

90p

SOUVENIR EDITION - EURO 2024 FINAL

Heartbreak, again



2024 NEWSPAPER
OF THE YEAR

MONDAY
15 JULY 2024
Number 4,257

» England fall at the last despite cool Palmer strike and Pickford heroics

» Not again... Young team are thwarted in a second European Championship final - with Spain crowned after winning 2-1 in closing minutes in Berlin

» Squad and Southgate return from Germany as heroes after defying critics

P10



Trump defiant after surviving assassination attempt

- » US in shock after 20-year-old gunman came close to assassinating Donald Trump at campaign rally
- » Former president says Americans must 'stand united' after bullet hits ear, streaking him with blood
- » Secret Service chief summoned to Congress as President Biden orders a review of national security

P4

The News Matrix

The day at a glance



MONDAY

15

JULY

Quote of the day

Public speaking is the art of diluting a two-minute idea with a two-hour vocabulary
EVAN ESAR



Birthdays

Linda Ronstadt, singer, 78; Celia Imrie (below), actress, 72; Jason Bonham, drummer, 58; Lord Robert Winston, scientist, 84; Ollly Alexander, singer, 34



Anniversaries

Monday 15 July 1805
Zebulon Pike, a US army officer, sets off on an expedition with orders to seek out the headwaters of the Arkansas and Red rivers and to investigate Spanish settlements in New Mexico.

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Why is a bid to put tourists off Venice a 'failure'?
See p.37

The Page 3 Profile HARRY FILBY, NEWLY MEDALLED AT 99

A procrastinator or modest man?
Putting off applying for his medals for nearly 80 years, a Second World War veteran was surprised as his care home ticked the task off his to-do list for his 99th birthday. Tracey Waters, Elgar Care manager, said behind Harry Filby's failure to apply for his war medal 1939-45 was his modesty. Mr Filby said his family has nagged him about it for a good while. He said: "My daughter has been [on at] me for years: 'Apply for your medals!' Mr Filby, from Hereford, welled up and was "stuck for words" after Mrs Waters, presented him with his award, for his time serving as an RAF radio operator.

Carer of the year?
With his family's blessing, Mrs Waters and her husband Karl decided the time was nigh, and applied for Mr Filby's medal just in the nick of time for his birthday. Mrs Waters contacted the Armed Forces Covenant, a government initiative that helps businesses to support veterans. Mr Filby was eligible for the medal created for everyone who served in the Armed Forces and the Merchant Navy for at least 28 days during the Second World War.

Lost for words...
Arriving just a day before his birthday, the medal brought tears to Mr Filby's eyes on receiving it. Mrs Waters also organised for Col Andy Taylor, the Lord-Lieutenant of Herefordshire, to present the medal to Mr Filby (pictured right), in a ceremony attended by his family and staff. Mrs Waters said the day was "emotional" adding she "saw the tears well up in his eyes." Mr Filby said: "I'm not normally stuck for words - but my God I was."
Emilia Randall

NORTH KOREA Rubbish balloons set to resume flights

Kim Yo-jung, sister of leader Kim Jong-un, has vowed to respond to a South Korean leafleting campaign, signalling that North Korea will resume flying rubbish-laden balloons across the border. From May, it has floated balloons carrying waste paper, scraps of cloth, cigarette butts and even manure.

POLICE Motorcyclist in hospital after crash

A motorcyclist has been airlifted to hospital after a crash in the Scottish Highlands. Police were called to the scene near Kinlochewe at around 3.15pm on Saturday. The 43-year-old was airlifted to the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital in Glasgow with serious injuries after police say the bike slid on to the verge.

EDUCATION Struggle to find language teachers

Three in five secondary schools have faced challenges when hiring qualified language teachers, a report suggests. The recruitment of modern foreign language teachers is a "major issue" for a third of state secondary schools in England, according to the British Council's annual Language Trends report.



MIDDLE EAST Hamas denies death of military leader

Hamas said yesterday that Gaza ceasefire talks are continuing and the group's military commander is in good health. The Israeli military targeted Mohammed Deif on Saturday in an air strike that local health officials said killed at least 90 people, including children. Mr Deif's condition remains unclear. **PAGE 29**

PEOPLE 'Beverly Hills 90210' actress dies at 53

Shannen Doherty, the actress best known for her roles in *Beverly Hills 90210* and *Charmed*, died on Saturday from cancer aged 53. She had been diagnosed with breast cancer in 2015. Her publicist, Leslie Sloane, said: "The devoted daughter, sister, aunt and friend was surrounded by her loved ones."

RUSSIA Treason cases level similar to Stalin era

The number of treason cases in Russia is soaring. The prosecutions have raised comparisons to the show trials and purges under Soviet dictator Josef Stalin in the 1930s. Cases, which have increased since the 2022 invasion of Ukraine, are ensnaring citizens and foreigners alike. One rights group counted over 100 known treason cases in 2023.

SPAIN New search to begin for missing Briton

A specialist team of volunteers from the Netherlands will start a new search on Tenerife for missing Briton Jay Slater. Non-profit group Signi Zoekhonden told the BBC "there is more we can do" and has deployed a team of five people and four dogs to the island, with a sixth person due to leave today. Mr Slater, 19, went missing on 17 June.

The List

Hey good looking, let's get cooking

Culinary skills are important when it comes to looking for a partner, with the ability to cook and bake a must-have for one-in-five Britons. The research from BakeAway also revealed that half of those surveyed had been attracted to someone solely because of their love of food. The **Top 10 qualities were:**

- 1 Caring 74%
- 2 Kind 71%
- 3 Respectful 70%
- 4 Affectionate 63%
- 5 Empathetic 41%
- 6 Good looking 37%
- 7 Good with kids 35%
- 8 Can cook and bake 20%
- 9 Creative 18%
- 10 Cultured 17%



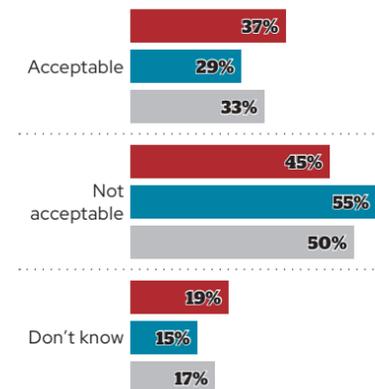
TECHNOLOGY Google owner lines up \$23bn acquisition

Google parent company Alphabet is in advanced talks to acquire cyber security startup Wiz for \$23bn (£17bn), it was claimed yesterday. If Alphabet moves ahead with its bid to buy Wiz, it would mark its biggest acquisition ever and be a rare example of a major technology company attempting a megadeal. It comes amid heightened regulatory scrutiny of the sector under the US Joe Biden administration. Regulators have indicated growing aversion to large technology companies getting bigger through acquisitions. Wiz generated about \$350m (£269m) in revenue in 2023, according to its website.

Spoiled alert?

Do you think it's acceptable to have a gift list for a child's birthday party?

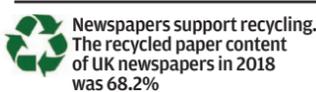
■ Male ■ Female ■ All



5,073 GB adults surveyed
Percentages rounded SOURCE: YOUNG & RUBICAM

WEATHER Part of UK set to have wet St Swithin's Day

Heavy rain and possible storms have been forecast for parts of the UK, in a bad omen for the summer according to the legend of St Swithin's Day, which falls today. The Met Office issued a yellow weather warning for rain between 8am and 11.59pm today ahead of forecast downpours of up to 40mm over the course of a few hours. It spans Wales and parts of western England - including Cardiff, Bangor, Liverpool and Exeter. According to folklore, the weather on St Swithin's Day continues for the next 40 days - if it holds true then parts of the country are in for a very wet summer. **PAGE 50**



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YOUR HEREFORDSHIRE

PEOPLE

Fundraiser 'retires' to focus on GCSEs

A blind teenager with a brain tumour who has raised more than £160,000 for a cancer charity is to take on a skydive as his final daring pursuit before "retiring and concentrating on GCSEs". Jack Thompson, 16, from Gateshead, was diagnosed at four months old. A scan has revealed the tumour is stable.

NATURE

Dinosaur with green bones has new home

A dinosaur being mounted at the Natural History Museum in Los Angeles is not only a member of a new species – it is also the only one found on the planet whose bones are green. Named "Gnatalie" for the gnats that swarmed during the excavation, the herbivore got its hue from the mineral celadonite.

MONARCHY

King and Queen to head down under

The King and Queen are set to visit Australia and Samoa this autumn, but are not going to New Zealand due to Charles's ongoing treatment for cancer. Charles and Camilla will undertake a tour of both countries in October, Buckingham Palace said, but doctors have advised against any extension to the trip.

IRELAND

Ancient axe-heads sent to museum

Two axe-heads, which are believed to be more than 4,000 years old, have been sent to the National Museum of Ireland anonymously, according to the BBC. Staff said the significant find, using a metal detector, was made in Co Westmeath. A letter was included with the foam-packed objects.

Letter from the Editor
Oliver Duff
i@news.co.uk

*Southgate's gift*

Most tournaments offer one or two great moments that endure. Decades later, these are the memories still playing on the highlights reel in your head. Gazza and Scotland. Seaman's penalty saves against Scotland and Spain. Stuart Pearce. Owen's goal versus Argentina. Beckham's spot kick four years later. Rooney in Portugal.

Yet England's Euro 2024 adventure – so lethargic at first – has in the past two weeks served up some of the greatest moments in the country's footballing history. Bellingham's bicycle kick. Saka's belter against the Swiss. Fearless penalties, including no-look Ivan Toney. Ollie Watkins's glorious refusal to play the part of supporting actor. Ice Cole Palmer in the final.

England have made a lot of their own luck, with technical brilliance, a powerful team ethic and unnatural resilience, refusing to yield when all appeared lost.

Last night their good fortune ran out against a brilliant Spanish team. Weaknesses were exposed and punished – and the winners rewarded for their footballing culture that starts in childhood.

For the first time, Southgate has visibly struggled under the burden of expectation, as he manages a young squad bursting with talent. He has looked tired, as if his era may have run its course.

Yet he has got so much right. Two finals, a semi-final. No team looked like getting close to silverware until Southgate became manager in dire circumstances. Southgate's gift to his nation is not only the return of hope and decency, but a wonderful new generation of players who are blooded in elite competition. They are a team to take pride in: skilful, courteous, courageous.

We wanted the European Championship. But treasure the memories, precious fragments from a time when we learned to believe.

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UNITED STATES

Trump urges Americans to 'stand

By Taz Ali

SENIOR WORLD REPORTER

Donald Trump has called on Americans to "stand united" after he was shot and wounded at a campaign rally, as more details emerged about the suspected gunman and President Joe Biden ordered a security review.

The former president said it was "God alone who prevented the unthinkable" after Thomas Matthew Crooks, 20, opened fire at the event in Butler, Pennsylvania, on Saturday, killing one person and critically injuring two.

Trump, 78, also confirmed he would still be attending the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, this week, where he is expected to reveal his vice presidential candidate for November's election.

"In this moment, it is more important than ever that we stand united, and show our true character as Americans, remaining strong and determined, and not allowing evil to win," Trump wrote on his Truth Social platform.

Last night, Mr Biden said that "all security arrangements" for the four-day Republican convention will be reviewed. The convention was scheduled to begin today.

Mr Biden said he had demanded a national security review into the shooting, which is being treated as an assassination attempt and has posed serious questions about the Secret Service's protection of Trump.

The FBI said the suspected gunman had acted alone. Footage of the shooting showed the former president clutching his ear and falling behind the lectern, before pumping his fist as he was bundled away by

Secret Service agents with blood running down his face. He later said that a bullet had pierced his right ear.

Crooks, a kitchen worker and registered Republican from Pennsylvania, had climbed on to a rooftop outside the rally's security perimeter in view of onlookers carrying an AR-15-type semi-automatic rifle before firing eight shots. He was shot dead by Secret Service snipers.

Last night, *The New York Times* reported that materials to build two explosive devices had been discovered in Crooks's car, while further bomb-making materials had been found in his home in Bethel Park, about 50 miles from the scene of the shooting.

The gun was purchased by a family member, possibly his father, the newspaper reported.

As of yesterday, authorities had given no indication that they had a motive for the shooting, which has been condemned by US politicians and leaders around the world.

But in such a polarised country with a dark history of political assassinations, there are fears that the shooting could galvanise extremists and lead to further acts of political violence.

Within hours of the rally in Butler, a number of Trump supporters – including Senator JD Vance, a favourite to be Trump's vice-president choice – had publicly accused Democrats of being responsible for the attempt on Trump's life.

Kamala Harris, the Vice-President, has cancelled a scheduled campaign stop in Palm Beach, Florida, tomorrow in the wake of the shooting.

In an address to the nation last night, Mr Biden said he had a "short but good conversation" with Trump following the shooting.

He said the assassination attempt was "contrary to everything we stand for as a nation, everything. It's not who we are as a nation. It's not American. And we cannot allow this to happen." He was due to speak further about the shooting from the Oval Office last night.

Yesterday, it emerged that the man killed at the rally was Corey Comperatore, a former fire chief from the area.

"The PA Trump rally claimed the life of my brother, Corey Comperatore," Dawn Comperatore Schaffer wrote on Facebook.

Trump flew to New Jersey after visiting a local Pennsylvania hospital, landing shortly after midnight at Newark Liberty International Airport.

A video posted by an aide showed the former president leaving his private jet flanked by Secret Service agents and heavily armed members of the agency's counterassault team, an unusually visible show of force by his protective detail.

i Homeland Security said it was engaged with the Biden and Trump campaigns and "taking every possible measure to ensure their safety and security".



President Joe Biden and Vice-President Kamala Harris are briefed by national security advisers on the apparent assassination attempt on Donald Trump AP

FAMILY

'Monster' tried to kill 'generous and caring' husband, says Melania

By Taz Ali

Donald Trump's wife Melania branded the gunman who tried to kill the former US president a "monster".

In a social media post, the former first lady (*inset*) wrote: "When I watched that violent bullet strike my husband, Donald, I realised my life, and Barron's life, were on the brink of devastating change."

"I am grateful to the brave Secret Service agents and law enforcement officials who risked their own lives to protect my husband."

"To the families of the innocent victims who are suffering from this heinous act, I humbly offer my sincerest sympathy. Your need to summon your inner strength for such a terrible reason saddens me."

"A monster who recognised my husband as an inhuman political machine attempted to ring out Donald's passion – his laughter, ingenuity, love of music and inspiration."

"The core facets of my husband's life, his human side, were buried

below the political machine. Donald, the generous and caring man who I have been with through the best of times and the worst of times."

She added: "This morning, ascend above the hate, the vitriol, and the simple-minded ideas that ignite violence. We all want a world where respect is paramount, family is first and love transcends. We can realise this world again."

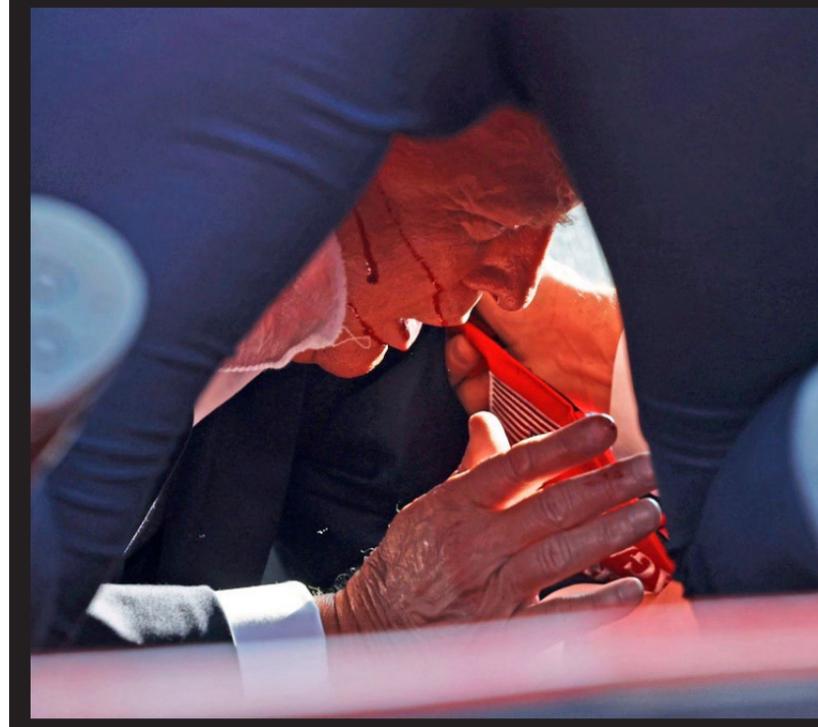
Trump's allies blamed the Democrat party, "the left" and the media for the assassination attempt, despite the fact that the motive of the gunman has yet to be established.

Some Republicans pointed to comments made by the US President, Joe Biden, to donors last week, when he reportedly said: "We're done talking about the debate, it's time to put Trump in the bull's-eye."

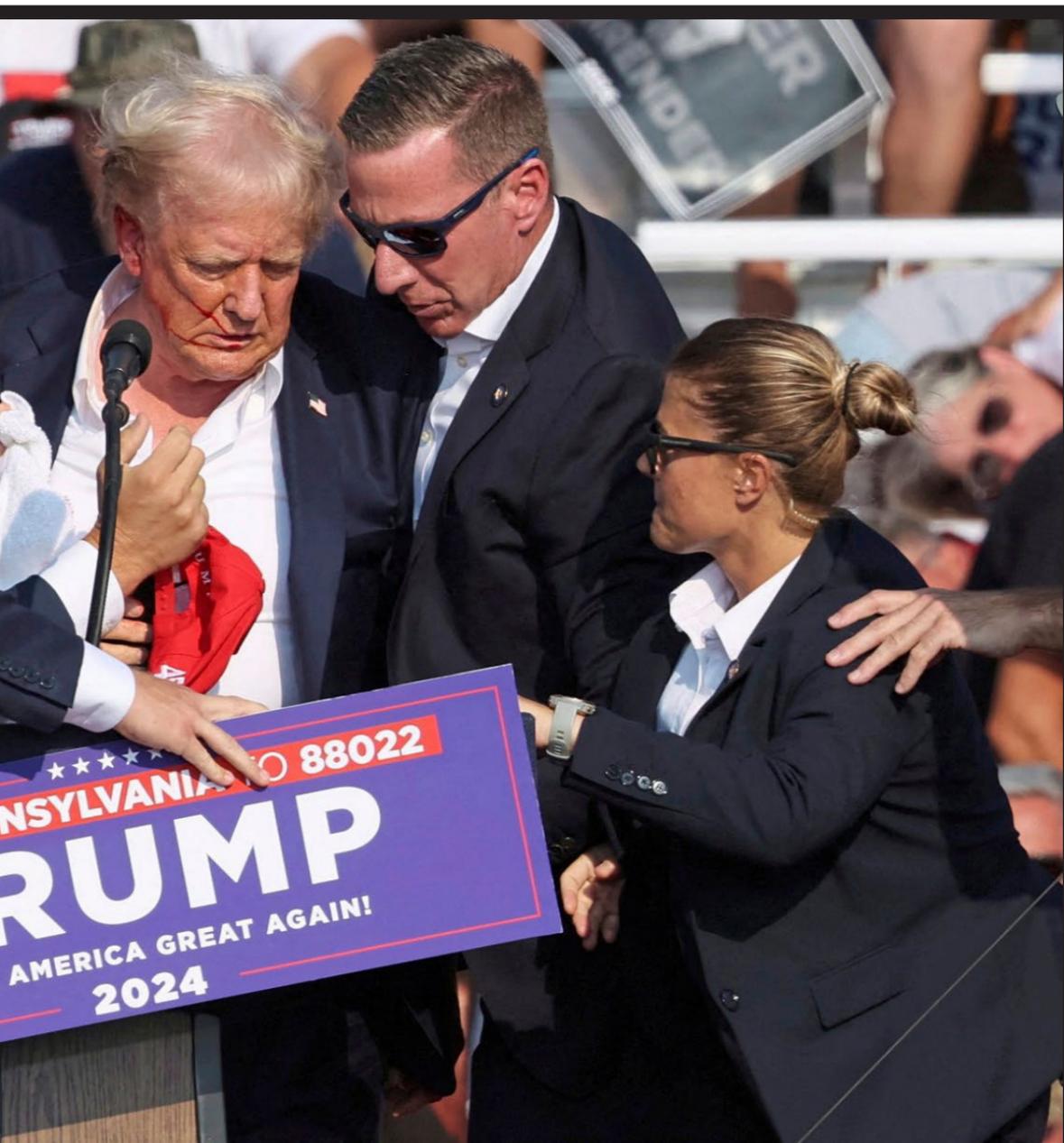
Mike Johnson, the Republican Speaker of the House of Representatives, said Mr Biden should be "called out" for attacks on Trump, saying they have contributed to a "heated political environment".



The dramatic scenes as Republican presidential candidate and former US president Donald Trump is assisted by security personnel after gunfire rang out during a campaign rally in Butler, Pennsylvania REUTERS



'united' after assassination attempt



Analysis

Shooting has thrown up fresh hurdles for Biden's campaign

Simon Marks
IN WASHINGTON DC



The immediate impact of the attempted assassination of former president Donald Trump on America's election campaign could be felt less than three hours after the crackle of gunfire interrupted the Republican leader's rally.

Less than 400 miles away in neighbouring Delaware, President Joe Biden told reporters that "everybody must condemn it. Everybody. If I'm able to speak to Donald, I'll let you know, but so far it appears he is doing well."

That almost affectionate use of Trump's first name from a man who – in last month's television debate – angrily referred to his rival as a "sucker" and a "loser", marked a stunning moment in the battle for the White House.

The two men, who are not known to have spoken since Biden's arrival in the White House in January 2021, did talk on Saturday, though no details were made available publicly.

Their loathing for one another has never been hidden from public view. But in a matter of minutes, the shooting forced Biden to pivot from a pugilist in the presidential contest to a head of state expressing concern about the safety of his rival.

The Biden campaign announced it was "pausing all outbound communications, and working to pull down our television ads as quickly as possible", spokesman Kevin Munoz said.

The ads will eventually return, though may require a less confrontational tone. But politically, the attempted assassination will be a turning point in the 2024 campaign. Coming as it did just 48 hours before Republicans begin their convention in Milwaukee, Trump's acceptance of the nomination on Thursday is set to become an even bigger unifying moment as Republicans rally round him.

For Biden, who has spent

Trump will benefit from a rise in support in sympathy for his injuries and defiant images at scene of the attack

a fortnight trying to save his candidacy following his disastrous performance in last month's debate, the shooting creates fresh hurdles to overcome.

Democrats anticipate that at least in the short term, Trump will benefit from a rise in support in sympathy for his injuries and the defiant, iconic images captured at the scene of the attack.

Some leading Republicans are already accusing Biden and the Democrats of responsibility for the attack on Trump.

Senator JD Vance of Ohio – a front-runner in the race to become Trump's running mate – claimed that "the central premise of the Biden campaign is that... Trump is an authoritarian fascist who must be stopped at all costs. That rhetoric led directly to [his] attempted assassination."

Others pointed to comments Biden made last week in which he urged Democrats to stop bickering about his poor debate performance and instead "put Trump in a bull's-eye".

Febrile Congressional hearings will now accompany the latter stages of the election campaign, with conspiracy theories about the alleged failures of the Secret Service to prevent the attack already spreading like wildfire on pro-Trump social media channels.

Before the shooter's motivation for the attack is understood, his actions have placed a fresh focus on acts of domestic terrorism in the United States. Last year, its Accountability Office reported a 357 per cent increase in domestic terrorism investigations between 2010 and 2021, with most relating to racially or ethnically motivated acts of violence.

Biden, reacting to Trump's shooting, said "violence in America like this is just unheard of". But that's not true. The attack on Trump becomes part of America's long history of political violence.

The shooting even has the capacity to alter the terrain of the debate over the easy availability of guns in America, given that Trump is now himself a victim of gun violence.

If the second TV debate with Biden, scheduled for 10 September, goes ahead, Trump will be the only man on the stage to have survived a volley of shots from an AR15 rifle.

PROFILE

Gunman was 'quiet kid' who lived with parents and won maths prize

By Sanya Burgess and Alexa Phillips

The gunman who tried to assassinate former US president Donald Trump during his rally in Pennsylvania was a 20-year-old living about an hour's drive from the event.

He was yesterday named by the FBI as Thomas Matthew Crooks, of Bethel Park, a suburb of Pittsburgh.

Images from his high school yearbook and graduation video show a thin boy with glasses and straight brown hair. Other videos found by *i* appear to show him helping in a computer technology lesson and taking part in an economics class.

A man who was in the year below Crooks, who did not wish to be named, told *i*: "I did know of him but I never really talked to him. He was in the grade above me. He was just a quiet kid."

The motive of the attack remains unclear at this stage.

Crooks was shot dead by service personnel. Video posted to social media and geolocated by *i* showed the body of a person wearing a grey T-shirt and beige shorts lying motionless on the roof of a building at AGR International, a manufacturing plant just north of the Butler Farm Show grounds where Trump's rally was held.

An onlooker can be heard on the



Thomas Matthew Crooks in his high school yearbook four years ago

video saying "You can see the guy there. I think they hit him. The guy, he looks dead."

Photos verified by *i* showed the gunman's T-shirt appeared to be promoting a pro-gun YouTube chan-

i Crooks appears to have graduated in 2022 from Bethel Park High School. He received a \$500 "star award" that year from the National Math and Science Initiative, according to local media.

nel called DemolitionRanch with more than 11 million subscribers, which tests and reviews weapons.

Its Facebook account shared a photo of the gunman where his shirt logo is partially visible.

Local police indicated later that they did not believe he had any accomplices.

A state voter registration record retrieved by *i* showed that Crooks was a registered Republican.

In 2021, when he was 17, he appears to have donated \$15 (£12) to the Progressive Turnout Project through the Democratic donation platform ActBlue, according to federal campaign finance records seen by *i*.

The project aims to increase voter turnout for the Democrats and runs a Stop Republicans campaign dedicated to resisting "Donald Trump's radical right-wing legacy".

The records included a home address. *i* was able to geolocate news footage showing a search of the suspect's home by matching it to this address. The house is in a quiet, suburban neighbourhood, and is worth around \$250,000.

Discord, a forum popular with gamers, said Crooks had a profile on the platform but that it was not used to plan the shooting.

His father, Matthew Crooks, told CNN that he was trying to figure out "what the hell is going on".

US Secret Service agents rush to Trump's aid after the shooting EVAN VUCCI/AP



TIMELINE

Witnesses say they told police about man on roof before gunfire

By Emma Reynolds

As Saturday evening's rally in Pennsylvania began, Donald Trump mounted the stage to the sound of "God Bless the USA" and waved.

At about 6.11pm, minutes into his speech, as he pointed to a graphic on border crossings, gunshots rang out.

"If you want to really see something that's sad, take a look at what happened -" the 78-year-old said before stopping, raising his hand to his right ear and dropping below the lectern.

"Get down, get down, get down!" a Secret Service agent shouted. Attendees screamed and ducked, and officers swarmed Trump.

Former Pennsylvania volunteer fire chief Corey Comperatore was killed and two

other men seriously injured as eight shots were fired.

Joseph, a doctor, told NBC he saw a man fall to the bottom of the bleachers, having been shot in the head. Joseph helped carry the body out as state police and a Swat team evacuated the crowd, he said. GOP Pennsylvania senate candidate Dave McCormick told ABC he saw someone "bleeding very badly".

Texas Republican Ronny Jackson told Fox News a bullet grazed his nephew's neck.

Witnesses described a chaotic scene. Journalist Phoebe Hosier said she heard people saying "f**k Obama, f**k the terrorists".

The gunman, on the roof of an office building about 130 yards from the podium, was shot dead by a Secret Service sniper from a roof behind Trump.

Video showed a man in

Trump shooting How events unfolded



1. Eight shots are heard as Donald Trump speaks at a rally in Butler, Pennsylvania.
2. Trump's right ear is hit and he takes cover on the floor before being surrounded by security.
3. The gunman is seen on a rooftop around 130 yards from Trump and is shot dead by security services.
4. Trump is bundled into a waiting vehicle and rushed to hospital.

camouflage clothing lying on the roof, a rifle beside him.

Trump was escorted off stage, surrounded by agents, "Ready, move! Go!" they were heard saying. "Let me get my shoes," Trump said, before stopping to raise his fist, blood dripping from his ear.

"Fight! Fight! Fight!" he exhorted the crowd. "I heard

a whizzing sound, shots, and immediately felt the bullet ripping through the skin," he wrote later on social media.

Attendee Greg Smith told the BBC he had seen the gunman crawling on a roof with a rifle, and pointed it out to police minutes before the shooting. Nothing was done, he said, and Trump remained on stage.

Ben Macer told CBS he was beside the fence and "saw the guy move from roof to roof", informing an officer. Ryan Knight said he saw the would-be assassin - later identified as 20-year-old Thomas Crooks - on the building.

Kevin Rojek, of the FBI, said law enforcement was not aware the gunman was on the rooftop until he started firing.



INTELLIGENCE

Secret Service faces 'major scandal' over response

By David Parsley
and Richard Holmes

The US Secret Service faces a full investigation over the Donald Trump shooting, leading Republicans have warned.

A key Trump adviser also condemned its "serious failings".

In an interview with *i*, Fred Fleitz was heavily critical of the way the federal agency handled the rally in Pennsylvania, where there was an attempted assassination of the former president on Saturday.

"How did a person with a rifle get access to a building with a clear view of Trump and his podium?" said Mr Fleitz, a former National Security Council official under Trump, and now at the America First Policy Institute.

The Trump adviser added: "I hate to point the finger at the Secret Service, but how could you let someone get on to the roof of a building with a clear view of a man who is probably the next president?"

"Why wasn't there a Secret Service agent on that roof? Why were there no drones scanning the area for potential threats?"

Last night, President Joe Biden ordered an independent review of security at the rally, promising that it would be "thorough and swift".

Leading Republicans are also questioning the role of the Secret Service at the rally. House Speaker Mike Johnson said that Congress will conduct a full investigation.

Separate intelligence sources warned that the incident represent-



The gunman who tried to kill Donald Trump was shot dead but the attack has raised questions about security services' failings at the Republican rally AP

ed a "huge security failing". Four intelligence insiders from both sides of the Atlantic shared their disbelief that such an attempt was possible, labelling it as a "major scandal" for the United States agency.

One UK source told *i* that the security team for the event was clearly "overwhelmed by circumstances" and warned that the incident will "stimulate copycat wannabes".

"The wider issue is politics of division and hate," they said. "We are seeing this more and more, and it will lead to more incidents like this."

Trump described feeling a bullet "ripping through the skin" of his ear during the rally.

Mapping analysis of the event

showed the gunman's position to have been around 130 yards (119m) from the podium.

Intelligence sources said they were dumbfounded that a gunman would be able to take that position without detection, and wondered how agents "let a shooter get that close from a vantage point that should have been inaccessible or surveilled".

Another claimed that the gunman clearly "wasn't very hard to spot" given the speed with which he was killed.

"We would have had our spotters on a position like that," they said. "In the UK we are nowhere near as visibly overt when protecting principles, but it's all worked out and planned."

Comment

Image of a bloody Trump will pump up his supporters

Daniel Bates
IN NEW YORK



If America wasn't already staring into the abyss, it is now. The attempted assassination of Donald Trump has put the nation on edge just four months before the presidential election.

It's already clear that this is another bloody chapter in the history of the US, where violence is never far from the surface.

News anchors on CNN were in tears while describing how they explained what an attempted assassination means to their six-year-old children.

There were calls to tone down the rhetoric, with House Speaker Mike Johnson saying: "We can't go on like this as a society."

With mass shootings, there is a break of 24 hours which acts as an unofficial blackout on making

things political. But not so after Saturday's shooting.

Instead, we had the likes of Trump's potential vice president, JD Vance, posting on X to up the ante. He wrote: "The central premise of the Biden campaign is that president Donald Trump is an authoritarian fascist who must be stopped at all costs. That rhetoric led directly to president Trump's attempted assassination."

Both Trump and Biden are casting themselves as saviours against an evil that could envelop America. In a post on his Truth Social platform, Trump leaned into this, saying it was an act of God that saved him from death.

The photo of Trump in the seconds after the shooting - fist raised, blood streaming down his ear and the American flag flying behind him instantly became iconic.

It sums up Trump's campaign more powerfully and more forcefully than any speech of his ever could. Bloodied and defiantly shouting "Fight! Fight! Fight!", he is their warrior who was shot in battle, a battle for the future of their country.

For that, they will love him more than ever.

REACTION

Musk backs 'tough' survivor

By Hyunjoo Jin

Elon Musk, the billionaire CEO of Tesla, has publicly endorsed Donald Trump for the first time in the US presidential race, calling the Republican former president "tough".

Mr Musk, the world's richest person, posted the endorsement with a video of Trump with blood on his face pumping his fist after multiple shots rang out at Trump's rally in Pennsylvania on Saturday.

"I fully endorse President Trump and hope for his rapid recovery," Mr Musk posted on his social media platform X, formerly Twitter. "The martyr lived," he wrote later.

Mr Musk later posted a photograph of Trump at the event, followed by: "Last time America had a candidate this tough was Theodore Roosevelt."

Mr Musk and representatives from X did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Mr Musk, who has been ramping up criticism of President Joe Biden, has donated to a political group working to elect Trump.

TRIBUTE

Firefighter shot as he shielded his family 'was the best of us'

By Gabriella Borter

The person shot and killed at former president Donald Trump's rally in Pennsylvania on Saturday was a 50-year-old volunteer firefighter who shielded his family to protect them as gunshots rang out, the state's Governor, Josh Shapiro, said yesterday.

The victim was identified as Corey Comperatore, according to his family's posting on Facebook.

Mr Comperatore's wife and daughter described the scene at the rally, stating that he moved quickly to shield his family.

"He shielded my body from the bullet that came at us. He loved his family. He truly loved us enough to take a real bullet for us," Allyson Comperatore, his daughter, said in a Facebook post.

His wife, Helen Comperatore, added: "What my precious girls had to witness is unforgivable. What I had to was."

Mr Comperatore previously served as the chief of the Buffalo



Corey Comperatore, centre, with family, was a volunteer fire chief

Township Volunteer Fire Department. Mr Shapiro said he had spoken to Mr Comperatore's family and he relayed parts of the conversation to reporters.

"Corey died a hero. Corey dove on his family to protect them at this rally," Shapiro said. "Corey was the very best of us."

The Governor added: "Corey was a firefighter. Corey went to church every Sunday. Corey loved his community and, most especially, Corey loves his family."

SECURITY

Leading political figures to get increased levels of protection

By David Parsley
CHIEF NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Security around the US presidential campaign is set to be ramped up in the run-up to the November election following the assassination attempt on Donald Trump, according to security sources.

The level of protection provided to other leading US politicians including Vice-President, Kamala Harris, as well as prominent Democrat and Republican figures will also be increased.

A senior Washington security source told **i** that in the first moments after any such assassination attempt, officials implement well-rehearsed protocols, including taking a decision on whether to declare a national emergency or close down US airspace.

"Both Trump and [President Joe] Biden are at an increased risk and actions will be taken to mitigate those," the source said.

"Security around both candidates is being reconsidered, but security around other high-profile political figures is also sure to be increased."

There are rising fears that the shooting will escalate and cause further violence.

Some Trump supporters including Republican Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene (*inset*) have blamed Democrats and the media for the attack.

"Someone just tried to assassinate President Trump," Ms Tay-

lor Greene posted on X/Twitter. "The Democrats and the media are to blame for every drop of blood spilled today."

"For years and years, they've demonised him and his supporters. Today, someone finally tried to take out the leader of our America First and the greatest president of all time."

The security source added that law enforcement agencies would be heightening the monitoring of extreme groups on both the left and right.

"The President and former president have both called for calm, but there are serious concerns of escalation," the source said.

"Law enforcement services are watching for any talk of a reaction from some groups. This is a very critical moment, and we have to be incredibly vigilant of groups that may want to react in a violent manner."

Leslie Vinjamuri, director of the US and Americas programme at international affairs think-tank Chatham House, said it was "critical" to "condemn the violence".

She said: "We've seen President Biden speak up, we've seen world leaders speak up. We've also seen influential non-governmental organisations in the United States, that have systemically condemned many of Trump's behaviours, stand up and condemn the violence and the attempted assassination."

"It is absolutely critical that this isn't used to further stoke division."



PEOPLE

Farage set to 'show solidarity' at summit

Reform UK leader Nigel Farage said he will travel to the United States for the 2024 Republican National Convention as a "show of friendly solidarity" with Donald Trump.

Mr Farage (*inset*) said he "almost certainly would have been" at Saturday's rally in Pennsylvania if he had not won his Clacton seat at the general election.

He told *Sunday Morning with Trevor Phillips* on Sky News: "I will fly out and see him on Thursday."

"I will do that as a show of friendly solidarity. Donald Trump is not perfect, but some of the things that are allowed to be said about him are appalling."



REACTION

Starmer describes attack as 'shocking'

Sir Keir Starmer has described the shooting of Donald Trump as "shocking".

The Prime Minister and Mr Trump spoke on the phone yesterday afternoon, with

Sir Keir condemning the violence and extending his condolences to the victims and their families - as well as wishing Trump a quick recovery.

In a statement, the Prime Minister said: "Political violence in any form has no place in our societies and my thoughts are with all the victims of this attack."

Tory leader Rishi Sunak was "horrified" by the attack and said "violence and intimidation must never be allowed to prevail".



Donald Trump supporters outside Trump Tower in New York yesterday
EDUARDO MUNOZ/REUTERS

Comment

Conspiracy theories show two Americas drifting ever further apart

James Ball



The horror of the Pennsylvania shooting could not have been more visible. Within seconds of the attack on the Trump rally, anyone around the world could watch the footage - the former president going in seconds from his usual demagoguery to touching his head, before being hustled to the ground by his protection officers.

The reaction of the crowd was just as visible: some screamed and scattered, while others took out their phones to film. Within minutes, there were interviews from witnesses.

The photographs of a bloodstained former president Donald Trump will be remembered for decades. When tragedies happen anywhere near a presidential candidate, they happen in full view of the world.

This should be as clear and indisputable as any news story

can ever be. And yet, such is the paranoia and the polarisation of American society that within minutes of the attack, two parallel conspiracy narratives were already off and running on social media, garnering nearly as much online attention as coverage of the actual events.

Trump has openly embraced the conspiratorial far-right in his third serious run for president: he walks on stage to an anthem used by the QAnon movement and has fuelled violent conspiracies that the 2020 election was "stolen".

It is unsurprising, then, that many of Trump's fervent online supporters immediately and baselessly blamed the "deep state" and those supposedly behind it for the attack on Trump.

There was no attempt to wait for even basic evidence, the identity of the shooter, or

Such is the paranoia and polarisation of US society that false narratives were running within minutes

any kind of corroboration. Never mind that American history is riddled with the assassinations and attempted assassinations of presidents and presidential candidates.

But this was hardly the only conspiratorial narrative. Just as rapidly, sworn opponents of Trump arrived at their own false theory - the attack was surely a "false flag" designed to boost Trump's popularity. The powerful images of Trump and his bloodstained face, the American flag behind him as he raised his fist, added to this narrative.

The attack on Trump has claimed the life of at least one person in his audience, and baselessly claiming that the attack was not real can only add to what must already be the worst day of his loved ones' lives.

There were other, straightforwardly nihilistic, attempts to stir false narratives too. With grim inevitability after any prominent shooting in the US, online "pranksters" try to get the media to falsely name someone as the shooter.



Part of a long history of political violence in US

The attempted assassination of former US President Donald Trump has shocked the nation and reignited concerns about the safety of candidates on the campaign trail.

But it is only the latest in a long line of violence and assassination attempts on senior US politicians.

The most infamous came on 22 November 1963 with the assassination of **President John F Kennedy** who was killed by Lee Harvey Oswald while riding in a motorcade through Dallas, Texas.

There was more tragedy for the same political dynasty on 5 June 1968 when **Senator Robert F Kennedy**, a leading presidential candidate and younger brother of John, was shot by Sirhan Sirhan, a Palestinian-Jordanian man, in Los Angeles. He died the following day.

His death followed that of fellow civil rights campaigner Martin Luther King, who was shot in Memphis in April 1968. Although not an elected politician, he had a huge political influence and his assassination led to riots.

John F Kennedy's death led to significant changes in security surrounding presidential campaigns.

But the violence continued. **George Wallace**, an Alabama governor and Democratic presidential candidate, survived being shot during a rally in 1972 in Maryland by Arthur Bremer.

Then in September 1975, **President Gerald Ford** faced two assassination attempts just 17 days apart in California, but escaped from both unharmed.

On 30 March 1981, **Ronald Reagan** was shot and seriously wounded by John Hinckley Jr outside the Washington Hilton Hotel, where he had just delivered a speech. He was taken to a nearby hospital where he underwent emergency surgery, but went on to recover.

Abraham Lincoln was the first president to be assassinated, shot by John Wilkes Booth at Ford's Theatre in Washington DC on 14 April 1865, not long after being elected for his second term. He died the following day and was succeeded by vice-president Andrew Johnson. Booth was a Confederate sympathiser who hoped to revive the cause by eliminating the union's leader.

Reagan's was the last serious attempt. Two white supremacists were arrested in 2008 for plotting to assassinate **Barack Obama** and in 2011, Oscar Ramiro Ortega-Hernandez fired several shots at the White House, believing Obama to be the "devil". The president was not at the residence at the time.

In 1994, Francisco Martin Duran fired multiple shots at the White House, targeting **Bill Clinton**, who was inside, but unharmed.

Eleanor Langford



Ronald Reagan after the attempt on his life in Washington in 1981

In this case, it was an Italian influencer that ended up trending on X for this, even as (before he locked his account) he was tweeting that it was nothing to do with him – which was obviously true, given the shooter had been “neutralised” long before then.

The simple facts of what happened at the Trump rally on Saturday are so obvious and visible that they will not be denied for long. The deeper truths will take more time: what motivated the shooter, how did the Secret Service not prevent the attack, what will it mean?

Conspiracies will make finding the real answers harder, but they are a symptom of what ails America and not their cause. The problem is that there are two Americas: there is **Maga (Make America Great Again) world**, and there is the opposition to it. They live in different news bubbles, they share different values, they agree on less every year. And now, they cannot even unite to condemn a shooting.

When not even the most shocking manifestations of political violence can unite the two, it speaks of nothing good. The US experienced a deplorable act of political violence on Saturday. Until the two Americas become one, it risks such attacks becoming ever more commonplace.

OPINION

Failed assassination leaves United States at a crossroads

Anne McElvoy



Like so many others across America, I learnt the news of the attempted assassination of Donald Trump in an incidental way. Heading from Washington DC to the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, my mind was on mundane matters – not least how long the security clearance would take when I arrived. Suddenly, the Uber driver asked: “Have they caught the shooter yet?”

This is not a completely unusual conversation in a country where gun rampages are sporadic features of national life and local news, so I muttered something about not knowing about that. “I just hope Trump is OK,” he said earnestly.

It was a moment where you will never forget where you were, because it is one that re-sets the course of America's history, and ours in Britain and far beyond.

That was minutes after Thomas Matthew Crooks, a young white male from a suburban borough in Pennsylvania, where the rally was being held, had allegedly set his sights on the former president who is running again for office.

The image of Trump, in mid-cheery bombast as he reflected on one of his previous viral speeches about shark attacks, suddenly diving to the floor, the frantic scramble of security agents covering him, is the ragged, unedited first draft of history as Trump joins the ranks of presidents or candidates for office who have suffered attempts on their life.

What matters politically and will influence the outcome of the race in November was Trump's response. He was laudably quick to respond to being pulled to his feet as agents sought to get him off stage (with the presence of mind to insist on putting his shoes back on), rising to his feet and punching the air defiantly as blood from his grazed ear coursed down his cheek.

Trump will do Trump, even in extremis, so his other instinct was the less laudable one of shouting “Fight! Fight!”

“One thing you have to remember about DT,” a former member of his team messaged me in the aftermath, “is that he never forgets where the cameras are.” The former president saw his moment – and



One thing you have to remember about DT is he never forgets where the cameras are

deployed it. The photograph of his bloodied, dishevelled but defiant face with a US flag flying over his head will surely become the iconic campaign image, because of America's revolutionary history, one forged in blood and conflict.

