

Evening Standard

JOSHUA TO MAKE UK RETURN AT SPURS

WORLD TITLE DEFENCE IN LONDON FOR FIRST TIME SINCE 2018 » SPORT PAGE 56



TAKE YOUR GYM KIT BACK TO BASICS

ALL-BLACK STEALTH STYLE IS NEW STATUS SYMBOL » LIFE & STYLE STARTS PAGE 25



LONDON CANCER MEDIC IS VIRUS VICTIM

» UK OUTBREAK IS NOW 'HIGHLY LIKELY'
» CRITICAL WEEKS AHEAD, SAYS BORIS

Nicholas Cecil, Joe Murphy and Ross Lydall

A CANCER medic and a worker at a London school are among the latest UK coronavirus cases, it was confirmed today as health chiefs warned a widespread outbreak was now "highly likely".

They stressed it could hit within days and outlined more dramatic steps to fight Covid-19, including urging hundreds of thousands of

workers and other people to "stay at home" if they have a cold, cough, sneezing or fever.

Boris Johnson braced Britain for a worsening crisis and appealed to the nation to engage in an unprecedented campaign of hand-washing.

After chairing a meeting of Whitehall's emergency Cobra committee, the Prime Minister said: "This is a problem that I think is likely to

Continued on Page 4



Paws in Paris: models sported cow, fox and rabbit costumes on the Stella McCartney catwalk today FULL STORY: Page 3

FRIESIAN FASHION AT STELLA'S SHOW

Streatham terror attack police could face danger driving charge

Anthony France
Crime Correspondent

TWO elite firearms officers who raced to the Streatham terrorist attack in police convoy could be prosecuted for dangerous driving.

One of the two constables was driving an unmarked police BMW that collided with another car and hit a wall near Streatham Common within minutes of Sudesh Amman's knife rampage last month.

The other was behind the wheel of a marked armed response vehicle also in the convoy making its way at speed to Streatham High Street. He was not involved in the smash and carried on to the scene.

Both police cars had their flashing blue lights and sirens on.

Officers were pictured at the time standing by the crumpled wreckage of the black BMW. It has now emerged that two members of the public and police were injured in the incident on February 2.

Both men, attached to the Met's Firearms Command, have been served with notices of investigation for dangerous driving and gross misconduct. They could be charged with a criminal offence or sacked at a disciplinary hearing.

The two have been removed from driving duties pending the outcome of the investigation by the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) but remain on firearms duties.

Ken Marsh, chairman of the Metropolitan Police Federation, said the men were "dumbstruck" they could be disciplined for assisting colleagues who shot dead freed terrorist Amman, 20, after he stabbed two people — including schoolteacher

Continued on Page 7

» INSIDE TODAY

New calls for probe into Priti Patel conduct

Page 2



Team Beckham on parade for Miami debut

Page 9

Buttigieg quits Democrat race in Biden boost

Page 10



Child dies as Med migrant crisis deepens

Pages 20&21



 FUTURELIGHT.

THE FUTURE
OF RAINWEAR
IS HERE

THE
NORTH
FACE

The future of exploration is at:
ellis-brigham.com/futurelight

Available from:
Covent Garden
Kensington High St
St Paul's
Westfield Stratford

ellisbrigham
MOUNTAIN
SPORTS

News

PM under fresh pressure to probe Patel 'bully' claim

Sophia Sleight and Susannah Butter

THE Prime Minister must "immediately" investigate the allegations of bullying engulfing the Home Office, the chair of one of the most powerful Commons committees said today.

Sir Philip Rutnam, the Home Office's most senior official, resigned on Saturday accusing Home Secretary Priti Patel of leading a campaign to oust him and vowing to sue for constructive dismissal. Ms Patel has previously denied mistreating staff.

Senior MP Yvette Cooper today said the allegations were "really serious" and urged Boris Johnson not to wait for an employment tribunal to investigate.

She told the Standard: "They need to be investigated immediately. The Prime Minister and Cabinet Secretary need to investigate this now, not just drift and wait until the employment tribunal sits. Otherwise the Home Office will be dysfunctional and distracted for months and its work is far too important for that."

The Labour MP is chair of the powerful cross-party Home Affairs Select Committee, which scrutinises the Home Office. An MP for 23 years, former min-

ister Ms Cooper said she had never seen anything like this before and added: "The Home Office appears to be in a complete mess. I am flabbergasted that both Priti Patel and Boris Johnson have allowed it to reach this crisis point."

Sir Philip claimed he received allegations that Ms Patel's conduct towards employees included "swearing, belittling people, making unreasonable and repeated demands".

Mr Johnson responded to the claims over the weekend by saying he "absolutely" has confidence in Ms Patel. He said she was a "fantastic" Home Secretary and he was also "full of admiration" for the civil service.

Former Tory minister Damian Green told BBC Radio's Today programme that the case was "clearly a clash of two strong personalities."

Asked if he was suggesting Whitehall was resisting the agenda of a radical government, Mr Green said: "I do know from my own experience that, yes, that can happen."

A Cabinet Office spokesman said it takes "all allegations of misconduct seriously."

Cooper interview Pages 22 & 23

'Ethical vegan' wins wrongful sacking case against anti-hunting charity

John Dunne

AN "ethical vegan" has hailed his legal battle against his ex-employer as a "victory for animal protection", after settling the case at an employment tribunal.

Jordi Casamitjana, 55, alleged he was dismissed as head of policy by anti-hunting charity the League Against Cruel Sports after raising concerns that its pension fund was invested with firms that tested on animals and hurt the environment. His case at Watford tribu-

nal centre was settled today when the League, which previously argued he was dismissed for gross misconduct, conceded he had done nothing wrong in raising his concerns. The result comes after a previous tribunal in January made a landmark ruling that ethical veganism was a philosophical belief, and protected under the Equality Act.

Mr Casamitjana, from London, said today's result was "a great victory". The League said its pension fund is now "ethical".

