place picture.

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5.20 IRISH THOROUGHBRED MARKETING HCAP (3) 3-Y-O; £12,885; 5f (20 runners)

1	124-23 HEDGE FUND 9-1 (D)	W Muir & C Grassick 9-9	Lewis Edmunds 96
Runs: 9	Wins: 2 (A,G)	Places: 2	£29,254
Showed dazzling speed at Sandown latest, this track will suit better			
2	541-1 JUBILEE WALK 32	J Ferguson 9-9	Oisín Murphy 99
Runs: 4	Wins: 2 (A,G)	Places: 2	£12,483
Won with plenty in hand at Kempton, drop back to 5f will not be an issue			
3	219-0 MIDNIGHT AFFAIR 217 (D)	R Fahey 9-7	Daniel Tudhope 95
Runs: 4	Wins: 1 (F)	Places: 1	£27,867
Highly tried last season, drops in class and given a chance by happer			
4	6-1121 ZIGGY'S MISSILE 47 (D)	R Cowell 9-7	Sean D Bowen 97
Runs: 7	Wins: 3 (3A)	Places: 2	£24,045
Made all and always in command at Southwell latest, more to offer			
5	11-429 HARVANA 60 (CD)	K Ryan 9-5	Clifford Lee 90
Runs: 6	Wins: 2 (2F)	Places: 1	£25,822
Outclassed in Listed Company in France, freshened up, a place			
6	2122-6 CURIOUS ROVER 27 (D)	K Scott 9-6	Sam James 94
Runs: 8	Wins: 2 (S,G)	Places: 5	£27,744
Struggled in a lesser race on return at Thirsk, will be sharper, e-w			
7	7-16 INDICATE 31 (T*;D)	K Burke 9-6	William Buick 89
Runs: 3	Wins: 1 (A)	Places: 1	£10,800
Plenty to prove on handicap debut, not much impact in a novice latest, avoid			
8	4311-0 IRISH NECTAR 29 (CD)	K Ryan 9-5	James Doyle 95
Runs: 7	Wins: 2 (2S)	Places: 2	£18,137
Won here last Oct, goes well on soft ground so should do with rain			
9	3150-1 VANTHEMAN 14 (D)	K Ryan 9-5	Tom Eaves 99
Runs: 5	Wins: 2 (A,G,S)	Places: 2	£17,292
Quickened well to win easily at Newcastle latest, leading contender			

5.20 3211-7 ROGUE ENFORCER 21 (D)

(7) P Chapple-Hyam 9-3 Kieran Shoemark 92
Runs: 5 Wins: 2 (2S) Places: 1 £11,666
Not knocked about on return at Sandown latest, could do with rain

5.20 3143-4 SANKARI 235 (D)

(19) J & S Quinn 9-1 Gianluca Sanna (5) 90
Runs: 8 Wins: 2 (S,G) Places: 1 £16,091
Showed a decent level of ability last season, wind up will help, e-w

5.20 3421-0 PILGRIM 29 (BF,C)

(2) D & N Barron 9-0 Callum Rodriguez 94
Runs: 6 Wins: 1 (S) Places: 2 £35,910
Well supported on return at Newmarket, excuses that do, better

5.20 126- MASTER OF MY FATE 188 (D)

(12) J & S Quinn 9-0 Jason Hart 92
Runs: 3 Wins: 1 (F) Places: 1 £7,073
Never got any cover when disappointing at Newcastle in Nov, bit to find

5.20 5-3112 VINCE L'AMOUR 9 (T;D)

(5) Easterby 8-13 David Allan 95
Runs: 7 Wins: 2 (2S) Places: 2 £18,906
In the form of his life, unlucky not to win at Chester last week, go close

5.20 22816 ZIGGY'S QUEEN 217 (D)

(18) R Fahey 8-13 Billy Garrity 89
Runs: 6 Wins: 1 (GS) Places: 3 £16,179
Rapid flier, rider will point and shoot from the front, dangerous

5.20 241- RAINYNTINGEORGIA 254 (D)

(10) A Haynes 8-11 Kieran O'Neill 94
Runs: 3 Wins: 1 (A) Places: 1 £6,221
Lightly raced, won with a bit left in the tank at Lingfield, check betting

5.20 1793-2 MAKE IT EASY 14 (D)

(7) N Tinker 8-11 Rowan Scott 91
Runs: 7 Wins: 1 (G) Places: 2 £9,418
Unfancied but made an encouraging return at Newcastle, respected

5.20 435-4 FRONT GUNNER 18

(17) A Duffield 8-8 Connor Beasley 88
Runs: 4 Wins: 2 £2,610
Showed enough to suggest there are races to be won with him, e-w

5.20 51-3 ENCHANTING 20 (D)

(4) A Balding 8-8 Hollie Doyle 95
Runs: 3 Wins: 1 (S) Places: 1 £4,976
Well regarded, raced far too keenly at Wolves latest, big field will help

5.20 745-18 STASH THE CASH 9 (D)

(6) T Easterby 8-5 Duran Fentiman 83
Runs: 5 Wins: 1 (S) Places: 4 £4,266
Disappointing at Chester last week, looks all about speed, do better

BETTING: 5 Jubilee Walk, 6 Ziggy's Missile, 8 Vantheman, 10 Vince L'Amour, Enchanting, 12 Midnight Affair, 14 Sankari, Hedge Fund, Rainyningeorgia, 16 Indicate, Harvana, Master Of My Fate, 20 Stash The Cash, Make It Easy, Ziggy's Queen, Rogue Enforcer
WHERE FAVOURITES FINISHED: 3-9 10
2023: Kuwait City 8-12, J Crowley 28-1 (J Butler), drawn 7, 18 ran.

TODAY'S SELECTIONS AT YORK
LEG 1 It Ain't Two, Amestris
LEG 2 Botanical, Qltaal
LEG 3 Devoted Queen
LEG 4 Vauban, Tower Of London
LEG 5 Lead Artist
LEG 6 Tropez Power, Eldrickjones, Red Mirage

Sunracing FORM

HEDGE FUND (9-1) 5-1 quickly away, led, ridden if out, headed final 110 yards, lost 2nd final strides, 3rd of 9 (btn 10) to Equity Law (9-8) **ROGUE ENFORCER** (8-10) 11-1 off the pace in last pair, pushed along halfway, never walked, 7th (btn 8) (Sandown 5f hcap (2) £23,193 good).