The argument that he is too old or rambling to run for Office will not survive his boisterous response to an attempt to kill him.

On my flight to Milwaukee, the general conversation was one of sober relief. “I can't stand him – but thank God he's alright,” said the woman across the aisle.

Fox News, which has been a message carrier for Trump but has recently tried to nuance its coverage, was respectful of Biden's reaching out in person to his political foe. Liberal-inclined networks like CNN argued this was a moment to put aside the damaging rhetoric of division which may well have contributed to this deadly attack.

A source on the Biden team, who had told me only on Friday that this was the “week of the all-weapons fightback” from an embattled leader to save his candidacy after a series of gaffes, confirmed that a series of digital adverts intended to show Biden in verbal attack mode against Trump was being hastily



Donald Trump supplied the iconic campaign image after the attempt

REACTION

World leaders condemn attempt

By Cathy Chen

World leaders have condemned the assassination attempt on Donald Trump and expressed hopes for his quick recovery.

The French president, Emmanuel Macron, and the German Chancellor, Olaf Scholz, wished Trump a prompt recovery and said such violent acts threatened democracies. Mr Macron (*inset*) said: “France shares the indignation of the American people.”

The Kremlin said: “Russia has always condemned, and we strongly condemn, any expressions of

violence during political struggle.” Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov added: “We do not at all think or believe that the attempt to eliminate

...Trump was organised by the current government, but the atmosphere that this administration created during the political struggle, the atmosphere around candidate Trump provoked what America is faced with.”

The Slovakian prime minister, Robert Fico, who survived an assassination bid in May, compared the attacks, saying it was the result of “political opponents” of his trying to “shut Trump up”.

Trump is now awaited by Republicans in Milwaukee as a hero who has shown his extraordinary ability to emerge unscathed, whether from court cases or attempts on his life. He has the pulpit to preach his message as a survivor. The mood will be messianic – and angry.

How he handles this combustible combination will also determine whether this is the moment America steps back from the grim violence which is threading its way venomously through the system and has culminated in a near tragedy this weekend. Passions and fury may simply be too high for that to be nothing other than an unrealistic aspiration.

The initial response in this situation is to issue denunciations that “violence has no place in American politics”.

But as soon as the conversation turns to who is to blame for a lapse in protection, what motivated the shooter and whose political conduct has to alter in the campaign as a result, the calls for reason will, I fear, ring hollow.

In Milwaukee from today, Donald Trump, victim and victor of this terrible moment, holds the key to what follows. The echoes of will be held across America – and the Atlantic, for the weeks and years ahead.

Anne McElvoy is executive editor of Politico and hosts the ‘Power Play’ podcast, broadcast this week from the Republican National Convention



FOOTBALL

Incredible journey ends in dismay

Spain's late winner ends hopes after Palmer's equaliser made England dream. By **Cahal Milmo**

Football's torturous 58-year journey home goes on. The England team's month-long odyssey of footballing lows and highs in Germany ended in bitter disappointment last night with a 2-1 defeat to Spain in the Euro 2024 final.

The rediscovery by Gareth Southgate's side of some swashbuckling form in last week's semi-final victory against the Dutch had kindled hope of a historic victory against Spain in Berlin's pulsating Olympiastadion.

But it was not to be as a Spanish team blessed with the flair and dynamism all too often missing from these Euros, maintained the momentum which had already seen them dispatch hosts Germany and pre-tournament favourites France.

In so doing they kept the Three Lions waiting once more for their first silverware since 1966.

England once again offered the same heady cocktail of nerve-jangling resilience and a nose for moments of brilliance that had become their Euro 2024 trademark ever since Jude Bellingham's last-gasp bicycle kick against Slovakia saved them from a humiliating exit in the dying embers of June.

Cole Palmer's 73rd minute equaliser left England dreaming of yet another memorable comeback win. But ultimately they

emerged – for the second European Championships in a row – as runners up after Mikel Oyarzabal broke English hearts with Spain's winner just four minutes from full time.

The defeat was greeted with tears and that familiar sense of what might have been by crowds both large and small who had gathered to watch the match in pubs, fan zones and living rooms up and down the land. By the time it became clear that England's victory anthem of "Sweet Caroline" would not be blaring out from the Olympiastadion's public address system, the nation's landlords were expected to have pulled an additional 10 million pints.

In total, England fans were estimated to have drunk their way through £227m of extra beer during Euro 2024, steeling themselves through six matches which began in those far off days of 16 June and an underwhelming 1-0 opening group stage win against Serbia.

It was an additional cruelty that defeat last night robbed the nation of a rumoured extra bank holiday – a day of grace which might have been useful at least for those recovering from drinking to forget.

But what an unforgettable journey it had been. England, as is their wont, had spent their time in Germany once more scaling the

heights and plumbing some of the depths of sporting emotion.

From the lows of those rudderless draws against Denmark and Slovenia to the "oh, hello" steel of those quarter-final penalties against Switzerland and Ollie Watkins's late, late nutmegging marksmanship against the Dutch, Euro 2024 was nothing if not – agonisingly and, at times, magnificently – varied.

And if this moment of footballing conquest – forged in decades of entitlement, introspection and too-often impotent despair – belonged to anyone, was ultimately not to be, it should perhaps be no disgrace to England's grizzled, transformative philosopher monk of a manager.

Until Southgate's arrival at England's helm eight years ago, the national side had only ever fleetingly come close to adding a trophy to the FA's mantelpiece, a record which has turned the winning of the 1966 World Cup into an ever-heavier millstone around the necks of every successive generation of players and coaches.

Despite last night's defeat, Southgate can now point to a tournament record unequalled by any manager in England's history – a 2018 World Cup semi-final followed by a 2022 quarter final; a Euro 2020 final (let us speak not of penalties) and, now, the first tournament final on foreign soil.

It is likely that Southgate will count Germany 2024 as the hardest of all those achievements.

It is unclear whether Winston Churchill did once suggest in depths of war that you cannot reason with a tiger when your head is in its mouth. But it is a sentiment with which the England manager might have identified in recent weeks of toil as they faced a wall of criticism from their own side.

Some of it was doubtless deserved. In stark contrast to some of the lionhearted verve shown in 2018 or 2021, a belaboured England had given a convincing impression of wading through treacle at points in Germany, especially in the group stage. And it was Southgate who picked up the tab for such moments of mediocrity.

Here after all was a man who, having won the respect of England fans for winning a berth in the Euro 2020 final against Italy, was served up with discomfiting proof that footballing memories can be brutally short when he was greeted by a rain of beer cups as he went to thank supporters following a torrid 0-0 draw against Slovenia.

"We all want to be loved, right?", Southgate had observed after the semi-final as he allowed himself to acknowledge some of the hurt.

The 53-year-old manager and his players have followed a sine curve of footballing extremes during his



SUPPORT

William tells heroic Lions: 'We're so proud of you'

By Sara Keenan

Prince William and the King led commiserations for England's final heartache last night, telling Gareth Southgate and his team: "We're all still so proud of you."

The Prince of Wales, who is president of the Football Association, had travelled to Berlin with his son Prince George to cheer on the team at the Olympiastadion in Berlin.

After the final whistle, the Prince said on social media: "This time it just wasn't meant to be. We're all still so proud of you. Onwards. W."

In a message after the game, King Charles urged the England team to "hold your heads high".

He said: "Although victory may have eluded you this evening, nevertheless my wife and I join all my family in urging you and your support team to hold your heads high."

Also in the crowd last night was Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer, who had sent a good luck message to the team before kick-off.

Following the game, he said: "You have made your country proud, England. Congratulations to Spain."

Spain's King Felipe, his daughter



Sir Keir Starmer arrives for the Euro 2024 final in Berlin last night AFP

Infanta Sofia, and Spanish prime minister Pedro Sánchez were spotted in the crowd.

Singer Olly Murs also travelled to Berlin, and shared a clip of him joining in with other plane passengers in a rendition of the "Three Lions" chant. Ahead of the game, Dame Joan Collins, Melanie C and Sir Patrick Stewart were among the celebrities who had sent their support to the Three Lions.

Sir Patrick, Ed Sheeran, Stephen Fry and Little Simz were among those who sent messages for a BBC montage which played during a pre-match special on BBC One.

tenure. From the "no-expectations" team that pleasantly surprised in Russia, to the "every-expectation" side that toiled to meet its billing this time around. And from the waistcoated sage whose "Dear England" letter in 2021 rightly showed Southgate to have his finger on the nation's pulse with the sort of poetic knack not generally found in football changing rooms, to the recipient of those spittle-flecked beer cups of rage, it had not been an entirely smooth journey.

It is now likely to become clear sooner rather than later whether last night's final whistle represented the end of Southgate's reign. But at least there was some renewed love for a coach, if nothing else, of rare dignity and forbearance.

As the Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer, said in a message to the Three Lions squad ahead of the final: "You've made the country proud. Whatever happens, you should know that you have united the country."



as England fall at the final hurdle



REACTION

Heartbroken fans endure the agony after the ecstasy

By William McCurdy
and Kyriakos Petrakos

Millions of England fans were left heartbroken as they gathered in pubs, bars, fan zones and living rooms across the country to watch the Three Lions' Euro 2024 final defeat.

Before the game, fans had been in a jubilant mood as they heeded Gareth Southgate's rallying cry to get behind the team, and dared to dream that this time, football was coming home.

Outside the O2 Arena in London, where 15,000 supporters flocked to watch the game, choruses of Neil Diamond's "Sweet Caroline" and Blur's "Parklife" rang out. At a packed fan zone in Newcastle city centre, the 1,200-strong crowd sang "Hey Jude" by The Beatles and Oasis hit "Wonderwall" despite heavy rain.

And at Boxpark in Croydon, south London, supporters prepared for the match by dancing to "Insomnia" by Faithless, as some waved giant masks of Southgate.

But the hope turned to despair right after half-time as Nico Williams put Spain ahead.

Fans at the O2 Arena groaned and held their heads in their hands in despair, as others clutched their pints and bit their nails as they watched a replay of Spain's opening goal on the 16-metre screen.

But then: hope. There was a

surge of excitement in the crowd in Newcastle when Ollie Watkins was subbed on for the captain Harry Kane, with fans tooting horns as the semi-final hero ran onto the pitch.

Then on came Cole Palmer – the Chelsea player's equaliser minutes later sparked pandemonium, with pints flying in the air and chants of "Football's Coming Home".

However, the elation was short-lived as Mikel Oyarzabal's late goal for Spain plunged fans back into despair.

Most spectators at Boxpark Croydon made for the exit as soon as the final whistle went.

Fraser Mullen, 40, from Redhill in Surrey, said: "It didn't feel like the old England. We just came up against a better team.

"It doesn't feel as bad as it has in the past. The talent is there. They just need to do a bit more next time."

One winner last night was the hospitality industry. With pubs and bars given a special licence to stay open until 1am, the British Beer and Pub Association had estimated that an extra 10 million pints would be poured – giving the industry a £48m boost.

At the Newcastle fan zone, Tom Brodie, 30, said: "We will get through 7,000 pints tonight easily."

Like at Wembley three years ago, the team fell at the final hurdle. But, under Southgate, England fans have had many special nights.



Clockwise from main: England manager Gareth Southgate (right) consoles Bukayo Saka after losing the Uefa Euro 2024 final at the Olympiastadion in Berlin; England fans show dejection at Boxpark Croydon in London during a screening of the final; Daniel Carvajal of Spain kisses the trophy

ADAM DAVY;
GARETH FULLER/
PA; GETTY

PEOPLE

Fans converge from around world

By Emilia Randall
and Kyriakos Petrakos

They arrived by plane, by train and automobile – and spent thousands of pounds in the process.

Three Lions fans from across the world descended on Berlin for last night's final, with many not knowing whether they would be able to secure a ticket for the match.

Ahead of last night's clash, **i** found online resellers offering tickets for as much as £60,450, including booking fees. Top hospitality box tickets were selling for £96,324.

Tommy Swift, 44, and his nephew Michael Swift, 22, from Hartlepool said they travelled to Berlin on plane, train, tram, foot and scooter.

Mr Swift booked the trip three weeks ago, saying he had faith in

the England team but had yet to purchase tickets.

He said he had a budget of up to £2,000 for the tickets, saying: "We know what we have to pay.

"It might never happen again. I hope that it does finally come home, we've waited a long time."

Ryan Brooks said he and his three friends set off from Stoke-on-Trent in Staffordshire at 1am on Saturday, driving 16 hours to Berlin.

He said: "We're very tired, we're running on very little amounts of sleep and our driver hasn't had any sleep in the last 24 hours, but we've had a good laugh."

Tony Rudd, 37, travelled 26 hours to get to Berlin from his home in Darwin, Australia – a journey that cost him about £4,500. He said: "I made a last-minute decision."

HONOURS

Southgate could be knighted after leading England to Euro final

By Chloe Chaplain

SENIOR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Gareth Southgate is being tipped for a knighthood and members of his England squad could also be in line for honours following their Euro 2024 heroics.

Southgate is the only England manager in history to have led the Three Lions to two major tournament finals, after breaking the nation's 55-year wait for a men's final at Euro 2020.

The 53-year-old is expected to be honoured for his time in charge, despite last night's loss, which has seen him become one of England's most successful ever managers.

Even though they were unable to overcome a fine Spain side in the final, some of England's star players, including the captain Harry Kane, could receive honours after a tournament which saw them pull off last-minute

i Only Walter Winterbottom and **Sir Alf Ramsey** – who led the team to **World Cup glory in 1966** – took charge of the England men's team more times than Southgate.

heroics and a penalty shoot-out win en route to the final.

However, convention dictates that only the manager, captain and a handful of players get gongs if England win a major trophy in team sports such as football, rugby and cricket.

Southgate, who has also taken the team to a World Cup semi-final, reached his 100th game as England manager in the quarter-final against Switzerland.

Any formal decision on honours will have to be approved by relevant committees in Parliament.

There had been talk of a knighthood for Southgate following Euro

2020, where England lost to Italy on penalties in the final. However, the decision was reported to have been put on ice over his involvement in a film investment scheme that HM Revenue & Customs had challenged over tax avoidance rules.

Southgate, whose spokesman has previously stressed he "always paid his taxes and complied with HMRC fully throughout his career", was said to have immediately resolved the matter when it was first raised.

Now, it is understood No 10 is looking again at how best to mark his success as England manager.

Previously, major sporting achievements have been marked with a reception held at Downing Street. But there was no such reception when the women's England football squad won the Euros in 2022.

The Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer, a football fan, travelled to Berlin to watch the Three Lions take on Spain.

Sir Keir had said he planned to "mark the occasion" if England won the final.

102

England games that Gareth Southgate will have presided over as manager

TRANSPORT

Trains cancelled as drivers say no to overtime

By Neil Lancefield

Hundreds of rail services across large parts of Britain were cancelled yesterday, as many train drivers and other on-board staff refused to work overtime shifts on the day of England's Euro 2024 final.

Northern, Great Western Railway (GWR), London Northwestern Railway and West Midlands Railway all cancelled services at short notice.

Many train drivers and other crew members do not have Sunday working included in their contracts, with numerous operators often relying on them volunteering to work extra paid shifts to run timetabled services on that day.

Unions must give 14 days' notice of official strike action, but drivers can wait until just a handful of days in advance before confirming if they will work on a rest day.

GWR passengers were advised not to attempt to travel after 6pm yesterday.

The operator said "sickness and England reaching the final of the Euros (is) likely to reduce the number of colleagues available for overtime shifts".

This led to disruption on routes between London Paddington and places including Bristol, Swindon and Cheltenham.

From the manager's mouth Southgate's wise words

■ "I'm not a believer in fairy tales but I am a believer in dreams," Southgate said the day before the final. "We've had big dreams and felt the importance of that, but you've got to make those things happen."

■ "We live in what's been an angry country. I would love that to be different as we move forward," he said at the same press conference. "Hopefully, we can bring some temporary happiness."

■ "We all want to be loved, right?" Southgate remarked after England beat the Netherlands 2-1 in the semi-final. "So when you're doing something for your country and you're a proud Englishman, when you don't feel that back and when all you read is criticism, it's hard."

■ "This is a job where you get

ridiculed and your professional capability is questioned beyond belief. And I don't think it's normal to have beer thrown at you either," he said ahead of the England vs Netherlands game.

■ "We know the world we live in there will always be external noise, but the external noise shouldn't affect us," he said before the Three Lions match against Slovenia on 25 June. "What's important is the internal – we are the only ones that can perform on the pitch and the only ones that can give those performances better."

■ "If we don't win, I probably won't be here any more," Southgate told German newspaper *Bild* last month. "Then it might be my last chance. If we want to be a big team and I want to be a top coach, then you have to deliver in the big moments."



Gareth Southgate delivers some words of wisdom in Berlin on Saturday GETTY



England fans in the mood in Berlin ahead of the final yesterday ARIEL SCHALIT/AP

POLICE

England fans praised for fall in cases of hooliganism

By Sanya Burgess

England fans have been praised for their good behaviour during Euro 2024, with incidents of hooliganism and anti-social behaviour lower than during previous tournaments, according to police.

Incidents involving England fans have fallen both in the UK and in the host nation, Germany, during the tournament.

In Germany, 73 people identified as England fans have been arrested and 13 banning orders have been served.

Chief Constable Mark Roberts, the national lead for football policing, said: "We have seen a reduction in the number of football related incidents across the UK in comparison to the last few international tournaments."

Before the semi-final game against the Netherlands, five people sustained minor injuries when Netherlands supporters attacked England fans in the town.

By Friday, 66 Britons had been arrested in Germany out of the estimated 200,000 travelling Three Lions fans. A further seven people were arrested over the weekend before the final.

As of last night, the number of arrests of England fans was fewer than the 90 during Euro 2020, when a number of matches were held in the UK.

Mr Roberts described the arrests as the result of "a small number of instances of disorder" but added "we have also seen numerous examples of fans, family members and officials being covered by alcohol during matches, which has reiterated our stance that drinking in the stands shouldn't be allowed at matches in the UK".

The Euro 2020 final was marred by thousands of people without tickets attempting to see England play Italy on 11 July 2021. A minority of England fans were involved in incidents at the 2016 Euros in France.

73

The number of people identified as England fans arrested in Germany during the tournament



COMMENT

Football can set a mood that bleeds into wider society

Simon Kelner



Governance of a country has nothing to do with a study of its football fixtures." So said former prime minister Harold Wilson, who lost a general election only days after England suffered a shock defeat to West Germany in the 1970 World Cup. He didn't think there was any correlation between national politics and the national game. I'm not so sure these days, and neither, by the sound of it, is Keir Starmer.

The serendipity of England's achievements at the Euros coming shortly after a landslide Labour victory has certainly not been lost on our new Prime Minister, who, in the wake of the quarter-final victory over Switzerland in a penalty shoot-out, was quick to reference that England had "not missed a penalty" under his administration.

Less than a week later, he found himself in the Oval Office with Joe Biden, who, likewise, knew where to place the credit for England's semi-final triumph. "It's all because of the Prime Minister," the American President said. Starmer assented, echoing his previous line by saying that England "had not lost a game under the Labour government".

You will not find Gareth Southgate taking responsibility for the UK's new political settlement, but the England manager's style of leadership – modest, grounded and largely undemonstrative – is certainly in tune with a more reflective, less flamboyant way of doing politics that, thus far, seems to characterise the newly installed Government.

When England last played in the final of the Euros, at Wembley in 2021, Boris Johnson was the prime minister and the country was in a febrile state, divisive and mistrustful. As the defeated England team left the field after that final, Gary Neville, football pundit and amateur political commentator, said of Southgate: "The standard of leaders in this country over the last couple of years has been poor but looking at that man there, he is everything a leader should be. Respectful, humble, tells the truth, genuine."

If there was a sense back then that Southgate was out of step with the prevailing nature of public discourse – some pointed to a lack of charisma, or called him boring – he now sets a standard in leadership

in these post-Covid times, cautious and calm, eschewing triumphalism.

In every public utterance as Prime Minister, Starmer has been careful not to bask in his victory, saying instead that he is determined to govern for those who supported him and – "especially" – those who did not, and "to establish a way of working across the United Kingdom that will be different and better from the way of working that we've had in recent years".

And listen to Southgate on the eve of the finals. "We live in what's been an angry country," he said. "I would love that to be different as we move forward... I never wanted to impose my values on people. But I think there are some fundamental human values that, if you get the chance to model them, then you should." They both see themselves as agents of change.

Southgate is right. This has been "an angry country", one where people are quick to criticise and apportion blame. Only a couple of weeks ago, he was pelted with beer cups by fans who felt let down by England's less than convincing performances in the early stages of the Euros. But then look at those photographs of empty main streets and teeming fan parks yesterday.

Football matters to this nation in a way that no other sport does, and sometimes, contrary to Wilson's belief, it can set a mood that bleeds into wider society.

"I think this is a position of responsibility," was Southgate's assessment and who could now argue with that? "You have a chance to make a difference in things that are important," he added.

And so, if his example can help propel us beyond a post-truth world into one of greater probity and respect, and where leaders are trusted, Southgate's contribution to society goes way beyond the confines of a football pitch.



Gareth Southgate has proven to be a calm, respectful and caring leader



Southgate is right, this has been an angry country where people are quick to blame

Summer bonanza Other events to look forward to

The Euros and Wimbledon are over but there is plenty more in store for British sports fans this summer.

For cricket lovers, there are two more Test matches scheduled between England and the West Indies this month, at Trent Bridge and Edgbaston.

The Sri Lanka cricket team is then scheduled to tour England in August and September for another three-match series, with the first Test at Old Trafford on 21 August.

British athletes will head to Paris later this month for the 2024 Olympic Games, which run from 26 July to 11 August.

Team GB picked up 64 medals last time round in Tokyo, including 22 golds, coming fourth in the overall medals table.

The 2024 Paris Paralympics will then kick off on 28 August and run until 8 September. Team GB will see

if it can beat its haul from the 2020 Games (held in 2021), when it secured 124 medals, second only to China.

For golf fans, the 152nd Open Championship is heading to Royal Troon Golf Club in Troon, South Ayrshire, Scotland, on 18 July, while the Women's Open at St Andrews starts on 22 August.

The London Athletics meet, part of the Diamond League and one of the world's elite track and field contests, is at London Stadium on 20 July.

The Tour de France Femmes, one of the biggest events in the women's cycling calendar, will run from 12 to 18 August. Ten British cyclists took part last year.

And for those already getting football withdrawal symptoms, the English Premier League is back on 16 August, and EFL starts a week before.

William McCurdy



England's men's cricket team face the West Indies and Sri Lanka, while cyclist Lizzie Deignan bids for glory at the Olympics and the Tour de France Femmes



Numbers game How the contest adds up

5 billion

global television audience for the Euro 2024 tournament

2.6 million

spectators have attended the 50 matches played, with fans present from more than 190 countries

117

goals scored at the tournament

240

yellow cards handed out

6

red cards

£3.1bn

boost to the British economy over the past four weeks

£405m

expected to have been spent in pubs and supermarkets for last night's final

OPINION

Stoic Southgate shrugs off the plastic cups of outrageous fortune

Chris Harvey



Do you remember July 2016? After a miserable, sodden June of flash floods across Britain, the heavens dumped a final month's worth of rain on the day that the country got itself down to the polls to vote for Brexit.

Four days later, an England team containing Kyle Walker, Harry Kane and Wayne Rooney marked 40 years of hurt by being knocked out of the Euros by Iceland. This sporting humiliation felt like the final straw. Gloom hung over much of the nation like a pall.

Of course, had we known then what was to come – the rivers full of sewage, the patients dying in NHS corridors and in ambulances backed up outside hospitals, the thousands of children going hungry – maybe the sense of despair would have been keener.

But some things seemed certain even then. The Brexit promises would evaporate and the England football team would continue to serve up disappointment in ways that had to be choked down with regularity.

Back then, the job of restoring national footballing pride was handed to Sam Allardyce (*inset*), who was forced to resign 67 days later when he was caught in a newspaper sting allegedly trying to use his prestige to line his own pockets. In desperation, the Football Association turned to Gareth Southgate, the articulate young manager of the England under-21 side.

Southgate had been a committed,

likeable player but a relatively unsuccessful manager at club and international level.

He was generally agreed to be a decent bloke, who had suffered the ultimate footballing torment: missing a penalty in the semi-final shoot-out against Germany at Euro 96 that led to his wildly talented team's exit.

England fans, it seemed, could look forward to an FA-pleasing period of scandal-free stability, but little else.

Yet Southgate was a reformer. He was a central part of the plan taking shape under England's director of elite development Dan Ashworth (now installed as director of football at Manchester United), aimed at making the national team competitive at the very sharp end – the knock-out stages of the World Cup and the Euros.

He also had personal qualities that made a difference above and beyond scrupulous preparation and structural reorganisation. Southgate is a technocrat,

a process guy, but he's also a people person.

He may not have the charisma of a Terry Venables or the twinkle in the eye of a Bobby Robson but the players trust him because they know he cares about them. He has integrity.

Players often reach the end of demanding seasons carrying knocks and close to exhaustion.

National team managers then have to get them to perform in a different tactical set-up



He may not have the charisma of Terry Venables... but the players trust him

for their country under huge external pressures – deafening abuse at the slightest mistake or uninspiring performance.

We have seen it at this tournament. Southgate takes all that pressure on himself – the plastic cups of outrageous fortune – and creates a space that dials down the outside “noise”. Some of it gets through, of course, but the players clearly enjoy spending time in the environment he creates.

Any disharmony in a squad can be fatal for the team's chances. One of the abiding memories for me of Euro 2024 will be Ollie Watkins' interview with the BBC after his match-winning goal, in which he said that after spending almost the entire Euros on the bench, he had told his fellow substitutes that he was going to run over and celebrate with them “if I ever score”.

You could see him do it, the delight in his eyes as he ran towards them shouting “Come on!” before he was engulfed in a tangle of arms and bodies and green substitutes' bibs. “It's not easy, everyone wants to play,” he told the reporter. “We're all part of it.”

That feeling – “We're all part of it” – this beautiful advert for a multi-racial England, will stay with me for a long time. And something about that goal and the joy that followed it, seemed to engender hope, passing invisibly through TV screens and digital streaming devices throughout the land.

It was the same with the election result. Sir Keir Starmer doesn't have the charisma of a Boris Johnson or the twinkle of a Sir Tony Blair. He's a technocrat, a process guy, but he's also a reformer.

The buzzword of his campaign was “Change” – and oh, how the country needs it.

Starmer seems like a decent bloke, he has integrity, people appear to trust him.

And that, we now know for certain, means hope.



Have times changed at last? England players Kyle Walker, Harry Kane and Wayne Rooney, at Euro 2016, when Iceland delivered the coup de grace CLIVE BRUNSKILL/GETTY



Avenue of dreams

Fans walk past a giant inflatable football as they make their way to the Olympic Stadium in Berlin for the Euro 2024 final between Spain and England last night

ODD ANDERSEN/AFP/GETTY

SCOTLAND

Tartan Army backs Spain: 'It's the hype I hate'

By Adam Forrest

SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

As England fans nervously awaited kick-off last night, many people north of the border were experiencing a different kind of dread.

The prospect of a triumph for rival England will fill many Scots with horror – especially after Steve Clarke's team crashed out in the group stages at this year's tournament. In certain quarters, that meant temporary membership of the Spain supporters' club.

Kevin Lynch, 39, from Aberdeen, said he would be cheering on the Spanish team with a few fellow members of the Tartan Army who travelled to Germany last month.

“We've been getting the beers in. I think a couple of the guys will be wearing Spain tops,” he said. “We'll enjoy a Spain win, that's for sure.”

“If England win it will be off to bed early [and] ignore your phone for a few days. It's the constant hype that's frustrating.”

In the King's Arms pub in Edin-



Scotland fan Robert Uttley, 48, from Edinburgh, is backing Spain

burgh on Friday, nobody was in the mood to be magnanimous about England being so close to victory.

“There's a couple of Scotsmen who have £50 on England, so I suppose they might be cheering them on,” joked one regular.

Robert Uttley, whose partner owns the pub, said: “It's not anti-English, just anti-England football team. It's all the hype that goes along with England that I hate. At every England game, this pub has supported the opposite team,” added the 48-year-old.



WOMEN

Lionesses' victory 'forgotten' as men's team take limelight

By Christian Oliver

Women's football supporters have said the Lionesses' victory at Euro 2022 has been "minimised and forgotten about" amid the clamour over the success of the men's team.

It comes after Lionesses star Beth Mead accused TNT Sport of overlooking England women's team manager Sarina Wiegman, when the broadcaster claimed that Gareth Southgate is "the only England manager to reach two major international finals".

"Beg to differ," Mead wrote in response to the post.

Wiegman (*inset*) led the Lionesses to European glory in 2022, defeating Germany at Wembley. She also saw England's women through to the World Cup final against Spain in 2023, losing 1-0.

"Once the men take centre stage, it seems all of those achievements and progress made by the [women's] team is minimised and forgotten about," said Helen Hardy, the chief executive of Foudys, a retailer dedicated to women's football.

"There still seems to be this attitude from some – and it's found worldwide – that sport played by

women is lesser in quality, both in significance and impact."

Ms Hardy, who also works as a commentator and pundit for the BBC, said she did not want to "take anything away" from Southgate's side or men's football but felt that discussion around the recent success was "forgetting" what the Lionesses had achieved in recent years.

She added that she had received "a lot of hate" for a post on X, following Mead's rebuke of TNT Sport, calling for a "rule to say 'men's' and 'women's' when referring to records broken".

She said that an error like that made by TNT Sport "diminishes the successes of people, and of women".

Lee Braganza, a primary school teacher from London, said he received "abuse" about a "silly" post on X, which read: "Chill out lads. It already came: I think people have forgotten about what happened in 2022 when we beat Germany."

"English people are caught up in this euphoria [over the current Euros] and that's fine.

"And obviously we can talk about 'it coming home' if you also understand and talk about the women's football team winning it in 2022."



i Social media showed some England fans believe Scotland's antipathy is the product of "bitterness" over the **failure of their own team** to get to the later stages of a tournament.

EDUCATION

Fewer than half of girls offered football at school

By Connie Dimsdale

EDUCATION AND NEWS REPORTER

Fewer than half of girls have access to football at secondary school, two years after England's women's team won the 2022 Euros.

After their victory, the Lionesses urged the Government to ensure that girls get at least two hours of PE a week and equal access to sports such as football.

It came after **i** revealed that guidance had suggested "comparable activities" for schoolgirls instead of the same football lessons as boys.

Last year, the Conservative government said that girls and boys would be offered the same sports for the first time and non-statutory guidance stipulating this was published in March 2024.

But data from the 2024 Childwise monitoring report, seen by **i**, suggest that just 43 per cent of girls aged 11 to 16 have access to football in school, compared with 66 per cent of boys. Last year, just 33 per cent of girls aged 11 to 16 said they played football, compared with 67 per cent of boys.

It means that fewer than half of girls are being offered football in school. Figures from England's Football Association (FA) show that 83 per cent of primaries offered equal access to football for girls during PE in 2023, up from 75 per cent in 2022.

But progress is much slower in secondary schools, where just 41 per cent of girls were offered equal access to football in PE in 2022. This increased to 44 per cent in 2023, according to the FA. It set the target of 75 per cent of schools to be offering equal access to football by 2024.

The Labour Government said it was committed to providing "equal access to sport for all children" and plans to review the curriculum, as well as support for grassroots clubs to expand access. Girls' football is a "forgotten priority", said Adem Ali,



A quarter of Haringey Academy's girls cannot play football at school

the founder of Haringey Girls Academy, in Tottenham, north London.

Mr Ali, a former semi-professional footballer, teacher and coach, said that out of the 80 girls at his academy, at least 20 could not play at school. He added: "We've got girls that want to access football, and why should they not when there's a want for it?"

Louise Gear, the FA's head of development, said: "So much progress has been made but we know there is still more to be done at secondary school level to ensure all girls can access football and overcome the barriers to playing."

The Government said: "We are committed to providing equal access to sport for all children, whether that's in school or in their free time, and it is encouraging that more girls are playing football. But we know there is more to do to ensure all children have better access to sport."

"Our expert-led review of the curriculum and support for grassroots clubs to expand access will help make sure every child has increased choices and opportunities."

44%

The proportion of girls offered equal access to football in secondary school as boys, according to the FA

i Lisa West, the head of policy, partnerships and public affairs at the Women in Sport charity, said the Lionesses' success inspired many girls to start playing football – but they "remain the minority".

SOCIETY

Grassroots football to be priority

By Eleanor Langford

The Government is poised to build on the recent success of both the England men's and women's teams with an expansion of support for grassroots football.

The initiative comes in the wake of the Three Lions' performance in this year's Euros and the Lionesses' historic victory at the Uefa Euro 2022 Championship, coupled with their impressive run to the final in last year's Fifa Women's World Cup.

It comes as data show fewer than

half of girls have access to football at secondary school.

Plans are under way to bolster support for grassroots clubs nationwide, to inspire more people to take up the sport and ensure that talent is not hindered by location.

The Government intends to "officially recognise" the invaluable contributions of staff and volunteers who manage facilities.

The project will also focus on expanding access to sports in schools. This includes a review of the curriculum to enhance sports participation.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Three Lions' heady mix of raw emotion

The road to Berlin was paved with moments of unforgettable drama, says **Emilia Randall**

It took a while to get going, and it wasn't always pretty.

But from last-gasp winners to penalty heroics, England's road to Berlin gave fans some of the most memorable Three Lions moments in the team's history.

Although Gareth Southgate's men started the tournament with intent, taking the lead against Serbia in their first group game, the performances in the early stages were widely criticised as lacklustre and lacking quality.

After going 1-0 down against Slovakia in the round of 16, it looked like England were destined for an ignominious exit.

And then, in the 95th minute, Jude Bellingham scored an unforgettable bicycle kick –

and a nation believed again. Switzerland were next. Once again, England went 1-0 down, but Bukayo Saka's curling equaliser ensured extra-time, and then penalties. Pickford saved the first Swiss effort, and England were through to the semi-final.

The team grew into the tournament. The last-four clash against the Netherlands featured some of the Three Lions' best football. But they had to come from behind again, with Harry Kane levelling with a penalty.

As the clock ticked down, Gareth Southgate took his captain off. On came Ollie Watkins to score one of the most famous goals in English history, and send the team to the final.



It's coming home (maybe)

Gareth Southgate cannot conceal his delight as Ollie Watkins's late goal despatches the Netherlands 2-1 in Dortmund to earn a place in the final

BRADLEY COLLYER/PA



The lion that roared

Brentford star Ivan Toney celebrates (below) after hammering home a brilliant 'no look' penalty in front of England's delirious fans in the quarter-final against Switzerland

IAN MACNICOL/GETTY



I can't hear you...

Arsenal's Bukayo Saka enjoys his moment of glory after smacking home his penalty – England's third – during the shoot-out against Switzerland

CRYSTAL PIX/MB MEDIA/GETTY



They think it's all over...

Captain Harry Kane congratulates Ollie Watkins (above) after his last-minute goal secures England's victory in the semi-final against the Netherlands in Dortmund on Wednesday

BRADLEY COLLYER/PA





Statement of intent

Jude Bellingham executes a spectacular last-gasp equaliser during England's 2-1 victory over Slovakia in their Round of 16 match in Gelsenkirchen on 30 June

JOHN SIBLEY/REUTERS



Royal stamp of approval

The Prince of Wales, the president of the English FA, celebrates Bukayo Saka's 80th-minute equaliser (above) in the quarter-final against Switzerland in Düsseldorf

Back of the net

Switzerland's goalkeeper Yann Sommer concedes one of five perfect penalties by England (left) - this one tucked home by extra-time substitute Ivan Toney

INA FASSBENDER/AFP/GETTY

ON OTHER PAGES

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WELFARE

SNP and rebels plan to challenge two-child cap

By Eleanor Langford
POLITICAL REPORTER

Sir Keir Starmer faces fresh pressure to scrap the two-child benefit cap on welfare benefits after the Scottish National Party announced plans to table an amendment on the issue in Wednesday's King's Speech.

The SNP's leader at Westminster, Stephen Flynn, has called on Labour MPs in Scotland to back the amendment, emphasising that the cap is forcing thousands of Scottish children into poverty.

In a letter, Mr Flynn urged Anas Sarwar, the leader of Scottish Labour, to direct his MPs to support the SNP's efforts.

"The two-child cap is pushing thousands of Scottish children into poverty – and scrapping it is the bare minimum the Labour Party government must do if it is serious about tackling poverty," Mr Flynn wrote. "It is shameful and it must go now."

Labour rebels are also reportedly pushing for their own amendment to scrap the two-child cap which, if selected by the Commons Speaker, could mark the first internal battle of Sir Keir's premiership in row a that threatens to distract from its legislative programme.

The effort is being led by backbenchers John McDonnell and Kim Johnson, who are reportedly drafting an amendment on the issue separate from the one being considered by the SNP.

Independent MPs, including the

former Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn, are also already said to be in talks about how best to pressure the Government into making a move on the policy, while both the Green Party and Liberal Democrats have indicated they intend to push Labour on the issue.

Labour's first programme for government is likely to contain more than 30 bills covering housebuilding, green energy, crime and voter registration. Among the measures expected to be in the King's Speech is a bill to boost housebuilding as part of Labour's pledge to build 1.5 million homes over the next five years.

The Work and Pensions Secretary, Liz Kendall (*inset*), has said that she will hold "critical meetings" with child poverty experts this week to begin "urgent" work on the Government's promise of an "ambitious strategy to reduce child poverty".

The SNP is also calling on Labour to match the Scottish child payment, brought in by the Scottish Government, UK-wide by increasing the child element of universal credit by £26.70 per child per week.



i There have been reports that the King's Speech will include plans for automatic voter registration to address the fact that up to **eight million people** are missing or incorrectly recorded on electoral roles.

HEALTH

Puberty blockers ban may be extended over 'safety'

By Chloe Chaplain

A Government decision to consider extending a ban on puberty blockers is because "safety of children must come first," the Health Secretary has said.

Wes Streeting criticised "irresponsible" commentary about ministers' move to extend the existing ban on the drugs, which suppress hormones to delay puberty.

The Government came in for criticism over the move to continue restricting the drugs for children, including from the party's own MPs.

Writing on social media yesterday, Mr Streeting said that healthcare for children must "always be led by evidence" and "always be proven safe and effective first".

Sources close to the Health Secretary said he was keen to take the "heat" out of the debate around healthcare for children present-

ing with gender dysphoria by being more transparent about why decisions are taken.

Campaigners are challenging the decision in the courts and arguing it has left young people who had been due to begin taking puberty blockers "distressed".

Mr Streeting said the Cass review into NHS gender services concluded "there is not enough evidence about the long-term impact of puberty blockers for gender incongruence to know whether they are safe or not".

The decision was criticised by some on Labour's benches.

Zarah Sultana, the MP for Coventry South, said: "Young people must have access to healthcare they need."

The MP for Nottingham East, Nadia Whittome, posted on X: "Only a small number of young people are prescribed puberty blockers. Those who are often describe them as life-saving."



Kate receives standing ovation at Wimbledon final

The Princess of Wales presents the Wimbledon men's singles trophy to Carlos Alcaraz yesterday, in what was only her second public engagement since her cancer diagnosis and abdominal surgery earlier this year. Catherine, the patron of the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, received a standing ovation as she arrived on Centre Court to watch the match

with her daughter, Princess Charlotte, and her sister, Pippa Matthews.

The Princess spoke to ball boys and girls before commiserating with runner-up Novak Djokovic and passing the trophy to Alcaraz. MATTHEW CHILDS/REUTERS

Sport, pages 54-55

CONSERVATIVES

Badenoch most popular choice as next Tory leader

By Rachel Vickers-Price

Kemi Badenoch is set to become the next leader of the Conservative Party, a poll suggests.

The former business secretary and women and equalities minister, now shadow Housing Secretary, has the support of 25.83 per cent of grassroots Tories.

The Conservative Home website asked 995 party members on 8, 9 and 10 July who should replace Rishi Sunak.

Among those surveyed, the former immigration minister Robert Jenrick was second favourite, with

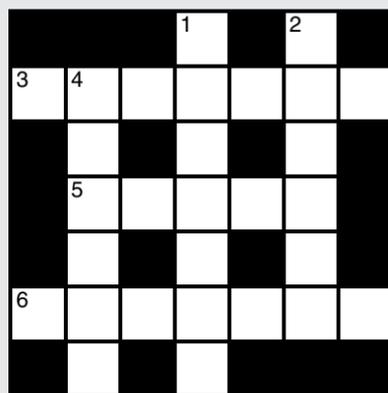
the support of 13.47 per cent. Former security minister Tom Tugendhat came third with 12.96 per cent, followed by former home secretary Suella Braverman on 9.75 per cent.

The shadow Home Secretary, James Cleverly, has the support of 9.15 per cent, while another former home secretary, Dame Priti Patel, trails on 3.32 per cent.

However, while the survey did indicate a clear winner in Mrs Badenoch (*inset*), 16 per cent of those polled answered "don't know", which suggests the final result is far from a foregone conclusion.



The Five-Clue Cryptic Crossword No 4257



Across

- 3 'H' is an excitable person (7)
5 Best, or the opposite (5)
6 A row about the Spanish artist's studio (7)

Down

- 1 Tune's hard sort of examination in church (7)
2/4 Situation requiring intelligence if two tablets malfunction (6,2,4)

Solution, page 45

SECURITY

Police increased presence at polling stations

By Chloe Chaplain

SENIOR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Extra police were needed at some polling stations during the election because of intimidation of voters and candidates.

Amid concerns that threats against politicians, canvassers and voters may have been co-ordinated by extremists, sources told **i** that policing was increased after reports of abuse.

The Government's adviser on political violence has requested a Home Office investigation into candidate intimidation.

Lord Walney suggested there may have been a "concerted campaign by extremists", the BBC reported. A Labour source said a police presence in some areas was "hugely important for stopping our opponents from intimidating and harassing people on their way to vote".

Insiders said canvassers faced intimidation and were followed and filmed by people apparently linked to opponents. Some cited cases of people being shouted at on their way to vote.

i understands requirements were assessed constituency by constituency. A government source said there was no rise in most seats, but several areas required increased security.

A £31m package to boost security for politicians was introduced in February.



**THANK YOU ENGLAND.
YOU DID US PROUD.**



TRANSPORT

HS2 Manchester route not sold off yet as Labour mulls rail options

Supporters want line north of Birmingham reinstated, reports **Ben Gartside**

Labour faces a £500m decision on what to do with HS2 land which was not sold despite promises by Rishi Sunak, as Sir Keir Starmer braces for new calls to resurrect the cancelled Birmingham to Manchester line.

The £50bn rail link is likely to cause the new Government a headache as supporters push for Labour to back the project initially launched by the then prime minister, Gordon Brown, in 2009.

Within Whitehall, civil servants are currently thought to be calculating the value for money of Mr Sunak's HS2 plan in comparison to the previous HS2 plan to Manchester, with the result expected to favour the longer route.

The Department for Transport (DfT) had already acknowledged to the Public Accounts Committee that Mr Sunak's HS2 plan, and a future business case decision, could put further pressure on Labour to revive the longer route.

The appointment of Lord Hendy as rail minister has been received positively by many supporters of the high-speed line, given his previous work on the project and the redevelopment of Euston station in north London, where he pushed for a more ambitious project. One industry source told *i* that Lord Hendy was "one of the most respected figures in the UK rail industry" and a "definite supporter of HS2 to Manchester".

Meanwhile, Labour's elected mayors across northern England and the Midlands are pushing to secure their rail line via private finance, and are already campaigning in favour of a plan to support a high-speed line to Manchester. However, budget constraints, a lack of key appointees and urgent deadlines elsewhere in government are expected to cause consternation among Labour's decision-makers.

WHY HAS SURPLUS HS2 LAND NOT BEEN SOLD?

As part of the cancellation of the Birmingham to Manchester leg, the Tory government said land that had been bought and was no longer needed would be sold, with the process slated to begin within weeks of Mr Sunak's initial announcement.

He and the DfT had planned to immediately begin land sales on the project in order to prevent any future Labour government from resurrecting the policy.

Pro-HS2 campaigners called the decision to sell the land "spiteful". The Liverpool Mayor, Steve Rotherham, an HS2 supporter, said the move had "killed it stone dead".



