

DAILY

THE HEART OF BRITAIN

Mirror

Thursday, December 19, 2024

E-EDITION

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VOUCHER: PAGE 22
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FOOTIE FAVE CHRIS TO MIRROR:

I've got the old Kammy back!



MISSED
National
treasure
Kamara

EXCLUSIVE

BY MIKE WALTERS

CHRIS Kamara returns to TV next week two years after quitting to battle a brain disorder... and he's over the moon, Jeff.

The ex-Sky football pundit and Jeff Stelling will reunite for a Boxing Day match.

He said Kate Garraway helped his recovery and added: "I've got the old Kammy back."

FULL STORY: PAGES 4&5

» Unbelievable, Jeff! : » My 2 years of hell : » Kate Garraway's Kamara on TV return : with brain disorder : role in my recovery

DAILY

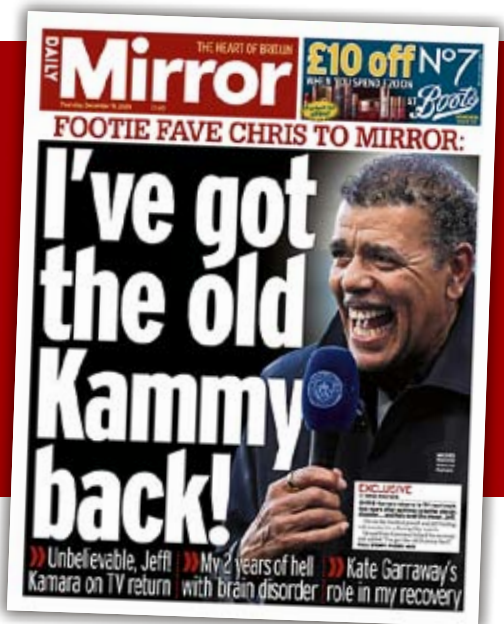
THE HEART OF BRITAIN

Mirror

Thursday, December 19, 2024

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**Feed 6 for just £1.84
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Price per person for Christmas meal for six based on total of these products when using Clubcard. Includes Clubcard Prices on: Tesco Small Whole Turkey 3kg: Clubcard price £3/kg, regular price £5/kg, ends 25/12. Tesco Carrots 1kg: Clubcard price £0.15/kg, regular price £0.69/kg, ends 25/12. Tesco All-Rounder Potatoes: Clubcard price £0.07/kg, regular price £0.68/kg, ends 25/12. Tesco Brussels Sprouts 500g: Clubcard price £0.30/kg, regular price £1.70/kg, ends 25/12. Tesco Parsnips 500g: Clubcard price £0.30/kg, regular price £1.50/kg, ends 25/12. Hearty Food Co. 15 Yorkshire Puddings 230g: Clubcard price £1.74/kg, regular price £2/kg, ends 27/12. Tesco Gravy Granules For Chicken 200g: Clubcard price £0.33/100g, regular price £0.36/100g, ends 26/12. Tesco Sage and Onion Stuffing Mix 170g: Clubcard price £2.35/kg, regular price £2.65/kg, ends 26/12. Serving suggestion. Available in the majority of larger stores. Excludes Express, Isle of Man and Whoosh. Clubcard/app required. Some exclusions may apply. Prices correct as of 13/12/2024.





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Price**

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TESCO

Every little helps

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Clubcard Prices

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Tesco *finest* Premier Cru Brut Champagne awarded a Which? Best Buy Taste Test.

TESCO
Every little helps

for the facts [drinkaware.co.uk](https://www.drinkaware.co.uk) 18+. 25% off 3 bottles of Finest wine offer excludes Finest meal deal wines, fortified wine & bottles under 200ml. Max. 36 bottles. Excludes Express, Scotland & Whoosh. While stocks last. Clubcard/app required. Delivery charges may apply. Ends 22nd December.

NOVEMBER 2024
Which?
Best Buy Taste Test
CHAMPAGNE

£13/kg

£5.75/kg
Large
Beef Joint

Clubcard
Price

£14.70/kg

£6.75/kg
Whole
Lamb Leg

Clubcard
Price

15p
each

Clubcard
Price

£24/kg

£11.50/kg
Boneless
Salmon Side

Clubcard
Price

Get better than half price on
meat joints and salmon sides.

Tesco Large Beef Roasting Joint with Basting Fat: Clubcard Price £5.75/kg, regular price £13/kg; Tesco Lamb Whole Leg Joint: Clubcard Price £6.75/kg, regular price £14.70/kg, excludes NI, ends 28/12; Tesco Boneless Salmon Side: Clubcard Price £11.50/kg, regular price £24/kg, ends 02/01; Tesco Carrots 1kg: Clubcard Price £0.15/kg, regular price £0.69/kg; Tesco All-Rounder Potatoes: Clubcard Price £0.07/kg, regular price £0.78/kg; Tesco Brussels Sprouts 500g: Clubcard Price £0.30/kg, regular price £1.90/kg; Tesco Parsnips 500g: Clubcard Price £0.30/kg, regular price £1.50/kg; Tesco Broccoli: Clubcard Price £0.40/kg, regular price £2.19/kg; ends 24/12. Serving suggestion. Available in the majority of larger stores and online. Excludes Express, Isle of Man and Whoosh. Clubcard/app required. Delivery charges and some exclusions may apply.

TESCO
Every little helps

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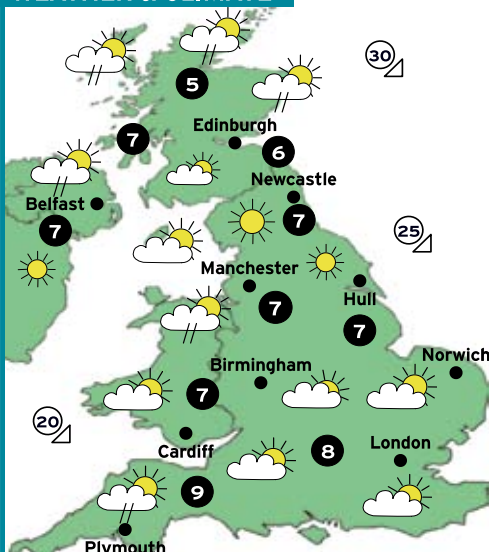
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WEATHER & CLIMATE



TODAY Sunny spells and a threat of blustery showers

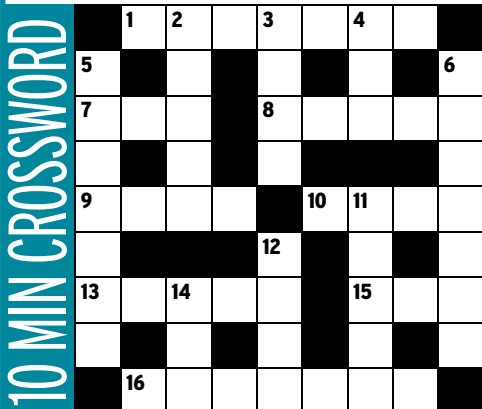
Bright but breezy today with lengthy periods of sunshine and a little patchy cloud cover. A threat of showers developing, mostly in the north and west and these will be wintry over the northern hills. Feeling colder for all.

5-day forecast

	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
London	9c	12c	8c	9c	14c
Newcastle	9c	10c	7c	7c	13c
Leeds	7c	10c	4c	6c	12c
M'chester	9c	11c	6c	8c	13c
Liverpool	10c	11c	7c	9c	12c
B'ham	8c	12c	7c	8c	13c
Cardiff	10c	12c	8c	9c	12c
Plymouth	10c	13c	9c	10c	13c
Belfast	9c	9c	6c	9c	12c

BIGGER PICTURE

Today's historical average high: 6.8
 December 2024 average high so far: 9.1
 December historical average high: 7.3
 All averages based on CET Mean Max Temp. Historical info from 1961-1990 (Source: Met Office)
CLIMATE FACT: More than half of the world's population - especially among developing countries - live in areas hit by the biggest impacts from declines in biodiversity, water and food.



- ACROSS**
- Rotund (7)
 - Hodgson, football manager (3)
 - Bank client (5)
 - Friend (4)
 - Edith __, French singer (4)
 - Upper torso (5)
 - Of the thing (3)
 - Disgrace (7)
- DOWN**
- So far (2,3)
 - Prying (4)
 - Artic (1,1,1)
 - Frown (7)
 - Abundant (7)
 - Balearic island (5)
 - Daze (4)
 - And so on (abbr) (3)

WEDNESDAY'S SOLUTIONS
 Across: 2 Suffer, 5 Sigh, 6 Earwig, 7 Pool, 8 FAQ, 11 Agog, 13 Expect, 14 Apse, 15 Tester. Down: 1 Biro, 2 Shelf, 3 Fawn, 4 Ragtag, 7 Patent, 9 Qatar, 10 Opus, 12 Oast.

THE LOTTERY

LAST NIGHT'S LOTTO: 18, 20, 28, 39, 52, 58
 Bonus: 38. No winner of £5.3m jackpot.
THUNDERBALL: 7, 15, 19, 28, 37
 Thunderball: 4. One winner of £500k top prize.
HEALTH LOTTERY: 1, 10, 36, 39, 46 Bonus: 12.
TUESDAY'S EUROMILLIONS: 1, 3, 4, 21, 29
 Lucky Stars: 2 & 7. One non-UK winner of £64m.
ALL OR NOTHING: 1, 2, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24

LABOUR FURY AT KEIR OVER BETRAYAL OF WASPI WOMEN

UNDER ATTACK
 Mr Starmer at PMQs yesterday



Ministers who changed tune

THE PM is not the only minister who appears to have changed their tune.

Angela Rayner once said the Tory-Lib Dem coalition "stole this money" while Rachel Reeves held a placard saying, "I'll work with WASPI to deliver a fair solution".

Liz Kendall said she was "a long-standing supporter of the campaign" and Yvette Cooper, right, previously said they needed a "fair deal".



BY **LIZZY BUCHAN** Political Editor and **DAVE BURKE** Political Correspondent

KEIR Starmer was slammed by his MPs yesterday for betraying the 3.5 million WASPI women.

The PM is refusing to pay compensation to women who lost out because they were not told their pension age would go from 60 to 65.

Rachael Maskell was one of a string of Labour MPs to condemn the decision. She told the Mirror: "We're talking about some of the poorest pensioners."

"There's an expectation that the Labour Party stands by the poor."

"Now, in Government, not to do that, we have to ask what's the purpose in a Labour Government?"

SHOCK Labour MP Emma Lewell-Buck

Barry Gardiner told us: "All of us who stood alongside the WASPI women in their campaign knew the costs were substantial. Many of us feel the reason for that is the injustice done to them is substantial."

Jon Trickett said: "The word 'betrayal' was repeatedly used by WASPI women to me yesterday. I agree." Kate Osborne added: "I do not agree women should once again bear the brunt of Tory failures."

Emma Lewell-Buck said she was "shocked and disappointed".

In March, the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman said WASPI women should get up to £2,995, with a potential cost of £10.5billion. The Government rejected that on Tuesday.

O m b u d s m a n

Rebecca Hilsenrath said yesterday: "What we don't expect is for an acknowledgement to be made by a public body that it's got it wrong, but then refuse to make it right for those affected."

Mr Starmer said: "90% of those impacted knew of the changes that were taking place." But campaigners accused him of spreading "dangerous misinformation", saying nine in 10 only had a "vague awareness" the pension age was rising.

Angela Madden, of the WASPI campaign, said: "It's an insult to millions of 1950s-born women."

"The ombudsman's findings were based on rigorous evidence showing 60% of women had no idea their own State Pension age was rising."

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VOICE OF THE MIRROR: PAGE 8



SUPPORT Healey in Kyiv

Ukraine can't go it alone as UK promises £225m help

BY **PIERS EADY**

THE UK has today pledged a new £225million package of support for Ukraine after Defence Secretary John Healey said the situation there is critical.

On a visit to meet counterpart Rustem Umerov in Kyiv, Mr Healey said the UK would step up international leadership on Ukraine next year.

He said: "Nearly three years after Putin launched his illegal full-scale invasion, the depths of his miscalculation are clearer than ever, as the people of Ukraine continue to defy all expectations with their unbreakable spirit. But they cannot go it alone."

PACKAGE

Earlier, Prime Minister Keir Starmer said it would be a "big mistake" if allies did not maintain support with financial help, sanctions and training.

The financial package involves £186million for military equipment, including £92million for the navy and £68million for air defence equipment.

There is also £39million for counter-drone systems and protective equipment for Ukraine's armed forces.

TRUMP PACT: PAGE 7

Steel funds up to £30m

MINISTERS have doubled cash to support staff and firms hit by job cuts at Port Talbot's Tata steel plant.

An extra £15million will go to workers and supply chain businesses, bringing the total to £30m.

Welsh Secretary Jo Stevens added more firms can now apply for funds.

The value of individual grants is increasing to up to £250,000 for businesses to invest in equipment, property and technology.

CORRECTIONS & COMPLAINTS

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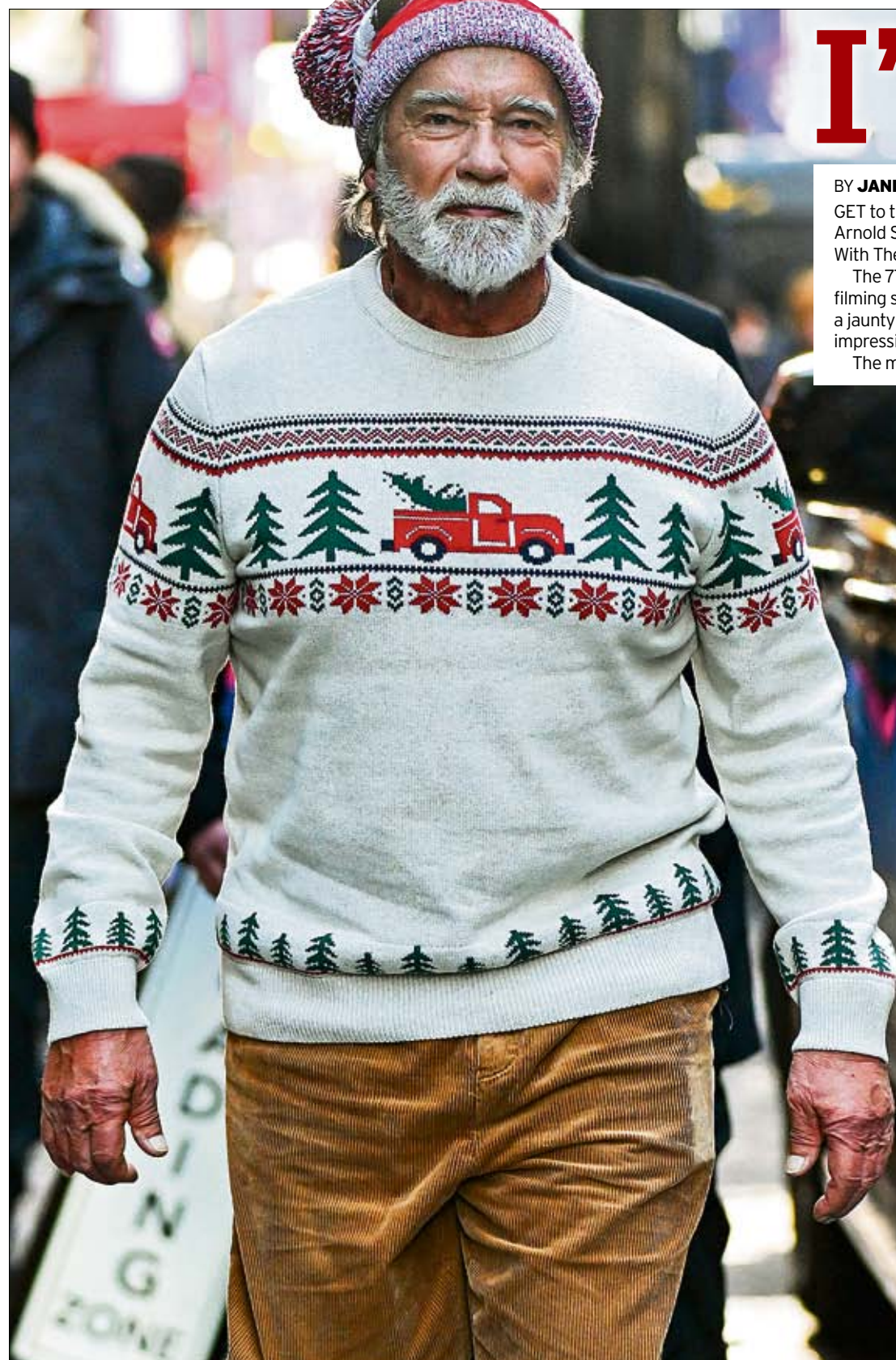
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I'll be sack

BY JANINE YAQOOB

GET to the cropper, Arnie! In his new movie, Arnold Schwarzenegger not only plays The Man With The Bag, he's also the man with the beard.

The 77-year-old Terminator star was spotted filming scenes in New York this week, wearing a jaunty hat and a festive jumper... with a very impressive bushy white beard.

The musclemen transforms into Father

Christmas for his new film, an action-comedy due to be released next year. Arnie is no stranger to comedy Christmas capers - he starred in 1996's Jingle All The Way, playing a dad desperate to buy his kid that year's must-have, sold-out gift.

In The Man With The Bag, Santa's sack of presents is stolen so he turns to his naughty list to find a former thief - played by Reacher star Alan Ritchson - to help him retrieve it.



HAIRY CHRISTMAS
Arnie as Santa films new movie in New York

So hear it is... the worst worst Xmas song poll ever!

BY NATASHA WYNARCZYK
Consumer Editor

IT'S considered a timeless classic, but it appears All We Want for Christmas is to never hear Mariah Carey's festive hit again.

Mariah's 1994 favourite All I Want for Christmas is You - which made history passing two billion listens on Spotify - topped a poll of songs the



GO NOW East 17's hit

Festive favourites are slammed

nation apparently goes out of its way to avoid.

East 17's 1994 number one Stay Another Day makes people want to leave the room. And Band Aid's 1984 smash Do They Know It's Christmas?, which has made millions

for charity, does nothing to "spread a smile of joy" as it comes third in the poll of least liked hits.

Last Christmas by Wham!, Chris Rea's Driving Home for Christmas and Fairytale of New York by The Pogues and Kirsty MacColl were the most popular songs. The latter proved divisive though, as it also made the top ten

most loathed, while 20% said they were sick of Christmas songs altogether by mid-December. The poll was commissioned by the makers of Twix bars.

They have released It's Twixmas Time, featuring grime MC D Double E and presenter Nella Rose, a track for those bored by the festivities. D Double E said: "We all have songs we love, but we've been listening to them for decades and they can feel a bit stale."

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HOW COULD THEY?

1 All I Want for Christmas is You - **Mariah Carey**

2 Mistletoe - **Justin Bieber**

3 Do They Know it's Christmas? - **Band Aid**

4 Stay Another Day - **East 17**

5 One More Sleep - **Leona Lewis**

6 Santa Tell Me - **Ariana Grande**

7 It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas - **Michael Buble**

8 Fairytale of New York - **The Pogues and Kirsty MacColl**

9 I Wish it Could be Christmas Every Day - **Wizzard**

10 O Holy Night - **Celine Dion**

MARIAH SIGNS RIHANNA: SEE DIARY, PAGE 19

CHRIS KAMARA ON COMEBACK...



HONEST
In the ITV
show on
his apraxia



HONOUR With
MBE last year



BAFFLED His
red card miss

I'm not 100% but I'm 70% better than I was ... working with Jeff again will bring a bit of extra magic for me at Christmas

EXCLUSIVE BY MIKE WALTERS

CHRIS Kamara's cheeky smile and hilarious gaffes lit up Saturday afternoon viewing for millions of football fans.

And his disappearance from our screens after being struck down by debilitating condition apraxia left a hole that has never properly been filled. So his return as a live TV football pundit is set to be a real festive treat.

When he hooks up with old sidekick Jeff Stelling on Amazon Prime Video with bulletins from Nottingham Forest's Boxing Day game with Tottenham, there will be sprinkling of Christmas magic – even if he admits he is “not 100% recovered”. On Sky Sports before Kammy quit, the pair's Soccer Saturday double act was gold dust.

We all laughed when there was a red card at Portsmouth and Kammy, our man on the touchline, was the last to know. And his

description of Reading's ghost goal at Watford 16 years ago – where the ball did not cross the line – deserved a broadcast Oscar: “Jeff, unbelievable. There's a goal, but it's not a goal, but it's a goal because the referee's given it.”

Stelling replied: “Thanks for clearing that up, Chris.” Glorious satire. But in March 2022, the laughter turned to silence.

Kamara, struggling to conceal the symptoms of apraxia – a neurological disorder disrupting the transfer of thought from brain to speech – stood down.

It appeared his screen career was over, until Good Morning Britain host Kate Garraway recommended a revolutionary treatment in Mexico to help rekindle some of the fluency in his elocution. And now Kamara is preparing for his return to our screens after a message “out of the blue” offering him a curtain call.

Kammy, 66, who was awarded an MBE last year for services to football, charity and anti-racism, said: “It was surreal to get that call from Andrew ‘Buzz’ Horner, who was one of

the first football producers at Sky Sports. I was on my way to a Paul Heaton gig in Manchester.

“I've known Paul since I played for Sheffield United, he's a big Blades fan and he invited me over to his concert, when Buzz called.

“I thought, ‘What does he want?’

“And Buzz says, ‘How do you fancy being reunited with Jeff on Boxing Day?’

“Er, yes... in what capacity?”

“Reporting on live football, like you normally do, at Forest v Spurs.”

“How could I refuse? It might be one last hurrah for me in terms of covering football on the box, but to work with Jeff again will bring a bit of extra magic to Christmas for me.

“I'm not 100%, but I'm 70% better than when I first disclosed my condition in public and I feel like I've got the old Kammy back.”

There will be no rehearsing in the bathroom mirror for him with a hairbrush as a make-believe microphone.

Kammy, who filmed an ITV documentary called *Lost For Words* about his condition which aired in December 2022, added: “The one thing about my job at Sky that I guarded more than anything was being spontaneous.

“I've lost that ability in a way but I'm going

to try to wheel it out on Boxing Day. If I started to rehearse lines in my head, or tried to prepare lines, then I would be guaranteed to mess it up.”

Kamara, who played 778 games for nine clubs over 20 years, is still saddened by the way he disappeared from our screens three seasons ago.

The warning signs had been there for about 20 months but the end was dispiriting in its brutality. He said: “My last game for Sky was at Rotherham against Shrewsbury, and when I got back to the car I knew I had made a balls-up of it.

“When I checked my phone, on Twitter there were loads of comments with people saying, ‘He must have been drunk’ or, ‘Has he had a stroke?’

“I rang my therapist and said, ‘This can't continue. I can't go on like this.’ And he replied, ‘You can, but you need to tell everyone what's going on.’

“That's when I resolved to ‘come out’ and it was the moment that changed everything. Suddenly people were 100% supportive and

“How could I refuse? It might be my one last hurrah in football

CHRIS KAMARA ON BEING OFFERED A RETURN TO TV

AFTER HELP FROM TV KATE

LAUGHS RETURN

Chris is back for Boxing Day clash

CHAT GMB appearance with Kate in June 2018



UNBELIEVABLE, JEFF At match with Stelling, 2017

there were so many offers of help. “Thankfully, one of them came from Kate Garraway, whose husband Derek had gone to Monterrey in Mexico for treatment after he contracted long Covid. “She said it had helped to stimulate parts of his brain and said, ‘Why don’t you give it a go?’ I’ve been over to Mexico three times and it’s made such a difference.” At his lowest ebb, Kamara feared he might have joined the cast of former footballers hit by dementia from half a lifetime of heading a ball. He added: “Doctors asked me how many concussions I suffered as a player... there were three. And of course there were dark moments where it messes with your

“People were saying, ‘He must be drunk’ or, ‘Has he had a stroke?’

KAMMY ON RESPONSE TO EARLY SIGNS OF APRAXIA

head. You’re doing these reports live to camera and I know I’m not me any more, but I’m not letting anyone know what’s going on. These voices in your head are asking, ‘Could it be dementia? Could it be Alzheimer’s?’ Now I know the truth I can handle it.

“I’m working as much as I can, especially to help children with speech and language conditions.

“The part of my brain that’s been affected is the one that governs your memory speech fluency, but I can still sing and do a Scottish accent, or both.”

With that, Kamara breaks into broad Caledonian articulation and he’s right... perhaps his speech is more measured, but we’ve got our Kammy back.

Never mind Forest and Spurs on Boxing Day: Stelling calling the shots and Kamara’s encore will give any cold turkey a run for its money.

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VOICE OF THE MIRROR: PAGE 8



SILENCE Rudakubana

Teen denies 16 charges over deaths in Southport

BY LUCY THORNTON

AXEL Rudakubana has denied stabbing three young girls to death during a Taylor Swift-themed dance class in Southport.

The 18-year-old refused to speak when he appeared from HMP Belmarsh by videolink at Liverpool crown court yesterday.

His not guilty pleas were entered on his behalf by judge Mr Justice Goose.

Rudakubana, from Banks, Lancs, rocked from side to side and twisted his hands during the hearing.

BLADED

He did not reply as the 16 counts on the indictment were read to him. A prison officer confirmed he could hear the court.

Rudakubana denies murdering Bebe King, six, Elsie Dot Stancombe, seven, and Alice da Silva Aguiar, nine.

He also denies the attempted murders of eight other children and two adults, and possessing a bladed article.

In addition, he denies producing a biological toxin and possession of information of a kind likely to be useful in an act of terrorism. His trial is set to start on January 20.

Abortion trial woman freed in CPS U-turn

A WOMAN has walked free after prosecutors accepted she did not illegally abort her baby.

Sophie Harvey, 25, had been accused of causing her own miscarriage at 28 weeks’ pregnant aged 19.

She and boyfriend Elliot Benham, 25, accepted they bought pills online.

But Harvey insisted she never used them and their baby was stillborn at their home in Cirencester, Glos.

The pair stood trial at Gloucester crown court but jurors could not reach a verdict and yesterday the charges were dropped.

Harvey and Elliot were given community orders for buying the drugs and hiding the birth of a child.

BY **RUSSELL MYERS** Royal Editor

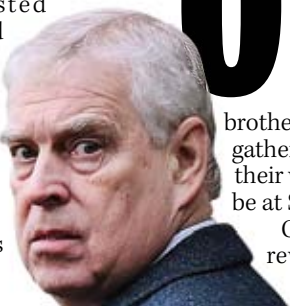
PRINCE Andrew confirmed he will not attend the Royal Family's traditional pre-Christmas lunch as he continues to be dogged by links to an alleged Chinese spy.

The Mirror revealed this week he decided to pull out of the event at the same time he decided to stay away from Sandringham at Christmas.

Sources suggested yesterday Andrew had chosen not to attend tomorrow's lunch at Buckingham Palace after speaking to ex-wife Sarah Ferguson.

In yet another embarrassing moment for the King's

BLOW Prince Andrew



ANDREW PULLS OUT OF PRE-XMAS LUNCH

brother, he will miss the palace gathering for senior royals and their wider family who will not be at Sandringham next week.

On Monday, it was revealed in a High Court hearing that alleged

Chinese spy Yang Tengbo, who was banned from the UK, was said to have been a close confidant of Andrew, 64.

Last Friday, the duke's office said he "ceased all contact" with the then-unnamed businessman when fears were raised about him. Andrew met

Mr Yang through "official channels" with "nothing of a sensitive nature ever discussed", a statement said.

The duke stepped down from royal duties in 2019 over his friendship with US sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.

He also faced a furore after paying

millions to settle a civil sex assault case with Virginia Giuffre, without any admission of liability.

Andrew was at Sandringham last Christmas but it remains to be seen if he will return to the fold.

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18+ GIFT RESPONSIBLY



Add some play to Christmas with Scratchcards

Subject to availability. Rules & Procedures apply. Players (and gifters) must be 18+.

LAP OF HONOUR
Christian with Geri
&, below, with King



Horner's pit stop at the Palace

FORMULA 1 team principal Christian Horner shows off his CBE beside Spice Girl wife Geri.

Red Bull boss Christian, 51, received the honour from the King for services to motorsport.

After the Buckingham Palace investiture, Christian said of Charles: "He was charming."





CHAT The PM and Mr Trump Starmer and Trump: We'll stand united

BY **DAVE BURKE**
Political Correspondent

KEIR Starmer and Donald Trump last night agreed to strengthen ties, also uniting behind Ukraine.

A Downing Street spokesman said of their positive phone call: "Both agreed on their joint ambition to strengthen the close and historic relationship between the UK and US."

"The Prime Minister reiterated the need for allies to stand together with Ukraine in the face of Russian aggression and to ensure it is in the strongest possible position."

"On the Middle East, the Prime Minister underscored the need to work together to ensure peace and security in the region."

"They agreed to keep in touch and looked forward to seeing one another at the earliest opportunity."



WEALTH Andrew & Tristan Tax cheating Tates to have £2.7m seized

BY **JOSH PAYNE** and
MARGARET DAVIS

INFLUENCER Andrew Tate and his brother Tristan will have almost £2.7million of their savings seized over unpaid tax.

The chief magistrate said police could step in after the pair did not pay a penny to HMRC from £21m revenue made online between 2014 and 2022.

Paul Goldspring told Westminster magistrates court what appeared to be a "complex financial matrix" was actually a "straightforward cheat of the revenue".

Devon and Cornwall Police made a legal bid to seize the money, held in seven frozen bank accounts, from the Tate brothers and a woman identified only as J.

Andrew Tate called it a co-ordinated attack.

Saving Grace taking her Masterchef place

**SO, SAY
CHEESE**
Torode with
new sidekick
Grace Dent

Food critic Dent
takes over from
ousted Wallace



BY **TOM BRYANT** Head of Showbiz

RESTAURANT critic Grace Dent has been unveiled as ousted host Gregg Wallace's replacement on Celebrity MasterChef, declaring that it is her "dream" job.

Grace, 51, will judge the upcoming 20th series of Celebrity MasterChef alongside John Torode.

She said: "I have been watching MasterChef since I was a girl sitting with my dad on the sofa. My whole family watches it."

"It's all about uncovering and championing talent."

"To have ended up in this position is more than a dream to me. I'm so excited that I can't eat, which is severely detrimental to a

restaurant critic. I feel very lucky to be stepping in for the next Celebrity MasterChef. I can't wait to meet the fresh celebrity faces for 2025."

The BBC last month said 60-year-old Wallace would step away from the iconic show, which began in 1990, amid an external review into historical allegations of misconduct.

Author and podcaster Grace has been a regular guest on MasterChef, and last year was a contestant on MasterChef: Battle of the Critics.

Torode, 59, who began presenting MasterChef with Wallace in 2005, said: "I have loved working with Grace on MasterChef over the years."

She has been an excellent guest, an

inspiring critic and also set some incredible challenges. Expertise is what MasterChef is all about, from the contestants to our wonderful production team, to us as judges.

"The love of food, the love of MasterChef, and that unquestionable expertise, makes Grace the perfect person to step in alongside me as judge for the forthcoming Celebrity MasterChef series."

MasterChef: The Professionals continued to be shown in recent weeks despite allegations against Wallace of inappropriate sexual behaviour.

But two MasterChef celebrity Christmas specials – Celebrity MasterChef Christmas Cook-Off and

“The love of food... that expertise, makes her the perfect person

JOHN TORODE ON NEW CO-STAR JUDGE GRACE

MasterChef Meets Strictly – were pulled from the BBC schedule.

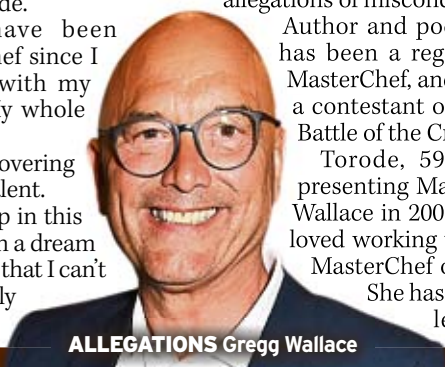
Wallace's lawyers have said it is entirely false that he engages in behaviour of a sexually harassing nature.

Kalpna Patel-Knight, BBC head of entertainment, said: "Grace Dent is the perfect choice to

step in for the next series of Celebrity MasterChef. Grace is not only an energetic and well-established member of the MasterChef team, but is also a world renowned food critic."

"She will certainly keep the next batch of celebrities on their toes."

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ALLEGATIONS Gregg Wallace

VOICE OF THE

DAILY **Mirror**

U-turn on pensions

THE millions of women hit by the rise in the state pension age had a right to expect better from this Government.

Before the election Labour MPs, including the Prime Minister, vowed to end the injustice inflicted on the WASPI women.

Keir Starmer and Rachel Reeves now claim the cost is unaffordable.

The Prime Minister is right to ignore the confected outrage from the Conservatives.

After all, it was the Tory-led coalition that introduced the policy and, when ordered to compensate the victims, refused to do so.

But Mr Starmer should listen to his backbenchers who lined up yesterday to condemn his failure to right such a clear wrong.

Everyone understands that money is tight, not least because the Tories crashed the economy, but trust is in even shorter supply.

It is not too late for the Government to reverse this decision and remind people of the difference Labour can make when in power.

Pay the price

SINCE the pandemic, more and more people have been drinking at home.

In most cases this will be a beer or wine after work but health chiefs are increasingly concerned about a rise in excess drinking.

Deaths caused by alcohol have leaped by 42% in the last year, not including fatalities where booze was a contributory factor.

Health campaigners are now calling for the Westminster government to follow Scotland by introducing a minimum price for alcohol.

Since the policy was introduced six years ago, drink-related deaths have fallen by 13%.

Some will argue that hiking prices unfairly penalises responsible drinkers. But more must be done to help those with a problem.

Unbelievable!

EVERYONE will be delighted to see former footballer Chris Kamara back on touchline reporting duty this Boxing Day.

He has won fans beyond the game with his infectious humour and passion for the sport. It's the Kam-back we've all wanted.

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR...



THREAT OF UK ATTACKS

Three terror plots foiled in past year



» Islamist, far right stopped

» Kids watch horror online



WARNING Met's Vicki Evans gave stats

BY **MATTHEW YOUNG**

COUNTER-TERROR chiefs say the current threat of an attack on British soil is "smouldering", with children as young as 10 found to be researching atrocities.

Metropolitan Police Deputy Assistant Commissioner Vicki Evans said yesterday that three late stage attacks, targeting mass casualties, had been foiled in the past 12 months.

Two were Islamist plots and one far-right.

And 43 late stage terror plots have been stopped since 2017, some of which she described as "goal line saves".

She said the current threat is classed as "likely" amid the fallout in Syria, where dictator Bashar al-Assad has been overthrown.

Ms Evans, who is also senior national coordinator for counter-terrorism policing, said: "History tells us that any instability creates space for extreme violence and acts of terror.

"You would expect me to be rightly concerned that we could have a void that's growing and could and may create that in

those spaces." Ms Evans said ISIS is not the force it once was but that groups like it capitalise on chaos and galvanise support which can lead to a change in threat level.

Authorities are seeing a growing fascination with extreme violence and content online.

At a briefing for journalists at New Scotland Yard, she said they are encountering "absolutely staggering and horrific" material.

Digital forensics investigations involving

thousands of downloads have revealed that children as young as 10 have been developing a fascination with violence and terrorism.

She said: "We're seeing search histories that contain violence, misogyny, extreme pornography, racism, fascination with mass violence, school massacres.

"Sometimes that's coupled with terrorist material. It's a pick and mix of horrific content.

"I would not wish those histories that we see

Radicalisation's on rise thanks to lawless web

ONCE again we have been reminded that the lack of control of the internet has led to very young people being exposed to radicalisation and normalisation of terrorism.

The warning that children as young as 10 are being exposed to - and even looking for - horrific imagery is re-fuelling fears of attacks.

Several years ago I interviewed Alexandra Kotey, Jihadi John's best friend as he languished in a Syria jail, before being scooped up by US special forces and taken to America.

He bragged of being a member of Islamic

IS 'SMOULDERING' SAY POLICE



REMAIN ALERT
Police fear new attack is imminent

CLASH Police car on fire in Hartlepool last July



Cops 'off guard' for wave of riots

BY **LUCY THORNTON**

POLICE were unprepared for riots that raged across the UK after the Southport attacks, a watchdog said.

A rapid review found officers failed to notice the "rising tide of violence", adding officers must act quickly before it happens again.

It is believed 29 anti-immigration protests and riots took place in 27 towns and cities, including Southport, Rotherham and Hartlepool, in July and August.

In total, 302 officers, of whom 54 were admitted to hospital, were injured in the unrest sparked by far-right activists.

Clashes erupted after Bebe King, six, Elsie Dot Stancombe, seven, and Alice da Silva Aguiar, nine, were fatally stabbed in Southport, Merseyside, on July 29.

His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services looked at the policing response to the riots and lessons that can be learned.

It found the decision by the National Police Chiefs' Council to implement the national mobilisation plan was made too late, leaving police with a lack of reinforcements.

His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary Andy Cooke said: "We

urge forces to act quickly on our findings and recommendations.

"There is every possibility similar violence and disorder could reoccur across the UK. The police service needs to be ready to respond."

Mr Cooke added: "Intelligence assessments didn't predict rising violent disorder well enough; it is crucial that forces are able to better anticipate these threats so they can prepare effectively."

The review told how in Southport rioters attacked police vehicles with petrol bombs and an officer was rescued from one that was on fire.

In Rotherham, officers put themselves at risk with limited numbers.

The review found there were warnings from incidents in 2023, including disorder near asylum seeker hotels in Merseyside and Rotherham in February that year.

In May 2023 riots broke out after two teenagers died in an e-bike crash in Ely, Cardiff, and in November there was violence over Armistice Day weekend in London.

A second report will be published next year into intelligence relating to violent disorder and social media misinformation that "inflamed, incited or brought about more widespread disorder".

43

Number of late-stage terror attacks stopped since 2017

on anyone and would not want to see them in the histories of loved ones and family members.

"These grotesque fascinations with violence and harmful abuse are increasingly common."