JUBILEE WALK (9-9) 5-2 keen, tracked leader, led 2f out, edged right inside final furlong, won going away, bt Tsunami Spirit (9-9) 1/4 (3 ran) **MIDNIGHT AFFAIR** (9-10) 14-1 dwelt and always towards rear, 12th of 13 (8/4) to Fast Responder (8-3) (Newmarket 5f Grp 3 (1) £34,026 soft).

ZIGGY'S MISSILE (9-6) 11-8 fav made all, shaken up final furlong, edged left inside final furlong, ran on, bt Moonstone Boy (9-7) 1/4 (4 ran) (Southwell 5f hcap (4) £3,374 AW).

HARVANA (8-10) 8-1 behind, outpaced 2f out, weakened 1/2 (btn 15) to Got To Love A Grey (8-10) (Chantilly 5f Listed £23,913 AW).

CURIOUS ROVER (9-10) 10-1 off the pace in rear, never on terms, 12th (btn 7/4) to Kendall Roy (8-4) (Thirsk 5f hcap (2) £9,720 good to soft).

HARVANA (8-10) 8-1 behind, outpaced 2f out, weakened 1/2 (btn 15) to Got To Love A Grey (8-10) (Chantilly 5f Listed £23,913 AW).

CURIOUS ROVER (9-10) 10-1 off the pace in rear, never on terms, 12th (btn 7/4) to Kendall Roy (8-4) (Thirsk 5f hcap (2) £9,720 good to soft).

VANTHEMAN (9-6) 5-2 tracked leader, led 2f out, ridden and ran on well, but MAKE IT EASY (9-5) 3/4 in touch, worked away to track winner over 1f out, every chance, stayed on one pace, 21 (6 ran) (Newcastle 5f (4) £4,972 AW).

SANKARI (9-9) 7-2 prominent, headway 2f out, soon ridden and disputed lead, gave a chance entering final furlong, soon headed, kept on one pace close home, 4th of 7 (btn 2/4) to Midnight Lir (9-9) (Hamilton 5f hcap (4) £5,025 good to soft).

MASTER OF MY FATE (9-9) 15-2 mid-division, ridden over 1f out, weakened inside final furlong, 6th of 10 (btn 4) to Beyond Borders (9-8) (Newcastle 6f hcap (4) £5,653 AW).

VINCE L'AMOUR (9-1) 13-2 tracked leader, kept on well; final furlong, just held, bt nrk by Knicks (8-8) (8 ran) (Chester 5f hcap (3) £25,288 good).

IRISH NECTAR (8-11) 4-1 held up in rear, pushed along 2f out, ridden and kept on well to lead, towards finish, but CURIOUS ROVER (8-7) 9-4 fav led at fast pace, shaken up 2f out, ridden if out, no extra and headed towards finish, 1/4 JIGGY'S QUEEN (8-13) 7-1 mid-field, outpaced 2f out, kept on final furlong, 6th (btn 6/4) (9 ran) (Newcastle 5f hcap (2) £30,430 AW).

RAINYNTINGEORGIA (8-13) 16-1 soon led, quickened 1f out, stayed on, held on well, but MASTER OF MY FATE (9-9) 10-3 chased winner, edged right 1f out, kept on, nrk (8 ran) (Lingfield 5f nov stks (5) £3,564 AW).

FRONT GUNNER (9-11) 8-1 chased winner, edged right 1f out, kept on, 4th of 5 (3/4) to Be Home (9-4) (Southwell 5f hcap (5) £3,716 AW).

ENCHANTING (9-7) 6-1 raced keenly, chased winner, pushed along turning in, hung left 1f out, stayed on final furlong, no chance with winner, 3rd of 6 (btn 3/4) to Grandlad (9-5) (Wimbledon 5f nov (8) £3,942 AW).

STASH THE CASH (9-1) 11-1 in touch, pushed along 2f out, one pace, 8th of 14 (btn 5/4) to Garfield Shadow (9-4) (Chester 6f hcap (3) £15,288 good).

TEMPLEGATE'S VERDICT

VANTHEMAN showed he has trained on from two to three when scoring sweetly on handicap debut at Newcastle 14 days ago. He ran well in a big race here last season and has plenty of speed for this minimum trip. He won't have to improve much to land this under Tom Eaves. **Make It Easy** chased him home at Dunstable Park last time and is another for the shortlist from the same mark. **Jubilee Walk** didn't have a lot to beat at Kempton last time but did it snugly and has enough pace to drop back to this minimum.

Enchanting looked promise when scoring at Beverley in September and looked a bit rusty when third at Wolverhampton three weeks ago. He should be spot on now for Andrew Balding. **Ziggy's Missile** has been prolific on the all-weather and won again easily last time. His turf form has been more modest but it's still early days and he's clearly on the upgrade. **Hedge Fund** looked speedy before not quite getting up the hill at Sandown last time and he should be a lot happier on this more level, fairer track.

PROBETS

(2.00 Newbury) clocked a smart time when winning at Bath last month and can score again.

GAMBLER ON: BELLARCHI (3.15 York) was strongly supported when winning at Ascot at the weekend.

EACH WAY THIEF

STRESSFREE (2.45 York) was in flying form at Doncaster on comeback and is best over this trip. Have an each-way double with HEDGE FUND (5.20 York) who was just collared at Sandown last time and doesn't have the hill to worry about here.

RAVRETURN

From Page One

back racing again and can't wait. I'm such a different place now."

Dawson added: "I didn't believe I would get my jockeys' licence back.

"That was such a scary place to be when you are convince yourself you won't be allowed to do the thing you love the most.

"I'm full of gratitude and determination. It's been a roller-coaster for me but I put myself through that.

"I've learnt more than I ever thought I could.

"Now I'm almost grateful it has happened because now I'm on the path I need to be on. My life is back."

Dawson's time away from race-riding has meant he has had more time to see

Lila. He said: "She lives two hours away and it's not easy but you do what you have to do. I've spent lots of time with her. That side of my life is good now."