A more ambitious plan, including the redevelopment of Euston station, would probably run into cost difficulties GETTY

i understands that the land sales never actually began. HS2 sceptics in the DfT had attempted to begin the process earlier this year, but had yet to begin when the general election was called.

The initial phase of land sales would have seen small amounts of agricultural land sold back to farmers. But this has not happened and it is unclear if the sales will begin under Labour.

It means that one obstacle to reviving HS2 does not exist, with the £564m of land that was purchased for phase two still owned by the Government.

Beyond the land issue, questions about the state of the budget and ability to deliver the necessary changes to Euston remain, and will prove a challenge regardless of whether Labour heads calls to reinstate phase two of HS2.

WILL MAYORS AND MPs PUSH FOR THE FULL ROUTE?

With an agenda for growth, a focus on reducing carbon emissions and plans to improve national infrastructure, the Government is likely to come under pressure to revive the leg to Manchester.

Mr Rotherham and his counterpart in Manchester, Andy Burnham, have advocated for alternatives to the HS2 route put forward by former HS2 chairman

David Higgins, which included running the line to Manchester but with lower speeds, therefore reducing costs.

Mr Burnham and Mr Rotherham's Northern Powerhouse Rail project was originally reliant upon HS2 running to Manchester, and could lead them to become outspoken if the line ends at Birmingham, as under Mr Sunak's plan.

Backbench MPs could also push to resurrect HS2 in some form, with many having been vocally supportive of the policy before Labour decided not to reinstate the route to Manchester.

There may even be trouble from some of Labour's newly appointed ministers on the issue. Lord Hendy (*inset*) has been supportive of HS2 to Manchester, and was closely involved before being appointed.

He chaired the Euston partnership board, which helped to manage the HS2 redevelopment, and had pushed for a large-scale redevelopment of Euston – last remodelled between 1962 and 1966 – which was ultimately rejected by the previous Tory government.

Lord Hendy has also chaired Network Rail.

EUSTON, DO WE HAVE A PROBLEM?

In terms of the existing HS2 project, the redevelopment of Euston is expected to cause problems. Plans to build 2,500 new homes, redevelop its Tube station and add six platforms to the mainline

its commitment and whether the project would be taken on by its new owner or the existing Australian arm is unclear, with the project set to complete in 2040.

When approached by *i*, a spokesman for Lendlease said that the redevelopment of Euston was a "once in a generation" opportunity, but did not say whether the firm would be committed post-2025.

WHAT ABOUT THE EXISTING CAPACITY PROBLEMS?

Lack of capacity on the West Coast Main Line is likely to remain problematic. According to documents seen by *i*, much of the route between London and Birmingham is already over capacity, as well as chunks between Birmingham and Manchester.

If HS2 was only built to Birmingham, it is expected that capacity issues would worsen in the Midlands, and ticket fares would probably have to rise in order to reduce the amount of people trying to board the trains.

In June, the Liberal Democrat former rail minister Norman Baker said that the documents proved a "desperate need" to reconsider the cancellation of the Birmingham to Manchester leg of HS2.

CAN LABOUR MANAGE THE COSTS?

Costs have been repeatedly contentious between the Government and its management body during the project. Labour's tight fiscal programme will leave little room for overspending and additional costs, with the Treasury expected to run a tight ship over departments and quangos.

However, a new business case, estimating the benefits and costs of Mr Sunak's shortened HS2 plans, is thought to be being drafted within the DfT. If continued and published, industry insiders expect the plan to vindicate the original HS2 route as providing better value for money than Mr Sunak's alternative, which could heap pressure on Labour.

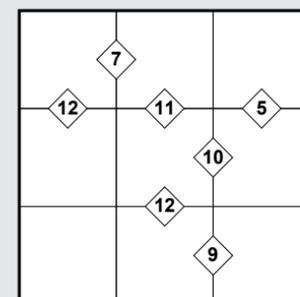
However, Whitehall insiders say that money to pursue the existing project, never mind a more ambitious option, is in short supply.

Some working on HS2 hope that Labour's new National Wealth Fund could potentially support it, but this would probably be dependent on the progress of other priorities.

HS2 Limited and the DfT were approached for comment.

One-minute Wjuko

How to play Place 1 – 9 once in the grid, obeying the sums between pairs of squares



Solution: page 45

The Opinion Matrix

COMMENT FROM HOME AND ABROAD

TRUMP ATTACK



Illusion of US security is shattered

BBC

A spray of bullets may have only grazed Donald Trump, but they killed one rally attendee and critically wounded two others. The illusion of security and safety in US politics has been dramatically shattered. (Anthony Zurcher)

The New Yorker

In the photo that circulated after, Trump is set against a blue sky and four Secret Service agents clutch at him. An American flag appears over the scene. He is looking out and he is defiant. It is already the indelible image of our era of political crisis and conflict. (Benjamin Wallace-Wells)

REFORM UK



Whole party is built on cult of Farage

Sunday Times

Reform UK is a limited company controlled by Nigel Farage. That may be acceptable for a start-up business founded by a star performer. But this is a political party and it should not be controlled by one man. (Ben Habib)

Unherd

A party whose electoral fortunes only took off after Farage returned as leader and which has been built around the cult of its charismatic frontman is dependent upon his whims and caprices. Registered as a limited company, Farage is the only "person with significant control" listed. (Bethany Elliott)

TORY LEADERSHIP



Party seems to be heading for a pile-up

Sunday People

We've all been there. You are driving and there is an accident on the other side of the road. It is hard to resist slowing down to catch a glimpse of the wreck. That is what it's like observing the Tories now. You don't want to rubberneck at the pile-up and, frankly, it's not a sight for the squeamish. But it is compelling. (Jason Beattie)

The Telegraph

The seeds of this defeat go right back to 1997. Rather than taking on the leftist agenda, far too often it was bought into – and the election result was our punishment for having done so. (Liz Truss)

KEIR STARMER



Don't get too cocky, Prime Minister

The Spectator

Sir Keir Starmer, a lucky general indeed, was moved to joke that England have not missed a penalty under a Labour government in 2024. Harold Wilson declared that England only win the World Cup when Labour is in power. This cockiness came back to bite him. (Jawad Iqbal)

RTÉ

The fact that the Tory Party has mostly been consumed with itself, as it prepares to replace Rishi Sunak, has also provided significant breathing room for Labour. However, with looming problems on many fronts, this honeymoon cannot last for ever. (Tommy Meskill)

EURO 2024 FINAL



England side are source of pride

The Guardian

To see the whole team sing our dirge of a National Anthem with a rousing passion is to witness a group of individuals from different ethnic – but largely similar class – backgrounds embracing a collective national identity. This is no small achievement. (Andrew Anthony)

Financial Times

Gareth Southgate became manager when England were at their lowest ebb. A humiliating defeat in Euro 2016 shattered the nation's love for the Three Lions. Southgate was sent in to pick up the pieces. Eight years later, he's still there. (Josh Noble)

RACHEL REEVES



Labour is also to blame on the economy

The Independent

Rachel Reeves is selling a story of a reckless Tory government that bequeathed to her a broken economy. It could be argued that the Tories chose to respond to the pandemic by shutting down the economy and borrowing vast sums – but those were decisions that Labour supported. (John Rentoul)

Mail on Sunday

The new Labour Government is desperate to show that the City can thrive under its stewardship. Reeves views the easing of regulation and disclosure as a critical element of her growth agenda. (Alex Brummer)

Life In Brief

DOROTHY BROMILEY BRITISH-BORN HOLLYWOOD ACTRESS

Dorothy Bromiley, the Manchester-born actress who was plucked from obscurity to star in Hollywood films in the 1950s, has died at the age of 93.

When Bromiley beat 900 other hopefuls to a place in the cast of the 1953 romcom *The Girls of Pleasure Island*, she seemed, at 21 years old, to have a glittering career ahead. Director F Hugh Herbert described Bromiley and her co-stars Audrey Dalton and Joan Elan as "the most typical types of British beauty".

And in early 1952, the *Manchester Evening News* announced: "Hundreds of girls envy 21-year-old Dorothy Bromiley, the Levenshulme, Manchester 'starlet' who flies to Hollywood next week on a six-month, £150-a-week contract."

Unfortunately, *The Girls of Pleasure Island* did not succeed as hoped, and Bromiley – who had settled into a flat

in Beverly Hills – started to find her Hollywood dream was turning sour.

"I loved working at the studios and made quite a few friends," she said, "but I soon discovered that when one's not employed one's friends in the film business soon dwindle."

In 1954 she returned to Manchester, where she became assistant stage manager at the Central Library Theatre. It was there that she met Joseph Losey, an American playwright and screenwriter. Bromiley married Losey, 21 years her senior in 1956.

"The morning we were married, he gave me a ring and said, 'For my child bride,'" she said later. "I felt we had a Pygmalion and Galatea relationship."

Losey had been blacklisted in Hollywood for being a member of the American communist party, and his UK visa was running out. Being married to a Briton meant he could stay and work,

though the marriage was not simply one of convenience.

"There were others who could have been more useful to him, so why pick me?" Bromiley said. "There's no doubt that I was in love with him, and I think he was in love with me too. I'm sure of it." The couple had a son, but divorced in 1963. That year, she met the screenwriter Brian Phelan, who remained her partner until her death.

Dorothy Bromiley Phelan was born in Levenshulme, south Manchester, in 1930. Her father Frank was a sports reporter, and her mother Ada made dresses. Bromiley moved to London after school to attend the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama.

She had a other film roles after *The Girls of Pleasure Island*; she was in the 1956 musical *It's Great to be Young* with Cecil Parker and John Mills, appeared alongside Frankie Howerd in 1957's *A*



Bromiley with Tyrone Power in 1956

Touch of the Sun, and had a minor role in the Losey-directed *The Servant* in 1963. She appeared on British TV into the 70s, but retired from acting in 1977.

She later became an authority on antique needlepoint. In 1982 she set up the Sherborne Tapestry Centre in Dorset and wrote several books on the subject as well as curating exhibitions.

Phelan died five days after Bromiley. She is survived by her two children.

Born 18 September 1930
Died 20 May 2024
Tom Nicholson

Quote of the day



I always have a feeling that I have no place

Natalie Portman
The actress on living between Los Angeles and Paris

My View

Kate McCann



Starmmer's on top of the world... for now

PM's confident start shows how UK could play key global role

A few months ago, a shift, imperceptible to most, happened in Westminster. It came one Wednesday afternoon after Prime Minister's Questions as the journalists who make up the press gallery filed out of the House of Commons chamber and into a cramped space called the upper gallery.

Typically, 50 to 60 journalists pack around a long table where we strain to hear answers from the PM's spokesman before most file out for lunch as the opposition team take their turn. Then one day, something strange happened: the gallery remained full as the Labour team began to speak. The transition of power had already begun.

What started before the election gun had even been fired has continued at pace, culminating in Keir Starmer being thrust into the heart of international politics at the Nato summit in Washington, just days after winning the election.

What was most surprising to those at the summit who watched the new Prime Minister up close, was his quiet confidence in the role which seems to have crept up on him, just as the subtle shift crept up on the press gallery journalists months ago.

It was even more marked because British prime ministers have typically dragged the baggage of Brexit into these rooms ever since the vote in 2016, given the decision meant a huge amount of political upheaval which left allies frustrated at our apparent navel gazing.

The weight of expectation has at times held them back, but Starmer strode into the Washington summit in a very different position. He went in as a man with more power at home than almost any other democratically elected leader in the world, and a clear stance on Brexit: that while there will be no renegotiation, closer ties are possible. It seems this powerful position has not escaped his notice.

Many governments around Europe are built of fractious coalitions - France being the latest to end up in this position. In Germany, Olaf Scholz is holding together a three-way deal, which means every move he makes has to be carefully and tediously negotiated. American politics was a mess even before the attempted assassination of former president Donald Trump on Saturday, owing to the conversations around



Keir Starmer's huge electoral mandate translated to a decisive presence at the Nato summit in Washington, DC last week. STEFAN ROUSSEAU/AFP

President Biden's age and capability which came to dominate the meeting in Washington.

Speaking at a press conference at the Nato summit, Starmer seemed more decisive, less apologetic, more determined than ever that he is right. That Nick Thomas-Symonds, his minister for European relations, was also at the summit is a sign of this confidence, given the Prime Minister knows there is a fear he will seek closer ties with the EU now he is in office. He made his

He was a man with more power at home than almost any other democratically elected leader

intention obvious, daring critics to speak out against his plan for closer ties with the EU on security and defence.

This unique power may not last long. Many believe the attempted assassination of Trump has effectively handed the former president his old job back on a plate as his supporters fall over themselves to apportion blame and swear their allegiance even more determinedly than before. A second term for Trump would almost certainly make him the more powerful leader - with the UK back in little brother territory, as is most often the way in the "special relationship" between the two powers.

While the attack may have offered President Biden hope that he will be confirmed as the Democratic candidate, given it would be a strange party indeed that sought further instability after an event such as this, he is

weakened. This was obvious in the reactions to Biden's slip-up at the Nato summit, where he accidentally introduced President Zelensky as President Putin. While none of the leaders came out publicly to brand him past it, the tone was sympathy edging towards pity.

Aides on the UK side were at pains to express just how "across the detail" Biden had been in his hour-long meeting with the Prime Minister, stressing he "hadn't needed any notes at all". This is not the endorsement insiders believe it to be.

There is no doubt that with a second term as president, Trump would be emboldened and more determined to push ahead with his agenda than he was the first time around. But while this may shift the balance of power, it could also strengthen Starmer's hand in other ways. As European governments get tied up in domestic knots, a secure and stable UK leader could

act as a point man for the rest of the allied nations, putting Britain back at the centre of global affairs.

The team around the Prime Minister understands this, but they also recognise that they cannot lose sight of the importance of domestic delivery. To fail on that would be to risk going the same way Boris Johnson's 2019 government did, losing their big majority after the electorate lost faith in his government's ability to deliver the change it promised post-Brexit.

This will be a difficult balance to strike, but if the new Government can get it right, it could find itself at the heart of the reshaping of relationships between Western partners, Russia and China in the years to come - if it has the appetite to step up.

Kate McCann is political editor at Times Radio

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Your View

Tweets, emails and letters to:
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London W8 5HY

Let children be children

I read with surprise in Alastair Campbell's article (Opinion, **i**weekend, 13-14 July) that he thought it was great that during his visit to talk about his book at a primary school an eight-year-old could comment on how our defence spending needed securing against Russia. I hope that, at that

age, my grandson will be more interested in football, meeting his friends and pop music. Don't rob children of their childhood too soon.
FRAN PERRY
HARDINGSTONE,
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Understated leaders an asset

Simon Kelner writes that a "boring" leader is just what this country

needs (Opinion, 12 July) and that the similarities between Gareth Southgate and Sir Keir Starmer are noticeable.

Southgate carries on sensibly regardless of a critical pile-on and Starmer has assumed the role of Prime Minister with seamless ease.

The word "charisma" has been bandied about far too much. These two men should be lauded for their pragmatism,

sense and not castigated for being focused on the job in hand, without vacuous showmanship.
JUDITH A DANIELS
GREAT YARMOUTH,
NORFOLK

Football fans' big own goal

We are all being encouraged to use public transport, buy electric cars, install solar panels, insulate our homes and generally use less fossil fuel.

But when it comes to football, why does no one mention the enormous carbon footprint of thousands of fans travelling halfway across Europe?

Why not watch it with friends on the big screen in your local pub? Am I a killjoy? A lot more joy will be killed if we don't take climate change seriously.
JULIAN BULL
KING'S LYNN, NORFOLK

I won't bloviate about this...

I have two reasons to thank Lewis Goodall (Opinion, **i**weekend, 13-14 July) for his article: one, hitting the nail firmly on the head, confirming that the Conservatives lost the election disastrously because of their attitude towards the electorate; and two, teaching professional wordsmith me a new word: "bloviate".
CHRISTOPHER MORLEY
HALESOWEN,
WEST MIDLANDS

Keeping water bosses afloat

It is obvious from your excellent Save Our Rivers campaign the water industry is in crisis. It would be of some interest to know how the leaders of water companies are appointed, as well as the criteria determining their remuneration.

I feel that the public should be told how the leaders plan to solve these problems.

Finally, the indicative percentage increase in customer bills over the next five years seems more a work of fiction than reality, given how



Howard Weaver suggests the late Dr Michael Mosley's health advice should be continued by the Government

volatile inflation can be. Perhaps we could be presented with more realistic forecasts, over a shorter period?
DAVID F MATHIAS
ROSSENDALE,
LANCASHIRE

Prisoners' early release bad idea

Labour should think again before releasing some prisoners early.

Being sent to an overcrowded prison must surely be a more effective deterrent to reoffending than being sent to a more spacious one. I say leave things as they are or build more prisons. Releasing criminals back into society earlier should never be a solution to overcrowded prisons.
STEFAN BADHAM
PORTSMOUTH

Remembering Mosley's work

In remembrance of Michael Mosley, there is just one thing that the Health Secretary, Wes Streeting, can do to improve the nation's health: make Dr Clare Bailey Mosley an adviser. Her late husband's work must not be forgotten.
HOWARD WEAVER
SELBY, NORTH
YORKSHIRE

Workers need decent pay too

Allen Hughes and Helene Witcher draw attention to bonuses for bosses and the claim that such huge sums are "essential to attract the

right talent". (Your View, 12 July).

I find it interesting that the need to pay to attract talent only seems to apply to the board, and never to the workers whose labour keeps these companies operating.

They are categorised as a "cost" who, once the bosses have finished celebrating their record profits and shareholder returns, are told that times are too tough and there is only enough for a tiny pay rise.

NAME AND ADDRESS SUPPLIED

Caring for our young is vital

Professor Richard Olver (Your View, 13-14 July) is right about the inhumanity of the two-child benefit cap, but we also need well-cared-for children.

The link between poverty and lack of future development is well known. In 2015, Matthew Rycroft, of the UK Mission to the UN, said: "How a society treats its most vulnerable is always the measure of its humanity."

This includes the elderly and disabled but is connected to the wellbeing of our children too, since they form the workforce of the future.

They are needed more than ever in an ageing population. Who will work to provide the means to care for them if we do not care for our children?

NIGEL JONES
NEWCASTLE-UNDER-
LYME, STAFFORDSHIRE



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POLITICS

Reform MPs will be noisy - and it won't be about potholes

Isabel Hardman



One of the more irritating responses to Reform UK's historic election result ran along these lines: "Can't wait to see Nigel Farage and Richard Tice having to spend Fridays in their constituencies talking about potholes."

It was a joke cracked largely by those on the other end of the political spectrum who still feel that Farage is not all that serious.

The normal reality of an MP's life is indeed filled with Friday nights in a parish hall listening to people who hate each other arguing about speed bumps. It is also speaking in adjournment debates about building regulations that no one pays any attention to.

But to measure Farage et al by this yardstick would be to miss why they have been elected. Sure, the five Reform UK MPs will probably do a degree of constituency work. But that wasn't what got them into politics, and it wasn't what motivated their voters to turn out for them either.

To a certain extent, typical MPs spend too much time doing constituency work, taking on problems that are really the preserve of local councillors or members of the devolved legislatures. They also deal with crises caused by legislation that they voted on but didn't understand at the time. And they don't tend to hold on to or lose their seats depending on whether they have worked flat-out on potholes or not.

When Tice was elected in Boston and Skegness, the front page of the local paper splashed on his comments that "I'm a doer". But as a member of a smaller party, he doesn't need to return to his voters in five years' time with evidence that he's personally built the local bypass or the kinds of things that MPs in the party of government couldn't show their voters in the election.

He will be judged on how much noise he has made nationally about the dissatisfaction of those constituents with politics in general.

Reform will be much more visible in Parliament, where its MPs will use set-piece moments to press home its points about immigration, the Brexit "betrayal" and taxation.

Farage is a populist politician, but he is also one of the most hard-working: anyone who has spent much time alongside the Reform leader will testify to that. His focus will be on pulling the Conservative Party towards Reform, and enticing as many as possible of its remaining right-leaning MPs over to his benches in the Commons chamber.

The bigger adjustment for Reform now is not the drudgery of politics, but trying to professionalise. And this is where the strongest tensions have been. Farage's reshaping of Reform's top team last week was, he claimed, "the first step to ensure that Reform UK is fit and ready to take forward its positive message".

He added: "I have no doubt that we will professionalise the party and change politics for good."

It is easier to do this, of course, when the entity that you lead isn't actually a party, but a limited company. The professionalise line came straight from Reform's difficult election campaign where a number of candidates were ejected after being found to have said or endorsed deeply unpleasant comments.

Farage was largely able to use his grand theme of everything being a stitch-up against him during the campaign, but he knows that this has a shelf life.

He could easily say that the party was new, rough and ready and that it had been let down by vetting companies or set up by actors conniving with hostile broadcasters when he'd only taken over as leader during the campaign itself.

Now, he needs to show that he is a "doer" and that he can make the MPs that he leads pack a punch in Parliament. It just won't be the kind of activity that you would expect from your average group of backbenchers. But then, Reform is very much not average.

Isabel Hardman is an assistant editor of 'The Spectator' magazine



Richard Tice called himself a 'doer' after being elected as one of five new Reform UK MPs GUY SMALLMAN/GETTY



THE BIG READ
The millennial money trap
Stagnant living standards and impossible life choices are the reality for so many people under 40. Is a whole generation stuck in limbo?

MIX UP YOUR MEAL DEAL



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Smallest of savings will help to earn you a good night's sleep

MONEY

Clare Seal


We've all been there. You slip into bed after a tiring day, shuffle yourself into a comfortable position and close your eyes. Then, suddenly, you remember that overdue bill, that pending remortgage or that rent

increase, and you don't feel tired at all – in fact, as your body has relaxed, your mind has kicked into overdrive.

What if there were a way to reduce those unwanted night-time disturbances, and allow yourself to drift off peacefully?

A study claims that people who save every month – even if it's only a very small amount – sleep better than those who don't.

Bristol University's Personal Finance Research Centre suggests that this saving habit acts as a safeguard against the things that have a negative impact on wellbeing, such as needing to borrow money or experiencing financial hardship, and improves financial resilience.

In the case of improving sleep, it's likely that an underlying sense of financial resilience and security reduces those late-night panics, and provides reassurance.

For a long time, money was the last thing I thought about at night, and the first thing on my mind in the morning, and I'm keen not to go back there.

Throughout my twenties, I accumulated over £27,000 of credit card debt. As the situation spiralled out of my control, my wellbeing suffered – I was constantly on the verge of an anxiety attack, and my sleep was severely affected.

Having such a stark wake-up call about the importance of building some financial security, as stressful as it was at the time, has proved invaluable to me in my thirties.

After paying off our debt, we prioritised buying a home, having been burnt by a landlord's whim too many times. Then, in 2023, we had our third child, with all of the financial devastation that adding a new member to your family entails.

Throughout this, though, I have always made an effort to keep up a steady, regular savings habit, for precisely the reasons outlined in the study: it makes me feel like I'm good with money, like I'm in control.

Even at times when my capacity to save has been reduced, it's a small, positive act in the face of bigger financial hurdles, and it makes me feel more robust, somehow.

The amount that makes me feel safe enough to sleep at night? About £400.

To many, that amount will seem incredibly high, to others naively low, but the beauty of a savings habit is that, according to the study, even small amounts have a positive impact as long as they are regular – so if you can

afford to save less, you can still access that, and if you can save more, then great.

At the moment, with childcare bills and a huge mortgage, it's what we can manage – nowhere near the 20 per cent of our income commonly recommended by financial experts, but it's something.

One day, I hope to be able to save a little more – to put more aside for my children's futures, to focus on my financial security in retirement. But for now, I concur with the findings of the study: whatever you can afford will make a positive impact, and one that compounds over time as those savings pots grow.

Clare Seal is a financial coach and author



**FOR FRANCE'S SAKE,
NOT THE PLASTIC CHEESE.**

EAT AVEC RESPECT

ST PIERRE
SEEDED
BRIOCHE BUNS

SOCIETY

Rebecca Reid


I'm divorced, but I love weddings

I'm going to seven weddings this year – I went to six last year, as well as a handful of hen dos and bridal showers sprinkled across the past two years.

Honestly, I love it. I've never been to a bad wedding – every single one has been magical in its own way.

But as someone whose own marriage ended 18 months ago, and who is still in the tangled web of getting legally divorced, there's an undeniable note of sadness to the whole thing.

The first wedding I went to after my husband and I split up was in Venice. Later that evening, the guy I was seeing messaged to ask me if I was OK, whether it had been hard to watch someone else getting married. It was a good question and one I hadn't stopped to ask myself before I got there.

The answer is that it did hurt, but it also taught me that I'm capable of

feeling two things at the same time. I was deliriously happy for each friend I watched walk down the aisle. I cried at how beautiful they looked and cheered at the speeches, and none of that was because I was going through the motions.

But beneath that genuine elation for other people was a complete devastation for myself. Watching two optimistic people get married will always remind me of who I was when I took those same vows.

There's also a sort of redundancy to you when you're divorced. You're not in the married people club, where the conversations about weddings and wedding planning take place. It hurts that my friends and family who get married will exclude me from conversations about wedding planning. I know it's probably intended to protect my feelings, but it does the opposite.

When my friends plan their weddings and they ask everyone else for advice, it doesn't make me forget that my marriage failed. It makes me feel like a big, important part of my life is no longer accessible to me because of what came next.

If your friend is getting divorced, they are already raw about it. Letting them remember the good parts of the experience is a real kindness.

My wedding day was one of the happiest days of my life. It was a room full of everyone in the world who I love. Just because I couldn't keep the marriage doesn't mean that I can't, or shouldn't, keep the wedding.

HEALTH

Toxic culture stokes fears of maternity scandal

By Paul Gallagher
HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

The NHS is on the brink of a new maternity scandal because of staff shortages, a lack of adequate training and toxic workplace cultures, midwives and experts have warned.

Earlier this month, another NHS trust's maternity services were rated "inadequate" by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) after it uncovered evidence of racism towards staff from their own colleagues, and dangerously low staffing levels.

Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust was accused of putting patients at risk in an inspection which was prompted by

concerns raised by whistleblowers. Staff at its two hospitals – Bedford, and Luton and Dunstable – did not always complete daily safety checks to ensure equipment was ready if there was an emergency, did not complete mandatory training to keep people safe and were too slow to conduct investigations into poor care, the CQC found.

The trust has set up training for staff on "cultural competency, unconscious bias and anti-racism practices" as a result.

Two years ago, the CQC launched a maternity inspection programme. Maternity scandals haunt the areas of Nottingham, East Kent and Shrewsbury after poor care that led



Inspectors say a Bedfordshire trust's maternity services were inadequate

to the avoidable deaths of mothers and babies was exposed.

A poll of more than 25,500 people who used NHS maternity services last year showed that some aspects of care improved in the previous

year, but many experiences were still worse than five years ago, when the CQC began recording data in this way. Campaigners fear that the next scandal has already happened – but has not yet been investigated.

James Titcombe, who uncovered the Morecambe Bay maternity scandal following the death of his baby son Joshua 15 years ago, told i: "We must move away from the idea that maternity scandals are isolated to a small number of 'outlier' trusts."

Gill Walton, the chief executive of the Royal College of Midwives, said that retaining and training thousands more midwives must be a Government priority.

In Bedfordshire, midwives from

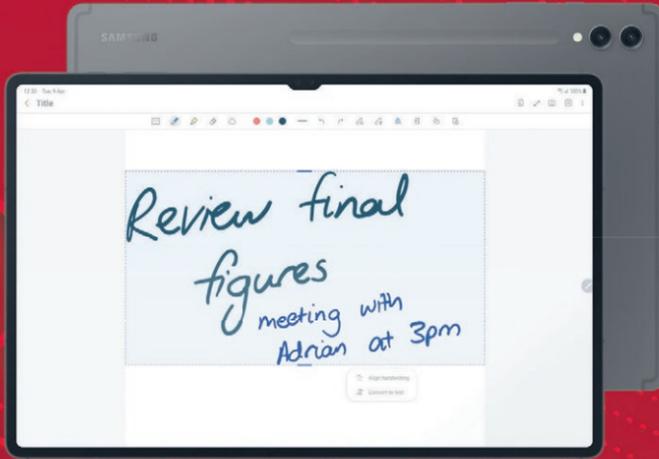
ethnic minorities told the CQC that they often felt excluded and discrimination from colleagues was "normalised". Bosses had not always acted to address the issues, they added.

The trust said it had begun a staff programme to provide training on "cultural competency, unconscious bias, and anti-racism practices".

i While services in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have their challenges, it is in England where the problems have been most acute, with a current estimated shortage of 2,500 midwives.

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i CRYPTIC CROSSWORD
No 4193 BY TEES

ACROSS

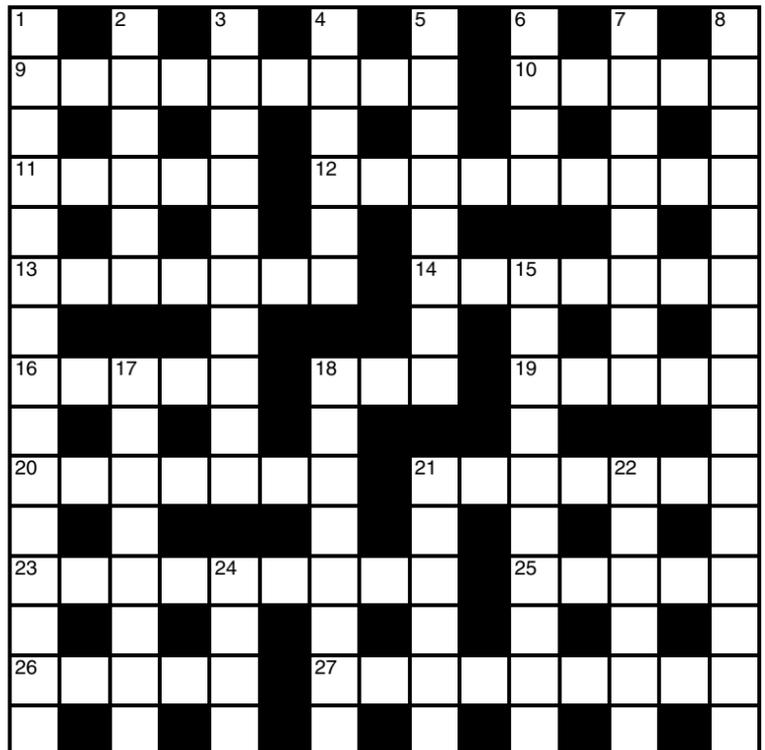
- 9 Oppressed by false story about new mark (9)
- 10 Wizard seen here complete in fresh and bracing sea air (5)
- 11 Pipe radius used in Shard (5)
- 12 No place as rowdy as Floridian location (9)
- 13 Guinness for one presented by east German plant (7)
- 14 Opera composer uses percussion instrument in one (7)
- 16 Old Cambodian king with me featured in 60 Minutes (5)
- 18 Place with yard to keep supplying (3)
- 19 Maybe goat without tail comes to steep-sided hill (5)
- 20 Diet has military group shedding tons (7)
- 21 Say Bovary at this point hosting love-in (7)
- 23 Centaur moving home is in two minds (9)

DOWN

- 1 Some Russian music fan, insane, completely losing head (10,5)
- 2 Counselling had with husband leaving bad habit (6)
- 3 Coded text in tomb upset woman (10)
- 4 Cheap containers (6)
- 5 Sea eagle gets between horses in coastal town (5,3)
- 6 Travel always upset canvasser (4)
- 7 Settler: one individual held in veneration (8)
- 8 Specifically what makes blood thicker than water? (8,7)
- 15 Room for experimentation in political choice? (10)
- 17 Tricky fellow's raving maniac imprisoning soldier (8)
- 18 Figure given by Defense Department (8)
- 21 Frank does cutting-edge work over time (6)
- 22 Article to accompany one-on-one in Ancient Greek (6)
- 24 Whirl about a bit more elegantly (4)

Solution to Saturday's Cryptic

HAPLESS JANACEK
O ANWUAOI
MASOCHISM PACED
E T O T B K N
SNAFU COOPERATE
I N H J L T Y
CHASTE NERITE
K R E U T Z E R
CORONA PAELLA
C H E G S B E L L I
HEATDEATH ELFIN
A N I R T A D
LOGIC NAUGHTIER
E E A L N A T O
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ENVIRONMENT

The Environment Agency has investigated almost 1,500 pollution incidents relating to landfill sites in the past 10 years – but less than 1 per cent have led to a prosecution, **i** can reveal.

About 500 landfill sites remain in operation across England and Wales despite pledges by previous Conservative governments to reduce the amount of residual waste that cannot be recycled.

Although some “black bag” waste is sent to Energy from Waste (EFW) plants in the UK or Europe where it is burnt to generate electricity, industry insiders say most are running at capacity so it often has to go to landfill instead.

The recent reopening or expansion of landfill sites has brought misery to a growing number of communities who say the toxic air causes a wide range of health problems including breathing difficulties, headaches, nose bleeds and damage to mental wellbeing.

Landfill sites are regulated by the Environment Agency (EA), which has responsibility for deciding whether bad odours should be considered a breach of permit and therefore a pollution incident.

The regulator also looks at other potential breaches, such as operators accepting hazardous materials that shouldn't be going into landfill, or a failure to stop harmful chemicals leaking into nearby waterways.

But as with the sewage scandal which has seen water companies dumping pollution in rivers and seas under the nose of the EA for years, critics say that the regulator has also proved to be toothless in tackling landfill problems.

Figures obtained by **i** via a Freedom of Information request show that the EA launched 1,446 investigations into pollution incidents linked to landfill sites between 2015 and 2023, an average of 160 a year.

However, only 43 enforcement notices were served and just six cases resulted in criminal proceedings. Even those that did go to court led to only minor punishment. Campaigners told **i** that they have no faith in the EA to force landfill operators to take action against operators blighting their community.

In Fleetwood, Lancashire, locals believed that the Jameson Road landfill site which covers 63 hectares beside the River Wyre had closed permanently in 2017. However, its operator, Suez, had simply stopped accepting waste because it was no longer commercially viable.

Last year a new operator, Transwaste, took over the site and reopened the landfill, causing a horrific stench which could be detected up to three miles away.

Jess Brown, who lives nearby, told **i** the smell had left her seven-year-old daughter, who has asthma, struggling to breathe while her

People were complaining from miles and miles away... I could smell it in my house



Environment Agency ‘failing to take action’ over putrid landfill pollution

Communities blighted by smells ‘have nowhere to turn’. By **Steve Robson**

mother, who has COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease,) has been physically sick.

“It’s been a disaster for Fleetwood,” Ms Brown said.

Local leaders at Wyre Borough Council and Lancashire County Council have been inundated with complaints for the past six months – but they have told residents only the EA can take any action.

In a statement provided to **i** by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), which handles media enquiries on behalf of the EA, the regulator has promised it “will not hesitate to take regulatory action”.

But campaigners say they have seen little evidence the EA is taking much action to date.

“I think they are so far down the rabbit hole worrying about bad press they are not doing anything,” Ms Brown said.

In Pilsworth, Greater Manchester, the landfill site has been around for decades but last year operator Valencia, known previously as Viridor, began a significant expansion.

In a briefing paper published by Viridor, the company said that if it did not go ahead “from 2023

there will be no landfill facilities in Greater Manchester to accept residual waste”.

Such is the scale of the operation, that the smell has disturbed residents in both Bury and Heywood, two towns that are four miles apart. Earlier this year, the Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham, called for an

“urgent” meeting with environment officials after he visited the site and was “taken aback” by the stench.

Angela Brown, a Labour councillor in Heywood, said that the number of complaints she received in January was “insane”. “People were complaining from miles and miles away,” she said. “I could smell it in my house on the other side of Heywood.”

The Pilsworth landfill now rises above the nearby M66 motorway and has become an unwanted local landmark. “A lot of residents can see it from their houses, it is like a new hill on the landscape,” Cllr Brown added.

The EA recently installed a new facility to test air quality in the area surrounding the Pilsworth site but Cllr Brown says that the regulator has been reluctant to share data.

“They don’t want to cause panic... but at the same time, how dare they?” she said. “People need to make decisions for their own health.”

In Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, the council became so exasperated by the EA’s lack of action on the Walleys Quarry landfill site, which has been causing odour problems since 2020, that it pursued its own legal action. In

April, it asked the Government for permission to take the operator Walleys Quarry Ltd, a subsidiary of Red Industries Ltd, to court.

The council served the operator with an abatement notice in 2021 requiring it to control odours. It has now begun the process of gathering its own evidence and instructing a King’s Counsel barrister to take the matter further.

If its application is approved by the Environment Secretary, Steve Reed, the council hopes to secure a hearing at the High Court later this year, **i** understands.

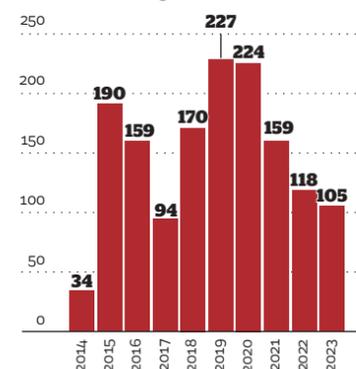
Ian Williams, a professor in applied environmental science at the University of Southampton, has spent decades researching landfills and says he has “no doubt” they can cause serious health problems for people living nearby.

“If you’re constantly being subjected to an unpleasant odour, you are never going to get it out of your head,” he said. “You then suffer from itchy eyes, headaches, you get stressed, you’re not sleeping, you worry about your children... of course it’s going to have an impact.”

Transwaste, Valencia, Red Industries and Defra were contacted for comment.

Dirty tactics

EA landfill investigations



Total investigations that resulted in enforcement notice since 2014: 43

Total investigations that resulted in court proceedings since 2014: six

*Method of data collection changed after 2014

SOURCE: DEFRA

MIDDLE EAST

Israeli attacks on Hamas kill 107 Palestinians

By Hatem Khaled
IN GAZA

After an air strike on Saturday killed at least 90 Palestinians in a designated safe zone in Gaza, Hamas health officials said that at least 17 Palestinians were killed and 50 wounded in further Israeli strikes in the early hours of yesterday morning.

The Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, said it remained unclear whether the target of the attacks, the Hamas military chief Mohammed Deif, had been killed.

He promised to continue to target the Hamas leadership, saying that more military pressure on the group would improve chances of a hostage deal, even as three days of ceasefire talks separately halted on Saturday.

"Either way, we will get to the whole of the leadership of Hamas," Mr Netanyahu said, making no reference to the latest loss of life among civilians in Gaza.

A senior official with Hamas, the militant Islamist group, denied that Deif had been killed, according to a report on Al Jazeera television.

Earlier, Hamas said Israel's claims that it had targeted leaders of the group were false and aimed at justifying the attack, which was the deadliest in Gaza in weeks.

i The United Nations secretary-general, António Guterres, said he was "shocked and saddened" by the civilian deaths and that they underscored that "nowhere is safe in Gaza". He said international humanitarian law must be upheld.

Displaced people sheltering in the area said that their tents were torn down by the force of the strike, describing bodies and body parts strewn on the ground.

"I couldn't even tell where I was or what was happening," said Sheikh Youssef, a resident of Gaza City who is currently displaced in the Al-Mawasi area.

"I left the tent and looked around, all the tents were knocked down, body parts, bodies everywhere, elderly women thrown on the floor, young children in pieces."

Hamas said it had not withdrawn from ceasefire talks after the deadly Israeli attacks.

The statement from Izzat El-Reshiq, a member of the political wing of Hamas, also accused Mr Netanyahu of trying to derail efforts by Arab mediators and the US to reach a ceasefire deal.



Palestinians flash the victory sign after resetting their tents at the Al-Mawasi refugee camp in Khan Yunis yesterday
BASHAR
TALEB/GETTY



French cavalry arrive at the Arc de Triomphe during the Bastille Day military parade in the capital YOAN VALATI/REUTERS

FRANCE

Bastille Day parade features Olympic torch

By Angela Charlton

The Olympic flame lit up Paris's grandiose military parade for Bastille Day yesterday.

Just 12 days before the French capital hosts the Summer Olympic Games, the torch relay joined up with thousands of soldiers, sailors, rescuers and medics marching in the capital beneath roaring fighter jets.

Bastille Day celebrates 14 July 1789, when revolutionaries stormed the Bastille fortress and prison in Paris, heralding the start of the French Revolution and the end of the monarchy.

The holiday is central to the



France's football coach for the Olympics, Thierry Henry, takes part in the torch relay in Paris yesterday

French calendar, with events across the country. It aims to embody the national motto of "liberty, equality and fraternity".

The Paris parade is the holiday's highlight. This year, it paid tribute to those who freed France from Nazi occupation 80 years ago, with a re-enactment of the D-Day landings of 6 June 1944 in Normandy.

Up to 4,000 people and 162 horses took part in the show, among them units that served in Nato missions in eastern Europe, against Islamic extremists in Africa, protecting French territories in the South Pacific and global shipping corridors. AP

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Television Monday 15 July

CRITIC'S CHOICE

BEN WALSH



PICK OF THE DAY

Spent
10pm, BBC Two
"I don't want to go out and work, it's not for me, it's not my destiny, I'm not made for the hustle babes," claims Mia (played by Michelle de Swarte, left, who was excellent in 2022's horror-comedy *The Baby*). The former catwalk model is in a lot of debt and declared bankrupt in the US, so she moves back to Brixton. Part-based on De Swarte's own life, Mia is jobless and homeless in this charming and poignant new comedy. This week, Mia grabs some sleep at her mother's before going to a disturbing work do with her best pal, Jo (Amanda Wilkin). The fashion industry doesn't come out terribly well here but De Swarte is a force to be reckoned with.

Britain On Film With Tony Robinson
6.20pm, PBS America
"Untold luxury for a few, mass unemployment for many, Europe in the 1930s was fractured and divided," maintains Tony Robinson at the start of this docuseries that showcases the films that "home-movie enthusiasts" made, focusing on how people coped in the lead-up to the Second World War. Occasionally this isn't for the squeamish but this episode is also immensely moving.

Jamie: What To Eat This Week
8pm, Channel 4
The chef demonstrates summer recipes from his garden shed,

starting with a roast loin of pork with a cheesy bean and fennel gratin. He also makes pea risotto and a rainbow slaw served with griddled chicken in a toasted wrap. Finally, he cooks up some mackerel, served on a bed of sundried tomato couscous.

Police: Suspect No 1
9pm, Channel 5
The bleak documentary returns to chart the work of police officers and detectives during investigations, this time with Humberside CID. In this first slice of grit, workers are left terrified when two men, one armed with a meat cleaver, the other with a kitchen knife, launch separate violent crime sprees robbing store tills for cash, and officers must find both perpetrators before they strike again.

House Of The Dragon
9pm, Sky Atlantic
It's not as fun as *Game Of Thrones*, is it? There are fewer quips and fewer sympathetic characters. However, Emma D'Arcy compels as exiled Princess Rhaenyra and Matt Smith convinces as scheming Daemon in this violent look at the fall of House Targaryen, 200 years before the events of *Game Of Thrones*. What repercussions will there be after the spectacular three-way dragon battle? Ewan Mitchell's Aemond certainly makes a compelling villain.