London's weather



TONIGHT
Overnight will be dry with clear skies
MAX **6C**
MIN **1C**



TOMORROW
Sunny spells but cloud cover will build
MAX **9C**
MIN **1C**



WEDNESDAY
Dry with sunny spells but cloudy later
MAX **9C**
MIN **1C**



THURSDAY
Dry and bright with sunny spells
MAX **10C**
MIN **3C**



FRIDAY
Cloudy with outbreaks of rain but drier later
MAX **10C**
MIN **5C**



LIGHTS

Sunset & lighting-up: 5.43pm, rises 6.40am; Moon rise: 9.59am, sets 1.01am
High water: London Bridge 6.01am (6.3m), 6.24pm (6.0m), Dover 2.56am (6.0m), 3.18pm (5.6m).

The Londoner
Stars
Puzzles

18-19
34
36

Television
Business
Sport

37
47-51
52-56

OUR STANDARDS We take seriously our responsibility to maintain high editorial standards. Under deadline pressure, errors can occasionally occur. If you spot a mistake or wish to complain about the Standard's editorial please use the complaints form at standard.co.uk/codeofconduct, or write to: Managing Editor, Evening Standard, Northcliffe House, 2 Derry Street, London W8 5EE

Follow the leader: designs included deconstructed coats and vegan leather bags — while furry mascots featured in the finale

Stella's stylish vision does sustainability with a smile

Karen Dacre
Fashion Editor in Paris

FOR a designer who leads where others follow comes great responsibility. Stella McCartney knows this only too well.

Her latest catwalk show in Paris today was proof of her determination to keep on driving the industry towards a more sustainable future — and to do it with a smile.

In scenes reminiscent of ITV's *Masked Singer*, a series of furry mascots were among the stars of the autumn/winter 2020 show.

Models sporting fox, cow and rabbit costumes took part in the finale of proceedings at the National Opera with the objective of making animal welfare an inescapable talking point.

Ahead of the show, the London-based environmental activist and fashion designer called for her competitors to follow her lead.

"There has never been a time in which we have more hope in ending fashion's use of fur and leather — a practice that is cruel to animals and harmful to the planet," she said. "We are proudly the only luxury house not putting leather on our runway and welcome our friends in fashion to join us."

While the wildest additions to McCartney's new collection are unlikely to make it into production next season, there was plenty for customers to delight in, with vegan leather tabards, trench coats and super-sized teddy bear coats among the most covetable manifestations of McCartney's anti-cruelty policies. She has long been considered a disruptor of the fashion landscape, with innovations such as biodegradable shoe soles and plant-based fabrics among her most recent and exciting gifts to the fashion world.

Her latest collection was an attempt to capture this pioneering spirit. Citing the



MORE PICTURES ONLINE
standard.co.uk/fashion

Ruffling feathers: Stella McCartney showed teddy bear coats instead of fur and unleashed an avalanche of colourful prints down the Paris catwalk today



work of French-born Russian designer and illustrator Erté as a catalyst for this collection after a chance meeting with him as a child, McCartney showcased an avalanche of print and colour.

Prints including shooting stars and jellyfish motifs from the artist's archive were repurposed onto pyjama style suits and flowing silk dress dresses.

The designer also chose the occasion to toy with the juxtaposition of masculine and feminine codes: her signature tailoring was among the

finest additions today with structured coats and a deconstructed take on the trouser suit.

Accessories have long provided a platform for McCartney to showcase her alternative vision for leather. Today an unstructured shoulder bag and a revised take on her iconic Falabella bags were among the highlights. Stomping crepe-sole boots in cement and black were another.

Among the guests on the front row was Big Little Lies star and fellow activist Shailene Woodley, another outspoken advocate for animal rights.

Curtain falls on West End fancy dress institution after 180 years

Magda Ibrahim

A THEATRELAND institution which has supplied costumes for shows, Hollywood blockbusters and partygoers since 1840 faces the final curtain as a West End landmark today.

Over the decades Angels fancy dress shop, in Shaftesbury Avenue, has dressed Christopher Lee, the Beckhams, Nicole Scherzinger and even Charles de Gaulle's Free French Army.

Costumes from the family-owned store have included Sir Alec Guinness's Star Wars robe, Kit Harington's *Game Of Thrones* outfit and Claire Foy's dress for the Queen's coronation scene in *The Crown*. But today the firm, as a second-hand clothes business supplying West

NIGEL HOWARD



Historic: Angels fancy dress shop in Shaftesbury Avenue. Right, Claire Foy, Sir Alec Guinness, Nicole Scherzinger

End actors, moves out of its historic five-storey home to the company's warehouse in Hendon, blaming rising West End rents.

Its director, Emma Angel, said: "I

grew up with this building and it is such a quirky space with such heart and soul. It is really upsetting because we have been here for so long. I have so many memories here, like the time I was about eight and my dad asked me if I wanted to meet Dracula. I came out and there was Christopher Lee, and all I could do was gawp at him because he was so tall."

The business was founded in 1840 by Ms Angel's great-great-great grandfather Daniel Angel, who arrived in London from Frankfurt as a penniless tailor in 1813. It has passed through seven generations of the Angel family. Current chairman Tim, 70, was last year awarded a CBE for

services to theatre, film, television and the arts. Ms Angel works alongside her brothers Daniel, 42, and Jeremy, 38.

Ms Angel said: "We've had all sorts of people walk through the doors over the years, and Halloween is always a great draw. Victoria Beckham and all the kids came in a couple of years ago to get all their bits and pieces for trick or treating, and Victoria and David had some items made when they got married."

She said she still "hadn't given up" on finding a new home in the West End, adding: "While our business can continue online and physically from our Hendon warehouse, as of now the curtain comes down on Angels' presence as a West End landmark and a rite of passage for party-going Londoners."

Wash your hands but otherwise

Continued from Page 1

become more significant for this country in the course of the next days and weeks. We have been making every possible preparation for that. This country is very, very well prepared.

"We have agreed...a plan so that as and when, if and when, it starts to spread as I'm afraid it looks likely that it will, we are in a position to take the steps that will be necessary...will be reasonable, possible to contain the spread of the disease as far as we can...and also to

protect the most vulnerable." In an appeal to millions of people across the country, he added: "It's still the case that the single most useful thing that we can all do to support our NHS, to stop the spread of coronavirus, is to wash our hands — two times [sing] Happy Birthday [length of recommended time], hot water and soap.

"Other than that I wish to stress that at the moment it's very important that people consider that they should...go about business as usual."

He added that social distancing meas-

ures, such as school closures and cancelling sporting fixtures, would be "governed" by the advice from health chiefs.