Dawson has two rides on his return this afternoon.

His first is on Zenfic for TJ Kent in Newbury's 3.30. The second is for Peter Chapple-Hyam - Desperate Dan in the 4.35. He also has two rides booked for Doncaster tomorrow night.

Dawson said; "I'll ride for Roger Varian, TJ and Peter Chapple-Hyam and can't wait to get started.

"Mark Loughnane has also been talking to me and been very supportive.

"I feel reborn. I am living my dream and I know this is my last chance."

HAMILTON GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT)

5.30 APPRENTICE HANDICAP (Class 6); winner £3,664; 5f. (8 runners)

- 69-8 ASTAPOR 23 (CD) J Riches 6-9-9 R Elliott (7)
 - 6803 SIXCOR 15 (P,D) L Perratt 6-9-6 T Jakes (5)
 - 0-85 PROTEST RALLY 14 (P) L Bailey 4-9-4 K McHugh (7)
 - 7798 MEWS HOUSE 39 (CD) L Perratt 7-8-13 A Breslin (5)
 - 0524 DODAN THE FIGHTER (V) G Goldie 4-9-0 A Waugh (3)
 - 50-6 KYBER CRYSTAL 15 (T,D) R Menzies 5-9-0 A Brookes (3)
 - 792 CAPTAIN CORCORAN 23 (D) S Barclay 7-9-9 A Jay (3)
 - 45-4 LANCASHIRE LIFE 23 S Barclay 6-9-9 W Pyle (3)
 - Sixcor 9-29 Captain Corcoran 98, Kyber Crystal 97.
- 3 Sixcor, 4 Captain Corcoran, 9-2 Kyber Crystal, Doon The Glen, 8 Protest Rally, 10 Lancashire Life, 12 Mews House

6.05 MAIDEN STAKES (4); 2-y-o; winner £4,860; 5f. (5 runners)

- GOSMACKED K Ryan 9-5 S Gray
 - UP THE CLARETS R Fahey 9-5 O Orr
 - JOSHUA'S DREAM J Goldie 9-3 P Mulrennan
 - KISS ME MY LOVE K Johnston 9-0 J Fanning
 - 4 TWO JIMA 17 (1) S G 9-2 W Pyle (5)
- 4-2 Up The Clarets, 9-4 Kiss Me My Love, 11-4 Gosmacked

6.40 HANDICAP (4); winner £5,286; 6f. (7 runners)

- 36-0 CONSERVATIONIST 17 K Ryan 4-9-11 S Gray
 - 0-84 QUINCY ARIUS 20 (P,CD) P Niven 4-9-1 P Mulrennan
 - 2-09 PUNCHBOWL FLYER 32 (B,D) J O'Shea 4-9-1 A Brookes (5)
 - 3650 ROCK OPERA 29 (C,D) R Fahey 4-9-3 O Orr
 - 611 CATERING ON 6 (B,CD) J Goldie 4-9-1 A Waugh (5)
 - 5-09 SACRED FALLS 20 (B,F,D) K Scott 4-8-11 W Pyle (5)
 - 0-05 IRIS DANCER 18 (B,C,D) T Davidson 6-8-10 A Mullen
- 13-8 Catherine Chroi, 11-2 Quintus Arius, 6 PUNCHBOWL FLYER, Conservationist, Rock Opera, Sacred Falls, 12 Iris Dancer

7.15 HANDICAP (3); winner £15,462; 1m. 4f. (6 runners)

- 75-6 GET SHIRTY 20 (CD) D O'Meara 8-9-9 D Nolan
 - 7-41 RETRIEVED GEONS (CD) L Parrat 8-9-9 J Fanning
 - 145-MAASIA MARA 120 (P,B,F) J O'Shea 4-9-2 P Mulrennan
 - 6-44 FAYLAQ 21 (D) G Goldie 8-8-12 A Waugh (5)
 - 4-36 GERMEDIA 13 (C,D) J Goldie 6-8-10 A Mullen
 - 215-NAVARRÉ EXPRESS 228 (B,F) H Palmer 4-8-1 C Hardie
- 2 Capital Theory, 9-2 Faylaq, 5 Get Shirty, Navarre Express, 11-2 GERMEDIA, 13-2 Maasia Mara

7.50 HANDICAP (6); winner £3,664; 1m. (11 runners)

- 70-2 KRISTAL KLEAR 21 S Barclay 4-9-11 J Fanning
 - 7-02 MAJESTIC NEWLAW 15 (P) J Jardine 4-9-9 A Mullen
 - 6739 SHOOHMEDEWAY 65 (P,D) J Jardine 5-9-3 C Hardie
 - 8-0 STARSHOT 38 (H,H) J Best 4-9-1 A Breslin (3)
 - 557-SHAHNAZ 20 (P,CD) D Bourke 5-9-5 D Nolan
 - 2437 WE STILL BELIEVE 21 (C,D) D Bourke 6-8-9 P Mulrennan
 - 259-ZUMAATY 43 (D) J Goldie 6-9-4 A Jay (5)
 - 1325 LEDGERA 14 (B,D) L Russell 4-9-2 O Orr
 - 3573 RETRIEVED GEONS (CD) L Parrat 8-9-9 J Fanning
 - 0-26 CROTHERLMHIE 11 (H,P,D) A Duffield 7-8-10 S Gray
 - 10-1 027 SCARRIFF 31 (P*) R Menzies 6-8-9 P Mathers
- Kristal Klear 9-9, Majestic Newlaw 98, Zumaaty 97.