Ms Evans said some individuals shop between different ideologies before settling on one, but added: "When they don't settle, what's certain is they are still being

impacted by that harmful content. We're seeing this a lot in young people. That is hugely worrying and it's a global concern.

"We need to think differently about how we stop that conveyor

belt of young people who are seeing this type of material, and unfortunately, sometimes then going on to commit horrific acts."

In darker corners of the online world, the

activity of some groups must be monitored at all times. Ms Evans said: "The complexity of our work is like never before."

There is also a threat from terrorists who are not affiliated with any group. She said: "They can be inspired to attack in low sophistication ways which makes them very hard to detect."

The terror threat since 2017, when a series of attacks hit the UK, remains. Ms Evans said that officers would

act if anyone expresses support for HTS – the rebel group that toppled Assad in Syria but which is a proscribed terror group in the UK.

And since 2022, officers have responded to 20 Iran-backed plots. Ms Evans added: "State threat work has increased four or five fold and is now around 20% of our casework."

"These manifest themselves in increasingly aggressive and shameless tactics."

Ms Evans would not comment directly on Prince Andrew's links with an alleged Chinese spy. It was claimed at a high court hearing last week that businessman Yang Tengbo, who is banned from entering the UK, was said to have been a close confidant of Andrew.

She said of state actors: "They're aimed at individuals, at our communities, businesses and even our democratic institutions, and we won't tolerate this." She appealed to the public to be vigilant.

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ANALYSIS

BY **CHRIS HUGHES**
DEFENCE AND SECURITY EDITOR



State, calling it "al-Qaeda on steroids", and said he was first thrilled by the idea of this kind of violence when at school.

He was surprised that I could not understand why he and his mates in West London were fascinated to watch beheading videos on

mobile phones in the school playground. He said: "It was like a Hollywood horror movie to us and it didn't bother us that it was real."

That pupil went on to become one of the most dangerous terrorists the UK has exported to the Middle East.

Behind the scenes, counter-terror police and MI5 are working around the clock to hold back the tide of terror sweeping across Europe.

And the biggest problem they face is that they cannot arrest someone for their thoughts alone, despite knowing there is a terrifying

number of potential young Koteys out there.

They must be able to prove that they have intent to become a murderer. It is why so many of these plots that police are smashing are "goal line saves".

And the lead time between someone logging on to a radical site and mimicking the horror may well be shortening.



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PERFORM BBC host Sophie

Disco queen Sophie's big NYE party

BY HANNAH ROBERTS

SINGER Sophie Ellis-Bextor will be joined by Jessie Ware on this year's BBC New Year's Eve show.

Scissor Sisters frontman Jake Shears, The Last Dinner Party guitarist Emily Roberts and gospel choir the MDL Singers are also set to perform.

The Murder on the Dancefloor singer, 45, is due to sing some of her own Groovejet hits as well as a few surprise numbers for the show, called Sophie Ellis-Bextor's NYE Disco.

She said: "I always love a party – the band and I can't wait. I'm so honoured to have been asked. Get your disco shoes ready! I'll be wearing mine."

The show will start at 11.30pm on December 31 on BBC1 before it goes live to London for the annual fireworks display.



DREAM ON Grey Christmas

Cloudy, with a chance of stuffing balls

BY TED HENNESSEY

IF you are dreaming of a white Christmas, prepare to be disappointed by a mild and grey December 25th, forecasters say.

Christmas Day is likely to be settled, cloudy and dry with light winds for most of the UK, the Met Office says... but no snow.

For the Met Office to declare a white Christmas, a single snowflake has to be observed falling in the 24 hours of December 25 anywhere in the UK.

The last white Christmas in the UK was in 2023, when 11% of weather stations recorded snow falling – although none reported any settling.

Dan Harris, of the Met Office, said: "If you are hoping for a blanket of snow on Christmas Day, I'm sorry to say you will be disappointed."



Zoe wipes away tears as she quits radio show

ZOE Ball looks emotional at a farewell lunch with her Radio 2 colleagues. The DJ and TV star, 54, joined pals including fellow radio hosts Richie Anderson and Tina Daheley at posh Langan's Brasserie in central London on Tuesday night.

She was later snapped leaving with a huge Selfridges bag.

Zoe announced last month that she was stepping down from presenting the Radio 2 Breakfast Show after six years, telling her listeners: "We've shared a hell of a lot, the good times, the tough times. There's been a lot of laughter. I'm going to miss you cats."

She will host her last breakfast show on Friday before Scott Mills takes over.

IN THE BAG Zoe after farewell meal in posh restaurant



Xmas Outnumbered in cancer plot shock

BY JANINE YAQOOB

THE Outnumbered family face grim news in the festive special as dad Pete reveals he has prostate cancer.

In the return of the much-loved BBC sitcom after eight years, the Brockmans come to terms with the prognosis as they gather for a festive meal.

Viewers will revisit Pete, played by Hugh Dennis, and Sue (Claire Skinner) as they wait for their three grown-up children to return home.

Hugh, 62, a patron of Prostate UK, said: "My dad had cancer at 66 and survived until he was 88. It's touched

Hugh and his co-stars return in festive special prostate story

everyone. As well as it resonating, I'm sort of delighted if anybody goes and gets checked out, that's a victory."

In the Boxing Day show, Tyger Drew-Honey, 28, Daniel Roche, 25, and Ramona Marquez, 23, reprise their roles as Jake, Ben and Karen.

Pete delivers a moving speech as he tries to reassure them – but the kids still

find the humour in the darkest of times.

Co-writer Andy Hamilton said the storyline is treated with "love, affection,

resilience and laughter".

Elsewhere, there are hilarious rows with delivery men and the first Brockman grandkid.

■ Outnumbered Christmas Special, on Boxing Day, BBC1, 9.40pm.

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Arise, Lady Gray

BY LIZZY BUCHAN Political Editor

KEIR Starmer is expected to name around 30 new peers today, with a gong for former aide Sue Gray.

The Prime Minister is hoping to swell Labour's numbers in the House of Lords, after promising to slim down the chamber.

Ms Gray, right, led the probe into Partygate. She quit as Mr Starmer's chief of staff in October after a

PM's ex-aide one of 30 new peers

series of internal rows. The number of new Labour peers is believed to be more than Tory ones.

But Unlock Democracy director Tom Brake said Labour needed to stick to

its commitment not to pack out the Lords. He added: "We hope at least all new peers will be committed to reform of the Lords."

A bill to abolish hereditary peers is going through Parliament.

There are currently 273 Tory peers, 187 Labour, 78 Lib Dems and 184 cross-benchers, which means no party majority.

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**PUT
ATHLETICS
BACK ON
TRACK:
SEE
PAGE 48**

Keel good factor

KEELY Hodgkinson dazzles in a white feathered frock after being crowned BBC Sports Personality of the Year.

The 22-year-old Olympian wore the stunning dress to the afterparty after beating darts sensation Luke Littler, 17, and cricketer Joe Root, 33, to win the coveted award, in Salford.

As she was presented the trophy, the 800 metres athlete, who won gold in Paris 2024, admitted she was in a "little bit of shock".



WINNER Keely and her award



BATTLE Marek in hospital
Stonemason killed by dust aged just 48

BY JAMES GAMBLE

A DAD of three who developed a lung disease after years of cutting kitchen worktops has died.

Marek Marzec, 48, had raised awareness about the danger of dust from engineered stone quartz and how it hit his health.

He died on November 30 from respiratory failure due to silicosis, his family revealed yesterday.

Marek worked for several engineered stone makers in north London and Hertfordshire.

He was taking legal action against them.

Sister Monika Wozniak said: "He fought so bravely by speaking out about engineered stone and the appalling conditions in which he worked."

Law firm Leigh Day, which represented him, is demanding safety changes.



COURT Hassan Sentamu

Elianne stab killer 'told his pal: I am evil'

BY EMILY PENNINK

A TEENAGER described himself as evil before he killed 15-year-old Elianne Andam, a court heard.

Hassan Sentamu, 18, stabbed her in the neck in September last year.

Weeks earlier Sentamu sent a message to a friend, telling of suicidal thoughts.

The court heard he wrote: "The real me is evil, dark, and miserable."

While on remand in October a prisoner accused him of killing girls.

The Old Bailey heard he responded: "I'll do it again. I'll do it to your mum."

Sentamu killed Elianne in Croydon, South London, after a series of violent incidents, jurors were told.

He admits manslaughter but denies murder on the basis of loss of control due to his autism. The trial was adjourned until January.

100mph laughing gas crash teen is jailed for killing three pals



VICTIMS

From top, Daniel, 18, Elliot, 17, and Ethan, 18, all died at the scene

DRUG

He inhales the gas at wheel

CANISTER

Nitrous oxide found in car



DRIVER

Thomas Johnson, 19

BY ZAHRA KHALIQ

A DRIVER who killed his three teenage passengers in a 100mph crash after inhaling laughing gas at the wheel has been jailed.

Thomas Johnson, 19, lost control of his BMW and ploughed into a tree and lamppost on a 30mph stretch of road.

Pals Daniel Hancock, 18, Ethan Goddard, 18, and Elliot Pullen, 17, died at the scene of the smash.

Shocking mobile phone footage taken inside the car moments before the tragedy shows the boys laughing and passing canisters of nitrous oxide to the front.

Johnson was seen with a balloon to his face in the video and a separate photo.

The car's tyres were heard screeching as it hurtled around a corner. The vehicle was filmed overtaking another car at more than 100mph on CCTV in June last year. Its electronic stability control had been switched off on purpose.

Johnson was jailed for nine years and four months for causing death by dangerous driving.

After sentencing, his behaviour was

Driver is filmed inhaling nitrous oxide before ploughing into tree

branded "reckless" and "dangerous" by Daniel's dad Alex. He said of losing his son: "It's very, very painful, it's 18 months on now and it never leaves you."

"I hope he feels guilty and it stays with him forever"

MIA PULLEN SISTER OF CRASH VICTIM ELLIOT, 17

Ethan's dad Robert told how Johnson had "ruined everyone's life". He added: "He's taken three, ruined his own life, devastated ours. Just for showing off."

Elliot's sister, Mia, 20,

said: "I know he's just a cocky teenage boy, he's not an awful person but he made some awful decisions and I really hope that he feels guilty."

"This is his fault, he's killed them and I hope it stays with him forever."

Johnson crashed his car at Marcham, Oxon. He admitted sniffing laughing gas to police but said he did not remember events before the crash.

When asked in an interview if he had used it before, he replied: "No, not this

year. I remember doing it once last year with a group of friends before I could even drive but I don't have any recollection after that."

Asked if he remembered what the effect of it was, Johnson said: "It made my head feel dizzy."

At the time of the crash, possessing the gas was not illegal, but driving while impaired on drink or drugs was.

Nitrous oxide has since become classified as a class C drug.

Thames Valley Police's detective sergeant Tony Jenkins said outside Oxford crown court after sentencing that the gas impairs a driver's ability to make decisions.

He added: "Any impairment while driving is dangerous. It is reckless."

The officer said of the fatal smash: "It's tragic, I've got a son the same age and you hope they don't put them self into positions of vulnerability, you hope they don't drive excessively, you hope they don't use any drugs."

Johnson had been a licence holder for less than a year before the crash on the A415 shortly after midnight.

He spent several months in hospital recovering from his injuries.

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WRECKAGE

Twisted BMW after the smash



ED ENERGY BILLS HOPE



OVERHAUL Ed Miliband review

BY LIZZY BUCHAN Political Editor

ENERGY customers could be given better protection under a shake-up of the industry's watchdog.

Ministers launched a review today into beefing up powers for Ofgem to protect households from poor service. It comes after Brits were clobbered by rocketing bills in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, with suppliers going bust and poor customer service.

Bid to beef up power of regulator

Energy Secretary Ed Miliband is battling to get a grip on the broken energy market and restore public trust. The review will look at ordering firms that are guilty of wrongdoing to refund customers directly, cutting the eight-week response time for complaints and improving access to automatic

compensation. Minister for Energy Consumers Miatta Fahnbulleh told the Mirror: "The market has let too many working people down. "The crisis revealed the regulator simply did not

have the tools to protect consumers in today's market. We've learned tough lessons from the past few years. We'll put them into practice through innovation and reform."

Jonathan Brearley, CEO of Ofgem, said: "Ofgem welcomes this review. A great deal has changed since our remit was set 25 years ago."

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25
years since Ofgem remit was set, according to CEO Jonathan Brearley

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Rob is lookin' Grande

ROBBIE Williams went for rosy chic in a glorious pink suit at a Golden Globes bash with 31-year-old Wicked star Ariana Grande by his side. Robbie, 50, also made time to hang out with Baywatch legend Pamela Anderson, 57, right, at the Nominee Lunch in LA. His biopic Better Man is up for Best Song at the awards on January 6.



BRIBE Nicolas Sarkozy

Sarkozy tag shame after losing appeal

BY **PETER ALLEN**

NICOLAS Sarkozy is to become the first former French President to wear an electronic tag.

Judges in Paris yesterday rejected his final appeal against his sentence after he and his lawyer were convicted in 2021 of trying to bribe a judge for confidential information.

It related to claims that Sarkozy, 69, accepted illegal payments from late L'Oreal heiress Liliane Bettencourt to fund his 2007 election campaign.

His three-year sentence, with two years suspended, was applied yesterday.

His lawyers said he will comply with the order to wear the ankle tag for a year. Sarkozy is also facing a corruption trial after he allegedly received £42million from late Libyan dictator Colonel Gaddafi.



ATTACKED Bhim Kohli

Teen denies killing caring 80-year-old

BY **SOPHIE ROBINSON**

A BOY aged 15 has denied killing a grandfather who had been walking his dog.

Bhim Kohli, 80, died on September 2, a day after being attacked in a park.

His preliminary cause of death was a neck injury.

His family said: "He was a loving, caring person."

The boy, who cannot be named, appeared in the dock yesterday to deny murder and manslaughter. He was remanded in custody and a trial is set for February 17, along with a girl of 12 charged with Mr Kohli's manslaughter, near his Leicester home.

She was not asked to enter a plea and was granted conditional bail at Leicester crown court.

Judge Timothy Spencer KC told the pair: "You both understand you are in a very serious position."



Core blimey as Stormzy lets rip

BY **DANIEL BIRD** Assistant Showbiz Editor

WHILE the rest of us are stuffing our faces with mince pies, watching Christmas telly, ripped rapper Stormzy has been in the gym.

The 31-year-old singer says he needs to stay in shape in order to give his fans their money's worth. Stormzy told Men's Health magazine: "I want to be someone who is able to deliver a live set for 90 minutes with full energy and not stutter on my vocal, not be out of breath, not need to take a break, just be almost like a

superhuman on stage."

He certainly does Own It...



Pictures: PATRIK GIARDINO
MEN'S HEALTH UK

Molly-Mae: I'm so hurt... All I wanted was to wed

BY **MARK JEFFERIES** Showbiz Editor

EMOTIONAL Molly-Mae Hague hits out at ex Tommy Fury in her new documentary series.

In a trailer for Molly-Mae: Behind It All, she declares: "I am angry at him and I am very hurt – sometimes it really hits you that I'm in this alone."

The new Prime show promises revelations about the breakdown of Molly's relationship with Tommy, 25.

In another scene, the mum of one says: "We were utterly obsessed with one another. All I ever wanted was to get married. Suddenly, overnight, every part of my life changed." Molly-Mae, 25,

is then shown on the phone in her car, presumably to Tommy, as the call ends with her saying: "I actually am not having this conversation with you."

In another scene, where she looks to be backstage at an event, she sobs: "It is not going how I

planned." The trailer ends with Molly declaring: "I don't know what the future holds. This is a good opportunity to say how I actually feel."

The six-part series promises "unprecedented access into Molly-Mae's life behind the vlog camera". Molly



DIFFICULTIES
Molly and Tommy

has 21-month-old daughter Bambi with ex-Love Island co-star Tommy.

The trailer also shows Bambi being cuddled by Molly and saying "daddy".

Molly told Vogue this month that they broke up due to difficult circumstances. She confessed: "I didn't want what happened to happen."

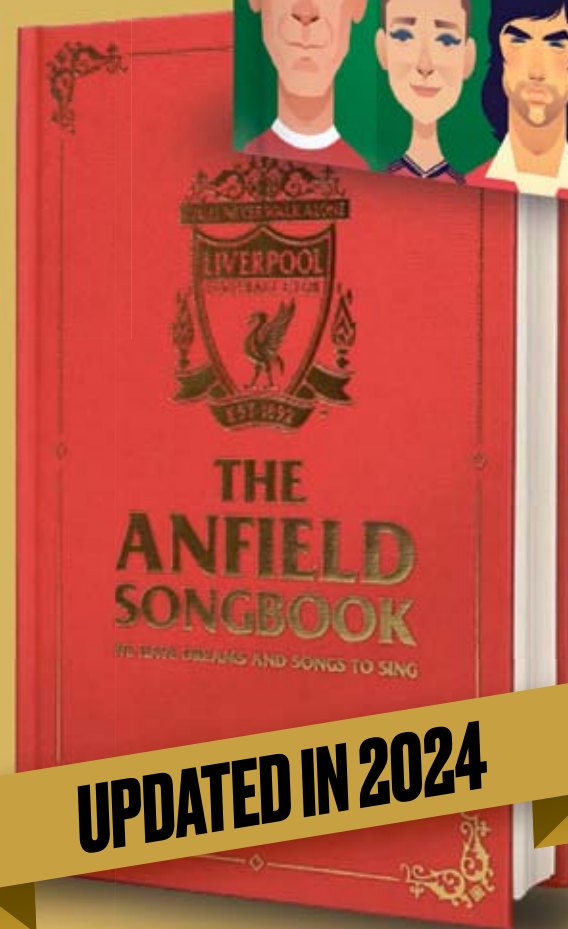
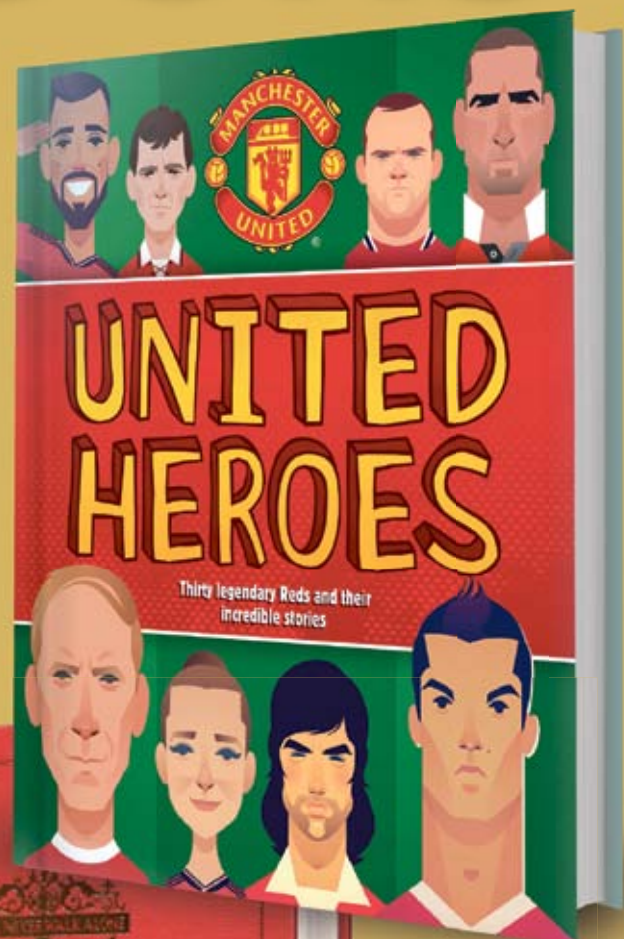
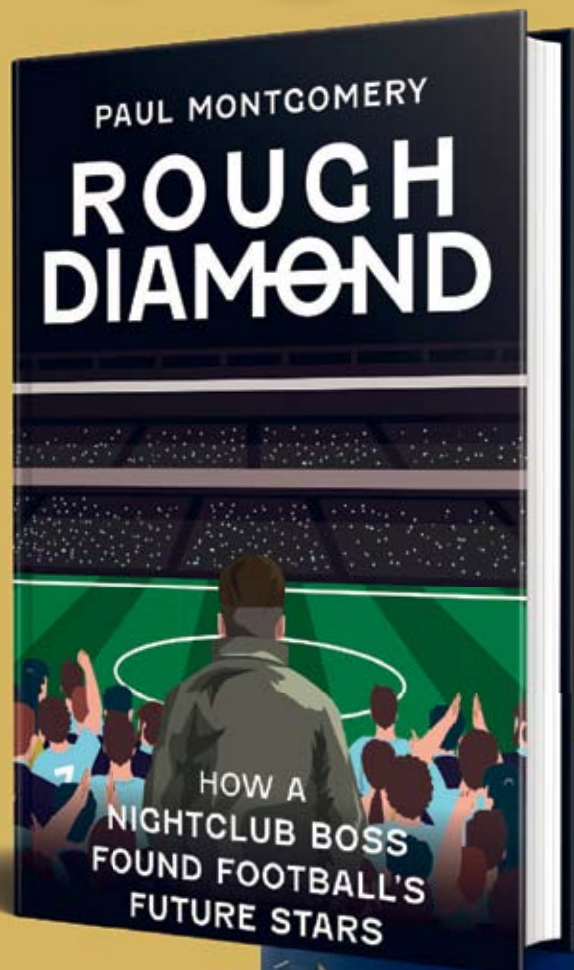
Boxer Tommy denied rumours he was unfaithful, posting: "These last few weeks have been heartbreaking."

The series will be released on January 17 and Prime promised: "This is Molly-Mae as we've never seen her before."

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STROLL Grenada beach Couple died in Caribbean isle tragedy

BY DAN WARBURTON

A BRITISH couple died after collapsing within seconds of each other during a stroll on a Caribbean beach, an inquest heard.

David and Rosalind Forster, both 76, had just left their daughter and son-in-law to settle the bill at a restaurant in Grenada.

David suffered a cardiac arrest as they walked back to their hotel on March 9 on the isle of Carriacou.

His wife collapsed due to an acute shock reaction.

David fell into 2ft of sea water and drowned. Rosalind died in hospital later that day.

Dorset senior coroner Brendan Allen said it was a "sudden and tragic loss of life". He recorded a verdict of accidental death in David's case and a narrative verdict for Rosalind, from Poole, Dorset.



SNARLED UP Traffic jams Motorists are dreaming of a flight Xmas

BY JEREMY ARMSTRONG

DRIVERS will be wishing they could let the plane take the strain as they face chaos amid the Christmas getaway this weekend.

An RAC poll suggests there will be 3 million leisure trips made by car tomorrow, rising to 3.7 million on Saturday.

The RAC and analysts Inrix said roads would be busiest from 1pm to 7pm tomorrow and Saturday. Alice Simpson, of the RAC, said: "Snarl-up Saturday is particularly challenging."

National Highways said 95% of roadworks would be lifted this week.

Signalling work at Crewe in Cheshire means there will be rail service disruption across the north.

And drivers are urged to avoid the M53 from Chester to Liverpool tomorrow and Saturday.

BY DAN WARBURTON

A WOMAN who lives in one of the homes used for the filming of Gavin & Stacey thinks the show really is over - because bosses let her keep some of the props this time.

Glenda Kenyon, 71, has lived for the past 35 years in the terraced house that doubles in the sitcom for Stacey's family home.

Glenda said of the props being handed over after filming of what is being billed as the finale: "They've given quite a lot of their stuff."

She added of the episode to be aired this festive season: "I'm going to be glued to my seat."

"The only thing I want to find out is if Smithy is going to say yes [to Nessa's proposal] - and the

Sitcom is all over... good and prop-er



REAL RESIDENT
Glenda at home.
Above left, Gwen



STREET Famous house.
Left, scene inside property



Plots occurring

BY MARK JEFFERIES Showbiz Editor

JAMES Corden and Ruth Jones HAVE dropped more hints about the Gavin & Stacey Christmas special - and aren't ruling out a spin-off.

The BBC comedy, which began 17 years ago, is scheduled to come to a permanent end on Christmas Day, with a 90-minute special.

James, 46, who co-writes the show with Ruth, said: "It can't carry on. When you see it, you'll know."

But on possible spin-offs he gave fans hope, saying: "We don't know if we have another idea in us but if we didn't... even explore the idea of writing together [again] then I'd be so disappointed."

Ruth, 58, added: "I couldn't bear it. I

James says Gavin & Stacey 'can't carry on... when you see it you'll know why'

love being in the room with James, it's so fun." The pair told the Table Manners podcast they think the secret of their success is writing kind comedy.

James said: "Most people love their friends, most people might not always get on with their families but they love them and most people

when they're with their families it's a treasured time. For some reason, it's not always reflected in TV."

James plays Smithy on the show, with Ruth as Nessa, whose catchphrases include: "What's occurring?"

Teasing the episode, the BBC have said: "It's

five years since we left Nessa down on one knee declaring her love for Smithy and asking him to marry her. And a lot has happened since then."

James said: "On TV or films, you very rarely see people that look like Ruth and I fall in love. I'd be dropping off a TV to Hugh Grant in Bridget Jones, and Ruth's like working on a newsstand."

"What I like about the show is it's so messy and complicated and they just clearly have fantastic sex."

The pair said their days writing now revolve around naps and chocolate.

Mathew Horne will return as Essex boy Gavin and Joanna Page is back as his Welsh wife Stacey.

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CO-WRITERS
Ruth and James



INVASIVE Asian shore crab

Volunteers have a whale of time to aid sea research

BY NADA FARHOUD
Environment Editor

VOLUNTEERS gave up 46,000 hours to explore our shores and aid research into species such as conger eels and humpback whales. Among finds in the Wildlife Trusts' marine review were climate-indicator sea slugs and seaweeds. The census noted significant numbers of invasive Asian shore crabs on the Naze in Essex. And hundreds of mauve jellyfish, found in warmer waters, turned up in Cornwall and the Scilly Isles.

TURTLE

A loggerhead sea turtle was spotted in Cumbria and released in the Azores. Humpback whales were also seen off Lancashire, Pembrokeshire, North Wales and Cornwall. It is suspected dozens of conger eels, found washed up on a beach in Dorset, were discarded by fishers. A spiny lobster was spotted in Wembury Bay, Devon, for the first time since excessive fishing in the 1960s and 1970s. First records were also made of a warty doris sea slug in Sussex and a rainbow sea slug in Devon. Ruth Williams, of Wildlife Trusts, said: "People made huge contributions to our knowledge of seas."



VICTIM

Amie Gray, left, and wife Sian

BY DAN WARBURTON

A CRIMINOLOGY student who had an obsession with true crime has been convicted of butchering a personal trainer on a beach.

Nasen Saadi, 20, was said to have a warped fascination with knives before he murdered Amie Gray, 34. He stabbed his victim 10 times as she screamed "Get off me", leaving her with a gaping wound to her chest. Mrs Gray died after catastrophic blood loss on May 24 at Durley Chine beach in Bournemouth, Dorset. Saadi also tried to kill her friend Leanne Miles, 38, who suffered 20 injuries but survived, saying Mrs Gray had saved her life. The Greenwich University student

Judge tells killer to expect life

had denied murder and attempted murder, claiming mistaken identity and telling police he had sleepwalked and blacked out on the night of his attack. However, jurors at Winchester crown court in Hampshire found him guilty of both counts yesterday. As the verdicts were delivered, twisted Saadi hung his head and did not show any emotion. Judge Johannah Cutts told

him: "You have been convicted of the most serious of crimes. "As you have heard, there is only one sentence which one should expect to follow the verdict of this jury and that is a sentence of imprisonment for life. "You should be under no illusions, the minimum term in this case will be of considerable length." Saadi, who already



KNIVES

Saadi struck on beach

accepted a charge of failing to give police access to his phone, will be sentenced at a later date so a pre-sentence report can be put forward. Mrs Gray's wife Sian Gray said in a statement: "I want to take this opportunity to thank all of Dorset Police, the jury, prosecution team, the medics, and first response team... each and every person who helped bring Amie the justice she deserved. "Amie will never be forgotten. She touched the lives of so many. The immense support and love shown by everyone reflects just that. "Amie's life has been brutally taken but now she can rest in peace. Her strength lives on in all of us."

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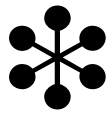
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Wham! are now the bookies' fave for Xmas No.1

THE DIARY

with Ashleigh Rainbird

AS ELTON
Cara in vid

Cara Delevingne plays **Sir Elton John** in a new video for his classic festive song *Step Into Christmas*.

The video is a reimagined behind the scenes of the original version, released more than 50 years ago.

Cara, 32, sports an identical-looking suit and glasses as worn by Sir Elton.

On its initial release in November 1973, *Step Into Christmas* reached number 24 in the UK top 40 and topped the Billboard Christmas Singles chart.

Cara, who is a close friend of Sir Elton's, said: "Elton has always been an idol of mine, to say his music has had a deeply profound effect on me is an understatement.

"To be asked by him to PLAY him in this recreation was a dream that I didn't know I had until it happened. Honestly I wish I could pretend to be Elton every day.

"I hope that Elton may one day return the favour and agree to play me in my not yet developed, written, pitched or funded biopic. Fingers crossed."

In the new video a

production team is seen readying the set for the star's arrival as they try to ensure it is "Christmassy enough".

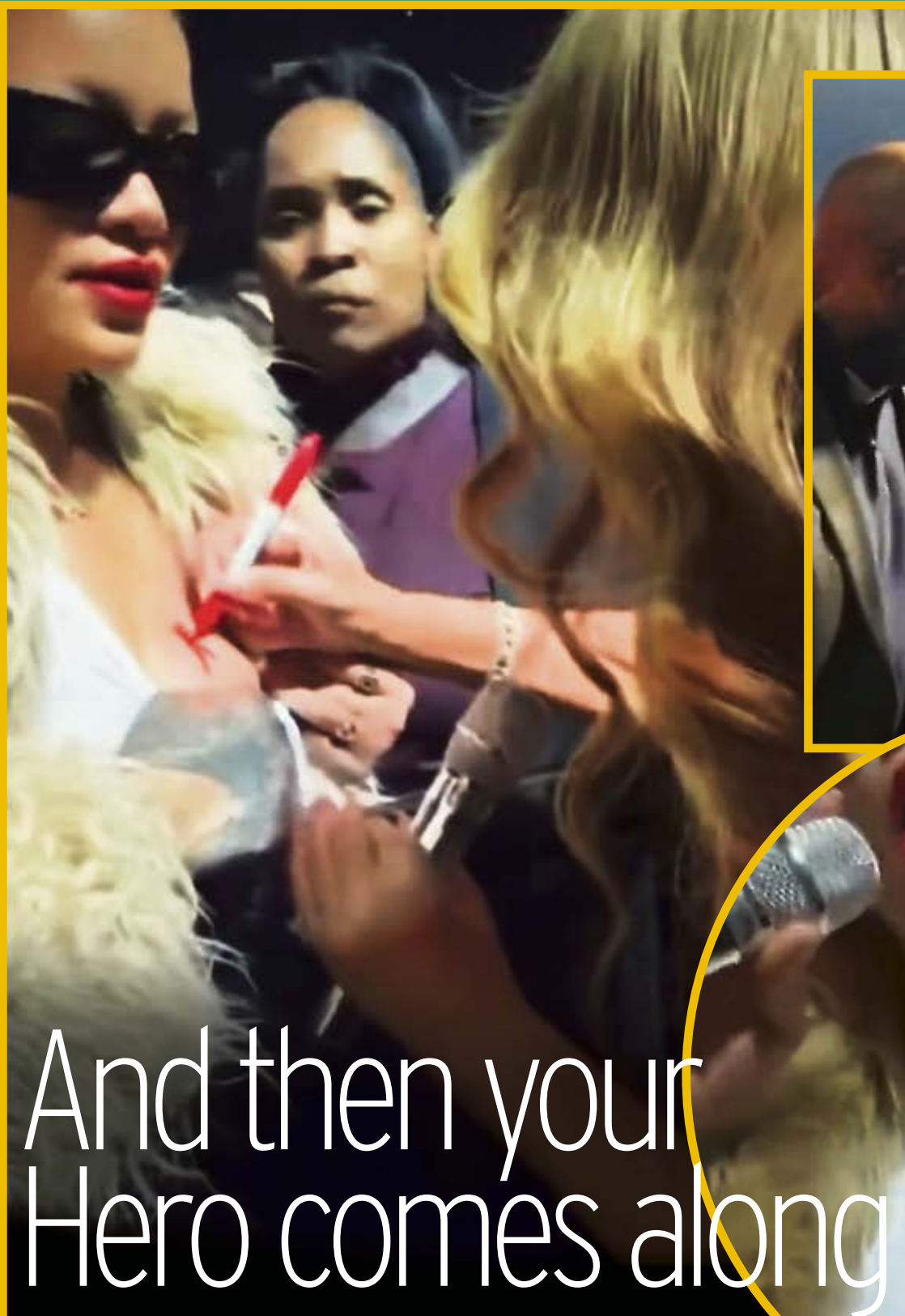
1973
Elton

Sir Elton, 77, said: "I saw Cara at Glastonbury last summer, and we talked about how much we'd love to work together if the right idea came up.

"She's hilarious to spend time with, we both have quite a self-deprecating sense of humour.

"When someone suggested the idea of her playing me in a riff on the 1973 *Step Into Christmas* video, I just thought it was the perfect opportunity.

"Thank God that Cara thought the same, because it came out great."

And then your
Hero comes along

Rihanna's gift from breast pal Mariah

All Rihanna wanted for Christmas was Mariah Carey's autograph – and at the singer's latest gig she got it in a rather unusual place.

Rihanna was in the crowd at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn, New York, to watch Mariah's final show of her Christmas Time tour.

When the *We Belong Together* hitmaker spotted Rihanna, she went to join her and then delighted concert-goers by signing Rihanna's breast.

In a video shared online,

Mariah, 55, scrawls her name using a red marker before a thrilled Rihanna – whose hits include *Hero* – grabbed the microphone. She told the audience: "Mariah Carey is signing my t*t, y'all. This sh** is f***ing epic."

When Mariah was finished, Rihanna turned to the crowd to show off the autograph.

The 36-year-old proudly told them: "Look at that sh**."

Fans went wild for the interaction on social media.

One recalled: "We were shook – it was definitely a moment!"

Another gushed: "Omg Rih-riah

is alive & thriving." Mariah had taken to the stage wearing a white mermaid gown with shimmering silver details and puffed out sleeves.

Her gig came after she was forced to cancel several concerts because she was suffering a bout of flu. The show was a celebration of the 30th anniversary of Mariah's *All I Want For Christmas Is You*.

Mariah treated fans to many of her own hits as well as some Christmas classics. The tour continued her tradition of seasonal shows to promote her 1994 album *Christmas*.

GIG Mariah
goes into
audienceBOOB JOB
Rihanna shows
off autograph

I got a lot of calls from other managers of bands saying, 'You're really making us look bad, you're making us look greedy!' Like, yeah, there's a reason for that, 'cause you are greedy!

The Cure's Robert Smith calls out rip-off ticket prices in new chat with podcast Sidetracked



BY OLLIE MCMANUS

SIR Chris Hoy endured wearing a painful ice cap for hours because his son feared cancer treatment would cost the Olympian his hair.

The six-time gold medallist, who revealed earlier this year he has terminal prostate cancer, had his hair follicles frozen to prevent hair loss through chemotherapy.

Hoy, 48, said wearing a cap and gloves while gel is pumped through at -27C for four hours was "pretty grim".

His children with wife Sarra, Callum and Chloe, were aged nine and six at the time of his diagnosis.

The Scottish track cyclist told the How to Fail

TOUGH Sir Chris in his cap



Hoy: I endured ice cap hell for my son

podcast: "The first question Callum had was, 'Are you going to lose your hair?'. He was keen I did use the cap but it was tough. That

was one of the lowest points, sitting in the chair, feeling utterly miserable."

Hoy said he took inspiration from his great uncle, a prisoner of war during the Second World War. "I

thought about my great uncle Andy, who was a prisoner of war in Japan, and some of the horrendous things he endured," he said.

"It made me snap out of it and

realise I'm sitting in a hospital with amazing treatment, amazing nurses and doctors, and I'm lucky to be here."

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AT CINEMAS EVERYWHERE BOXING DAY

David causes a Del of a shock



HOT TO TROTT
David and Paul, Whitehouse, 66

THE real Del Boy made a surprise appearance at the Only Fools and Horses musical last night.

Actor David Jason, 84, turned up at London's Hammersmith Apollo for a special gala night to celebrate Hollywood hardman Vinnie Jones's stage acting debut in the role of Danny Driscoll.

Sam Lupton plays Del Trotter in the musical with comedy star Paul Whitehouse as Grandad. David said: "I have heard it is very good but I'm going to make my mind up when I see it."



DEBUT Vinnie at gala night



FOUND DEAD Mr Winwood Councillor in crack house suffocation

BY ADAM DUTTON and
PAUL JENKINS

A TORY councillor found dead at a drugs den had taken cocaine and been suffocated with a plastic bag, an inquest heard.

Les Winwood, 67, was discovered at convicted crack cocaine dealer Keith Kennedy's house in the early hours of July 17, 2022.

Last week, Kennedy, 52, of Bilston, West Mids, was jailed for two years after pleading guilty to being concerned in the production of crack cocaine.

An inquest was opened and adjourned into the death of Mr Winwood, a councillor for Bridgnorth and Tansley in Shropshire.

Senior coroner Joanne Lees told Sandwell coroners court the results of the postmortem before adjourning the case for further inquiries.



APPEAL Gavin Hastings Gav-a-go at raising cash to beat MND

BY NICK FORBES

RUGBY legend Gavin Hastings and four ex-British and Irish Lions are calling on people to join a challenge for MND research.

Doddie Aid raises cash for the My Name's Doddie Foundation, set up by late Lion and rugby union player Doddie Weir, 52, after his diagnosis in 2016.

The challenge, which runs for five weeks from January 1, involves any exercise and has raised £5million since 2021.

Ex-Scotland fullback Hastings joined Jamie Roberts, Tommy Bowe and Richard Hill in an appeal.

He said of fans: "I hope they all kick off this massive Lions year in 2025 by signing up for Doddie Aid, helping boot this devastating disease into touch. Come on, Weir in this together!"