The Turkish Detective
9pm, BBC Two
The Demir investigation begins to feel like a wild goose chase until wily

	ONE	TWO	itv1	4	5	FOUR	FILM	itv2	
Daytime	6.00 <i>Breakfast</i> (S) 9.30 <i>Morning Live</i> (S) 10.45 <i>Close Calls: On Camera</i> (R) (S) 11.15 <i>Homes Under The Hammer</i> (R) (S) 12.15 <i>Bargain Hunt</i> (S) 1.00 <i>BBC News At One</i> ; Weather (S) 1.35 <i>BBC Regional News</i> ; Weather (S) 1.45 <i>BBC News At One</i> ; Weather (S) 2.00 <i>Clive Myrie's Italian Road Trip</i> (R) (S) 2.30 <i>Animal Park</i> (R) (S) 3.00 <i>Escape To The Country</i> (S) 3.45 <i>The Repair Shop</i> (R) (S) 4.30 <i>The Finish Line</i> (S) 5.15 <i>Pointless</i> (R) (S).	6.30 <i>Garden Rescue: Top Of The Plots</i> (R) (S) 7.15 <i>Bargain Hunt</i> (R) (S) 8.00 <i>Sign Zone: The Repair Shop</i> (R) (S) 9.00 <i>BBC News</i> (S) 12.15 <i>Politics Live</i> (S) 1.00 <i>Impossible</i> (R) (S) 1.45 <i>Make Me A Dealer</i> (R) (S) 2.30 <i>The Customer Is Always Right</i> (R) (S) 3.15 <i>Coastal Defenders</i> (R) (S) 3.45 <i>B&B By The Sea</i> (R) (S) 4.15 <i>Cornwall: This Fishing Life</i> (R) (S) 5.15 <i>Flog It!</i> (R) (S).	6.00 <i>Good Morning Britain</i> (S) 9.00 <i>Lorraine</i> (S) 10.00 <i>This Morning</i> (S) 12.30 <i>Loose Women</i> (S) 1.30 <i>ITV News</i> ; Weather (S) 1.55 <i>ITV Regional News</i> ; Weather (S) 2.00 <i>Cooking With The Stars</i> (R) (S) 3.00 <i>Lingo</i> (R) (S) 3.59 <i>ITV Regional Weather</i> (S) 4.00 <i>Tipping Point</i> (R) (S) 5.00 <i>The Chase</i> (R) (S).	6.30 <i>Cheers</i> (R) (S) 7.20 <i>Everybody Loves Raymond</i> (R) (S) 7.45 <i>Everybody Loves Raymond</i> (R) (S) 8.10 <i>Everybody Loves Raymond</i> (R) (S) 8.40 <i>Everybody Loves Raymond</i> (R) (S) 9.10 <i>Frasier</i> (R) (S) 9.40 <i>Frasier</i> (R) (S) 10.10 <i>Frasier</i> (R) (S) 10.40 <i>Frasier</i> (R) (S) 11.10 <i>Undercover Boss USA</i> (R) (S) 12.05 <i>Channel 4 News Summary</i> (S) 12.10 <i>A New Life In The Sun</i> (R) (S) 1.10 <i>Car S.O.S.</i> (R) (S) 2.10 <i>Countdown</i> (S) 3.00 <i>A Place In The Sun</i> (R) (S) 4.00 <i>Renovation Nation</i> (S) 5.00 <i>A New Life In The Sun: Where Are They Now?</i> (R) (S).	6.00 <i>Milkshake!</i> 9.15 <i>Jeremy Vine</i> (S) 11.30 <i>Storm Huntley</i> (S) 12.45 <i>Friends</i> (R) (S) 1.10 <i>Friends</i> (R) (S) 1.40 <i>5 News At Lunchtime</i> (S) 1.45 <i>Home And Away</i> (R) (S) 2.20 <i>FILM: Murder In Cherry Springs</i> (Letia Clouston 2021) Mystery, starring Rochelle Aytles (S) 4.00 <i>Bargain-Loving Brits In The Sun</i> (R) (S) 5.00 <i>5 News At 5</i> (S).	6.00 <i>Jenna Coleman begins to suspect there is a predator targeting girls in 'The Jetty'</i> 9pm, BBC One	6.00 <i>Jamie Oliver cooks up some summer recipes</i> 8pm, Channel 4	6.00 <i>Emma D'Arcy stars in 'House Of The Dragon'</i> 9pm, Sky Atlantic	6.00 <i>CITV 9.00 World's Funniest Videos</i> (S) 9.30 <i>Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records</i> (S) 10.00 <i>Love Bites</i> (S) 11.00 <i>Love Bites</i> (S) 12.00 <i>Dress To Impress</i> (S) 1.00 <i>Wheel Of Fortune</i> (S) 2.00 <i>Supermarket Sweep</i> (S) 3.00 <i>Charmed</i> (S) 4.00 <i>Dawson's Creek</i> (S) 5.00 <i>Dress To Impress</i> (S).
6pm	6.00 <i>BBC News At Six</i> ; Weather (S) 6.30 <i>BBC Regional News</i> ; Weather (S).	6.00 <i>Robson Green's Weekend Escapes</i> (R) (S) 6.30 <i>Great Continental Railway Journeys</i> (R) (S).	6.00 <i>ITV Regional News</i> ; Weather (S) 6.30 <i>ITV News</i> ; Weather (S).	6.00 <i>Come Dine With Me</i> (R) (S) 6.30 <i>The Simpsons</i> (R) (S).	6.00 <i>Police Interceptors</i> (R) (S) 6.55 <i>5 News Update</i> (S).	6.00 <i>The Pennine Way</i> (S) 7.30 <i>Railway Walks With Julia Bradbury</i> (S).	6.45 <i>FILM: Instant Family</i> (Sean Anders 2018) Comedy, starring Mark Wahlberg and Rose Byrne (S).	6.00 <i>Celebrity Catchphrase</i> With Alex Beresford, Sarah-Jane Crawford and Joe Absolom (S).	
7pm	7.00 <i>The One Show</i> Alex Jones and Jermaine Jenas present (S) 7.30 <i>EastEnders</i> (S).	7.00 <i>Grand Tours Of Scotland's Rivers</i> (R) (S).	7.30 <i>Emmerdale</i> There are rifts in the Dingle clan (S).	7.00 <i>Channel 4 News</i> (S) 7.55 <i>Paris 2024 Paralympics: Meet The Athletes</i> New series (S).	7.00 <i>Traffic Cops</i> (R) (S) 7.55 <i>5 News Update</i> (S).	7.00 <i>The Pennine Way</i> (S) 7.30 <i>Railway Walks With Julia Bradbury</i> (S).	6.45 <i>FILM: Instant Family</i> (Sean Anders 2018) Comedy, starring Mark Wahlberg and Rose Byrne (S).	7.00 <i>Wheel Of Fortune</i> Doctor Ati, corporate assistant Adam and social care worker Tracey compete (S).	
8pm	8.00 <i>Panorama</i> Current affairs report (S) 8.30 <i>The Travelling Auctioneers</i> (R) (S).	8.00 <i>Your Home Made Perfect</i> (R) (S).	8.00 <i>Coronation Street</i> (S).	8.00 <i>Jamie: What To Eat This Week</i> New series (S).	8.00 <i>Motorway Cops: Catching Britain's Speeders</i> (S).	8.00 <i>Digging For Britain: Iron Age Revealed</i> Last in the series (S).	8.00 <i>The Masked Singer US</i> The singers battle it out in a Harry Potter-themed show (S).		
9pm	9.00 <i>The Jetty</i> New series. Crime drama, starring Jenna Coleman (S).	9.00 <i>The Turkish Detective</i> (S) 9.50 <i>QI XS</i> (R) (S).	9.00 <i>Long Lost Family</i> A woman goes in search of the son she gave up for adoption 57 years ago (S).	9.00 <i>24 Hours In A&E</i> A mother-of-three is in resus after a severe asthma attack (S).	9.00 <i>Police: Suspect No 1</i> New series. Humberside officers try to find two men robbing store tills for cash (S).	9.00 <i>Operation Stonehenge: What Lies Beneath</i> Last in the series (S).	9.00 <i>Love Island</i> It's the penultimate week, but who will make it to the final? (S).		
10pm	10.00 <i>BBC News At Ten</i> (S) 10.30 <i>BBC Regional News</i> ; Weather (S) 10.40 <i>We Hunt Together</i> (S).	10.00 <i>Spent</i> Mia attempts to use a glamorous party to land a modelling job (S) 10.30 <i>Newsnight</i> (S).	10.00 <i>ITV News</i> 10.30 <i>ITV Regional News</i> 10.45 <i>FILM: The Spy Who Loved Me</i> (Lewis Gilbert 1977) (S).	10.00 <i>The Great</i> Catherine holds a conference to bring change to Russia (S).	10.00 <i>Police: Hour Of Duty</i> Officers rush to the scene of a fire at a block of flats (R) (S).	10.00 <i>A History Of Ancient Britain: Orkney's Stone Age Temple</i> A 5,000-year-old temple in Orkney (S).	10.05 <i>Olivia Attwood vs The Trolls</i> The former <i>Love Island</i> star explores the world of online trolling (S).		
11pm	11.25 <i>We Hunt Together</i> Freddy's games with the Birdman take an unexpected turn (S).	11.05 <i>FILM: The Last Right</i> (Aoife Crehan 2019) Comedy drama, starring Michiel Huisman (S).	11.10 <i>The Great</i> Catherine fears Paul will grow up to be a ruthless and careless leader (S).	11.05 <i>Police 999: Clear & Present Danger</i> (R) (S).	11.00 <i>Extra Life: A Short History Of Living Longer</i> (S).	11.35 <i>FILM: Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues</i> (Adam McKay 2013) Comedy sequel (S).	11.05 <i>Family Guy</i> Brian uses Stewie's time machine to impress women at bars (S) 11.35 <i>Family Guy</i> (S).		
Late	12.10 <i>Peacock</i> (R) (S) 12.35 <i>Peacock</i> (R) (S) 1.10 <i>BBC News</i> (S).	12.45 <i>Sign Zone: Countryfile</i> (R) (S) 1.45 <i>Sign Zone: Clean It, Fix It</i> (R) (S) 2.30 <i>Sign Zone: The Bidding Room</i> (R) (S) 3.15 <i>This Is BBC Two</i> (S).	12.55 <i>Shop On TV</i> 3.00 <i>Tour De France Highlights</i> (S) 3.50 <i>Unwind With ITV</i> (S) 5.05 <i>Ainsley's World Cup Flavours</i> (R) (S).	12.20 <i>Embarrassing Bodies</i> (R) (S) 1.15 <i>FILM: The Doorman</i> (Ryūhei Kitamura 2020) (S) 2.50 <i>Becoming Elizabeth</i> (R) (S) 3.55 <i>Kirstie's Fill Your House For Free</i> (R) (S) 4.00 <i>Grand Designs</i> (R) (S).	12.05 <i>Traffic Cops</i> (R) (S) 1.00 <i>PlayOJO Live Casino Show</i> (S) 3.00 <i>Carol Klein's Great British Gardens</i> (R) (S) 3.50 <i>Britain's Greatest Bridges</i> (R) (S) 4.40 <i>Wildlife SOS</i> (R) (S) 5.05 <i>House Doctor</i> (R) (S).	12.50 <i>The Pennine Way</i> (S) 1.20 <i>Railway Walks With Julia Bradbury</i> (S) 1.50 <i>Antiques Roadshow</i> (S) 2.50 <i>Digging For Britain: Iron Age Revealed</i> (S) 3.50 <i>Close</i>	1.55 <i>FILM: The Farewell</i> (Lulu Wang 2019) Comedy drama, starring Awkwafina (S) 3.55 <i>Close</i>	12.05 <i>American Dad!</i> (S) 1.05 <i>Shopping With Keith Lemon</i> (S) 1.35 <i>Shopping With Keith Lemon</i> (S) 2.05 <i>Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records</i> (S) 2.35 <i>Unwind With ITV</i> (S) 3.00 <i>Teleshopping</i>	

Games & Puzzles

4-page
pull-out

Dominoes

How to play All of the 28 domino pieces from 0-0 through to 6-6 have been placed once into the grid. Can you work out where each of them is placed?

1	1	2	4	1	0	0	5
3	5	5	5	3	0	1	4
2	6	4	6	3	6	5	0
2	6	4	3	3	0	3	1
2	4	6	3	1	6	4	1
4	3	1	5	5	2	5	6
4	0	2	2	2	0	6	0

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
6							
5							
4							
3							
2							
1							
0							

Journey Finder

How to play Move between the numbers in order 1,2,3,4,1,2,3,4 and so on, starting with the grey 1 and ending with the grey 4. On each step you may move one square in any direction (including diagonally). You must form a continuous path that visits every square exactly once.

1	2	3	1	3	4
3	2	4	2	4	1
1	4	1	3	2	4
4	3	2	2	3	1
4	3	3	4	1	2
1	2	2	1	4	3

Train Tracks

How to play Numbers around the outside indicate how many squares in each row and column the track passes through between A and B. The track either passes straight through a square or turns at right angles in it.

	1	3	3	4	6	5	2	2	
A									4
									8
									3
									1
									3
									2
									1
									4
									B

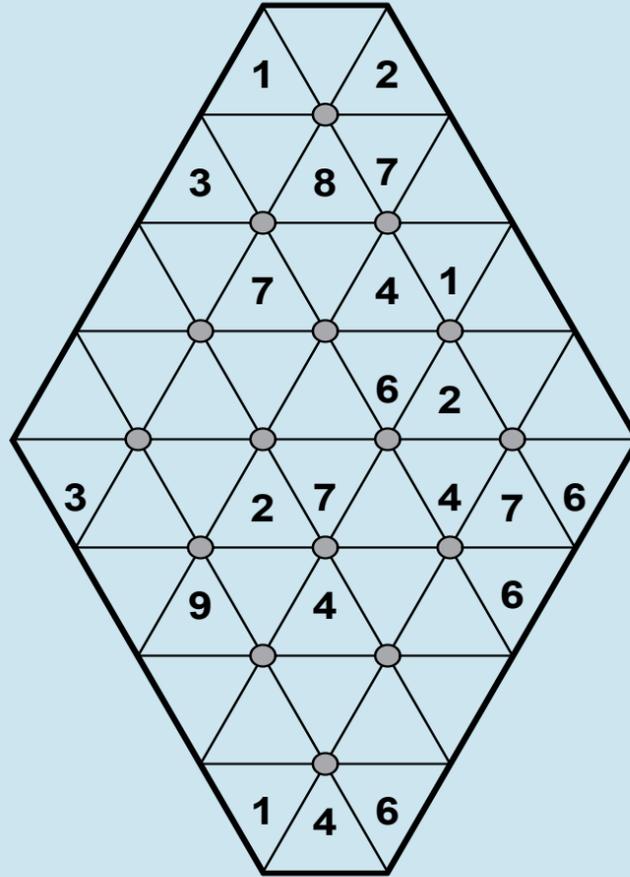
Binary

How to play Complete the grid so that each row and column contains five 0s and five 1s. The same number cannot appear in more than two consecutive squares in any row or column. In the finished puzzle, each row must have a different sequence of 0s and 1s to any other row, and likewise for each column.

		1	1	0	0				
	0	0		0					
			1			1			
	0	0		0					
	0		1						
			1						0
			0					0	0
	1				1				
		1		0					
		1		0					0

Number Hexagon

How to play Each hexagon is divided into six triangles. The sum of these six triangles is always 25. Place a number from 1-9 in each empty triangle to complete the puzzle; you cannot repeat a number within a hexagon.



Pathfinder

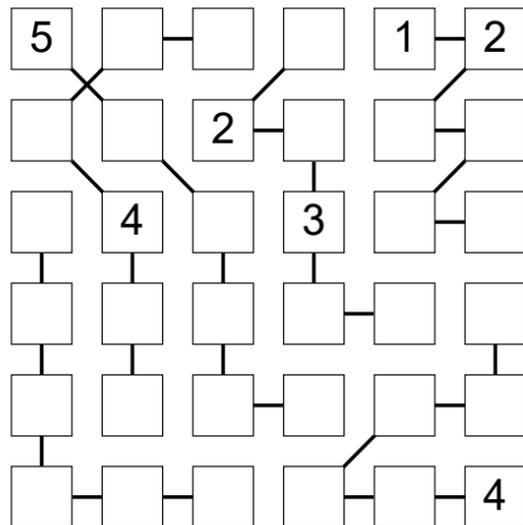
How to play Moving from letter to adjacent letter, can you create a continuous path that visits every square once and spells out all the words listed to the right of the grid? Start on the shaded square.

K	I	A	E	B	L	N	E	M	O
E	L	R	R	S	L	M	Y	I	N
S	A	T	E	T	O	L	L	C	S
N	D	S	L	I	N	K	B	I	C
E	K	B	O	H	R	E	N	G	E
S	C	A	L	L	S	T	A	T	N
S	A	G	N	E	G	P	A	L	L
B	L	R	Z	P	O	D	R	M	A
E	V	A	T	A	U	C	E	H	T
R	C	H	U	H	S	C	E	S	S

Bearlike
Blackball
Chutzpah
Engraver
Holsters
Lapdog
Loll
Mnemonic
Sadness
Scent
Success
Tangibly
Thermal
Tinkers

Chain Link

How to play Place the numbers 1-6 in each row, column and along each series of squares linked by the chain.



Daily Quiz

1. What hand-held dough parcels filled with meat, vegetables or cheese are considered Latin America's answer to the Cornish pasty?
2. Stheno, Euryale and Medusa were collectively known as what in Greek mythology?
3. What type of toxic air pollution has been linked to wood-burning stoves and agricultural emissions?
4. Ralph Vaughan Williams wrote a fantasia on a theme by which 16th-century English composer?

Answers, page 45

Battleships

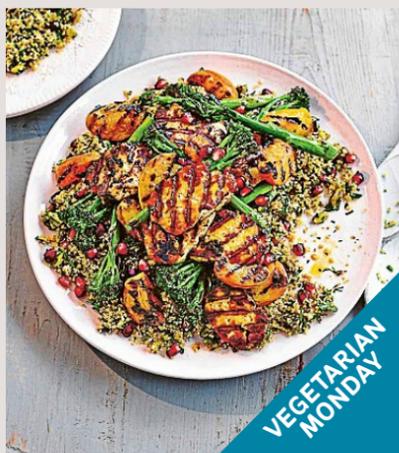
How to play Locate the position of each of the ships listed below in the grid. Numbers around the edge tell you the number of ship segments in each row and column of the puzzle. Ships are surrounded on all sides by water, including diagonally.

				●						2
										4
										1
			▲		▶					5
										1
										2
										2
										2
										0
										1
2	1	1	2	3	2	2	0	7	0	





Apricot and chipotle halloumi salad with herby couscous



VEGETARIAN MONDAY

SERVES 4

- 180g couscous
- 200ml chicken stock (or vegetable stock if preferred)
- 4 apricots, stoned and quartered
- 100ml extra virgin olive oil
- 150g tenderstem broccoli, ends trimmed
- 225g halloumi, cut into 8 slices
- 3 tsp chipotle paste
- 1 lemon, zest and juice
- 1 tsp sugar (or honey)
- 1 small bunch flat leaf parsley, leaves finely chopped
- 1 small bunch dill, leaves finely chopped
- 1 small bunch mint, leaves finely chopped
- 75g pistachio nuts, roughly chopped
- 100g pomegranate seeds

Put the dried couscous into a large bowl and pour over boiling stock, cover with cling film and set aside.

Put a griddle pan over a high heat. Toss the apricot wedges in a little olive oil and cook on the griddle pan until lightly charred (about two to three minutes), then remove to a plate. Do the same with the broccoli.

Next, coat the halloumi slices in two teaspoons of chipotle paste and a little olive oil and place on the griddle pan, turning once, so both sides have griddle marks. Remove and set aside with the broccoli and apricots.

Make the dressing by combining six tablespoons of olive oil, the zest and juice of a lemon, one teaspoon of chipotle paste and one teaspoon of sugar (or honey) in a small bowl.

Remove the cling film from the couscous and fluff it up with a fork. Season and add the dressing, chopped herbs, pistachio nuts and pomegranate seeds, giving everything a good mix.

Serve the couscous on plates and top with the broccoli, halloumi and apricots – drizzle with a little extra olive oil, if desired.

Recipe from Ocado.com

Tomorrow

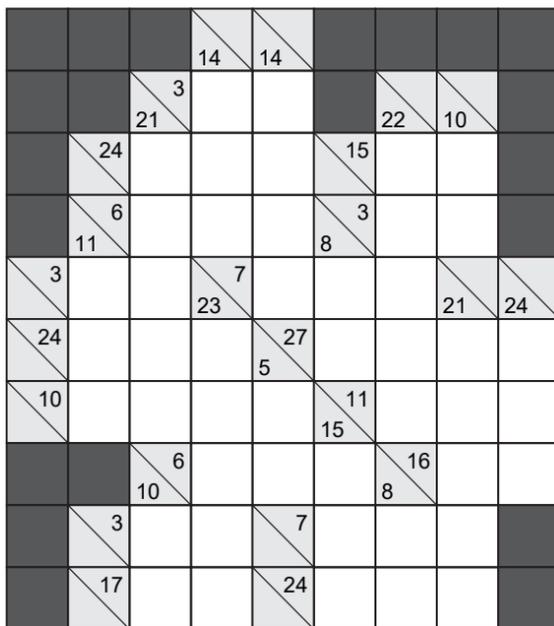
Asparagus risotto with lamb and mint



Games & Puzzles

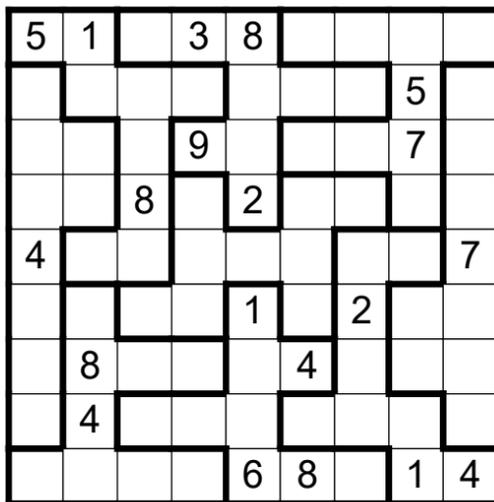
Kakuro

How to play Fill the white squares so that the total in each across or down run of cells matches the total at the start of that run. You must use the numbers from 1-9 only and cannot repeat a number in a run.



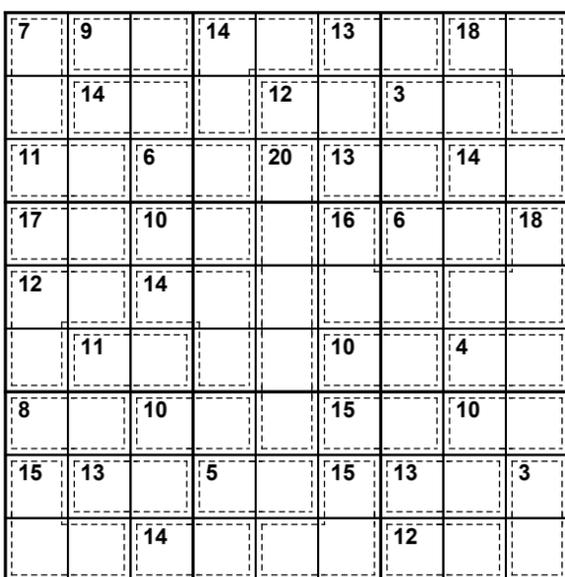
Jigsawdoku

How to play Place the numbers 1-9 once in each row, column and bold-lined jigsaw region.



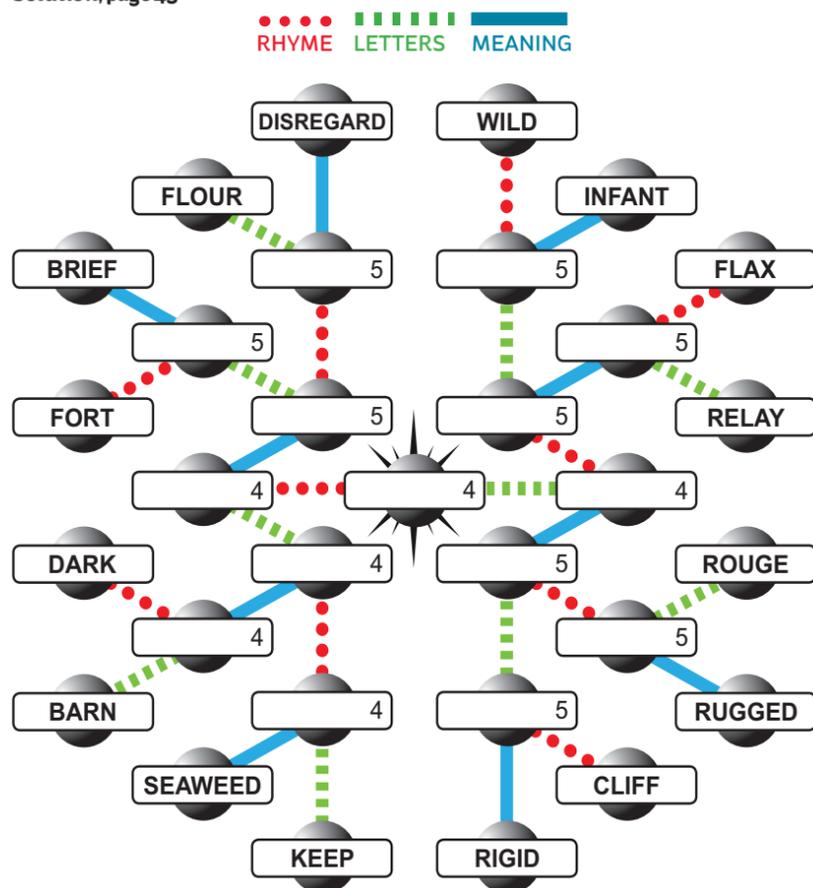
Killer Sudoku

How to play Each row, column and 3 by 3 box must contain each number (1 to 9) only once. The sum of all numbers contained in a dotted area must match the number printed in its top-left corner. No number can appear more than once in a dotted area.



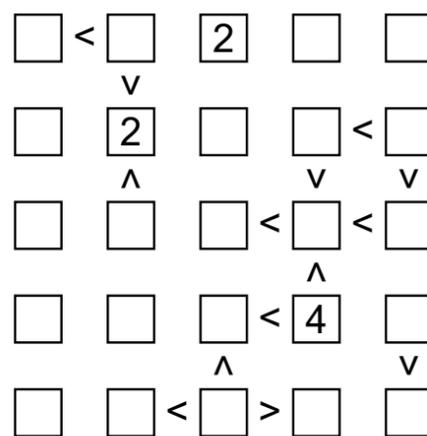
Zygolex® In i every day

Find the missing words by following the RHYME, LETTERS and MEANING links – eg, a word that rhymes with 'cheek', has one letter different from 'pear' and has the same meaning as mountain, would be 'peak'. Full rules at zygolex.com. **Solution, page 45**



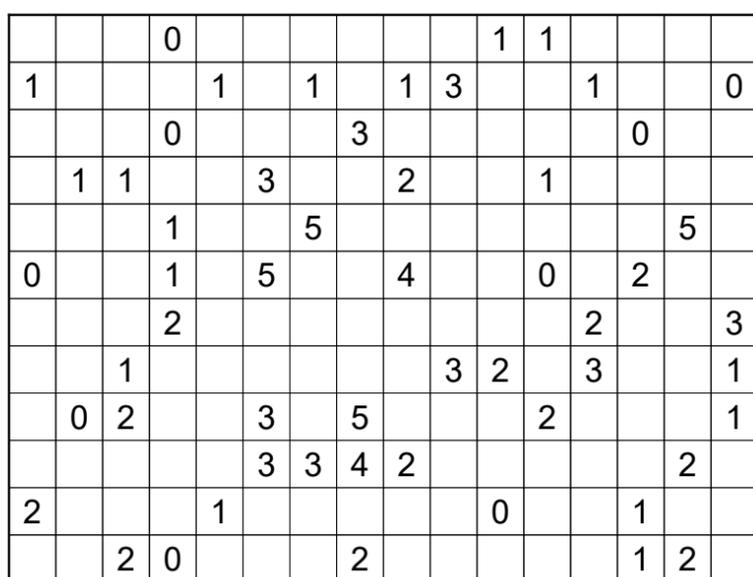
Futoshiki

How to play Place the numbers from 1-5 exactly once in each row and column. The greater than and less than signs ('>' and '<') indicate where one cell is greater/less than the adjacent cell indicated.



Minesweeper

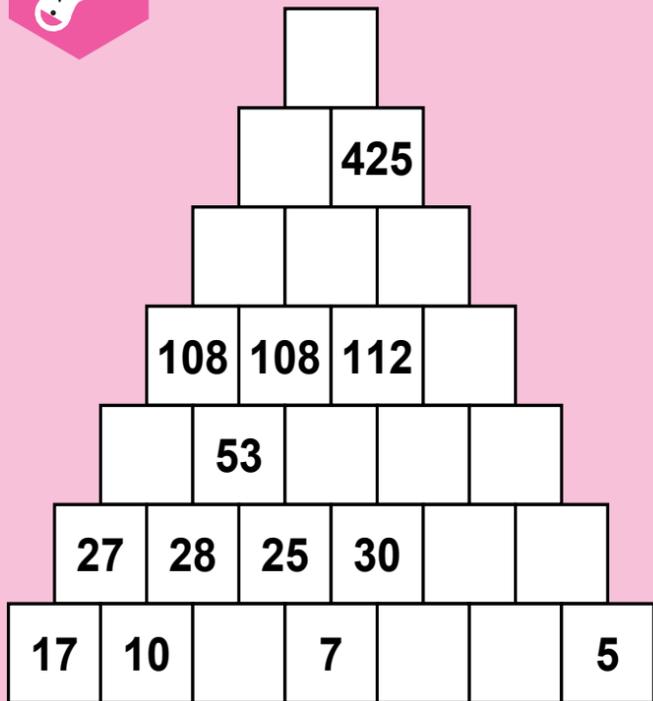
How to play Find all the mines in the grid. Numbers in certain squares indicate how many mines there are in the neighbouring squares, including diagonally touching squares. Mines cannot be placed in squares with numbers.



Children's Corner Number Tower



How to play The value of each square in the number pyramid is the sum of the two squares directly under it.



Knight's Tour

How to play A chess knight visits each square of the grid exactly once, starting at 1 and ending at 100 (these squares are shaded). Deduce the whole path of the knight - some of which is already given - and thus complete the grid. The knight moves either two squares horizontally followed by one square vertically, or two squares vertically followed by one square horizontally.

18	23			16	81		33		
	6			11	32			79	
		8			59		13	74	71
		21		95	90		76	35	
	25			60		62	87	70	
					94		84		
	53	28	55			86	47		
3				97	42				
				50	65	44			
1	100						66		38

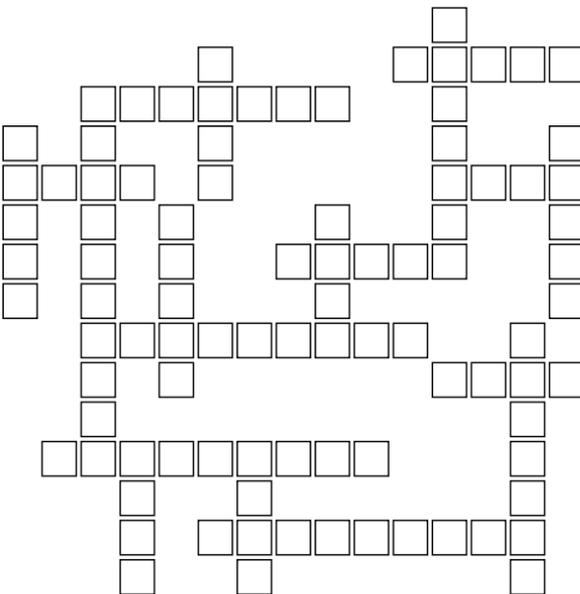
Rectangles

How to play Divide the grid into a series of rectangles or squares, such that every cell in the grid is in exactly one region. Numbers indicate the size of each region: for instance a "7" in a cell means that cell is part of a region that contains seven cells in total. There is only one number in each region.

2		7							
					14				
						10		5	
		3							
5	3				3				
								4	
					9		4	4	
2		2							
	6								3
		3	3						8

Word Fit

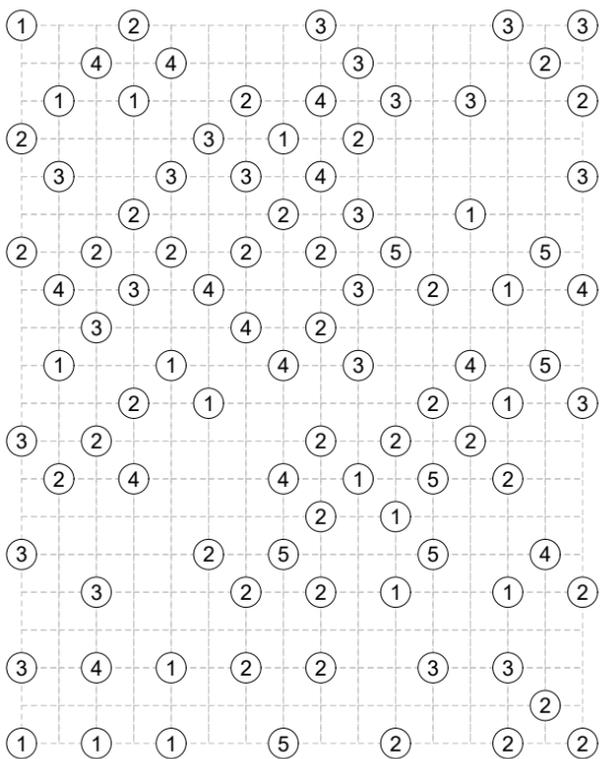
How to play Can you fit all the words into the grid to complete the puzzle? Some words may initially fit in more than one place, but there is only one way to fit all the words together to complete the grid.



- 4 letters**
- Anew
- Buns
- Crag
- Evil
- Fine
- Part
- Pear
- 5 letters**
- Bliss
- Camel
- Giant
- Kooky
- Patch
- 7 letters**
- Coldest
- Enounce
- Friends
- 9 letters**
- Recumbent
- Replicate
- Saturated
- 10 letters**
- Electorate

Bridges

How to play Connect every island (represented by circles) into a single interconnected group. To do this draw bridges between islands. The number in each circle states how many bridges must be connected to that island. Bridges cannot cross each other, can only be drawn horizontally or vertically, and there can be a maximum of two bridges between any pair of islands.



Word Search

How to play The classic word-search puzzle: find all the words in the grid. Words may be hidden horizontally, vertically or diagonally and in either a forwards or backwards direction.

P	Q	S	P	O	I	S	T	A	S	I	H	H	J	K
N	A	K	D	E	L	I	A	T	E	T	I	H	W	A
P	N	P	U	X	B	O	O	T	E	D	D	W	F	C
P	C	P	U	W	B	H	B	T	L	B	Z	R	H	G
M	B	H	T	A	O	L	Z	I	S	Z	I	A	S	K
S	E	J	X	J	N	O	T	E	M	C	C	C	I	F
O	N	E	P	P	E	T	S	C	A	O	D	F	F	M
L	I	N	G	O	L	D	E	N	R	E	F	T	R	N
I	P	E	V	E	L	Z	F	O	T	O	K	A	E	B
T	P	F	B	A	I	I	H	S	I	W	W	W	S	K
A	I	F	B	L	S	P	E	D	A	M	I	N	S	I
R	L	W	B	H	A	R	P	Y	L	R	A	Y	E	P
Y	I	H	Y	V	C	C	W	C	W	K	F	S	L	D
D	H	G	E	U	J	I	K	U	E	W	M	D	T	O
X	P	T	I	O	I	U	E	P	D	W	B	O	N	P

- AFRICAN FISH
- BALD
- BLACK
- BONELLI'S
- BOOTED
- CHACO
- CRESTED
- CROWNED
- GOLDEN
- HARPY
- LESSER FISH
- LITTLE
- MARTIAL
- PAPUAN
- PHILIPPINE
- SNAKE
- SOLITARY
- STEPPE
- TAWNY
- WHITE-TAILED

Solutions: page 45

Word Square

How to play Simply answer the clues alongside the grid, writing the answers in the respective rows. The solution must read the same horizontally in each row as it does vertically in each column.

				Aquatic vertebrate
				Small quantity
				Agitate
				Long-eared mammal

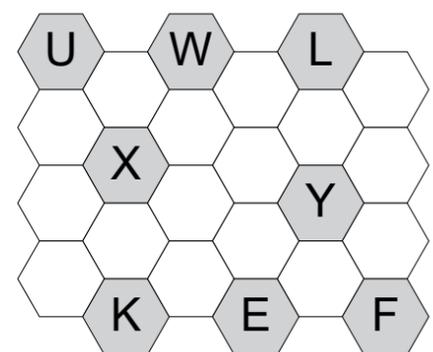
Calculatedoku

How to play Place the numbers 1-6 once in each row and column, obeying sums in bold-lined regions. The number in each region indicates the total for the region, and the symbol shows which type of operation should be applied to the numbers: addition, subtraction, division or multiplication. Numbers may repeat within bold-lined regions. With subtraction always take the lower numbers away from the highest number in a region, and with division divide the highest number by the lower numbers.

1-	90x		11+		
	8+		9+	8+	1-
9+					
		24x			6+
9+		1-	11+		
24x				3+	

Hexalex

How to play Place each of the letters below once into the empty hexagons, crossing them off as you do so. Enter the letters in such a way that it is possible to find all the words listed alongside the grid by moving from hexagon to adjacent hexagon to spell out each word.



- AWN
- COX
- DRUM
- FIVES
- GIVE
- JAW
- JOT
- LAZY
- NOTCH
- PLAN
- STOCK

A C D G H I J M N O P R S T V Z

Cetin Ikmen (Haluk Bilginer) decides to look deeper into the past. Leyla begins to remember things from before her accident and presents Mehmet Suleyman (Ethan Kai) with a clue that could unlock the whole story of what happened to her.

=== The Jetty

9pm, BBC One
Jenna Coleman's DC Ember Manning uncovers a dark web of secrets in the sleepy town she calls home. She suspects a predator is targeting girls (it would be refreshing if a crime drama didn't pursue this depressing storyline). Anyhow, Manning finds herself reflecting on the age difference between herself and her late husband in this serviceable, coming-of-age (sort of) tale.

FILM CHOICE

LAURENCE PHELAN



FILM OF THE DAY

The Eyes Of Tammy Faye

9pm, Film4
(Michael Showalter, 2021)
Jessica Chastain and Andrew Garfield (left) are brilliant in this biopic about Tammy Faye and Jim Bakker, the tacky and ultimately disgraced preachers who became "the Ken and Barbie of televangelism" in the 1970s to 90s, and converted the generosity (or gullibility) of their congregation of viewers into vast personal wealth and careers as a Jesus-approved recording artist, and a property developer. The film has the good grace not to mock religiosity. But plenty of the specifics are fair game – as are the conservatism of the American religious right against which Tammy Faye, in particular, chafed.

=== Robin And Marian

4.35pm, Film4
(Richard Lester, 1976)
A love story – with some hijinks and horseplay – starring Sean Connery as a middle-aged Robin Hood, who has returned from the Crusades, and finds his love for Marian (Audrey Hepburn) is deeper than ever.

=== The Farewell

1.55am, Film4
(Lulu Wang, 2019)
This complex, tender dramedy is about a New York family returning to their homeland for a final visit with a dying grandmother – using a wedding as pretext and having to pretend it's a joyous occasion instead of one steeped in paths.

ON DEMAND

Dark Matter

Apple TV+
Joel Edgerton is the physicist stuck in multiple-universe hell in this thriller.

Ripley

Netflix
Andrew Scott's psychotic creeps around Italy in this gorgeous adaptation.

Stax, Soulville

NOW
Otis Redding and Isaac Hayes are celebrated in this look at the record label.

itv3



6.00 Classic Emmerdale (S) **6.35 Classic Emmerdale** (S) **7.00 Classic Coronation Street** (S) **7.35 Classic Coronation Street** (S) **8.05 Agatha Christie's Poirot** (S) **10.30 The Royal** (S) **11.40 Heartbeat** (S) **12.40 Heartbeat** (S) **1.40 Classic Emmerdale** (S) **2.10 Classic Emmerdale** (S) **2.40 Classic Coronation Street** (S) **3.15 Classic Coronation Street** (S) **3.50 Inspector Morse** (S).

6.00 Hollyoaks (S) **7.00 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA** (S) **9.00 The Goldbergs** (S) **9.30 The Goldbergs** (S) **10.00 Young Sheldon** (S) **10.30 Young Sheldon** (S) **11.00 Modern Family** (S) **11.30 Modern Family** (S) **12.00 The Big Bang Theory** (S) **12.30 The Big Bang Theory** (S) **1.00 The Big Bang Theory** (S) **1.30 The Big Bang Theory** (S) **2.00 The Goldbergs** (S) **2.30 The Goldbergs** (S) **3.00 Modern Family** (S) **3.30 Modern Family** (S) **4.00 Young Sheldon** (S) **4.30 Young Sheldon** (S) **5.00 The Big Bang Theory** (S) **5.30 The Big Bang Theory** (S).

8.55 Food Unwrapped (S) **9.30 A Place In The Sun** (S) **10.25 A New Life In The Sun** (S) **11.25 Find It, Fix It, Flog It** (S) **12.30 Come Dine With Me** (S) **1.00 Come Dine With Me** (S) **1.30 Come Dine With Me** (S) **2.05 Come Dine With Me** (S) **2.35 Come Dine With Me** (S) **3.10 Four In A Bed** (S) **3.40 Four In A Bed** (S) **4.15 Four In A Bed** (S) **4.50 Four In A Bed** (S) **5.20 Four In A Bed** (S) **5.50 Chateau DIY** (S).

6.00 NCIS: Los Angeles (R) (S) **7.00 SEAL Team** (R) (S) **8.00 The Flash** (R) (S) **9.00 Stargate SG-1** (R) (S) **10.00 Stargate SG-1** (R) (S) **11.00 NCIS: Los Angeles** (R) (S) **12.00 Los Angeles** (R) (S) **1.00 MacGyver** (R) (S) **2.00 MacGyver** (R) (S) **3.00 Hawaii Five-0** (R) (S) **4.00 S.W.A.T** (R) (S) **5.00 SEAL Team** (R) (S).

6.00 Urban Secrets (R) (S) **7.05 Urban Secrets** (R) (S) **8.10 Six Feet Under** (R) (S) **9.15 Six Feet Under** (R) (S) **10.20 Gomorrah** (R) (S) **11.25 Gomorrah** (R) (S) **12.30 Game Of Thrones** (R) (S) **1.35 The Sopranos** (R) (S) **2.40 The Sopranos** (R) (S) **3.45 Six Feet Under** (R) (S) **4.50 Six Feet Under** (R) (S) **5.55 Gomorrah** (R) (S).

6.00 Heartbeat A thief is at large in Aidsfield (S).

6.00 The Big Bang Theory (S) **6.30 The Big Bang Theory** (S).

6.55 Car S.O.S Fuzz Townshend and Tim Shaw restore a 1991 Range Rover (S).

6.00 Stargate SG-1 Carter takes a cadet under her wing (R) (S).

6.55 Gomorrah The seizure of a cocaine shipment threatens to throw the clans into war (R) (S).

7.00 Heartbeat Lord Ashford's tenants face a rent rise (S).

7.00 Hollyoaks (S) **7.30 Celebrity Come Dine With Me** (S).

7.55 Grand Designs Creating a home from the ruins of a castle in Co Roscommon (S).

7.00 Stargate SG-1 An alien probe takes over the computer system (R) (S).

7.55 Game Of Thrones Tyrion struggles to find a way to curb Joffrey's excesses (R) (S).

8.00 McDonald & Dodds A body is found in a shallow grave in the shadow of Glastonbury Tor (S).

8.00 Below Deck New series. A few familiar faces are welcomed aboard the St David (S).

8.00 Flintoff: Lord Of The Fries Andrew Flintoff takes part in a treasure hunt (R) (S).

8.00 RoboCop (Paul Verhoeven 1987) Sci-fi thriller, starring Peter Weller (R) (S).

9.00 House Of The Dragon Fantasy drama, starring Matt Smith and Emma D'Arcy (S).

10.00 Unforgotten (S).

10.05 Naked Attraction Singletons from Norfolk and London hope to find the perfect partners (S).

10.00 Homes From Hell: Caught On Camera The dangers lurking inside homes (S).

10.15 The Last Of Us Post-apocalyptic drama, starring Pedro Pascal and Bella Ramsey (R) (S).

11.45 House Of The Dragon Fantasy drama, starring Matt Smith and Emma D'Arcy (R) (S).

11.00 Unforgotten Cassie and Sunny begin to build a picture of their murder victim (S).

11.05 First Dates: Celebrity Special For Stand Up To Cancer 2018 (S).

11.05 24 Hours In A&E A 52-year-old is rushed in after hitting his head on a concrete step (S).

11.00 Warrior Period crime drama, starring Andrew Koji (R) (S).

1.00 Succession (R) (S) **2.10 Game Of Thrones** (R) (S) **3.10 The Leftovers** (R) (S) **4.10 Urban Secrets** (R) (S) **5.10 Urban Secrets** (R) (S).