He stressed all four nations of the UK are working closely together.

After protests by Sadiq Khan that he was not invited to the Cobra meeting, No10 said it was to set a "national response" and that including the City and other regions would be done through local resilience forums.

Asked if the Prime Minister was reducing handshaking, his official

spokesman said: "The PM is led by advice of medical experts and their focus is very much on washing your hands regularly with hot soapy water."

In key developments:

- It emerged that a medic at the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre, Northwood, Middlesex, is among the confirmed cases of coronavirus announced over the weekend. "All individuals who were in contact with the clinician have been identified and the appropriate measures taken," said East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust.

- Leading school Wimbledon College announced it was closing until March 10 and will undergo a deep clean after a member of staff tested positive for coronavirus following travel to Italy.

- Health Secretary Matt Hancock, writing in the Standard, made clear that he was ready to order infected patients to be detained if necessary to stop the spread of the virus. Police officers in protective suits could be deployed to deal with the most difficult cases.

- Health chiefs were braced for another significant rise in cases this week. They were preparing to move from the "containment" phase of their four-pronged battle plan to "delay" when an outbreak can no longer be stopped in the UK, but if it can be pushed back to the summer it is expected to be less harmful.

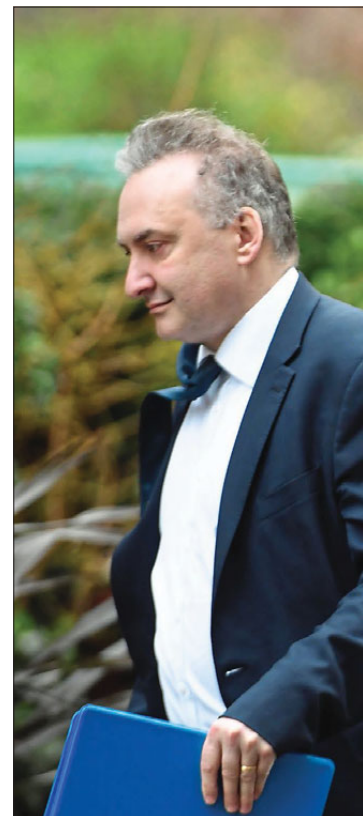
- Most cases still involve people who have travelled abroad but the source of the infection for a few people who have not been abroad has not been identified, raising suspicions that it might already be spreading here.

- Business executives and other people were stopping hand-shaking, though this is not yet the official advice as it is in France, where there is more widespread infection.

- About 25 Britons have left the H10 Costa Adeje Palace hotel, Tenerife, which was quarantined after several Italian guests came down with the virus, but 150 UK citizens are still there.

- Three of the latest cases are family members of a man from Haslemere, Surrey who tested positive on Friday. He had no recent travel history and is believed to be the first person to contract Covid-19 within the UK.

- Health officials were also seeking to



identify how another new patient, from Essex, caught the virus, having not recently travelled to an infected area.

- Cases in Italy are spiralling, with at least 1,694, including 34 deaths. In the hardest-hit region, Lombardy, 10 per cent of doctors and nurses have tested positive for the virus and are in quarantine, the region's top health official Giulio Gallera said.

- The EU raised the risk from the virus from moderate to high, with 2,100 cases in 18 of the 27 member states, and 38 EU citizen fatalities. The number of

Have one more thing in common with your friends.

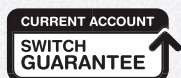
Like £100.

If you're a Nationwide member and you recommend a friend, we'll give you both £100 when they switch their current account to us.



You're a member if you have a current account, savings account or mortgage with us. Offer available on FlexAccount, FlexDirect and FlexPlus current accounts only. Switch must be completed within 90 days of recommendation and a minimum of two Direct Debits must be transferred. Minimum age 18. Other T&Cs apply.

Nationwide Building Society. Head Office: Nationwide House, Pipers Way, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN38 1NW.



Nazanin gets blood test as virus fears prompt Iran 'reaction'

Naomi Ackerman and Sophia Sleight

IRANIAN authorities "have reacted" to campaigning and given Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe a blood test in prison amid fears she has contracted coronavirus, her husband revealed today.

The British-Iranian mother, 41, has spent four years in Tehran's Evin prison on espionage charges which she denies.

She has had flu-like symptoms for days and her husband Richard Ratcliffe is "sure" she has contracted coronavirus in the jail, where there have been reports of three cases and rumours of a death last week in its clinic.

Mr Ratcliffe, 45, who lives with their daughter Gabriella, five, in West Hampstead, said the Tehran authorities "had reacted" following worldwide publicity about Nazanin's illness.

He said: "She told her brother this morning that she still has symptoms:



Flu-like symptoms:
Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe has spent four years in Evin prison

body pain, temperature, cough, difficulty breathing. I think they were stable. She had been taken for a blood test.

"It's definitely a good sign there is some movement but do I trust the Iranian authorities? No."

Iran has reported 978 confirmed cases and 54 deaths from the virus, with accurate figures suspected to be far higher.

Mr Ratcliffe told BBC Radio 4's Today: "The Government should be clear that the protection of British citizens being held unfairly in Iran has to be maintained and they have to be tested and treated."

it's business as usual, says Boris



JEREMY SELWYN

Crisis talks: Matt Hancock and Professor Chris Whitty, right, arrive at Downing Street today

cases in Germany rose today from 129 to 150, in France it was at least 130, with two deaths, and Spain 71.

● Iceland has confirmed its first three cases. All had spent time on holiday in northern Italy, authorities said.

● South Korea reported 599 new cases, taking its national tally to 4,335, including 26 deaths.

● Sixty-six people have died and 1,501 people have been infected by coronavirus in Iran, deputy health minister Alireza Raisi said, though experts believe this is a huge underestimate.

● China reported 202 new cases, its lowest daily count since January 21, though there have been more than 80,000 cases and 2,912 deaths.

● Covid-19 could lead to the world economy shrinking in the first quarter of 2020, the first time this would have happened since the financial crisis more than a decade ago, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development warned.

● The FTSE 100 was up about one per cent this morning, having seen the value of UK blue chip shares plummet

by some £200 billion last week. With 36 cases already in the UK, Mr Hancock said the global situation could make it impossible to contain the infection here. He told the Standard: "At this point widespread transmission may become inevitable so delay is about slowing the spread, lowering the peak impact and pushing it away from the winter season when the NHS is under maximum pressure."