BOOZE DEATHS UP 42%

Experts call for alco price rise to tackle crisis



BITTER TIMES
Alcohol-related
deaths soaring

BY MARTIN BAGOT Health Editor

DEATHS due to problem boozing have soared by more than 40%.

The Alcohol Health Alliance has written to Health Secretary Wes Streeting for action after 8,274 deaths were directly caused by booze last year.

The group fears this is the tip of the iceberg, adding fatalities in England where alcohol was a contributing factor were likely to be three times higher.

The AHA, which is calling for a minimum pricing policy on cheap supermarket booze, writes: "Deaths caused solely by alcohol have increased by a catastrophic 42% since 2019.

"After decades of inaction, we urge you to make it your New Year's resolution to redress this alarming trend and stop needless suffering of countless individuals, their children, families and communities across the country."

Lord Darzi's review into the NHS in England also highlighted how alcohol is

becoming more affordable and deaths are rising at an alarming rate. Post-Covid increases in drinking to excess at home are thought to be partly to blame.

Deaths directly attributed to booze occur when people suffer illnesses such as alcohol poisoning or liver disease.

Prof Sir Ian Gilmore, chair of the AHA, said: "Now is the moment to show we value human lives over profit.

"Without bold, decisive action, these preventable deaths will continue to

climb. Addressing alcohol harm must be a top public health priority in 2025, it requires a cross-government effort to turn the tide on this public health crisis."

The letter also warned of growing pressures on our economy and health services due to alcohol harm.

It highlights there are almost 950,000 alcohol-related hospital admissions in England each year. It comes after

Scotland brought in new minimum booze pricing.

The AHA praised health officials in Scotland for the minimum unit pricing scheme but said "inaction across the border has led English deaths to spiral".

In 2020, the Tories said there were no plans to bring in MUP in England but it would



PLEA Wes Streeting, right, urged to take action on health crisis

8,274

Number of deaths last year directly caused by alcohol abuse

950,000

Number of hospital admissions each year in England linked to booze

65p

Scotland's minimum price per unit of alcohol after 30% rise this year

£6.09

Minimum price for a typical 12.5% bottle of wine in Scotland

£1.30

Minimum price that a can of lager can be bought for in Scotland

monitor the initiative's progress in Scotland. In October, Home Office minister Dame Diana Johnson said: "We are continuing to work closely across government to better understand what can be done to address the drivers of alcohol-related harms."

Scotland's minimum booze price rose by 30% in September to keep up with inflation over the past six years.

It had not changed since it was set at 50p per unit of alcohol when it was first introduced in May 2018.

It has now increased to 65p per unit, meaning a typical 12.5% bottle of wine cannot be sold for less than £6.09 and a can of lager will be at least £1.30.

MUP is not a tax to generate income for the government. Instead it aims to reduce the availability of cheap alcohol in shops by setting a minimum price.

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VOICE OF THE MIRROR: PAGE 8

Well, it's panto season - oh yes it is - and naturally Denise, Tom and I were destined to have our own en route to see Maureen tread the boards.

She's in St Helens, in Merseyside, starring as the wicked queen in Snow White and invited us up to watch on Monday night. We nearly missed the 6pm start thanks to, ahem, the sat nav.

The hour-long trip from Blackpool turned into more than two as we left Mo and the dwarves - and any thought of dinner - "behind us!"

We'd have been quicker in a pantomime horse. But we made it nonetheless, and of course it was fabulous. Maureen is quite possibly the most beautiful wicked queen

Linda Nolan Speaking from the heart



in the history of wicked queens. I once played the same part in the same show in the same theatre. Would I still be up there if I wasn't ill? I'm not sure I would.

I used to love doing panto when Brian came with me, but I rather like having Christmas off these days. On Christmas Eve alone, Maureen's got three shows!

The number of pantos I've been in and watched over the years doesn't bear

thinking about, but when you catch kids watching, it's like seeing it all afresh again.

I was glued to one girl, aged three or four, who was transfixed. She reminded me how magical it is. For most kids, a pantomime will be their first experience of theatre. She danced and had a ball.

All the anticipation makes this my favourite time of the year. And I've been shopping with my friend Sue. She's been

great at taking me out in my wheelchair, although she no doubt needed a mulled wine after the last trip when she turned me round in one narrow aisle and we took out half of womenswear.

I've also got a Christmas jumper day with the girls, because, well, why not? Mine has a gin goblet in a Santa hat on the front. Because nothing says Christmas like a G&T in a hat.

I can barely believe I've made it - but here I am, and I'm so grateful.

Thank you so much for reading my highs and lows this year. I'll make a Christmas wish for many more.

I'll be raising my goblet to you and your families. Merry Christmas!

Veteran wrecked war tribute in protest over his treatment

BY SIMON PARKIN and FAYE MAYERN

AN ex-soldier has admitted causing thousands of pounds of damage to a war memorial in a protest over the treatment of veterans.

Baron Kelly destroyed wreaths laid to mark the Battle of Britain on September 11.

The 64-year-old, who served in Northern Ireland, said his attack on the tribute in Norwich was prompted by



him being "fed up with how veterans are treated". Kelly's defence, Calvin Sacker, said he was engaging with a mental health team over possible PTSD.

The damage was estimated at £5,000, prosecutors said.

Norwich magistrates court heard homeless Kelly was on bail for other offences and Deputy District Judge Jacqui Appleton told him he faces six months in jail. He was bailed to reappear on February 3.

£400k chop shop arrests

A PORSCHE was among a £400,000 haul of 18 stolen cars found at a chop shop.

The yard, where cars are dismantled or given false identities, was raided after a Mercedes GLC was tracked on December 9.

Two men, aged 35 and 38, were held on suspicion of theft of vehicles and handling stolen goods in Uttlesford, Essex.

The pair, of Romford, East London, were bailed.

Detectives said the chop shop has "links to wider organised crime groups".

THE FACTORY



EXCLUSIVE
BY RICHARD ASHMORE

As you pour brandy over your Christmas pudding on Wednesday and set it aflame, spare a thought for the factory workers who were responsible for creating your showpiece festive dessert.

Matthew Walker Puddings make 97% of our Christmas puds, with the 220 workers sending out 17 million to almost every major retailer, who all have their own secret recipe.

The world's oldest Christmas pudding maker is celebrating its 125th anniversary, and it's full steam ahead.

At the factory in Heanor, Derbyshire, staff gauge their speed not in mph, but in pph – puddings per hour – and in October and November they hit 20,000pph.

Purveyors of puds for everyone from Harrods and Waitrose to Tesco and ASDA they work to each retailer's own recipe, some taking 30 months to mature.

Every year, the factory uses the equivalent of 10 Olympic swimming pools of alcohol, 393,304lbs of vine fruit and 151,219lbs of nuts.

Chris Hynes, factory general manager, tells The Mirror: "When people ask what we do, I think they feel we are like Santa Claus and his elves, and that we are busy for one day, or one month of the year."

Today, the factory is owned by Valeo Foods UK, but the business's founder,

Matthew Walker, worked in a grocery shop before opening his first factory in 1899. Mr Hynes says: "We produce more than 17 million Christmas related puddings, but we also do sponge puddings, so 25 million puddings a year in total go out of this factory."

"A lot of people here have upwards of 40 years' service. There is a family culture here. This present site in Heanor has been around since 1967."

The factory is so embedded within the community that there is even an annual 10km pudding run, with more than 1,200 runners of every ability taking part.

Mr Hynes says: "Every single one of the puddings we make has its own unique taste."

"Each of our customers has a huge input into what they want for their puddings."

"The basic principle of a Christmas pudding is allowing that moisture to create that beautiful balance of flavour between the alcohol and pudding mix."

"Each of our customers wants their own version of that, so it's definitely a partnership between our team and their preference."

He says consumer tastes have changed through the years and the recipes adapted to suit.

Nowhere was the appreciation of the team effort behind the factory's success more evident than at a ceremony to commemorate its 125 year anniversary.

Unveiling a plaque in the canteen, CEO of Valeo Foods UK, Kevin Moore, said: "This moment belongs to the workers who, along with generations of colleagues before them, show up every day, committed to ensuring that every product reflects 125 years of hard work and dedication."

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TEAM BEHIND 97% OF XMAS PUDDS

PLUM JOB

SWEET DREAM
Factory workers Sandra Baldwin, left and David Harris and Elaine Knight

“There is a family culture here. A lot of people have upwards of 40 years of service

CHRIS HYNES MATTHEW WALKER
PUDDING FACTORY GENERAL MANAGER



VISIT Heather with Santa choc

Santa scanners make most of chocola-tech

EXCLUSIVE BY HEATHER MAIN

A CT scanner in a spotless room takes detailed X-rays to reveal the insides of the patient... a chocolate Santa.

It is one of the thousands of treats perfected by scientists working for Mondelez - parent company of Cadbury - using state-of-the-art technology.

“Nobody wants to see a chocolate Santa with a hole in his face on Christmas morning,” says James Spinks of Reading Scientific Services Ltd.

“It’s a tricky process to make sure that the chocolate is thin enough to be eaten easily, but also thick enough to hold its shape. We now have a very special CT machine that helps us make sure Santa gets to you in one piece.”

At the company’s science base, in Reading, James proudly shows the Mirror Santa’s full body scan.

Chocolates that have been scanned are not considered edible, but the science is invaluable.

“We use the machine to keep checking a product as time passes too,” James explains. “We

can look at a product after a matter of weeks, or even months, and ensure the chocolate keeps its shape and density.”

The technology can also be used to perfect another festive favourite, the Christmas Pud, as well as the classic Cadbury chocolates that make up a tub of Heroes.

“We will use the scanner to measure the size of each air bubble inside a Wispa,” says James.

Another clever machine, part of a £16million investment by Mondelez, determines how creamy or bitter a particular chocolate bar may seem.

And it doesn’t stop there. Head of research and development Thomas Dingley says: “We now have the technology to let our consumer testers explore new products via virtual reality. We can use a VR headset to place them into a living room, to experience that chocolate in as natural an environment as possible”

Move over, Willy Wonka.



TEST James scans Santa



EXIT CLAUS Finished treat





AT COURT Max Gibbins

Cadet groped two trainees at Sandhurst

BY **CHRIS HUGHES**
Defence and Security Editor

AN Army officer cadet sexually assaulted two female trainees on a Sandhurst course.

Cambridge University-educated Max Gibbins, 26, was with a group doing adventure training, a court martial heard.

Four cadets – two male and two female – were sharing a bed following a night out when he groped one as she slept.

When she jumped out of bed in horror he then molested the other.

He left Sandhurst a week before he was due to graduate and admitted the sexual assaults at Bulford Military Court, Wilts.

Gibbins got a suspended sentence, must pay each victim £1,000 and sign the sex offenders' register.

Scooter blast arrest

Moscow assassination suspect caught



'PLOT' Akhmad Kurbanov



BOMB SITE Woman passes spot where Kirillov, left, died

BY **CHRIS HUGHES**
Defence and Security Editor

RUSSIAN security officers have seized a suspect they claim planted the deadly scooter bomb that killed Lt Gen Igor Kirillov.

They claim the 29-year-old Uzbekistan citizen, named as Akhmad Kurbanov, was promised £80,000 and the chance of a new life in Europe.

Russia's FSB spy agency claims the

suspect said he was recruited by Ukrainian special services.

The agency alleged his Ukrainian handlers told him to travel to Moscow, where he obtained the homemade bomb, placed it on an e-scooter and parked it outside military chief Kirillov's apartment building.

It added he rented a car to monitor the location, just four miles from the Kremlin, and set up a camera to stream

the scene to his handlers in Dnipro, detonating the bomb when Kirillov, 54, emerged, also killing assistant Ilya Polikarpov.

Russian media reports said the FSB tracked the suspect by studying video from surveillance cameras and his phone calls.

He was detained in a village in the Moscow region and is facing life



imprisonment. Ukraine's elite intelligence unit SBU said that it was behind the attack.

It branded Kirillov, who was in charge of Russia's nuclear, chemical and biological warfare, both a "war criminal and an entirely legitimate target".

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SISTER Race Across World with Bonny
BY **NICOLA METHVEN** TV Editor

Double amputee Billy Monger says he signed up for Strictly Come Dancing's Christmas special in thanks to a surgeon who performed his amputations after his horror smash in 2017.

The racing driver, 25, said he had been inspired to say yes to dancing on his prosthetic limbs because of Tom Rowlands and his wife Courtney, who are fans of the show and have become close friends.

"Tom is one of many surgeons who looked after me when I needed it most," Billy said. "After my accident, we stayed in touch and they are part of my close network of people."

"His wife, Courtney, who will be coming to the show, is such a big Strictly fan. I've just done Ironman in Hawaii and she travelled out to watch me. When I said I might be doing Strictly, she said, 'You have to do it. I've come to Hawaii, so you need to do it'. She's the person who made me think, 'I've got to do this'."

Billy was a rising star in the world of motor racing until the accident that nearly killed him in April 2017.

Billy, then 17, was involved in a high-speed crash at the Formula 4 British Championship at Donington Park, Derbys.

At the time Steven Hunter, head of Billy's team JHR Developments, said witnessing his injuries had been heart-wrenching.

After having surgery to remove his left leg above the knee and his right leg below the knee, Billy was determined to get on with his life.

Seven months later, he was back racing in a specially modified car. He has since said: "I lost my legs but not my daredevil spirit."

He has become the first disabled driver to compete against able-bodied rivals in F3, having appealed to the governing body to change the rules.

In 2019, he launched his career as a broadcaster, for Channel 4's Formula 1 coverage, and he has also become a regular presenter for the Paralympics.

In 2021, he raised £3million for Comic Relief by walking, kayaking and cycling 140 miles. Two years

later, he and younger sister Bonny were contestants on the first celebrity version of BBC One show Race Across the World.

Billy considers Bonny to be one of his heroes, after she went to the track in the aftermath of the crash, grabbed his hand and told him he



F1 STAR Lewis Hamilton in 2017

the will to keep fighting," he has said. In October, Billy became the youngest double amputee to complete in an Ironman event, beating the previous world record by two hours in the process.

Despite these achievements, Billy said that performing an American

was going to be all right. "She gave me

Smooth with Nadiya Bychkova had proved a huge challenge. "It's not painful – it's physically challenging with my prosthetics," he said.

"When I first met Nadiya we went through movement patterns and worked out what worked. We've tweaked things. That's part of the journey I've really enjoyed. I've liked we've been learning the whole time."

"That, for me, is why I was up for

doing it. As much as it's out of my comfort zone, I love learning new skills and trying new things."

He said that Nadiya's energy had been infectious, adding: "She loves dancing so much and she wants to push me. We had to put trust in each other that we could make it work."

Billy, who says the show has given him a newfound confidence, feels he could cope with taking part in the

main series. He said: "Having been in this world for a few weeks, there is part of me going, 'I don't want this to end. I want to keep going'."

"I want to continue to push boundaries and show what's possible for a double amputee dancing."

Strictly Come Dancing Special, BBC1, 3.55pm, Christmas Day.

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I'm dancing for my doctor and his wife

Amputee Billy's Strictly tribute to surgeon

SAYING THANKS
Billy dances with Nadiya in Christmas Day special



Topsy and Tim kids' author Adamson dies at age of 96

BY CASEY COOPER-FISKE

CHILDREN'S author Jean Adamson, known for the Topsy and Tim books, has died aged 96, her family has said.

She created the series, which follows the adventures of girl and boy twins and spawned more than 150 books, alongside her late husband Gareth.

The grandmother's family announced with "deep sorrow" that she died on Sunday. In a

MISSED Jean Adamson



statement released by Ladybird Books, they added: "Her presence will be greatly missed, but her memory will live on in the hearts of her family and all those she loved or that remember her through her stories."

Born in Peckham, South East London, her picture books launched in 1960, when it was unusual for kids to be lead characters. They have sold more than 25 million copies and also been adapted for TV.

OUR DAILY PUB QUIZ

1 Who killed Dirty Den in EastEnders?

2 True or false. Haechan is a member of the boyband BTS.

3 What is the name of the first Wallace and Gromit film?

4 Who was the first woman to top the UK charts with a self-written song?

5 What is the most common garden bird in the UK?

ANSWERS: PAGE 41



NEW RUNOUT For Bergerac



JERSEY ROYALTY The new cast, from left, Sasha Behar, Chloe Sweetlove, Robert Gilbert, Zoe Wanamaker, Damien Molony, Philip Glenister, Timothy Renouf, Pippa Haywood, Stephen Wight

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It's panto

BY ADAM ASPINALL

A PERFORMANCE of panto *Sleeping Beauty* turned very ugly with drunken mums and dads brawling in the audience.

Children were left in tears by the fight that broke out in the upper circle of a theatre after an interval for drinks.

Actors were pulled from the stage to keep them safe.

Police were called to the venue and a woman in her 30s was arrested for being drunk and disorderly.

Someone who attended the show, which was halted for about 15 minutes because of the altercation, said: "In my many years of enjoying panto I have never had such an awful experi-



PUNCH-UP Theatre. Left, a panto poster



ence. The cast were amazing for their calm resumption of the pantomime."

Another witness said: "Very quickly there seemed to be quite a few people involved, all men I think, and there was punching and pushing. I was particularly concerned that

A good look at Berger-back...

BY **MARK JEFFERIES** Showbiz Editor
THE trailer for the new Bergerac is out today and shows the Jersey sleuth returning to work after the death of his wife.
Played by Damien Molony, Bergerac says in the clip: "Why did I go back to work? Because grief was defining me, because I needed to prove something." The



ROLE Zoe in new Bergerac

trailer also shows Jim Bergerac speeding in a car and attending the scene of a murder.
Fans are also introduced to others in the cast, such as Zoe Wanamaker and Philip Glenister.
The original series with John Nettles ran between 1981 and 1991. The remake is on U and U&DRAMA in February.



monium

Boozy mums & dads in brawl at Sleeping Beauty

someone may be pushed over the balcony on to the audience below.
"A large group were brought out and led to the top of the stairs.
"Among the group was a lady who was very distressed and stood shouting and swearing at staff and other people. A small girl and a young boy were very

upset. The girl was in tears. I was full of admiration of the theatre staff and the St John Ambulance crew who got the situation under control before a serious injury happened."
The panto at Theatre Severn in Shrewsbury features Britain's Got Talent star Tommy J Rollason.
Theatre operator Shropshire council said security staff and venue management attended the trouble quickly and that West Mercia Police also stepped in.
The council added: "The performance was paused and resumed after a delay of approximately 15 minutes. The incident is currently a matter for the police."
West Mercia Police said: "Officers responded to a report of an assault around 7.35pm. Inquiries are ongoing."
@DailyMirror

mirrornews@mirror.co.uk

CANCER HOPE

BY **MARTIN BAGOT** Health Editor
A daily tablet that treats breast cancer in patients whose tumour has mutated is to be rolled out on the NHS.
Elacestrant had been rejected by regulators in October but will now be given to 1,100 women with an incurable form of the disease.
Breast Cancer Now chief Claire Rowney welcomed the approval for use on the NHS in England. She said: "Elacestrant will bring eligible patients hope of more precious

Breast tumours tablet approved
time before their condition progresses. Because elacestrant has been approved for people with a particular gene mutation, additional testing will be needed to work out who'll be eligible."
SUPPORT Claire Rowney

The drug, also known as Korserdu, was recommended by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. It is for patients whose cancer got worse after hormone therapy and CDK4/6 inhibitors, which target cancer cell proteins.
Meanwhile, Cancer Research UK said screening programmes for breast, bowel and cervical spotted 89,800 cancers in five years.
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HAULAGE FIRM



FATHER
& SON
Eddie with
Edward
in 1993

MERCHANDISE Stobart toy lorries

BY JEREMY ARMSTRONG

Eddie Stobart said he would never have put his name on the side of his haulage trucks if he had known how famous they would make him.

The lorries made the family a fortune but he insisted that God – not money or celebrity status – is what got his motor running.

The man known as the King of the Road has died at the age of 95, it was confirmed yesterday.

Eddie, who bought his first truck in 1960 and chose the red and green livery which was to become so well-known, also started the tradition of giving Stobart lorries female names.

The first three were in honour of British model Twiggy, and US singers Dolly Parton and Tammy Wynette.

Drivers were later able to choose their own names for their trucks, which sometimes caused problems if they then got new wives or girlfriends.

The lorries sparked a cult following and a craze for people spotting them.

Thousands joined a fan club, which inspired merchandise such as Eddie Stobart model trucks.

Eddie was born in 1929 in Cumberland (in what is now Cumbria). His dad farmed a small-holding with eight cows at Hesket Newmarket in the Lake District.

Eddie's mum died when he was 12 and he left school at 14 to work on the farm.

As a teenager in the late 1940s, Eddie started his company as an agricultural business.

He would take rabbits and chopped kindling sticks to a Saturday market in Carlisle.

After a year, he had saved enough to buy an unbroken horse (for roughly £1,000 in today's money). He trained it to pull carts and machinery.

Eddie sold the horse a year later for double what he had paid for it.

He invested the money in hens and hen houses, selling them to his father.

Eddie then bought a tractor and a threshing machine which he used to work for other farmers. He set up a fertiliser busi-



“When I’d say s-s-s-sausages I got more sausages”

EDDIE STOBART ON THE UPSIDE OF HIS STUTTER

MARRIAGE
Eddie with
wife Nora
in 2016

ness in 1957, and the first Stobart lorry arrived in 1960 – a second-hand Guy Invincible four-wheeler – taking his wares to farms. The truck was repainted in red and green. Chemical giant ICI

offered to make delivery lorries, and a Stobart lorry arrived in 1973 when the firm was looking for its friendly and reliable drivers. The drivers were encouraged to wear a horn if fans of the firm were on the road. Eddie with d-

LEGEND EDDIE STOBART 1929-2024

“

I never aimed to devote myself to work. What's the point of all this rush?

EDDIE STOBART ON HIS PRIORITIES DESPITE THE SUCCESS



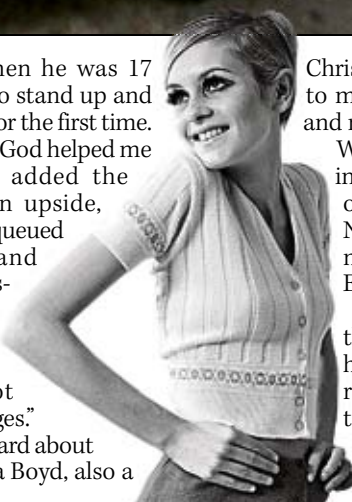
He dies aged 95 after his name on side of his trucks became known to millions



him a contract to series with his own star was born. Edward took over in firm became known approach. wore a collar and tie uraged to toot their ne brand gave them oad. Eddie credited riving the business

to new heights. Their growing fleet of lorries became a familiar sight, and featured in a Channel 5 documentary series from 2010. Father-of-four Eddie, a devout Christian, refused to work on weekends. He said: "Saturday is for children, and Sunday for God." At the age of 10, he developed a stammer after catching his thumb in a door. The stutter suddenly

disappeared when he was 17 and was asked to stand up and speak in chapel for the first time. He once said: "God helped me cure it." Eddie added the problem had an upside, saying: "When I queued for sausages and chips, I'd say s-s-s-sausages and ch-ch-ch-chips p-p-p-p-please, and always got two more sausages." After Eddie heard about 17-year-old Nora Boyd, also a



Christian, they arranged to meet at a Bible rally and married in 1951. When Eddie retired in 1980, selling most of his firm, he and Nora were active members of the Free Evangelical Church. Eddie loved to tell the story of how he handed over the reins of his business to Edward. He

realised his son was a chip off the old block when the youngster broke his leg and handed his dad £700 "for safe keeping" as medics administered a painkiller. Eddie said: "We knew he'd saved a bit of money. We didn't know until that day quite how much he'd been carrying around with him." In later years, Eddie watched the family business grow to fortunes estimated to be around £100million before running into tough financial times in the 2000s. It was then the business – now a subsidiary of the Culina Group –

was bought by a partnership run by Eddie's fourth child, William. Edward, who ran the haulage empire for 30 years, died in 2011 at 56 of a suspected heart attack. Eddie's daughter worked in the family shop, and his other son was a farmer. After stepping back from the business, Eddie took Bibles to jails, hospitals and schools. He said: "I never aimed to devote myself to work. I used to think, 'What's the point of this rush?' We are here to serve God, not [wealth]." jeremy.armstrong@mirror.co.uk [X@jeremyatmirror](https://twitter.com/jeremyatmirror)

HONOUR Model Twiggy in 1960s

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Edited by
HANNAH BRITT



Black magic

BY EMMA JOHNSON

Is any item of clothing as iconic as the little black dress or LBD? I think not. The first LBDs hit women's wardrobes in the 1920s as fashions became less restrained and more rebellious, and the acronym has become shorthand for timeless elegance.

Chances are you have at least one trusty black number in your wardrobe – it's the frock that you know you can rely on when you need to look chic.

During party season, LBDs come into their own and if you are looking for a new one, you are spoiled for choice on the high street.

Keep it simple in a sleek shift, or dazzle in a sequin or sparkle-embellished design. To make things more interesting, play with textures such as lace, feathers or fringing.

As for trends, bows are big business this season and you can't go wrong with a touch of velvet.



Velvet bow mini dress £49, Next



Kimono wrap dress £65, Yumi. Shoes stylist's own



Bow back dress, shoes £32.99, necklace £9.99, Quiz



Fringe sequin puff sleeve dress £159, Ro&Zo. Shoes stylist's own



Velvet feathered hem dress £66, River Island



Black fringe midaxi dress £119, Live Unlimited. Shoes stylist's own

TOP of the SHOPS

We find out what's hot on the street this week



BEAUTY

Beauty fans can pick up a bargain with this gorgeous gift set from Liz Earle. The Glowing Hydration Routine contains the brand's famous Cleanse & Polish Hot Cloth Cleanser as well as three other radiance-boosting products. It's worth £93 but you can pick it up for just £38 in Boots.

TECH

If you've left your Christmas shopping to the last minute, don't worry. Head over to AO.com and you can order great tech gifts until the end of tomorrow and still have them delivered in time for the big day. These Beats Solo Buds True Wireless In-Ear Headphones, £49, are top of our wishlist.



HOME

The Urban Apothecary Winter Fir candle, £40, will fill your home with the scent of Christmas. Once lit, it's like walking through an evergreen forest, blending aromatic pine needles, fir balsam and fresh eucalyptus leaves with deeper notes of incense. It has 60 hours burn time too. Visit urbanapothecarylondon.com



DRINK

Distilled on the Isle of Raasay in the inner Hebrides, this single malt whisky makes an ideal festive tipple. Isle of Raasay, £55, is lightly peated, with notes of blackberry, toffee and smoke – perfect for enjoying beside a roaring fire on a cold Christmas evening. To order visit raasaydistillery.com



EAT

Give the Swiftie in your life an edible treat they won't want to eat – a Baked by Steph Merry Swiftmas letterbox cookie, £12.50. This hand-iced biscuit is the perfect stocking filler, and comes in vegan-friendly options too. Other cookies include biscuit baubles, stockings and personalised snowglobes. Visit bakedbysteph.co.uk



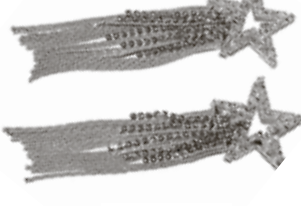
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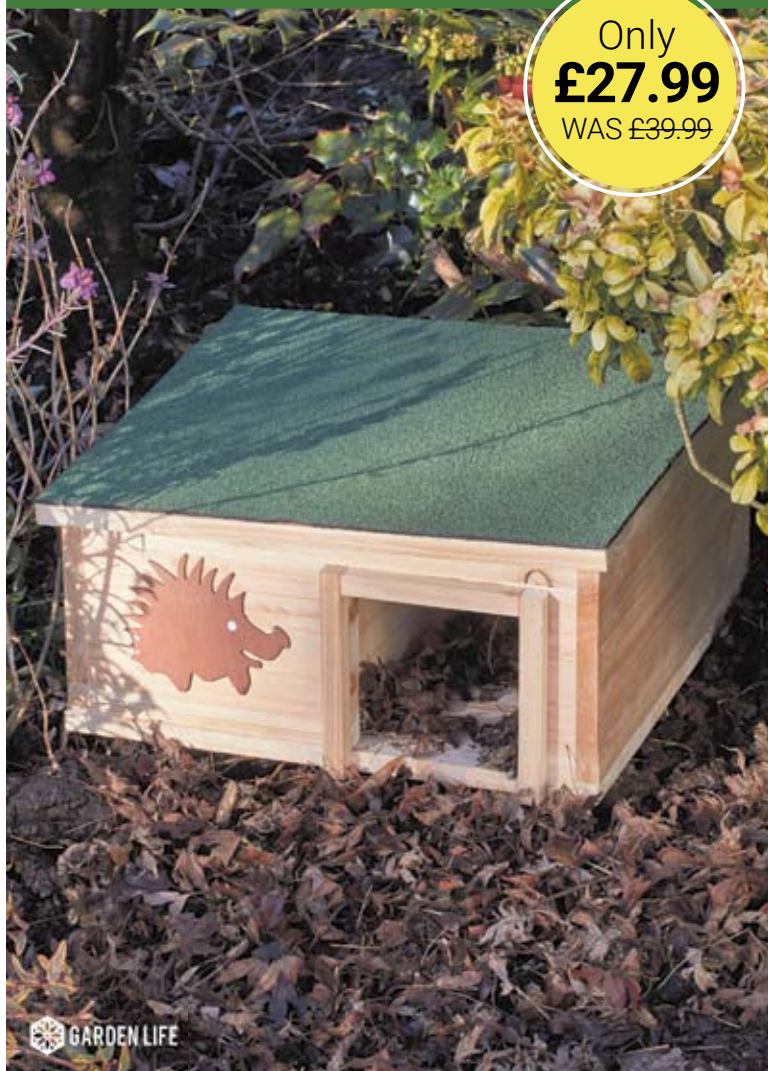
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sanctuary of relaxation. The innovative dual motor system allows you to adjust the position of the chair with ease, offering customisable comfort for your preferred sitting or reclining angle.

ENHANCED COMFORT FEATURES

Beyond its design and functionality, the Sheridan chair is packed with thoughtful features. Integrated massage points in the seat, lower, and upper back help to soothe tired muscles, while the warming heat function in the lumbar area adds a comforting layer of cosiness. For added convenience, built-in cup holders in the armrests allow you to stay refreshed without having to move.

The included two-man delivery and assembly service ensures that your new recliner is set

up without hassle, so you can start enjoying it right away. The Sheridan Dual Motor Electric Lift Assist Riser Recliner Chair is the ultimate choice for those seeking a blend of luxury, comfort, and advanced features.

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TODAY'S TV

with SARA WALLIS



DECISION TIME
Tom and Denise Welch as jurors

EMMERDALE

ITV1, 7.30pm

This hour-long episode focuses on the trial, as the jury goes off to consider their verdict against Tom (James Chase).

We get an insight into the jury room as the jurors are split in their opinion and rake through the evidence.

Scenes flash back to the start of the trial as Tom and Belle give evidence, while it gets heated among the jurors. Watch out for Denise Welch as a juror who tries to convince the others that Tom is an abuser.



MOOD SWINGS
Lauren is under pressure

EASTENDERS

BBC1, 7.30pm

Cindy piles on the pressure with Lauren, while Peter confides in Ian that he's worried about Lauren's mood swings.

Ian suggests that he should cheer her up by proposing as it will show Lauren that he is sticking around to co-parent with her this time.

Elsewhere, Stacey and Martin both feel confused by their kiss. Stacey ends up confiding in Jean, but will it help her understand her feelings?

Avani manages to convince Denise to let her have a job at the salon.



FESTIVE FROLICS
Sara Pascoe, centre, is back to host a special edition

PICK
of the
DAY

Christmas all sewn up

THE GREAT BRITISH SEWING BEE CELEBRITY CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

BBC1, 9pm

FOUR celebrities pick up a needle and thread to sew something festive for this special.

Host Sarah Pascoe returns to the show and is joined by singer and actor Ian 'H' Watkins, EastEnders actor Kellie Bright, comedian Fatiha El-Ghorri and TV personality and

businesswoman Charlotte Crosby. Kellie says: "Everywhere has less drama than Albert Square so there can't be anything that fazes me in that sewing room."

Esme Young and Patrick Grant first ask them to make an advent calendar, with 24 pockets, hanging loops and a Christmas decoration.

They get to work using brightly coloured fabrics and accessories, before H leads them all in a

dance-along to the Steps hit 5, 6, 7, 8, Charlotte's finger has a near miss with the sewing machine and the judges discuss their love for Christmas sausages.

For the transformation challenge, the celebs have to turn onesies into a fun Christmas costume for a child – though they can only use one onesie.

Expect puddings and reindeer, while someone adds shoulder pads and tinsel bling. And finally,

the celebrities have to create a made-to-measure outfit that must fit a model.

The outfit must be inspired by their favourite Christmas No1 hit.

East 17 are honoured by Fatiha, while Kellie opts to give away a heart in true 80s style, H pays tribute to his homeland and Charlotte attempts to make pastry fashionable.

But will any of it be something you'd actually wear?

The judges must decide.



MARKET BOSS
Allan Hartwell

SECRETS OF THE CHRISTMAS MARKET

Channel 4, 8pm

With 106 chalets, Santa's grotto, recreated local pubs and a giant tree, Belfast's Christmas Market is one of the UK's most popular events.

Now in its 20th year, it's going to be bigger than ever. A team of 50 have just two weeks to transform the empty grounds of Belfast City Hall into a spectacular winter wonderland in time for the grand opening to coincide with the city's Christmas lights switch-on.

Market boss Allan Hartwell, in his

last year before retirement, wants to make this the best market yet, as stallholders from 30 countries join local traders to sell everything from handmade trinkets and religious artefacts and pancakes so good there are queues around the block.

However, not all the vendors are convinced by this year's Dickensian theme – which requires them to dress up.

But it's all part of the experience for over a million visitors hoping to pick up unique presents, sample the food and soak up the magical atmosphere.

CULPRITS

ITVX

A stellar British cast including Nathan Stewart-Jarrett, Niamh Algar, Gemma Arterton and Eddie Izzard star in this thrilling crime drama.

The plot follows family man Joe Petrus (Stewart-Jarrett), who is seemingly living the American dream in Washington state with his fiancée and stepkids.

However, what his family doesn't know is that Joe was involved in a mysterious crime three years ago and now his dangerous past is about to

catch up with him. When a killer starts targeting the crew behind the crime, Joe realises that it's only a matter of time before his family is in terrible danger.

He returns to London to track down his old gang and find out who is coming after them.

Gemma, who plays crew mastermind Dianne 'Brain' Harewood, says: "It's a fun thriller that takes place after a major crime. It picks up where most crime thrillers end."

"It's got a lot of mystery in it and a lot of edge-of-your-seat stuff."



UNDER THREAT
Stewart-Jarrett and Arterton

In the **DAILY MIRROR** Saturday



All the new shows, soap news and 7-day listings

More TV and film news online at mirror.co.uk/tv

Today's TV previews are on the previous page

All programmes are listed in Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

film ratings

★★★★★ Brilliant
★★★★ Very Good
★★★ Good
★★ Average
★ Bad

(R) Repeat

BBC ONE

6.00am Breakfast News headlines.
9.30 Morning Live at Christmas Kym Marsh and Gordon Smart host the weekday magazine.
10.45 Animal Park Christmas Special Ben Fogle and Kate Humble bring a Christmas treat to a tapir who may be feeling a little lonely.
11.30 Homes Under the Hammer Property auctions. (R)
12.15pm Bargain Hunt Christmas Special From Detling. (R)
1.00 BBC News at One; Weather
2.00 Nigella's Amsterdam Christmas Nigella explains her love for the city. (R)
3.00 Escape to the Country Nicki Chapman helps a London couple to find a new home in the Scottish Lothians.
3.45 The Vintage French Farmhouse Items including a cat-shaped watering can and a pair of workshirts bought in L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue. (R)
4.30 Antiques Road Trip (R)
5.15 Pointless Celebrities (R)
6.00 BBC News at Six; Weather
6.30 Regional News; Weather

BBC TWO

6.30am Animal Park (R)
7.15 Escape to the Country (R)
8.00 Sign Zone: Gardeners' World Winter Specials (R)
9.00 BBC News
12.15pm Politics Live Reports.
1.00 Impossible Quiz show. (R)
1.45 FILM Fiddler on the Roof (1971, U) A Jewish milkman in Ukraine hopes to find husbands for his three eldest daughters – but they would rather choose for themselves. Musical, starring Topol and Norma Crane. ★★★★★
4.40 The Wonder of Animals Investigating birds of prey. (R)
5.15 Flog It! From Hull. (R)
6.00 Richard Osman's Festive House of Games Richie Anderson, Simon Gregson, Jessica Knappett and Debbie McGee take part. (R)
6.30 Nigella: At My Table Nigella Lawson demonstrates recipes for a savoury take on French toast, spiced lamb kofta, rose and pepper pavlova with strawberries, and white chocolate cheesecake. (R)

ITV1

6.00am Good Morning Britain A lively mix of news, current affairs and lifestyle features.
9.00 Lorraine Entertainment and the latest fashion news.
10.00 This Morning Topical daily magazine, featuring a mix of celebrity chat, showbusiness news, advice and discussion.
12.30pm Loose Women Celebrity interviews and topical debate.
1.30 ITV News; Weather
1.55 Regional News; Weather
2.00 Alan Carr's Epic Gameshow The comedian hosts a festive edition of Child's Play. (R)
3.00 Tipping Point: Lucky Stars Ben Shephard hosts, with Jennie McAlpine, Owain Wyn Evans and Claire Richards. (R)
3.59 Regional Weather
4.00 Deal or No Deal Stephen Mulhern hosts as Tracie tries to open the 22 red boxes in the right order, taking on the infamous Banker for the chance to win a life-changing cash prize.
5.00 The Chase Quiz show, hosted by Bradley Walsh.