12.40 Upstairs, Downstairs (S) **1.35 Upstairs, Downstairs** (S) **2.30 Teleshopping**

12.10 The Big Bang Theory (S) **1.05 Brooklyn Nine-Nine** (S) **2.05 Modern Family** (S) **2.55 Below Deck** (S) **3.50 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA** (S) **4.40 The Neighborhood** (S) **5.30 Brooklyn Nine-Nine** (S).

12.10 Help! We Bought A Hotel (S) **1.15 Homes From Hell: Caught On Camera** (S) **2.20 24 Hours In A&E** (S) **3.25 Food Unwrapped** (S) **3.55 Close**

12.00 The Walking Dead (R) (S) **1.00 Road Wars** (R) (S) **2.00 Brit Cops: War On Crime** (R) (S) **3.00 Hawaii Five-0** (R) (S) **4.00 S.W.A.T** (R) (S) **5.00 Highway Patrol** (R) (S) **5.30 Highway Patrol** (R) (S).

1.00 Succession (R) (S) **2.10 Game Of Thrones** (R) (S) **3.10 The Leftovers** (R) (S) **4.10 Urban Secrets** (R) (S) **5.10 Urban Secrets** (R) (S).

Radio

BBC Radio 1

6.57am Newsbeat **7.00** Radio 1 Breakfast With Greg James **11.00** Rickie, Melvin And Charlie **12.45pm** Newsbeat **1.00** Matt And Mollie **3.30** Newsbeat **3.32** Going Home With Vick, Katie And Jamie On Radio **1.545** Newsbeat **6.00** Radio 1's New Music Show With Jack Saunders **8.00** Radio 1's Future Artists With Sian Eleri **10.00** Radio 1's Power Down Playlist With Sian Eleri **11.00** Rock Show With Daniel P Carter **1am** BBC Introducing Rock On Radio 1 With Alyx Holcombe **2.00** Radio 1's Future Alternative **3.00** Radio 1 Relax In Love **4.00** Radio 1's Pop Anthems **5.00** Radio 1 Early Breakfast With Dean McCullough

BBC Radio 1Xtra

6.33am 1Xtra Playlists **7.00** Nadia Jae **10.00** DJ Day Day **12.45pm** Newsbeat **1.00** Kaylee **4.00** Remi Burgz **5.45** Newsbeat **6.00** Remi Burgz **7.00** DJ Target **9.00** Sian Anderson **11.00** Kash & Pharaoh G **1am** 1Xtra's Rap List **3.00** 1Xtra Salutes **4.00** Battle Of The Mixes **4.30** 1Xtra's R&B Chill Mix **5.30** 1Xtra's Throwback Party

BBC Radio 2

6.30am The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show **9.30** Vernon Kay **12noon** Tina Daheley **2.00** Scott Mills **4.00** Sara Cox **6.30** Sara Cox's Half Wower **7.00** Jo Whaley's Shiny Happy Playlist **7.30** Jo Whaley **9.00** The Blues Show With Cerys Matthews **10.00** Trevor Nelson's Magnificent 7 **10.30** Trevor Nelson's Rhythm Nation **12midn't** OJ Borg **2.30** One Hit Wonders With OJ Borg **3.00** Pick Of The Pops **4.00** Owain Wyn Evans

BBC Radio 3

6.30am Breakfast. Petroc Trelawny presents **9.30** Essential Classics. Georgia Mann presents a selection of music and features. **1pm** Classical Live. With a live recital from London's Wigmore Hall by pianist Yevgeny Sudbin. **4.00** Composer Of The Week: Robert Schumann. How Robert and Clara Schumann reconciled their domestic creative tension. **5.00** In Tune. With live music by trumpeter Aaron Akgubo with harpist Milo Harper. **7.00** Classical Mixtape. A sequence of music **7.30** Radio 3 In Concert. Sean Shibe with the Dunedin Consort, and Alim Beisembayev at the Cheltenham Festival. **9.45** The Essay: Sounds Of Wild Poland. The sound of dawn in the Bialowieza Forest. **10.00** Night Tracks. A soundtrack for late-night listening. **11.30** 'Round Midnight. With guest Laura Jurd. **12.30am** Through The Night

BBC Radio 4

6am Today **9.00** Orwell vs Kafka **9.30** Natalie Haynes Stands Up For The Classics

10.00 Woman's Hour **11.00** Behind The Crime **11.45** Child **12noon** News **12.04** You And Yours **12.57** Weather **1.00** The World At One **1.45** Escape From The Maze **2.00** The Archers **2.15** Ed Reardon's Week **2.45** Gambits **3.00** A Good Read **3.30** Searching For Butterflies **4.00** The Club Nobody Wants To Join **4.30** Rewinder **5.00** PM **5.57** Weather **6.00** Six O'Clock News **6.30** Mark Steel's In Town. Mark visits Stoke-on-Trent in the Potteries. **7.00** The Archers. Susan gets her hopes up and Chelsea has a mountain to climb. **7.15** Front Row. Arts programme. **8.00** The Briefing Room. David Aaronovitch and guests discuss promising developments in cancer care. **8.30** BBC Inside Science. The science of Wimbledon's tennis courts. **9.00** History's Secret Heroes. One of the first West African airmen to join the Royal Air Force. **9.30** To Catch A Scorpion. The dramatic hunt for a people smuggler on the run from the law. **10.00** The World Tonight. With James Coomarasamy. **10.45** Book At Bedtime: Yellowface. By Rebecca F Kuang. **11.00** The System. By Ben Lewis. **11.30** Lights Out. Talia Augustidius offers a personal reflection on how we choose to remember someone. **12midn't** News And Weather **12.30** Child **12.48** Shipping Forecast **1.00** As BBC World Service **5.20** Shipping Forecast **5.30** News Briefing **5.43** Prayer For The Day **5.45** Farming Today

BBC Radio 4 Extra

6am Lord Edgware Dies **6.30** Keep On Running **7.00** Anything Legal **7.30** Stop Messing About! **8.00** In And Out Of The Kitchen **8.30** Dark Matter **8.45** Valley Of The Dolls **9.00** Mark Steel's In Town **9.30** Nature's Great Invaders **9.45** Daily Service **10.00** Radiolab **10.55** Inheritance Tracks **11.00** Lord Edgware Dies **11.30** Keep On Running **12noon** Anything Legal **12.30** Stop Messing About! **1.00** In And Out Of The

Pick of the day



Vernon Kay **9.30am, BBC Radio 2**
Paul Weller (above), aka the "Modfather", one of the most revered writers and performers of the past five decades, shares his favourite songs all this week on *Tracks Of My Years*.

1.00 Kitchen **1.30** Dark Matter **1.45** Valley Of The Dolls **2.00** Just A Minute **2.30** Snap **3.00** The Baby Grand **4.00** Radiolab **4.55** Inheritance Tracks **5.00** Lord Edgware Dies **5.30** Keep On Running **6.00** Anything Legal **6.30** Stop Messing About! **7.00** In And Out Of The Kitchen **7.30** Dark Matter **7.45** Valley Of The Dolls **8.00** Just A Minute **8.30** Snap **9.00** The Baby Grand **10.00** Comedy Club: Mark Steel's In Town **10.30** Comedy Club: Rudy's Rare Records **11.00** Comedy Club: The News Quiz **11.30** Comedy Club: Danny Robins Music Therapy **12midn't** Radiolab **12.55** Inheritance Tracks **1.00** Lord Edgware Dies **1.30** Keep On Running **2.00** Anything Legal **2.30** Stop Messing About! **3.00** In And Out Of The Kitchen **3.30** Dark Matter **3.45** Valley Of The Dolls **4.00** Just A Minute **4.30** Snap **5.00** The Baby Grand

BBC 5 Live

6am 5 Live Breakfast **9.00** 6-0-6 **11.00** Naga Munchetty **1pm** Gethin Jones **4.00** 5 Live Drive **7.00** 5 Live Sport **9.00** 5 Live Sport: 5 Live Cricket **10.00** Rima Ahmed **1am** Dotun Adebayo **5.00** Wake Up To Money

BBC 6 Music

7.30am Nemone **10.30** Mary Anne Hobbs **1pm** Craig Charles **4.00** Steve Lamacq's Teatime Session **7.00** New Music Fix Daily **9.00** Riley & Coe **11.00** 6 Music Artist in Residence: Floating Points **12midn't** Underworld Live **2.00** Underworld At The BBC **3.00** The First Time With Karl Hyde **4.00** Underworld Playlist **5.00** Chris Hawkins

Classic FM

6.30am Classic FM Breakfast With Dan Walker **9.00** The Classic FM Hall Of Fame Hour With Dan Walker **10.00** Alexander Armstrong **1pm** Anne-Marie Minhall **4.00** Margherita Taylor **7.00** Relaxing Evenings **10.00** Calm Classics **1am** Bill Overton **4.00** Early Breakfast

Absolute Radio

6am Dave Berry **10.00** Leona Graham **1pm** Ben Burrell **4.00** Bush And Richie **7.00** Danielle Perry **10.00** Jay Lawrence **1am** Dan Noble

Heart

6.30am Heart Breakfast With Jamie Theakston And Amanda Holden **10.00** Pandora Christie **1pm** Matt Wilkinson **4.00** JK And Kelly Brook **7.00** Heart's Feel Good Weekend With Dev Griffin **10.00** Fia Tarrant **1am** Heart's Feel Good Weekend With Jonny Meah **4.00** Early Breakfast With Lindsey Russell

TalkSPORT

6am TalkSPORT Breakfast With Jeff Stelling **10.00** Jim White And Simon Jordan **1pm** Hawksbee And Jacobs **4.00** TalkSPORT Drive With Andy Goldstein And Darren Bent **7.00** Kick Off **10.00** Sports Bar **1am** Extra Time



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Panorama

Around the world in 10 stories



UNITED STATES

\$10m battle to save lighthouse

The race is on to keep a 150-year-old lighthouse from crumbling into the Hudson River in New York state.

Wooden pilings beneath the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse are deteriorating, and the structure, built in the middle of the river when steamboats still plied the water, is starting to shift. Its preservation society is trying to quickly raise \$10m (£7.8m) to save the lighthouse.

Across the US, there were around 1,500 lighthouses at the beginning of the 20th century. Only about 800 remain. AP

UAE

Crown Prince is head of defence

The Crown Prince of Dubai has been appointed as defence minister for the United Arab Emirates as part of a broader cabinet shuffle.

The 41-year-old Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid al-Maktoum, who has served as Dubai's Crown Prince since 2008, was also named as one of the UAE's deputy prime ministers.

Sheikh Hamdan, who goes by the nickname Fazza, is a popular member of Dubai's ruling family and has 16.4 million Instagram followers. Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed al-Nahyan, the foreign minister, was also appointed deputy prime minister. REUTERS

SYRIA

Soldier killed in Israeli strikes on Damascus

By Conrad Smith

A Syrian soldier was killed and three others injured in Israeli air strikes against military sites and a residential building in Damascus yesterday, the Syrian army said.

The army said that the attacks

were launched from the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.

For years Israel has attacked what it has described as Iran-linked targets in Syria, where Tehran's influence has grown after it supported President Bashar al-Assad in the civil war that started in 2011. Israeli strikes on Syria rose after war broke out in Gaza in October.

The strikes targeted "a number of military sites in the southern region and one of the residential buildings in the Kafar Souseh area," the Syrian army said.

Postcard From... Mombasa

Dressed in protective clothing and armed with a smoker, Peter Nyongesa walked through the mangroves to monitor his beehives along the Indian Ocean coastline.

Nyongesa, 69, recalled how he would plead unsuccessfully with loggers to spare the mangroves. "But they would retort the trees do not belong to anyone but God," he said.

So he has turned to deterring the loggers with bees hidden in the mangroves. Their hives now dot a section of coastline in Kenya's main port of Mombasa in an effort to deter people who chop mangroves for firewood.

"When people realise that something is beneficial to them, they do not consider the harm that comes with it," Nyongesa said of the loggers.

Mangroves help to prevent erosion and absorb the impact of severe weather events such as cyclones.

But more than half of the world's mangrove ecosystems are at risk of collapse, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List of Ecosystems.

Mangroves are threatened by illegal logging, climate change and rising seas, pollution and urban development.

Kenya's environment ministry said in 2018 that about 40 per cent of mangroves along the Indian Ocean coast were degraded. AP

Zelipha Kirobi

ITALY

Venice tourism tax set to return after it raises €2m

By Colleen Barry
IN VENICE

Venice concluded a pilot scheme yesterday, under which day-trippers were charged a €5 entrance fee, more than €2m (£1.7m) richer and determined to extend the levy. But controversy about the charge continues, with its opponents calling the experiment a failure.

"The ticket is a failure, as demonstrated by city data," said Giovanni Andrea Martini, an opposition member of the city council.

Over the first 11 days of the trial period, an average of 75,000 visitors were recorded in Venice. Mr Martini



An official checks a tourist has paid the levy outside the main train station

said that was 10,000 more per day than on three indicative holidays in 2023.

Venice imposed the long-discussed

day-tripper tax on 29 days this year, mostly weekends and holidays, from 25 April until mid-July.

The project was welcomed by Unesco member states when they decided against a recommendation to place the city on its list of world heritage sites in danger.

Over the past 10 weeks, more than 247,000 tourists have paid the tax, raising revenues estimated at €2.19m.

The levy was not applied to people staying in hotels in Venice.

The city's senior tourism official, Simone Venturini, has indicated that the levy will be continued and reinforced. A proposal to double the fee to €10 is being considered next year. AP



Washing away his sins

A Hindu devotee in Bali, Indonesia, bathes during the cleansing ritual called banyu pinaruh, which is believed to purify the body and soul, at the Tirta Empul temple's sacred spring in Gianyar yesterday.

JOHANNES CHRISTO/
REUTERS

NORTH KOREA

Kim sacks officials linked to 'socialist utopia' project

By Hyonhee Shin
IN SEOUL

North Korea's leader, Kim Jong-un, has sacked or demoted some senior officials for their "irresponsible" handling of his flagship project to build a new town in the country's north, state media reported yesterday.

Mr Kim announced the decision while visiting Samjiyon, where

North Korea has been building what it called a "socialist utopia" and "a model of highly civilised mountain city" with apartments, hotels, a ski resort and commercial, cultural and medical facilities.

While praising builders for their achievements so far, Mr Kim said the irresponsibility of senior officials had caused a series of serious deviations including poor construction work

and financial losses. He singled out Ri Sun-chol, minister of state construction control, as a "good-for-nothing person" who had not visited the site since December, suspending him and calling for a formal investigation.

Mr Kim also suspended the project's inspection committee, demoted a ruling Workers' Party official responsible for the matter, and vowed to re-examine others' duties. REUTERS

MIDDLE EAST

EU frigate downs drone in Red Sea

The European Union's naval mission protecting ships crossing the Red Sea said its frigate *Psara* had destroyed an unmanned aerial drone in the Gulf of Aden early yesterday.

The *Aspides* mission began in February in response to drone and missile attacks by Iranian-aligned Houthi militants. The Houthis describe the attacks as acts of solidarity with Palestinians in Israel's war in Gaza. REUTERS

ITALY

Indian 'slave' workers freed

Italy's tax police freed 33 Indian farm workers from "slave-like working conditions" in the northern province of Verona and seized almost €500,000 (£420,000) from two alleged gangmasters.

The alleged abusers, also Indian, persuaded men to come to Italy, paying €17,000 each to obtain permits.

The men were then obliged to work up to 12 hours a day, seven days a week and paid €4 per hour, in conditions police described as "slavery".

MALAYSIA

Tiger deaths signal emergency

A recent spate of deaths has heightened fears for the Malayan tiger, with some calling the threat a national emergency.

Native to the jungles of peninsular Malaysia, the feline subspecies is critically endangered, with fewer than 150 believed to be left in the wild due to habitat loss and poaching.

Tiger numbers have plummeted since the 1950s, when around 3,000 roamed the country.

LIFESTYLE

Want to 'work from the beach' for the summer? Consider this...

Six million of us aim to mix the daily grind with travel, but there are drawbacks, writes **Chris Stokel-Walker**

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Summer traditionally meant the great work switch-off, as getaways were booked and automatic out-of-office email replies were turned on. But this year could be different.

Six million of us plan to "work from the beach" over the summer months, combining work with pleasure as we seek to take advantage of more generous remote working policies implemented since the coronavirus pandemic.

That's the finding of a survey by the price comparison website MoneySuperMarket, which suggests that offering flexible work policies are a key factor in whether staff chose to join and stay with companies.

So don't be surprised if your colleague logs into a meeting from a French campsite, or an Airbnb in Scotland - Wi-Fi dependent, of course.

The jury is still out on work-from-anywhere policies, though. Of those surveyed, a third believed that it made them more productive, while a quarter of the same workers surveyed believed that the ability to crack open the laptop at the poolside or on the beach made them less productive.

"I've been using my company's remote work policy for a couple of years now," says Jessie, an office worker in her twenties from the Midlands, who asked not to use her full name or the company she worked for because she was worried about repercussions from her employer.

"It's great because I don't use up my holiday days but still get to see new places," she explains.

Over the past two years, Jessie has worked remotely during city breaks in Spain and Portugal and taken advantage of cheaper travel costs to book her trips outside of school holidays.

Jessie admits that she is not chained to her laptop the whole time she is abroad, but believes that her bosses are not



disadvantaged by the relationship. She plans her schedule around meetings, and regularly checks emails while visiting museums and restaurants.

She points out that in the office, her colleagues will often spend parts of their day listlessly scrolling through social media or news websites rather than working on the task at hand.

"I get what needs to be done, and don't think the business has been harmed from me working abroad," she says.

Yet there are benefits and drawbacks to the flexibility afforded by remote working. As a freelance journalist, my work is very flexible. And the boon of technology means that I can do large swathes of my work on the move, too. That means I'm able to work while abroad - which in turn, pays for my trips.



Some workers check their emails and social media while on holiday to alleviate the stress of confronting a groaning inbox upon their return to work
XAVIER AMAU/
GETTY

Take a recent trip to Germany. I did an interview about artificial intelligence technology for BBC Radio, stood outside a pub on my way to the airport, recorded another interview for Times Radio while sitting in the departure lounge of the airport, and then wrote a story on the plane.

Later in that trip, I did a BBC television interview from a riverside park using my laptop, propped up on a bin.

That trip was part-business, part-leisure, but there have been plenty of other examples of time when I've brought work on my actual holiday.

I twice did my weekly slot on Times Radio, rounding up the latest news in technology, at 8.45am from a hotel room in Las Vegas before setting off for the day.

Most recently, I did an interview from the passenger seat of my



In a survey, a quarter of workers believed that the ability to crack open their laptop on the beach made them less productive

SOREN EGEBERG/CAVAN/GETTY

car, parked in a National Trust car park near the Cotswolds while my partner explored the site. I joined her around 20 minutes later, after getting some odd looks from several ramblers.

The justification I use for working while travelling is twofold: one, is that it helps to fund the holidays – or parts of them. There is a certain smug joy in knowing the nice meal you are eating that evening was paid for by the work you squeezed in while waiting for your partner to get ready.

And in my line of work, to be uncontactable is as good as being dead to your bosses.

Yet the work is always tinged with guilt that I am never fully switched off from work during the holiday I've paid so much for. The fancy evening meal we had booked for that trip to the Cotswolds was spoiled by an urgent set of meetings.

And while the early morning radio interview didn't affect things too much, we would have left our Vegas hotel room half an hour earlier if it wasn't in my calendar.

That muddling of on-off-time is a concern for Stefan Stern, a visiting professor in management practice at the Bayes Business School in London.

Employees must be honest about hours worked not just toying with their laptop from their hammock

"We need to be clear if people are on holiday or not," he says. "Of course, there needs to be greater flexibility for workers, and good bosses will trust their people to meet deadlines and carry out necessary tasks. And these days much of this work can be carried out anywhere, even on a beach."

But it can lead to some people swinging the metaphorical lead.

"In return for that trust, employees have to be honest about how many hours of actual work they are going to be doing," he says, "not just toying with their laptop occasionally from their hammock."

Stern doesn't just worry about less than truthful staff claiming they will be working a full eight hours while on a sojourn and ending up spending more time propping up the bar than checking Microsoft Teams. He is concerned about the quality of work that happens, as well as the quantity.

"Work is work and leisure is leisure," he says. "It is hard to do both at the same time."

Stern did admit to checking his emails and social media while on holiday to alleviate the stress of confronting a groaning inbox upon his return to work. But it's nothing more than that – in part because his holidays are well earned, and he wants to make the most of them.

"I try to make sure I am not working if and when my family wants my presence or attention – which they still occasionally do, apparently," he says.

HEALTH

Why I'll stop giving my kids multivitamin supplements

Warmer weather can disturb children's sleep, but there is a better way to improve matters, finds **Genevieve Roberts**

Hot weather brings predictable excuses to dip in the sea any time (from me); excuses not to dip in the sea unless it's more than 30°C on the beach (my husband Mark); and children sleeping badly. Parents nationwide become increasingly desperate at this time of year because children tend to sleep badly on light evenings, especially when it's muggy.

My children are not reliable sleepers anyway, so I know not to blame the weather any more than I blame the day of the week. This summer, though, I've noticed many parents claiming that supplements will provide the answer to all ailments. Once, disrupted sleep would have led to recommendations for blackout curtains. Now, it's magnesium. Lack of sun? Vitamin D. Lack of concentration? Fish oils.

But how much of it is true? Are our children really in need of extra supplements? I buy vitamin gummy sweets over the winter months, which the children love, and probiotics only when they take antibiotics, though I frequently wonder whether giving them more regularly would shore up their immune systems.

Last month, the health technology brand Zoe launched its first wholefood supplement made with 32 types of plants and fungus, which is also recommended for children. But Federica Amati, the chief nutritionist at Zoe, gives an eye roll over Zoom when I mention magnesium supplements.

"Circadian rhythms are locked into daylight exposure," she explains. "So it's natural that children have more trouble sleeping. It's not a problem. If a child's diet is lacking in magnesium, adding a banana after dinner is a good way to increase levels. A supplement is not the answer, a good variety of magnesium-rich foods is better."

Magnesium is found in so many breakfast foods – cereals, wholemeal bread, oats, bananas, nuts, seeds, greens, carrots and apples – that I wonder if this is why late-night breakfasts are so popular.

A spokeswoman for the British Dietetic Association, paediatric dietitian and feeding therapist Lucy Upton, is similarly sceptical. She says: "Magnesium has become the trendy new supplement on the block, but at the moment there isn't much evidence to suggest that lots of children in the UK fall short of it."

Amati is more positive about probiotic supplements for gut health – especially after a child has taken antibiotics. She often gives them to her daughters over the winter. But she believes that eating a diet rich in natural yoghurt and kefir would be just as effective.

Natalie Yerlett, a specialist paediatric dietitian, wants more



Mark and Genevieve Roberts would like their children to eat more omega-3

probiotic research. "There are emerging studies looking at the use in infants and children with various medical conditions," she says. "For healthy children we don't yet have concrete evidence of [probiotics'] effectiveness and safety, particularly what strain and at what dose."

Amati says that lactoferrin, a protein found in breast milk that helps the body overcome viral infections, has become a popular supplement among parents. However, it is also found in kefir and yoghurt. "It serves as an indicator of quality in dairy," she explains. "I'll be checking labels more carefully."

I would love it if my children ate more omega-3. But every time I serve fish and tell the children that it is important for their brains, Astrid nods her head towards our fish tank (unfortunately, just by our kitchen table), and says that she is thinking of our pets. We then end up making her something she is more likely to eat, such as noodles or sausages. This happens at least twice a month.

I learn from the dietitians that omega-3 is found in prawns, flaxseed, chia, walnuts and eggs too, though you get more than eight times the amount of omega-3 in a 100g serving of oily fish and only need eat it twice a week (salmon gives 2,150mg; mackerel 4,580mg) compared with an egg (70mg, just over a quarter of the recommended daily intake of 250mg).

"If you're having no oily fish at all, it is worth supplementing because it is so critical for brain development, memory and cognition," Amati says.

Upton agrees, saying: "There is some research to suggest potential benefits in children with neurodevelopmental differences, such as ADHD. When choosing a supplement, go for something with omega-3 fatty acids DHA (docosahexaenoic acid) and EPA

If a child's diet is lacking in magnesium a banana after dinner is good. A supplement is not the answer

(eicosapentaenoic acid) – and an algae version if your child doesn't consume fish. Don't jump to cod liver oil – often, this contains too much vitamin A and not enough of the key omega-3 fats."

All the dietitians mention the importance of vitamin D in winter. "Stick to the recommended NHS amount," Amati advises, adding: "In summer, the vitamin D we make with safe sun exposure is more beneficial than supplements."

The NHS recommends that all children aged six months to five years, except infants consuming more than 500ml of infant formula, take a daily vitamin and mineral supplement that contains at least 400 international units (IU) of vitamins D, A and C.

While it might feel reassuring for parents to buy a broader spectrum daily multivitamin, Amati recommends steering clear. She says: "I don't see the need in children unless there are medical problems. There's no evidence to suggest they have the same effect as a balanced diet – and often they give a false sense of security."

Yerlett cautions against increasing doses without consulting a doctor or dietitian, saying: "Some vitamins and minerals may be harmful if not needed, especially in high doses. Vitamin D is fat soluble; high doses will be stored in the liver and lead to toxicity."

She suggests that children following a vegan or vegetarian diet should ensure that they are getting enough calcium, iron, B12 and iodine. But all dietitians emphasise a healthy diet over supplements.

"Ensure your little one gets iron-rich foods from plant or animal sources, and aim for three portions of calcium-rich food per day minimum," says Yerlett. "Omega-3 fats from olive or seed oils, nuts, tofu, olives can be included regularly and oily fish such as salmon and mackerel twice a week maximum."

I'll be stocking up on bananas and oats – and definitely no multivitamins – ready for the next promised heatwave.

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Gill Martin takes glamping to new heights with a focus on activity, self-sufficiency and relaxation in the Land of the Rising Sun

When Mount Fuji has her hat on, so ancient legend goes, it will rain. And so, it did. A mantle of cloud over the 3,776-metre summit announced a day of raining cats, dogs and Japanese dragons.

This changeable cyclone season did not bode well for a transition from the luxury of a traditionally built guest house with a rare *Kirizuma-zukuri*-style roof and ornate wooden carvings.

The guest house, which dominates Glamping Villa Hanz in Kawaguchiko, dates back to the 1550s and was rebuilt in 1840. Its look is *Chumon-zukuri*, a traditional Japanese architectural style that was prominent during the Heian period (794-1185). *Chumon-zukuri* is associated with the construction of residential palaces for the aristocracy.

The accommodation has a wine cellar, a Japanese-style bath (space for you and friends), *Zashiki* rooms with guest seating and intricate Japanese calligraphy, a *Fukinuke* atrium, a bar and a terrace to enjoy breakfast with a view of Mt Fuji.

Why swap the comfort of leather sofas, deep pile rugs, a crackling firepit and comfy bed for a damp clearing in the forest with rivulets of rainwater gushing past? Not to mention the bears.

But this was an adventure, a chance to chop wood for the barbecue, then cook supper – chicken hotpot and skewers of meat, vegetables, strawberries and marshmallows – and to shrug off urban life. And, thankfully, this was no ordinary campsite.

Villa Hanz Glamping hints at the luxuries in store – there are cabin-style “villas”, a guest house,

I did nothing riskier than paddle a canoe across Lake Kawaguchiko



The view of Mount Fuji from canoes on Lake Kawaguchiko
GLAMPING VILLA HANZ

A picture-perfect stop at Japan's sacred symbol

and a collection of *paos* that look more like a domed space craft than tents.

There would be stargazing, canoeing, archery and cycling around the Fuji Five Lake region, a popular leisure destination among Tokyoites and international tourists for its proximity to the mountain, outdoorsy activities – and, in winter, snow sports.

I was looking forward to bathing in an onsen, a reviving hot spring bath filled with Fuji water that has seeped through the volcanic rock over millennia. At Glamping Villa Hanz, a barrel sauna, Jacuzzi, cinema and amphitheatre complete the decadent picture.

After a fortifying slug of saki, I set off on a short walk through the trees with an overnight bag to the campsite of 16 paos, all with kitchens and a barbecue area.

The accommodation is in Fujikawaguchiko, two hours southwest of Tokyo, with a serene lakeside landscape of towering cedars and red pines, home to flying squirrels, eagles, dormice and

noisy frogs. It is a popular resort town on the fringes of Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park and the snow-capped stratovolcano that draws legions of tourists.

Japan has had a sharp increase in visitors since it reopened to tourism after the pandemic, with more than three million estimated in April this year – up from 1.9 million last April.

A highly favourable exchange rate for British tourists contributed to the UK representing the highest proportion of European visitors last year.

At one Mount Fuji viewing location, next to a Fujikawaguchiko convenience store, a barrier was erected to prevent litter-dropping crowds from gathering in May this year. Not so at Villa Hanz. Guests staying in the villas open their doors to a view of the snow-capped peak.

In the woodlands, I entered my pao through a proper door. There were reindeer hides and a bed big enough for a family, a springy mattress with Egyptian sheets and a downy duvet to snuggle under as the rain dripped down.

With no brolly, it was a relief, in all senses, to be able to take three steps to an outside cabin with a shower, five-star hotel toiletries and an all-singing-dancing-flushing lavatory.

The following morning, I listened to the beating of early bird wings and scuttling of dormice. Sleep was elusive so I rose with the dawn chorus to the sun rising on Mount Fuji, casting a golden, glowing light on her snow cap. Magical.

Mount Fuji, Japan's sacred symbol and a World Heritage Site, is a magnet for thousands of climbers and trekkers. Sadly, the



Glamping Villa Hanz's geodesic domed 'pao' and the resort (below)

mountain claimed another three lives during our summer stay.

I did nothing riskier than hike alongside a thundering gorge, join pilgrims climbing hundreds of steps to fascinating shrines and paddle a canoe across shimmering Lake Kawaguchiko.

My guide, Toi, ground coffee for a picnic and served his own honey on crackers. “I love canoeing by the mountain. I want to share that happiness,” he smiled as eagles wheeled above us.

With a motto of “relax if you can”, the emphasis at Glamping Villa Hanz is on activity, self-sufficiency and relaxation. I managed most, with some light wood chopping, stirring breakfast scrambled eggs, barbecue duty and sinking craft beers and saki.

There was tea, too. I dressed up in a *yukata*, the more casual version of the formal silk *kimono*, for a traditional tea ceremony at the old guest house under the strict eye of 80-year-old Sensei Ogiso, from Yokohama. Tea is regarded as a sacred gift from god. It is “medicine and good for health”, she said. The session lasted for two-and-a-half hours.

Travel essentials

Getting there

The writer flew with **British Airways** from Heathrow to Tokyo-Haneda. Return flights are priced from £952, ba.com.

A direct train from Tokyo to Kawaguchiko station is priced from ¥2,360 (£11.50) and takes 70 minutes

Staying there

Glamping Villa Hanz has pao tents sleeping two from ¥32,000 (£159) a night, room only, and villas sleeping four from ¥86,570 (£431), gv-hanz.com

More information

fujisan.ne.jp/en
japan.travel

The yukata felt snug thanks to the *matcha* buns, *hoto* noodles, *suiton* flour dumplings, shrimp tempura, regional cuisine and wines that I had enjoyed at the first annual wine festival held at Oike Park, on the shores of Lake Kawaguchiko.

It was organised by Kuradashi Wine Bar, once a traditional brewery, to celebrate 200 aged wines from 35 winemakers of Yamanashi, Japan's foremost wine-producing region.

We even tracked down a winery that exports to the UK: Grace Wine. Its offering received the Platinum Award at the Decanter World Wine Awards. “Kampai”, or Cheers, to that. Bear had been on the menu, but I'd given this a miss. I preferred to let them roam on the slopes of sleeping Mount Fuji with her rain hat.



BBC | lemonada

POP CULTURE

DEBATE CLUB

with Aminatou Sow

New from BBC Sounds is **Pop Culture Debate Club** – a lively examination of the cultural experiences that shape us.

It's helmed by the US podcast host and cultural commentator Aminatou Sow (and made in conjunction with Meghan Markle's new pod producer Lemonada), and each week two fans from inside the industry compete to convince her of their strongly held opinions on topics such as the best food in a film, the best sports movie ever made and the TV cast you most want to be friends with.

Light-hearted yet passionate, this is a great listen for anyone who wants to brush up on their pop culture knowledge – or, of course, has particularly punchy views themselves.

Lili Butler



Roger McGough loves to list the megastars he met in his 60s heyday.

This was when he was maintaining parallel careers: one as a poet appearing on learned discussion shows such as BBC Two's Joan Bakewell-hosted *Late Night Line-Up*; the other as part of The Scaffold, the musical trio from Liverpool who, thanks to hits including "Thank U Very Much" and "Lily the Pink", were regulars on *Top of the Pops*.

"We came down to London to record a song, and one of the session singers was called Reg Dwight," McGough says, referring to the artist known as Elton John. "Jimi Hendrix played on one of our albums. Graham Nash [of The Hollies and Crosby, Stills & Nash] sings on a verse on "Lily the Pink", and Keith Moon played drums on something."

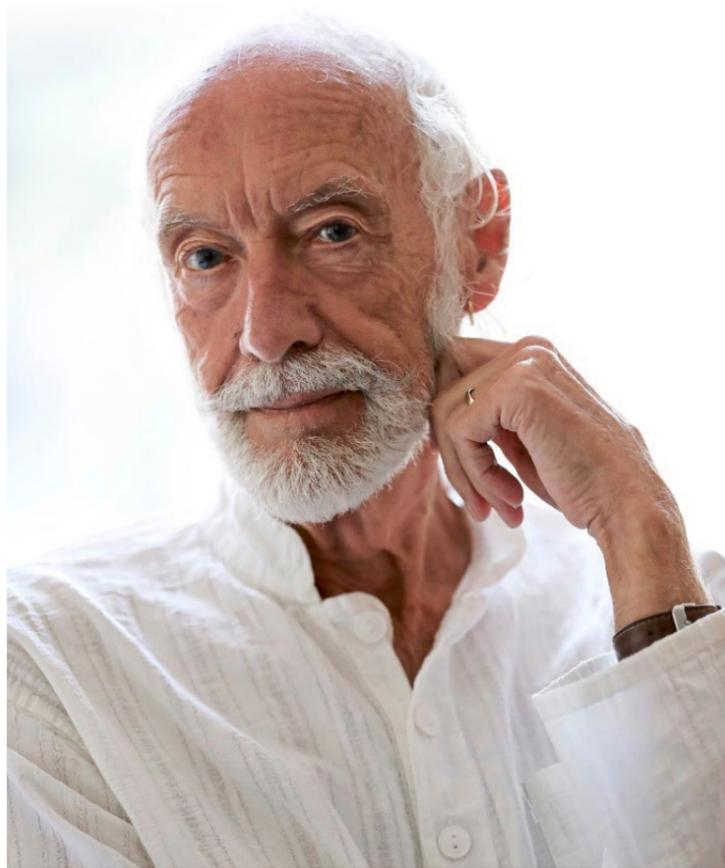
He hung out with Bob Dylan when he came to Liverpool. "He was incredibly envious of the poetry scene. And John and Paul would come to our readings."

That would be Lennon and McCartney; the latter's brother Mike McCartney, a trainee hairdresser who adopted the stage name Mike McGear, was a fellow member of The

What was funny in the 1970s is not any more

The poet Roger McGough tells **Fiona Sturges** about the 60s Liverpool poetry scene, getting advice from Philip Larkin, and appearing on "Top of the Pops"

Roger McGough in Scaffold with John Gorman and Mike McGear (left) in 1970; the poet today (right)
GAB ARCHIVE/REDFERNS; NICK WRIGHT



A lot of my poems tell imagined stories, though there's usually some reality too

Scaffold, along with John Gorman. Brian Epstein was their manager.

I meet McGough in a café around the corner from his home in Barnes, south-west London, where he has lived since the 1980s; when he moved here with his second wife, Hilary, he was worried it was “too posh” for a Liverpool lad.

Sporting a neat white beard and a single gold earring, he recently got back from Glastonbury where he went to support a dramatised production of his poem “The Sound Collector”, and performed some spoken word shows. A first timer at the age of 86, he was boggled by the festival's size.

“Luckily people were very friendly, and every time me and my wife were lost, they would stop to help and say, ‘Have you got the app?’ And I’d say, ‘What’s an app?’”

McGough’s pop career is behind him now, but he remains, as Carol Ann Duffy once put it, Britain’s “patron saint of poetry”, with over 100 books to his name.

His first title, *Summer with Monika*, a portrait of a romance in verse, was warmly received, but it was *The Mersey Sound*, an anthology also featuring fellow Liverpool poets Brian Patten and Adrian Henri, with its provincial preoccupations and down-to-earth wit, that brought him to the masses, becoming one of the biggest-selling poetry books of all time.

Thanks to The Beatles, Liverpool was the place to be back then. “Everyone was looking for the next new thing. You would walk around and see film cameras filming.”

While McGough had a ball rubbing shoulders with the great and good of the 60s counterculture, he “never for a moment thought I was a musician”. Ever the quiet observer, he was more likely to be found on the sidelines gathering inspiration for poems such as “Hey Dude”, which finds its author sitting in Paul McCartney’s living room as the Beatle road-tests a new song.

As the poem tells it, when McCartney revealed the title “Hey Dude”, McGough “had to think on my feet, so I stood up and said ‘What about “Hey Jude”, you know, use a girls’ name?’” Did that happen?

“Oh no,” he grins. “It’s true that I was staying at Paul’s house [in London] – me and Mike used to stay there a lot when he was away. But this time he was there, and he came down in his dressing gown to play us a bit of this new song called “Hey Jude”. He wasn’t asking our opinion, it was more, ‘See what I’ve done.’ A lot of my poems tell imagined stories, though there is usually some reality in them too.”

We are here to talk about McGough’s new book, *The Collected Poems 1959-2024*, that reflects “the arc of my life and early memories”. He found it emotional, looking back over his life and remembering darker times, including the break-up of his first marriage as portrayed in “Holiday on Death Row” – “Wife, downstairs midnight, putting cholesterol in his Flora, decide their life together had become anathema.”

It was one of several poems which, while assembling the new book, he deemed “too brutal, so

I had to go back and soften [it].” McGough says it’s not unusual for him to revise his older poems “because a lot of things that seemed funny in the 1970s are not funny any more. As I say in the foreword, anyone who wants the originals can find them in charity shops.”

McGough’s father, who worked on the docks in Liverpool, didn’t live to see his son become a published poet, having died at 53. McGough imagines he would have been baffled by his choice of career.

“It’s not very masculine, is it? At home, I was always being called sensitive. Roger’s a bit nervous and sensitive,” they would say. There was also this fear of the establishment, and poetry was seen as establishment in those days.”

At school, McGough failed his English literature O-level. He hadn’t read the books. It was a recording of Richard Burton reading Dylan Thomas’s *Under Milk Wood* that first switched him on to poetry. That and his mother sending him for elocution lessons “to get rid of the Liverpool accent.”

Having to stand up and read Tennyson’s “The Charge of the Light Brigade”, with its rhythmic “Half a league, half a league, half a league onward”, introduced him to the idea of poetry as performance. Later, he was beguiled by left-wing poets Adrian Mitchell and Christopher Logue. He particularly liked Logue for his anti-war stance and his love of Gauloises cigarettes. So he made poetry look cool? “Yes exactly,” says McGough. “For the first time I thought, ‘Well, I could do that.’”

McGough studied French and Geography at Hull University but wrote poetry on the side. He was encouraged by the university librarian, one Philip Larkin. “He told me:

‘You and poetry walk a surrealist tightrope, which on occasion you fall off. But I advise getting back on the rope,’” he recalls.

“I mean I’d rather he’d said, ‘Here’s my publisher’ but still, I was quite chuffed.” Larkin followed McGough’s post-university career with interest – after graduating, he worked as a schoolteacher but gave up after four years – and the pair stayed in touch.

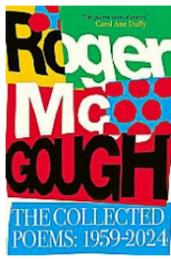
“Later on, he would say ‘I was disturbed to see your new book in the library is more thumbed than mine. Keep up the good work.’”

Not everyone has been as appreciative. Some purists have looked down their nose at McGough’s accessible, witty style, put to excellent use in poems such as “Lady Godiva” – “Here lies Lady Godiva, she didn’t wear a bra or knickers iva”.

McGough recalls *The Poetry Review* magazine once declaring there were too many people writing poetry. “They were saying it’s a difficult art which has to be practised and learnt, that it’s not for just anyone. So there was a lot of snobbishness. But less so now.”

McGough has long been a champion of new poetry, introducing the nation to young poets as the mel-low-voiced host of Radio 4’s long-running series *Poetry Please*. Radio is his preferred medium, since listeners can’t see him.

“I quite like being on stage but I don’t like being looked at,” he says of spoken word performance. Would it be better if everyone turned their back? “That would make it easier, yes,” says McGough. “The poem’s the thing, you see, not the performer. For me, it’s about the words.”



The Collected Poems 1959-2024 by Roger McGough is published by Viking (25.99)

The weekend's television

RACHAEL SIGEE



Carr's coming-of-age comedy captures youthful naivety

» **Changing Ends** ITV1, Saturday 9pm ★★★★★

The story of an exceedingly camp boy growing up in the East Midlands, in the 80s, with a football manager dad and not many friends, has “gritty *bildungsroman*” written all over it. How many others follow a youngster just trying to hang onto his identity until adulthood can propel him into a world that understands him better?

But Alan Carr’s semi-autobiographical sitcom **Changing Ends** is not that story. While young Alan is still an outlier in his conservative hometown, his spirit (that of a 75-year-old woman) remains uncrushed in this warm and witty coming-of-age comedy.

The first series was a surprise hit last year and was recently upped to a terrestrial broadcast after first airing on streaming platform ITVX. Now series two has a 9pm Saturday night slot and Carr is back (sadly without his co-writer, the late Simon Carlyle) with more tales of his childhood idiosyncrasies bumping up against 80s conventionality.

The opening double bill returned us to 1987 Northampton, reintroducing us to an almost-12-year-old Alan, brilliantly played by Oliver Savell (*Belfast*) whose performance is so much more than the sum of his thick-rimmed specs, false teeth and distinct voice (again, that of a 75-year-old woman). Still not quite the son his father (Shaun Dooley) expected, Alan is content to spend his Saturday afternoons



Oliver Savell is brilliant as a young Carr in this sitcom set in the 80s

intermittently appears as himself to deliver fourth-wall-breaking commentary – has said that he wanted to capture “the calm before the storm” of his youthful naivety before sexuality came into the mix, and the series does just that.

While it is not as edgy as, say Jack Rooke’s *Big Boys* – another semi-autobiographical comedy about a young gay man told with niche cultural references by a droll older self – there is something refreshing about the way Carr refuses to allow his narrative to fall prey to the darkness that skirts around its edges.

Potential future heartbreak is there: Alan’s best friend Kay’s obvious affections are clearly misplaced, the school bullies make rudimentary homophobic jibes and concern occasionally flickers across his mother’s face at her son’s eccentricities. But Alan is largely oblivious and resolutely himself: on receiving goalie gloves from his father, he was unperturbed, instead delighted with his new serving gloves “perfect for hot and cold platters!”

This is a series that pleasantly mines the comedy of small stakes: it doesn’t take much for a small town to be whipped into a frenzy nor does a pre-teen need any encouragement to be melodramatic. A few of the gags were obvious and a joke about the Kardashians – told by the older Carr – felt out of place, but there were plenty of solid laughs (like Val mixing up Helen Keller and Christine Keeler).

From its nod to classic British sitcom sensibility to the beautifully realised 80s nostalgia (via enormous mobile phones and cheese and pineapple hedgehogs), *Changing Ends* is written and performed with such love that it’s hard not to be won over by its ample charms.

There is something refreshing about the way Carr refuses to fall prey to darkness

watching wrestling on the TV with his mum (Nancy Sullivan).

In episode one, caving to a little peer pressure, Alan tried to get into the cinema to see the 15-rated *Platoon*. It’s a classic teenage escapade plot made specific to this smart and strange little boy who views the acquisition of a fake ID as an opportunity to try out a new star sign.