Editorial Comment Page 14
Matt Hancock Page 14

Wimbledon boys' school closed after member of staff diagnosed positive

Ross Lydall and Ben Morgan

A BOYS' school has closed for 10 days after a staff member who had been in Italy was diagnosed with coronavirus.

Wimbledon College secondary school, with 1,200 pupils, said it would remain shut until March 10 while it is deep-cleaned.

Headteacher Adrian Laing, in a message to parents, said: "The staff member was last in school on the morning of February 25 and has not had contact with pupils since the beginning of this half-term. However, as some staff members are now classed as close contacts of a confirmed case of Covid-19 they are required to self-isolate as a precautionary measure for 14 days. Unfortunately this means we will have to temporarily close the school due to low staffing numbers."

The school said Public Health England advice was that there was no increased risk to pupils. PHE is contacting people who have been in close contact with the staff member.

Dr Yvonne Young, of PHE London, said: "Close contacts will be given health advice about symptoms and emergency contact details to use if they become unwell in the 14 days after contact with the confirmed case... to minimise any risk."

Merton council's director of public health, Dagmar Zeuner, said: "The risk to the general public remains low and Merton council is working with health colleagues to do everything we can to stop the virus spreading. If you have not been contacted by Public Health England as a close contact of the confirmed case you do not need to take any action at this time."

British guests at a quarantined hotel in Tenerife were being flown back to



Shut: Wimbledon College has closed until March 10 and will be deep cleaned

the UK this afternoon after testing negative for coronavirus.

Holidaymakers at the H10 Costa Adeje Palace had previously been told they would have to remain in quarantine until March 10, after at least four tourists were diagnosed. A Jet2holidays spokeswoman said: "Customers will be flying back to the UK with us on a dedicated flight this afternoon, following their negative test results for Covid-19 and subject to them showing no symptoms on departure."

Meanwhile, governments around the world are scrambling to halt the spread of the virus. Australia has confirmed its first case of person-to-person infection, Indonesia has reported its first two cases, and the United States has confirmed 80 cases and two deaths, amid fears the virus is spreading on both the east and west coasts after a New York woman tested positive.

Kuwait announced 10 new cases. Iran confirmed an adviser to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has died from the virus.

MADE FOR ANDY. PERFECTED FOR YOU.

Pro Advanced Collagen was created by leading nutritionists to support the joint and bone health* of Andy Murray on his journey back to top-flight competition. Certified with Informed-Sport, our daily top-grade marine collagen supplement is designed for elite athletes and performance.

TRRNUTRITION.COM
UNLOCK THE NEXT LEVEL IN PERFORMANCE



*Pro Advanced Collagen contains 10,000mg marine collagen, L-proline, L-hydroxyproline, L-hydroxylysine, L-glutamine, and copper which contributes to the maintenance of normal connective tissues and vitamin C which contributes to normal collagen formation for the normal function of bones and cartilage.

Trump's fourfold Brexit trade boost claim gets thumbs down from No10

Joe Murphy Political Editor

DONALD TRUMP'S boast that US-UK trade would "quadruple" after Brexit was doused in cold water today as the Government published its proposals for a future agreement.

Far from the surge that the US President predicted, the Government assessment put it at around a 7.5 per cent increase in trade flows, worth around

£15.3 billion. For London, the boost to the economy would be £650 million which leading economist Howard Archer pointed out was "hardly a game-changer".

London, whose powerhouse services sector was not covered, will gain less from a US trade deal than other regions including Scotland, the analysis showed.

It also confirmed that the economic benefits of a trade deal with America

would be much smaller than the estimated losses caused by Brexit to growth of up to 7.6 per cent.

In September at talks with Boris Johnson in New York, Mr Trump said: "We can quadruple our trade with the UK."

A month later, in an interview for LBC, he claimed "we can do many times the numbers that we're doing right now".

Economist Jonathan Portes described the more sober assessment published

by the Department for International Trade showed the benefits "are de minimis compared with the economic costs of its Brexit proposals".

Today's formal launch of the US trade talks mandate was timed to coincide with the first round of talks between EU and British negotiators in Brussels, symbolising Mr Johnson's strategy of playing each side off against each other.

International Trade Secretary Liz Truss warned the EU that Britain will take a tough line against France in a dispute over post-Brexit fishing rights. "We are not going to trade away our fishing in a deal with the EU or any other negotiating partner," she said, following French threats to block a deal if its fishermen are barred from UK waters.

UK negotiator David Frost and 100 British officials were sitting down with EU counterparts led by Michel Barnier for talks so large they could not fit in the European Commission HQ.

On the US talks, Ms Truss said it would be a "red line" to reject foods that did not confirm to UK safety standards. She also rejected Mr Trump's demands for drugs prices paid by the NHS to be on the table.

"I can absolutely guarantee that in a trade deal with the US we will not diminish our food safety standards and we will also not put the NHS on the table or the price the NHS pays for drugs on the table," she said.

She added: "If we don't get the deal we want we will be prepared to walk away."

The EU talks are due to end in December at the latest. They cover everything from aviation to nuclear isotopes to student exchanges.

A second round will be held in London later this month, with further meetings every two to three weeks.

"All in all, it's already clear that June will be a difficult month. It is hard to see much progress being possible by then so things will start getting tense," said one EU diplomat involved in Brexit talks.



Rita goes halves on Paris trip

RITA ORA wore a beige and black faux-leather coat dress with matching boots as she took the train to Paris to enjoy some fashion shows. The singer was also spotted out in the French capital last night.

sky mobile
Perfect iPhone 11
Switch and Save £180



iPhone 11

£36^a month

No upfront costs. 10GB data.

Price of data plan may vary.

Sky Mobile

0800 759 0609

Visit Sky Retail

Subject to status and credit check. Advertised prices based on Swap24 plans. 36-month interest free loan required for handset. Data Plan required for duration of Swap plan, subject to 12-month minimum term. Prices may change during this period. Option to buy phone without a loan. See sky.com/swaphelp for details. Phone subject to availability. 18+ Direct debit. Unlimited Calls and Texts: Inclusive calls to standard UK landlines (01, 02, & 03) and inclusive texts to standard UK mobile numbers (07). Subject to our acceptable use policy at sky.com/mobileterms. Savings: Save £180 when taking the 10GB data plan (£10, was £15) over 36 months. Offer ends 12 March 2020. Correct at 27 February 2020.