CHANNEL 4

6.25am Cheers Triple bill. (R)
7.50 The King of Queens (R)
9.15 Frasier Four episodes. (R)
11.15 Channel 4 News Summary
11.20 FILM Christmas in Love (2018, PG) A woman tries to change the outlook of a big city executive who has plans to lay off many employees at the bakery where she works. Romantic drama, starring Brooke D'Orsay. ★★★
1.05pm Jamie Cooks Christmas Cheesy filo parcels. (R)
2.10 Countdown Christopher Biggins is in Dictionary Corner.
3.00 A Place in the Sun A home in Albufeira, Portugal. (R)
4.00 Chateau DIY at Christmas In the Dordogne, Tim and Krys plan a gingerbread chateau competition.
5.00 Four in a Bed The B&Bers fight it out for the prized plaque on payment day.
5.30 Kirstie's Handmade Christmas Kirstie holds a gift competition. (R)
6.30 The Simpsons Springfield is inundated with tourists. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00am Milkshake! Children's TV.
9.15 Jeremy Vine Discussion.
11.30 Storm Huntley Debate.
12.55pm 5 News at Lunchtime
1.00 Friends Phoebe plans to return to her flat. (R)
1.30 FILM A Ring For Christmas (2020, PG) A woman rushes to find a husband in the hope of claiming an inheritance. Romantic drama, with Liliana Tandon, Dean Geyer and Charles Hittinger. ★★
3.15 FILM Tying the Knot for Christmas (2023, PG) Premiere. A heartbroken woman and a handsome handyman plan a festive holiday wedding at a venue in need of repairs. Drama, with Jessy Holtermann, James Liddell and Jamie Craib. ★★
5.00 5 News at 5
6.00 Christmas with the Bargain-Loving Brits In The Sun Festive edition of the documentary. Bambi, the caravan park's sales manager, is visited by her 80-year-old mum for Christmas. (R) Followed by 5 News Update

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7	<p>7.00 The One Show A special edition in which famous faces express gratitude to those who go above and beyond to help spread festive cheer.</p> <p>7.30 EastEnders Ian has a surprising suggestion for Peter and Stacey feels conflicted.</p>	<p>7.00 Wild Tales from the Village Following the wildlife near a French village, including red squirrels, wild boar, dormice and stone martens. As the animals struggle to survive the winter, they take advantage of living so close to humans. (R)</p>	<p>6.00 Regional News; Weather</p> <p>6.30 ITV Evening News; Weather A round-up of the day's news headlines and talking points.</p> <p>7.30 Emmerdale Rural soap. The court day commences, the jury are gathered, and a verdict is delivered.</p>	<p>7.00 Channel 4 News A round-up of all the latest headlines, in-depth interviews and analysis of political developments and current affairs. Plus, the day's leading sports stories and up-to-the-minute weather reports.</p>	<p>7.00 Air Fryers: Christmas Made Easy In this updated film, Alexis Conran and chef Miguel Barclay lift the lid on the air fryer's festive magic. From succulent turkey and crisp roasties to indulgent desserts and leftovers; 5 News Update</p>
8	<p>8.00 Celebrity Escape to the Country Journalist and broadcaster Kaye Adams seeks to swap city life and turn over a new leaf by escaping to the wilds of the Scottish countryside, supported by rural expert Jules Hudson.</p>	<p>8.00 Mortimer & Whitehouse: Gone Fishing Bob and Paul head off for a festive fishing trip to Norway, travelling to Vesteralen and the Lofoten Islands in the Arctic Circle. Bob surprises Paul with some unique accommodation. (R)</p>	<p>8.30 For the Love of Dogs with Alison Hammond at Christmas In a festive edition, the presenter returns to Battersea Dogs and Cats Home to help the canines find new forever homes, including seven-month-old spaniel Holly.</p>	<p>8.00 Secrets of the Christmas Market Now in its 20th year, Belfast's much-loved festive market is set to be bigger than ever, and a team of 50 people has just two weeks to transform Belfast City Hall into a winter wonderland.</p>	<p>8.00 Inside the Tower of London New Beefeater Barney Barnett spent 25 years in the Royal Navy, but getting his head around the huge script – covering 1,000 years of Tower history – is a whole new challenge for him.</p>
9	<p>9.00 The Great British Sewing Bee Celebrity Christmas Special Singer and actor Ian 'H' Watkins, EastEnder Kellie Bright, comedian Fatiha El-Ghorri and TV personality Charlotte Crosby put their sewing skills to the test.</p>	<p>9.00 Caroline Aherne: Queen of Comedy Celebrating the life and career of the comedy writer and actress, featuring contributions from a cast of her lifelong friends, including Steve Coogan, John Thomson and Craig Cash. (R)</p>	<p>9.00 Beat the Chasers Bradley Walsh welcomes Maud from Belfast, who hopes of a trip on the Orient Express. Back to the Future fan Richy attempts to win enough for his own DeLorean, and Stuart from Dorset is after a campervan. (R)</p>	<p>9.00 First Dates at Christmas Fred Sirieix and his team of Cupids open the restaurant doors in the romantic city of Bath to singletons. Tee thinks chivalry is dead, but is looking for someone who can rival her crush Anthony Joshua. .</p>	<p>9.00 Dalglish In Kent, the local community is rocked by a string of killings committed by the 'Whistler'. Since every victim works at Larkskill Nuclear Power Station, Dalglish is sent to investigate a possible political motive.</p>
10	<p>10.00 BBC News; Weather</p> <p>10.30 Regional News; Weather</p> <p>10.40 Kevin Bridges – The Overdue Catch-Up A stand-up performance by the Glaswegian at the Cork Opera House in 2023, in which he employs his signature wit to poke fun at modern life, demonstrating his shrewd and hilarious outlook on the modern world.</p>	<p>10.10 We Wish You a Mandy Christmas Mandy contemplates the true meaning of Christmas. Comedy written, directed by and starring Diane Morgan, with Johnny Vegas. (R)</p> <p>10.30 Newsnight Current affairs.</p>	<p>10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather</p> <p>10.30 Regional News; Weather</p> <p>10.45 FILM Rocky V (1990, 12) The heavyweight champion is forced into retirement due to brain damage inflicted in the ring, and finds his fortune has been lost on the stock market by his accountant. Returning to his working-class roots, he trains an up-and-coming fighter, only to see his protege turn against him. Drama sequel, starring Sylvester Stallone, Talia Shire and Tommy Morrison. ★★</p>	<p>10.00 Gogglebox The Goggleboxers cast their eyes over 2023's best Christmas telly, from The Real Full Monty: Jingle Balls to Squid Game: The Challenge, An Audience with Kylie, Fur Babies, Men Up and Love Actually. (R)</p>	<p>10.00 Prime Suspect: Who Killed Diane Jones? An investigation into the murder of doctor's wife Diane Jones in Essex in 1983 and the truth about her life with GP husband Robert, who was suspected of the crime but never charged. (R)</p>
11	<p>11.40 FILM Die Hard with a Vengeance (1995, 15) New York cop John McClane returns to duty following an explosion in the city. The perpetrator contacts the police and tells them that more bombs will be detonated. Action thriller sequel, starring Bruce Willis and Samuel L Jackson. ★★★★★</p>	<p>11.05 Renaissance – The Blood and the Beauty Michelangelo begins work on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, heightening his rivalry with Raphael, who starts his commission on the pope's private apartments. Last in series. (R)</p>		<p>11.35 First Dates at Christmas A festive edition of the dating show. Former bodybuilding champion Kieran goes on a date with 23-year-old student nurse Abi. Meanwhile, 67-year-old Suzy is set up with Fred, a fellow divorcee. (R)</p>	<p>11.40 Killer at the Crime Scene Documentary. A decomposing human corpse is found in a suitcase dumped on a country lane in Yorkshire. The investigation's first clue is the distinctively patterned tape used to bind the victim. (R)</p>
12 midnight	<p>1.40am Weather for the Week Ahead 1.45-6.00am BBC News</p>	<p>12.05am Sign Zone: MasterChef: The Professionals. The three remaining chefs battle it out in the final. They have just three hours to prepare a three-course menu. (R) 1.05 Sign Zone: Clive Myrie's Caribbean Treasures (R) 2.05 Sign Zone: Alan Bennett: 90 Years On (R) 3.05-6.45am This Is BBC Two</p>	<p>12.30am Shop on TV 3.00 Gino & Fred: Emission Impossible. Gino D'Acampo and Fred Sirieix go on an eco-friendly trip to explore the cuisine and culture of Austria and Croatia, beginning in the Zillertal Alps in western Austria. (R) 4.00 Unwind with ITV 5.10-6.00am Deal or No Deal (R)</p>	<p>12.35am Travel Man: 96 Hours in Iceland. Joe Lycett is joined by Bill Bailey. (R) 1.30 Deck the Halls: The Luxury Christmas Decorators (R) 2.25 Ramsay's 24 Hours to Hell and Back (R) 3.15 Undercover Boss Canada (R) 4.05 Frasier (R) 5.45-6.25am Countdown (R)</p>	<p>1.30 PlayOJO Live Casino Show 3.30 Carol Drinkwater's Secret Provence (R) 4.15 A Country Life for Half the Price with Kate Humble (R) 5.05 Wildlife SOS (R) 5.30 Entertainment News on 5. Showbiz gossip. 5.35 Paw Patrol (R) 5.50-6.00am Fireman Sam (R)</p>

ITV2Freeview 6

6.00am CITV **9.00** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **10.00** Secret Crush **12.00noon** Dress to Impress **1.00** Supermarket Sweep **2.00** Family Fortunes **3.00** In for a Penny: Christmas Crackers **3.45** **FILM** Home Alone 3 (1997, PG) Comedy sequel. **★★★★5.55** Celebrity Catchphrase Christmas Special

6.55 In for a Christmas Penny Stephen Mulhern heads to Chelmsford.

7.35 The Masked Singer: Christmas Special Four famous faces battle it out.

9.00 The 1% Club Christmas Special Lee Mack asks questions on a festive theme.

10.00 Family Guy Animated triple bill.

11.30 American Dad! Stan's plans to change Steve's attitude go awry.

12.00m't American Dad! **12.30** Celebrity Karaoke Club **1.35** The Stand Up Sketch Show **2.30** Deep Fake Neighbour Wars – Best Bust Ups **2.55** Deep Fake Neighbour Wars **3.20-4.45am** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records

U&DAVEFreeview 19

6.00am Teleshopping **7.10** Gassed Up **8.00** Border Force: America's Gatekeepers **10.00** Railroad Australia **12.00noon** American Pickers **1.00** Our Guy in Colombia **3.00** Top Gear **5.00** Hairy Bikers' Best of British

6.00 Rick Stein's Far Eastern Odyssey The Far East's diverse food cultures.

7.00 Would I Lie to You? With guest panellists Jo Brand, Simon Day, Kiri Pritchard-McLean and Henning Wehn.

7.40 Richard Osman's House of Games

9.00 QI XL With guest panellists Brian Blessed, Sean Lock and Ross Noble.

10.00 Have I Got a Bit More News for You Mel Giedroyc hosts, with guests Richard Osman and Sonia Sodha

11.00 8 Out of 10 Cats With Joe Swash, Angela Scanlon and Jamali Maddix.

12.00m't Mock the Week Christmas Special 2019 **12.40** Would I Lie to You? **1.20** QI **2.40** QI XL **2.50** Schitt's Creek **4.00-6.00am** Teleshopping

E4Freeview 13

6.00am Brooklyn Nine-Nine **6.55** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **7.00** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **8.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **9.00** Young Sheldon **10.00** The Big Bang Theory **11.00** Modern Family **12.00noon** The Big Bang Theory: four episodes **2.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **3.00** Modern Family **4.00** Young Sheldon **5.00** The Big Bang Theory: double bill

6.00 The Big Bang Theory Four episodes.

8.00 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA At New Jersey restaurant Da Mimmo.

9.00 Gogglebox Reviews of Heartstopper, The Dog House, and Slow Horses.

10.00 First Dates: Valentine's Special Singletons hope to find love.

11.05 Naked Attraction Alesia and Louise try to select their perfect dates.

12.05am Gogglebox **1.15** Rick and Morty **1.45** Mike Tyson Mysteries **2.00** Robot Chicken **2.15** Gogglebox **3.10** The Farmer Wants a Wife: Australia **4.15** Modern Family **4.40-6.00am** Black-ish

VARIATIONS & S4C

WALES As BBC1 except: **1.35-1.45pm** BBC Wales Today; Weather **6.30-7.00** BBC Wales Today; Weather **8.00-9.00** Wales' Home of the Year Christmas Special. The judges travel across Wales to find the best Christmas homes. **10.30** BBC Wales Today; Weather **10.40** Walescast at Christmas **11.10** Kevin Bridges – The Overdue Catch-Up **12.10-1.40am** **FILM** My Week with Marilyn (2011, 15) **★★★★**

WALES As BBC2 except: **7.00pm** Scrum V: The Warm Up **7.30** The Wonder of Animals **8.00-9.00pm** Celebrity Escape to the Country. Swapping city life for the Scottish countryside.

MERIDIAN As ITV1 except: **1.55-2.00pm** ITV News Meridian **6.00-6.30** ITV News Meridian **10.30-10.45pm** ITV News Meridian

CENTRAL As ITV1 except: **1.55-2.00pm** ITV News Central **6.00-6.30** ITV News Central **10.30-10.45pm** ITV News Central

ITV WALES As ITV1 except: **1.55-2.00pm** ITV News Cymru Wales **6.00-6.30** ITV News Wales at Six **9.00-10.00** Coast & Country. The best of the Welsh countryside and its people. **10.30-10.45pm** ITV News Cymru Wales

WEST As ITV1 except: **1.55-2.00pm** ITV News West Country **6.00-6.30** ITV News West Country **10.30-10.45pm** ITV News West Country

ANGLIA As ITV1 except: **1.55-2.00pm** ITV News Anglia **6.00-6.30** ITV News Anglia **10.30-10.45pm** ITV News Anglia

WESTCOUNTRY As ITV1 except: **1.55-2.00pm** ITV News West Country **6.00-6.30** ITV News West Country. The latest headlines. **10.30-10.45pm** ITV News West Country

S4C **6.00am** Cyw **12.00noon** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **12.05pm** Adre **12.30** Heno **1.00** Ma'i Off 'Ma **1.30** Sgwrs Dan y Lloer **2.00** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **2.05** Prynhawn Da **3.00** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **3.05** Gwesty Aduniad **4.00** Awr Fawr **5.00** Stwnsh **6.00** Pampro Cwn Cymru. Seven special dogs have a well-deserved Christmas pamper. **7.00** Heno **7.30** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **8.00** Pobol y Cwm. The Christmas Grotto day dawns, and a misunderstanding causes competition that then leads to a brawl in the middle of the street. **8.25** Rownd a Rownd **8.55** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **9.00** Llund Bol O Sbaen **10.00** Iwan Morgan: Un Gol **10.30-11.35pm** Sgorio

ITVBeFreeview 28

6.00am Unwind with ITV **6.20** The Only Way Is Essex: five episodes **11.10** Abbey Clancy: Celebrity Homes **12.15pm** The Big Bake **4.15** **FILM** Noel Next Door (2022, PG) Romantic Christmas comedy, starring Natalie Hall and Corey Sevier. **★★**

6.00 **FILM** The Holiday Exchange (2024, PG) Yuletide romance, starring Rick Cosnett and Taylor Marie Frey. **★★**

8.00 Dinner Date With Jake from London.

9.00 The Real Housewives of Orange County The reunion concludes with new details about Shannon's relationship.

10.00 Love Island: Australia Sophie Monk presents the hit reality show.

11.20 Real Housewives: Christmas Cruising The Housewives make their final stops of the cruise in Loretto and Cabo.

12.20am The Singles Table **1.20** Ready to Mingle **3.00** Chloe Madeley: A Family Affair **3.50** John and Lisa's Food Trip Down Under **4.45** Jimmy's Taste of Florida **5.35-6.00am** Unwind with ITV

U&DRAMAFreeview 20

7.25am London's Burning **8.20** Doctors **9.30** Holby City **10.50** Classic Casualty **12.00noon** The Bill **1.00** Classic EastEnders **2.10** London's Burning **3.10** Bergerac **5.25** The Upper Hand

6.00 'Allo 'Allo! The residents' plans conflict with those of the Germans.

6.40 Last of the Summer Wine Double bill. Compo enlists Wesley's aid in winning over Nora; Compo accuses Foggy of lying.

8.00 The Chelsea Detective Christmas Special 2024 DI Max Arnold investigates the murder of a singer whose biggest hit reaches £1 again after her death. Festive special of the crime drama, with Adrian Scarborough and Vanessa Emme.

10.00 New Tricks Superintendent Sandra Pullman is sidelined after a failed hostage rescue and put in charge of a department manned by a group of former detectives.

12.00m't Cardinal: Blackfly Season. Thriller. **1.00** Bergerac. Crime drama. **3.00** Holby City **4.00-6.00am** Teleshopping

MORE4Freeview 18

8.55am Food Unwrapped **9.15** A Place in the Sun **10.05** A New Life in the Sun **11.05** Find It, Fix It, Flog It **1.05pm** Car S.O.S **2.05** Four in a Bed: five episodes **4.50** Narrow Escapes **5.50** Car S.O.S

6.55 Car S.O.S Tim Shaw and Fuzz Townshend come to the rescue of their first-ever custom car – a radically modified VW Beetle called a VW Wizard.

7.55 A Very Royal Christmas: Sandringham Secrets A look at how the royal family celebrate Christmas Day at the monarch's country estate in Norfolk, combining archive footage with interviews from insiders and former staff.

9.00 Devon and Cornwall at Christmas Documentary celebrating the festive season in Devon and Cornwall.

10.00 24 Hours in A&E Double bill.

12.10am Emergency Helicopter Medics: Farm Emergencies **1.15** 999: On the Front Line **2.15** 24 Hours in A&E **3.20-3.50am** A Place in the Sun

BBC3Freeview 23

7.00pm Top Gear Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond and James May go on a road trip across Australia's Northern Territory in GT cars.

8.00 Gavin & Stacey Triple bill.

10.05 Smoggie Queens Triple bill. Dickie concocts a murder mystery evening, full of twists and turns; Stewart tries to keep his birthday under wraps; Mam hosts the main stage of Middlesbrough Pride.

11.35 Santa Claus the Serial Killer Double bill. Mobeen Azhar digs deeper into the Toronto serial killer, but as he focuses on two victims that seemed to break Bruce McArthur's MO, he unearths trauma, sex and drugs; Mobeen Azhar's investigation nears its conclusion.

12.35 The Rap Game UK **1.40** Lazy Susan **1.55** Paddy & Molly: Show No Mercy **2.25-3.55am** Santa Claus the Serial Killer: triple bill

BBC4Freeview 9

7.00pm TOTP: Christmas 1993 Featuring Take That, 2 Unlimited, the Bluebells, Gabrielle and M People.

8.00 **FILM** The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel (2011, 12) Seven English pensioners decide to make a fresh start by moving to India to live in a dilapidated hotel. Comedy drama, starring Judi Dench. **★★★★**

9.55 **FILM** Victoria & Abdul (2017, 12) Queen Victoria strikes up an unlikely friendship with an Indian clerk who presented her with a ceremonial coin for her jubilee. Drama, starring Judi Dench and Ali Fazal. **★★★★★**

11.40 Judi Dench in Conversation with Richard Eyre A profile.

12.40am Mark Kermode's Christmas Cinema Secrets **1.40** What We Were Watching: Christmas 1979 **2.40** Three Salons at the Seaside **3.20-3.50am** A Ghost Story for Christmas: The Mezzotint

5 USAFreeview 21

6.00am Home Shopping **9.00** NCIS **11.55** Entertainment News on 5 **12.00noon** Law & Order

6.00 NCIS Triple bill. A supposedly dead marine comes back to life on the autopsy table; two agents are murdered; a murder investigation proves complicated for McGee.

9.00 Blue Bloods Danny joins the search for two convicts, after learning that one of them is someone he helped to wrongfully imprison.

10.00 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit Double bill. Garland asks Benson to investigate an unusual domestic violence case; Benson and Rollins try to help a homeless mother.

12.00m't Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. Benson's loyalty is tested. **12.55** Criminal Minds **1.55** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit **2.50** Law & Order **3.35** 999: Criminals Caught on Camera **4.00-6.00am** Teleshopping

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Sport

SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT

6.00am Sky Sports News **7.00** Good Morning Sports Fans **8.00** My Icon. Michael Holding. **8.10** **LIVE** **Big Bash League** Melbourne Renegades v Hobart Hurricanes. Coverage of the T20 match at GMHBA Stadium in Geelong. **11.30** The Football Show. The headlines. **12.00noon** Lunchtime Live. All the sports stories. **12.30** **LIVE** **World Darts Championship** Coverage of the afternoon session on day five at Alexandra Palace, featuring three first-round matches and one second-round match. **4.30** Sports Desk **5.00** Sports Centre **7.00** **LIVE** **EFL Cup** Tottenham Hotspur v Manchester United (kick-off 8.00pm). **10.45** Behind the Ropes: Usyk v Fury 2. The preparations. **11.15** Sky Sports News **12.00m't** **LIVE** **NFL** Los Angeles Chargers v Denver Broncos (kick-off 1.15am). Coverage of the week 16 match at Sofi Stadium. **5.00-6.00am** Sky Sports News. Headlines.

SKY SPORTS CRICKET

6.00am The Best of the Big Bash League **6.15** One-Day International Cricket **7.15** Big Bash League. Melbourne Stars v Brisbane Heat. **8.10** **LIVE** **Big Bash League** Melbourne Renegades v Hobart Hurricanes. Coverage of the T20 match at GMHBA Stadium in Geelong. **11.30** **LIVE** **One-Day International Cricket** South Africa v Pakistan. Coverage of the second ODI in the three-match series, which takes place at Newlands Cricket Ground in Cape Town. **8.00pm** Big Bash League **9.00** Ashes Memories. With Charlotte Edwards. **9.30** Secrets of Success: Emma Hayes **10.00** One-Day International Cricket **11.00** Big Bash League **3.05am** One-Day International Cricket **4.00** Big Bash League **5.00-6.00am** Best of ICC WT20

SKY SPORTS FOOTBALL

6.00am EFL **9.00** EFL Greatest Games **10.00** EFL Cup Retro **12.00noon** EFL Cup **2.00** EFL Cup Highlights **3.00** EFL Highlights **5.00** EFL Cup Highlights **6.30** Bundesliga Weekly **7.00** **LIVE** **EFL Cup** Tottenham Hotspur v Manchester United (kick-off 8.00pm). **10.45** Scottish Premiership Round-Up. Action from the top flight. **11.00** Bundesliga Weekly **11.30** EFL Cup Highlights **12.30am** SPFL Greatest Games **2.30-6.00am** SPFL Highlights

TNT SPORTS 1

6.00am UEFA Women's Champions League **7.00** Premier League Review **8.00** Fight Night **9.00** Fight Night Live **11.00** Fight Night **11.45** Fight Night **12.00noon** Premier League Reload **12.15** Women's T20 International Cricket **1.15** **LIVE** **Women's International T20 Cricket** India v West Indies. The third and final T20 in the series from Dr. DY Patil University Sports Ground. **5.15** What I Wore. With Glenn Hoddle. **5.45** Between the Lines **6.15** For The Love Of The Game With Laura & Ally **7.15** The Pioneers **7.30** **LIVE** **UEFA Conference League** Chelsea v Shamrock Rovers (kick-off 8.00pm). **10.30** UEFA Europa & Conference League Highlights **11.30** NBA Tip-Off. Preview. **12.00m't** **LIVE** **NBA** Orlando Magic v Oklahoma City Thunder (Tip-off 12.00m't). **2.30** **LIVE** **NBA** Minnesota Timberwolves v New York Knicks (Tip-off 2.30am). **5.00-6.00am** Inside the NBA. Analysis.

TNT SPORTS 2

6.30am T20 Cricket Highlights **7.30** Isuzu A-League Highlights **8.00** Serie A **10.00** Serie A – Full Impact **10.30** The Football's On **11.30** UEFA Europa League Goals Reload **11.45** UEFA Conference League Goals Reload **12.00noon** UEFA Europa League & Conference League Magazine **1.00** UEFA Women's Champions League **2.00** UEFA Europa League Goals Reload **2.15** UEFA Conference League Goals Reload **2.30** Premier League Stories **3.00** Premier League Netbusters **3.30** UEFA Europa League & Conference League Magazine **4.30** Premier League – The Big Interview **5.00** NBA Action **5.30** Fight Night **5.45** Fight Night **7.30** **LIVE** **UEFA Conference League** Hearts v Petrocub (kick-off 8.00pm). Coverage of the match in the league phase from Tynecastle. **10.30** Women's T20 International Cricket **11.30** **LIVE** **T20 Cricket** West Indies v Bangladesh. Coverage of the third and final T20 in the series from Arnos Vale Stadium in Kingstown. **3.45am** Women's One-Day International Cricket **4.45** Women's T20 International Cricket **5.45-7.45am** **LIVE** **A-League Women** Adelaide United Women v Melbourne City Women (kick-off 5.50am). Coverage from Coopers Stadium.

EUROSPORT 1

7.00am Alpine Skiing **9.00** Freestyle Skiing **10.00** Snowboarding **11.05** Biathlon **1.05pm** **LIVE** **Biathlon** Coverage of the World Cup meeting in Le Grand Bornand, France. **2.40** Snowboarding **3.40** Freestyle Skiing **4.40** Winter Sport – Andrew Musgrave – Trondheim 2023 **5.00** Snooker: Scottish Open **7.00** Biathlon **8.00** UCI Track Champions League **9.00** Show Jumping **10.00** Masters Snooker **12.00m't** UCI Track Champions League **1.00** Simulated Racing: World Series **2.00** Alpine Skiing **3.00** Biathlon **4.00** UCI Track Champions League **5.00-7.00am** Snooker: Scottish Open

Entertainment & Factual

ITV3 Freeview 10

6.00am Classic Emmerdale **7.00** Classic Coronation Street **8.05** George and Mildred **9.10** Wild at Heart **11.05** The Royal **12.10pm** Heartbeat **1.15** Classic Emmerdale **2.20** Classic Coronation Street **3.30** Inspector Morse **5.50** Downton Abbey **7.00** Heartbeat **8.00** McDonald & Dodds **10.00** The Long Shadow **11.00** Wycliffe **1.10am** Kate & Koji **2.00** Wild at Heart **3.40** Inspector Morse **5.30-6.00am** Unwind with ITV

ITV4 Freeview 26

6.00am The Best of the 80s **6.10** Minder **7.20** The Professionals **8.25** The Champions **9.30** Magnum, PI **10.30** Kojak **11.35** BattleBots **12.35pm** The Champions **1.40** Magnum, PI **2.45** Kojak **3.50** Minder **4.55** The Professionals **6.00** BattleBots **6.55** The Chase Celebrity Special **8.00** River Monsters **9.00** **FILM** Everest (2015/12) Fact-based adventure, starring Jason Clarke. **★★★** **11.25** EFL Carabao Cup Highlights **12.25am** **FILM** Death Wish II (1981/18) **★★** **2.05** The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes **4.00** Giant Lobster Hunters **4.50** Mr Bean **5.20-6.00am** Unwind with ITV

5STAR Freeview 32

8.00am Entertainment News on 5 **8.10** Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun **10.05** GPs: Behind Closed Doors **11.05** Traffic Cops **2.05pm** Police Interceptors **5.10** **FILM** Sugar Plum Christmas (2021/PG) Festive drama, starring Jamie Gray Hyder and Ektor Rivera. **★★★** **7.00** GPs: Behind Closed Doors **8.00** Casualty 24/7: Every Second Counts **9.00** A&E After Dark **10.00** Ambulance: Code Red **11.00** Trauma Room One **12.00m't** A&E: Crash Scene Emergency **1.00** Accused: Guilty or Innocent? **2.45** Making a Serial Killer **3.30** Car Pound Cops **3.55-4.00am** Entertainment News on 5

REALLY Freeview 17

6.00am Fantasy Homes by the Sea **7.00** Cruise TV with LoveitBookit **8.00** Salvage Hunters **10.00** A Place in the Sun **12.00noon** Money for Nothing **2.00** The Repair Shop **3.00** Antiques Road Trip **5.00** The Yorkshire Auction House **7.00** Antiques Road Trip **9.00** The Repair Shop **11.00** Celebrity Help! My House Is Haunted **1.00am** Unexplained: Caught on Camera **2.00** Teleshopping **4.00-6.00am** Salvage Hunters

5ACTION Freeview 33

9.00am Winter Road Rescue **10.00** Traffic Cops **11.10** Police Interceptors **12.00noon** **FILM** Angel and the Badman (1947/U) **★★★** **2.10** **FILM** Walk the Proud Land (1956/U) **★★** **4.00** Winter Road Rescue **5.00** Traffic Cops **6.00** Police Interceptors **9.00** Trucking Hell: Rollover Specials **10.00** Outback Truckers **11.00** Winter Road Rescue **12.00m't** Police Interceptors **1.00** World's Deadliest Weather: Caught on Camera **2.00-4.00am** Trucking Hell

SKY ARTS Freeview 36

6.00am Don Giovanni **9.10** Tales of the Unexpected **10.15** The Alfred Hitchcock Hour **11.15** Artist of the Year: Masterclass **12.15pm** **FILM** Take Me High (1973/U) **★★★** **2.00** The Joy of Painting **2.35** Nutcracker: Backstage with English

BBC RADIO 1

97.6-99.8MHz 6.58am Newsbeat **7.00** Radio 1 Breakfast with Greg James **10.30** Newsbeat **10.33** Rickie, Melvin and Charlie **12.00noon** Radio 1's Christmas Live Lounge **12.45** Newsbeat **1.00** Matt and Jerry **3.00** Radio 1 Pop Anthems **3.30** Newsbeat **3.33** Going Home with Vick, Katie and Jamie on Radio 1 **5.45** Newsbeat **6.00** Radio 1's New Music Show with Jack Saunders **8.00** Radio 1's Rave-Up with Arielle Free **10.00** BBC Introducing Dance **11.00** Radio 1's Residency **1.00am** Danny Howard's Club Mix **2.00** Radio 1 Anthems **4.00** Workout Anthems **5.00-6.58am** Early Breakfast with Sam and Danni

BBC RADIO 2

88-91MHz 6.30am The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show **9.30** Vernon Kay **12.00noon** Jeremy Vine **2.00** DJ Spooky **4.00** Sara Cox **6.30** Sara Cox's Half Wower **7.00** Jo Whaley **9.00** The Country Show with Bob Harris **10.00** Trevor Nelson's Rhythm Nation **12.00m't** OJ Borg **3.00** Sounds of the 90s with Fearnie Cotton **4.00-6.30am** Owain Wyn Evans

BBC RADIO 3

90.2-92.4MHz 6.30am Breakfast **9.30** Essential Classics **1.00pm** Classical Live **4.00** Composer of the Week: Bach at Christmas **5.00** In Tune **7.00** Classical Mixtape **7.30** Radio 3 in Concert **9.45** The Essay: Full Moon on Progress St **10.00** Night Tracks **11.30** 'Round Midnight **12.30-6.30am** Through the Night



Live EFL Cup Sky Sports Main Event, 7pm Arguably the tie of the quarter-finals sees Spurs host Manchester United at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium. Can Welsh winger Brennan Johnson (left) help fire the North Londoners into the last four? **National Ballet 3.35** Battle of the Bagpipes **4.35** Bagpipes: A Celebration **5.35** **FILM** Sherlock Holmes and the Secret Weapon (1942/PG) **★★★** **7.00** Best of Portrait Artist of the Year 2024 **8.00** The Nation's Favourite Christmas Carols **10.00** Mica Paris: A Gospel Christmas **11.15** Christmas in Ireland with Imelda May **12.35am** Pretenders: Music Icons **1.05** Guy Garvey: From the Vaults **2.05** Welcome to the Eighties **3.20** Classic Quadrophonia **5.00** Patti Smith: Music Icons **5.30-6.00am** Simple Minds: Music Icons

U&GOLD

7.15am Are You Being Served? Special Christmas 1979 **7.50** Are You Being Served? **8.20** The Two Ronnies **9.50** Last of the Summer Wine **11.55** The Green Green Grass **12.55pm** Still Open All Hours **1.35** Keeping Up Appearances Xmas 1995 **2.15** Only Fools and Horses Christmas Special **2.55** Only Fools and Horses **4.15** Last of the Summer Wine **6.20** Dad's Army **7.00** Only Fools and Horses **8.20** Dad's Army **9.00** Mrs Brown's Boys Christmas Special 2015 **9.40** The Royle Family: The Golden Egg Cup **11.00** Live at the Apollo **12.00m't** The Office **1.00** Mrs Brown's Boys **1.40** Dad's Army **2.25** The Royle Family: The Golden Egg Cup **3.30-4.00am** Only Fools and Horses Christmas Special

U&YESTERDAY Freeview 27

6.10am Great British Railway Journeys **8.00** Abandoned Engineering **10.00** The World at War **11.00** Adolf Hitler's War **12.00noon** Great Continental Railway Journeys **1.00** Antiques Roadshow **2.00** Bangers & Cash **4.00** The World at War **5.00** Adolf Hitler's War **6.00** Antiques Roadshow **7.00** Great Coastal Railway Journeys **8.00** Bangers & Cash: Restoring Classics. The team take on one of their most ambitious projects to date – a 1963 Lotus Elan Series 1. Last in series. **9.00** Bangers & Cash **11.00** Abandoned Engineering **12.00m't** Great Continental Railway Journeys **1.00-3.00am** Great British Railway Journeys

U&ALIBI

7.10am Murdoch Mysteries **9.00** Father Brown **10.00** Hudson & Rex **12.00noon** The Mentalist **1.00** Death in Paradise **2.00** Murdoch Mysteries. Crime drama. **4.00** Hudson & Rex **6.00** Father Brown **7.00** The Mentalist **8.00** White Collar **9.00** Death in Paradise **10.00** Dark Winds **11.00** The Mentalist **12.00m't** White Collar **1.00** Death in Paradise **2.00-4.00am** Murdoch Mysteries

CHOICE **Radio 3 In Concert** **Radio 3, 7.30pm** Ian Skelly presents tonight's concert which was recorded at Wigmore Hall in London on Sunday. Ensemble Arcangelo perform a programme of works by Praetorius, Schein and among others Vierdanck, and conclude with Schütz's setting of the nativity story – Die Weihnachtshistorie.