Alan is still most comfortable in the company of adult women – dinner lady Val and drama teacher Mrs Gideon – and he was thrilled when his detective-themed 12th birthday party, the centrepiece of episode two, was hijacked by the mystery of a local neighbourhood pervert, allowing him to go full Agatha Christie.

Carr – who narrates and

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Arts review

POP

Stevie Nicks

BST HYDE PARK, LONDON

★★★★★

A sense of relief rippled through Hyde Park when Stevie Nicks made it on to the stage. After postponing two shows due to a leg injury and subsequent surgery, it was hard to believe the show would go ahead. But here she was, resplendent in all black, that shock of curly blonde hair framing sharp eyes that peered out through a layer of dark kohl.

The magic came on slowly, sputtering through a shaky start. Her first song – “Outside the Rain” – was a little worrying; she seemed to slur her way through it and made the line “Words don’t matter/They don’t matter at all” seem unfortunate and prescient.

But as the song segued into Fleetwood Mac fave “Dreams” and the video screens shocked from

black and white to screaming colour, Nicks seemed to come alive too.

Hyde Park has never seen such a cover: London’s women had dug out their blackest tulle and tiniest top hats to worship at the altar of Nicks. As the sun dropped, a waxing crescent moon hung over the park as if even the cosmos had turned out to see her.

Nicks’s distinctive, throaty voice required little back-up, powering through “Gypsy” like it was 1982 and absolutely belting out a cover of Tom Petty’s “Free Fallin’”. She dedicated the song to Petty, who she last saw in this very park before he died in 2017 – she performed before him on the BST billing. “I feel his presence and I know he’s with us,” she said.

Nicks loves to yap between songs – long, winding backstories about how “For What It’s Worth” was never meant to be a political song but she has decided that it is now and about her various capes



Stevie Nicks’s distinctive, throaty voice required little back-up PA

that she thought no one would be interested in, but it turns out we were interested, and very.

Each time she re-emerged draped in a different cape we were thrilled, and each was more magical and sparkle-decked than the one before. During the instrumental bit of “Stand Back”, she swished the gold number she was in around, smiling beatifically as she did. “This cape has been mended many times,” she drawled. “It’s still standing. This and Elton.”

Her band were excellent, grooving gloriously during her multiple disappearances from stage, giving us intros so long and tantalising that we thought we might die before the meat of songs like “Edge of Seventeen” burst open over us.

When Harry Styles strolled casually onto the stage for “Stop Draggin’ My Heart Around”, it took a moment for his presence to dawn but a ripple of screams soon punctuated the air. In July 2017,

Nicks had performed this song with Petty and it turned out to be their last performance together.

Grief was the theme of the encore: Nicks and Styles followed up “Draggin’” with a gorgeously devastating duet of “Landslide”, dedicated to the late Christine McVie, whose birthday it was that day. Nicks sang looking at Styles, her gaze fixed not with the soul-annihilating fury of the viral “Silver Springs” clip, but with a tender intensity that did still make you think you wouldn’t mess with Nicks when she’s in her feels.

The show ended not with a belter or even with a song: it ended with a simple acknowledgement of the mystical realm she enters when she stands on a stage and sings with thousands of people.

“It’s taken me all this time to try to deal with this situation,” Nicks said of the loss of her best friend, her voice shaking just a little.

“My mom would say when I was little, when I was hurt, I would run to the stage – so that’s what I’ve done. It’s all I can do to get over this. You’ve made me better and I want you to know how much I appreciate that. I thank you, Harry thanks you. And so we go on.”

They bowed. They waved. And they turned and went on. KATE SOLOMON

Puzzle solutions

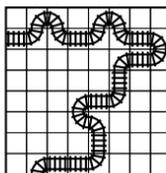
Dominoes

1	1	2	4	1	0	0	5
3	5	5	3	0	1	4	
2	6	4	6	3	6	5	0
2	6	4	3	3	0	3	1
2	4	6	3	1	6	4	1
4	3	1	5	5	2	5	6
4	0	2	2	2	0	6	0

Journey Finder

1	2	3	1	3	4
3	2	4	2	4	1
1	4	1	3	2	4
4	3	2	2	3	1
4	3	3	4	1	2
1	2	2	1	4	3

Train Tracks



Number Square

7	x	4	x	6	168
-	-	+	-	-	-
5	x	1	-	3	2
-	-	+	-	-	-
2	+	9	x	8	88
0	13	-5			

idoku

3	x	5	-	4	11
-	-	+	-	x	-
8	-	2	x	1	6
+	-	+	-	+	-
6	x	9	+	7	61
1	16	11			

Kakuro

5	6	4	9	2	7	1	3	8
2	9	7	3	1	8	5	4	6
8	1	3	6	5	4	2	7	9
4	8	1	7	6	2	3	9	5
3	5	6	4	9	1	7	8	2
7	2	9	5	8	3	4	6	1
1	3	5	8	4	6	9	2	7
9	7	8	2	3	5	6	1	4
6	4	2	1	7	9	8	5	3

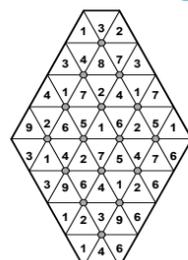
Wijuko

5	2	4
7	9	1
8	3	6

Binary

0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1
1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1
0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1
0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0

Number Hexagon



Zygolex

LEFT TO RIGHT:
flout; child; short;
relax; shout; chill; yell;
fell; fill; yelp; stuff;
bark; rough; kelp; stiff

Daily Quiz

- Empanadas
- The Gorgons
- Particulate matter (PM)
- Thomas Tallis

Word Ladder

COWS	ZANY
ROWS	MANY
RODS	MANS
RODE	MASS
ROVE	MISS
RAVE	MIST

Saturday's Codeword 3934

R	F	A	M	Q	S	U	T	G	B	L	Z	X
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
I	K	D	W	J	H	E	O	Y	C	P	V	N

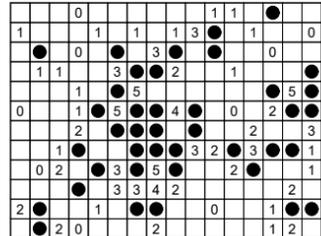
Word Wheel

NINE-LETTER WORD furthered
OTHER WORDS deer, defer, deter, err, erred, ether, ferret, free, freed, freer, fret, fur, furred, further, her, herd, here, hurt, red, reed, reef, refer, refute, refuted, rude, ruder, rue, rued, rut, there, three, tree, true, truer, turf, turfed

Killer Sudoku

1	2	7	5	6	9	4	3	8
6	5	9	3	8	4	1	2	7
3	8	4	2	1	7	6	5	9
8	9	3	7	5	1	2	4	6
4	1	2	8	3	6	9	7	5
7	6	5	4	9	2	8	1	3
5	3	1	9	2	8	7	6	4
9	7	6	1	4	3	5	8	2
2	4	8	6	7	5	3	9	1

Minesweeper



Number Tower

861
436 425
216 220 205
108 108 112 93
55 53 55 57 36
27 28 25 30 27 9
17 10 18 7 23 4 5

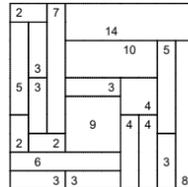
Calculatedoku

2	3	5	1	4	6
1	2	6	3	5	4
6	1	4	2	3	5
3	5	1	4	6	2
5	4	2	6	1	3
4	6	3	5	2	1

Word Square

F	I	S	H
I	O	T	A
S	T	I	R
H	A	R	E

Rectangles



Pathfinder

K	I	A	E	B	L	N	E	M	O
E	L	R	R	S	L	M	Y	I	N
S	A	T	E	T	O	L	L	O	S
N	D	S	L	I	N	K	B	I	C
E	K	B	O	H	R	E	N	G	E
S	C	A	L	L	S	T	A	T	N
S	A	G	N	E	G	P	A	L	L
B	L	R	Z	P	O	D	R	M	A
E	V	A	T	A	U	C	E	H	T
R	G	H	U	H	S	G	E	S	S

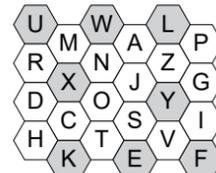
Chain Link

5	3	6	4	1	2
1	6	2	5	4	3
2	4	1	3	5	6
4	2	3	1	6	5
6	5	4	2	3	1
3	1	5	6	2	4

Futoshiki

3	<	4	2	5	1	
1	2	5	3	<	4	
4	5	1	<	2	>	3
2	1	3	<	4	5	
5	3	<	4	>	1	2

Hexalex



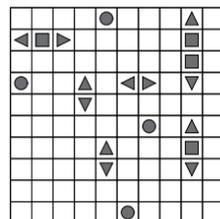
Word Fit

C	E	N	O	U	N	C	I	E	K	O	O	K	Y		
A	N	E	W	S					E	V	I	L			
M	E	T	A		G	I	A	N	T				S		
L	O	T			R	E	C	U	M	B	E	N	T		
					A	H					P	A	R	T	
					R	E	P	L	I	C	A	T	E		N
					E		R								
					A		S	A	T	U	R	A	T	E	D
					R		G								

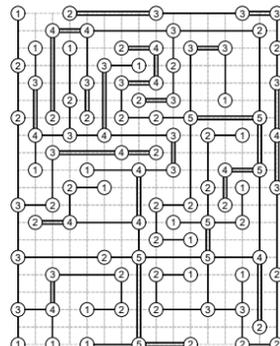
Knight's Tour

18	23	10	7	16	81	12	33	14	73
9	6	17	22	11	32	15	72	79	34
24	19	8	31	82	59	80	13	74	71
5	30	21	58	95	90	83	76	35	78
20	25	54	91	60	85	62	87	70	75
29	4	57	96	63	94	89	84	77	36
26	53	28	55	92	61	86	47	88	69
3	56	99	64	97	42	93	68	37	46
52	27	2	41	50	65	44	39	48	67
1	100	51	98	43	40	49	66	45	38

Battleships



Bridges



Word Search

P	Q	S	P	O	I	S	T	A	S	I	H	H	J	K
N	K	D	E	L	I	A	T	E	T	I	H	W	A	
P	N	F	U	X	B	O	O	T	E	D	D	W	F	C
P	C	P	U	W	H	B	T	B	Z	A	R	G		
M	B	H	T	A	O	L	Z	S	Z	A	S	K		
S	E	J	X	J	N	O	L	E	M	C	C	C	I	F
O	N	E	P	P	E	Z	S	C	A	O	D	F	F	M
L	I	N	G	O	L	Z	E	N	K	E	F	T	R	N
L	I	P	E	V	E	L	Z	O	K	A	B			
T	P	F	B	A	L	H	S	I	W	W	S	K		
A	I	F	B	L	S	P	E	D	A	M	X	S	I	
R	L	W	B	A	R	P	Y	L	R	A	X	E	P	
Y	I	H	Y	V	C	W	C	W	K	F	S	L	D	
D	H	G	E	U	J	U	E	W	M	D	T	O		
X	P	T	I	O	I	U	E	P	D	W	B	O	N	P

Five-Clue Cryptic Crossword

Across: 3 Hot-head (H), 5 Worst, 6 A-t-el-ier
Down: 1 C-H-oral-E, 2/4 Battle of wits*

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PROPERTY

House prices fall 0.4% but sector confidence is rising

By Katharine Swindells

The latest research by property website Rightmove has found that house asking prices fell by 0.4 per cent between June and July, equivalent to an average drop of £1,617.

This is a slightly larger monthly drop than usually expected at this time of year, but average asking prices are still 0.4 per cent above where they were last year.

Experts are also optimistic for the housing market moving into autumn, buoyed by political certainty and a prospective drop in interest rates.

Tim Bannister, Rightmove's director of property science, said: "Three major uncertainties hanging over the property market at the start of the year were when the first interest rate cut would be, and the timing and the result of the general election."

Matt Thompson, head of sales at Chestertons, said: "Following Labour's win, buyers felt more confident to resume their property search this month. This is well-timed as we have also seen more homeowners putting their property up for sale, giving house hunters more choice."

"Boosting buyer demand further are mortgage rates as some lenders started offering more attractive mortgage products. We therefore predict July's property market to remain busier than in previous years."

{i} The average five-year fixed mortgage rate is **still nearly twice as high** as it was before the first of 14 consecutive Bank of England interest rate increases in 2021.

The number of sales being agreed is 15 per cent above where it was this time a year ago, when mortgage rates were approaching their peak.

The average time taken to secure a buyer is now down to 59 days, compared with a peak of 78 days in January of this year.

Buyer demand remains stable, but there is a slight drop (2 per cent) in demand from first-time buyers where affordability is a particular pressure.

Current market expectations are that the first Bank of England base rate cut may be as soon as August or September, which would provide a significant boost for buyers.

Rightmove's Mr Bannister said he was optimistic that the Government would prioritise issues in the housing market, helping first-time buyers.

He said: "With many areas of the market that could be improved, we



July's property market is expected to be busier than in previous years

hope that the new government is able to get on with its plans and deliver sustainable housing policies that help the market in the medium to longer-term.

"One area of the market in need of more support is first-time buyers, many of whom have been stretched to the limit by high mortgage rates, with some also facing higher stamp duty fees when the current thresholds are set to revert in March 2025."

MANUFACTURING

Jobs growth in devolved nations rises in past year

By Alan Jones

The devolved nations of Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland have reported big growth in the number of manufacturing jobs in the past year, in contrast to most English regions, according to research.

A survey by manufacturing trade body Make UK and accountancy firm BDO showed that, in the year to March, the number of manufacturing jobs in Wales increased by 13,000, in Scotland by 10,000 and in Northern Ireland by 2,000.

Every English region had a fall in manufacturing jobs in the same period, with the East of England being the only region showing a slight rise, the study found.

The report said there was a total fall of 34,000 manufacturing jobs over the year.

It added that pressure on finding skilled people is still "severe" as 64,000 vacancies remain in the manufacturing sector.

Make UK urged the new Government to make tackling skill shortages and reforming the technical education system the centrepiece of its forthcoming industrial strategy.

Verity Davidge, director of policy at Make UK, said: "The new Government has made a welcome bold statement of its intent to tackle the UK's anaemic growth at national and regional level."

"It should now back this with a radical, cross-government, long-term industrial strategy which has measures to tackle the UK's acute skills crisis at its heart."



The 30 Second Briefing

INFLATION

Inflation (Taylor's version)

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) will publish the June Consumer Prices Index inflation data, which is expected to have stayed around 2 per cent, on Wednesday.

But economists say that when the Bank of England (BoE) looks more

closely at inflation in the hospitality and services section, it may find the month's data skewed by none other than Taylor Swift's Eras tour, which played 10 nights across UK arenas in June.

A Swift effect

The ONS inflation data use concert ticket prices during the month the event happened, not when the tickets were purchased, meaning economists anticipate the figures showing live music inflation to have doubled month-on-month to 10 per cent in June. And the concerts will have also driven higher prices in hotels and travel as well as restaurants and bars in each city.

Swift's tour isn't the only

international phenomenon having this effect: Euros football fever has also driven economic activity in pubs and restaurants which will also affect inflation figures.

BoE's cruel summer

But nervous central bankers can't enjoy the summer of Swift (pictured) as they worry about sticky inflation and decide how it will affect its decisions on interest rates, which have been held at 5.25 per cent.

James Smith, developed market economist for ING bank, said that "barring any big surprises" in the data, he is expecting the Bank to want to start cutting rates this summer. You heard him, Taylor, no more surprises.

Quote of the day



I'm optimistic that we can invest and expand our pubs. We can still open another 200, but patience is needed

Tim Martin
The JD Wetherspoon chairman on the firm's future plans

Media  on
Monday

IAN BURRELL

World's media must do more to raise
plight of women at hands of Taliban

A woman ventures outside in Kabul, where Taliban subjugation has increased in the past six months WAKIL KOHSARI/AFP

For all its reach, power and supposed sophistication, the global media machine has been outflanked by the cynical spin doctors of the Taliban.

As we approach the third anniversary of the fateful day when Taliban fighters stormed into Kabul – still one of the darkest moments of Joe Biden's presidency – this fanatical regime has all but succeeded in silencing the voices of its female population, the most repressed women on earth.

World leaders go along with this medieval oppression. When the United Nations hosted diplomats from 25 countries for talks on Afghanistan in Doha this month, it acceded to Taliban requests to exclude all Afghan women and civil leaders. The debate centred on drugs and the economy.

Zabihullah Mujahid, the head Taliban delegate and its PR chief since the 2021 coup, duly declared the event a success, a view uncritically reported by Xinhua, China's state news agency.

For most Western media the talks went unnoticed. More recent conflicts, in Ukraine and Gaza, have taken precedence on a frantic news agenda. There have been elections in the UK and France and there is a crisis in the White House.

The Talibs see this. It has made media relations a priority. Western correspondents were initially facilitated to create the facade that this latest iteration of the Taliban is more liberal. Its mullahs created accounts on X to attack the rival Islamic State and to give an illusion of approachability and modernity. And so a narrative has emerged

that the Taliban are not apocalyptic horsemen, and can be worked with. As a consequence, Afghan women have been abandoned, while the regime slowly but deliberately eliminates their basic rights.

During the past six months, the subjugation has increased. Large numbers of women have been arrested and detained after crackdowns on "bad hijab", the failure to wear a chador that reveals only the eyes.

Minority ethnicities, notably Hazaras, have been targeted. Even the suspicion of sexual abuse in custody can stigmatise an Afghan woman for life.

Girls over 12 are denied education. The Taliban's ministry

for the propagation of virtue and the prevention of vice banned women from Band-e-Amir national park. This month, video evidence emerged of a woman being gang-raped in a Taliban jail after protesting against the regime.

Human Rights Watch defines Afghanistan's treatment of women as gender persecution, a crime against humanity.

The oppression is particularly profound in the media industry, where women had a foothold during the 17-year Afghan republic but are now almost invisible.

Afghanistan's women journalists have found a way to resist. Zahra Nader broke down social barriers to work in the Kabul bureau of

The New York Times, defying taboos that prevented women from staying late at the office, travelling solo or covering attacks.

Today she runs *Zan Times* ("Zan" is Farsi for woman), a virtual newsroom of women journalists working inside Afghanistan or from exile. They air the voices of an ignored population.

"This is our way of speaking back to the Taliban," says Nader. "We want to stand up and tell our own story no matter what." The site's on-the-ground reporting of the "bad hijab" crackdown has uncovered abuses of those detained.

One 16-year-old girl took her life after telling her mother she had been "dishonoured". *Zan*

Times reporters in Afghanistan work under pseudonyms to avoid detection by Taliban spies.

"Our journalists do not know each other and only connect with editors outside of Afghanistan," says Nader, who is based in Canada.

"If we have to get comment from the Taliban we call from outside the country because we don't want any direct relationship between the Taliban and our colleagues."

After the coup, many Afghan media workers, including some working for the BBC or as British government translators, were forced to flee the country. But from abroad many continue to shine a light on their homeland.

Etilaatroz, which was Kabul's leading newspaper, functions from America as a website.

Afghanistan International, a London-based TV operation, is Afghanistan's most-watched international channel, even if the Taliban banned it in public spaces and forbade Afghans from collaborating with it.

Rukhshana Media, also based in London, is another outlet tackling gender inequality that was deep-rooted even before the Taliban. Its global team of women journalists take their name from a woman killed for leaving a forced marriage.

International media must do more to raise the plight of Afghan women. It should work with female Afghan journalists to amplify these stories. "We know the culture and the language and we have access to women's voices," says Nader.

"Let us inform the audience of what is happening on the ground in the worst country in the world for women."

Danny Rogers

on PR and
advertisingWave of
optimism
offers boost
for marketing

However you're feeling this morning, this summer has generally brought a new wave of optimism to the advertising and PR sectors in Britain.

The past couple of years have not been easy in the marketing world with political instability, a subdued economy and a cost of living crunch making both consumers and businesses cautious about their spending.

However, the latest indicators suggest we may have turned a corner. The UK economy returned to growth (0.4 per cent increase in GDP) in May after a washout month in April when activity flatlined, and last year's recession. It's likely the summer

months will have continued that optimism with a new Government winning a decisive victory on a "change" and "economic growth" ticket.

The response from advertising and PR professionals has been overwhelmingly positive to this new Labour administration, many reporting an immediate upturn in brand investment as a result of the greater energy and future visibility this has brought.

Euro 2024 has also heralded a wave of advertising and PR spend. You may have seen the extra tactical advertising over the past week alone, including fast-turnaround promotional work from brands including Budweiser, Walkers and Habitat.

British PR specifically celebrated an unusually successful Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity last month.

Specsavers' 2023 PR campaign, featuring Rick Astley to launch its hearing test service, won the coveted Grands Prix in both the global PR and Audio & Radio categories, while Edelman UK's sustainability campaign for client DP World took home a Titanium Lion.

All of which will encourage the PR and ad industries to invest further in their creative resources, which should prove a virtuous circle.

Of course challenges remain. The cost of living crisis is by

no means over in Britain with interest rates remaining high and water bills set to skyrocket.

And this continued squeeze on consumers helps explain poor business results for all types of product; from high-end fashion chains such as Burberry, to the swathe of packaged goods produced by Unilever, which last week announced 3,200 office job cuts across Europe.

But hopefully, the tide has finally turned and the six months to Christmas will prove rather more positive than it has in the two previous years.

Danny Rogers is group editor-in-chief of Brand Republic Group

The Business Matrix

The day at a glance



EMPLOYMENT

Strikes planned by security guards

Jobcentre security guards are to launch a fresh wave of strikes in a long-running dispute over pay. Members of the GMB and the Public and Commercial Services (PCS) union will walk out today until next Saturday. They will stage a rally at the Supreme Court in London on Wednesday before marching to the Department for Work and Pensions head office.

RETAIL

Burberry shares halve to 2010 level

Shares in Burberry are down by more than half over the past year, to take them back to levels last seen in 2010, ahead of its first quarter update. In full year results in May, the company revealed a 4 per cent drop in sales had turned into a one-third drop in operating profit, weak recovery in the Chinese market and concerns over luxury goods demand.

WHAT THE SUNDAY PAPERS SAID

Union hoping for Amazon vote win

More than 3,000 staff at an Amazon warehouse in Coventry were given the opportunity to vote in a historic ballot last week that could force the company to recognise a union for the first time in the UK. If the GMB union wins, it would give workers the right to negotiate with bosses over pay, hours and holidays. **The Observer**

Thames Water faces downgrade

Thames Water is facing steep penalties from Ofwat, the industry regulator, for unsanctioned dividend payments, sewage dumping and missing basic performance targets. Ofwat is also anticipating that the utility firm may soon be hit by a debt downgrade, putting the company in breach of its licence. **The Sunday Telegraph**

Rail staff boost plan considered

Labour is considering the recruitment of 100,000 rail and transport workers to address a "retirement cliff-edge" that risks leaving the sector without enough staff. Draft summary findings of the Labour-commissioned external review were shared with rail bosses and consultants last week. **The Sunday Times**

Means-tested pension proposed

The former head of the HMRC and government adviser Sir Edward Troup has floated the idea of means-testing the state pension. In a radio interview last week, Sir Edward called for pensioners to "contribute possibly more" than Britons of working age in some circumstances. **Sunday Express**

THE WEEK AHEAD

Data flurry key on wages and growth

A flurry of UK economic data will be published this week. Following the inflation figures on Wednesday, on Thursday the Office for National Statistics will publish data on wage growth, unemployment and vacancies. All of this will be taken into account by the Bank of England in its interest rates.

Retail sales to show confidence

Data on UK retail sales will be published on Friday, as will the monthly GfK consumer confidence barometer. It is hoped this month will be the fourth in a row where consumer confidence improves, as optimism about the UK economy continues to pick up post-general election.

FTSE 100 up +0.60% at 8252.9

* last week's changes

Company	Price	Wk +/-	Yield	P/E	Company	Price	Wk +/-	Yield	P/E	Company	Price	Wk +/-	Yield	P/E
3i Group	3016.0	+0.60%	2.0	7.6	Glencore	478.4	-0.97%	2.1	18.3	Rightmove	582.4	+7.34%	1.6	23.8
Admiral	2609.0	+1.01%	3.9	23.5	GSK	1517.0	+0.40%	4.0	12.5	Rio Tinto	5260.0	+0.02%	6.5	11.0
Airtel Africa	118.5	-0.34%	3.9	-35.0	Haleon	337.0	+3.53%	1.8	29.6	Rolls-Royce	450.0	-0.92%		15.6
Anglo Amer	2396.0	-1.96%	3.2		Halma	2671.0	-0.22%	0.8	43.1	Sage	1063.5	-2.07%	1.9	51.3
Antofagasta	2225.0	+0.95%	1.2	34.1	Hargreaves Lans	1104.0	-0.09%	3.9	16.2	Sainsbury(J)	265.2	+1.53%	4.9	44.9
AB Foods	2504.0	+1.29%	2.1	18.7	Hikma Pharma	1837.0	+1.05%	3.0	27.7	Schroders	384.2	+0.68%	5.6	15.6
Ashtead Group	5222.0	+2.15%	1.5	18.5	Howden Joinery	929.5	+1.75%	2.3	20.0	Scot Mort Inv Tst	900.0	+1.24%	0.5	
AstraZeneca	12260.0	+1.69%	1.9	41.5	HSBC Hldgs	671.1	-0.37%	7.2	7.6	Segro	938.6	+2.85%	3.0	-45.3
Auto Trader Group	822.2	+1.41%	1.2	29.2	IAG	174.0	+0.75%		3.9	Severn Trent	2659.0	+6.19%	4.4	52.1
Aviva	489.6	+3.86%	6.8	13.0	IMI	1853.0	+3.12%	1.5	20.3	Shell	2812.5	-1.73%	3.7	12.7
BAE Systems	1268.0	+0.44%	2.4	20.7	Imperial Brands	2085.0	+2.26%	7.1	8.3	Smith&Neph	1100.0	+4.07%	2.8	47.3
Barclays	222.4	+0.86%	3.6	8.0	Informa	856.6	+0.68%	2.1	28.5	Smith (DS)	420.8	+0.67%	4.3	15.0
Barratt Dev	497.8	-1.23%	5.6	9.4	IntCont Htls	8316.0	+3.15%	1.5	24.3	Smiths Gp	1780.0	+4.71%	2.4	27.2
BAT	2507.0	+1.91%	9.4	-3.9	Intermediate Cap	2286.0	+1.96%	3.5	13.8	Spirax Group	8950.0	+4.31%	1.8	35.9
Beazley	674.5	+2.04%	2.1	5.4	Intertek	4860.0	+2.45%	2.3	26.4	SSE	1869.0	+0.75%	3.2	11.9
Berkeley Grp Hldgs	4850.0	+0.50%	2.6	13.0	JD Sports Fashion	115.8	+1.89%	0.8	11.3	Stan Chart	723.4	+0.06%	3.0	8.7
B&M EurValRtl	448.3	+1.08%	7.7	12.2	Kingfisher	273.1	+6.06%	4.5	15.0	Taylor Wimpey	157.1	+2.65%	6.1	15.9
BP	453.5	-5.95%	4.9	6.7	Land Secs	647.0	+1.41%	6.2	-15.0	Tesco	318.3	+2.35%	3.8	19.0
BT	141.2	+1.22%	5.7	16.2	Legal & Gen	232.4	+0.04%	8.8	31.6	Unilever	4434.0	+2.43%	3.3	20.5
Bunzl	3188.0	+1.27%	2.1	20.3	Lloyds Bk Gp	59.1	+1.41%	4.7	7.8	Unite Group	942.5	+2.67%	3.8	38.2
Burberry	886.6	-0.25%	6.9	12.0	LondonMetric Prop	201.8	+4.24%	5.1	19.0	United Utilities	1057.0	+3.12%	4.7	56.8
Centrica	137.8	-2.92%	2.9	2.0	Lon Stock Ex	9428.0	+1.25%	1.2	67.9	Vodafone	70.5	+0.28%	10.7	19.9
Coca-Cola HBC	2722.0	+1.64%	2.9	18.7	M&G	208.7	+0.29%	9.4	-3.2	Vistry	1336.0	+2.61%	2.4	20.7
Compass	2195.0	+2.57%	2.0	29.1	M&S	309.6	+4.77%	1.0	14.1	Weir Group	2004.0	+1.57%	1.9	22.7
Convatec	245.4	+2.55%	2.0	49.8	Melrose Ind	586.8	+1.52%	0.9	-7.8	Whitbread	2933.0	-0.10%	3.3	18.2
Croda Intl	4074.0	+0.57%	2.7	33.3	Mondi	1586.0	+3.80%	3.9	17.5	WPP	734.4	-1.26%	5.4	11.8
Darktrace	575.6	-1.17%		83.1	National Grid	950.8	+2.46%	6.2	16.7					
DCC	5650.0	-0.88%	3.5	17.1	NatWest Group	323.6	-0.37%	5.3	6.8					
Diageo	2539.5	+0.65%	3.1	15.4	Next	9108.0	+1.92%	2.3	15.9					
Diploma	4308.0	+3.66%	1.3	47.4	Pearson	1013.5	+0.75%	2.2	19.1					
easyJet	492.2	+5.76%	0.9	11.4	Pershing Square	4186.0	+0.96%	1.1	4.1					
Endeavour Mining	1811.0	+1.00%	3.4	-102.3	Persimmon	1496.0	+2.19%	4.0	18.7					
Entain	676.4	+5.79%	2.6	-4.5	Phoenix	541.5	+0.46%	9.7	-39.2					
Experian	3708.0	+1.53%	1.2	36.7	Prudential	732.0	+3.54%	2.3	15.3					
F&C Inv Trust	1032.0	+2.18%	1.4	65.2	Reckitt Ben	4363.0	+2.08%	4.4	19.0					
Fraser's Group	875.0	+1.51%		8.2	RELX	3576.0	-0.25%	1.6	38.0					
Fresnillo	620.0	+4.55%	0.7	25.4	Rentokil Initial	464.0	-0.71%	1.9	30.6					

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FTSE All Share	4522.8	+0.82%
FTSE Eurofirst300	2078.7	+1.44%
Dow Jones *	40105.3	+1.85%
S&P 500 *	5635.5	+1.23%
Nasdaq *	18471.5	+0.65%
DAX	18748.2	+1.48%
CAC 40	7724.3	+0.63%
Hang Seng	18293.4	+2.77%
Nikkei	41190.7	+0.68%

€1.1908 +0.85¢	\$1.2985 +1.79¢	\$2,412 +\$26.70	\$85.47 -\$2.20
EURO/POUND	DOLLAR/POUND	GOLD Per troy ounce, London pm fix	OIL Brent crude, per barrel

Ocado reports half-year results

Online grocery retailer Ocado publishes its half-year results tomorrow. In 2023 the company had a 10 per cent group-wide increase in revenue. Its retail arm, which is a joint venture with Marks & Spencer and makes up most of its business, had revenue of £2.36bn, a 7 per cent annual rise.

Netflix looks to success encore

Netflix's second-quarter results, published on Thursday, will show whether the streaming firm can hold its recent bout of success. In its last update in April, the company boasted the highest first-quarter new subscriber numbers since the pandemic, driving shares almost back to their 2021 highs.

RETAIL

Sports Direct sales 'remain the main event' for Frasers

By Katharine Swindells

Frasers Group, the owner of Sports Direct and House of Fraser, is expected to announce as much as £550m in underlying profit when it reports its full-year results this week.

The retail company, owned by businessman Mike Ashley, has given pre-tax underlying profit guidance of between £500m and £550m for the year ending 30 April 2024.

For the 2022-23 financial year, Frasers' operating profit was reported at £531.8m.

In the half-year results, operating profit was up 4.4 per cent annually. In particular, this week's results will look at the performance of Sports Direct, which accounted for half of revenue in the half-year results.

{i} The House of Fraser department store chain now has **fewer than 30 locations across the UK**, halving since Mike Ashley's buy-out in 2018.

Aarin Chiekrie, equity analyst at Hargreaves Lansdown, said: "Frasers' recent growth has largely been fuelled by acquisitions of other brands. Despite this, Sports Direct remains the main event, accounting for more than half of the group's £2.8bn revenue over the first six months of the year."

However other acquisitions have spelled trouble for the company.

In December, Frasers bought Matchesfashion for £52m. But within months, it put the struggling retailer into administration.

More recently, Frasers has been reportedly closing on a deal to take control of Ted Baker's British arm.

Mr Chiekrie added: "The group is working hard to elevate its brand status in consumers' minds by building new flagship stores and displaying products in a more flattering environment.

"Analysts have been impressed by early signs at these new stores, but a lot more need upgrading if the new format is to contribute meaningfully."



GSK returns to central London

The drugs firm GSK is to move its global headquarters back to premises in central London (above), ending more than two decades in west London.

The move demonstrates GSK's

commitment to Britain, despite the UK only accounting for 3 per cent of its business, at a time when the London Stock Exchange is under pressure from companies defecting overseas.

BANKING

Post Office cash transactions' record run ends

By Vicky Shaw

June's wet and windy weather conditions dampened cash transactions in Post Office branches, sending them back down from record high levels.

After two record-breaking cash-handling months at branches in April and May, transactions edged down to £3.43bn in June.

Cash deposits and withdrawals at post offices totalled a record £3.57bn in May, beating a previous record high set in April at £3.48bn.

June's figure is still only the fourth time on record that cash transactions at the Post Office have topped £3.4bn in a single month.

Business cash deposits totalled £1.13bn in June, down both 3.4 per cent year-on-year, and down 5.3 per cent month-on-month, from £1.19bn in May.

Ross Borkett, banking director at the Post Office, said: "Post offices play a vital role in supporting small businesses to trade by providing a convenient and secure location to deposit their cash takings with many branches open long hours and some at weekends."

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Today's Weather

A bright start for many with sunny spells. Clouding over from the south and west with some heavy afternoon showers for England and Wales.

Today's high	Today's low	Moon Phase	Sunrise	Sunset
22°	8°		05:01	21:11

Around Britain

City	Temp (Midday yesterday)	Rain (mm)	Sun (hrs)
Aberdeen	13	C	0.2
Aberporth	15	F	0.0
Aberystwyth	17	F	0.0
Aviemore	14	C	1.2
Belfast	17	C	0.1
Birmingham	19	C	0.3
Bournemouth	18	F	0.0
Bridlington	14	R	12.3
Bristol	19	F	0.1
Cardiff	17	S	0.0
Cromer	17	C	2.2
Durham	13	R	13.7
Eastbourne	17	F	0.0
Edinburgh	18	C	3.1
Eskdalemuir	14	R	8.2
Glasgow	19	C	0.0
Holyhead	17	F	0.0
Hove	17	F	0.0
Hull	14	R	10.9
Huntingdon	20	C	0.3
Ipswich	20	C	0.1
Isle of Man	16	C	0.0
Isle of Wight	16	F	0.0
Kinlochewe	18	F	0.0
Kirkwall	13	C	0.6
Leeds	13	R	2.6
Lerwick	12	C	0.0
Leuchars	16	C	0.1
Lincoln	15	C	0.0
Liverpool	16	C	0.2
London	21	F	0.0
Manchester	16	SH	0.6
Margate	20	F	0.6
Milford Haven	18	F	0.0
Morecambe	15	DR	0.5
Newcastle	13	R	19.5
Norwich	19	C	0.2
Nottingham	16	C	0.0
Okehampton	17	C	0.0
Oxford	20	C	0.0
Plymouth	17	F	0.0
Portland	17	F	0.0
Portsmouth	18	F	3.2
Prestwick	17	F	0.2
Rhyl	17	C	0.0
Sheffield	16	C	0.5
Shrewsbury	18	C	0.1
Skegness	15	C	0.0
Southend	21	F	0.0
Stoke	16	C	0.0
Stornoway	13	C	0.2
Swansea	16	F	0.1
Tiree	16	S	0.0

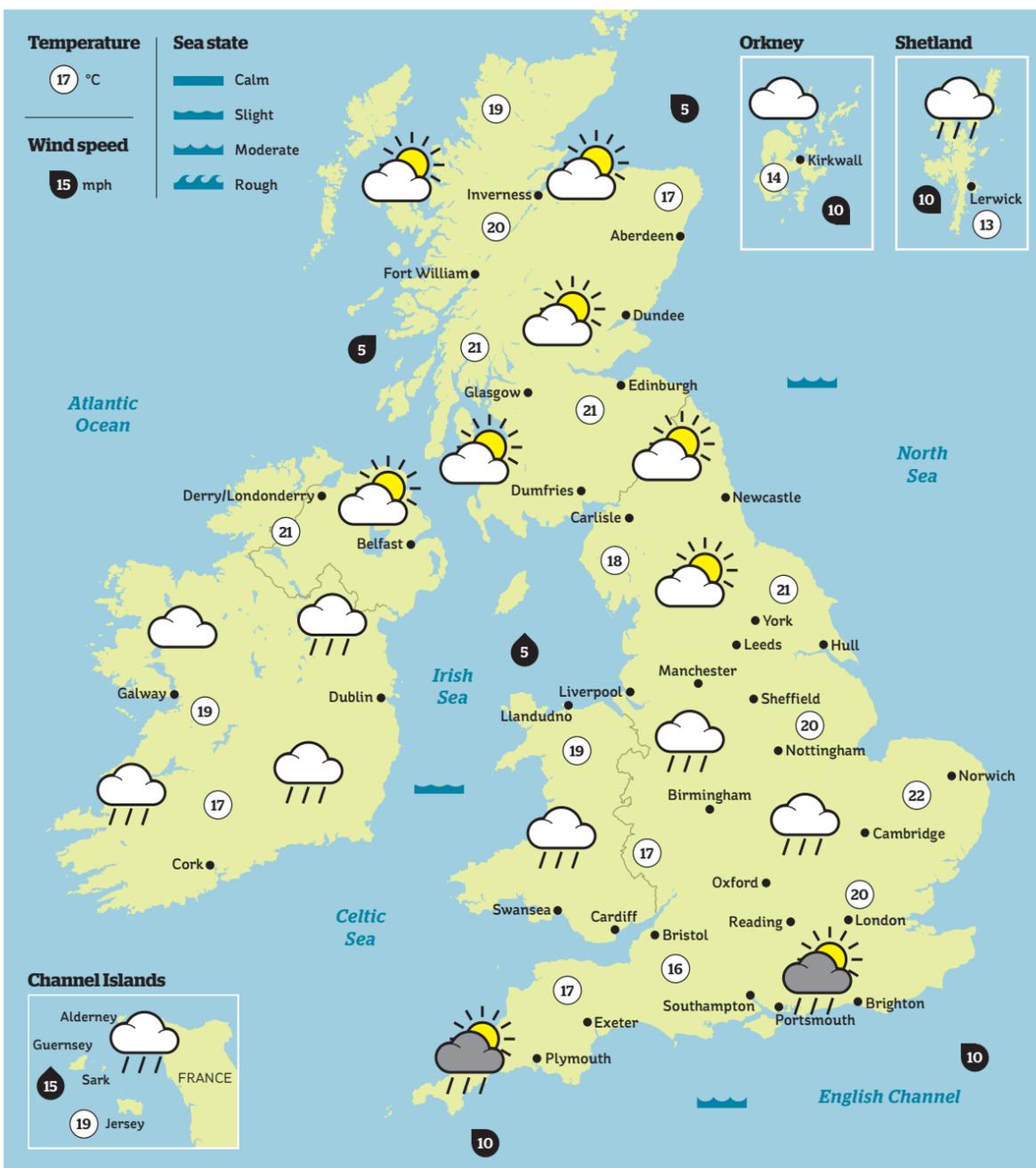
Global

City	Temp (in °C)	Cond	City	Temp (in °C)	Cond
Abu Dhabi	40	S	Miami	31	R
Abuja	27	TH	Milan	29	S
Alicante	30	S	Moscow	27	F
Amsterdam	20	F	Mumbai	29	TH
Athens	37	S	Munich	23	F
Bangkok	32	DR	New York	26	TH
Barcelona	27	S	Nice	27	S
Beijing	27	F	Palma	28	S
Berlin	24	F	Paris	22	F
Brussels	21	F	Prague	24	F
Budapest	34	S	Reykjavik	12	R
Chicago	30	F	Rio	22	DR
Delhi	35	F	Rome	30	S
Dubai	42	S	Stockholm	19	C
Dublin	19	C	Strasbourg	25	S
Frankfurt	24	S	Sydney	16	S
Geneva	22	S	Tenerife	25	S
Helsinki	19	R	Tokyo	25	SH
Hong Kong	32	S	Toronto	28	S
Istanbul	33	S	Vancouver	21	S
Johannesburg	21	S	Vienna	27	F
Lisbon	25	S	Warsaw	22	F
Los Angeles	23	S	Washington	29	F
Madrid	30	S	Wellington	12	F

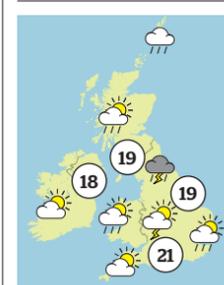
Key: C=Cloudy, DR=Drizzle, F=Fair, FG=Fog, H=Hail, M=Mist, R=Rain, S=Sunny, SH=Showers, SL=Sleet, SN=Snow, SS=Sandstorm, TH=Thunderstorm

Air Pollution Index

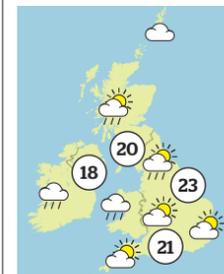
Region	Today	Tomorrow
Highlands	2	2
North East Scotland	2	3
Central Scotland	3	3
Scottish Borders	3	2
Northern Ireland	3	2
North West & Mersey	3	2
North East	3	3
Yorkshire & Humber	3	3
North Wales	3	2
West Midlands	3	3
East Midlands	3	3
South Wales	3	3
South West	2	2
South East	3	3
Eastern	3	3
Greater London	3	3



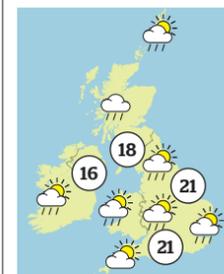
Five-day outlook



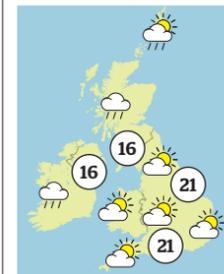
TUESDAY Heavy rain across northern and central England will clear eastwards. Turning brighter from the west with sunny spells and showers.



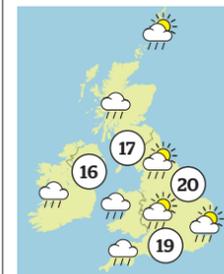
WEDNESDAY Early sunny spells but clouds will thicken from the west bringing a threat of showers, which will be mostly light in nature.



THURSDAY Clouds will build in from the west during the day and outbreaks of rain will edge into northern and western areas of the UK.



FRIDAY There will be similar weather to Thursday, with early periods of sunshine. Clouds will then thicken during the day bringing showers later.



SATURDAY An unsettled start with heavy rain which will clear eastwards during the day. Periods of sunshine will break through the cloud later.

GENERAL SITUATION An area of low pressure will be centred to the south-west of the United Kingdom and an associated warm front will push in from the south-west bringing heavy rain across southern and central England and Wales which will become confined to western areas during the evening. Will stay mainly dry but cloudy and there is a threat of showers developing, some of which may be heavy and thundery in nature. Light winds for most.

SW England, Channel Is: An unsettled start to the day with thick cloud and heavy rain which will continue for much of the morning before gradually easing and clearing

from the south during the afternoon. Rain will turn increasingly showery during the afternoon and evening with sunny spells developing. Light winds. Max temp: 17°C. Tonight, clear periods. Min temp: 12°C.

Cen S England, SE England, London, Midlands, S Wales, N Wales: A dry but dull start to the day with clouds soon building and outbreaks of rain spreading in from the south during the morning, which will be locally heavy and persistent. Rain will become confined to western areas by the evening. There will be light and variable winds which will be locally moderate. Max temp: 22°C.