8.25 HANDICAP (6); 3-y-o; winner £3,664; 1m 2f. (8 runners)

- 7-43 PERSIAN PHOENIX 25 C Johnston 9-9-9 J Fanning
- 10-11 PRESENTING MAX 14 A Martin (ire) 5-11-2 non-runner
- 3-0 LIA ROSA 17 R Guest 9-7 O Orr
- 2285 MON ETOILE 17 J C Johnston 9-6 F Norton
- 1283 REDDONO 39 D Bourke 9-4 A Mullen

AINTREE

5.45 NOVICE HURDLE (Class 4); winner £4,084; 2m 1f. (5 runners)

- 3P-1 ROARING LEGEND 21 (T) O Murphy 4-11-3 S Bowen
 - HAVANA PARTY F65 (B*) J Jardine 6-11-2 C O'Farrell
 - PRESENTING MAX 14 A Martin (ire) 5-11-2 non-runner
 - 422- THE EVENTER 242 (H,B) B Brookhouse 5-11-2 J Quinlan
 - 137- NOT NOW NATHANIEL 36 (H*) D McCain 4-10-3 B Hughes
- Rearing Legend 9-9, Not Now Nathaniel 95, The Eventer 97, 10-11 Rearing Legend, 9-2 Not Now Nathaniel, 5 Havana Party

6.20 HANDICAP CHASE (3); winner £6,337; 2m 4f. (9 runners)

- 217- HOMME PUBLIC 38 (P,T) O Greenall & J Guerrero 7-12-1 B Brooke
 - 21P- RAFFLE TICKET 59 (B,F,D) M Rowley 10-11-1 H Cobden
 - 422- CAROL 109 (H*) B 7-11-9 J Jakes (3)
 - 250- FRANKY DU BELAIS 35 (T) P & M Bowen 11-10-13 S Bowen
 - 60P- FLIC OU VOYOU 75 (P,D) H Hogarth 10-10-13 D McNamee
 - 95P- THE BIG BITE 37 (P,C,D) H Oliver 11-10-13 J Burke
 - 725- AMRONS SAGE 149 (N) Henderson 7-10-12 J Bowen
 - 342- NORTHERN PLICE 174 (H,D) H Dickin 7-10-12 J Bowen
 - 615- GETAWAY LUV 40 (P,T) J Quinlan 9-10-18 Sean Quinlan
- Homme Public 9-9, Soul Lion 98, Amrons Sage 97.

6.55 HANDICAP HURDLE (2); winner £10,075; 2m 4f. (12 runners)

- 407- RED RISK 20 (P,D) P Nicholls 9-11-0 G Fingell (3)
 - 146- GET A TONIC 54 (D) D Skelton 8-11-0 T Durrell (3)
 - 000- BENSON 27 (P,D) A Thomson 9-11-0 R Mania
 - 190- GEROMINO 30 (T,D) D McCain 9-11-0 C Maggs (7)
 - 517- KING ALEXANDER 125 (D) N Henderson 6-11-3 J Bowen
 - 507- PETIT TONNERRE 27 (P) Junjo & A O'Neill 6-11-3 J O'Neill Jr
 - 510- MASACCIO 27 A King 7-11-2 T Cannon
 - 171- ALNILAM 32 A Murphy 5-11-0 J Jakes (3)
 - 350- NORTHERN PLICE 174 (H,D) H Dickin 7-10-12 J Bowen
 - 851- MEATLOAF 23 P Nicholls 5-10-13 S Cobden
 - 11P- WUNDERWALL 28 P & M Bowen 8-10-9 B Hughes
 - 125- MAGICAL MAGGIE 30 A Ralph 7-10-8-10-2 T Worsley (3)
- Meatloaf 9-9, Maccasio 98, Get A Tonic 54

7.30 HANDICAP CHASE (2); winner £12,254; 3m 1f. (10 runners)

- 219- EMPRESS GIGEL 35 A Thomson 10-12-0 R Mania
 - 178- INTO OVERDRIVE 17 (H*) C England 9-11-2 J Hamilton
 - P40- KINONDO KWETU 20 (T,CD) M England 9-11-2 J Hamilton
 - 449- SAIL AWAY 30 (T) D Skelton 8-11-12 J Gillard
 - P10- COURTLAND 20 P & M Bowen 9-11-3 S Bowen
 - 21P- CAPTAIN MOROS 96 (P) N Henderson 8-11-3 J Bowen
 - 15P- ERNE RIVER 34 (P) N Kent 9-11-5 C Hammond
 - 13P- YOUNG BUSTER 27 (P,T*) F O'Brien 8-11-3 J Burke
 - P7- BROKEN QUEST 7 (P,T,D) D Dennis 12-10-11 T Bellamy
 - 35- CENTINEL 10 (H*) J Jakes (3) non-runner
- Into Overdrive 9-9, Sail Away 98, Empire Steel 27

LOG SHOOT OF THE DAY

DANZAN (4.45 York) has been knocking on the door and coming back to this trip could do the trick for Tim Easterby.

TEMPLEGATE

- | | |
|------|-----------------|
| 5.30 | Sixcor |
| 6.05 | Gosmacked |
| 6.40 | Catherine Chroi |
| 7.15 | Faylaq |
| 7.50 | Kristal Klear |
| 8.25 | Persian Phoenix |
| 9.00 | Ski Angel |

TOM PEPPER

- | | |
|------|-----------------|
| 5.30 | Sixcor |
| 6.05 | Gosmacked |
| 6.40 | Rock Opera |
| 7.15 | Get Shirty |
| 7.50 | Ledger |
| 8.25 | Reddono |
| 9.00 | Bernie The Bear |

■TIC-TAC: Right-handed, loose course with 5f run-in part of training. Unlatching, with testing finishing climb. ■DRAW: Low to middle numbers best in sprints, especially on soft ground. ■LEADING TRAINERS (2019-2024): Goldie 40-38, R Fahey 35-195, J Jardine 30-268, K Ryan 29-132, THIS SEASON: R Fahey 2, J Jardine 2, MTOP JOCKEYS (2019-2024): P Mulrennan 35-214, A Mullen 27-228, J Fanning 17-161, S Gray 14-125, THIS SEASON: A Mullen 2, P Mulrennan 1. ■LONGEST TRAVELLER: Lia Rose (8.25), trained at Newmarket, Round trip of 720 miles. ■TRAINER/FAK: J Goldie won the 7.15 in 2016, 2017 and 2019. ■FIRST RUN SINCE WIND UP: None. ■LIVE ON RACING TV:

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 6 (1) | 06-8 ANNA'S ANCESTORS 12 (P*) L Russell 8-5 A Breslin (3) |
| 7 (7) | 3227 LUNAR ROCKS 39 (P) R Smith 8-4-4 P Mathers |
| 8 (4) | 8-06 MILLBLUÉ 12 E Whillans 8-4 C Hardie |
| 9 (4) | Lia Rose 9-9 Persian Phoenix 98, Carnival 97 |