£2.2m supercar has top speed of 217mph... but zero emissions

David Williams

THE world's fastest and most expensive zero-emissions electric car was unveiled today.

The glamorous Battista Anniversario, pictured, runs on advanced batteries but has a top speed of 217mph and rockets from a standstill to 60mph in under two seconds thanks to its four powerful electric motors — making it faster even than a Formula 1 car.

Aimed at the super-affluent and with a price tag of €2.6 million (£2.2 million), the world's first all-electric hyper GT will be the most expensive plug-in car when it goes on sale later this year.

The 1,900-horsepower Anniversario celebrates the 90th anniversary of Italy's Pininfarina — the coach-builder and creator of some of the world's most famous car designs — and pays tribute to

founder Battista "Pinin" Farina. Hand-built in Cambiano in Turin, the Anniversario is the most powerful car ever built in Italy. Its designers say its batteries will reach an 80 per cent charge in under 25 minutes at one of London's rapid roadside chargers.

Fully charged, the carbon fibre-bodied car has a range of 300 miles. Because it has zero emissions it is C-charge-exempt and complies with Ulez rules. Automobili Pininfarina chief Michael Perschke said: "We hope that the Battista inspires a generation to consider electric cars."

Motors Starts on Page 28



Continued from Page 1

Monika Luftner, 51 — while wearing a fake suicide vest.

Mr Marsh said: "The public will be appalled brave police officers responding to a terrorist attack can be treated in such a manner. What kind of message does this send? These officers and their colleagues put their lives on the line that day to protect the public. Now potentially their careers are on the line."

"Our colleagues did not know what danger they were travelling towards as the information emerged in real time about stabbings and threats of a suicide vest and explosives. Yet without hesitation they drove towards that danger. Now their careers are at risk."

"These people need to understand the split-second and dynamic decisions police officers have to take."

Mr Marsh called on the IOPC to have some "empathy and understanding of the incredibly difficult and dangerous



These people need to understand the split-second and dynamic decisions police officers have to take

Ken Marsh, Met Police Federation

job police officers do', as he warned the investigation could drag on for months or even years.

He said the decision was in stark contrast to Boris Johnson who paid tribute "to the speed and bravery" of police who responded and confronted the attacker.

Mr Marsh added: "No one is saying that police officers should not be scrutinised or that their actions should not be accountable — but the last thing officers responding to a terrorist attack should be worrying about is whether their prompt response and bravery will put their livelihoods in danger."

Scotland Yard said: "On February 3 the Met made a mandatory referral to the IOPC following a road traffic collision in Streatham Common North involving an unmarked police vehicle on February 2 in which two members of the public were injured. The officers in the vehicle were responding to the terrorist attack in Streatham High Road. The IOPC is investigating this collision



Terror attack: the crashed police car near Streatham Common. Left, officers approach shot terrorist Sudesh Amman in Streatham High Road on February 2

independently. On February 28, the IOPC served notices of investigation for dangerous driving and gross misconduct on the driver of the vehicle involved in the collision and on the driver of a marked police vehicle. The driver of the marked police vehicle was in close proximity to the unmarked

vehicle but not involved in the collision. "Both officers are police constables serving with firearms command. The officers have been removed from driving duties pending the outcome of the IOPC investigation. They remain on firearms duties."

The IOPC confirmed this in a state-

ment, adding: "A criminal investigation does not mean that criminal charges will necessarily follow. Misconduct notices do not imply guilt but are to inform the officer that their behaviour and conduct are under investigation and the level of severity. Such notices are not judgemental in any way."

Mayor: Primary schools should go water-only to help fight obesity

Ross Lydall City Hall Editor

ALL primary schools in London should become "water only" to help curb childhood obesity, the Mayor said today.

Southwark council is banning sugary drinks in its schools from April and has told them to offer pupils only water or milk. Health experts believe that by making water more freely available students will be less likely to consume sweetened drinks.

Nearly 40 per cent of children aged 10 and 11 in London are classed as overweight or obese, one of the highest rates in Europe.

Sadiq Khan, who wants to halve the childhood obesity rate by 2030, today responded to recommendations in a City Hall child obesity taskforce report from last year that called for curbs on food offered by takeaways and greater availability of drinking water. He said: "Making water freely available and introducing measures like 'water-only' in schools are just some of the simple things we can do to not only tackle childhood obesity, but also improve pupil behaviour and learning. I'm urging all schools in London to follow Southwark's example and adopt the policy to help improve the life chances of all young Londoners."

Gold coins mark 25th Bond film

THE Royal Mint today launched a James Bond commemorative coin and gold bar collection ahead of the release of the 25th 007 film, No Time To Die. They feature Bond's Aston Martin DB5 car, the submarine car from The Spy Who Loved Me and Bond's jacket and bow tie. The largest coin has a face value of £7,000.



WHERE'S HOME? IS IT WHERE YOU WERE BORN? WHERE YOU GREW UP? OR WHERE YOUR HEART IS? WITH A
95% MORTGAGE,
 PLUS A 35 YEAR LENDING TERM, WE COULD HELP YOU FIND A PLACE WHEREVER FEELS LIKE HOME TO YOU.

SEARCH HSBC MORTGAGES OR VISIT US IN BRANCH.

Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage.



95% LTV product range is available to both First Time Buyers and Home Movers, 35-year term is available on all residential purchases and remortgages of the same amount. A longer lending term means more interest is payable overall. 95% mortgages are only available on our residential product range if you're purchasing a property with a loan size of up to £400,000.

Together we thrive

Father of newborn killed in machete attack

Liam Coleman, Barney Davis, John Dunne and Anthony France

A YOUNG father of a newborn baby was hacked to death by a machete-wielding gang who ambushed him on his way to work a night shift.

The hooded men attacked Asante Campbell, 24, in the car park of a housing estate in Hendon at 9pm on Saturday.

Witnesses said Mr Campbell was stabbed with "arm-length" blades before his killers fled in a silver hatchback after being disturbed by residents.

Mr Campbell tried to drive his VW

Hooded assailants stabbed victim and tried to run him over, say witnesses

Polo to safety but crashed into a parked car less than a mile away.