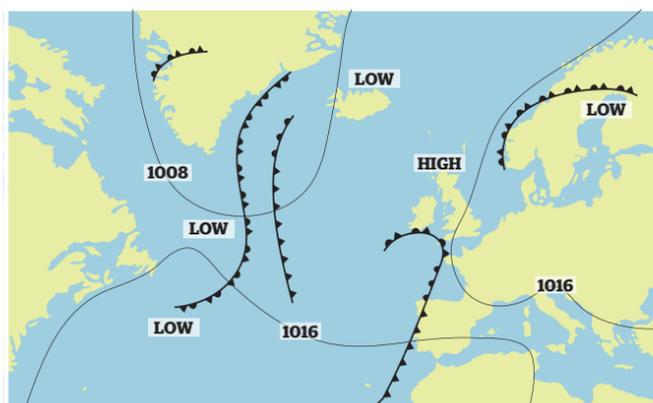
Tonight, mainly dry. Min temp: 9°C.

NE England, NW England, IoM, N Ireland, Republic of Ireland, E England, E Anglia: There will be a few bright spells initially, however clouds will soon thicken from the south during the morning. Staying overcast and grey for the rest of the day with cloudy skies and a threat of showers developing, some of which may be heavy and thundery. There will be light and variable winds. Max temp: 21°C. Tonight, risk of rain. Min temp: 8°C.

N Isles: A dull and damp start to the day with cloudy skies and rain spreading in from the east across Shetland. Staying overcast for the rest of the day with cloudy skies

persisting and outbreaks of rain tracking southwards but turning increasingly light and patchy. Light to gentle north-westerly winds. Max temp: 15°C. Tonight, showery rain. Min temp: 10°C.

W Isles, NE Scotland, NW Scotland, SE Scotland, SW Scotland: There will be mixed weather conditions today as there will be periods of sunshine but also large areas of thick cloud cover around. A threat of showers developing too, some of which will be heavy and thundery during the afternoon and evening. There will be light and variable winds. Max temp: 21°C. Tonight, dry for most. Min temp: 10°C.



Key: 1024 Isobars: air pressure in millibars. Warm front, Cold front, Occluded front

SYNOPTIC PRESSURE A weak low to the west of the UK will deepen and push slowly eastwards. High pressure sits near Scandinavia and intensifies whilst low pressure dominates the Mid-Atlantic to the west of this high. Low pressure extends from the UK towards Greenland and then west to the U.S. The Azores high sits around the subtropics.

HIGHS AND LOWS

(Yesterday, up to 2pm)

Warmest: Mildenhall, Royal Air Force Base, Suffolk, 22C

Cooldest: Sennybridge, Brecon and Radnor, 5C

Wettest: Loftus, North Yorkshire, 40.6mm

Sunniest: Aberporth, Ceredigion, 10.8hrs

HOURS OF DARKNESS

City	Hours of Darkness
Aberdeen	21:54-04:37
Birmingham	21:22-05:04
Bristol	21:20-05:12
Cardiff	21:22-05:14
Glasgow	21:51-04:54
Hull	21:23-04:51
Inverness	22:04-04:40
Liverpool	21:32-05:04
London	21:11-05:02
Manchester	21:29-05:00
Stornoway	22:18-04:46
Swansea	21:26-05:17
York	21:27-04:53

CRICKET ENGLAND

Meet the new Anderson (even though he bowls like Broad)

Dillon Pennington could shine this week. By **Chris Stocks**

After James Anderson's emotional farewell at Lord's last Friday, he may be replaced in England's XI for this week's second Test against the West Indies in Nottingham by Dillon Pennington – a bowler who has modelled himself on Stuart Broad.

Gus Atkinson, whose haul of 12 for 106 saw him named man of the match during England's innings win in the first Test, is certainly one bowler with a bright future.

In terms of replacing the retiring Anderson at Trent Bridge this week, Mark Wood, called into the squad over the weekend, and Matt Potts, who broke through in the first summer of Bazball in 2022, are two options.

Yet England will be tempted to blood another debutant in Nottingham, with Pennington the natural choice to come into the XI this week.

The 25-year-old has already replaced Broad, who retired at the end of last summer's Ashes series, in the Nottinghamshire attack after moving to Trent Bridge from Worcestershire over the winter.

His 31 County Championship wickets at 23.80 were enough to lead to him being called into the squad for this three-match series against the West Indies. And giving him a debut at his adopted home ground this week would make perfect sense.



Dillon Pennington has taken 31 County Championship wickets for Nottinghamshire this year

Broad also made the move to Trent Bridge, from Leicestershire, at a similar stage in his career. At 6ft 2in, Pennington does not quite have the height of Broad, who is four inches taller. But they are bowlers with similar qualities, hitting the pitch hard and bowling

I'm able to go for a bit longer and consistency has got better. I'm confident to go to international cricket

consistently around the 85 to 86 miles-per-hour mark.

Two years ago, Pennington said: "I'd relate myself to Stuart Broad, I aspire to take a similar career path to him. He got picked for England a little younger but we're similar bowlers in some sorts of ways so hopefully I can try and keep going with the skills I have which are similar to what he gets wickets with and follow on from that."

If Pennington gets anywhere close to achieving half of what Broad achieved during his storied career – 604 Test wickets and four Ashes series wins – he would have had some career.

But the similarities between the two don't end there, with Pennington working on his bowling action last winter with Kevin Shine at Nottinghamshire to enhance his wicket-taking capabilities.

Shine also played an integral part in remodelling Anderson's action earlier in his career when he was England's bowling coach.

But it is his work with Pennington, tweaking his action to give him more control, time and alignment when delivering the ball at the crease, that mirrors what he did with Broad towards the end of his career.

It has allowed Pennington (right) to bowl faster for longer. "It's more with my action – just try and create a bit more flow," he said at the start of this summer. "I've changed my



load-up a tiny bit, but it's actually going back to when I was 18. I had a similar thing. So we've basically gone back in time, but with the strength work I've done and the bits I've done at Worcester, all that has combined.

"It's helped with my engine. I'm able to go for a bit longer and the consistency of pace has got better. I'm definitely in a place where I'm confident to go into international cricket now."

Pennington first emerged during the 2018 Under-19 World Cup, where he took six wickets. Later that year, former South Africa fast bowler Morne Morkel admitted he had been "blown away" by Pennington's potential during a County Championship match.

Now he is on the brink of showing what he can do on the international stage.

RACING

Seagulls XI hits target with Solario Stakes on the horizon

By Adam Morgan

Seagulls Eleven could attempt to find the scoresheet in the Virgin Bet Solario Stakes after finishing a fine second in the Superlative Stakes at Newmarket.

Owned by a group of Brighton & Hove Albion players – including James Milner and Danny Welbeck – and sporting the club's blue and white stripes, the football stars could have a promising colt on their hands.

He impressed when getting off the mark at the second attempt at Haydock and was sent off 5-1 for his first foray into Group Two company on the July Course, giving Charlie Appleby's well-regarded Ancient Truth something to think about.

It was a performance that allows connections to dream big and with races like the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf and Doncaster's Futurity Trophy all possibilities for later in the season, immediate thoughts have turned to a trip to Sandown on

1 top tips

BEST BET Alfa Kellenic (3.28, Ayr)

Can stay one step ahead of the assessor despite a 9lb rise in the ratings, with fourth win in a row

NEXT BEST Bold Impact (5.45, Windsor)

Should prove hard to beat if he handles the ground

31 August for a race Palmer won 10 years ago with Aktabantay.

Palmer said: "He ran a lovely race, he's a really big horse and I think his best days are all ahead of him.

"He is progressive, he will keep on improving and he will get a mile this year. I know some suggested coming back in trip, but I don't see that.

"We will most likely end up going to the Solario Stakes with him. We won the Solario 10 years ago with Aktabantay, who had also been second in the Superlative, and trainers are creatures of habit. I expect we will do the same thing."

On targets later in the year, he went on: "The Futurity Trophy at Doncaster would be a possibility, the Jean-Luc Lagardere, there's also a mile race at Del Mar in November as well and he could go to the Breeders' Cup. I wouldn't have thought he would run more than three more times this year and I would say twice is more likely – Solario and then once more most likely."

NEWTON ABBOT SOFT

3.05 WATCH SKY SPORTS RACING ON SKY 4.15 HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS 3) £20,650 added 2m

1 0-2221 IN THIS WORLD (D) D Skelton 6 11 11 H Skelton
2 P4-724 OPENING BID (CD) C Down 9 11 8 B Carver
3 44-221 FEEL THE PINCH (C/D) R L Llewellyn 10 11 7 C Price (3) T
4 7/30-6 SILENT REVOLUTION (D) P Nicholls 8 11 7 Miss M Bevan (7) C T
5 V4U-4P L'IMPETUANT Alexandra Dunn 8 11 2 A Wedge
- 5 declared -

BETTING: 11-10 In This World, 5-2 Feel The Pinch, 6-1 Silent Revolution, Opening Bid, 16-1 L'Impetuant.

3.40 PAR INN CORNWALL HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS 4)

1 134-11 CLEARANCE (CD) M Blake 10 12 0 T Cannon
2 05-754 MANOR PARK (CD) Daisy Hitchens 9 11 10 H Reed T V
3 534-13 WINTERWATCH (C) H Fry 6 11 10 Miss M Bevan (7) C T
4 30/06 CILLIANS CHARM (D) James Owen 7 11 4 C P O'Shea (7) C
5 00-115 MELTON MOSSY (BF) E Williams 5 10 5 Williams (3) T
- 5 declared -

BETTING: 6-4 Clearance, 13-8 Winterwatch, 4-1 Melton Mossy, 10-1 Manor Park, 33-1 Cillians Charm.

4.15 WELL DONE ENGLAND EURO CHAMPIONS 2024

HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS 4) £10,150 added 2m 5f
1 31P-66 IMAC WOOD (D) Deborah Cole 6 12 0 C Ward (3) T
2 P4-522 BEGIN THE LUCK (CD) Daisy Hitchens 8 11 10 H Reed
3 56-774 FAT SAM (CD) C Down 10 11 10 James Davies
4 7127P NAEVA Alexandra Dunn 5 11 8 N Scholfield
5 44-6-33 LELANT E Williams 6 11 0 A Wedge T
6 F-4376 LIMERICK LEADER O Murphy 7 10 8 S Bowen T
7 -3343 HEDGEHOPPER Sheila Lewis 8 10 2 Charlie Price (3)
- 7 declared -

BETTING: 11-8 Begin The Luck, 4-1 Fat Sam, 5-1 Limerick Leader, Lelant, 6-1 Imac Wood, 25-1 Naeva, 66-1 Hedgehopper.

4.50 NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP HURDLE (DIV 1) (CLASS 5) £12,150 added 2m 2f 110yds

1 976-13 GETMETOTHEMOON A Honeyball 5 11 12 R Dingle T
2 542-36 OVAL STREET M Gillard 8 11 8 F Gillard B
3 68878- PALAWAN DU MAZET A Jones 5 11 6 J Turner (7) B
4 44-233 CULLIGRAN J G O'Shea 5 11 4 N Scholfield
5 6P-06 SILVER CHORD C Down 6 11 0 James Davies C
6 0P5-02 SEREN Y TEIGR E Williams 5 11 0 A Wedge
7 -F4376 LION'S VIGIL W G M Turner 7 10 10 H Kimber
8 3-U563 SEVENOFUS C J Gray 8 10 9 H Reed T
9 244P6- EURKASH James Owen 10 10 8 H Cobden T
10 0/P0-9 CAPTAIN BILL N Hawke 5 10 6 D Noonan B
11 60047- ALDUNI'S GIRL Deborah Cole 4 10 5 C Ward (3)
- 11 declared -

BETTING: 3-1 Getmetothemoon, 7-2 Culligran, 4-1 Seren Y Teigr, 6-1 Eurkash, 10-1 Sevenofus, 14-1 Oval Street, 16-1 Silver Chord, Lion's Vigil, Captain Bill, 25-1 others.

5.25 NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP HURDLE (DIV 2) (CLASS 5) £12,150 added 2m 2f 110yds

1 /90-40 BEARS HUG J Frost 6 11 12 H Cobden
2 499-65 GET THE VALUE J G O'Shea 6 11 11 N Scholfield
3 /P6-41 KONIGIN ISABELLA (CD) A Honeyball 6 11 11 S Twiston-Davies T
4 95P/4 INVICTUS DE BRION (D) C Gordon 6 11 3 F Gordon (5) C
5 534-6 BRAVEWHENNEEDTOBE A Ralph 4 11 1 D E Mullins
6 570-65 JORMUNGANDR D J Jeffreys 5 10 13 K Woods
7 4592-5 BUSHMILL BOY O Murphy 10 10 11 S Bowen
8 96-8 FUTURE TIMES G F Edwards 4 10 10 R Dingle
9 987-98 SQUARE DU ROULE N Hawke 4 10 8 James Davies T
10 863-2U TESTFLIGHT Mrs S Gardner 7 10 6 J Best
11 F40/8- GALACTIC GLOW J Tickle 7 10 5 B R Jones H T
- 11 declared -

BETTING: 2-1 Konigin Isabella, 4-1 Invictus De Brion, 13-2 Bushmill Boy, 8-1 Jormungandr, Get The Value, 10-1 Testflight, 12-1 Bravewhenneedtobe, 16-1 Future Times, Bears Hug, 25-1 others.

AYR GOOD

3.28 FERIE & MYRA HAPPEL AYR GOLD CUP TRIAL HANDICAP (CLASS 3) £30,000 added 6f

1 3-1023 DARE TO HOPE (D) R Fahey 4 10 2 Oisin Orr 10
2 636974 ABERAMA GOLD (CD) D O'Meara 7 10 2 D Nolan V 8
3 2-0717 TINTO (D) M Dods 8 10 1 C Beasley C 11
4 4-2222 MYTHICAL PHOENIX J Camacho 4 9 11 L Edmunds C 3
5 20-420 TWILIGHT ROMANCE (D) J & S Quinn 3 9 6 J Hart 2
6 080-69 CALL ME GINGER (CD) J Goldie 8 9 6 P Mulrennan 4
7 3-411 ALFA KELLENIC (D) Craig Lidster 3 9 5 T Eaves 7
8 4-8776 JUMP THE GUN (CD) I Jardine 7 9 4 M Tabti (5) C 9
9 82B522 THE CALTONIAN (D) Miss L Perratt 5 9 3 J Peate (3) B 1
10 512-71 BATAL ZABEEL (D) K Ryan 3 9 2 S Gray C 5
11 111153 CATHERINE CHROI (CD) I Jardine 6 9 1 A Mullen B 6
- 11 declared -

BETTING: 5-2 Alfa Kellenic, 5-1 Mythical Phoenix, 6-1 Dare To Hope, Batal Zabeel, 8-1 Aberama Gold, 10-1 The Caltonian, 12-1 others.

5.10 SCOTTISH SUN LADIES NIGHT HANDICAP (CLASS 5) £8,000 added 1m 2f

1 608-68 EEETEE (D) J Wainwright 6 10 4 Mark Winn (3) 4
2 888722 HORTZADAR (C) D O'Meara 9 10 3 D Nolan 5
3 0/0600 MANU ET CORDE Mr W G Harrison 5 10 1 R Scott B 10
4 0225 AVIEMORE C Johnston 3 9 8 F Norton 1
5 25-863 LEAP YEAR LAD (D) K Ryan 4 9 8 S Gray C 6
6 866534 SHINE ON BRENDAN (C) J Goldie 7 9 5 L Edmunds B 1
7 333 LIBERTY COACH J & S Quinn 3 9 5 J Hart 9
8 324 LUCYKEYS I Jardine 3 9 5 A Mullen 8
9 698-43 TILSITT (CD) R M Smith 7 9 4 Rhys Elliott (7) T 3
10 575-91 EMPIRE OF LIGHT (D) G Tuer 3 9 2 H Shaw 2
11 323777 BUSBY P Kirby 9 9 0 A Brookes (3) C 7
- 11 declared -

BETTING: 7-2 Hortzadar, 4-1 Empire Of Light, 5-1 Liberty Coach, 6-1 Leap Year Lad, 7-1 Tilsitt, 10-1 Aviemore, Shine On Brendan, 12-1 others.

CYCLING



Tadej Pogacar is out on his own on the final climb of yesterday's stage GETTY

Pogacar powers away in Pyrenees to put the squeeze on Vingegaard

By Ian Parker

Tadej Pogacar delivered another big blow to defending champion Jonas Vingegaard as he stormed to a Bastille Day victory on stage 15 of the Tour de France to extend his commanding advantage in yellow.

Pogacar left his main rival behind five kilometres from the summit of the climb up to the Plateau de Beille and rode clear to win by 68 seconds, taking his overall advantage to three minutes and nine seconds going into today's rest day.

After coming off second best in

Saturday's skirmish in Saint-Lary-Soulan, Vingegaard had said the finale of this brute of a Pyrenean stage out of Loudenvielle, including more than 4,800 metres of climbing, suited him more than it did Pogacar, but when it came to it, it was Pogacar who profited.

Six stages now stand between the 25-year-old and a third Tour crown, one that would make him the first rider to complete a Giro-Tour double since Marco Pantani in 1998.

"I would never have imagined this kind of outcome after the second week at the beginning," Pogacar

said. "I'm super happy with my shape... I've had a lot of stage victories in the Pyrenees. Somehow I like them and they like me back so I'm pretty satisfied."

Vingegaard went on the attack with 11km of the climb left. Pogacar quickly latched on to his wheel but nobody else – Remco Evenepoel included – was able to stay with them.

They swept past the remnants of the breakaway with nine kilometres remaining as it once again came down to a head-to-head between the outstanding riders of the last four Tours – the 10th stage in which they have been the riders to finish as the top two.

When Vingegaard took a look behind at his rival all in yellow, Pogacar read it as a moment of weakness and stuck in the knife, racing clear of a man who is riding his first race since suffering horrible injuries in a crash in April.

TENNIS WIMBLEDON

Double top! Patten happy to celebrate incredible rise to SW19 glory

'It hasn't sunk in,' says Britain's newest champ.
By James Gray

The last time I spoke to Henry Patten, he was No 42 in the world and hoping to boost that number by winning a couple of rounds at Wimbledon in the men's doubles with Finnish partner Harri Heliövaara. Now he is a grand slam champion, a top-20 player and has 325,000 reasons in his wallet to smile.

He is not even hungover, it seems, puncturing my hopes of hearing tales of post-title misbehaviour.

"I couldn't sleep and that wasn't because I was out very late," Patten, 28, tells *i*. "We stayed probably at the [All England] club for a few hours till 11pm then went home, watched the replay of the tie-break at the end, and tried to go to sleep.

"I probably fell asleep at 3am and woke up at 8.30am."

John McEnroe would be disappointed, but Patten still has plans. He has been fitted for



his tuxedo on site at Wimbledon for the gala ball – the invite is a privilege afforded to finalists at the championships – although there was a moment of panic when he discovered they did not have shoes bigger than a size 12.

An Ipswich Town fan, he has also been assured that they will be showing the football at the champions' dinner, "otherwise I'd be in some pub in Wimbledon probably, along with the rest of the draw". It may well have been a dealbreaker for another

Sport in brief

GOLF

MacIntyre victory after free drop gift



Home favourite Robert MacIntyre took full advantage of an extraordinary stroke of luck to

win the Scottish Open at the Renaissance Club.

MacIntyre, who was denied the title 12 months ago by Rory McIlroy's stunning finish, produced one of his own after trailing Adam Scott by two shots with three to play in a rollercoaster final round.

The left-hander made an eagle on the par-five 16th following a brilliant approach shot, albeit only after a free drop from knee-high rough after discovering a sprinkler head near his ball.

That took MacIntyre alongside Scott on 17 under par and, to the delight of a raucous home crowd, he holed from 20 feet for birdie on the 18th to complete a remarkable triumph.

GOLF

Furue fights back to seal first major win



Japan's Ayaka Furue earned her maiden major victory after an eagle at the final hole to win the Evian Championship by one shot.

Australia's Stephanie Kyriacou began the day in Évian-les-Bains in France with a one-shot lead and with 10 holes left to play, Furue was two shots behind Kyriacou and Lauren Coughlin.

Patty Tavatanakit eagled the final hole to finish with 63 and take a clubhouse lead on 17 under par, but Furue wrapped up her first major in style with an eagle three of her own to win on 19 under par with Kyriacou second.

Furue (*above*) said: "I am so honoured to be the winner of the 2024 Amundi Evian Championship, with the 30th anniversary [of the tournament] and 10th anniversary of this being a major."

CRICKET

Bears' win ensures home quarter-final



Birmingham Bears guaranteed a home quarter-final in the T20 Blast and Surrey moved to the brink of one after both won yesterday.

At Edgbaston a buccaneering 59 off 32 balls from Moeen Ali (*above*) was followed by 60 not out and 52no from Dan Mousley and Sam Hain respectively as the Bears reached 198 for 2. Derbyshire struggled and were all out for 154 in 19.2 overs, which guarantees the Bears a top-two finish in the group.

Down at Chelmsford, Will Jacks' swashbuckling 86 off 46, containing five sixes, lifted Surrey, who sit at the summit of the South Group, to 189 for 9, before England team-mate Chris Jordan's three-wicket haul in the reply restricted Essex to 176 for 8. Surrey will be guaranteed a top-two finish by winning one of their final two matches.

Two titles in one day brings career slam for 'euphoric' Hewett

By James Reid

AT THE ALL ENGLAND CLUB

Alfie Hewett believed his Wimbledon singles victory was written in the stars, as he finally sealed an historic career slam on home soil.

Hewett earned his first All England Club wheelchair singles title with a 6-2, 6-3 victory over Martin de la Puente on No 1 Court, before teaming up with doubles partner Gordon Reid (*above*) to seal two Wimbledon titles in one day.



The pair beat Takuya Miki and Tokito Oda 6-4, 7-6 to take Hewett's grand slam tally to 30 across singles and doubles.

The 26-year-old now has six Wimbledon doubles titles to his name but the singles crown had evaded him until now. Hewett was the runner-up for the past two years but finally banished any demons by powering to a straight-sets victory to become just the second male wheelchair player to win all four singles grand slam titles after Shingo Kunieda.



Wimbledon champion, Carlos Alcaraz, of Spain.

There is also the slight complication that Patten has an early flight to the USA today, where he will finally get to spend some time in the apartment he has moved into with his girlfriend Ellie, a newly qualified doctor. He has no intention of missing that flight for a night out.

"We'll go wherever the night takes us, but we've both got morning flights out, Harri to Finland and me to America.

"I don't think it's really sunk in at the moment," he said. "Obviously the initial feelings or emotions were just relief. This was weighing heavy on my shoulders for a long time.

"If I'm being honest, the minute I lost last year, I don't think there was a single day I didn't think about being back here and change the narrative. I'm not a massively spiritual person, I just felt like something was holding me back over these last few years. It was making me wait for a reason. Today was that reason.

"To be in front of 10,000 people, Court No 1, literally everyone there, aside my brother, who I would want to be there from family and friends, it just felt like it had a meant-to-be feeling around today. If there was a time to do it, it was now.

"Selfishly and personally, to be able to get the career grand slam means everything."

The 26-year-old served for the match four times in his first Wimbledon final against Kunieda only to

"We need to be on those, so whether we'll get a decent night's sleep or absolutely zero sleep is yet to be seen."

The life of a professional tennis player tends to revolve around airports. Patten, now the British No 2 in doubles, has played in 20 different cities so far this year across 11 countries and on six continents. He does not have grand plans for the biggest pay cheque of his life, but the odd business class upgrade will definitely be tempting.

"I'll take the trophy with me when I check in and see if they give me some leg room," says Patten, who at 6ft 6in needs as much as he can get. "I'm certainly not putting it in the hold!"

Patten does not take seem like the type to turn into a diva though. Seven years ago, he worked at Wimbledon as a data inputter, plugging every point into a laptop for IBM. He never got on Centre Court though, because he wasn't good enough. He didn't think he was good



Alfie Hewett celebrates the first of his two final victories yesterday GETTY

be ultimately denied as the Japanese legend completed his own career slam, before he was beaten by Oda last year. And the Norwich native admitted he struggled to contain the

emotion on completing one of his ultimate ambitions in the sport. "It was a long-life ambition," he added. "To achieve that is special. I'm going to enjoy every moment of it.



Henry Patten celebrates Saturday's win over Max Purcell and Jordan Thompson; Patten (right) with his playing partner Harri Heliövaara and their trophies GETTY, PA

enough at tennis to play on there either. He went to university in America and started doing summer internships in wealth management. A coach at Durham convinced him to come to a Masters in the North-East and play for the university team. He had team-mates who had played on tour and "tagged along", initially playing singles and doubles but then choosing to specialise two years ago.

There have been a variety of partners - he and fellow Brit Julian Cash broke a record in 2022 by winning 10 titles on the second-tier Challenger Tour - but he and Heliövaara are still relatively new, and have already won five titles together.

"He's been an amazing partner," explains Patten. "We've been good partners to each other.

"We just have similar values. We both trust that we are extremely competitive. Even in practices, we're always competing against each other.

"But there's also an understanding that off the court, there are also important things in our lives that shouldn't be overlooked."

When they finally sealed the title after two hours and 52 minutes, no one was calm. Heliövaara was in tears, while Patten just repeatedly shouted "what?" at his friends and family. No one on Centre could quite believe what they had witnessed.

"It hasn't sunk in," Patten says. "We haven't really figured it out at all. We're just enjoying it."

And so they should.

"There was so much relief and euphoria really with my team. I've never seen half my team cry before, so that was new. That got me choked up. Obviously looking up and seeing everyone, my family and friend, be in tears. They've walked away feeling just as devastated and disappointed over the last few years.

"All my family. My parents, my grandparents. My twin sister. My closest friends, their friends. There were just so many people.

"My granddad being a big one because we did a lot together when we were younger. He was pretty much my chauffeur, the guy that would take care of me and take me to training. He's been ill recently. It was really special for him to be there today. He hasn't seen me play live for over three years now. It meant a lot for him to be in the stands, and obviously see the rest of my family."

For the latest action on the British summer grass court season, check out the LTA website

Results Service

CRICKET

T20 BLAST - NORTH GROUP

Durham v Northamptonshire, Riverside: Durham 90-5 (8.0 overs), Northamptonshire 91-4 (7.1 overs). Northamptonshire (2pts) beat Durham by 6 wickets.

Nottinghamshire v Leicestershire, Grace Road: Nottinghamshire 160-6 (20.0 overs), Leicestershire 161-5 (19.0 overs; L P Goldworthy 67). Leicestershire (2pts) beat Nottinghamshire by 5 wickets.

Warwickshire v Derbyshire, Edgbaston: Warwickshire 198-2 (20.0 overs; D R Mousley 60no, M M Ali 59, S R Hain 52no), Derbyshire 154 (19.2 overs). Warwickshire (2pts) beat Derbyshire by 44 runs.

Worcestershire v Yorkshire, New Road: Worcestershire 205-6 (20.0 overs; J A Chohan 4-30), Yorkshire 208-4 (19.3 overs; D J Malan 93no; E A Brookes 4-41). Yorkshire (2pts) won by 6 wickets.

	P	W	L	T	NR	Pts	RR
Warwickshire	12	9	3	0	0	18	1.26
Lancashire	12	6	3	0	3	15	1.11
Leicestershire	13	6	5	1	1	14	0.88
Northants	12	6	4	1	1	14	-0.32
Yorkshire	13	6	6	0	1	13	0.08
Durham	13	6	6	0	1	13	-0.41
Derbyshire	12	5	6	0	1	11	0.20
Worcestershire	13	4	9	0	0	8	-0.20
Nottinghamshire	12	2	8	0	2	6	-1.91

SOUTH GROUP

Surrey v Essex, Chelmsford: Surrey 189-9 (20.0 overs; W G Jacks 86), Essex 176-8 (20.0 overs; A M Rossington 78). Surrey (2pts) beat Essex by 13 runs.

Gloucestershire v Glamorgan, Cheltenham: Gloucestershire 206-6 (20.0 overs; J M R J M Taylor 80no), Glamorgan 85 (15.5 overs). Gloucestershire (2pts) beat Glamorgan by 121 runs.

Hampshire v Somerset, The Rose Bowl: Hampshire 157-7 (20.0 overs; T J Prest 51), Somerset 158-1 (18.0 overs; T Banton 79no). Somerset (2pts) won by 9 wickets.

	P	W	L	T	NR	Pts	RR
Surrey	12	8	2	1	1	18	1.29
Sussex	12	8	4	0	0	16	0.66
Somerset	12	7	4	0	1	15	1.07
Essex	13	7	5	0	1	15	0.26
Gloucestershire	13	6	6	1	0	13	0.50
Hampshire	12	3	6	0	3	9	-0.65
Glamorgan	12	4	7	0	1	9	-1.34
Middlesex	12	3	6	0	3	9	-1.57
Kent	12	3	9	0	0	6	-0.95

CYCLING

TOUR DE FRANCE, FRANCE, Stage 15 (Loudenvielle - Plateau de Beille, 198km): 1 T Pogacar (Slovenia) UAE Team Emirates 5h 13m 55s, 6 A Yates (GB) UAE Team Emirates +4:56, 18 S Yates (GB) Team Jayco-AlUla +10:42, 19 B Healy (Rep Ire) EF Education-EasyPost +13:31, 37 O Onley (GB) Team dsm-firmenich PostNL +30:12. Overall: 1 T Pogacar (Slovenia) UAE Team Emirates 61h 56m 24s, 7 A Yates (GB) UAE Team Emirates +13:38, 13 B Healy (Rep Ire) EF Education-EasyPost +29:26, 14 S Yates (GB) Team Jayco-AlUla +35:09, 38 G Thomas (GB) INEOS Grenadiers +149:36.

DARTS

WORLD MATCHPLAY, WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL, 1st rd: R Smith (Eng) bt J Rock (N Ire) 10-4, J Wade (Eng) bt D Noppert (Neth) 10-5, D van den Bergh (Bel) bt M Schindler (Ger) 10-5, S Bunting (Eng) bt R Joyce (Eng) 12-10, R Cross (Eng) bt G van Veen (Neth) 13-12, J Cullen (Eng) bt B Dolan (N Ire) 10-4, A Gilding (Eng) bt P Wright (Sco) 10-5, K Ratajski (Pol) bt D Chisnall (Eng) 10-2, N Aspinall (Eng) bt L Woodhouse (Eng) 10-8.

GOLF

GENESIS SCOTTISH OPEN, NORTH BERWICK, Final Rnd (GB & Irl unless stated, Par 70): 262 R MacIntyre (GB) 67 65 63 67; 263 A Scott (Aus) 67 65 64 67; 265 R Langasque (Fr) 66 68 67 64; 266 Sung-Jae Im (S Kor) 63 67 67 69; R McIlroy 65 66 67 68; C Morikawa (US) 65 66 66 69; A Rai 68 65 70 63; S Theegala (US) 66 65 66 69; L Aaberg (Swe) 64 64 65 73; 267 W Clark (US) 68 68 69 62; C Connors (Can) 65 67 68 67; R Mansell 67 69 70 61; A Noren (Swe) 65 66 71 65; V Perez (Fr) 68 66 68 65.

RUGBY LEAGUE

BETFRED CHAMPIONSHIP
Batley 22 Barrow 2; Bradford 2 Wakefield 14; Halifax 6 Featherstone 14; Sheffield 22 Swinton 34; Widnes 34 Dewsbury 12; York 27 Doncaster 0.

TENNIS

ALL ENGLAND LAWN TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS, WIMBLEDON, LONDON, Men's Final: (3) C ALCARAZ (Sp) bt (2) N DJOKOVIC (Serb) 6-2 6-2 7-6 (7-4).

Mixed Doubles Final: Mixed Doubles Final: (1) ZIELINSKI (Pol) & S HSIEH (Taipei) bt S Gonzalez (Mex) & G Olmos (Mex) 6-4 6-2.

Boys' Singles Final: (2) N Budkov Kjaer (Nor) bt M Rottgering (Neth) 6-3 6-3.

Boys' Doubles Final: A Razeghi (US) & M Schoenhaut (Ger) bt J Klimas (Cz Rep) & J Kumstat (Cz Rep) 7-6 (7-1) 6-4.

Girls' Singles Final: (1) R Jamrichova (Slovak) bt (3) E Jones (Aus) 6-3 6-4.

Girls' Doubles Final: (2) T Caterina Grant (US) & I Jovic (US) bt (7) M Stojisavljevic (GB) & M Xu (GB) 7-5 4-6 10-8.

Gentlemen's Wheelchair Singles Final: (2) A Hewett (GB) bt (4) M De la Puente (Sp) 6-2 6-3.

Gentlemen's Wheelchair Doubles Final: (1) A Hewett (GB) & G Reid (GB) bt (2) T Miki (Jpn) & T Oda (Jpn) 6-4 7-6 (7-2).

Ladies Wheelchair Doubles Final: (1) V Kamiji (Jpn) & K Montjane (SA) bt (2) D De Groot (Neth) & J Griffioen (Neth) 6-4 6-4.

Quad Wheelchair Singles Final: (2) N Vink (Neth) bt (1) S Schroder (Neth) 7-6 (7-4) 6-4.

PLAYING TODAY

FOOTBALL

COPA AMERICA FINAL

Argentina v Colombia (1).....

FRIENDLIES: Rosenberg v Man Utd (5.0).

Sport on TV



Tennis: ATP & WTA Tours

Sky Sports Main Event, 10am

Racing: York, Sandown, Chester

ITV4, 1.30pm

Cycling: Tour of Ain

Eurosport 1, 1pm

Darts: World Matchplay

Sky Sports Action, 7pm



Stunning rout of Djokovic is coronation of King Carlos

Carlos Alcaraz confirmed he is the new king of grass by handing Novak Djokovic his worst ever Wimbledon defeat to retain the title.

Djokovic had been attempting to break the all-time record by winning his 25th grand-slam title, but was denied by Alcaraz 6-2, 6-2, 7-6.

The Spaniard has now won four grand slam titles, just the fourth man in Open era history to have done so before the age of 22, joining Rafael Nadal, Bjorn Borg and Boris Becker in an illustrious group.

It also means Djokovic (*below*), who had knee surgery after the French Open before returning to action inside a month, has still not won a title in 2024. Never before in his professional career has he reached the end of July without opening his account for the calendar year.

Alcaraz did not so much surge over the line as stumble over it, Djokovic saving three match points before securing his first break of the entire match. It forced Alcaraz to a third-set tie-break where Djokovic, who was uncharacteristically sloppy throughout the match, leaked a forehand wide at 3-4 to hand the Spaniard a mini-break.

This time around, there was no double-fault or crowd interference as there had been the first time around, and Djokovic netted the return to hand Alcaraz the title for the second year in a row.

The Serb was trying to equal Roger Federer's record of eight Wimbledon titles but was out-gunned by Alcaraz's 42 winners to 26, and admitted afterwards he had not played his best.

"The level of tennis wasn't up to par for my side. He had it all today," Djokovic said. "I tried to push him, saved three match points and extended the match a little bit, but it wasn't meant to be. He was an absolutely deserved winner today."

Having won the French Open last

James Gray

SPORTS NEWS
CORRESPONDENT
AT THE ALL ENGLAND CLUB



month, Alcaraz becomes just the sixth man in the history of the professional game to "do the double" from Roland Garros to Wimbledon: Djokovic, Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal, Borg and Rod Laver.

"It's a huge honour to be part of those players who have achieved [that]," said Alcaraz. "Really glad to be in the same table as Novak to do it. Huge champions."

"I don't consider myself a champion yet. Not as them."

"But I try to keep going, building my path, my journey. It's a huge honour for me."

As well as Alcaraz played, the question everyone will ask is, what was wrong with Djokovic. Had he not saved three match points when Alcaraz served at 4-5 in the third set, he would have been dispatched in two hours and eight minutes.

There was hardly a single statistic in which Djokovic led. He only won one rally longer than nine shots over the entire match, hit 25 unforced errors, and was broken five

times in 14 service games. Alcaraz created 14 break-point opportunities, while Djokovic had only three.

It was a drubbing the like of which the seven-time champion has never suffered at Wimbledon. In 2008 and 2010 he only won 12 games against Marat Safin and Tomas Berdych, but that was before he had ever won the tournament, before he became the greatest of all-time.

Is this the beginning of the end? It is probably not fair to assess that on the basis of this match. He had a kind draw to the reach the final a month after knee surgery and was blown away by the defending champion. But Djokovic's slump is more than just a post-operative malaise. He has not beaten a top-10 player this year and, along with his title drought, this was his first final.

Tim Henman on the BBC called it "an annihilation". Even Nick Kyrgios, one of Djokovic's biggest fans, admitted afterwards: "Wow. Love Djokovic, but is this maybe the first time we can say the 'changing of the guard'!?"

It very much feels that way. It is up to Djokovic to prove everyone wrong.



I tried, saved three match points, but it wasn't meant to be. He was an absolutely deserved winner

4

Number of grand slam titles won by Carlos Alcaraz, at the age of 21. Rafael Nadal was 22, Roger Federer 23 and Novak Djokovic 24 when they won their fourth.



Carlos Alcaraz turns to his box to celebrate after defeating Novak Djokovic PA

Serb is box-office and essential – the last thing his sport needs is him fading into the night

Erasing an outspoken homophobe from tennis' ultimate record is just one reason to hope Novak Djokovic bounces back from this Wimbledon final defeat. It will sting for some time, the straight sets loss to Carlos Alcaraz, but Djokovic must channel this disappointment when resuming his bid to move one clear of Margaret Court at the US Open next month.

Flushing Meadows was the scene of his 24th slam last year, so if anyone can, Djokovic can, providing he treats yesterday as the collector's item it was, the rarity of a one-sided final going against him. It was, after all, another final, the 37th at this

Michael Hincks

AT THE ALL ENGLAND CLUB



level for the 37-year-old, who on grass remains the greatest challenger to the young Spaniard.

The age gap was noticeable as a 21-year-old played the veteran with a knee brace off the court, but the sport needs Djokovic to fight on. Alcaraz, too, can only improve the more he plays the great Serbian.

And Wimbledon needs him, not just for these direct meetings with Alcaraz, but in the bigger picture. He was pivotal in

breathing life into a fortnight that otherwise fell pretty flat.

Djokovic still causes a stir and attracts an audience for whom he is a Marmite character.

One side sees a violin-playing wind-up merchant eager to rile up the crowd and ensure every superhero has its villain, while on the other side he remains a hero to millions, and continues to play at a level few – or only one, really – can match.

He remains a huge draw, has an army of fans, and is one of the first names spectators will look for on the order of play.

With Andy Murray gone, that leaves Djokovic as the last one standing from the legendary old guard. And, rather typically, as



'I like it this way' – Different winners at Wimbledon suits the new champion

By Eleanor Crooks
AT THE ALL ENGLAND CLUB

Barbora Krejčíková is a fan of the unpredictability in women's tennis after she turned a nightmare season around to become the latest surprise Wimbledon champion.

The Czech's three-set victory over Jasmine Paolini made her the eighth different winner of the women's singles in as many years, with the last seven all first-time champions at the All England Club.

"It's exciting," said Krejčíková. "The ladies' tennis right now, everyone knows how to play and it's good. I like it this way. It's very unpredictable and it's different. It's nice everybody has that potential and can believe they can be the next slam champion."

Krejčíková is no stranger to grand slam finals having won 10 titles in doubles and her first singles crown at the French Open three years ago.

But she came into Wimbledon on the back of a very difficult run having struggled with injury and illness. Since reaching the quarter-finals of the Australian Open in January, Krejčíková had won just three of her 10 singles matches prior to a three-hour battle against Veronika Kudermetova in the first round here.

She thoroughly merited her victory, coming through a tough draw that saw her beat four top-15 opponents, including former champion Elena Rybakina in the semi-finals.

"It wasn't really a good journey coming here," said Krejčíková. "It was a very tough period. I went match by match. I was just fighting through. I told myself that I will do everything to play the ball back and to fight for every ball and see how far

It's very unpredictable, everybody has that potential and can believe they can be the next slam champion

I can go." Krejčíková has taken her mind off tennis during her time in London by sewing and building Lego sets. "I can turn off my brain and just think about something else," she said. "I like all the bricks. The more little it is, the better it is."

The Czech particularly likes the architecture sets and is hoping Lego will start selling a model of Centre Court. "I would love that, I would build that," she said. "I hope they will."

Krejčíková's celebrations will have to be brief because she is entered into the Prague Open beginning on 21 July and has her eyes on another big prize later this month when the Olympics take place in Paris.

The 28-year-old already has a gold medal in women's doubles with Katerina Siniakova from Tokyo, and the pair will be among the favourites again at Roland Garros.

"I'm definitely going to celebrate but I also have another tournament I would like to play in Prague," said Krejčíková. "It's my home country tournament so I would like to be there. Then after that the Olympics. It's also a big goal for me to participate there and represent the Czech Republic. I love to represent my country. I experienced the Tokyo Olympics and it was unbelievable, I really enjoyed the atmosphere in the Czech house and also meeting other athletes from different countries."

"It was very nice, definitely different to a regular tennis tournament. I'm really looking forward to that."

3
Barbora Krejčíková had won just three of her 10 singles matches prior to Wimbledon

opposed to merely relinquishing the crown to Alcaraz and Co, he has continued to wrestle for it.

It has been essential. His tenacity has ensured the fourth and last truly great rivalry of his career has not been as fleeting as some might have thought. This was their sixth meeting overall, a third at a grand slam, and though that is mighty shy of his 59 duels with Rafael Nadal, 50 with Roger Federer and 36 with Murray, it has come to define Djokovic's final chapter.

How long that lasts depends on how long this man seemingly made of elastic can withstand the pressures facing a 37-year-old body playing elite sport. Djokovic's French Open withdrawal last month was his first walkover in 13 years, while he last retired hurt during a match at the 2019 US Open.

The knee injury was a sign that even a player who has so carefully constructed a pliable physique, who is so diligent with his diet and incorporates yoga into his training, is not invincible.

His swift comeback from surgery somewhat disproves that, and having previously confessed he will only retire once he feels as though he can no longer consistently challenge at the top, this fortnight has surely proved it won't be anytime soon – regardless of how



yesterday's final played out. And love him or loathe him, it helps the sport in this post-Federer-Nadal-Murray era.

Jannik Sinner may remain the world No 1, but on grass the Italian is undeniably a level below Djokovic and Alcaraz, with his quarter-final exit this year checking the progress that had taken him to the semi-finals in 2023.

It remains a different story on the hard courts, where Sinner came up trumps at the Australian Open earlier this year, while Djokovic was a cut above at the US Open 10 months ago, but on the grass it was no surprise to see a repeat of last year's Wimbledon final, Djokovic's sixth straight and 10th overall.

That it was so professional for Alcaraz was the surprise.

Expect Djokovic to compete at the US Open, and going by his closing words to his team on-court after the final – "Thanks for being in my corner, and let's keep it going" – expect that he does so for years to come.



Barbora Krejčíková holds aloft the trophy after beating Jasmine Paolini GETTY

RUGBY UNION SOUTH AFRICA 24-25 IRELAND

Farrell marks half century with best performance yet in Boks win

By Ed Elliot

Andy Farrell believes Ireland's "outstanding" first-half performance against South Africa in Durban is "as good as it gets" after celebrating his 50th match as head coach with a famous 25-24 victory.

The Six Nations champions flew out of the blocks on Saturday evening at Kings Park Stadium and led 16-6 at the break thanks to a ferocious display.

Yet Ireland were forced to weather a second-half storm against the world champions before Ciaran Frawley landed two late drop goals, including one with the final kick, to deservedly snatch a 1-1 series draw.

Farrell saluted the "guts" of replacement fly-half Frawley and the rest of his team as he heads into the summer break buoyed by one of the finest wins of his career.

"As far as drama and the pressure we put on ourselves to perform, it's right up there because they're a wonderful team," Farrell, whose side were beaten 27-20 a week earlier in Pretoria, said of the victory. "It was the sublime to the ridiculous, wasn't it?"

"It was a complete role reversal of last week. First-half performance not too great last week; this week, I thought it was outstanding, as good as it gets."

"Second half last week was good; this week we've made enough mis-

takes to lose three games in that second half. But you just know when you're hanging in there that there's always going to be a chance with this team because of the guts, the bravery they've got and they showed that in spades. The character we showed, that's what sport's about really."

Conor Murray's 14th-minute try helped Ireland establish a 10-point half-time advantage.

Indiscipline crept into the tourists' play during a more chaotic second period and Handre Pollard's eight penalties looked to have secured bragging rights for South Africa.

But Frawley produced a memorable match-winning cameo to add to 14 points from Jack Crowley.