9.00 HANDICAP (6); winner £3,664; 9f. (11 runners)

- 3725 GLOBAL HUMOR 15 (B,F,CD) J Goldie 9-9-1 P Mulrennan
 - 47-1 SKI ANGEL 15 (C) R Smith 4-9-9 D Nolan
 - 2424 BERNIE THE BEAR 21 (B,D) L Perratt 4-9-8 T Jakes (5)
 - 27-9 SEE MY BABY LIVE 18 (D) D Whillans 9-9-9 A Mullen
 - 9065 KITBAG 18 (V,D) L Perratt 4-9-7 J Fanning
 - 0-0 O'ONTEHUNNY 131 L Perratt 4-9-6 P Mathers
 - 7769 GLORIOUS RIO 27 (B,C,D) S Barclay 7-9-5 A Jay (5)
 - 3 (1) 7-00 MR TREVOR 17 (D) A Duffield 6-9-5 S Gray |
 - 4 (4) 3178 HARD SOLUTION 24 (B,T) L J Fanning 6-9-5 P Mulrennan |
 - 10 (10) 49-7 MONSIEUR PATAT 20 (D) A Wintle 7-9-2 C Hardie |
 - 11 (6) 07-6 MR HAPPY 12 (H*) L Russell 4-9-1 O Orr |
- Ski Angel 9-9, Global Humor 98, Kitbag 96.

3 Ski Angel, 4 Global Humor, 9-2 Bernie The Bear, 8 Kitbag, 10 See My Baby Live, Mr Trevor, 12 Glorious Rio

GREENYHIVE TIPS

■HOVE: 10-47 Rapido Ava (6-26) 11-02 Canya Dance (1-2-4) 11-17 Toffee Tiger (nap) (6-31) 11-32 Glory Tiger

Favourite THE HOME OF RACING



NEWMARKET COLOURS

GOING: GOOD

TEMPLEGATE

- 2.23 Powdering
- 2.53 Creative Story
- 3.23 Skukuza
- 3.53 Gold Medallist
- 4.25 True Courage
- 4.55 Unico

TOM PEPPER

- 2.23 Dakota Power
- 2.53 T'challa
- 3.23 Arisaig
- 3.53 Forever My Prince
- 4.25 Composite
- 4.55 Havana Touch

TIC-TAC: The Rowley Mile is an undulating wide course of 2m4f with a right-handed bend at halfway. Races up to 1m2f are straight with a downhill slope at the 2f marker and an uphill final furlong.

DRAW: Inconsistent.
FAVOURITES: (2019-2024): 203 have won out of 692 races (29%). At the previous corresponding meetings, 11 have won out of 23 races (48%).

LIVE ON RACING TV

HOT 'N NOT

TRAINERS with best record in last 14 days: C Hills 7 wins from 14 runners, A Balding 13 from 59; R Beckett 6 from 28; D O'Meara 9 from 47; C Appleby 6 from 34; A Watson 6 from 36; W Haggas 4 from 28; R Hannon 7 from 50; J & T Gosden 5 from 39.

JOCKEYS with best record in last 14 days:

J Gordon 2 wins from 10 rides; K Stott 4 from 21; C Fallon 4 from 23; J Mitchell 3 from 24; R Clutterbuck 2 from 17; L Morris 5 from 46; B Sayette 2 from 19; B Loughnane 4 from 39; C Shepherd 3 from 30.

TRAINERS who have had the most runners since last win:

A Haynes 28; J Butler 23.
JOCKEYS who have had the most rides since last win: C Hutchinson 53; A Pinna 26.

TOP TRAINERS

2019-2024 C Appleby 85-296, J & T Gosden 40-265, A Balding 31-255, W Haggas 24-221, R Beckett 22-183, R Hannon 17-300, C Hills 15-114, G Boughey 12-106, J Chapple-Hyam 11-109, Sir M Stoute 10-77. **THIS SEASON:** C Appleby 8, R Hannon 3, W Haggas 2, A Balding 2.

TOP JOCKEYS

2019-2024 C Fallon 11-90, J Mitchell 7-71, C Shepherd 7-97, N Callan 6-65, P Cosgrave 4-39, S W Kelly 4-40, K Stott 4-51, Josephine Gordon 3-35, M Ghiani 3-36, B Sayette 2-37. **THIS SEASON:** C Shepherd 1, N Callan 1, R Coakley 1.

TRAINER TRACE

FIRST RACE FOR NEW YARD:

2.23 Roger Henry J Osborne to G Kelleway, 4.55 Lieutenant Rascal G Fluke to P McEntee, Magic F Scott to J R Jenkins.

RACEFAX:

J & T Gosden won the 2.53 in 2021 & 2022.

LONGEST TRAVELLERS:

Arisaig (3.23) & Anthropolgist (3.53) trained by C Johnston, Middleham, round trip of 400 miles; Iron Lion (4.25) trained by D O'Meara, Upper Helmsley, trip of 382 miles; Dukes Of Heather (3.53), A Keatley; One More Dream (2.23), J & S Quinn, both Malton, trip 332 miles.

IN THE MONEY

MONEY TALKS: Fenlander (4.55) opened 11-8, unplaced at 10-11f; Havana Touch (4.55) opened 11-2, won at 7-2; Foro Romano (3.53) opened 5-1, second at 18-5; Divine Breath (4.55) opened 2-5, won at 3-10f; Creative Story (2.53) opened 2-1, second at 13-8f.

TOP EARNERS

4.25 True Courage£84,340
4.25 The Whipmaster£68,716

UNDER ORDERS

SEVEN-DAY WINNERS:

None.
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: 4.55 Luas, 4.55 Kapparis Kid.

VISORED FIRST TIME:

None.
FIRST RUN SINCE WIND OP: None today.

WEIGHTWATCHER:

2.23 Ai Baahy (won off 71, down 6lb to 65); Powdering (won off 67, down 7lb to 60).

JOB JOCKEYS:

Josephine Gordon rides Unico (4.55) for M Botti, 7 from 28, 25%; K Stott rides Divine Breath (4.55) for R Beckett, 6 from 30, 20%.