Mr Campbell, known as Santz, was later pronounced dead in hospital. Detectives said he had left his girlfriend and their daughter at their home in Edgware only 15 minutes earlier to travel

to work. Today a crime scene remained in place at the Belle Vue estate as forensic officers searched for evidence.

A tribute left where Mr Campbell was attacked read: "Asante, I never thought I would have to do this. Your energy spoke volumes, your spirit will live on forever." A resident, 22, told the Standard: "We saw him being attacked by four people in dark clothing. The victim was outside his own car when he was being attacked. If my mum hadn't have shouted at them they were going to keep on attacking him..."

"When he started screaming my mum

shouted: 'What's happening? I'm going to call the police.' At that moment they all started running.

"They were all armed and had weapons, arm-length, the victim had something in his hand, a long metal item that he must have used to defend himself."

A woman who lives in Parson Street, where the victim was found, said: "There were lots of people around him on the floor... He was bleeding a lot, but they couldn't do anything."

Last night grieving friends gathered on the estate in Stratford Road. One said: "He was a lovely guy and didn't deserve to die this way. His girlfriend and mother are going through hell."

Scotland Yard said his next of kin have been informed and a post-mortem examination and identification will be arranged. There have been no arrests.

In a separate incident, a boy of 16 was stabbed in a play park in Basing Hill Park, Golders Green at 4.50pm yesterday.

Just over 15 minutes later a 20-year-old



Hacked to death: victim Asante Campbell with his newborn baby

man was found with stab injuries in Longfield Avenue, Walthamstow.

At about 9.20pm a man in his forties was assaulted and sprayed with an unknown substance on a bus in Lewisham High Street.

Police said all three victims were today recovering in hospital and had non-life threatening injuries. There have been no arrests in any of the incidents. Witnesses or anyone with information are asked to call police on 101.

ONLY FOOLS and HORSES THE MUSICAL

THE SUN DAILY MIRROR DAILY STAR HEAT

LONDON'S FUNNIEST SHOW!

50,000 NEW TICKETS FOR MAY & JUNE!

Starring **PAUL WHITEHOUSE**
TOM BENNETT & RYAN HUTTON

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET
OnlyFoolsMusical.com

Swift is global recording artist for second time

TAYLOR SWIFT has been named global recording artist of the year for a second time. The 30-year-old also took home the title in 2014, making her only the second artist to earn the accolade on two occasions, after rapper Drake in 2016 and 2018. The title, awarded by the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry, reflects worldwide success across digital and physical music formats. Ed Sheeran took second place with Post Malone in third. Billie Eilish, Queen and Ariana Grande also featured in the top 10.

Grenfell upgrade architects had never worked on tower block, inquiry told

Tristan Kirk Courts Correspondent

AN architectural firm hired for the refurbishment of Grenfell Tower had never worked on a high-rise residential tower block, the inquiry into the 2017 fire heard this morning.

Studio E Architects was appointed by Kensington and Chelsea council in 2011 to design a new school and leisure centre, and the refurbishment of the nearby Grenfell block was later added to the works.

Andrzej Kuszell, a founder of Studio E, said the creation of the Kensington Academy and Leisure Centre was a "highly prized project" and his firm underwent a "rigorous" selection process, winning it as specialists in the design of schools and sports centres.

But he told the inquiry Grenfell formed no part of the original process.

Mr Kuszell confirmed that the firm had not worked on overcladding a high-rise building, but told the hearing: "There was a time when every project that we did was a new project. There was a first extension to a school, a first small sports facility... If the implication is we were somehow not capable of doing the project, that is false."

Mr Kuszell, who was not involved in the project day-to-day, remembered the cladding being "as much to do with the thermal performance... as improving the appearance of the building".

Witnesses have been told their evidence will not be used in prosecutions against them. The hearing into the disaster that killed 72 people continues.

Star turn-out as Beck's team kicks off at last

DAVID BECKHAM'S family and friends showed their support by coming to watch his Inter Miami team finally play their first game.

The ex-England captain, who is co-owner and president of the side, battled for six years to realise his dream of launching his own football club in the US.

He said "perseverance, stubbornness and bloody-mindedness" had seen him through.

Beckham's wife Victoria and their eldest son Brooklyn were by his side to watch the game at the Banc of California Stadium in Los Angeles yesterday. They were also joined by, from left below, Liv Tyler, Eva Longoria and celebrity hairdresser Ken Paves, as well as Gordon Ramsay, below right. Before the game, Victoria wrote: "So many kisses @davidbeckham @intermiamlcf and Team DB!!" Despite the support Inter Miami lost the game, against Los Angeles FC, 1-0.

Lizzie Edmonds

**MORE
PICTURES
ONLINE**
standard.co.uk/
intermiami



Surgeons use robot to remove two tumours in same operation

EXCLUSIVE

Ross Lydall Health Editor

CANCER surgeons have achieved a world-first by using a robot to remove tumours from a patient's neck and lung in the same operation.

The six-hour procedure at Guy's hospital, revealed today by the Evening Standard, ensured the patient, a father of four, was able to start radiotherapy and chemotherapy much more quickly, improving his chances of being cured.

Conventional surgery would have involved splitting his jaw and rib cage, a long stay in intensive care, relying on breathing and feeding tubes and weeks of recovery. The chemotherapy could have been delayed by months.

The patient, a 49-year-old London psychiatrist called Harvey, was found to have throat cancer after noticing a lump in his neck. A secondary tumour in his right lung was also discovered.

Asit Arora, robotic head and neck surgical lead, and Jean-Pierre Jeannon, clinical director for surgical oncology, first removed the throat tumour.

The Da Vinci Xi robot was repositioned and given an extra "arm" and consultant thoracic surgeon Andrea Bille removed two-thirds of Harvey's right lung while he was still under anaesthetic.

Harvey, a former smoker who married his partner of more than 20 years Lorraine the day before the operation last August, said: "It was devastating to be told I had cancer. To be my age and have two cancers, particularly in the lung as well, is a spot of bad luck to say the least.

"In my professional life I've had a longstanding interest in research. Even if this does take me down, [the fact that] the treatment has produced a world first and hopefully informed research



Ground-breaking: surgeons operate on the patient at Guy's hospital in London

felt very fitting. It's given us hope where we had none."