"He had the guts in the first place to do the first drop goal and I thought it was immense how he had the courage to take it early, so fair play to him," Farrell said.

The absorbing two-match series took place amid ongoing debate about which of the sides is international rugby's best.

"I actually don't care," Farrell said. "Two good sides, you wouldn't want to separate them."

South Africa head coach Rassie Erasmus accepted Ireland were worthy winners.

"We can sit here with a sad face and think of excuses but the best team won on the day," he said. "We're really disappointed and the fans will be disappointed."

As far as drama and pressure on ourselves, it's up there because they're a wonderful team

NEW ZEALAND 24-17 ENGLAND



New Zealand mocked England but they're not laughing now

Borthwick's men have been unlucky, says **Adam Hathaway** in Auckland

England headed off to Waiheke Island yesterday, a picturesque resort spot a 40-minute ferry ride from Auckland, for a Sunday lunch that would have had a bitter taste.

Steve Borthwick's men added a 24-17 defeat at Eden Park to the 16-15 one in Dunedin a week earlier and both left the tourists with a sense of what might have been.

They have ticked off being competitive against New Zealand, have probably earned a bit of respect but they have not dealt in

the hard currency of international sport: wins.

After the game Borthwick (right) recounted how he had been subjected to taunts by some members of the Kiwi public who didn't think England even deserved to be playing at the All Blacks' spiritual home.

He delivered the stories of his encounters with the locals in typical deadpan style which left captain Jamie George unable to suppress a smile.

"A lot of people were saying after the first Test that New Zealand

were going to get so much better," Borthwick said. "I was being told by people in the street about 10 times a day how much we were going to get blown away at Eden Park."

"I was stopped on the street on Friday by a gentleman who told me that they had unpicked our rush defence, they knew how they were going to beat it, and were going to deliver that. I said 'thank you for that'."

"I was told in the lift today that it was a privilege for us to play at Eden Park and we would be lucky if we were to get away with less than 50 points conceded."

All pretty standard stuff for rugby tourists down here but Borthwick's side deserved more than to come away with no wins in the series.

They had, in Maro Itoje, the best starting player on the pitch on Saturday, with New Zealand full-back Beauden Barrett again changing the game off the bench. Itoje now has 10 weeks off and, after being on the go for 13 months, he deserves to put his feet up. He nearly got England over the line, but they just fell short as they did in Dunedin, in Lyon against France in the Six Nations and in Paris in the World Cup semi-final against South Africa.

Itoje's partner at lock, George Martin, is here to stay as are



Ciaran Frawley (left) watches his late drop goal go over in Durban AP



Maro Itoje soared against the All Blacks on Saturday, but England still went down to a 24-17 defeat GETTY

Chandler Cunningham-South and wings Tommy Freeman and Immanuel Feyi-Waboso. But England have problems at tight-head with Dan Cole, at 37, still the best option and not much coming up behind him and Will Stuart, with Kyle Sinckler ineligible after moving to France.

There are big hopes for Bath's Billy Sela, currently at the World U20 Championship in South Africa, but he may not be ready for the autumn internationals.

And guess who is first up at Twickenham on 2 November?

Yep, New Zealand, who England have hardly played in 10 years and now face them three times on the bounce.

That date should have a big red circle around it in Borthwick's diary, because New Zealand got away with two matches here and to let them make it a hat-trick would be a sporting crime.

Barrett altered the course of both Test matches after coming on as a replacement and was ultimately the difference between the two sides. It makes you wonder what he would do if he started every week. He made Mark Tele'a's second try and had a hand in denying George one, late on the game, whether legally or illegally but he showed the value of

the experience of 125 caps and you can't buy that.

"He had a significant influence on the game, everyone could see that, the way he dealt with some tricky situations in his own 22 and ended up putting New Zealand in a pretty favourable field position a number of times, as well as his distribution and threat in that wider channel." Borthwick said.

"You can't accelerate the experiences. Look at that New Zealand team and they bring him on, one of the world's best players, and his impact is phenomenal."

What he could have done with a Barrett of his own to come on and close out the game with 20 or so minutes left when England still led.

Borthwick has the side in better shape than they were before the World

Cup, when they managed to lose a warm-up game to Fiji but now won't see his players until before the November series which also includes games against South Africa, Australia and Japan.

And even a lunch of locally caught snapper and a glass of white won't wash away the frustrating taste of the last two weeks down under. Maybe revenge will be served cold at Twickenham but that is a few months off.



Euro 2024 Your complete results guide

GROUP RESULTS AND TABLES

GROUP A

Germany 5-1 Scotland
Hungary 1-3 Switzerland
Germany 2-0 Hungary
Scotland 1-1 Switzerland
Switzerland 1-1 Germany
Scotland 0-1 Hungary

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Germany (Q)	3	2	1	0	8	2	7
Swit'land (Q)	3	1	2	0	5	3	5
Hungary	3	1	0	2	2	5	3
Scotland	3	0	1	2	2	7	1

GROUP B

Spain 3-0 Croatia
Italy 2-1 Albania
Croatia 2-2 Albania
Spain 1-0 Italy
Albania 0-1 Spain
Croatia 1-1 Italy

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain (Q)	3	3	0	0	5	0	9
Italy (Q)	3	1	1	1	3	3	4
Croatia	3	0	2	1	3	6	2
Albania	3	0	1	2	3	5	1

GROUP C

Slovenia 1-1 Denmark
Serbia 0-1 England
Slovenia 1-1 Serbia
Denmark 1-1 England
England 0-0 Slovenia
Denmark 0-0 Serbia

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England (Q)	3	1	2	0	2	1	6
Denmark (Q)	3	0	3	0	2	2	3
Slovenia (Q)	3	0	3	0	2	2	3
Serbia	3	0	2	1	1	2	2

GROUP D

Poland 1-2 Netherlands
Austria 0-1 France
Poland 1-3 Austria
Netherlands 0-0 France
Netherlands 2-3 Austria
France 1-1 Poland

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Austria (Q)	3	2	0	1	6	4	6
France (Q)	3	1	2	0	2	1	5
Neth'lands (Q)	3	1	1	1	4	4	4
Poland	3	0	1	2	3	6	1

GROUP E

Romania 3-0 Ukraine
Belgium 0-1 Slovakia
Slovakia 1-2 Ukraine
Belgium 2-0 Romania
Slovakia 1-1 Romania
Ukraine 0-0 Belgium

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Romania (Q)	3	1	1	1	4	3	4
Belgium (Q)	3	1	1	1	2	1	4
Slovakia (Q)	3	1	1	1	3	3	4
Ukraine	3	1	1	1	2	4	4

GROUP F

Turkey 3-1 Georgia
Portugal 2-1 Czech Republic
Georgia 1-1 Czech Republic
Turkey 0-3 Portugal
Georgia 2-0 Portugal
Czech Republic 1-2 Turkey

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portugal (Q)	3	2	0	1	5	3	6
Turkey (Q)	3	2	0	1	5	5	6
Georgia (Q)	3	1	1	1	4	4	4
Czech Rep	3	0	1	2	3	5	1

KNOCKOUT STAGE

ROUND OF 16

Switzerland 2-0 Italy
Germany 2-0 Denmark
England 2-1 Slovakia
(after extra time)
Spain 4-1 Georgia
France 1-0 Belgium
Portugal 0-0 Slovenia
(AET; Portugal won 3-0 on penalties)
Romania 0-3 Netherlands
Austria 1-2 Turkey

QUARTER-FINALS

Spain 2-1 Germany
(after extra time)
Portugal 0-0 France
(AET; France won 5-3 on penalties)
England 1-1 Switzerland
(AET; England won 5-3 on penalties)
Netherlands 2-1 Turkey

SEMI-FINALS

Spain 2-1 France
Netherlands 1-2 England

FINAL

Spain 2-1 England

SCORERS

3 GOALS

C Gakpo Netherlands
H Kane England
G Mikautadze Georgia
J Musiala Germany
D Olmo Spain
I Schranz Slovakia

2 GOALS

J Bellingham England
M Demiral Turkey
B Embolo Switzerland
N Füllkrug Germany
K Havertz Germany
D Malen Netherlands
R Marin Romania
F Ruiz Spain
N Williams Spain
F Wirtz Germany

1 GOAL

M Aebischer Switzerland
S Akaydin Turkey
K Akturkoglu Turkey
M Arnautovic Austria
N Bajrami Albania
N Barella Italy
A Bastoni Italy
C Baumgartner Austria
A Buksa Poland
H Calhanoglu Turkey
E Can Germany
D Carvajal Spain
F Conceicao Portugal
K Csoboth Hungary
K De Bruyne Belgium
S de Vrij Netherlands
M Depay Netherlands
D Dragus Romania
K Duah Switzerland
O Duda Slovakia
C Eriksen Denmark
B Fernandes Portugal
R Freuler Switzerland
K Gjasula Albania
M Gregoritsch Austria
A Guler Turkey
I Gundogan Germany
M Hjulmand Denmark
E Janza Slovenia
L Jovic Serbia
Z Karnicnik Slovenia
R Kolo Muani France
A Kramaric Croatia
K Kvaratskhelia Georgia
Q Laci Albania
R Lewandowski Poland
S McTominay Scotland

K Mbappé France
M Merino Spain
L Modric Croatia
A Morata Spain
M Muldur Turkey
D Ndoye Switzerland
M Oyarzabal Spain
C Palmer England
K Piatek Poland
L Provod Czech Republic
Rodri Spain
M Sabitzer Austria
B Saka England
P Schick Czech Republic
R Schmid Austria
M Shaparenko Ukraine
X Shaqiri Switzerland
B Silva Portugal
X Simons Netherlands
T Soucek Czech Republic
N Stanciu Romania
Y Tielemans Belgium
F Torres Spain
C Tosun Turkey
G Trauner Austria
B Varga Hungary
R Vargas Switzerland
O Watkins England
W Weghorst Netherlands
L Yamal Spain
R Yaremchuk Ukraine
M Zaccagni Italy

OWN GOALS 10

HAT-TRICKS 0

MOST ASSISTS

L Yamal Spain 4
13 players on two assists

RED CARDS

A Barak (Czech Republic) v Turkey
D Carvajal (Spain) v Germany
T Chory (Czech Republic) v Turkey
R Porteous (Scotland) v Germany
B Yildirim (Turkey) v Netherlands

MOST YELLOW CARDS

D Carvajal Spain 3
Rodri Spain 3
S Widmer Switzerland 3

MOST SAVES

G Mamardashvili Georgia 29
B Verbruggen Netherlands 18
J Pickford England 17
M Maignan France 16
F Nita Romania 16

MOST CLEAN SHEETS

M Maignan France 4

MOST TACKLES MADE

J Bellingham England 24
J Palhinha Portugal 16
P-E Hojbjerg Denmark 15
D Rice England 15

MOST PASSES COMPLETED

J Stones England 526
T Kroos Germany 495
D Rice England 490

MOST MINUTES PLAYED

J Pickford England 690
D Rice England 690
J Stones England 690
K Walker England 690

MOST ATTEMPTS ON GOAL

K Mbappé France 24
C Ronaldo Portugal 23
K Havertz Germany 19
M Depay Netherlands 18
H Kane England 18
L Yamal Spain 18



Arda Guler curls in his stunner for Turkey against Georgia REUTERS

'Was für ein Tor!'* The best strikes of the tournament

By James Mariner

After a promising start on opening weekend, as Germany hit Scotland for five and the Spanish sizzled against Croatia, caution quickly took hold at Euro 2024 – not least in the tough watch that was England's opening 1-0 victory over Serbia.

Goalfeats were rare – only five teams scored more than two in a group stage match after day two – while Spain were the only other side to score four in a game. There were no hat-tricks and the only braces both came on the same night, Donyell Malen and Merih Demiral.

That is not to say the quality of the strikes were lacking. We look at the best 10 strikes from the last month, in date order.

Fabian Ruiz

Spain 3-0 Croatia, 15 June

La Roja put out an early marker in Berlin, with the ParisSaint-Germain maestro the fore. Lamine Yamal and Pedri played the ball across to Ruiz in the middle, who danced delightfully into the Croatian box before slamming in Spain's second.

Nicolae Stanciu

Romania 3-0 Ukraine, 17 June

In a challenging Group E no-one expected Romania to finish top, and it was their opening win in Munich that took them a long way to progressing. The winger made the most of a goalkeeping error to arrow a superb, bending effort back over Andrei Lunin to give Romania the lead.

Mert Muldur

Turkey 3-1 Georgia, 18 June

After failing dismally to make good on their dark horses tag at Euro 2020, Turkey more than caught the eye at Dortmund in front of a tumultuous support. The Fenerbahce right-back rifled in a volley from a headed clearance to give Giorgi Mamardashvili no chance. Just don't mention his quarter-final own goal...

Arda Guler

Turkey 3-1 Georgia, 18 June

Further Turkish delight from the *What a goal!

Ruhr as the Real Madrid wunderkind belied his tender age to cut in from the left and curl a stupendous effort around Mamardashvili.

Lukas Provod

Portugal 2-1 Czech Republic, 18 June

The left-winger connected beautifully with Vladimir Coufal's cut-back, curling past Diogo Costa to put the Czechs ahead in Leipzig. They could not hang on.

Xherdan Shaqiri

Scotland 1-1 Switzerland, 19 June

The former Liverpool and Stoke City veteran reintroduced himself to British audiences in Cologne, seizing on Anthony Ralston's short backpass to rifle over Angus Gunn from distance.

Marcel Sabitzer

Netherlands 2-3 Austria, 25 June

The former Manchester United man set the seal on a fine team move and blasted in from an acute angle in Berlin to gain reward for Austria's sparkling display.

Jude Bellingham

England 2-1 Slovakia (aet), 30 June

Who else? The Real star struggled to maintain his fine start to the tournament as England faced embarrassment but rescued his side with seconds left in Gelsenkirchen. Marc Guéhi headed on Kyle Walker's throw and Bellingham threw himself at the ball, connecting at an obscene angle to wrongfoot Martin Dubravka.

Nico Williams

Spain 4-1 Georgia, 30 June

The Athletic Bilbao winger, 22 last week, fizzed down the left side to punish an exhausted Georgia in this last 16 tie in Cologne, tricking his way past Giorgi Gvelesiani before rifling high into the net for the third.

Lamine Yamal

Spain 2-1 France, 9 July

Barcelona's teenage whizzkid – just 16 at the time, not sure if you heard – made Adrien Rabiot eat his words, making space for himself in this Munich semi-final before lofting over Mike Maignan from fully 25 yards.

Coming to a club near you? The Euro 2024 stars who put themselves in the shop window

Daniel Storey sorts A-listers from dependable understudies

With Euro 2024 over, the interest now pivots to the domestic game and the transfer window, with Premier League football returning in four weeks. So what better way to make the transition than with a team of players who nudged themselves to the front of the shop window in Germany...

Goalkeeper Giorgi Mamardashvili (Georgia)

Statistically the best goalkeeper this summer, Mamardashvili saved Georgia 4.1 goals according to the quality of chances faced. But hell, just use your eyes: Mamardashvili was a one-man brick wall who was repeatedly pictured being mobbed by teammates after thwarting his opponents. Having missed only one La Liga game in the last two seasons for Valencia, Mamardashvili was linked with Newcastle United before the tournament. The asking price has gone up.

Right-back Stefan Posch (Austria)

Only right that we credit Bologna's influence on this tournament, and both of their full-backs make this team. Austria shone brightly at Euro 2024 despite their last-16 exit, topping a group containing France and the Netherlands. Posch played every minute of their campaign, assisting their only goal of the knockout stages. Having signed from Hoffenheim for just €5m (£4.3m) in 2023, he would be a fine option for any mid-table Premier League club. West Ham, perhaps, replacing Vladimir Coufal?

Left-back Michel Aebischer (Switzerland)

Another nation who shone brightly but left earlier than we anticipated; another team who used a Bologna full-back to excellent effect.

Aebischer moved to Serie A from Young Boys in 2022 for €3m, but is worth several times that now. He scored and assisted during the 3-1 win over Hungary that opened Switzerland's tournament and then assisted Ruben Vargas's tie-clinching goal against Italy in the last-16. Aebischer could play at left-back or as a wing-back.

Central defender Jaka Bijol (Slovenia)

Nottingham Forest have already been strongly linked to Bijol, and you can see why. He's 6ft 3in, has already played club football in four different countries (including Champions League experience) and has 53 international caps. Bijol impressed in Germany, with Slovenia conceding only twice in their four matches, and reports suggest that Italian champions Inter are keen to recruit him. The last few weeks may just have set up the rest of his career.

Central defender Merih Demiral (Turkey)

There were doubts about the ability of Saudi Pro League players to cope with the intensity of a European Championship, but it turned out many of those player were fresher than their European-based counterparts. Demiral (*below*) signed for Al-Ahli last summer, but at just 26 would surely be interested in returning to a high-profile



Clockwise from main: Ivan Schranz of Slovakia; Georgia goalkeeper Giorgi Mamardashvili; Ruben Vargas of Switzerland; Stefan Posch of Austria
GETTY

European league. He's played Champions League football for Atalanta and Juventus and would be an excellent backup for, say, Aston Villa or Tottenham.

Central midfielder Timi Max Elsnik (Slovenia)

One of the stories of the tournament: Elsnik was loaned out by Derby County to Mansfield Town and Northampton Town in 2019 before returning to his homeland and Olimpija Ljubljana a year later. He has since won a league title, played in all three European competitions and forced his way into the Slovenia team, starting all four games in Germany. Given his likely small asking price and experience within English football, Elsnik could be a useful fringe player for a promoted club.

Central midfielder Morten Hjulmand (Denmark)

A relatively late bloomer in the



Denmark side, Hjulmand moved to Sporting CP for €18m one month after his senior international debut in September 2023. Since then, he's earned himself a starting place, showing the energy and physicality to support Christian Eriksen's playmaking in central midfield. He also scored a tremendous goal against England, which helps the case for a Premier League move. The next member of Brentford's Danish enclave, anyone?

Attacking midfielder Dani Olmo (Spain)

Hardly an unknown quantity before this tournament, Olmo began it on the bench but was thrust into the breach by Pedri's injury – nobody thought so at the time but Toni Kroos may just have platformed Spain's triumph. Olmo left Spain at the age of 17 for Dinamo Zagreb, joined RB Leipzig in 2020 and has since become one of the most versatile attacking midfielders in

Europe. Still only 26, he's a prime candidate for a big-club move. The only issue is finding the right fit in England – Manchester United or Arsenal, perhaps?

Right wing Ivan Schranz (Slovakia)

Every international tournament needs an emphatically unlikely breakout star, someone who you had barely heard of before June and then wonder if he could do a job for your club by early July. Schranz is a perfect example: 30 years old, a career that has taken him through club football in native Slovakia, Czech Republic and Cyprus and a starring role at Euro 2024. A cheap pickup from Slavia Prague for one of the lower-reaching Premier League clubs? Why not.

Left wing Nico Williams (Spain)

Reports were linking Barcelona – presumably by moving various financial levers – with a move



for Williams even before the tournament began, but we might now get a bunfight. For their part, Athletic Bilbao president Jon Uriarte hit out at an “uncontrolled bombardment of questions” towards the 22-year-old winger and denied that he would be going anywhere. It feels like classic “£80m offer from Chelsea” territory.

Striker Ruben Vargas (Switzerland)

Slim pickings for this position, given the failure of strikers to score goals this summer and Georgia's Georges Mikautadze selfishly sorting out a move to Monaco before we could write this piece. Still, Vargas scored and assisted for Switzerland against Italy in the last-16, is only 25 and currently plays his club football for FC Augsburg, who finished 11th in the Bundesliga. I'm going to say that Crystal Palace or Southampton are the perfect clubs for this one.

ITV 1-0 BBC – how the underdogs beat Auntie in the battle of the box

Before every major men's tournament, ITV and BBC bigwigs meet in a poorly-lit room to draft the matches they want to broadcast.

First pick alternates from tournament to tournament, with ITV prioritising England's semi-final this year. The audience for the 2-1 win over the Netherlands peaked at 20.3million, comfortably the most-watched show on British TV in 2024.

That was, of course, until last night. As always, the final was aired on both ITV1 and BBC One. For the Euro 2020 final, 81 per cent of the 30.9m viewers went to the Beeb.

But in 2024, that just shouldn't be the case. Over the past month, the BBC's punditry on England games and the wider tournament has been overwhelmingly disappointing. ITV's has been far from perfect, but has blown Gary Lineker and his podcasting pals out of the water.

BBC

To start with the obvious – Rio Ferdinand (*above*) and Micah Richards should never share a screen. Every punditry panel is allowed 1 (one) comic relief slot.

On England duty, the third pundit has been either Cesc Fabregas or Frank Lampard, who have often had to fight to get a word in edgewise, but excelled when they have.

And the BBC's studio team did improve away from England games – Wayne Rooney's exit was a tragedy for all involved as he was a natural pundit.

After an understandably anxious start where his military posture hogged the limelight, Joe Hart showed he certainly has a future in TV, while Thomas Frank was as insightful as you'd expect an active Premier League boss to be. Holding it together has been an all-star host of hosts – Lineker, Gabby Logan, Alex Scott and Mark Chapman.

But the defining feature of the BBC's England coverage was its whiplash-inducing flailing from overegged criticism against Denmark to borderline gaslighting against Switzerland. Pick a side, any side, and flog it for all its worth. Don't believe your eyes, Phil Foden looks just like Messi out there. Bored? You must not be smart enough to get it. This is arthouse football.

Their commentary has been largely on brand – efficient and effective – but they assembled the Avengers of miserable co-commentary. Alan Shearer

George Simms



doesn't carry off rage as easily as Roy Keane. Jermaine Jenas is such an inoffensive co-comm it's hard to say anything about him at all.

This fuses into something rather discordant and uncomfortable, with Fabregas and Rooney the only standout performers. If 81 per cent of the viewership tuned into the BBC last night, expect them to have been disappointed.

ITV

In the Slovakia and Netherlands victories, ITV have been gifted two of the most memorable England games ever, which certainly helped the overall product.

Their coverage was helped by having a smaller group of higher-quality voices to call upon, but they also unleashed a rare broadcasting innovation in Christina Unkel.

Like Fabregas with punditry on the BBC, Unkel (*left*) is so competent she exposes the entire existing industry of refereeing

analysis as a sham. If Evangelos Marinakis had hired her over Mark Clattenburg, the Nottingham Forest owner might have made progress in his war on officials.

On the panel, Keane is mellowing but you still catch him occasionally berating a lack of “proper men”. Gary Neville is probably the second-best regular British pundit behind Jamie Carragher, while Ian Wright

is easy viewing with his natural counterpoise between sincerity and infectious joy.

Ange Postecoglou was understated and impactful, a necessary tonic to break up the *Overlap* stronghold and remind his peers this isn't a podcast. In the hosting chair, Mark Pougatch doesn't have any of the

split identity issues between hosting and punditry Lineker does, while Laura Woods remains the consummate professional.

Their commentary was largely excellent, even if they sent Clive Tyldesley home too early. Sam Matterface continues to prune his Partridgean edges and Seb Hutchinson is blessed with one of the best voices in the gantry.

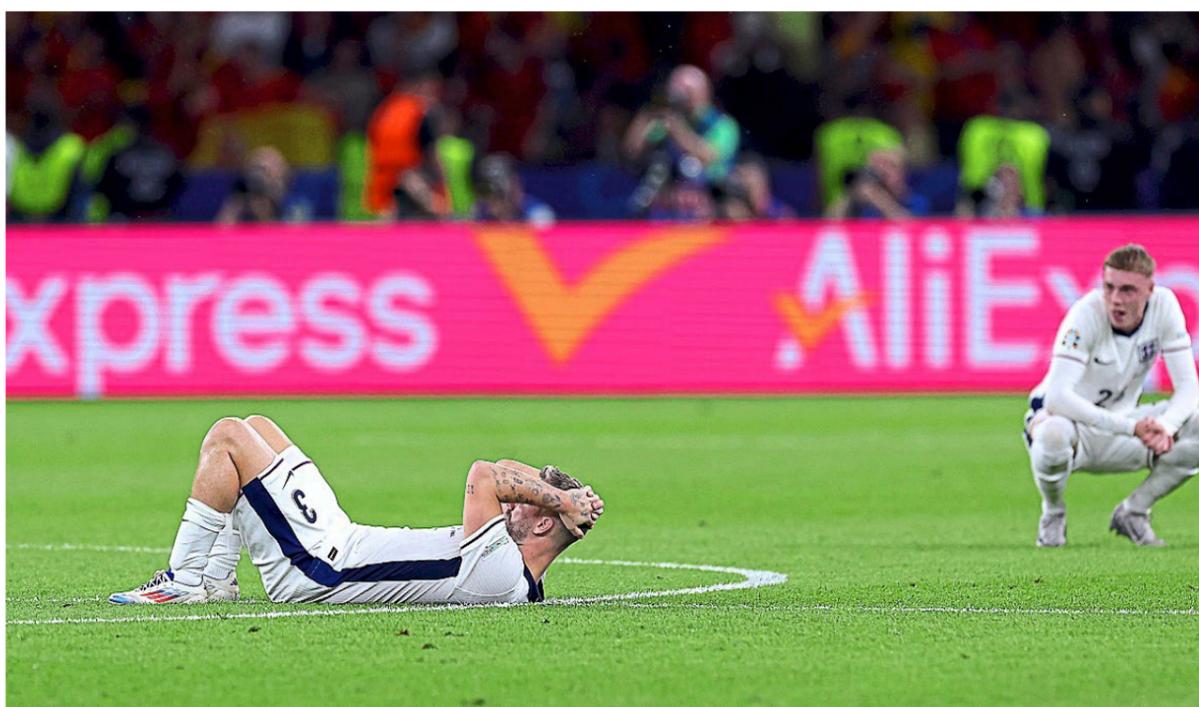
And next to them, Andros Townsend and Ally McCoist were the two finest co-commentators at the tournament.

All-in-all, this produced a far more enjoyable and informative broadcasting experience.



ITV's coverage has been far from perfect but has blown Gary Lineker and his podcasting pals out of the water

The pain shows for (clockwise) Harry Kane, Jude Bellingham, Jordan Pickford, Kyle Walker, Cole Palmer and Luke Shaw GETTY



The last cut is the deepest for Southgate's beaten warriors

Two finals, two defeats. Nobody can argue that it is worse to put your head above the parapet and allow yourself to be hurt so badly than to endure none of these nights at all. Hope is the cruellest emotion but life is more desperate without it. But hurt is still hurt and it still hurts like hell.

At full-time, England's players all stood in the same position, hunched forwards with their hands on their knees. They were broken, knackered, beaten. Not a single England supporter left the Olympiastadion, instead waited to applaud those who they have grown to love so dearly. Whatever happens now, the connections made here and before cannot be allowed to go to waste.

Daniel Storey

CHIEF FOOTBALL WRITER
AT OLYMPIASTADION



Spain were the better team in June and in July too. They were magnificent from Croatia to England, fully deserved winners for the fourth time. They had scored more goals than England, conceded fewer and left better teams chewing dust than England too. They dominated possession to start with – it was nine minutes until England had a spell of pressure-free possession – and then cut England open with counter-attacks in the second half. They can do it all ways.

For a while, just like in 2021, belief didn't feel cheap. The substitutes worked again and Cole Palmer made the breathtaking look easy. But this was a temporary interlude to the general patterns and general patterns tend to produce predictable results. It would have been an upset if anything other than Spain exerting their summer-long dominance had occurred.

In some quarters there will be recriminations for Gareth Southgate (obviously, have you been following?). People have deliberately waited for this moment all summer. His is a management style by which success is predicated by winning. The price you pay for opening a country's eyes to what might

Southgate will be sold as the nearly man when all we ever want is everything. That is his cross to bear

eventually be, pleasant lands over dusty decades of nothingness, is that you become by the standards you set rather than the standards of those who came before you.

England have come so close and Southgate will be sold as the nearly man when all we ever want is everything. That is his cross to bear now. On Friday, England's manager spoke to assembled media and reiterated just how much he yearned for this ending to be different.

He doesn't deserve that grief. They demanded that

Southgate released the shackles for the biggest matches. Call it desperation if you like; I'm happy to err on the side of courage. When England scored their equaliser, Declan Rice was effectively playing as a one-man central midfield. Their manager, supposedly tactically conservative, had accepted that England had lost out in the jabs and intended to make it a slugfest.

This is going to shock you: it was too open. England played on their edge, as they have all tournament, but this time in search of ludicrous victory when perhaps settling for extra-time and stodging things up might have done. Do not ignore the delicious irony: England went too attacking under the manager they said would never attack.

For the dream to be fulfilled, England needed a cult leader. What it got was a very good man manager

ending their hurt. It will continue for goodness knows how much longer.

The angst that has surrounded England at Euro 2024 was surely based partly on real-time evidence (people demanded that England attack because that seemed to them the best form of defence), but also – if you’ll forgive the cod philosophy – was rooted in our own history of underachievement and despair.

When you repeatedly fall short, when you are world champions and when your club teams are dominant in Europe, through Golden Generations and beloved, respected managers, it creates a demand that stretches beyond glory. We didn’t just dream of winning; we built the eventual bliss into something chimerical: a sea of 4-1 v the Dutch and 5-1 v the Germans.

The England manager could never hope to escape that surreality. For all the magnificent work Southgate did in creating the culture in which sustainable growth was not just possible but inevitable, it was never going to be enough. For the dream to be fulfilled, England needed a cult leader. What it got was an outrageously good man manager who never strayed from his own faith in how an international drought could be ended.

Southgate may well walk away now. Those who appreciate him most, perhaps counterintuitively, privately hope that that is his call as much as fierce critics do. The lowest moments of the last two-and-a-half years – Hungary 0-4, the sluggish European Championship group stages and Nations League relegation – have brought harsh censure that culminated in those beer cups in Cologne.

It would be a great shame if that was allowed to escalate further and the next tournament cycle is tough: the draining summer heat of the USA, Mexico and Canada. Best to let someone else have a go. And if a replacement takes this on and realises the national desperation for a major tournament win, Southgate laid the foundations.

None of this matters now. Bitterness and resentment is allowed to bubble at the surface because this isn’t a school sports day. You enter tournaments to win them and thus this becomes a failure – Southgate himself will say as much. We should congratulate the best team at Euro 2024 on their imperious run under a coach created in one of the most effective systems in world football.

But a plea, if anyone will listen: this doesn’t have to be the end of anything. We don’t have to launch another root-and-branch review nor fire up the witch hunt machine. England have tried and fallen and tried and fallen time and time again; now they’re doing it at the sharpest end. That’s why the cuts feel so deep.

England supporters in Berlin (mostly) behave

In downtown Berlin, England fans vastly outnumbered those from Spain, gathering in large numbers in front of the Brandenburg Gate and other popular locations, singing and drinking beer – while listening to the Sugababes, who sang a few lines of “Three Lions (Football’s Coming Home)”, joining in with the crowd’s chants of the 1990s song.

Chants of “God save the King” and “Hey Jude” – after England midfield-

er Jude Bellingham – could be heard from England supporters beside the Spree River.

Spain had already enjoyed an early win yesterday, with Carlos Alcaraz capturing his second straight Wimbledon men’s singles title by beating Novak Djokovic.

Alcaraz was asked about the Euro 2024 final in an interview on Centre Court, and the crowd started booing.

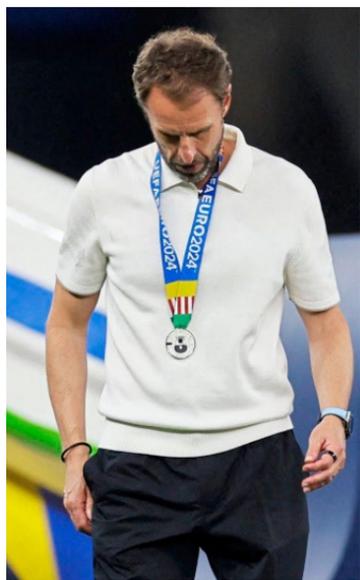
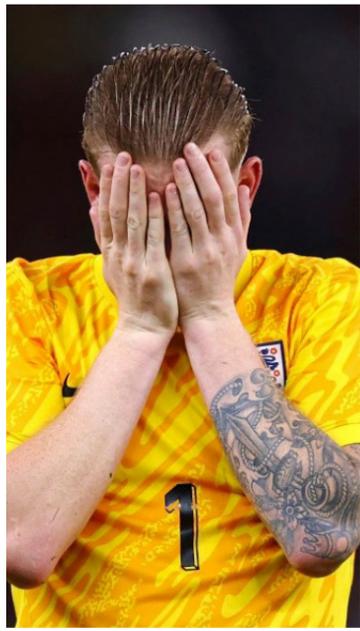
“I’ve already done my job,” the

Spaniard said, smiling, “so let’s see the football.”

Some fans in Berlin embarrassed themselves – one man in an England shirt climbed a flagpole while others stood on tables drinking beer and chanting. Among the football songs sung by supporters was “Ten German Bombers”, which refers to the “RAF from England” shooting German aircraft down.

Manager Gareth Southgate has previously described chants referring to the First and Second World Wars as “unacceptable”.

» **Alcaraz retains title, p54**



Gareth Southgate after his second straight defeat in a Euros final

And yet despite all that, there were fine margins to clang against Spain’s dominance. When you watch back the montages of this tournament before the next World Cup, see those three bounces of the ball at that late corner as the final headed into stoppage time. Save, clearance off the line, header over the bar. With it went England’s shot at

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Oyarzabal goal ensures the hurt goes on and on

SPAIN
Williams 47, Oyarzabal 86

2

ENGLAND
Palmer 73

1

Sam Cunningham

CHIEF FOOTBALL
CORRESPONDENT
AT OLYMPIASTADION



When will it ever end? Fifty-eight years of hurt, and counting. The wait for a major tournament trophy will hit a seventh decade by the time the next World Cup comes along. It feels like a lifetime – it has literally been one.

Yet another supremely gifted crop of English footballers have gone further than many of the generations before, but still not all the way, ultimately outplayed by Spain and deservedly beaten.

Gareth Southgate, the England manager, has done so much to change perceptions of the England national team, internally and externally. England simply didn't get to this stage consistently in World Cups and European Championships before Southgate reluctantly took the job and went from caretaker to centurion, the final his 102nd game in charge.

But does any of it matter if they can't win something?

How does a nation that produces such talented footballers fail so spectacularly when it comes to the big stage?

Paul Gascoigne, Paul Scholes, Alan Shearer, David Beckham, Steven Gerrard, Wayne Rooney, Gary Lineker, Ashley Cole, Rio Ferdinand, Kevin Keegan, Harry Kane.

Kane and his teammates in Germany, the great and good of football, would be able between them to open a football museum with all

Spain



England

Substitutions:
Spain Zubimendi (Rodri, h-t), Oyarzabal (Morata, 68), Nacho (Le Normand, 83), Merino (Yamal, 89).
England Watkins (Kane, 61), Palmer (Mainoo, 70), Toney (Foden, 89).

Player of the match

Jordan Pickford Did his best to keep England in the game but he could do nothing about the goals

the trophies and winners' medals they have collected in club football over the past few years.

It seems to make no sense. But maybe football doesn't have to make sense – maybe that's its mysterious beauty.

Nothing made sense about the chaos of England's route to the final: a turgid, disjointed group stage; Jude Bellingham's overhead kick in the last 16; Bukayo Saka's long-range strike and a near-perfect penalty shootout in the quarter-final; and

Ollie Watkins's instinctive stoppage-time winner in the semi-final.

Against Spain there would be no such heroics.

England had to survive an early swarm of passes from Spain that threatened to engulf them. The Spain players were so calm and relaxed about the whole thing that they could've been playing on Ipanema Beach with caipirinhas in hand, and not the Euro 2024 final. England's players chased where passes might go, followed their trajectories, ran after the idea of them, without actually winning the ball.

It was twitchy. Declan Rice lost the ball on half-way, Phil Foden was dispossessed just outside England's penalty area. But while Jordan Pickford was busy, he was not overtaxed.

Tensions rose. Rice took a foot to the hip. Bellingham and Foden knocks to ankles. Saka shoved over Marc Cucurella; Cucurella pushed Foden to the floor.

For 45 minutes, Luke Shaw, making his first start of the tournament – and his first in 148 days – schooled young Lamine Yamal, a day after his 17th birthday, on Spain's right. Bellingham nipped and bit and battled, winning the ball whenever he could.

But still it took until the 45th minute for England's first shot on target – a Rice free kick swung to Foden at the back post, who did well to steer it towards goal but did not trouble Unai Simon.

Goalless at the break, Rodri was forced off injured. Spain's most important player. There was that glimmer of hope. Could it be? Would that destabilise Spain's midfield, throw them off balance?

And then they scored, almost straight from kick-off.

Yamal finally got the better of Shaw, England scrambled, Kyle Walker lost Nico Williams and the teenager found him with a low pass that Williams finished off.

The England fans sang for



Watkins, and on the hour Southgate subbed off captain Kane, who had touched the ball fewer times than anyone else on the pitch, including the goalkeepers.

The only choice, but a courageous one, and the next was arguably braver: swapping Kobbie Mainoo for Cole Palmer with 20 minutes remaining – conceding a midfield against the midfield masters for an extra forward.

Three minutes later England broke with Saka down the right. The ball into Bellingham, the lay off for Palmer, and the player with the coldest left foot in the Premier League guided the ball into the far corner with icy precision.

Pickford was superb, saving twice from Yamal, cutting out crosses, shouting orders. But Spain simply looked like scoring and he could do nothing to stop Mikel Oyarzabal

Kane frustrated at failure to push on from leveller

By James Mariner

England captain Harry Kane admitted his side failed to capitalise from the momentum of Cole Palmer's equaliser as Spain struck in the final

minutes to win the Euro 2024 final in Berlin last night.

The Bayern Munich striker was replaced after an hour after another frustrating evening, although did end as joint top scorer of the

tournament, level with five other players on three goals.

"It's hard to put into words how we're all feeling right now," Kane said. "Tough game. We did well to get back into the game and struggled to build on that. To concede late on is really tough to take."

England came from behind to win their last-16 match against Slovakia, before doing likewise against Switzerland in the last eight to win on penalties, and the Netherlands in the semi-finals. After again falling behind to Nico Williams' opener last night, England could not see their comeback through, with questions

now remaining over the future of Gareth Southgate, whose contract expires at the end of the year.

"We've been coming from behind all tournament, we've got it in the locker," Kane said. "We didn't take the next step and win it. In the first half, we struggled. We couldn't keep the ball. Second half was better and we got the goal. We got caught with a cross and that's the final."

"It's an opportunity missed. These finals aren't easy to get to. You have to take it when it comes and we haven't done it again. It's extremely painful and it'll hurt for a long time. "Gareth will go away and take time

to decide. We wanted to win for him."

Southgate insisted he will take time to consider his options, having come under strong criticism during the tournament over England's style of play. "I don't think now is a good time to make a decision like that," the 53-year-old said. "I need to talk to the right people. It's not for now."

"Spain were the best team in the tournament. We didn't quite keep the ball well enough, but we were right in it until the last 10 minutes. I'm devastated for everybody, really. The players have been absolutely incredible; I'm so proud of what they've done. We've just fallen a



Jude Bellingham and Declan Rice are distraught at the final whistle in Berlin GETTY

beating him with four minutes left. And that was it – England going home, empty-handed, yet again.

In the days, weeks, months, the years ahead, let's try to remember that it's only a game of football – 22 players kicking a ball around a pitch, two coaches on the touchlines pulling strings, a referee presiding over things.

But then why does it hurt so much? Why is it that England

making it all the way to the final, for the second successive European Championship, makes the pain even more acute?

Perhaps all of this can be the springboard for a period of English dominance on the world stage. Other nations have consistently reached these finals over the years. Can England now, too?

The fear is that it isn't the spark that lights the fire – that it's an

anomaly, a glitch in the matrix, a glorious period in the nation's football history the like of which will not be seen again, for a long time.

It feels quaint now, Baddiel and Skinner singing about "30 years of hurt" almost 30 years ago. It's hard to credit that when they penned the famous line "it's coming home!", which became the pervading England chant, that it still wouldn't be here so many decades later.

little bit short. We had a little bit of momentum in the game at that point. We also had a big chance to equalise at the end.

"Probably across the 90 minutes, I'm not sure we did quite enough."

Mikel Oyarzabal scored the winning goal with four minutes remaining, the Real Sociedad forward having come on as a substitute 18 minutes earlier.

He touched in a cross from Chelsea left-back Marc Cucurella. Second-half replacement Palmer, also of Stamford Bridge, pulled England level from the edge of the area on 73 minutes having come on for Kobbie



Gareth Southgate applauds fans after last night's final defeat

Mainoo three minutes previously.

Williams put Spain ahead early in the second half, with a fine angled finish past Jordan Pickford.

England lose in the final for the second time in three years, after losing to Italy on penalties at Wembley in 2021. The Three Lions' wait for a major trophy will now near a seventh decade as they look toward the 2026 World Cup.

Spain are European champions for a record fourth time, taking the title for a third time in five tournaments. The Spanish also beat England, 1-0, in last summer's women's World Cup final in Sydney.



Player ratings

By Oliver Young-Myles at Olympiastadion

Jordan Pickford 7/10



Left exposed by his defence for Nico Williams' goal and couldn't do much to keep it out. Made two crucial saves down to his right to deny Lamine Yamal, initially to keep his side in the game and then to keep them level. Unfortunate to be on the losing side.

Marc Guéhi 7



A newcomer to this team but he'll be a mainstay for years to come. Showed his leadership qualities by remonstrating at his teammates for failing to provide adequate protection. Came so close to scoring with a header but denied on the line by Dani Olmo.

Kyle Walker 5



Hurt himself early on after sliding into Spain's manager Luis de la Fuente by the touchline but recovered. Got sucked infield for Williams' opener and couldn't race back in time. Struggled to keep a lid on Spain's livewire all evening and was ineffective in attacking areas.

Kobbie Mainoo 5



A game too far for England's breakout star against Europe's long-established pass-masters. Mainoo has been majestic and has a huge future but it's easy to forget how new to all of this he is. This was just the 44th senior appearance of his career.

Phil Foden 5



Unable to catch fire after finally providing a spark in the semi-final. Registered England's first shot on target of the night with an opportunistic stab at goal from a free-kick but the game largely passed him by. Still hasn't quite managed to replicate his club form for his country.

Harry Kane (capt) 4



Subbed off for the fourth game in a row and after just an hour. That prospect would have been unthinkable before the tournament, but Kane has looked too slow on and off the ball since England's opener. Either he is hampered by injury or is diminishing physically. No longer a guaranteed starter.

Luke Shaw 7



Completely locked down Yamal in the first half but lost him for a split second after the break and was punished emphatically for it as the winger set up Williams to score. Put in a Herculean effort considering this was his first competitive start in 147 days.

John Stones 7



Slid in magnificently to deny Williams a clear shot on Pickford's goal after the winger had wriggled free in the first half and was then on hand to clear close to the goal-line after Alvaro Morata had squeezed a shot past Pickford. Perhaps could have done more on the second goal.

Declan Rice 5



Hasn't transferred his Arsenal form into this tournament. Normally such an assured presence but was caught out by the intensity of Spain's pressing game on a few occasions. Handed an impossible job of maintaining the midfield on his own after Mainoo's withdrawal.

Jude Bellingham 7



Expertly teed up Palmer to score with a cute one-touch pass. Created a half-chance for Kane that was blocked. Occasionally guilty of running down blind alleys but brilliant off the ball. Put in a monstrous defensive shift, especially in the first half.

Bukayo Saka 6

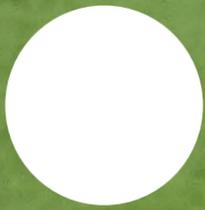


Played a crucial role in England's equaliser by driving into the Spain box before having the presence of mind to lift his head and pick out Bellingham. Otherwise he was well marshalled by Marc Cucurella who has been a different beast for Spain compared to Chelsea.

Best off the bench 7



The Chelsea forward scored a superb equaliser with a trademark curling strike into the bottom corner. Arguably should have come on earlier. Ollie Watkins also entered the fray late on but was unable to replicate the magnificent impact he made in the semi-final.



1
Sport

15.07.24



**Spain
inflict
yet more
pain on
England**

It's still not coming home