2.23 TRUSTATRADER APPRENTICE HANDICAP (Class 5) winner £4,381; 7f (11 runners)

- 1 3124-4 ANOTHER THOUGHT 15 (10) E J-Houghton 4-10-0. Oliver Carmichael (10) 97 Runs: 5 Wins: 1(A) Places: 2 £8,179 Got going too late over 6f at Lingfield latest, rider lacks experience
- 2 2124-18 ONE MORE DREAM 19 (D) (1) J & S Quinn 5-10-0. Frederic Daly (5) 92 Runs: 35 Wins: 9(BA,G) Places: 6 £62,234 Knows how to win, stays 7f well but must put a poor run behind him
- 3 129-16 ONOMORENOMORE 19 (D) (8) P McBride 4-9-13. Joe Bradnan (3) 94 Rags: 14 Wins: 2(S,G) Places: 3 £15,446 Bags of speed, best trip is over 6f and may lack the staying power of some
- 4 18-385 EMBARKED 18 (D) (7) J Fanshawe 6-9-11. Aidan Jones (8) 91 Runs: 26 Wins: 2(A) Places: 3 £18,026 Dropping in the weights, apprentice has only had one ride in public
- 5 2971 ROGER HENRY 22 (P;D) (3) G Kelleway 4-9-10. Alice Bond (3) 99 Runs: 4 Wins: 1(A) Places: 1 £9,074 Travelled well when winning at Chelmsford latest, more to come
- 6 3-5113 FREETODREAM 27 (BF,D) (9) A Perrett 4-9-10. Taryn Langley (5) 97 Runs: 12 Wins: 3(F,2A) Places: 2 £14,182 Stays this trip well, winning run ended over a mile latest, better expected
- 7 3258-6 AL BAAHY 18 (D) (11) K Frost 5-9-9. Andrea Pinna (7) 85 Runs: 25 Wins: 1(G) Places: 8 £25,766 Dropping in the weights, potentially well hcaped on best form, e-w
- 8 3-7071 DAKOTA POWER 12 (D) (2) R Teal 5-9-9(5lbex). Courtney Thomas (10) 98 Runs: 15 Wins: 2(S,A) Places: 4 £16,313 Always going best when winning at Salisbury latest, strongly fancied
- 9 744131 POWERING 11 (D) (5) M Herrington 4-9-9(5lbex) Oliver Timms (5) 97 Runs: 19 Wins: 3(A,G,S,G) Places: 3 £21,220 Impressive when hammering modest rivals at Beverley, one to beat
- 10 -32562 HARRY THE HAGGLER 8 (T;BF,D) (6) S Williams 4-9-4. Jack Enright (3) 94 Runs: 17 Wins: 2(S,A) Places: 7 £23,248 Never stopped trying when second at Chelmsford, top rider on board
- 11 034750 ONE HART 4 (P;D) (4) D Donovan 7-8-10. Molly Gunn 78 Runs: 63 Wins: 5(F,4A) Places: 13 £48,362 Struggled at Wolves on Monday, plenty to prove now, no chance

BETTING: 4 Powdering, 11-2 Freetodream, 6 Dakota Power, One More Dream, 7 Harry The Hagglar, 8 Roger Henry, 10 Embarked
WHERE FAVS FINISHED AND 2023: No corresponding race.

Sunracing FORM

ANOTHER THOUGHT (9-6) 11-1 close up, ridden 2f out, never a factor, 4th of 5 (btn 3/4) to Cinque Verde (9-4) (Lingfield hcp 5f) £3,716 AW).
ONOMORENOMORE (8-10) 10-1 held up towards the end, ridden 1f out, weakened, 6th of 10 (btn 3/4) to New Image (9-4) ONE MORE DREAM (9-9) 6-1 mid-division, no progress 2f out, 8th (btn 5/4) (10 ran) (Southwell 7f hcp 4f) £10,468 AW).
EMBARKED (9-6) 6-1 tracked leaders, pushed along 2f out, weakened 1f out, 8th (btn 4/4) to Bora Bora (9-6) AL BAAHY (9-8) 8-1 off the pace, never involved, 6th (btn 7/4) (Whampton 7f hcp) £3,716 AW).
ROGER HENRY (9-11) 10-1 slowly into stride, mid-division, headway 4f out, ridden to challenge and hung left over 1f out, soon led, stayed on well, bt Heerathraed (9-2) 1/4 (10 ran) (Chelmsford 7f hcp) £4,004 AW).
FREETODREAM (8-3) 2-1 fav held up

TRUSTATRADER NOVICE STAKES (4) 3-y-o; value to the winner £5,154; 1m. (15 runners)

- 1 (11) 33 APPROVED STAR 19 R Hannon 9-7. Joe Leavy (5) 97
- 2 (3) 22 CREATIVE STORY 31 (BF) C Appleby 9-7. Callum Shepherd 99
- 3 (8) ESCAPE ACT D Simcock 9-7. Luke Morris -
- 4 (2) 6 FIGHT BACK 19 G Scott 9-7. Charles Bishop 70
- 5 (6) 9 KILT 16 W Haggas 9-7. Cieren Fallon 97
- 6 (13) 6-9 LORD OF LOVE 17 J & T Gosden 9-7. Benoit Sayette 75
- 7 (5) 07 MINI PUNTER 17 R Meenan 9-7. Darraugh Keenan 72
- 8 (7) 42-4 MODERN TIMES 19 (T) H Eustace 9-7. Billy Loughnane 92
- 9 (4) ON LOOCAST PUNTER A Murphy 9-7. George Wood -
- 10 (14) SKIPPER T Clover 9-7. Jack Mitchell -
- 11 (1) 27 CHALLA 19 A Balding 9-7. Kevin Stott -
- 12 (12) 34 USUARIO AMIGO 11 (BF) J Owen 9-7. Neil Callan 94
- 13 (9) 46 WARRIORS DREAM 35 (BF) S Woods 9-7. Dylan Hogan 88
- 14 (15) 7 BARAFUNDE BA 15 D Quinn 9-2. Callum Hutchinson (3) 75
- 15 (10) DISOULITUDE 17 J Butler 9-2. Joey Haynes 70

BETTING: 2 Creative Story, 6 T'challa, 13-2 Usuario Amigo, 8 Kilt, Approved Star, 10 Warriors Dream, Modern Times, 12 Escape Act
WHERE FAVOURITES FINISHED: 5 1 1 1
2023: Quiddah 9-11 Jamie Spencer 2-1 Fav (S & E Crisford) drawn 8, 10 ran.