BBC RADIO 4

FM 92.4-94.6MHz 6.00am Today **9.00** In Our Time **9.45** Strong Message Here **10.00** Woman's Hour **11.00** The Infinite Monkey Cage **11.45** Book of the Week: Your Face Belongs to Us **12.00noon** News **12.04** You and Yours **12.32** Sliced Bread **1.00** The World at One **1.45** One to One **2.00** The Archers **2.15** Drama: Severus **3.00** This Natural Life **3.27** Radio 4 Appeal **3.30** Feedback **4.00** The Briefing Room **4.30** BBC Inside Science **5.00** PM **5.57** Weather **6.00** News **6.30** Michael Spicer: No Room **7.00** The Archers. Will Eddie wave the white flag? And life becomes complicated for Helen. **7.15** Front Row **8.00** The Media Show **9.00** Loose Ends **9.45** Mythical Creatures **10.00** The World Tonight **10.45** Book at Bedtime: Dark Tales **11.00** The Today Podcast **11.30** Today in Parliament **12.00m't** News **12.30** Book of the Week: Your Face Belongs to Us **12.48** Shipping

SKY MAX

6.00am Stargate SG-1 **8.00** Supergirl **9.00** Stargate Atlantis **12.00noon** Supergirl **1.00** S.W.A.T **3.00** Magnum P.I **3.50** Stargate Atlantis **5.30** The Unofficial Science of Home Alone **7.00** A League of Their Own Christmas Special 2022 **8.00** Rob & Romesh vs Magic in Vegas **9.00** Miracles **10.30** Never Mind the Buzzcocks Christmas Special. Comedy music quiz. **11.30** Based on a True Story **1.00am** Stargate Atlantis **3.00** Magnum P.I **4.00-6.00am** MacGyver

SKY ATLANTIC

6.00am Fish Town **7.00** Urban Secrets **7.55** The Sopranos **10.00** Six Feet Under **12.05pm** Game of Thrones **1.10** Boardwalk Empire **3.20** The Sopranos **6.35** Six Feet Under **7.55** Game of Thrones **9.00** Dune: Prophecy. Sci-fi prequel. **10.10** Accidentally Famous: The Story of 883 **12.20am** Game of Thrones **1.25** Gomorrah **3.40** Treme **5.00-6.00am** Urban Secrets

SKY WITNESS

6.00am Highway Cops **8.00** Border Patrol **10.00** UK Border Force **11.00** Caught on Dashcam **12.00noon** FBI **2.00** FBI: Most Wanted **3.00** FBI: International **4.00** Nothing to Declare **8.00** Caught on Dashcam **9.00** FBI: International **10.00** The Good Doctor **11.00** FBI **12.00m't** Christmas Crime UK **1.00** Chicago PD **2.00** Britcam: Emergency on Our Streets. Documentary. **3.00** Brit Cops: Rapid Response **4.00** Send in the Dogs **5.00-6.00am** Stop, Search, Seize

SKY COMEDY

8.40am The Righteous Gemstones **11.55** Sex and the City **4.05pm** The Franchise **9.00** Girls **10.20** The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon **11.20** Curb Your Enthusiasm **12.15am** Ricky Gervais: Science **2.00** Paul Chowdhry: Family Friendly Comedian **3.30-5.00am** Wellington Paranormal

DISCOVERY

6.00am Alaska: Homestead Rescue **8.00** Building Off the Grid **9.00** Bitchin' Rides **10.00** Kindig Customs **11.00** Wheeler Dealers **1.00pm** Treehouse Masters **3.00** Gold Rush: Mine Rescue with Freddy & Juan **4.00** Aliens in Alaska **5.00** Border Control Poland **6.00** How It's Made **7.00** Outback Truckers **8.00** Wheeler Dealers **9.00** Sin City Tow **10.00** Mega Shippers **11.00** Border Control: Europe **12.00m't** Expedition X **1.00** Sin City Tow **2.00** Mega Shippers **3.00-5.00am** Alaska: Homestead Rescue

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

8.00am Food Factory **9.00** Air Crash Investigation **10.00** Hitler's Last Stand **11.00** Drain the Oceans **12.00noon** Car S.O.S **1.00** Plane Crash Recreated **2.00** Air Crash Investigation **3.00** Titanic: Case Closed **5.00** Car S.O.S **6.00** Lost Treasures of Egypt **7.00** Air Crash Investigation. Documentary. **8.00** Disaster Autopsy. The disaster that occurred at Fukushima nuclear plant. **9.00** Car S.O.S **10.00** Life Below Zero: First Alaskans **11.00** Air Crash Investigation **1.00am** Airport Security: Peru **2.00** Made in a Day **2.30** Lords of War **3.20** Food Factory USA: double bill **4.10-5.00am** Secrets of the Zoo: Keeper Tales

Forecast **1.00** As BBC World Service **5.20** Shipping Forecast **5.30** News **5.43** Prayer for the Day **5.45-6.00am** Farming Today

BBC RADIO 5 LIVE

693/909kHz 6.00am 5 Live Breakfast **9.00** Gordon Smart **11.00** Adrian Chiles **2.00pm** Matt Chorley **4.00** 5 Live Drive. The city's top news. **7.00** 5 Live Sport **8.00** 5 Live Sport **10.00** Tony Livesey **1.00am** Dotun Adebayo **5.00-6.00am** Wake Up to Money

BBC RADIO WALES

FM: 94.6MHz 6.00am Radio Wales News Update **6.05** Wake Up with Radio Wales **6.30** Country Focus **7.00** Radio Wales Breakfast **9.00** Wynne Evans **12.00noon** The Phone In **2.00** Behnaz Akhgar **5.00** Radio Wales Drive **6.30** The Musical Life Of **7.00** Aleighcia Scott **10.00** Eleri Sion **12.00m't** Relax with Radio Wales **1.00-6.00am** As Radio 5 Live

CLASSIC FM

100-102MHz 6.30am Classic FM Breakfast with Dan Walker **9.00** The Classic FM Hall of Fame Hour with Dan Walker **10.00** Alexander Armstrong **1.00pm** Anne-Marie Minhall **4.00** Margherita Taylor **7.00** Relaxing Evenings **10.00** Calm Classics **1.00am** Bill Overton **4.00-6.30am** Early Breakfast

ABSOLUTE RADIO

DAB 6.00am Dave Berry **10.00** Leona Graham **1.00pm** Ben Burrell **4.00** Bush and Richie **7.00** Danielle Perry **10.00** Jay Lawrence **1.00-6.00am** Dan Noble

Movies

FILM4

11.00am The Red Turtle (2016/PG) Animated fantasy, starring Emmanuel Garijo. **★★★★** **12.40pm** The Mouse That Roared (1959/U) Comedy, starring Peter Sellers. **★★★** **2.20** Mrs Doubtfire (1993/12) Comedy, starring Robin Williams and Sally Field. **★★★★** **4.40** One Million Years BC (1966/PG) Hammer prehistoric adventure, starring Raquel Welch and John Richardson. **★★★** **6.45** Independence Day: Resurgence (2016/12) Sci-fi adventure, starring Jeff Goldblum and Liam Hemsworth. **★★★** **9.00** Prey (2022/15) Sci-fi thriller Predator prequel, starring Amber Midthunder. **★★★★** **10.55** The Last of the Mohicans (1992/15) Historical adventure, starring Daniel Day-Lewis and Madeleine Stowe. **★★★★★** **1.10-3.55am** Wings of Desire (1987/15) Wim Wenders' fantasy, with Bruno Ganz. **★★★★★**

SKY CINEMA PREMIERE

7.15am Coup! (2023) See 2.05am. **★★★** **9.00** The Night Before Christmas In Wonderland (2024/U) See 4.35pm. **★★★★** **10.40** IF (2024/U) See 6.15pm. **★★★★** **12.30pm** Wonka (2023/PG) See 8.00pm. **★★★★** **2.30** Girl You Know It's True (2023/15) Biographical drama, with Elan Ben Ali. **★★★★** **4.35** The Night Before Christmas In Wonderland (2024/U) Animated adventure, with the voice of Gerard Butler. **★★★★** **6.15** IF (2024/U) Fantasy adventure, starring Ryan Reynolds and Cailey Fleming. **★★★★** **8.00** Wonka (2023/PG) Fantasy adventure, starring Timothee Chalamet. **★★★★** **10.00** Monkey Man (2024/18) Action thriller, with Dev Patel and Shartto Copley. **★★★★** **12.05am** Abigail (2024/18) Horror thriller, starring Melissa Barrera. **★★★★** **2.05** Coup! (2023) Comedy thriller, starring Peter Sarsgaard and Billy Magnussen. **★★★** **3.50** A Sudden Case of Christmas (2024/12) Comedy, starring Andie MacDowell. **★★★★** **5.30-7.10am** Sweethearts (2024/15) Comedy, starring Kiernan Shipka. **★★★**

SKY CINEMA CHRISTMAS

4.05pm The Polar Express (2004/U) Animation, with Tom Hanks. **★★★** **6.00** Wonka (2023/PG) Drama, with Timothee Chalamet and Olivia Colman. **★★★★** **8.00** Genie (2023/PG) Comedy, starring Melissa McCarthy and Paapa Essiedu. **★★★** **9.35** Reindeer Games (2000/15) Drama, with Ben Affleck and Charlize Theron. **★★★** **11.25** Silent Night (2023/18) Drama, starring Joel Kinnaman. **★★★** **1.20am** Snow Day (2000/PG) Comedy, with Chris Elliott and Mark Webber. **★★★** **3.00** Nantucket Noel (2021/PG) Drama, with Sarah Power and Trevor Donovan. **★★★** **4.35-6.10am** All I Want for Christmas (1991/U) Drama, with Leslie Nielsen. **★★**

SKY CINEMA FAMILY

4.00pm IF (2024/U) Fantasy adventure. **★★★★** **5.50** Pan (2015/PG) Fantasy adventure prequel to Peter Pan, starring Levi Miller. **★★★** **7.45** Scooby-Doo (2002/PG) Comedy adventure, starring Sarah Michelle Gellar. **★★** **9.15** Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed (2004/PG) Comedy adventure sequel, with Sarah Michelle Gellar. **★★** **10.50** Hot Dog Derby (2013/U) Family comedy, starring Jason London and Alicia Witt. **★★** **12.15am** Little Vampire (2020/U) Animation, with the voice of Louise Lacoste. **★★★** **1.40** A Tiger's

YOUR VOICE

Edited by
AMANDA EVANS

Shame on Vennells

■ The Post Office's former boss Paula Vennells has told the final day of an inquiry into the Horizon IT scandal that "she has no desire to point the finger at others" despite instructing her lawyer to name a number of ex-colleagues in a clear attempt to shift the blame. The woman has no shame.

President Harry Truman had a sign on his desk in the White House which said, The Buck Stops Here.

If Vennells wants to see who was responsible for the misery inflicted on postmasters and postmistresses by her faulty IT system, all she has to do is stand in front of a mirror.

John Lee, St Ives, Cambs

TAKE NOTICE... AND WIN £25

This funny sign was spotted by Josie Drury from Buckley, Flintshire, outside a church in Canada, which made her giggle.



■ Please send your funny signs to the address below. Sorry, but photos can't be returned.

The great royal wally of China

■ IS Prince Andrew surrounded by totally incompetent advisers or is he really so stupid and arrogant to allow an alleged Chinese spy to infiltrate his life and activities?

With his cavalier behaviour and questionable associates, such as paedophile Jeffrey Epstein, the Duke of York has done maximum damage to the reputation of our Royal Family and should be banished from the UK.

Dennis Forbes Grattan, Aberdeen

■ The revelations about Prince Andrew keep on coming. A person born into privilege, whose arrogance and assumption of superiority was well known.

Alas, his lack of judgment has made him unsuitable for any position of trust or authority. His infamous Newsnight interview was an absolute car crash, but he thought it went well.

Now he seems to have two former Prime Ministers in his class of useful idiots where relations with the Chinese are concerned. Let us hope Starmer's government, in its pursuit of closer ties with China, does not embroil us in a similar situation.

John Sedgwick, Tamworth, Staffs

■ Prince Andrew has once again found himself mired in controversy – this time with suspected Chinese spy Yang Tengbo with whom he formed an ill-advised association.

It only goes to highlight his naivety by allowing himself to be deceived.

Now the Prince has become an embarrassment to the Royals and has further

THE BIG ISSUE

Prince Andrew has been linked to a suspected Chinese spy now barred from the UK amid national security fears. Yang Tengbo, 50, is said to have become a close confidant of the Royal. In February 2023 he was removed from a flight from Beijing to London after the Home Office decided he had engaged in "covert and deceptive activity" for the Chinese Communist Party. You say...



estranged himself from them. But he has only himself to blame.

Jenny Pain, Chatham, Kent

■ While Prince Andrew's relationship with Jeffrey Epstein was unacceptable, it is a little harsh to condemn him for having Chinese business contacts.

David Cameron and Theresa May met Tengbo and may well have told Andrew to suck up to Chinese businessmen in order to facilitate trade deals.

That is what he did, and he obviously did it well.

If you speak to any visiting Chinese businessman it seems obvious the Communist Party will want to know all about it.

The late Queen, Cameron and Starmer all shook Chinese hands in the desperate bid for trade.

There are many things to criticise Prince Andrew for, but this isn't one of them.

Brett Grainger, Rugeley, Staffs

■ The question should be asked – who introduced this suspected Chinese spy to Prince Andrew? It's

unlikely Yang Tengbo would have been able to contact the Prince on his own?

Also, why aren't the two Tory former Prime Ministers Tengbo is reported to have met being targeted too? Surely they would be in possession of much more vital information than the Prince.

Roy Tandy, Liverpool

■ King Charles must be exasperated at reportedly being briefed by M15 over Prince Andrew's links to a suspected Chinese spy.

I really feel sorry for the King having a brother who seems to get into messes on a regular basis.

Dave Mellor Warrington

■ The businessman known as 'H6' lost his appeal against being barred from the UK on the grounds that his links with the Chinese state and his role as a "close confidant" to Prince Andrew represented a "threat to national security".

This is clearly nonsense.

What sort of spy would look to Prince Andrew for "intelligence"?

Sasha Simic, North London

Grounds for complaint

■ The Government wants to tax farmers on land they own and farm, but why do those who live in stately homes with sprawling acres around their properties avoid inheritance tax? Surely the land is as much of an asset to estates as it is to farmers?

Kenneth Rheeston Birmingham

■ The best way to stop vapes being discarded and ending up in landfill is to pass a law pushing up the price of each of them by a pound.

Then the Government should insist every outlet that sells them must take them back for recycling – and then return the pound to anyone who brings one in.

Edward Lyon Sandown, Isle of Wight

Tweet of the day

I'm A Celebrity star Reverend Richard Coles was shocked at the struggle faced by many due to lack of shop accessibility...
@RevRichardColes - A day in town and I'm dismayed to see so many lifts and escalators out of service. It must be a massive pain for people with restricted mobility.

THE BIG QUESTION

Every day we'll be asking your opinion on one of Britain's big talking points. You can have your say and vote at mirror.co.uk

The Government has been accused of betrayal after rejecting calls to pay compensation to over 3.5 million WASPI women. Work and Pensions Secretary Liz Kendall sparked anger as she announced there will be no compensation for them in spite of an ombudsman report calling for payouts.

Should the WASPI women have received compensation?

YES
80%

NO
20%

No. A lot of this is about equality and yet when the law changes to make people equal, one section will always complain.
BRITISHINFANTRYVETERAN35

Yes. So the Government is going to ignore the ombudsman? Outrageous.
JANEPOWELL

No. All Labour have done is implement the decisions that the Tories put off.
PENDRAGON2023

Yes. First the winter fuel payment, now the WASPI compensation, what next?
GETSY

No. Speaking as a so-called WASPI woman, I think Liz Kendall has made the right decision.
WIN1234

Yes. Another group betrayed by Labour in less than six months.
BADDABING

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Honour? Read the small print



President-elect Donald Trump seems very pleased to be named Time's Person of the Year for a second occasion – an honour he shares with a number of people, including Richard Nixon and Joseph Stalin.

However, what might not be obvious is that the honour isn't given for the best, bravest or most generous person of that year but rather for the most prominent.

Trump should work to make the world a better place and then be remembered for his good works and leadership.
Dennis Fitzgerald Melbourne, Australia

In 2024, we've seen Labour win a landslide victory at the General Election. But we have also seen a summer of anti-immigration riots across the UK and many pensioners have lost their winter fuel allowance. As the year draws to a close, we'd like you to give us your review of the past 12 months. Hopefully the good as well as the bad. Email yourvoice@mirror.co.uk and tell us what you think.

Pub quiz answers

How many of our daily pub quiz brainteasers did you manage to get right?

1. Chrissie Watts
2. False
3. A Grand Day Out
4. Kate Bush
5. House sparrow

ON THE ROAD

More motoring news and reviews at [mirror.co.uk/lifestyle/motoring](https://www.mirror.co.uk/lifestyle/motoring)



80S FLASHBACK

Renault has revealed one of the most hardcore hot hatches ever with the 5 Turbo 3E. It's the modern-day equivalent of a performance car that was unveiled more than 46 years ago.

Its exterior colours and design hark back to rally versions of the original R5 Turbo from the early 80s and just like the new 'standard' variant of R5 and Alpine A290, it brings retro styling with modern technology and powertrains.

It features R5 Turbo 3E graphics at the sides, while at the back there are flared wheelarches and a large rear diffuser to give the car as much downforce as possible. At the front, it has square-shaped LED daytime running lights and an aggressive lower front spoiler.

It will feature a rear-wheel-drive layout and there will be two electric motors housed in the back axle to provide instant power. Renault claims the car will produce 500bhp and acceleration from 0-60mph will take 3.3 seconds.

Prices have not been revealed, and a limited production run is likely.



Design firm Callum - founded by Ian Callum who gave us the Aston Martin DB7 - has revealed an electric dune buggy called the Skye. It's the first car the firm has built from the ground up.

What we know so far is this radical looking off-roader comes with four-wheel-drive and a 42kWh battery pack that's good for 170 miles on a single charge. Its exterior design consists of a horizontal bar



SKYE'S THE LIMIT FOR OFF-ROADER

graphic that runs from the front to the rear of the vehicle, bisecting the doors. It has chunky off-road tyres and inside, there are sports seats upholstered in 'Arctic Pearl' white and Bridge of Weir leather.

The centre console has touchscreen rotary dials, and includes Apple CarPlay and Android Auto. Order books are open now with prices starting at £80,000. Deliveries expected next year.

Just 15% of public electric vehicle (EV) chargepoints in England are in rural areas, according to a report by the public spending watchdog.

The National Audit Office urged ministers to put "greater focus" on ensuring more are installed in rural locations and regions outside the South East.

It said chargepoint installation to date - which has largely been privately



EV CHARGEPOINT RURAL OUTRAGE

funded - has been led by the needs of early adopters of EVs, resulting in around 44% of them being located in London and the South East.

A Department for Transport spokesperson said: "We're making good progress in rolling out

chargepoints across the UK, with over 72,000 public chargers now available - a near 40% increase compared to December 2023."



ASTON HOT HYBRID

Aston Martin has revealed its latest supercar. Called the Valhalla, only 999 examples are set to be produced and it will be the first production series mid-engined Aston Martin.

It's powered by a 4.0-litre twin-turbocharged V8 along with three electric motors - two on the front axle and the third in the gearbox that transmits power to the rear axle. The car develops 1,064bhp and 1,100Nm of torque and it races from 0-60mph in just 2.3 seconds, on to a top speed of 217mph.

Aston Martin has not shared the size of the battery pack or how far the car can run on electric power at this stage.

The body shell is made from carbon fibre with forward-hinged dihedral doors. Inside, the Valhalla features one-piece lightweight carbon fibre seats, a Formula One inspired steering wheel and a 12.3in infotainment screen and a 10.25in driver's display. No prices yet, but deliveries start after next summer.



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FORD RANGER STILL A POLISHED PICK-UP



STYLISH, RUGGED AND PACKED WITH FEATURES, THE RANGER REMAINS A CLASS ACT

There's a slimmer range of pick-ups to choose from than ever before. Tighter emissions have seen the variety of trucks here in the UK dwindle and today it's relatively slim pickings if you're after a capable load-lugger.

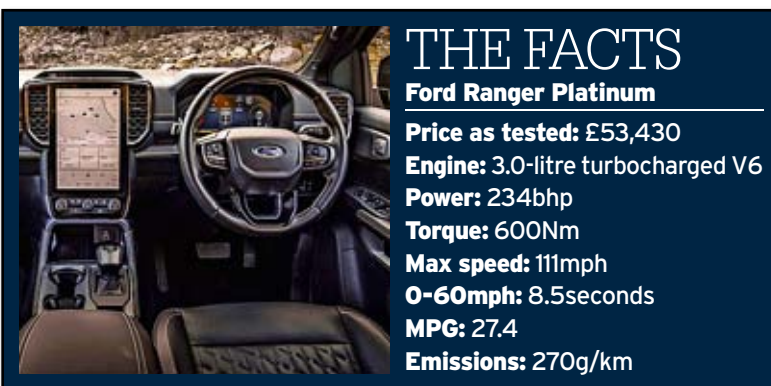
However, the Ford Ranger still stands tall in this category, and it was first introduced in its current form in 2021. While it's the mad-hat Raptor which often commands the limelight, more "regular" versions of the Ranger are far better suited to tough, demanding jobs.

We're testing it here in snazzy Platinum specification, which gets a few extra toys without diminishing this pick-up's real-world abilities.

WHAT'S NEW?

Ford's latest Ranger sits on a brand new platform and it's one that it shares with the Volkswagen Amarok. Ford responded to previous customers of the Ranger who wanted more power and off-road ability from their pick-up and delivered this new version, which introduced a series of punchier diesel engines.

But Ford also worked to improve how the Ranger handled on-road, too, tweaking the suspension to help make it a little comfier to live with when you're not tackling the rough stuff. It comes with a 1,200kg maximum gross payload, too.



WHAT'S UNDER THE BONNET?

One of the headline engines available with the Ranger is a 3.0-litre turbocharged V6 diesel and it's the one powering this version. With 234bhp it's more than powerful enough for most occasions and a chunky 600Nm of torque allows it to plug through difficult terrain.

Ford claims that you should get up to 27.4mpg combined from the V6, with CO2 emissions of 270g/km.

WHAT'S IT LIKE TO DRIVE?

We've come a long way from the agricultural pick-ups of old. The Ranger – in this comfortable, easy-going specification – is a doddle to drive. Aside from its rather large dimensions, it feels closer to an SUV these days than a true pick-up and

THE FACTS

Ford Ranger Platinum

Price as tested: £53,430
Engine: 3.0-litre turbocharged V6
Power: 234bhp
Torque: 600Nm
Max speed: 111mph
0-60mph: 8.5seconds
MPG: 27.4
Emissions: 270g/km

this will make it easy to drive on a day-to-day basis.

On the motorway, the Ranger is composed enough to tackle those longer journeys without being too noisy or bouncy. While Ford has reworked the Ranger's suspension to help when it isn't loaded up, like most pick-ups it feels at its best when there's something in the back. The only snag is the 10-speed auto gearbox.

As in other Ford models, it just has too many ratios and seems to be ever-changing as a result.

HOW DOES IT LOOK?

Large and upright, the latest Ford Ranger is more American-looking



than ever. It's available in both single and double-cab setups while the specification you opt for changes how the whole truck looks. Platinum



The Ranger delivers an upmarket experience and is a great all-rounder

models, like this one, have a more classic chrome finish on the front grille, whereas Wildtrak versions ditch this in favour of a blacked-out appearance.

WHAT'S IT LIKE INSIDE?

As a little reflection of the driving experience, the interior of the Ranger is more car-like than ever. There are loads of upmarket materials used throughout and everything has a nicely solid finish to it.

Platinum-grade trucks get leather upholstery as standard and as well as

giving a more upmarket feel, makes things a little harder-wearing inside.

There's a good level of storage for odds and ends, too, and space in the rear of this double-cab pick-truck isn't too bad either.

WHAT'S THE SPEC LIKE?

You'll pay from £30,800 for a standard double-cab Ranger with a basic engine, but this rises considerably to reach £49,358 if you want the punchy V6 engine in Platinum specification.

Fortunately, there is plenty of equipment included as standard with highlights being a soft-close tailgate, Matrix LED headlights and an acoustic laminated windscreen for a quieter driving experience. Our truck, with a few extras, comes in at a hefty £53,430.

As with other Ford models, the Ranger also gets a massive central touchscreen packed with features.

VERDICT

The days of rough-and-ready pick-up trucks is well behind us. The Ford Ranger delivers a more upmarket and premium-feeling experience than you'd ever expect to get from something this capable.

At close to £50,000 this is one expensive truck, mind you. But as an all-rounder and something that could easily fill the space of a traditional SUV, the Ranger is well worth checking out.

laurette.ziemer@gmail.com

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DMIST

THE gorgeous wreaths on the doors of No10 and No11 Downing Street are all down to the talents of Helen Edge, 54, from St Merryn near Padstow, and her mum Margaret Dungey, 83. Here, she shares how their Christmas family business has grown – and how winning a competition got her to the Prime Minister's door.

"Christmas has been a part of my life for ever. Our family business is called Santa Trees and was started by my mum and dad, Ivor, and the three of us are now in partnership.

"We're a 'choose and cut' Christmas tree farm but also sell wholesale trees, large trees for villages and towns, and wreaths.

"Although we are, obviously, busy now, growing Christmas trees is actually an all-year-round job. The rest of the year is spent pruning and feeding the trees and looking after the land.

"My father has been growing Christmas trees since he was 16 years old – he is now 88 – and consequently I have been helping for as long as I can remember.

"For most of my adult life that has meant working weekends and holidays on the farm but 13 years ago, I started full-time with mum and dad. All my knowledge has been passed down from them, working on the farm and by meeting up with other Christmas tree growers in the UK and America to share ideas.

"It was only six years ago mum taught me how to make wreaths and now we make them together.

PEACEFUL

"For most of the year, the work on the farm is very peaceful, working at my own pace alongside mum, dad and my husband, Russell. You do have to work in tune with nature and certain jobs have to be done at certain times. For example, the trees only grow for six weeks a year so you have to ensure the first prune is completed before the growing season.

"This time of the year is a bit different. We are all flat-out cutting and wrapping trees for customers, delivering big trees to towns and villages, cutting fir for the wreaths and then making them.

"It's a seven-day working week but I love seeing all the customers who have made it their tradition to get trees and wreaths from us.

"In October, The British Christmas Tree Growers Association have a national meeting and competition where the Champion Tree Grower and Champion Festive Wreath maker are decided. The winner of each category is awarded the privilege of supplying Downing Street.

"In 2003 we won the Champion Tree Grower award and supplied a large tree for outside No10. Two years ago we won all the wreath categories including Champion



TEAMWORK
Ivor, Margaret,
Helen and
Russell

CHRISTMAS TREE FAMILY BRINGING CHEER TO No10

Festive Wreath and were rewarded with supplying wreaths for No10 and No11. This year we won the Best Natural Wreath Award and Champion Festive Wreath award so we have been supplying Downing Street again.

"For the Downing Street wreaths, we thought it would be nice to go for a traditional festive style of red and gold. The wreaths are made from our own-grown Noble fir.

"It is such an honour to receive the Champion Festive wreath award as it is voted for by other professional wreath makers – it makes you feel like all your hard work has been recognised.

"Obviously, it's very exciting to go to Downing Street. We were invited to their Christmas lights switch on with a champagne reception inside No10 where we got to meet the PM

and the Chancellor. It was lovely to see our wreaths on the doors.

"Wreath-making classes seem to be all the rage and we get lots of customers wanting to make their own wreaths with friends, so we supply wreath-making kits which include everything you need to make them. These became popular during the pandemic years when classes were limited.

"As to my own favourite style? I prefer a more natural wreath and am looking to incorporate ivy into my wreath this year. Every year is different depending on what inspires me.

"I also make ornaments out of logs during the year – one year it could be reindeers, another year snowmen. Last year it was log racing cars. This year it's turkeys!

■ **Santa Trees:** facebook.com/santatreesliskeard

■ **The British Christmas Tree Growers' Association:** bctga.co.uk

FINANCE

Edited by
GRAHAM
HISCOTT

Petrol drives rise in inflation

RATE AT 2.6% IS HIGHEST SINCE SPRING

UK inflation has risen to its highest level since March, driven by an increase in petrol prices last month, according to official figures.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) said Consumer Prices Index (CPI) inflation rose to 2.6% in November, from 2.3% the previous month.

This is the highest rate since March and the second rise in two months. Last month the rise in the overall rate of inflation to 2.6% was driven by changes in the cost of petrol, train travel and live entertainment, along with everyday groceries such as margarine and eggs.

But there were also examples of prices falling, including rice and pizza.

Grant Fitzner, the ONS's chief economist, said: "Inflation rose again but this was partially offset by air fares, which traditionally dip at this time of year, but saw their largest drop in

November since records began at the start of the century."

The rate of CPI inflation for food, alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, tobacco, clothing, footwear, recreation and culture all edged higher over the year to November, compared with the year to October. It follows a hike to tobacco duties at the end of October.

Petrol prices also rose by 0.8p per litre between October and November to stand at 134.8p per litre, and diesel prices increased 1.4p per litre to 140.5p per litre.

Overall prices across the transport sector fell by 1.1% in the year to November, but at a slower rate than the 2% fall in the year to October, meaning it was the biggest factor pushing inflation higher last month.

On the other hand, air fares tumbled by 19.3% in November, largely driven by falls in ticket prices on European routes.



AZZURRI TOPS UP OUTLETS

The firm behind Italian chains Zizzi and Ask has said it plans to keep opening more restaurants despite extra costs facing the sector next year. Azzurri Group boss Steve Holmes said he was "cautiously optimistic" about the recovery of UK hospitality. That's despite the CEOs of Greene King and Whitbread telling ministers last month that rises in National Insurance contributions would "lead to business closures and job losses within a year".



Shoe Zone has shut more stores and issued profit warnings in response to soaring wage costs after the recent Budget measures.

The group, which has about 2,250 staff across 297 outlets, claimed rises in the minimum wage and NI contributions had led to "significant additional costs" adding: "These have resulted in the closure of stores that have become unviable." The firm declined to comment on the number of staff affected.

FTSE 100

up 3.91 at 8199.1

Oil = \$73.25

Abrdn	138.6	+1.2	HSBC	767.9	+10.2	Shell	2419.0	+5.5
Anglo American	2415.0	-15.0	Imperial Brands	2558.0	+11.0	Smith & Nephew	980.6	+0.4
AB Foods	2090.0	+18.0	International Airlines Grp	302.8	+5.5	Smiths WH	1181.0	+6.0
Admiral Group	2609.0	+2.0	IDS	361.8	0.0	Standard Chartered	1000.5	+10.5
AstraZeneca	10352.0	-154.0	ITV	72.3	+0.8	Taylor Wimpey	125.0	+0.3
Aviva PLC	463.9	-3.7	JD Sports	97.4	+1.1	Tesco	372.9	-1.1
BAE Systems	1173.5	+3.5	Kingfisher	253.9	+1.2	Unilever	4608.0	-44.0
B&M European	356.8	+1.0	Land Securities	576.0	+4.0	United Utilities	1063.5	-6.5
BAT	2950.0	+6.0	Legal & General	225.8	-0.8	Vodafone	67.2	-0.4
Balfour Beatty	447.0	+0.8	Lloyds	54.8	+0.6	Whitbread	2911.0	-5.0
Barclays	267.1	+2.5	Marks & Spencer	391.5	+2.6	Reach PLC	84.5	+0.3
BR Land Co	363.8	+6.4	National Grid	926.2	-10.4			
BP	383.4	+3.3	NatWest Group	403.6	+4.3			
BT	147.2	-0.2	Next	9900.0	+94.0			
Capita Group	14.6	-0.3	Ocado	302.7	-2.6			
Carnival	1858.0	+14.5	Pearson	1278.5	+2.5			
Centrica	126.3	-0.2	Persimmon	1222.0	-17.0			
Compass	2673.0	+1.0	Prudential	634.6	-1.6			
Currys	93.0	+0.3	Reckitt	4823.0	-20.0			
Diageo	2518.5	-17.5	RELX	3730.0	+23.0			
Direct Line	243.0	+0.4	Rentokil Initial	402.5	-2.7			
Easyjet	581.0	+3.4	Rio Tinto	4757.0	-63.0			
Ferguson	14470.0	-50.0	Rolls-Royce	586.8	+5.8			
Frasers Group	610.0	+3.5	J Sainsbury	275.2	+0.2			
GlaxoSmithKline	1334.0	+0.5	SSE	1612.5	-4.5			
Halfords	137.0	-1.0	Severn Trent	2550.0	-24.0			
Hays	76.7	-1.1	Serco	138.7	+1.3			

Holiday £

Euro	1.213
Australian Dollar	2.015
Bulgarian Lev	2.372
Canadian Dollar	1.821
Egyptian Pound	64.62
New Zealand Dollar	2.221
Polish Zloty	5.172
South African Rand	22.988
Swiss Franc	1.134
Thai Baht	43.510
Turkish Lira	44.506
UAE Dirham	4.66
US Dollar	1.270

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DARTS

PDC WORLD DARTS CHAMPIONSHIP
ALEXANDRA PALACE

HUGE HIT WITH FANS
Hoy at SPOTY and he will be involved at the darts event

HERO HOY TO PRESENT 180s AWARD

Sir Chris backs cancer campaign

BY MIKE WALTERS
@MikeWaltersMGM



OLYMPIC great Sir Chris Hoy has been invited to make an emotional appearance at Ally Pally - to present the Ballon d'Art trophy.

The six-times gold medalist shocked the world in October by revealing he has been diagnosed with terminal prostate cancer.

Now World Championship title sponsors Paddy Power - in conjunction with the Professional Darts Corporation's charity partner Prostate Cancer UK - have asked the superhuman cyclist to present the trophy to the player who hits the most 180s at the tournament.

Defending champion Luke Humphries (below) won the inaugural Ballon d'Art 12 months ago after hitting 73 maximums out of a record 914 aggregate.

Hoy, 48, is assured of a thunderous reception when he appears on stage on the night of the final on January 3.

Last year, a scan revealed a tumour in his shoulder and subsequent tests revealed primary cancer in his prostate which has metastasised in his bones.

Now he is helping to drive awareness of a 30-second online risk assessment in the hope 180,000 men will get checked for symptoms of

prostate cancer - the most common cancer among men in the UK - during the three-week tournament.

Hoy, who recently returned from a charity bike ride in Cambodia, said: "This isn't about medals or records. It's about saving lives."

"If sharing my story gets just one person to check their risk or book a screening, then it's all been worth it. I didn't have any symptoms until it was too late."

"By the time I felt pain, it wasn't in my prostate anymore - it was secondary cancer in my bones."

"If I'd thought to check earlier, maybe I'd have caught it in time. That's why this campaign is so important - so others don't end up in the same situation."

"Sport is where men connect, laugh, and bond. It's also the perfect place to deliver an important message: Don't wait, act now."

"If we can get blokes talking about their health at Ally Pally, between pints and 180s, then we've already won."

Bookies Paddy Power have pledged to donate £1,000 to Prostate Cancer UK for every 180 scored.

And for each nine-darter at the tournament, there will be a huge £180,000 payout split three ways - £60,000 each to the player, Prostate Cancer UK and a fan randomly selected from the audience.



KIST MAKES IT BLISS FOR KRIS

BY MIKE WALTERS

CHRISTIAN KIST became the first player to crack the nine-dart code at Ally Pally this year - and win a lucky punter £60,000.

Former Lakeside world champion Kist (left), beaten in the first round by Luke Littler (right) 12 months ago, hit the jackpot in his 3-1 defeat by Latvia's Madars Razma at the Paddy Power PDC World Championship.

The Dutchman's perfect leg, to clinch the first set, forced the title sponsors into their first £180,000 payout - split evenly between the player, charity partner Prostate Cancer UK and a gobsmacked 28-year-old railway guard from Sutton.

Selected at random among the 3,300 spectators, Kris - who

preferred not to give his surname - only realised he had won the windfall

£60,000 share when he was picked out as a face in the crowd on the big screen.

He said: "My grandparents bought me the tickets for the darts for my birthday last Saturday. I came here after work and I'm back in work tomorrow."



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INSIDE SATURDAY'S

DAILY **Mirror**

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RESULTS & PRICES

LINGFIELD

11.55: **ROARING CONQUEST** (S Bowen 5-6f) 1; **Taita Hills** (16-1) 2; **Jackstell** (15-8) 3. 12 ran. 9½, 11. (O Murphy). Tote: £1.84; £1.10, £2.70, £1.20. Tote Exacta: £12.20. Trifecta: £21.20. CSF: £17.46.

12.27: **BOBBY'S BEAUTY** (S Bowen 13-2) 1; **Smart Casual** (11-5f) 2; **Clondaw Robin** (25-1) 3. 7 ran. 6½, 8½. (M Keighley). Tote: £27.50, £2.80, £1.90. Tote Exacta: £22.00. Trifecta: £239.30. CSF: £21.22.

1.02: **WADE OUT** (S Bowen 4-9f) 1; **Miller Spirit** (9-4) 2; **What's One More** (10-1) 3. 3 ran. 4¼, 2¾. (O Murphy). Tote: £1.45; Tote Exacta: £1.60. Trifecta: £1.80. CSF: £1.88. NR: Sennen Cove.

1.37: **GODOT** (P Armon 9-1) 1; **Guard Duty** (3-1) 2; **Ring O Roses** (28-1) 3. 6 ran. 2-1f Tamar Bridge. nk, 12f. (A Irvine). Tote: £10.00; £3.10, £1.80. Tote Exacta: £35.80. Trifecta: £408.70. CSF: £36.86.

2.12: **AWORKINPROGRESS** (James Davies 6-5f) 1; **Lazy Sunday** (12-1) 2; **Boinita** (16-1) 3. 9 ran. ¾, 7f. (N Gifford). Tote: £2.20; £1.10, £2.80, £3.60. Tote Exacta: £19.30. Trifecta: £158.00. Trifecta: £177.70. CSF: £16.47.

2.47: **JOLIE BAIE** (G Sheehan 6-1) 1; **War-ranty** (7-2) 2; **Lucky So And So** (11-1) 3. 11 ran. 5-2f Howaya Now. 1½, ½. (Miss J Davis). Tote: £7.00; £2.20, £1.70, £3.20. Tote Exacta: £31.40. Trifecta: £230.10. CSF: £408.30. CSF: £22.92.

3.22: **SNAPIUS** (Mr A Chadwick 5-1) 1; **Trust House** (11-10f) 2; **Ami Bonduh** (11-1) 3. 7 ran. 1¾, 5½. (James Owen). Tote: £5.00; £2.20, £1.30. Tote Exacta: £14.20. Trifecta: £36.30. CSF: £11.22.

Placepot: £46.80.

Quadpot: £18.10.

NEWBURY

12.05: **BELIEVITANDUCAN** (J J Burke 11-2) 1; **Liam Swagger** (8-15f) 2; **Rakkid** (15-2) 3. 9 ran. 1¾, 10f. (A King). Tote: £1.40; £1.40, £1.10, £1.70. Tote Exacta: £39.30. Trifecta: £25.60. CSF: £9.10. NR: Miss Altea Blue.

12.40: **KING CALIFET** (J J Burke 11-2) 1; **Miss Emma** (7-2) 2; **Youcided** (80-1) 3. 11 ran. 4-9f Royse. ¾, 15f. (E Lavelle). Tote: £4.00; £1.50, £1.40, £3.30. Tote Exacta: £38.90. Trifecta: £1010.10. CSF: £26.98.

1.15: **HERAKLES WESTWOOD** (J Bowen 5-2f) 1; **Moulins Clermont** (14-1) 2; **Wrappedupinmy** (13-2) 3. 6 ran. 4½, 25f. (W Greatrex). Tote: £3.50; £1.70, £6.00. Tote Exacta: £30.10. Trifecta: £132.60. CSF: £29.67.

1.50: **CAPTAIN BELLAMY** (L Williams 7-2) 1; **De Kingpin** (13-2) 2; **Natviehl** (9-4) 3. 8 ran. 11-8f Buckna. hd, 7f. (P Nicholls). Tote: £4.50; £1.80, £1.70. Tote Exacta: £22.30. Trifecta: £56.40. CSF: £25.29.

2.25: **JAVERT ALLEN** (Claran Gettings 9-5) 1; **Harper's Brook** (22-1) 2; **Bourball** (8-1) 3. 5 ran. 11-8f General Medrano. 2¼, 11. (Mrs J Williams). Tote: £2.80; £1.40, £5.00. Tote Exacta: £25.70. Trifecta: £88.20. CSF: £25.62.

3.00: **SAINT SEGAL** (J J Burke 2-1) 1; **Beau Balko** (15-8f) 2; **Walking On Air** (40-1) 3. 6 ran. 11f, 23f. (Mrs J Williams). Tote: £3.00; £1.60, £1.40. Tote Exacta: £6.30. Trifecta: £88.10. CSF: £6.25.

3.35: **CHATTY GIRL** (K Woods 5-1) 1; **Artursung** (100-30) 2; **Ride Like A Girl** (2-1f) 3. 8 ran. 1½, 3f. (A Hales). Tote: £6.00; £1.60, £1.50, £1.10. Tote Exacta: £25.00. Trifecta: £73.20. CSF: £21.67.

Jackpot: £10,000.00.
Placepot: £103.00.
Quadpot: £17.90.

LUDLOW

12.15: **SPRINGS A GIRL** (Mr Daire McCornville 4-1) 1; **Of Course You Can** (10-11f) 2; **Either Way** (9-4) 3. 7 ran. 1¾, 5f. (M Keighley). Tote: £5.10; £1.60, £1.20. Tote Exacta: £8.50. Trifecta: £13.60. CSF: £8.44. NR: Queshi Bridge.