Guy's and St Thomas NHS Trust carries out the most robotic operations in the UK — about 800 a year.

Mr Arora said: "It is testament to Harvey's courage, his willpower to recover and the minimally invasive robotic approach, that he went home six days later without the need for a feeding or breathing tube.

"He was able to start radiotherapy almost straight away due to the success of this ground-breaking operation.

"It was life-saving for him. If we had done this conventionally it would have taken him months to recover and it would have delayed the start of his radiotherapy and chemotherapy."

Mr Bille said: "It was a challenging situation. We wanted to minimise the time between surgery and the patient having other treatment. We wanted to speed his recovery and get him ready for the next stage. This was a real multi-disciplinary team effort, not just surgical, without which we simply wouldn't be able to offer this kind of cutting-edge cancer treatment."

Editorial Comment Page 14



WHEN YOUR BODY'S BUSY YOUR MIND ISN'T

If you're cycling in the sun or rock climbing or paddleboarding or sailing full speed ahead into waves, it's hard to be anywhere other than in the moment.

So there's no time to think about work emails.

That's just a fact.

Welcome to all-you-can-do holidays.

NEILSON
ACTIVE HOLIDAYS

Buttigieg warns against 'getting lost in ideology' as he quits presidential race

David Gardner US Correspondent

PETE BUTTIGIEG, the first openly gay contender to mount a major campaign for the US presidency, today appealed for a new leader to "heal a divided nation" as he withdrew from the race to fight Donald Trump in November.

The former Indiana mayor announced he was quitting the contest for the Democratic Party's nomination after his campaign ran out of steam following a couple of stunning early results.

Mr Buttigieg, 38, cancelled a planned rally in Austin, Texas and returned to his hometown of South Bend to tell supporters his challenge was over.

"We need leadership to heal a divided nation, not drive us further apart. We need a broad-based agenda to truly deliver for the American people, not one that gets lost in ideology," he told the crowd, in an apparent dig at his party's Left-wing front-runner, Bernie Sanders.

"The truth is that the path has narrowed to a close, for our candidacy if not for our cause. So we must recognise that at this point in the race the best way to keep faith with those goals and ideals is to step aside and help bring our party and our country together."

Mr Buttigieg, who came out as gay at 33 and married his husband, Chasten, in 2018, raised over £64 million for his



Public Enemy fire Flav in Sanders row

PUBLIC ENEMY have fired founder member Flavor Flav in a furious row over a Bernie Sanders rally.

Flav's lawyers had issued a "cease and desist" notice ahead of last night's rally in Los Angeles, which featured a performance by "Public Enemy Radio" led by fellow member Chuck D. Flav then hit out at "misleading marketing" around the rally, which



included an appearance by actor Dick Van Dyke, pictured left with his wife Arlene Silver. In response, the hip-hop band said it was "moving forward without Flavor Flav".

campaign. He had successes at nomination ballots in Iowa and New Hampshire, but got eight per cent of the vote in Saturday's South Carolina primary.

His withdrawal could boost the campaign of Joe Biden, the 77-year-old former vice president, ahead of

"Super Tuesday", when Democrats in 14 states vote for their favourite candidate. Mr Biden was re-energised by a decisive victory in South Carolina but Mr Sanders, 78, is looking for big wins tomorrow in states such as California.

After his withdrawal, Mr Buttigieg

reportedly spoke on the phone to Barack Obama and Mr Biden, who was said to have asked for his support. Mr Buttigieg agreed to sleep on the decision.

The six Democrats left in the nomination race include billionaire former New York mayor Michael Bloomberg.



WOMAN'S £100K SWINDLE AS SHE FAKED FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS

A COUNCIL worker who invented fake foster families to swindle more than £100,000 has been jailed for four years.

Stephanie Standen, 30, created false records of Croydon council's payments to foster parents. She linked these to bank details in her name and those of five co-conspirators. In 2016 and 2017 they raked in £128,067.63 in payments to the fictitious foster carers.

Standen, from South Croydon, personally received £64,628.39. She was arrested in April 2018 after an investigator found anomalies in the electronic accounting system.

Standen, said to have an "extensive drug habit", pleaded guilty to fraud and was jailed at Croydon crown court last week. Three accomplices got suspended sentences, two got community service.

DO THE JOB WHERE THE SMALL MOMENTS MATTER

Being a Met officer isn't all about fighting crime. It's the everyday interactions on the street that help build relationships and make a difference.

DO SOMETHING REAL
BECOME A POLICE OFFICER
SEARCH MET POLICE CAREERS

Start with a salary package c. £30,000, free London travel and discounted rail travel up to 70 miles from Central London.



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**



THIS SEASON'S MUST HAVE



Get the new Motorola Razr now,
exclusively on the UK's no. 1 network



 **motorola** **RAZR**

WITH 60GB FOR THE PRICE OF 30GB

£99 per month | £50 upfront

Annual price changes apply

Offer ends 2nd March

In-store | ee.co.uk | 0800 956 6039



Monthly price will increase from March every year by RPI published in January. See ee.co.uk/increase. Upfront cost applies as you're agreeing to a 24 month minimum term. Subject to credit check & availability. Data allowance can be used in UK & EUEEA. 15GB data fair use policy applies outside the UK. You own the device 6 months from plan start date. Personal use only. Subject to availability. **60GB for the price of 30GB**: Introductory offer available until 2nd March to new and eligible upgrading customers. Upfront charge may vary depending on the memory variant of the device selected. **NO. 1 NETWORK**: Best by ranking first in the RootMetrics® UK RootScore® Report: H2 (Jul-Dec) 2019. Tested at locations across the UK with the best commercially available smartphones on 4 national mobile networks across all available network types **excluding 5G**. Your experiences may vary. The RootMetrics award is not an endorsement of EE. Visit ROOTMETRICS.CO.UK for more details. Other terms apply, see ee.co.uk/terms. Information and pricing correct as at 21.02.2020.

Probe into stink bomb vendetta near Harrods

Hooded man in new attack on restaurant where road has been shut twice before

Ben Morgan

A RESTAURANT opposite Harrods is being targeted in a "stink bomb" vendetta — forcing police to cordon off the street three times.

Neighbouring businesses say they have lost thousands of pounds in takings.