TRUSTATRADER HANDICAP (3) 3-Y-O; winner £10,308; 1m (6 runners)

- 1 426-11 ROCKING TREE 46 (3) G Boughey 9-8. Billy Loughnane 99 Runs: 6 Wins: 2(A) Places: 1 £21,032 Improving, visually impressive at Wolves latest, leading contender
- 2 1-4 LAUTREC 15 (P;BF,D) (1) J & T Gosden 9-7. Benoit Sayette 95 Runs: 2 Wins: 1(A) Places: 1 £6,053 Bred to be decent, beaten at 1-4 at Chelmsford, cheekpieces may help
- 3 23-62 SKUKUZA 14 (4) E Dunlop 9-6. Callum Shepherd 97 Runs: 4 Wins: 1(A) Places: 3 £11,706 Improving with experience, decent effort here latest, dangerous
- 4 181-4 ARISAIG 31 (6) C Johnston 9-4. Neil Callan 92 Runs: 4 Wins: 2(A) Places: 2 £8,358 Ran a strong race when only fourth here latest, will be sharper today
- 5 371-4 SPUN TO GOLD 31 (BF) (5) A Balding 8-13. Kevin Stott 98 Runs: 4 Wins: 1(A) Places: 1 £5,887 Never got any luck when fourth here over 7f latest, better expected

445-9 FIFRAYN 21 (2) R Hannon 8-12. Joe Leavy (5) 83 Runs: 4 Weak in the betting when down the field at Sandown latest, ignore

BETTING: 15-8 Rocking Tree, 7-2 Skukuza, Lautrec, 11-2 Spun To Gold, 13-2 Arisaig, 16 Fihrayn
WHERE FAVOURITES FINISHED: 1 1 2 9
2023: Chelsea Green 9-10, R Coakley 16-1 (H Palmer), dr 10, 11 ran.

Sunracing FORM

ROCKING TREE (9-9) 10-3 fav made all, hung heavily 1f out, ran on, bt Sennockian (9-7) 1/4 (7 ran) (Whampton 1m 1f hcp 4f) £8,374 AW).
LAUTREC (9-8) 1-4 fav led 8f out, headed 2f out, no extra, 4th of 8 (btn 7/4) to Niigata (9-1) (Chelmsford 1/2m nov) £4,187 AW).
SKUKUZA (9-3) 9-1 tracking leaders, ridden 1f out, went 2nd finish, 2/4 by Volterra (9-2) (8 ran) (Newmarket 1m hcp 3f) £15,462 good to firm.
ARISAIG (9-7) 20-1 slowly into stride, in rear, ran on under pressure final furlong, nearest finish, 4th of 13 (4) to Watcha Matey (9-3) (Newmarket 1m hcp 4f) £7,731 good to firm).
SPUN TO GOLD 9-4 fav close up, pushed along 2f out, 4th and no impression inside final furlong, 4th of 9 (btn 3/4) to Our Havana (9-1) (Newmarket 7f hcp 4f) £7,731 good).
FIFRAYN (9-4) 12-1 tracked leaders, weakened 1f out, 9th of 12 (btn 12) to Goodwood Odyssey (9-8) (Sandown 1/2m hcp 4f) £10,308 good to soft).

JUDDMONTE EBF RESTRICTED NOVICE STAKES (2); 2-y-o; value to the winner £15,462; 6f. (13 runners)

- 1 (3) 34 ANTHROPOLOGIST 26 (BF) C Johnston 9-7. Neil Callan 97
- 2 (5) CALYXOH J Chapple-Hyam 9-7. Pat Cosgrave -
- 3 (9) CAMERA SHY M Bell 9-7. Kevin Stott -
- 4 (13) DUKES OF HEATHER 38 A Keatley 9-7. George Wood 87
- 5 (1) 32 FORO ROMANO 24 G Boughey 9-7. Billy Loughnane 98
- 6 (11) KITTY'S DREAM A Haynes 9-7. Darraugh Keenan -
- 7 (10) LAZIELLUNCH S Woods 9-7. Dylan Hogan -
- 8 (8) MEHMASSAL AND I D Descombe 9-7. Ross Coakley -
- 9 (6) FOREVER MY PRINCE 24 (BF) E Houghton 9-5. Edward Greaves 94
- 10 (4) GOLD MEDALLIST 14 E-Houghton 9-5. Charles Bishop 99
- 11 (2) MARBUSHA A Watson 9-5. Luke Morris -
- 12 (7) ALONDRA C Hills 9-2. Cieren Fallon -
- 13 (12) 4 GRISLEDA 20 G Scott 9-0. Callum Shepherd 90

BETTING: 7-2 Gold Medallist, 11-2 Foro Romano, 13-2 Marbusha, 7 Forever My Prince, 15-2 Anthropolgist, 10 Alondra, 12 Mehmassal And I, Calyoh, Dukes Of Heather
WHERE FAVOURITES FINISHED: 3-5 1 3 1
2023: Flag Of St George 9-5 R Tart 13-8 Fav (J Chapple-Hyam) drawn 9, 14 ran.