12.50: **TIGHTENOURBELTS** (R Dingle 13-8f) 1; **Neon Moon** (100-30) 2; **Balkardy** (5-1) 3. 6 ran. 13f, 2¾. (E Lavelle). Tote: £2.63; £1.50, £1.90. Tote Exacta: £6.60. Trifecta: £21.50. CSF: £7.49. NR: Daisee Alba.

1.25: **MEETMEYTHESEA** (C Pritchard 5-2) 1; **The Kemble Brewery** (4-11f) 2; **Doctor Love** (18-1) 3. 8 ran. 2f, 16f. (B Pauling). Tote: £3.50; £1.10, £1.02, £2.40. Tote Exacta: £5.10. Trifecta: £18.10. CSF: £4.03. NR: Following Chapter.

2.00: **BLUE MOON LADY** (Charlie Price 7-2) 1; **Ninna Collina** (7-1) 2; **Highbury Hill** (33-1) 3. 6 ran. 5-4f Pink Breeze. 1½, 6½. (R L Llewellyn). Tote: £4.50; £2.10, £2.30. Tote Exacta: £25.60. Trifecta: £189.60. CSF: £26.20.

2.35: **FAMOSO** (S Sheppard 16-5f) 1; **Time To Dazzle** (50-1) 2; **Fast Buck** (11-4) 3. 6 ran. 7-4f Cabhfulingfing. 4¾, 1¼. (M Sheppard). Tote: £4.20; £1.70, £10.50. Tote Exacta: £70.10. Trifecta: £247.30. CSF: £88.10. NR: Akedo.

3.10: **MOODOFTHEMOMENT** (S Sheppard 3-1) 1; **Martalmixjac** (12-1) 2; **Zestful Hope** (11-4f) 3. 11 ran. 6½, 4¾. (M Sheppard). Tote: £4.00; £1.60, £3.30, £1.60. Tote Exacta: £37.20. Tricast: £110.97. Trifecta: £146.10. CSF: £37.05.

3.45: **SOLAR SYSTEM** (Miss T Eyston 11-10f) 1; **Melton Mossy** (4-1) 2; **Kazontherazz** (20-1) 3. 8 ran. 1¾, 3f. (P Hobbs & J White). Tote: £2.10; £1.20, £1.10, £3.70. Tote Exacta: £6.30. Tricast: £52.22. Trifecta: £46.20. CSF: £6.08.

Placepot: £54.80.

Quadpot: £28.10.

KEMPTON

4.05: **THE GLEN ROVERS** (S D Bowen 4-5f) 1; **Crystal Mariner** (15-2) 2; **Haliphon** (14-1) 3. 11 ran. 1½, 3f. (L Wadham). Tote: £1.80; £1.10, £2.40, £3.60. Tote Exacta: £8.60. Tricast: £53.41. Trifecta: £52.30. CSF: £7.47.

4.40: **AGEAN PRINCE** (W Buick 8-15f) 1; **Renato** (11-1) 2; **Blue Laced** (28-1) 3. 13 ran. nk, 1¾. (C Appleby). Tote: £1.54; £1.02, £2.50, £3.80. Tote Exacta: £7.10. Trifecta: £48.30. CSF: £8.64. NR: Romance In Rome.

5.10: **PREFER THE SISTER** (J Peate 18-1) 1; **Rushean Boy** (17-2) 2; **Charlie Mason** (3-1f) 3. 13 ran. 2¼, hd. (M Crawley). Tote: £21.00; £4.80, £3.00, £1.50. Tote Exacta: £188.50. Tricast: £622.85. Trifecta: £859.70. CSF: £172.26. NR: Star Pupil.

5.40: **GLITTERING SURF** (R Kingscote 11-8f) 1; **Pearl Of Hope** (15-8) 2; **Sandarella** (9-4) 3. 7 ran. 3¼, 2f. (Owen Burrows). Tote: £2.38; £1.20, £1.30. Tote Exacta: £4.30. Trifecta: £5.00. CSF: £4.11. NR: Blazing Bobcat.

6.10: **CASA DE SALINAS** (D Muscutt 7-4) 1; **Unex Texas** (13-2) 2; **Zabeel Rain** (10-1) 3. 8 ran. 11-10f Chinkara. ¾, ½. (J Chapple-Hyatt). Tote: £2.75; £1.10, £1.80, £2.00. Tote Exacta: £15.80. Trifecta: £63.40. CSF: £14.12.

6.40: **LOCAL HERO** (S M Levey 4-1) 1; **Altmore** (14-1) 2; **Metallo** (18-1) 3. 12 ran. 100-30f Kalamunda. 1½, shd. (R Hannon). Tote: £5.00; £1.90, £4.90, £4.10. Tote Exacta: £62.20. Tricast: £926.86. Trifecta: £1320.70. CSF: £56.19. NRs: Hat Toss, Plantadream.

7.10: **AMAZONIAN DREAM** (L Edmunds 12-1) 1; **Aramis Grey** (4-1f-f) 2; **Tiger Crusade** (5-1) 3. 10 ran. 4-1f-f Ingrta. Trk. nk. ½. (B Millman). Tote: £13.50; £2.80, £1.80, £2.10. Tote Exacta: £75.40. Tricast: £239.85. Trifecta: £298.20. CSF: £60.59. NR: Dutch Kingdom.

7.40: **GRENHAM BAY** (Jason Watson 4-1) 1; **Gaiety Musical** (12-1) 2; **Zu Run** (100-30f) 3. 11 ran. ¾, ¾. (A Baking). Tote: £5.40; £1.90, £3.60, £1.70. Tote Exacta: £66.70. Tricast: £184.11. Trifecta: £256.10. CSF: £51.88. NR: Em Jay Kay.

8.10: **SOLANNA** (Kaiya Fraser 6-4f) 1; **Beauld As Brass** (10-1) 2; **Major Major** (11-1) 3. 13 ran. ¾, ¾. (J Butler). Tote: £2.50; £1.30, £3.20, £3.70. Tote Exacta: £20.00. Tricast: £134.22. Trifecta: £144.80. CSF: £16.03. NR: Forest Haze.

Placepot: £75.90.

Quadpot: £37.90.

1.15: **HERAKLES WESTWOOD** (J Bowen 5-2f) 1; **Moulins Clermont** (14-1) 2; **Wrappedupinmy** (13-2) 3. 6 ran. 4½, 25f. (W Greatrex). Tote: £3.50; £1.70, £6.00. Tote Exacta: £30.10. Trifecta: £132.60. CSF: £29.67.

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2.25: **JAVERT ALLEN** (Claran Gettings 9-5) 1; **Harper's Brook** (22-1) 2; **Bourball** (8-1) 3. 5 ran. 11-8f General Medrano. 2¼, 11. (Mrs J Williams). Tote: £2.80; £1.40, £5.00. Tote Exacta: £25.70. Trifecta: £88.20. CSF: £25.62.

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Jackpot: £10,000.00.
Placepot: £103.00.
Quadpot: £17.90.

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3.45: **SOLAR SYSTEM** (Miss T Eyston 11-10f) 1; **Melton Mossy** (4-1) 2; **Kazontherazz** (20-1) 3. 8 ran. 1¾, 3f. (P Hobbs & J White). Tote: £2.10; £1.20, £1.10, £3.70. Tote Exacta: £6.30. Tricast: £52.22. Trifecta: £46.20. CSF: £6.08.

4.05: **THE GLEN ROVERS** (S D Bowen 4-5f) 1; **Crystal Mariner** (15-2) 2; **Haliphon** (14-1) 3. 11 ran. 1½, 3f. (L Wadham). Tote: £1.80; £1.10, £2.40, £3.60. Tote Exacta: £8.60. Tricast: £53.41. Trifecta: £52.30. CSF: £7.47.

4.40: **AGEAN PRINCE** (W Buick 8-15f) 1; **Renato** (11-1) 2; **Blue Laced** (28-1) 3. 13 ran. nk, 1¾. (C Appleby). Tote: £1.54; £1.02, £2.50, £3.80. Tote Exacta: £7.10. Trifecta: £48.30. CSF: £8.64. NR: Romance In Rome.

5.10: **PREFER THE SISTER** (J Peate 18-1) 1; **Rushean Boy** (17-2) 2; **Charlie Mason** (3-1f) 3. 13 ran. 2¼, hd. (M Crawley). Tote: £21.00; £4.80, £3.00, £1.50. Tote Exacta: £188.50. Tricast: £622.85. Trifecta: £859.70. CSF: £172.26. NR: Star Pupil.

5.40: **GLITTERING SURF** (R Kingscote 11-8f) 1; **Pearl Of Hope** (15-8) 2; **Sandarella** (9-4) 3. 7 ran. 3¼, 2f. (Owen Burrows). Tote: £2.38; £1.20, £1.30. Tote Exacta: £4.30. Trifecta: £5.00. CSF: £4.11. NR: Blazing Bobcat.

6.10: **CASA DE SALINAS** (D Muscutt 7-4) 1; **Unex Texas** (13-2) 2; **Zabeel Rain** (10-1) 3. 8 ran. 11-10f Chinkara. ¾, ½. (J Chapple-Hyatt). Tote: £2.75; £1.10, £1.80, £2.00. Tote Exacta: £15.80. Trifecta: £63.40. CSF: £14.12.

6.40: **LOCAL HERO** (S M Levey 4-1) 1; **Altmore** (14-1) 2; **Metallo** (18-1) 3. 12 ran. 100-30f Kalamunda. 1½, shd. (R Hannon). Tote: £5.00; £1.90, £4.90, £4.10. Tote Exacta: £62.20. Tricast: £926.86. Trifecta: £1320.70. CSF: £56.19. NRs: Hat Toss, Plantadream.

7.10: **AMAZONIAN DREAM** (L Edmunds 12-1) 1; **Aramis Grey** (4-1f-f) 2; **Tiger Crusade** (5-1) 3. 10 ran. 4-1f-f Ingrta. Trk. nk. ½. (B Millman). Tote: £13.50; £2.80, £1.80, £2.10. Tote Exacta: £75.40. Tricast: £239.85. Trifecta: £298.20. CSF: £60.59. NR: Dutch Kingdom.

7.40: **GRENHAM BAY** (Jason Watson 4-1) 1; **Gaiety Musical** (12-1) 2; **Zu Run** (100-30f) 3. 11 ran. ¾, ¾. (A Baking). Tote: £5.40; £1.90, £3.60, £1.70. Tote Exacta: £66.70. Tricast: £184.11. Trifecta: £256.10. CSF: £51.88. NR: Em Jay Kay.

8.10: **SOLANNA** (Kaiya Fraser 6-4f) 1; **Beauld As Brass** (10-1) 2; **Major Major** (11-1) 3. 13 ran. ¾, ¾. (J Butler). Tote: £2.50; £1.30, £3.20, £3.70. Tote Exacta: £20.00. Tricast: £134.22. Trifecta: £144.80. CSF: £16.03. NR: Forest Haze.

Placepot: £75.90.
Quadpot: £37.90.

1.15: **HERAKLES WESTWOOD** (J Bowen 5-2f) 1; **Moulins Clermont** (14-1) 2; **Wrappedupinmy** (13-2) 3. 6 ran. 4½, 25f. (W Greatrex). Tote: £3.50; £1.70, £6.00. Tote Exacta: £30.10. Trifecta: £132.60. CSF: £29.67.

1.50: **CAPTAIN BELLAMY** (L Williams 7-2) 1; **De Kingpin** (13-2) 2; **Natviehl** (9-4) 3. 8 ran. 11-8f Buckna. hd, 7f. (P Nicholls). Tote: £4.50; £1.80, £1.70. Tote Exacta: £22.30. Trifecta: £56.40. CSF: £25.29.

2.25: **JAVERT ALLEN** (Claran Gettings 9-5) 1; **Harper's Brook** (22-1) 2; **Bourball** (8-1) 3. 5 ran. 11-8f General Medrano. 2¼, 11. (Mrs J Williams). Tote: £2.80; £1.40, £5.00. Tote Exacta: £25.70. Trifecta: £88.20. CSF: £25.62.

3.00: **SAINT SEGAL** (J J Burke 2-1) 1; **Beau Balko** (15-8f) 2; **Walking On Air** (40-1) 3. 6 ran. 11f, 23f. (Mrs J Williams). Tote: £3.00; £1.60, £1.40. Tote Exacta: £6.30. Trifecta: £88.10. CSF: £6.25.

3.35: **CHATTY GIRL** (K Woods 5-1) 1; **Artursung** (100-30) 2; **Ride Like A Girl** (2-1f) 3. 8 ran. 1½, 3f. (A Hales). Tote: £6.00; £1.60, £1.50, £1.10. Tote Exacta: £25.00. Trifecta: £73.20. CSF: £21.67.

Jackpot: £10,000.00.
Placepot: £103.00.
Quadpot: £17.90.

1.25: **MEETMEYTHESEA** (C Pritchard 5-2) 1; **The Kemble Brewery** (4-11f) 2; **Doctor Love** (18-1) 3. 8 ran. 2f, 16f. (B Pauling). Tote: £3.50; £1.10, £1.02, £2.40. Tote Exacta: £5.10. Trifecta: £18.10. CSF: £4.03. NR: Following Chapter.

2.00: **BLUE MOON LADY** (Charlie Price 7-2) 1; **Ninna Collina** (7-1) 2; **Highbury Hill** (33-1) 3. 6 ran. 5-4f Pink Breeze. 1½, 6½. (R L Llewellyn). Tote: £4.50; £2.10, £2.30. Tote Exacta: £25.60. Trifecta: £189.60. CSF: £26.20.

2.35: **FAMOSO** (S Sheppard 16-5f) 1; **Time To Dazzle** (50-1) 2; **Fast Buck** (11-4) 3. 6 ran. 7-4f Cabhfulingfing. 4¾, 1¼. (M Sheppard). Tote: £4.20; £1.70, £10.50. Tote Exacta: £70.10. Trifecta: £247.30. CSF: £88.10. NR: Akedo.

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WILLIAMS WHIPS UP A STORM



LOR BREAKER Lorcan Williams and Captain Bellamy jump the last

BY **DAVID YATES**
LORCAN WILLIAMS is in hot water with the BHA - and boss Paul Nicholls - after his whip use aboard Captain Bellamy at Newbury left the five-year-old facing disqualification.

The Welshman, deputising for Harry Cobden - the champion jockey returns to action at Ascot tomorrow - drove Captain Bellamy to a head victory from De Kingpin in yesterday's Visit Warren

Greatrex Racing At Rhonehurst EBF Stallions "NH" Novices' Hurdle.

But replays showed Williams, carrying the colours of Nicholls' principal owner, Johnny de la Hey, had struck his mount 11 times.

Seven strokes are permitted under the British Horseracing Authority's whip rules - and four above the limit would see the winner thrown out by the Whip Review Committee next week.

"

FFOS LAS

SKY

12.22 ADEPT GRP CABINETS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 2m 4f £4,066 (9 run)

SPOT FORM

1	514242	KISS MY FACE (15) (V) A Ralph 7 12-0 (SF)	Murray Dodd (8)	109	H
2	P-3343	HOSTILE HOTELIER (34) (V) J Candlish 6 12-0 (D) (F)	L Scott	109	G
3	-82959	KEPAGGE (27) (B) D Pipe 10 11-13 (CD) (EW)	G Harney (6)	114	H
4	551-PP	VALENS BRUYEE (27) R Curtis 6 11-11 (CD)	C Pritchard (3)	106	GS
5	2-3210	BOYLES HILL (27) E Williams 5 11-8	Isabel Williams	104	G
6	7PU472	FAME AND FUN (49) P & M Bowen 7 11-5 (D)	S Fenelon (3)	110	G
7	6-4P41	LIMERICK LEADER (85) Mrs A Thorpe 7 11-3 (D) (Doubtful)	DOUBTFUL		
8	7-2506	WOT YOU WEARING (7) (V) R Stephens 7 11-3	D Johnston	110	G
9	3-2544	AWESOME FOURSOME (30) N Twiston-Davies 7 10-9 (D)	J Turner (6)	116	H

BETTING: 11-4 Hostile Hotelier, 3 Kiss My Face, 5 Awesome Foursome, 6 Fame And Fun, H Valens Bruyee, 10 Wot You Wearing, 12 Kepagge, 16 Boyles Hill.

12.57 PETER AND MICHAEL BOWEN RACING MARES' HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 3m Winner £4,066 (5 run)

1	31222	FLINTARA (245) R Bandy 9 12-0 (SF)	H Bannister	-	-
2	232-10	FOLLOWWANGO (10) E Williams 6 11-13 (C, D)	Isabel Williams (3)	109	S
3	1P-451	JALISCO STAR (26) L Horsfall 6 11-9 (D) (F)	K Brogan	104	GS
4	4226-4	WALKINTECHSTOLDS (29) (H) H Dickinson 5 11-5	B Poste	105	H
5	425143	BRIDGET MARY (29) R Curtis 6 10-4 (D)	S Bowen	106	G

BETTING: 2 Jalisco Star, 3 Followwango, 4 Flintara, 9-2 Bridget Mary, 6 Walkintechstolds.

1.32 HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMELIA JOHNS MARES' MAIDEN HURDLE (GBB RACE) (4) 2m Winner £4,193 (9 run)

1	16-8	AUDACIOUS ANNIE (33) J Snowden 5 11-4 (D) (F)	S Twiston-Davies	-	-
2	411-2	BLUE LAS (29) N Mulholland 6 11-4 (BF, D) (SF)	D Johnston (3)	113	S
3	24-66P	DANCING DANI (14) B Mrs N Evans 9 11-4	E Collier (7)	-	-
4	000	GRAYLAND (29) D Hamer 5 11-4	J Best	25	S
5	U1-6P	KATE OF THE LODGE (29) (H) E Williams 5 11-4	C Ring	-	-
6	64-9	LAGERTHA (57) Katy Price 4 11-4	Shane Quinlan (3)	83	S
7	45-05	PORTOBELLO GIRL (33) A Ralph 5 11-4 (EW)	Murray Dodd (7)	92	G
8	523-5	SOLID SILVER (21) R Newland & J Insole 6 11-4	L Scott (5)	91	S
9	F280	STYLIA (13) A Honeyball 4 11-4	B R Jones	51	S

BETTING: Evens Blue Las, 3 Audacious Annie, 7 Solid Silver, 15-2 Lagertha, 12 Portobello Girl, 25 Stylia, 33 Kate Of The Lodge, Dancing Dani, 50 Grayland.

2.07 ADEPT GRP CABINETS HANDICAP CHASE (5) 3m 1f Winner £3,248 (10 run)

1	8P26-P	MONBARI (51) R Curtis 6 12-0 (EW)	C Pritchard (7)	-	-
2	614-21	THE SCORPION KING (29) D Siny 6 11-11 (C) (F)	B R Jones	109	S
3	214-24	MUMBLES (10) E Williams 6 11-10 (BF)	C Ring	104	S
4	414F/6	BOBMAHLEY (27) T Vaughan 9 11-10 (CD)	Mr E Vaughan (7)	81	S
5	PP5P-2	HAUT FOLIN (10) V Williams 7 11-10 (BF, C) (SF)	N Fox (3)	110	S
6	14-PPP	PILGRIMS KING (9) (B) P & M Bowen 8 11-5 (C)	S Fenelon (5)	106	S
7	6522P/	GAME LINE (766) (V) P & M Bowen 10 11-3	J Bowen	-	-
8	PI-8P8	FASHION'S MODEL (8) (H) Sheila Lewis 8 10-5	J A Anderson (3)	108	H
9	0PP9A5	ESPERTI (29) D Rees 4 10-4	C Hammond	78	S
10	P221-6	WIDE TO WEST (29) (B) M Keighley 7 10-2 (C)	S Bowen	99	S

BETTING: 13-8 Haut Folin, 9-4 The Scorpion King, 6 Mumbles, 12 Wide To West, Bobmahley, 16 Monbari, Game Line, 25 Pilgrims King.

CHELMSFORD JACKPOT

RTV

4.10 SKY BET FOR THE FANS NURSERY (6) (2-Y-0) 5f Winner £3,664 (11 run)

SPOT FORM

1	(6)	690221	BLUE LAKOTA (7) K Ryan 10-11(6ex) (SF)	Warren Fentiman (7)	68	ST
2	(3)	253853	BANK ON KENT (40) (B) P Evans 9-6 (F)	S M Levey	66	ST
3	(7)	70837	LOVE ROCK (70) I Mohammed 9-6	R Da Silva	65	ST
4	(2)	969107	APPLE'S ANGEL (16) S Dow 9-2 (C)	L Morris	65	ST
5	(5)	7736	FRANKIES DREAM (26) (H) J Candlish 9-0 (EW)	K O'Neill	62	ST
6	(8)	075526	MISTER COCO FIZZ (16) M Appleby 8-8	F Larson (3)	67	ST
7	(10)	06968	SUNNY TIME (29) P Charalambous & J Clutterbuck 8-8	S D Bowen (3)	66	ST
8	(11)	8076	LA MER GRISE (48) A Carroll 8-8	DOUBTFUL		
9	(4)	744847	MASTER ZUCK (26) Martin Dunne 8-8	Jack Doughty (3)	62	ST
10	(9)	79889	THE MAGIC TURTLE (16) D Donovan 8-8	Grace McEntee	54	GF
11	(1)	00966	DOTTIE DIAMOND (40) (H) W Stone 8-8	E Greatrex	60	G

BETTING: Evens Blue Lakota, 9-2 Bank On Kent, 8 Mister Coco Fizz, Frankies Dream, 12 Love Rock, 14 Apple's Angel, 16 Master Zuck, Sunny Time.

4.40 IRISH EBF 'CONFINED' FILLIES' RESTRICTED NOVICE STAKES (4) (2-Y-0) 6f Winner £4,711 (12 run)

1	(8)	16	PREANKA (115) Alice Haynes 9-7 (D) (SF)	L Morris	82	G
2	(11)	FANTASY OBSESSOR	M Appleby 9-2	DOUBTFUL		
3	(12)	LYDIA EVA S Woods	9-2 (EW)	B Sanderson (3)	-	-
4	(7)	6	SUN KEEPER (31) Alice Haynes 9-2	K O'Neill	65	ST
5	(2)	60	ALWAYS ETERNAL (40) B Boughey 9-0	G Buckell (3)	56	ST
6	(4)	3	ANTALYA (35) Jack Jones 9-0	Dylan Hogan	76	ST
7	(6)	KEWMILL	M Appleby 9-0	F Larson (3)	-	-
8	(3)	LITTLE CHANTER	H Kobelski 9-0	B Sayette	-	-
9	(5)	PIPKIN	W Kittow 9-0	R Clutterbuck	-	-
10	(9)	26	SIXTEEN ONE (99) G Boughey 9-0 (BF)	Grace McEntee	79	G
11	(10)	SPICY JALAPENO	D Davis 9-0	S D Bowen (3)	-	-
12	(1)	2	SUNLIT UPLANDS (49) R Guest 9-0 (F)	H Crouch	83	ST

BETTING: 11-4 Preanka, 10-3 Sunlit Uplands, 7-2 Sixteen One, 6 Antalya, 12 Lydia Eva, 14 Sun Keeper, 20 Kewmill, Spicy Jalapeno.

5.10 SKY BET SUPER WEEK SUPERSIZED NURSERY (5) (2-Y-0) 7f Winner £4,187 (9 run)

1	(5)	63050	SILVER ARROW (15) (B) Miss A Murphy 9-9	S D Bowen (3)	73	ST
2	(3)	943	BRIGHTANDBEAUTIFUL (31) (H) A Balding 9-9 (F)	H Turner	71	ST
3	(1)	865	CHADLEENY (52) E Walker 9-7	H Crouch	68	SF
4	(8)	70759	RAGE OF THUNDER (15) G & J Moore 9-6	T P Queally	74	ST
5	(6)	342349	DARK THUNDERSTORM (16) (V) Alice Haynes 9-6 (EW)	K O'Neill	73	FM
6	(2)	9882	CREST OF LIGHT (9) K De Foy 9-5 (SF)	B Sayette	75	ST
7	(7)	436363	THISCOULDBEFUN (8) J S Moore 9-5	L Morris	72	SF
8	(4)	180764	ROTATION (17) E J Houghton 9-3	Oliver Carmichael (7)	72	G
9	(9)	068040	TEQUILA ROSE (17) (B) Miss A Murphy 9-3	S M Levey	73	ST

BETTING: 9-4 Crest Of Light, 10-3 Brightandbeautiful, 11-2 Chadleeny, 13-2 Rotation, 7 Thiscouldbefun, 12 Dark Thunderstorm, 14 Rage Of Thunder, 20 Tequila Rose, Silver Arrow.

5.40 CCR 'CONFINED' RESTRICTED NOVICE STAKES (4) (2-Y-0) 1m Winner £4,711 (13 run)

1	(13)	1	PORT LIGHT (45) A Watson 9-11 (D) (F)	L Morris	83	SF
2	(9)	148	RAJEKO (120) M Bell 9-11 (SF)	H Crouch	94	G
3	(12)	90	BACKER BILK (196) J S Best 9-4	A Keeley	-	GF
4	(4)	1	ENGLISH LADY (35) D Sover 9-4	K O'Neill	75	ST
5	(1)	1	MAXIMUS DECIMUS Alice Haynes 9-4	S D Bowen (3)	-	-
6	(7)	1	ARUNDEL E Dunlop 9-2	C Fallon	-	-
7	(5)	1	MALAY MASSAMAN Miss A Murphy 9-2	S M Levey	-	-
8	(10)	3	RAVENS KING (16) P & O Cole 9-2	B Sayette	72	ST
9	(2)	06	RELOAD (7) P Chapple-Hyam 9-2	C Hutchinsonson	58	ST
10	(6)	1	DOJIN S Woods 8-13 (EW)	B Sanderson (3)	-	-
11	(11)	95	CASUAL ENCOUNTER (16) A Balding 8-11	H Turner	64	ST
12	(8)	1	HOLYWELL BAY J Feilden 8-11	Dylan Hogan	-	-
13	(3)	1	SISTER SEAGULL C Dunnett 8-11	Laura Pearson	-	-

BETTING: 4-5 Rajeko, 3 Port Light, 10 Ravens King, English Lady, 16 Dojin, 20 Maximus Decimus, Casual Encounter, 25 Malay Massaman.

6.10 SKY BET MATCHDAY ASSIST HANDICAP (DIV 1) (6) 1m Winner £3,664 (12 run)

1	(1)	410226	KESSAAR POWER (14) P McEntee 4 9-9 (CD) (F)	L Morris	67	ST
2	(12)	70074	KITARO KICH (14) (B) G Baker 4 9-9 (SF)	H Crouch	64	ST
3	(6)	084	JAAIMIR (93) James Owen 3 9-8	D Keenan	58	G
4	(7)	104508	GLENCALVIE (78) A Wintle 4 9-7 (CD)	F Marsh	66	ST
5	(9)	176606	UNION ISLAND (14) C Johnston 3 9-7	H Turner	68	GF
6	(2)	5710	FLORIDIAN (77) Dr J Scargill 3 9-5	F Larson (3)	65	G
7	(10)	124-03	REEL POWER (43) (V) P Butler 5 9-4 (D)	R Clutterbuck	62	GF
8	(8)	537747	EDMUND IRONSIDE (14) M Attwater 4 9-1 (D)	P Bradley	65	GS
9	(11)	395480	MISS HARMONY (66) P Evans 5 9-0 (C) (EW)	S M Levey	69	G
10	(3)	4608	SUMMANUS (54) Jack Jones 3 8-13	C Fallon	57	ST
11	(5)	297687	TEA LEAF TED (45) D Davis 3 8-13	Jack Doughty (3)	55	ST
12	(4)	8-8809	DORS DELIGHT (35) (H) D Rees 3 8-13	K O'Neill	55	ST

BETTING: 7-2 Kitaro Kich, 4 Jaaimir, 5 Reel Power, 13-2 Kessaar Power, 15-2 Edmund Ironside, 18 Union Island, 14 Miss Harmony, 16 Glencalvie.

NEWSBOY'S DAILY DOUBLE

BILLYB (2.55 Southwell) and HAUT FOLIN (2.07 Ffos Las)

2.42 GWYN BRACE 86 STILL GALLOPING STRONG NOVICES' HURDLE (4) 2m 4f Winner £4,193 (9 run)

1	/37-18	BEN SOLO (40) R Curtis 5 11-9	B R Jones	111	S
2	7-161	HOLKEA (57) P & M Bowen 5 11-9	J Bowen	109	G
3	1-1	ROSSCAHILL (67) N Twiston-Davies 5 11-9 (C) (SF)	S Twiston-Davies	115	GS
4	2-4C	A MOMENTS MADNESS (31) W Greatrex 5 11-2 (EW)	Paul O'Brien	118	GS
5	38/6-P	ILILCO DU BREUIL (29) D Rees 6 11-2	C Ring	-	-
6	1-2	JAKAR DU MOULIN (31) P Nicholls 5 11-2 (F)	N De Boinville	114	GS
7	22-	KING OF THIEVES (263) E Williams 4 11-2	S Bowen	-	-
8		MOHAWK CHIEF (F592) P & M Bowen 4 11-2	S Fenelon (5)	-	-
9	415FP/	SAINT PALAIS (643) R Bandy 7 11-2	H Bannister	-	-

BETTING: 9-4 Rosscahill, 10-3 Jakar Du Moulin, 4 Saint Palais, 6 Holokea, 7 King Of Thieves, 12 A Moments Madness, 16 Ben Solo, 20 Mohawk Chief, 150 Illico Du Breuil.

3.17 ADEPT GRP CABINETS NOVICES' HANDICAP CHASE (4) 2m 5f 110yds Winner £4,700 (13 run)

1	/U32P-	HURRICANE HIGHWAY (300) E Williams 6 12-2 (BF, C)	S Bowen	127	S
2	2614-5	LEADER IN THE PARK (32) B Pauling 6 12-0	B R Jones	108	GS
3	/473P-	KARUMA GREY (251) (H) Mrs A Thorpe 6 11-13	S Fenelon (5)	118	SH
4	221-4	ART OF DIPLOMACY (227) P & M Bowen 8 11-11	J Bowen	-	-
5	423-25	JUST OVER LAND (27) S Thomas 5 11-11 (BF) (SF)	D Johnston (3)	125	G
6	421-U	NOT LONG LEFT (9) V Williams 7 11-9 (D)	N Fox (3)	-	-
7	3814-P	KNOWHENTHOLDSEM (50) N Mulholland 9 11-9	C O'Farrell	-	-
8	5272-1	SALADINS SON (26) A Honeyball 6 11-8 (F)	S Twiston-Davies	-	-
9	31/4-P	TANGO TARA (2) P Nicholls 8 11-7 (Doubtful)	DOUBTFUL	-	-
10	11127P	HOLD YOUR FORT (13) D Hamer 8 11-7	J Best	124	G
11	2221-3	STRATTON OAKMONT (39) K Woolacott 8 11-7 (EW)	C Pritchard (7)	-	-
12	2146F-	ROCK DANSE (300) F O'Brien 7 11-7	J Hogan (3)	-	-
13	P-1225	RAJAJAMATAZ (25) Dr R Newland & J Insole 6 10-12	C Hammond	123	GS

BETTING: 9-2 Leader In The Park, 5 Not Long Left, 6 Hurricane Highway, Saladins Son, Just Over Land, 8 Art Of Diplomacy, 12 Rock Dance, Rajajamaz.

3.50 MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM FFOS LAS RACECOURSE 'NEWCOMERS' NH FLAT RACE (5) 2m Winner £2,451 (8 run)

1		GILLESPIE P Nicholls 4 11-6 (SF)	N De Boinville	-	-
2		MY FORTUNE B Pauling 4 11-6 (F)	B R Jones	-	-
3		SADDLERS DREAM W G M Turner 4 11-6	B French-Davis (5)	-	-
4		THREE PIKES T R George 4 11-6	J Hogan (3)	-	-
5		TRADE WAR E Williams 4 11-6 (EW)	S Bowen	-	-
6		FREDDIEMISSMOLLI D Hamer 4 10-13	C Pritchard (7)	-	-
7		WASSAILING ALONG A Honeyball 4 10-13	S Twiston-Davies	-	-
8		SLEMISH L Horsfall 3 10-5	K Brogan	-	-

BETTING: 11-8 Gillespie, 7-2 My Fortune, 4 Wassailing Along, 7 Trade War, 8 Three Pikes, 33 Slemish, Saddlers Dream, Freddiemissmoli.

STAT OF THE DAY

Trainer David Rees and jockey Charlie Hammond have a 50 per cent strike rate when teaming up at Ffos Las – 2 wins from 4 runners for a level-stake profit of +£32.00pts. So look out for ESPERTI (2.07).

NEWSBOY

12.22	KISS MY FACE
12.57	FLINTARA
1.32	BLUE LAS
2.07	HAUT FOLIN (NB)
2.42	JAKAR DU MOULIN
3.17	ACT OF DIPLOMACY
3.50	MY FORTUNE

BOUVERIE

12.22	KISS MY FACE
12.57	FOLLOWWANGO
1.32	BLUE LAS
2.07	HAUT FOLIN
2.42	JAKAR DU MOULIN
3.17	LEADER IN THE PARK
3.50	MY FORTUNE

GOING: Soft-Good to Soft in places (Prec Inspection 7.30am).

COURSE: Left-handed course of 1m 4f, six hurdles and nine fences per circuit.

TOP TRAINERS: E Williams 40-390 (10.3%), P & M Bowen 31-224 (13.8%), D Pipe 23-119 (19.3%), B Pauling 17-57 (29.8%), R Curtis 13-113 (11.5%), N Twiston-Davies 12-64 (18.8%), A Honeyball 12-58 (20.7%), N Mulholland 11-100 (11.0%), V Williams 11-71 (15.5%), P Nicholls 11-32 (34.4%), F O'Brien 10-57 (17.2%), J Snowden 9-39 (23.1%).

TOP JOCKEYS: Sean Bowen 40-207 (19.3%), Ben Jones 18-139 (13.2%), Sam Twiston-Davies 15-101 (14.9%), James Bowen 15-112 (13.4%), Kieran Williams 14-109 (12.8%), Nico De Boinville 9-23 (39.1%), J A Anderson 4-10 (30.0%), Conor Ring 3-103 (2.9%), Ned Fox 3-10 (30.0%), Kevin Brogan 2-23 (12.5%), Benjamin Poste 2-57 (3.5%), Ellis Collier 2-16 (12.5%), James Best 2-45 (4.4%).

1ST TIME BLINKERS: 1.32 Dancing Dani.

CHEEKPICES: 12.22 Limerick Leader, Valens Bruyee, 2.07 Fashion's Model, Monbari, The Scorpion King, 2.42 Holokea, 3.17 Rajajamaz.

TONGUE STRAPS: 12.22 Awesome Foursome, Fame And Fun, Hostile Hotelier, Kepagge, Wot You Wearing, 12.57 Bridget Mary, Jalisco Star, 1.32 Dancing Dani, Kate Of The Lodge, 2.07 Pilgrims King,

CRICKET



DEADLY Rocky in action for Lancashire

FREDDIE BOY SET TO TAKE ON AUSSIES

ANDREW 'FREDDIE' FLINTOFF has called up son Rocky for England Lions' tour of Australia.

Flintoff Snr is coach of the team and the 16-year-old has been given the nod again after his late inclusion in the Lions squad during their training camp in South Africa earlier this month.

The all-rounder made his debut for Lancashire during the summer and has been a consistent performer for the England Young Lions.

The 16-player squad also includes five players – Shoaib Bashir, Pat Brown, Tom Hartley, Josh Tongue and John Turner – who have represented England at senior level.

Bashir will be part of the squad, having been England's frontline Test spinner this year under Brendon McCullum and Ben Stokes.

The Ashes is less than 12 months away with coach McCullum keen for the 21-year-old to get more experience Down Under with the Lions set to play two four-day matches against a Cricket Australia XI in Brisbane followed by a first-class Test against Australia A in Sydney.

"For Bash, the opportunity to be able to get some experience in those conditions could be really vital for us," McCullum said in October.

"With Freddie there as well now and in charge of the Lions, he's got a very similar view on the game to what I've got, so there'll be consistency of message and that's something that we've got to look at."

Tongue has not played a competitive game since August 2023, having sustained a pectoral injury.

■ **INDIA** off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin, 38, has retired from international cricket halfway through his side's tour of Australia after the third match in Brisbane ended in a rain-affected draw.



FLASHBACK Father & son back in 2013

SPORTS PERSONALITY QUEEN

Keely: Put athletics back on track



BY **DAVE CRAVEN**
@DCravenRL

KEELY HODGKINSON wants to fire athletics into football's stratosphere after launching her own indoor meeting for 2025.

The inaugural Keely Klassic will bring together some of Britain's world-class track and field talent at Utilita Arena Birmingham on Saturday, February 15.

Newly-crowned BBC Sports Personality of the Year Hodgkinson has already won an army of fans for her brilliant Olympic 800m gold in Paris (celebrating, above).

The Keely Klassic will culminate with the golden girl attempting to break Slovenia's Jolanda Ceplak's indoor world 800m record of 1.55.82 which was set on March 3, 2002 – the very day Hodgkinson was born.

She admitted: "I think track over the years has got a bit lost with all the football in this country and it's not a top, top sport."

"But we have such great people in it. We have seen with the Olympics that when it is put out there, they are really fun events."

"Some of my friends who had never been to a track

meet came to the Olympics and said it was an experience they will never forget.

"We can definitely give that to people more often with the calibre of athletes we have around the world."

"I am just excited to do that and I love to inspire people, whether it's to watch it, try it, get them off the couch for their mental health. It's a great opportunity for that."

"We are looking forward to putting something fun out there, creating a legacy

'We are looking forward to putting something fun out there'...

within ourselves." It is set to be a high-octane hour-long show including live music and targeting younger fans.

It will also be her first race since those Olympic heroics completed a remarkable unbeaten season.

On Tuesday night's SPOTY success, the 22-year-old said: "I started to read the names (on the trophy) and you realise it is history right in front of you: Bobby Moore, Mary Rand, Linford Christie, Steve Cram... it goes on forever so to have my name on there is really great."

"And you never know, someone in 30 years might be looking back and saying 'Oh, it's Keely Hodgkinson'."