TRUSTATRADER HANDICAP (3) value to the winner £10,308; 1m 4f (8 runners)

- 1 41334- FOX JOURNEY 205 (BF,C,D) (8) Sir M Stoute 4-9-9. Rhys Clutterbuck 99 Runs: 10 Wins: 2(G) Places: 2 £48,548 Strong strayer, only 6f higher than last win, leading form claims
- 2 147-31 IRON LION 15 (D) (6) D O'Meara 4-9-6. Kevin Stott 98 Runs: 9 Wins: 2(S,G,S) Places: 3 £19,230 Won a Donny hcap in a canter latest, 8lb rise is earned, strong fancy
- 3 31-16 COMPOSITE 25 (BF,D) (2) G Boughey 4-9-5. Billy Loughnane 94 Runs: 4 Wins: 2(A) Places: 1 £9,388 Disappointing when beaten fav on hcap debut at Windsor, bit to find
- 4 3519-6 VAYNOR 24 (D) (5) C Hills 5-9-0. Cieren Fallon 97 Runs: 20 Wins: 5(F,2A,G) Places: 2 £36,635 Not knocked about at Epsom, go well now back to last winning mark
- 5 2858-6 THE WHIPMASTER 18 (P,T,X) (1) G & J Moore 6-8-13. Shane W Kelly 87 Runs: 30 Wins: 7(3F,A,2GS,G) Places: 5 £68,716 Dropping in the weights, promise at Southwell latest, place claims
- 6 96-956 MOKTASAAB 58 (7) P McEntee 6-8-11. Josephine Gordon 90 Runs: 26 Wins: 3(2F,G) Places: 5 £52,188 Strong traveller, does not always find much off the bridle, risky bet
- 7 601-85 SWISS MONEY J7 (T) (4) H Dickin 4-8-10. Callum Hutchinson (3) 86 Runs: 7 Wins: 2(G) Places: 1 £25,089 Comes here racing fit, on a decent mark but may find a few too quick
- 8 -65171 TRUE COURAGE 36 (V;D) (3) M Bell 6-8-9. Luke Morris 94 Runs: 32 Wins: 8(3F,5A) Places: 4 £84,340 Battled well to win over further at Chelmsford latest, can get involved

BETTING: 2 Fox Journey, 9-4 Iron Lion, 13-2 True Courage, Composite, 10 Vaynor, Moksasaab, 20 The Whipmaster
WHERE FAVS FINISHED AND 2023: No corresponding race.

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FOX JOURNEY (9-5) 6-5 fav held up in 5th, not much room 2f out, headway over 1f out, kept on same pace, 4th of 7 (btn 3) to C'mon Kenny (8-11) (Kempton 2m hcp 3f) £7,731 AW).
IRON LION (9-9) 8-13 fav close up, smooth headway 2f out, led over 1f out, comfortable, bt it's All About You (9-8) 4/1 (1 ran) (Doncaster 1/2m hcp 4f) £5,653 good to soft).
COMPOSITE (9-1) 5-2 fav front rank, edged left when every chance 1f out, weakened inside final furlong, 6th of 11 (btn 5/4) to Insanity (9-8) (Windsor 1m 3f hcp 4f) £5,653 good).
VAYNOR (8-1) 22-1 mid-division, ridden 2f out, never on terms, 6th of 13 (btn 11) to Champagne Platf (9-3) (Epsom 1/2m hcp 3f) £10,308 good).

TRUSTATRADER HANDICAP (5) 3-Y-O; value to the winner £4,381; 6f (13 runners)

- 1 964-4 GIORGIO M 14 (T) (7) G Boughey 9-11. Billy Loughnane 99 Runs: 7 Wins: 1(G) Places: 1 £5,856 Stylish win at Musselburgh, talented rider knows him well, go close
- 2 653-6 FENLANDER 29 (BF) (8) P Sly 9-9. Shane W Kelly 90 Runs: 4 Wins: 1(A) Places: 1 £1,262 Unexposed, raced mainly on soft so better ground could bring him on
- 3 -52222 MART 16 (D) (10) D Cunha 9-8. Rhys Clutterbuck 96 Runs: 15 Wins: 3(3A) Places: 5 £3,787 Runner-up on last four starts, vulnerable for the win but clear place chance
- 4 21 DIVINE BREATH 104 (D) (6) R Beckett 9-8. Kevin Stott 98 Runs: 2 Wins: 1(A) Places: 1 £7,231 Lightly raced, simple task when winning at Wolves, more to come

744-56 LUAS 20 (B*) (5) K De Foy 9-7. Benoit Sayette 89 Runs: 5 Always outpaced over 6f at Ripon latest, first-time blinkers may help

BETTING: 16-5 UNICO 24 (D) (1) M Botti 9-6. Josephine Gordon 95 Runs: 8 Wins: 2(F,A) Places: 1 £10,154 Raced keenly but found enough to win at Yarmouth, dangerous

28-346 LIEUTENANT RASCAL 32 (D) (7) P McEntee 9-6. Grace McEntee (3) 88 Runs: 12 Wins: 1(G) Places: 3 £14,488 Dropping in the weights, not much promise at Kempton, best watched

BETTING: 12-1 J Jenkins 9-4. Marco Ghiani 90 Runs: 9 Wins: 1(A) Places: 3 £8,760 Never got the run of the race at Kempton latest, worth another chance

-63177 SIGHTER 18 (11) R Hannon 9-4. Alec Voikhansky (3) 92 Runs: 6 Wins: 1(A) Places: 1 £5,399 Goes best from the front, could never dominate latest, can do better

-64585 KAPPARIS KID 25 (B*;D) (9) J Ryan 9-3. George Wood 89 Runs: 9 Wins: 1(A) Places: 1 £6,669 Shaped well for the future at Windsor, blinkers on and big run expected

673-27 WANT WANT 16 (3) J Chapple-Hyam 9-3. Jonny Peate (3) 93 Runs: 5 Wins: 1(A) Places: 1 £2,615 Blew the start at Kempton latest, capable of better, check betting

12 98731- HAVANA TOUCH 195 (13) J Butler 9-0. Luke Morris 95 Runs: 7 Wins: 1(A) Places: 1 £6,049 Won well at Chelmsford in Nov, top rider on board, interesting

13 52-625 BERRY CLEVER 17 (BF) (4) C Dwyer 9-0. Aidan Keeley (3) 93 Runs: 8 Wins: 1(A) Places: 2 £3,750 Still a maiden, but has shown that he has the talent to win at this level

BETTING: 10-3 Divine Breath, 9-2 Giorgio M, 7 Mart, Havana Touch, 8 Berry Clever, Unico, 10 Fenlander, 12 Luas, 16 Kapparis Kid, 20 Sighter, Lieutenant Rascal, 25 Want Want, 33 Magic Fluke
WHERE FAVOURITES FINISHED: 2
2023: Quinault 9-3, Luke Catton 6-1 (S C Williams), drawn 2, 13 ran.

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TEMPLEGATE TIPS

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