Back training with 1500m track splits yesterday, she

paid tribute to her coach Trevor Painter who won SPOTY Coach of the Year with wife Jenny Meadows.

She said: "Trevor had a really nice comment the other day. Someone was talking to Man City and said, 'I didn't realise the Pep Guardiola of athletics was working next door'."

"That shows what he has done. The organisation is insane – that of a football Premier League team minus the cash – and I'm glad he's finally getting recognition."

Asked if she ever thinks about being next to one of the richest clubs in the world when undergoing that training, Hodgkinson instantly quipped: "No – because I support United!"

FAST TRACK TO GLORY

Hodgkinson with the Beeb prize and aiming to elevate her sport

PEET: GONG IS GREAT FOR WIGAN... AND OUR GAME

EXCLUSIVE BY **DAVE CRAVEN**

WIGAN boss Matt Peet says rugby league is finally getting the recognition it deserves after years of "frustration".

Warriors were crowned Team of the Year at the BBC Sports Personality of the Year awards.

It is the first time since St Helens in 2006 that a rugby league side has claimed the award and only the third time in its 64-year history.

Often, the sport even hardly gets a look-in at the Beeb's glitzy event. But after

a remarkable quadruple-winning campaign (Peet with the Super League trophy, right), Wigan enjoyed centre stage on Tuesday night,



celebrity chef Michel Roux Jr's VT detailing the ingredients that went into the mix for their glorious season.

Peet, who was also shortlisted for Coach of the Year, said: "That's the main point of satisfaction for me."

"I've watched this programme for many a year, waiting for the rugby league segment."

"And other than the odd year it's been a passing mention and you can feel frustrated as a rugby league fan and rugby league person."

But our achievements have hopefully got a few more eyes on it, got us a bit more air-time tonight and might get us more space in the papers which is all good for the game."

Peet was joined by Wigan stars Liam Farrell, Liam Marshall and Harry Smith for the star-studded evening in Salford (left).

The Warriors boss added: "It's been a good year for Super League and international rugby league. Now we've got to kick on."



BOXING

OLEKSANDR USYK v TYSON FURY
RIYADH, SATURDAY

BY CHRIS MCKENNA

TYSON FURY would have struggled to break a sweat on an unusually cold Saudi Arabian night – but he didn't try to as he promised "pain" for Oleksandr Usyk on Saturday.

The Gypsy King, 36, gave no clues away in his open workout in Riyadh – as he didn't throw a single punch in the ring (right).

Most fighters just did some shadow boxing before exiting stage left. Oleksandr Usyk (above) added a bit of dancing to his routine, at least.

British heavyweight Fury – out to avenge his only defeat against the Ukrainian – rocked up at the Boulevard World theme park on the outskirts of the Saudi capital and kept everything under wraps.

He kept repeating the same phrases of "pain", "a lot of damage" and "serious damage" in an awkward chat with the DAZN host.

SECONDS OUT...
AND DAD'S OUT

Tyson trainer confirms John will not be in corner

EXCLUSIVE
FROM CHRIS MCKENNA
in Riyadh
@cmckennasport

THE debate after the first fight centred around the corner.

Did John Fury have too much influence? Why was the father of Tyson Fury even in there with trainer SugarHill Steward and Andy Lee?

There have been no sightings this week of John. Yet.

And Steward appeared to confirm dad John did not have a role in the corner this time around.

"Tyson Fury is just ready right now, along with myself," he said last night.

"He has always had a silly demeanour, and playing around but this is a different side of him. He is 100 per cent ready." Pushed on who would be

in the corner, he added: "Just myself, Andy Lee and the cutman. Pretty much that's it."

Last time at this stage of fight week John Fury had already spilled his own blood by headbutting a member of Oleksandr Usyk's team. Drama often follows him.

But Tyson, 36, is unperturbed and those around him didn't see the fuss after he lost his unbeaten record in

the undisputed heavyweight showdown with Usyk back in May.

"John is a father looking after his son," said Lee (below, left), the former world middleweight champion and cousin of Fury. "I don't think anything John said was wrong. He was saying the right things."

"Sugar (below, right) says after round 11, you don't have to throw them hard, just throw them light and John was saying or reiterating the same thing. I was told, unequivocally, that he was two rounds down, and he needs the last two rounds. I knew that so I'm not going to not say that."

Lee – a veteran of 39 professional fights – has been around boxing too long to be concerned about what's said. "I don't care about the criticism anyways," he said.



FIGHTING'S IN THE BLOOD
John Fury last time out after a difference of opinion with someone in Usyk's camp

SUSPENDED McCANN SWEATING ON SAMPLE TEST

BY CHRIS MCKENNA

DENNIS McCANN has been suspended by the British Boxing Board of Control pending a doping inquiry after more than one banned substance was found.

The British, Commonwealth and European super-bantamweight (right) is facing a

fight to clear his name after he provided an adverse finding in a VADA test before his clash with Peter McGrail this weekend.

McCann, 23, is alleging that the test was interfered with and is waiting for the B-sample to be tested while McGrail has found a new opponent in Rhys Edwards.

"It's an adverse finding in his urine sample," said his promoter Frank Warren.

"The blood sample (result) that I was sent was tested as negative, but he's got to have his B-Sample tested."

"He swears to me that he has not taken any of this stuff. He

took some serious oaths about it. I've known him for five years, we've invested in him for five years.

"He's alleging that someone has interfered with it. The B-sample will prove that or not. We will find out from that."



FORMULA ONE



Red Bull get shot of Checo

BY DANIEL MOXON

SERGIO PEREZ will not partner Max Verstappen next season after being axed by Red Bull.

The Mexican racer signed a contract until 2025 with the team earlier this year.

But his wretched form has forced Red Bull's hand.

In a statement the Milton-Keynes-based team said: "After four incredible seasons together, Oracle Red Bull Racing and Sergio Perez have reached an agreement to part ways."

"During this time Checo played a crucial role in securing multiple Grand Prix wins, countless podium finishes, and two constructors' world championships."

It is anticipated that Perez, 34, – nicknamed Checo – will land an ambassadorial role with the outfit.

He said: "I'm incredibly grateful for the past four years with Red Bull Racing and for the opportunity to race with such an amazing team. Driving for Red Bull has been an unforgettable experience."

RUGBY UNION

Dom Quin it to win it

ENGLAND back-row Alex Dombrandt has joined Marcus Smith in signing a new deal with Harlequins.

Dombrandt has made 144 appearances for Quins and scored 76 tries since arriving in south west London in 2018 and is captain.

"This is a club that I love and I think we're going places with the players we have in the squad and group of coaching staff," said the 27-year-old.

"It's an honour to be captain of a club I hold so close to my heart."

"That being said, we have a number of leaders in the group who support me and I can lean on as we work towards our goal of winning more trophies."





CHELSEA V SHAMROCK ROVERS



EURO CONF LGE
STAMFORD BRIDGE, 8PM



'Mudryk's put Blues on alert'

BY PAUL BROWN

TOSIN ADARABIOYO says Chelsea players are taking precautions not to end up in the same situation as Mykhailo Mudryk.

The Ukraine winger has been provisionally banned from football over a failed drugs test.

And team-mate Tosin (top) says his colleagues are being ultra-careful not to suffer the same fate.

He said: "There are precautions you have to take, it does happen.

"Personally, I just take stuff that the club has given me. I take supplements that the club gives me."

The Blues defender insists Mudryk's shock ban will not act as a distraction at Stamford Bridge.

Chelsea, bidding to go all the way in the Conference League, face Shamrock Rovers this evening.

And while boss Enzo Maresca (above) is playing down a title tilt, they are chasing Liverpool in the Premier League.

Adarabioyo said: "Misha (Mudryk) is part of our family and we're all here to support him. It's something that can happen, but you have to be careful and we are all taking precautions. "It is a very unfortunate situation, but we are all professionals.

"We know that once we get on that pitch, we have business to do and that is our main focus.

"It would be great to win a European trophy."

SHAMROCK 'N' ROLL FOOTBALL

25 years after his two goals, McPhail faces Chelsea again ...this time from the touchline



SPECIAL TIMES

McPhail after finding the net against Chelsea 25 years ago

EXCLUSIVE
BY CHRIS MCKENNA
@cmckennasport



IT is 25 years to the day that Stephen McPhail scored a brace against Chelsea at Stamford Bridge.

Fast forward to tonight and the then Leeds midfielder will be with his current club Shamrock Rovers in his role as sporting director.

"Most of them weren't born so no point speaking about it," McPhail (below) said when asked if he reminded Rovers players about his moment.

"I was lucky to score a couple of goals there. My first two for Leeds. They were special times back then. It is always a place I will remember."

McPhail had a fine career at the top level as after Leeds he went to Barnsley, Cardiff and

Sheffield Wednesday before wrapping up his playing days at the Dublin club which visits Stamford Bridge tonight.

This may be just another European night for Chelsea but it is another special moment for Rovers.

They've had big nights in Europe before but they arrive in London with history created as the first Irish team to progress to the knockout rounds since the introduction of group stages.

Tonight is somewhat of a free hit. "The way it has fallen, it's the last game of this stage," said McPhail. "It

is a brilliant achievement to be unbeaten coming over to London and compete against one of the biggest clubs in the world and bang in form. It is great for everyone that put in the hard work over the years.

"Now it is about enjoying it and seeing where it takes us."

The financial windfall for Rovers is significant. While some in England – not West

'No point telling my players about it – most of them weren't born'

Ham fans of course – scoff at this competition sometimes, it is crucial for leagues like the League of Ireland.

"This is historic for anyone from our country to do and that can only benefit the whole country's football in general," said McPhail.

"For Rovers this is another stepping stone of building, keep trying to knock the barriers down in front of us.

"The third tier of the competition gives the likes of Irish teams the chance to compete with teams like Chelsea. It has been an amazing experience. It has been so beneficial." It was

in 2002 when the League of Ireland switched from the more established winter league to being played from March through to November.

One reason was to ease fixture congestion with games called off due to weather but another was to help Irish teams progress in European competition as they would be more prepared for qualifiers if they were mid-season.

It has helped with Rovers and Dundalk both competing in the Europa League group stages in recent years while attendances have also been boosted.

MYKHAILO HAS CLUB'S TRUST

FROM BACK PAGE

ground – we support and trust him. We were all surprised. At the same time sad because we don't like these kind of things."

Mudryk, who signed from Shakhtar Donetsk in a deal worth up to £89million in

2023, said: "This has come as a complete shock as I have never knowingly used any banned substances or broken any rules, and am working closely with my team to investigate how this could have happened.

"I know that I have not done anything wrong and remain hopeful

that I will be back on the pitch soon."

Mudryk would probably have started tonight but he cannot even train with the Blues until his case is heard.

Maresca is likely to give youngsters a chance, including defender Josh Acheampong, 18, who yesterday signed a new contract until 2029.

BARCA ROLE FOR THIAGO

BY DARREN WELLS

FORMER Liverpool midfielder Thiago Alcantara is close to rejoining Barcelona as a first-team coach.

The 33-year-old (right) retired from playing in June at the end of his Anfield contract.

He returned to Barcelona in the summer and worked alongside head coach Hansi Flick on the club's pre-season tour of the United States. Flick is understood to have been

impressed with his contribution during his month-long spell and talks are ongoing regarding a new role as part of Barca's backroom team.

It is thought Thiago – who also played for Bayern Munich – could begin working at Barcelona again from next month.

As a player, Thiago spent four years at Barcelona from 2009-2013, winning four La Liga titles and the Champions League.



NUNO: NO SUMMER BREEZE

BY BRENDAN McLOUGHLIN
NUNO ESPIRITO SANTO admits turning around Nottingham Forest's fortunes needed a summer like no other.

The Reds head into Saturday's trip to Brentford in the heady heights of fourth – a major transformation

after they narrowly avoided the drop in both of their first two seasons back in the top flight.

But Nuno (below), who celebrates a year in charge tomorrow, said: "My summer was a lot more busy than normal. "Not just for me, but for the

recruitment and coaching departments – and we did it well. The main difference was we retained a large percentage of our squad. That makes a big difference.

"People can value who comes in but the real difference was the continuation of the core of the squad. The same routines. You can grow and improve."





ARSENAL 3 CRYSTAL PALACE 2

Gabriel Jesus 54, 73, 81

Mateta 4, Nketiah 85

CARABAO CUP Q/F
EMIRATES STADIUM

BORN-AGAIN JESUS

Brazil striker ends his goal drought with second-half hat-trick



ARSENAL	C PALACE
70% POSSESSION	30%
9 SHOTS ON TARGET	4
3 SHOTS OFF TARGET	2
4 CORNERS	2
4 OFFSIDE	1
7 FOULS	12
0 CARDS	1

RATINGS BY NEIL McLEMAN

ARSENAL

Raya 6, Partey 4 (Saliba, 46, 5), Timber 6, Kiwior 4 (Gabriel Magalhaes, 87), Tierney 6 (Lewis-Skelly, 69, 5), Jorginho 5, Merino 5, Nwaneri 5 (Odegaard, 46, 5), Sterling 4 (Saka, 69, 6), Jesus 7, Trossard 6

CRYSTAL PALACE

Henderson 7, Chalobah 6, Lacroix 7, Guehi 6, Kporha 5 (Clyne, 46, 5), Lerma 6, Hughes 7 (Devenny, 80), Mitchell 5 (Schlupp, 87), Eze 7 (Kamada, 59, 5), Sarr 6, Mateta 6 (Nketiah, 59, 5)

REFEREE: Andy Madley

MOTM: GABRIEL JESUS

3-1
Jesus completes his treble to put the Gunners into the last four

BY NEIL McLEMAN

@NeilMcLeman

GABRIEL JESUS was reborn at Christmas last night as he netted a second-half hat-trick to fire Arsenal into the Carabao Cup semi-finals.

The Brazilian striker has struggled for form and fitness this season and has not scored a Premier League goal since January.

And his Arsenal side, featuring eight changes, started sluggishly and trailed at half-time to an early Jean-Philippe Mateta strike.

But after the introduction of Martin Odegaard and then Bukayo Saka off the bench, the £45million striker showed his old form with three clinical finishes to settle this tie.

Jesus has scored only one goal this season – in this competition against Preston in October – but he could now be

invaluable for the second half of the campaign as they compete in four competitions. He scored Arsenal's first goals from open play in four domestic matches.

And not even a late header from former Gunner Eddie Nketiah could stop Mikel Arteta celebrating his fifth anniversary of taking over at the Emirates by reaching the last four.

Arsenal had not conceded in their last four home games but that run ended in only the fourth minute. Jakub Kiwior missed Dean Henderson's long

punt and then could not stop Mateta bullocking into the box before sliding home a left-foot shot.

And led by the Olympic silver medallist, the Palace front three offered more of a threat than the tame Gunners attack during the first period.

Arteta sent on Odegaard and William Saliba at half-time and the tempo of the tie – and the atmosphere in the Emirates – immediately changed.

A cross from Kieran Tierney, making his first Arsenal appearance since the 2023 Community Shield, saw the

unmarked Raheem Sterling's first scuffed shot saved by Henderson before he scooped the rebound against the bar.

But the equaliser came on 54 minutes – and from open play.

A slick pass from Odegaard found Jesus and the former Manchester City forward skipped around Trevoh Chalobah before chipping Henderson for only his second goal of the season.

The Palace keeper made another block from the Brazilian just before Oliver Glasner sent on Nketiah and Daichi Kamada to give his side much-

needed energy. But it was another Arsenal sub who provided the pass for the crucial next goal which stood with no VAR in the Carabao Cup.

Saka came on after 69 minutes and four minutes later his neat pass released Jesus, who looked just offside, to lash home his second.

There was no doubt about his third as he ran onto another Odegaard ball from his own half.

Nketiah headed home a cross from fellow sub Nathaniel Clyne after 85 minutes for only his second goal for Palace.



ARTETA JOY AT GIFT OF THE GAB

BY NEIL McLEMAN

MIKEL ARTETA claimed Gabriel Jesus can be a "big asset" for the rest of the season after the Brazilian's first Arsenal hat-trick.

The former Manchester City striker scored his first

home goals in a year as he led a second-half Carabao Cup comeback.

Gunners boss Arteta (left) said: "It's been a long period without goals and today, to score three, he looked very sharp. He

brings something. Gabi, at that level, is a big asset.

"Now we need to give him more games and chances because, when a player is in that moment, it's important to continue."

However, Jesus' second

goal would have been ruled out by VAR for offside in the Premier League.

Palace boss Oliver Glasner said: "They had too many chances in the second half. When they found the gaps, we shifted too slow."

RESULTS & FIXTURES

Carabao Cup Qtr-finals

ARSENAL (0)..... 3 CRYSTAL PAL (1)..... 2

G Jesus 54, 73, 81 Mateta 4 Nketiah 85

NEWCASTLE (2)..... 3 BRENTFORD (0)..... 1

Tonali 9, 43 Wissa 90

Schar 69 Att: 51,765

SOUTHMPTN (0)..... 1 LIVERPOOL (2)..... 2

Archer 59 Nunez 24

Att: 26,503 Elliott 32

Women's Champions Lge Group C

ARSENAL (1)..... 3 BYN MUNICH (1)..... 2

Viggosdottir 7 (og) Eriksson 39, 58

Russo 59

Caldentey 86 (pen)

JUVENTUS (1)..... 3 VALERENGA (0)..... 0

P W D L F A Pts

Arsenal..... 6 5 0 1 17 9 15

Bayern Munich..... 6 4 1 1 17 6 13

Juventus..... 6 2 0 4 4 11 6

Valerenga..... 6 0 1 5 3 15 1

Group D

BARCELONA (1)..... 3 MAN CITY (0)..... 0

Pina 44

Bonmati 57

Putellas 69

ST POLTEN (0)..... 1 HAMMARBY (2)..... 2

P W D L F A Pts

Barcelona..... 6 5 0 1 26 3 15

Man City..... 6 5 0 1 11 6 15

Hammarby..... 6 2 0 4 5 17 6

St Polten..... 6 0 0 6 4 20 0

FIFA Intercontinental Cup Final

REAL MADRID (1)..... 3 PACHUCA (0)..... 0

Mbappe 37

Rodrygo 53

Vinicius Junior 84

BASKETBALL

SUPER LEAGUE: London Lions 80

Sheffield Sharks 77.

CRICKET

3RD TEST MATCH—Australia v India

(Brisbane): Australia 445

(117.1 overs; T M Head 152, S P D

Smith 101, A T Carey 70; J J Bumrah

6-76) and 89-7dec. (18.0

overs). India 260 (78.5 overs; P J

Cummins 4-81) and 8-0 (2.1

overs). Australia drew with India.

2ND T20 INT'LAL—West Indies v

Bangladesh (Kingstown): Bangla-

desh 129-7 (20.0 overs); West In-

dies 102-10 (18.3 overs; T Ahmed

3-16). Bangladesh win by 27 runs.

DARTS

PDC WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

(Alexandra Palace, London)—1st

rd: P Nebrida (Phi) bt J Williams

(Wal) 3-2; M Razma (Lat) bt C Kist

(Ned) 3-1.

ICE HOCKEY

ELITE LEAGUE: Belfast Giants 4

Coventry Blaze 1.

SNOOKER

RIYADH SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP

(Saudi Arabia)—1st rd: J Ding

(Chn) bt A Sayegh (Sau) 4-0; A

Zhang (Chn) bt A Aseeri (Sau) 4-0.

2nd rd: Ding bt Murphy 4-0.

TENNIS

ATP NEXT GEN ATP FINALS

(Jeddah, Saudi Arabia)—Group A:

L Tien (USA) bt J Mensik (Cze) 4-3

(8-6) 4-3 (7-3) 2-4 2-4 4-3 (10-8); J

Fonseca (Bra) bt A Fils (Fra) 3-4

(9-11) 4-2 4-1 1-4 4-1. Group B: L

Van Assche (Fra) bt J Shang (Chn)

4-3 (7-3) 2-4 4-1 4-3 (7-5); A

Michelsen (USA) bt N Basavareddy

(USA) 2-4 4-3 (7-5) 4-3 (7-4) 4-2.

TODAY'S DIARY

(8pm unless stated)

Carabao Cup Quarter-final

Tottenham v Man Utd.....

(Live on Sky Sports Main Event)

UEFA Europa Conference

League - League Stage

Chelsea v Shamrock Rovers.....

(Live on TNT Sports 1)

CM Celje v The New Saints FC.....

(Live on TNT Sports 4)

Hearts v Petrocub.....

(Live on TNT Sports 2)

Larne v Gent.....

(Live on TNT Sports 3)

Apollon FC v Astana.....

Backa Topola v Noah.....

Borac v Omonia Nicosia.....

Cercle Brugge v Istanbul Basaksehir.....

Djurgarden v Legia Warsaw.....

Guimaraes v Fiorentina.....

Heidenheim v St Gallen.....

Jag Bialystock v Olimpija Ljubljana.....

LASK v Vikingur Reykjavik.....

Lugano v AE Pafos.....

Molde v Mlada Boleslav.....

Panathinaikos v Dinamo Minsk.....

Rapid Vienna v Copenhagen.....

Real Betis v HJK.....

CRICKET

2nd ODI: South Africa v Pakistan

(Cape Town, Midnight), Zimbabwe v

Afghanistan (Harare, 7.30am).

DARTS

PDC World Championship

(Alexandra Palace, London).

GOLF

DP World Tour Mauritius Open

(Mont Choisy Le Golf, Grand Baie).

SNOOKER

Riyadh Season Championship

(Saudi Arabia).

TENNIS

ATP Next Gen ATP Finals

(Jeddah, Saudi Arabia).



'WEMBLEY WOULD DO TON OF GOOD'

BY SIMON BIRD

EDDIE HOWE admits he is eyeing an "incredible" second Wembley trip with Newcastle after Sandro Tonali's heroics.

Tonali has waited 17 months to set the Toon alight - and his double strike sent the Geordies into the last four of the Carabao Cup.

The ex-Milan midfielder endured a ten-month betting ban last season, and a slow start to his career on Tyneside as the club worked out how to unlock his strengths.

But now the Italian international is looking like the main man, anchoring the midfield and rediscovering his goalscoring touch.

Newcastle brushed aside a meek challenge from a depleted Brentford, whose miserable away form is a brake on their ambitions.

The Magpies had 51,765 fans in to see Howe's side reach their second semi-final in three years, with the games taking place on January 8 and February 5.

Howe said: "You see the teams left in and it will be a tough game in the semi final. We will do our best to get through to a second final. It would be incredible."

The only bad news for the victors was Bruno Guimaraes and Fabian Schar picking up yellow cards and being suspended for the first leg.

But Tonali is looking confident, sharp and powerful after being nursed back into the team by his head coach.

Howe added: "Sandro's is an unbelievable strike and the second one is difficult to do. We are delighted to get through."

"He has looked more comfortable deeper, and has less responsibility to score."

"But he can score from distance and hits the ball cleaner than anyone. It is brilliant

to see Sandro, a big signing, doing well. You want them to settle quickly. Nights like this build the connection with the supporters."

Howe is adamant he doesn't want to lose any of his stars in January with Bruno Guimaraes linked to Manchester City.

He said: "I would love to keep the squad together. Losing any players would be very difficult for me. Losing players is not in my thoughts."

Tonali had not scored since his debut for Newcastle on the first day of last season but saved a beauty for a huge game.

He drilled a sweetly struck volley through the defensive bodies past Mark Flekken.

For his second, winger Anthony Gordon swung in a corner with Newcastle's big man Joelinton blocking in key areas, leaving space for Tonali to arrive late 14 yards out to jump and side foot home a clever finish.

Schar (celebrating with Tonali, top) added a third and ended the game as a contest after 69 minutes, tapping home a Guimaraes cross.

Brentford striker Yoane Wissa (circle) netted an injury time consolation.

Bees boss Thomas Frank said: "We met a better team than us. We lost fair and square."

"Newcastle can win it. I said to Eddie, I hope they can win it! We need a change. It would mean more to the Newcastle fans than the rest."

RATINGS

BY SIMON BIRD

NEWCASTLE

Dubravka 7, Livramento **BOOKED** 7, Schar **BOOKED** 7, Burn 7, Hall 7, Guimaraes **BOOKED** 7, Tonali 8, Joelinton 7, Murphy 7, Isak 6, Gordon 7
SUBS: Willock (Joelinton 45) 6, Barnes (Murphy 65) 6, Trippier (Hall 77), Almiron (Gordon 77), Osula (Isak 77)

BRENTFORD

Flekken 5, Collins **BOOKED** 4, Pinnock 4, Mee 5, Ajer 5, Yarmoliuk 4, Janelt 4, Lewis-Potter 4, Carvalho 4, Schade 4, Wissa 7
SUBS: Roerslev (Pinnock 14) 4, Mbeumo (Carvalho 61) 4, Damsgaard (Janelt 62) 4, Meghoma (Lewis-Potter 74), Maghoma (Schade 74)

REF: Samuel Barrott ATT: 51,765

MOTM: SANDRO TONALI



SOUTHAMPTON 1

Archer 59

LIVERPOOL 2

Nunez 24, Elliott 32

NO HARV

Nunez finds his touch before Elliott makes Saints



RATINGS

BY ALAN SMITH

SOUTHAMPTON

McCarthy 6, Wood 6, Harwood-Bellis 6, Bednarek 5, Bree 5, Downes **BOOKED** 5, Aribio 6, Manning 5, Dibling 6, Archer 7, Fernandes 5
SUBS: Sugawara (Bree 61) 5, Sulemana (Downes 73), Onuachu (Archer 73), Brereton **BOOKED** (Bednarek 84), Lallana (Aribio 84)

LIVERPOOL

Kelleher 6, Alexander-Arnold 6, Quansah 6, Endo 6, Gomez 6, Morton 6, Mac Allister 6, Nyoni 7, Elliott **BOOKED** 7, Nunez 7, Gakpo 7
SUBS: Chiesa (Alexander-Arnold 46) 6, Tsimikas (Gomez 46) 6, Jota (Gakpo 63) 5, McConnell **BOOKED** (Mac Allister 63) 5, Danns (Nyoni 86)
REF: Simon Hooper ATT: 26,503

MOTM: HARVEY ELLIOTT

BY ALAN SMITH

DARWIN NUNEZ discovered his finishing touch to set Liverpool on their way to the last four of the Carabao Cup and inflict another layer of misery on an improved Southampton.

The Uruguay striker had arrived on the south coast with just a single goal from his previous 11 appearances.

But his calm finish, swiftly followed by a first of the season from Harvey Elliott, looked to have teed up a straightforward evening for Arne Slot's Premier League leaders.

However, the division's bottom

side put up a creditable second-half response and forward Cameron Archer halved the deficit with an impressive finish before a series of good chances to level went amiss.

Saints interim boss Simon Rusk appears neither here for a good time nor a long time, with Southampton pursuing a number of options to replace Russell Martin.

He was sacked after Sunday's 5-0 thrashing dished out by Tottenham.

But Rusk still maintained most of the personnel from that shocker.

And early attempts to ease

defensive pressure by simply getting rid of the ball were greeted with cheers from the home fans.

By comparison, Kop boss Slot - watching from the back of the



press box because of a touchline ban - kept only three of his side from Saturday's draw against Fulham and he had left captain Virgil van Dijk and striker Mohamed Salah at home.

It was still a strong side - skippered on this occasion by Trent Alexander-Arnold - but a first start for midfielder Trey Nyoni was what caught most attention.

And the 17-year-old wasted no time in linking up nicely with striker Cody Gakpo on the left of the visitors' midfield.

Liverpool dominated from the outset, though an initial sighter for Nunez ended with a

CARABAO CUP
QUARTER-FINALS

MEASURES!

suffer with the winner despite a few late scares



ARNE: ELL OF A SHOW

FROM BACK PAGE
to concede because we got a bit sloppy and lost one or two easy balls. They came back into the game."

Slot decided to keep Virgil van Dijk and Mohamed Salah at home and handed a first start to 17-year-old Trey Nyoni.

Fellow academy graduate Tyler Morton joined Nyoni in midfield, while Jayden Danns and James McConnell came off the bench.

But Liverpool's fringe players held on to make it 20 games unbeaten in all competitions.

And Slot (above) said of his young guns: "This club is known for this."

"These players train with us on a daily basis and it is nice to see they showed they can play at this level. Now the next

step is to be capable of playing (regularly) for Liverpool.

"We have to defend the trophy. I wasn't involved last season but the players were. We want to compete in every competition."

Interim Southampton manager Simon Rusk remains unsure whether he will be in charge for Sunday's visit to Fulham.

But he hailed the Saints players for their response to last weekend's 5-0 loss to Spurs that spelled the end for Russell Martin.

"Our priority going into the game was to be hard to beat, given the nature of Sunday," Rusk said. "I'm sure one or two of them

were disappointed but we have a responsibility to try to win the next game."



0-2
Elliott fires home to put the visitors firmly on the way to the semi-finals

wind-assisted shot flying high and wide after 15 minutes. Southampton were then allowed to break three-on-two – only for Mateus Fernandes to pass too casually to Tyler Dibling, who eventually was pressured into a tame shot at Liverpool keeper Caoimhin Kelleher.

And not long after that rare foray forward, Nunez (left) made his mark following yet another defensive error. Alexander-Arnold had advanced into midfield and dispatched a left-footed pass near the centre circle.

Bednarek attempted to clear it, only to slice the ball into the path of Nunez and he strolled forward

before sidefooting home under minimal pressure. Liverpool then asserted even greater control once in front. And Elliott, making his first start of the season because of injury, threatened to make it another awful evening for the home side with a second goal.

Gakpo was the architect, exchanging a series of passes with Japan defensive midfielder Wataru Endo on his way in from the left.

And when the ball was worked to Elliott, his low drive took a

deflection off Republic of Ireland defender Ryan Manning to leave Saints keeper Alex McCarthy with no chance. Kop midfielder Alexis Mac Allister was then denied a third by McCarthy.

And Liverpool boss Slot felt so comfortable with his side's advantage that he introduced Italy left-winger Federico Chiesa and defender Kostas Tsimikas at the interval. However, there were soon signs of a Saints fightback as Archer sized up Tyler Morton and Jarell Quansah before drilling

confidently past Kelleher nearing the hour. That strike helped Southampton discover a new lease of life and Kelleher reacted well to a first-time Archer effort following Japan right-back Yukinari Sugawara's cross, while Quansah got in the way of a Fernandes shot.

Substitute Paul Onuachu slipped when dealt a late opportunity and Ben Brereton Diaz directed an unmarked header straight at Kelleher.

Quansah was also fortunate not to be penalised, in added time, after appearing to drag Fernandes to the ground when he was the last man to beat.

SOUTHAMPTON		LIVERPOOL	
MATCH STATS			
31%	POSSESSION	69%	
4	SHOTS ON TARGET	4	
0	SHOTS OFF TARGET	5	
3	CORNERS	7	
4	OFFSIDE	1	
10	FOULS	10	
0	CARDS	2	0





NEW VENUE WILL ADD A VILLA SPARK

BY **BRENDAN McLOUGHLIN**

ASTON VILLA have announced plans for a multi-use venue at Villa Park to boost their attempts at "climbing the Financial Fair Play mountain".

The regeneration project for the North Grounds area of their stadium includes a centrepiece called 'The Warehouse,' which will feature the Premier League's biggest bar.

Villa intend for work on the 3,500-seater venue, which will also host live music and other sporting events, to be completed by Christmas 2025.

Despite qualifying for this season's Champions League, Villa still had to sell prized-asset Douglas Luiz to meet FFP rules.

President of business operations Chris Heck said: "The decision to utilise this space as a world-class entertainment venue adds another pivotal piece to climbing the Financial Fair Play mountain."

REAL CROWNED BEST IN WORLD YET AGAIN

REAL MADRID became world club champions for a sixth time after claiming the Intercontinental Cup in a 3-0 win over Mexican side Pachuca.

Kylian Mbappe shook off injury concerns to fire the Champions League holders ahead on 37 minutes in a comfortable win in what was previously the Club World Cup.

Mbappe (right) made no mistake from Vinicius Junior's cut-back to score in the same Lusail Stadium where he netted a hat-trick for France in the 2022 Qatar World Cup final.

Rodrygo added a spectacular second on 53 minutes and Vinicius Jr scored a late penalty - after Lucas Vazquez was tripped in the box - to secure a 15th trophy for Real boss Carlo Ancelotti.

Pachuca had defeated Copa Libertadores champions Botafogo 3-0 and edged past Egyptian side Al Ahly on penalties to reach the final.



MUNICH KEPT AT BAY BY TOP GUNNERS

ARSENAL bagged a late winner to snatch top spot in their Champions League group but could be handed a draw with Manchester City in the quarter-finals.

Mariona Caldentey (celebrating with Alessia Russo, above) struck an 86th-minute penalty for Arsenal against Bayern Munich in a 3-2 victory to leapfrog the German giants and progress as group winners.

The Gunners had led through an own goal but were pegged back by Magdalena Eriksson's brace before Russo levelled and Caldentey's late spot-kick decided the tie.

Holders Barcelona are also seeded for the draw on February 7 after cruising to a comfortable 3-0 win over City, who could face Arsenal or Chelsea in the last eight. Barca's goals were scored by Claudia Pina, Aitana Bonmati and Alexia Putellas.



TOTTENHAM v MAN UNITED

AMORIM'S QUESTION MARCS

Risk having his authority undermined if Rashford stays... or sell him now, losing millions in revenue, and possibly having to subsidise his £325k wages?

BY **DAVID ANDERSON**
X @MirrorAnderson



JUST six weeks into his Manchester United reign and Ruben Amorim has a Marcus Rashford-sized problem to deal with.

Amorim has barely had time to get used to the grey North West weather after sunny Lisbon and is already faced with his first big test.

He managed to smile throughout his 14-minute press conference yesterday morning, when virtually every question was about Rashford saying he was "ready for a new challenge", after being axed for Sunday's Manchester derby.

But the Portuguese was like a swan and, while he appeared serene, beneath the surface he was trying to decide how to pick his way

through this minefield. Amorim admitted as much when he said he could already see the headlines if he publicly chastised Rashford for his interview.

Yet he knows his authority is on the line and he will be undermined if he is seen to let Rashford off lightly.

"It's a hard situation to comment on," said the United boss.

"If I give a lot of importance to it, it will have big headlines in the papers and if I say it's not a problem, then my standards are getting low. So I will deal with that, I understand that."

"My focus is to not take the attention away from the game and the team, and

what we did in the last game. What I'm saying is that the team is more important than the individual. We will assess it at the right time, that's all."

Amorim was not asked a single question about facing Tottenham tonight in the Carabao Cup or even the late derby win over City.

Instead it was all about Rashford and the decision to chuck his boss a hand grenade with the pin pulled out.

Amorim claims he wants Rashford to stay and tried to downplay his comments, claiming everyone faces a new challenge at United because he has just arrived.

But the striker has taken

a flamethrower to their fledgling relationship and it is hard to see a way back.

The obvious thing would be to offload Rashford in the January transfer window, but despite United slashing their asking price to £40million, it remains to be seen who will want a player on £325,000 a week.

Although Rashford is in his peak years at 27, he has managed just 15 club goals in 67 appearances over the last 18 months, losing him his England place.

His disciplinary record is not good and United fined him two weeks' wages for missing training after going on a massive bender in Belfast in January.

Reds legend Gary Neville called him "unprofessional" for attending a New York Knicks NBA game during

the last international break when Amorim had just taken over.

Rashford still has three-and-a-half-years left on his contract, which he signed in July 2023 when Paris Saint-Germain wanted him.

He has no obvious suitors and PSG are no longer keen, while Rashford does not want to go to Saudi Arabia, despite Al-Ittihad's interest.

He is a crowd favourite at Old Trafford, or at least was, and is a stalwart with this being his 10th season in the first team.

Getting rid of him would cost United tens of millions in lost transfer revenue, plus they may have to subsidise his wages. But keeping him would take a wrecking ball to Amorim's authority.

Good luck sorting all that out.



CARABAO CUP, QUARTER-FINAL
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR STADIUM, KICK-OFF 8PM

RASH GETS BASHED BY YORKE

BY DAVID ANDERSON

DWIGHT YORKE claims Marcus Rashford's decline at Manchester United has been "startling" and that his form has been "non-existent".

And Treble-winner Yorke is speaking from bitter personal experience because he fell foul of Sir Alex Ferguson and barely played in his final season at Old Trafford before being offloaded to Blackburn in 2002.

Ruben Amorim axed Rashford from his squad for the Manchester derby and Yorke (right) says the striker has committed the cardinal sin of "taking his eye off the ball".

Speaking to sportsLens.com, Yorke said: "His decline has been startling."

"In terms of a level of consistency that he's brought to the table, it's been non-existent."

"Rashford's plight is a stark reminder for footballers of how the game works."

"If you take your eye off the ball, and I've been a victim of that and have my own experience there, but if you're taking your eye off the ball, things can quickly come around to bite you."

Rashford has signalled he wants out of the club, claiming he is "ready for a new challenge", and Trinidad and Tobago boss Yorke claims it is "sad" to see when he should be at his peak. He added: "Rashford should have been enjoying the most fruitful time in his career."

"Here we are talking about someone who's done it all, come through the ranks at a giant like

Manchester United, been there since he was a kid, and made it all the way to the top.

"Now he wants to leave, that's the sad bit. I know everybody is having a go at him and making life difficult, and he's obviously on the money he's on, but this must be really upsetting for him, seeing how his United career is coming to an end."

"He'll look back at this period when he's older and think, 'S**t, I didn't see it happening that way'."

"Whatever happens, I hope he can find the strength to take back control of his career, whether that is at Old Trafford or somewhere else."

"I hope this period doesn't come back to haunt him in later life and he looks back with any regrets, but that's where he is at the moment."

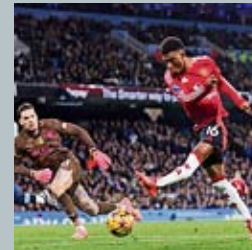
"Leaving a club like Manchester United, which has been Marcus Rashford's home for his entire life, could have a real knock-on effect and sometimes you can't recover from that."

"Either way, you'll be sad if you were to leave the football club. What's happened to Rashford wasn't in the plan."

"He's supposed to be hitting the peak of his powers, this is meant to be his time to shine, 27, coming into your prime - but he's gone backwards."

"I still struggle to believe what has happened to him."

■ Dwight Yorke was speaking on behalf of sportsLens.com



GOING AMAD Diallo grabs United winner versus City

Interview called out by Ruben

FROM BACK PAGE

focus on Tottenham."

Amorim insists he and United want Rashford to stay, even though it is understood the club would be open to selling him in next month's January transfer window.

He said: "Nothing has changed, we believe in Marcus. Marcus is a player of Manchester United, so there's no change."

"This kind of club needs big talent and he's a big talent, so he just needs to perform at the highest level and that's my focus. I just want to help Marcus."

Rashford was axed for Sunday's derby against City and United won the match courtesy of Amad Diallo's dramatic late winner.

Amorim claimed Rashford could win back his place if he trained well and insists United are better with him.

He added: "What I want is to take the best stuff of Marcus Rashford as the player, so I don't talk about the future, I just talk about the present."

"We're better with Marcus Rashford, that's simple, and we'll try different things to push Marcus to the best levels he showed in the past."

Former England striker Gary Lineker (circle) hopes Rashford can find a way to get back to his best form.

Lineker said: "I hope he's OK, first and foremost. That's important because we don't really all understand the circumstances of footballers sometimes."

"It's easy to opine on people and have opinions, but obviously his form has been troubled."

"He's not been as special as he can be in the last 18 months or so."

"Whether a parting of the ways is inevitable or not, I don't know."

ANGE: STARMER'S GOT IT CUSHIER

BY NEIL McLEMAN

ANGE POSTECOGLOU reckons Premier League managers have an even harder job than Arsenal-supporting Prime Minister Keir Starmer.

"We have an election every weekend and either get voted in or out," he said.

The Aussie manager eased the pressure on his own position with a 5-0 win at Southampton on Sunday - a result which saw Saints boss Russell Martin promptly sacked.

But the Spurs travelling support still sang throughout the game against chairman Daniel Levy and more protests are planned before Sunday's home match with Liverpool.

With Gary O'Neil also shown the door at Wolves at the weekend, former Celtic manager Postecoglou (left) said: "We are so quick to just throw people in the trash and move on really quickly with no thought or any care around it. We forget there is a human being involved. This job

is the hardest job now in any walk of life. You can say politics but this is harder than any job."

Harder than being Prime Minister?

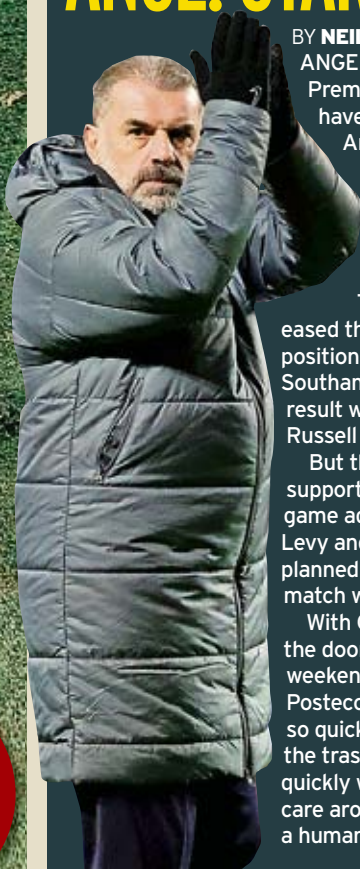
"Oh yeah, how many times does he have an election? I have one every weekend, mate," he said. "We have an election every weekend and either get voted in or out."

So what makes Postecoglou believe he won't soon be replaced by the Spurs board?

"It could be confidence, it could be naivety, it could be I don't care whether I'm allowed to see it out. I'm just not going to change," he said. "I may be a dinosaur in that, but I still believe in legacy coaching."

The Aussie, 59, is experienced enough not to condemn fan protests - but admitted it can take its toll. "You deal with it as I've always done. It's not my first experience," he added.

"The first two or three games at Celtic they were throwing tennis balls on the pitch in protest. It can have an effect."



AMERICAN IDLE

Controversially, Rashford went to New York during last international break (left)

Mirror Sport

mirror.co.uk/sport

TYSON: I'LL BE BRINGING THE PAIN!




COUNTDOWN TO THE BIG FIGHT. SEE PAGE 49

Harvey makes it Ell for Saints

SOUTHAMPTON 1 LIVERPOOL 2



BY ALAN SMITH

ARNE SLOT watched on from the stands as Harvey Elliott fired Liverpool into the Carabao Cup semi-finals.

But the Reds almost let a two-goal lead slip after strikes from Darwin Nunez and Elliott (left) against Southampton.

Cameron Archer produced a fine finish before Caoimhin Kelleher denied the Saints forward an equaliser from point-blank range while Paul Onuachu and Ben Brereton Diaz spurned late opportunities.

"The first half was really good, a good performance," said Slot, who was serving a touchline ban. "But it didn't come as a complete surprise

TURN TO PAGE 53



ARSENAL 3 CRYSTAL PALACE 2



NEWCASTLE 3 BRENTFORD 1



BACKED BY BLUES
Mudryk, who faces a ban

Enzo: We have trust in Mudryk

BY PAUL BROWN

ENZO MARESCA insists Mykhailo Mudryk is innocent – and will not see his career ended by a failed drugs test.

Chelsea winger Mudryk has been provisionally suspended by the FA after an "adverse finding from a urine test".

If it is found he took a banned substance intentionally, the Ukraine star faces a four-year ban.

But Blues boss Maresca leapt to the 23-year-old's defence yesterday, claiming Chelsea "trust" the player.

Asked whether he thought this could end Mudryk's career, Maresca said: "No, I don't think so."

"The only thing is we don't know when he is going to come back. We support Misha and we trust Misha."

"Trust means that we believe Misha. The club, the coaching staff and all of the people in the training

TURN TO PAGE 50



UNITED STAR'S FUTURE IN BALANCE

YOU'VE BEEN A BIT RASH!

Amorim dig over Marcus' 'new challenge' interview

SPEAK TO ME FIRST
Amorim said he would talk to his boss before going public like Rashford did



BY DAVID ANDERSON

RUBEN AMORIM disagrees with Marcus Rashford's decision to go public over his future at Manchester United.

Amorim says he would have handled being axed differently to Rashford when he was a player, rather than air his grievances in an interview. The United boss

is desperately trying to repair their broken relationship after Rashford admitted he is "ready for a new challenge".

Amorim, speaking ahead of tonight's Carabao Cup quarter-final against Spurs, said: "If this was me probably I would speak with the manager, but, guys, let's

TURN TO PAGE 55



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Quizword & Crossword

Two sets of clues, two different answers - all on the same grid. Choose one or the other.

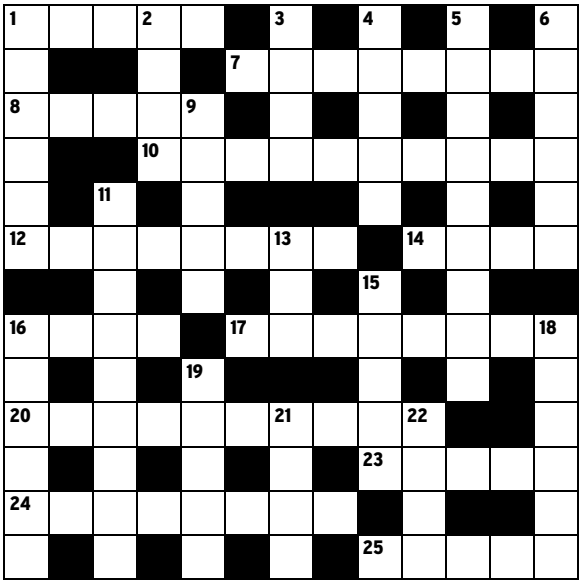
Quizword

ACROSS

- 1 Ancient region of NE Africa (5)
7 1974 novel by Lawrence Durrell subtitled *The Prince of Darkness* (8)
8 - Sea, arm of the Pacific Ocean between New Guinea, Australia and Vanuatu (5)
10 1997 novel by Jim Crace (10)
12 1997 comedy starring Jim Carrey and Maura Tierney (4,4)
14 Blue dye obtained from a flowering plant by the ancient Britons (4)
16 Jeff -, IBF Super Middleweight champion from 2004-06 (4)
17 Capital of Sudan (8)
20 2009 biopic starring Abbie Cornish as Fanny Brawne (6,4)
23 2001 fantasy comedy animation; winner of the first Academy Award for Best Animated Feature (5)
24 2004 action film starring Halle Berry in the title role (8)
25 John -, comic actor who played the title role in 1989 film *Uncle Buck* (5)

DOWN

- 1 US coin worth five cents (6)
2 Republic on the Persian Gulf; capital Baghdad (4)
3 Uncastrated male pig (4)
4 1995-2002 American boy band featuring Justin Timberlake (5)
5 Punctuation mark used to indicate a pause intermediate in length between that of a comma and a full stop (9)
6 and 18 1971 novel by P L Travers (6,6)
9 Jean Baptiste -, French composer of 1674 opera *Alceste* (5)
11 Espresso coffee with a splash of steamed milk (9)
13 Tree with winged seeds whose wood is used for tool handles (3)
15 Capital of Pas-de-Calais, France, known for its tapestries (5)
16 Port in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, at the mouth of the Trave River (6)
18 See 6 Down
19 1966 BBC TV play by Samuel Beckett starring Jack MacGowan in the title role (2,3)
21 Port in Tunisia on the Gulf of Gabes (4)
22 Fast-running flightless bird of South America (4)



Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Sheriff's men (5)
7 Permission to proceed (3,5)
8 Without clothes (5)
10 Wishing evil to others (10)
12 Curiosity (8)
14 Mix with a spoon (4)
16 Manage (4)
17 Cut short (8)
20 Shopper's item (7,3)
23 Simple musical instrument (5)
24 Anxious, afraid (8)
25 Banquet (5)

DOWN

- 1 Grilled Italian sandwich (6)
2 Appear (4)
3 Run away (4)
4 Exclusive news story (5)
5 Heavenly (9)
6 Author (6)
9 Milk products collectively (5)
11 Latest news (4,5)
13 Male teacher's title (3)
15 Move furtively (5)
16 Recurring in cycles (6)
18 Physical or mental exertion (6)
19 Processed meat (5)
21 Uncommon (4)
22 Football match (4)

Solutions in tomorrow's Daily Mirror

Solutions in tomorrow's Daily Mirror

Two-speed coffeebreak

Two sets of clues - but the answers are the same.

Cryptic clues

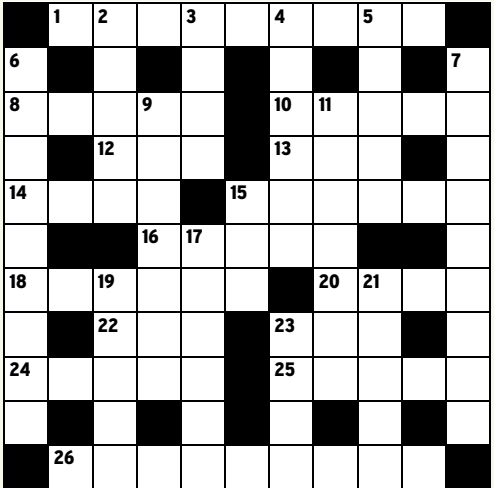
ACROSS

- 1 Support phase where actors wait (9)
8 Deity gets silver from atheist (5)
10 Talk at zero speed (5)
12 Join a religious man (3)
13 Father may explode (3)
14 Hate changing her name (4)
15 Bishop has one group to divide (6)
16 Speed around large venue (5)
18 Chap journalist finds dishevelled (6)
20 Stumble on journey (4)
22 Rubbish in grotto (3)
23 Devoured more than seven, say (3)
24 Begin small quiche (5)
25 Poet with European goatee, say (5)
26 Opportunity to train pet armies (5,4)

DOWN

- 2 A gale disturbed some plants (5)
3 Generous type (4)
4 Subject takes right line (6)
5 Old king gets primate some fruit (5)
6 Give shape to poem - tie is crooked (9)
7 Decent pie ruined by creepy-crawly (9)
9 Useful item, suitable in road construction (7)
11 Tore off, getting ready for prize (7)
15 Awful being bachelor nowadays (3)
17 Landlady's character (6)
19 Walk like a wanderer (5)
21 Paper around large field (5)
23 Help make a wager (4)

Solutions in tomorrow's Daily Mirror



Quick clues

ACROSS

- 1 Behind the scenes (9)
8 Heathen (5)
10 Speak in public (5)
12 Append (3)
13 Burst (3)
14 Woman's name (4)
15 Cut in half (6)
16 Location (5)
18 Tangled (6)
20 Excursion (4)
22 Decay (3)
23 Consumed (3)
24 Commence (5)
25 Facial hair (5)
26 Leisure opportunity (5,4)

DOWN

- 2 Aquatic plants (5)
3 Sort (4)
4 Line of latitude (6)
5 Small fruit (5)
6 Embody (9)
7 Insect (9)
9 Connecting device (7)
11 Ribbon decoration (7)
15 Wicked (3)
17 Epistle (6)
19 Vagrant (5)
21 Kingdom (5)
23 Aid in crime (4)

Solutions in tomorrow's Daily Mirror

CHECK THE SOLUTIONS NOW!
TWO-SPEED COFFEEBREAK 0903 659 6060 (80p/min)

TERMS & CONDITIONS: Calls cost 80p/min plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1 + 1 standard network rate message. SP Mi Telecom Ltd. Helpdesk 0330 880 6060. Min age 18+. All lines close midnight tonight except where stated. Std Trinity Mirror Rules apply, see www.mirror.co.uk/rules.

The name game

Hidden in the grid is the name of a rock band. Answer the questions, then rearrange the letters corresponding to your answers to fill in the name.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Solutions in tomorrow's Daily Mirror

BOX1: What type of creature is the dugong?

Marine mammal (U)
Rodent (Q)
Flightless bird (E)

BOX2: What is the name of the hospital in which the TV series *ER* is set?

County General (R)
Chicago Hope (C)
Holby City (M)

BOX3: Complete the title of this 1993 film with Mike Myers and Nancy Travis: *So I ___ an Axe Murderer?*

Murdered (N)
Married (C)
Caught (Z)

BOX4: Marc Jacobs was the creative director of which fashion house from 1997 to 2014?

Christian Dior (V)
Yves Saint Laurent (X)
Louis Vuitton (L)

BOX5: Rosacea is a condition affecting the skin on what part of the body?

Face (E)
Torso (W)
Legs (A)

BOX6: Gypsy and Saturday's Children are among the works of which playwright?

Tennessee Williams (T)
Maxwell Anderson (Y)
Edward Albee (E)

BOX7: Who played Johnny Rose in the US TV drama *Schitt's Creek*?

Ted Danson (B)
Bryan Cranston (X)
Eugene Levy (M)

BOX8: Which position is currently held by John Healey, MP for Rawmarsh and Conisbrough?

Home secretary (G)
Defence secretary (O)
Transport secretary (T)

BOX9: What is Dizzee Rascal's real first name?

Denzil (C)
Dylan (T)
David (Q)

BOX10: Sam Claflin (pictured) played which character in the 2020 mystery film *Enola Holmes*?

Mycroft Holmes (E)
Moriarty (A)
Dr Watson (T)



30-sec brain teaser

Boost your brain power with our 30-second test. Start with the number on the left and follow the instructions. Beginners should aim to complete the puzzle in 30 seconds. Intermediates should finish their own puzzle and the Beginner's Challenge. Genius players have 30 seconds to complete their own plus the Intermediate. Good luck!

Solutions in tomorrow's Daily Mirror

BEGINNER	17	×3	-46	Square it	+41	2/3 of this	-37	×9	-45	ANSWER
INTERMEDIATE	152	7/8 of this	+173	2/9 of this	Reverse the digits	+159	80% of this	Take the square root	+136	ANSWER
ADVANCED	168	+349	7/11 of this	+32	Take the square root	+166	Increase by 60%	+274	9/10 of this	ANSWER

Mirrorgram

Solve our ten-letter anagram

P	E	A	C	E	C	L	I	M	B

Solutions in tomorrow's Daily Mirror

PUZZLES



Speedbreaker

Target time: 18:05 mins

Test your codecracking skills against us! We took 18 minutes and 5 seconds to complete this puzzle – can you do better? We've taken a completed crossword puzzle and replaced each letter in the grid with the same number throughout. The completed grid will include all letters of the alphabet. If you find it hard to get going, call the Extra Letter line where you will also find a little bit of extra help. Remember, none of the answers are proper nouns.

Solutions in Saturday's Daily Mirror

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 A	16	17	18	19	20 W	21	22	23	24 L	25	26

£75 to be won!

Which letter is represented by the number '1' in today's Speedbreaker? Call **0903 681 3000** (£2/call) or text **SPEED** and your answer, name and postcode to **61011** (£2/text)

Last Thursday's winner: Gill Mobbs, Warwickshire

SOLUTIONS

Call **0903 659 6060** (80p/min) for 5 extra letters or the full solution, or text **SPEEDCLUE** to **61011** (£1/text) for 5 extra letters. Deduct one minute from the target time for each extra letter used.

Calls to solutions line cost 80p/min + network access charge and texts cost £1 + 1 standard network rate message. Calls to the Speedbreaker competition line cost £2/call + network access charge and texts cost £2 + 1 standard network rate message. You may receive free promotional messages, to opt out end message with NO INFO. Competition lines close midnight tonight. Min age 18+. SP: MI Telecom Ltd. Helpdesk 0330 880 6060. Full T&C's at www.mirror.co.uk/rules.

8	15	1	3	16	25		14	7	8	13	5	
16		15			16		15			15		
23		24		6	13	3	16	21	7	26	25	5
23		6			16		18			19		
	20	15	24	13	23		10	26	14	17	17	18
12			17		7				5			16
10		22	10	7	26	25	14	7	3	6		25
9			6				10		15			18
11	3	15	5	7	21		24	15	2	24	5	
		11			3		18			17		22
15	25	3	17	1	15	13	16	25		25		10
		17			20		26			10		15
	15	26	4	16	24		19	24	10	9	24	5

Just a bit of fun

Which one of our three definitions is correct?

MELINITE

- 1 Sugar filigree
- 2 Explosive made from picric acid
- 3 Green marble

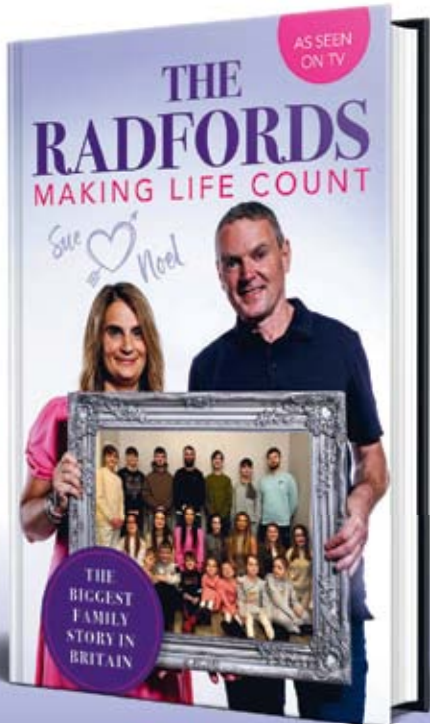
Solutions in tomorrow's Daily Mirror

Scribble pad

THE RADFORDS

'We are Britain's biggest family, and proud of it'

The Radfords are a family like no other. Take a look behind the scenes of Britain's biggest family in this love story about endurance and conquering the odds.



Available from Amazon, selected supermarkets and all good bookshops. Also available in ebook.

Arrow Word

Arrow Words are like crosswords, but the clues are printed inside squares on the grid. Write your answers in the blank squares in the direction indicated by the arrows.

Solutions in tomorrow's Daily Mirror

Spiritual guide I have found it!		In this place		Opening move in chess		Hair-styling product		Doglike Furious		Overused phrase					
						Electronic message (1-4)									
Excellent		Power-assisted steering (abbr.)		Italian city						Meryl pictured					
						Stringed instrument	Second D in DVD								
Undeterred by	Female sheep		Metal fastener	Very cold				To the degree Accompanying							
							Used to be								
Party		Mother's sister		South American plant	Poly-nesian garland			Tim pictured		Primate Box, in training		Skill	As soon as possible (abbr.)		
					Cowardly (4-7)	Enter land illegally Director (abbr.)									
Japanese dwarf tree	Unlock		Large heavy shoe Auction										Curve		
						Put to some purpose	Cut with an axe	Artist's stand		Faucet Hardly ever					
Passenger Transport Authority (abbr.)				Hunting dogs							Drink type		Gardening tool		
Poker stake		Produces eggs				Interferes	Tidies	Engrave							
				Food fish (5,4)									Eve, English actor		
				Very keen	Fencing sword					Fruit type Country singer, Wynette					
						Singing voice					Funny elbow part		Uncomm-on		
				Spoken not written	Speck			Traffic light colour							
						Tree type				Egg cells					
				Betting chances	Sea eagle			Large country house with lands							
						Secret agent				Before					

Su-doku corner

EASY SU-DOKU

	4	8					2
		9		8	2		3
	2		4		9	6	5
5		4			6		9
	3			9	4		7
7			5				4
4		3	8	2			5
	1		3		7	8	
		2			5	1	4

The rules for Su-doku couldn't be easier. All you have to do is fill the empty squares so that each row, column and 3x3 block contains all the numbers 1 to 9.

Solutions in tomorrow's Daily Mirror

SU-DOKU TOUGHIE

	2				9			
		3			4	5		
9	5			6		1		
3						8		
			4	9	3			
		6			8			2
		7		8			2	4
			9	7		3		
			6				7	

The rules for Su-doku are easy, but this one's a toughie! Each number from 1 to 9 must appear only once in each horizontal and vertical line, and only once in each 3x3 grid.

Solutions in tomorrow's Daily Mirror

KILLER SU-DOKU

16	7	11	14		6		16	
			3		21	9		
3		11				12	13	
13		23		4			12	
14					15	10	16	
6	15		12					
		8		13	8		18	
7		11				18		6
14		10		10				

Killer Su-doku is based on the traditional grid and every column, every row and every 3x3 box must contain the digits 1 to 9. But the dotted squares must be filled with numbers that add up to that in the left corner.

Solutions in tomorrow's Daily Mirror

FUTOSHIKI

		>		>		
						✓
			>		<	
				✓		
		>			>	
4		<				

Insert the numbers one to five in each row and each column, making sure that no number is repeated. The only symbols to guide you are the "greater than" (>) and "less than" (<) signs.

Solutions in tomorrow's Daily Mirror

CHECK THE SOLUTIONS NOW! Call 0903 659 6060 (80p/min) to hear SU-DOKU 5 NUMBER CLUES or FULL SOLUTIONS to the easy and toughie su-dokus. Or text EASYCLUE or TOUGHCLUE to 61011 (£1/text) for 5 CLUES.

Word Ladder

	BROW
Puff	
Lacking speed	
Aperture	
Strip of wood	
Chair	
	BEAT

Using the clues provided, fill in each step of the ladder with a new word, changing one letter at a time.

Solutions in tomorrow's Daily Mirror

Brickwork

1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			

Enter the solutions to the clues in their numbered layers of the wall. Each word must be an anagram of its neighbours, plus or minus one letter.

- 1 Possesses
- 2 Rush
- 3 Hue
- 4 Formed
- 5 Period
- 6 Pile
- 7 Copy

Solutions in tomorrow's Daily Mirror

Bingo

Thu Dec 19 2024
Game 49 Day 4

26	61	65
3	88	66
42	9	68
8	36	

HERE are the numbers for Day 4 of Game 49 on your Bingo card. TO WIN a full house £100 prize, all 15 numbers on the Game 49 grid must be correctly crossed off with the Daily Mirror numbers. If you're still short, buy the Sunday Mirror and the Sunday People for more numbers and another chance to win a £100 prize. TO CLAIM call 01420 525501 from 10am to 3pm on Mondays only. No responsibility is accepted for failure to claim in the stated hours. Calls charged at national rate. Standard Reach PLC rules apply, see mirror.co.uk/2024bingorules. Full terms as previously published.

December is your last chance to win £100 in the Daily Mirror, Sunday Mirror and Sunday People Bingo. Our free print game is ending on Sunday 29 December, 2024.

Wordsearch

Can you find all the listed crime TV shows in the grid?
Solutions in tomorrow's Daily Mirror

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

- BONES

BROADCHURCH

DCI BANKS

DEXTER

ELEMENTARY

FOYLE'S WAR

INSPECTOR MORSE
- LEWIS

LUTHER

MISS MARPLE

POIROT

PRIME SUSPECT

SHERLOCK

SILENT WITNESS
- THE BRIDGE

THE KILLING

THE WIRE

TWIN PEAKS

VERA

WALLANDER

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

QUIZWORD
ACROSS: 3 Champaign, 8 Cali, 9 Lyrebird, 10 Rachel, 13 Erica, 14 Getting, 15 Bad, 16 Telford, 17 Abele, 21 Carbon, 22 Monoxide, 23 Uris, 24 Will Penny.
DOWN: 1 Scarpetta, 2 Black Isle, 4 Holly, 5 Married, 6 Albi, 7 Guru, 11 Eisenberg, 12 Ogdan Nash, 14 Gad, 15 Bromine, 18 Ocean, 19 Aoki, 20 Foil.

CROSSWORD
ACROSS: 3 Calculate, 8 Atom, 9 Apparent, 10 Tokens, 13 Roost, 14 Vintage, 15 Sin, 16 Amnesia, 17 Theme, 21 Eczema, 22 Home loan, 23 Dial, 24 Astronomy.
DOWN: 1 Latter-day, 2 Lock horns, 4 Amass, 5 Captain, 6 Lard, 7 Tiny, 11 Cafeteria, 12 Generally, 14 Via, 15 Sirloin, 18 Venom, 19 Toss, 20 Fear.

TWO-SPEED COFFEEBREAK
ACROSS: 1 More, 4 Gold, 6 Live, 8 Saga, 11 Lamb, 13 Special, 14 Amp, 16 Tense, 18 Beats, 21 Teens, 22 Arena, 24 Ire, 25 America, 28 Acre, 30 Stew, 31 Rent, 32 Holy, 33 Emus.
DOWN: 1 Mass, 2 Rage, 3 Eilat, 4 Gem, 5 Dump, 7 Valet, 9 Appear, 10 Acute, 12 Base, 15 Menace, 17 Nears, 19 Area, 20 Snare, 23 Amend, 24 Inch, 26 Item, 27 Awls, 29 Cry.

TUESDAY'S SPEEDBREAKER
1=S, 2=B, 3=P, 4=E, 5=C, 6=U, 7=H, 8=T, 9=I, 10=F, 11=N, 12=W, 13=Y, 14=R, 15=A, 16=Z, 17=V, 18=M, 19=L, 20=G, 21=K, 22=Q, 23=D, 24=J, 25=O, 26=X.

ARROW WORD

	G	D	S		C	T																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		</
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In the Daily Mirror every Saturday there's
£1000 to be won in our Big Name prize crossword

EASY SU-DOKU

3	1	6	9	2	5	4	8	7
9	8	7	4	1	6	2	3	5
2	5	4	3	8	7	9	6	1
4	2	8	6	7	1	5	9	3
7	9	5	8	4	3	1	2	6
6	3	1	2	5	9	7	4	8
1	6	2	7	9	8	3	5	4
8	7	9	5	3	4	6	1	2
5	4	3	1	6	2	8	7	9

SU-DOKU TOUGHIE

6	7	1	9	5	4	2	8	3
9	8	3	2	7	6	4	5	1
2	4	5	1	8	3	7	6	9
3	2	8	7	6	5	1	9	4
1	5	9	3	4	2	8	7	6
7	6	4	8	9	1	3	2	5
5	1	2	6	3	7	9	4	8
8	3	6	4	2	9	5	1	7
4	9	7	5	1	8	6	3	2

KILLER SU-DOKU

3	8	7	2	4	6	5	9	1
5	2	4	3	9	1	7	8	6
6	1	9	5	8	7	4	2	3
4	7	2	9	1	3	8	6	5
1	5	6	8	7	2	3	4	9
8	9	3	4	6	5	1	7	2
9	4	1	6	3	8	2	5	7
2	3	8	7	5	9	6	1	4
7	6	5	1	2	4	9	3	8

FUTOSHIKI

5	2	4	3	>	1	
1	5	2	4	3		
2	1	3	<	5	>	4
3	4	5	1	2		
4	3	1	<	2	5	

MIRRORGRAM MANICURIST

30-SEC BRAIN TEASER
Beginner 9;
Intermediate 11;
Advanced 260.

JUST A BIT OF FUN
3 Speaking movement without sound

BRICKWORK
Tee, Tree, Erect, Create, React, Rate, Tea.

WORD LADDER
Moon, Morn, Born, Barn, Bark, Balk, Walk.

WORDSEARCH

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

NAME GAME

TIM MINCHIN
1T, 2I, 3N, 4M, 5M, 6I, 7N, 8H, 9C, 10I.

RUSSELL GRANT

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horoscopes



Aries March 21-April 20

A woman you are introduced to will be helpful in opening up new paths for you. This could take you to a place you've always wanted to visit or, with her support, you will get the chance to try something you've always dreamed of doing. Mixing up daily habits will add excitement.

For more call **0905 789 4171** (80p/min + network access charge)

Taurus April 21 - May 21

You will be happy to soak up the cheerful atmosphere around you. A brainstorming session will bring out some great ideas. Your input is important in a big conversation so don't hold back. While the excitement is contagious, make sure to keep your feet on the ground.

For more call **0905 789 4172** (80p/min + network access charge)

Gemini May 22 - June 21

A sudden desire to delve into new subjects, options or environments will have you changing plans you did have for the day. You have a strong need to satisfy your curiosity and feed your wanderlust. Even if physical travel is not an option, you can still embark on a mental journey.

For more call **0905 789 4173** (80p/min + network access charge)

Cancer June 22 - July 23

Taking on new responsibilities will lead to an increase in your earnings. This is your moment to ask for a higher salary than was proposed. Your friendships and social circles are going through a change. A close relationship is a little shaky so focus on listening.

For more call **0905 789 4174** (80p/min + network access charge)

Leo July 24 - August 23

Putting in the effort to listen up your social scene will also attract some romantic attention. Your friendly nature and expertise make you a popular figure. Expect to receive a few invitations to festive parties and dinners. Take this opportunity to meet some exciting new faces.

For more call **0905 789 4175** (80p/min + network access charge)

Virgo Aug 24 - Sept 23

Your natural inclination is to keep feelings to yourself and yet, when you open up and share different aspects of yourself with others, this can help strengthen bonds with people you care very much about. Discussions and negotiations will turn out better than expected.

For more call **0905 789 4176** (80p/min + network access charge)

Libra Sept 24-Oct 23

New duties you are taking on now are turning a personal issue with a colleague into a bigger problem. Secret loyalties will spark some serious conflict. Pulling away from a group might bring about some unexpected results. Nurture your own interests now rather than following the others.

For more call **0905 789 4177** (80p/min + network access charge)

Scorpio Oct 24 - Nov 23

The more that is piled on your plate now, the harder things are going to get later. Have you really thought about what you are signing up for? Spending more than you can afford this Christmas will only make things tough in the New Year. If you're watching your budget, avoid online auctions.

For more call **0905 789 4178** (80p/min + network access charge)

Sagittarius Nov 23-Dec 31

A decision you are making could have long-term consequences. You're aware your partner and a few others don't support this. Are you sacrificing too much for this relationship? Isn't it time you stopped putting your own needs on the back burner just to please others?

For more call **0905 789 4179** (80p/min + network access charge)

Capricorn Dec 22-Jan 20

Talking to a spiritual advisor or a homoeopathic practitioner can be really helpful. Stay open to ideas you may not have considered yet. Creating a long-term plan is a good way to help you maintain your focus. This will help you feel more confident that you follow through on your projects.

For more call **0905 789 4180** (80p/min + network access charge)

Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb 19

With everything going so well for you, praise coming your way will highlight your remarkable gifts and talents. You're being urged to showcase these abilities in a business setting as they have excellent potential to unlock opportunities that were previously closed to you.

For more call **0905 789 4181** (80p/min + network access charge)

Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20

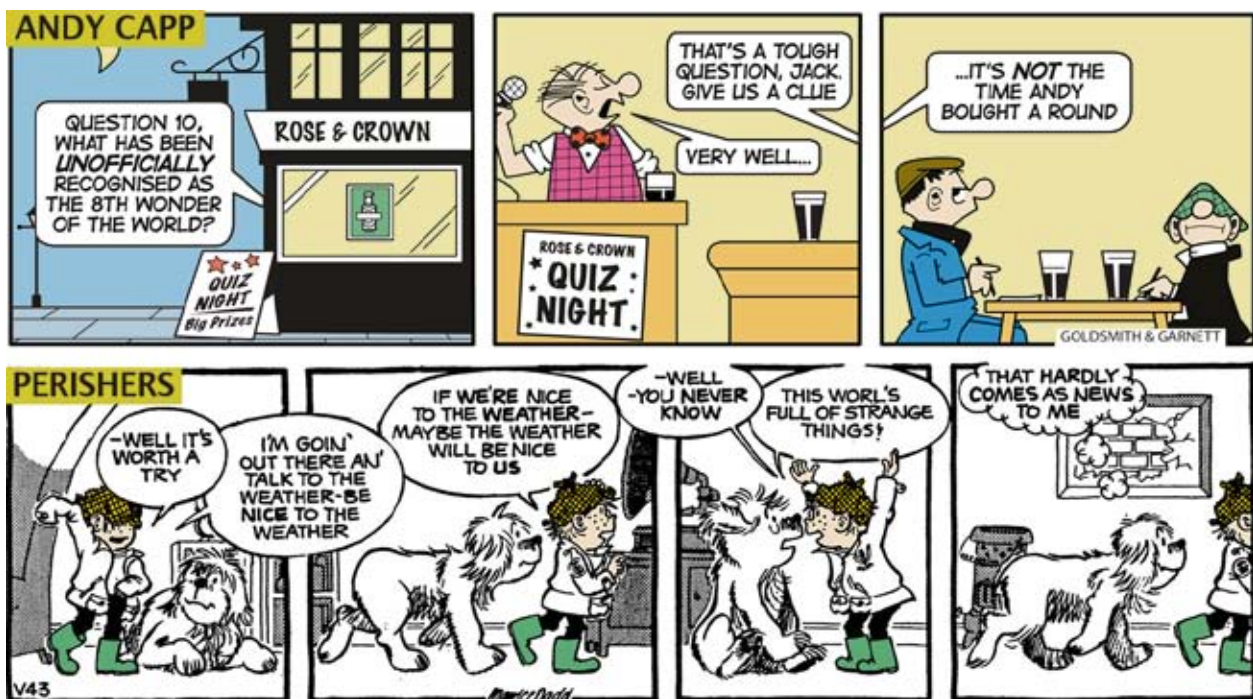
You could do with some rest and relaxation at this point in time. Don't be reluctant to admit this and don't deprive yourself of what you need. You will hear some good news about something that is important to you but don't expect a loved one to share your enthusiasm.

For more call **0905 789 4182** (80p/min + network access charge)

Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge - maximum of 5 minutes duration. You must be over 18 and have the bill payer's permission. Service provider Spoke. Helpline 0333 202 3390

DMIST

CARTOONS



Christmas leftovers Good Food daily recipe to collect

Leftover turkey grain bowls with za'atar, rainbow slaw & harissa yogurt

PREP: 40
MINS
EASY
SERVES 4

Make the most of your turkey leftovers and create these grain bowls with rainbow slaw and a tahini dressing. They're easy and full of flavour

- 4 tbsp natural probiotic yogurt
- 1 tbsp rose harissa
- 200g cooked wild rice
- 200g cooked puy or black lentils
- 2 tbsp chopped mixed herbs (we used a mix of mint, parsley and coriander)
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp za'atar
- 200g leftover roast turkey (you can use a mix of white and dark meat)
- 1 avocado stoned, halved, peeled and sliced
- 2 tbsp toasted pumpkin seeds

FOR THE TAHINI DRESSING

- 1 tsp maple syrup
- Large pinch of white pepper
- 2 tbsp tahini
- ½ tsp ground turmeric
- 1 clementine juiced
- 1 lemon juiced
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 garlic clove grated
- 1 tsp grated ginger
- ½ tsp cayenne pepper

FOR THE RAINBOW SLAW

- ¼ small red cabbage finely sliced
- 4 carrots julienned or grated
- 100g Brussels sprouts finely sliced
- 1 parsnip peeled and julienned or grated
- 1 apple peeled, cored and julienned or grated
- ½ red onion finely sliced
- 1 green chilli finely sliced



1 Combine the yogurt and harissa, and set aside. To make the dressing, tip the maple syrup, white pepper, a large pinch of salt, the tahini, turmeric, clementine juice, half the lemon juice, the oil, 2 tbsp hot water, the garlic, ginger and cayenne into a small food processor and blitz until combined and creamy. Taste and adjust the seasoning with a little more lemon or salt, as needed.

2 Toss all the slaw ingredients together in a large bowl. Season well, then drizzle with most of the dressing and toss again to coat. In another large bowl, combine the

cooked rice, lentils and the herbs. Dress with the remaining lemon juice, the olive oil and some seasoning. Scatter the za'atar over the leftover turkey.

Divide the grain mixture between four serving bowls, and arrange the seasoned turkey, sliced avocado and slaw on top. Scatter over the pumpkin seeds and finish with a dollop of the harissa yogurt. Serve the remaining dressing on the side.

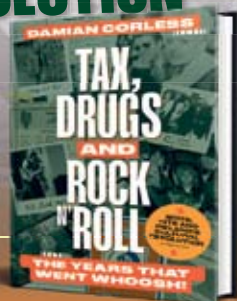
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TOMORROW'S RECIPE: LEFTOVER TURKEY CASSEROLE

BRITS, HITS AND IRELAND'S CULTURAL REVOLUTION

The book that explores how an influx of British pop stars in the early 1980s kick-started a cultural transformation in Ireland



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