The most recent attack on Freej Swaleh happened on Tuesday last week — when a foul-smelling substance was sprayed outside the Middle Eastern restaurant's entrance.

The stench caused the closure of a 250-metre stretch of the road from near Knightsbridge station to Hans Road for nearly two hours. CCTV revealed a hooded man dressed in black approaching the restaurant and spraying a substance from a small plastic bottle.

Traffic was gridlocked around Knightsbridge and shops within the cordon were forced to close while tests were carried out on the substance, which turned out to be harmless.

The manager of the restaurant today revealed it was the third time it had been targeted. He said: "The smell is really nasty, you can almost feel it when you come in. It's a cheesy smell that stays

around for months and months, we had professionals come in to get rid of it.

"We are worried there is a vendetta against us." The first attack happened on October 30, weeks after the restaurant opened, when two customers were caught depositing a substance inside the lavatories. One person was taken to hospital while other businesses were closed

and 30 people evacuated from nearby apartments. Police today released CCTV stills of two men they wish to speak to about this incident.

On February 19, security cameras captured a man injecting a substance through joins in the restaurant's glass facade. Detective Constable Danielle Sapsford said: "Although no serious

harm has come to anyone, a number of people suffering with nausea and vomiting were taken to hospital" after this attack. She added: "At this time, we cannot say if we are looking for one, two, or more suspects, so are exploring a number of possibilities around this."

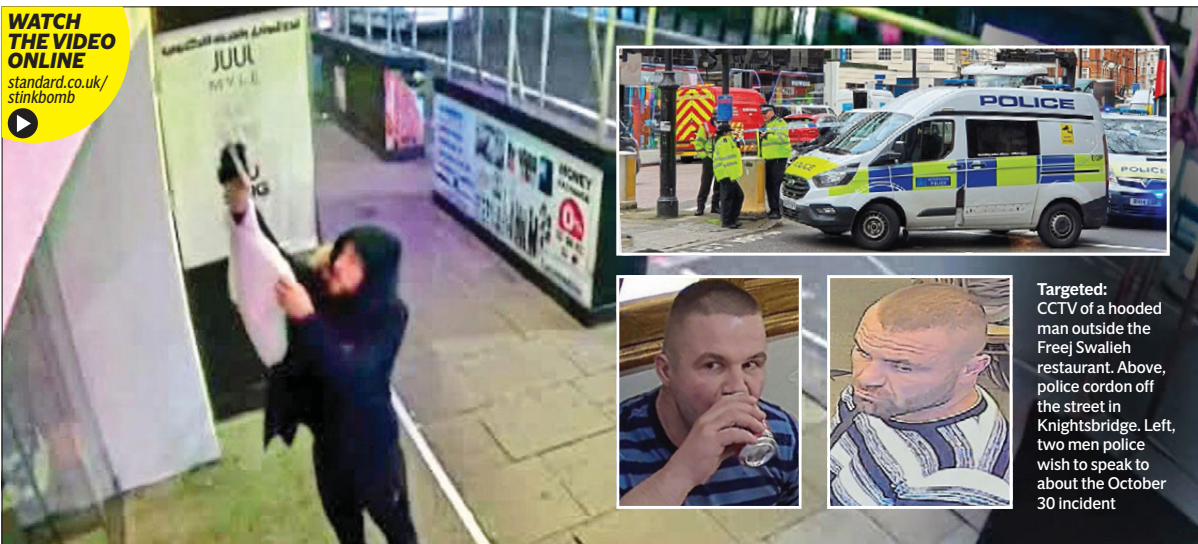
Samuel Di Francesco, general manager of nearby Caffè Concerto, said that after

last week's attack "we didn't open until 10am... it smells like gone-off eggs."

A Harrods spokeswoman said it was told to temporarily close its main doors during the first incident in October but was unaffected during this month's attacks. It has been suggested the substance was 3-Methylbutanoic acid, which is not harmful.

WATCH THE VIDEO ONLINE

standard.co.uk/stinkbomb



Targeted: CCTV of a hooded man outside the Freej Swaleh restaurant. Above, police cordon off the street in Knightsbridge. Left, two men police wish to speak to about the October 30 incident



A 12 NIGHT SPAIN & PORTUGAL
HOLIDAY FROM

5% low
deposit*

£749
per person†

HURRY, OFFERS
ENDING SOON!

02 MAR 2020

POCRUISES.COM | 03453 566 699

Local call charges apply



†Early Saver price of £749 per person is based on two adults sharing the lowest grade of Inside cabin available on Ventura cruise N037. Prices are subject to availability and may go up or down. Bookings are made at the relevant cabin grade and a cabin number is allocated by P&O Cruises prior to departure. Dining preferences are not guaranteed. Shuttle buses in ports are an additional cost. Early Saver prices apply to new bookings only. These terms and conditions vary, where relevant, the applicable booking conditions which are otherwise unchanged. *Applicable Select Price and Early Saver bookings made up to 2 March 2020 will benefit from a 5% low deposit. For bookings made within 90 days of departure the full balance will be due at time of booking. Offer is combinable with our current on-board spending money offer on qualifying Select Price departures until 2 April 2022. We reserve the right to withdraw this offer in whole or on individual cruises at any time. For up-to-date prices and full P&O Cruises terms and conditions which you must read before booking, please visit www.pocruises.com. P&O Cruises is a trading name of Carnival plc, a company registered in England and Wales with company number 04039524. Feefo rating 4.1 out of 5 based on 20,578 reviews as of February 2020.



Comment



I WAS above-averagely excited for my 100-mile trek across the Mongolian tundra for Sport Relief. I'd pictured myself pirouetting elegantly across the ice by day, before huddling with Nick Grimshaw for warmth each night. It sounded heavenly. Truth be told, I'd hardly done anything to prepare for the trip apart from watching *Frozen* with my godchildren. I simply assumed I'd be a little chilly. Even when they wheeled out an ice bath and plonked me into it with BBC Breakfast's Louise Minchin, it all seemed good fun. It was only when I saw the expectant faces around us that I realised I was supposed to be shrieking like an offended poodle. Instead, I smiled and asked for a magazine and a glass of wine.

I try not to think about things too much in advance, partly because I'm attempting to live in the now and partly because I'm a catastrophist and never think anything will work out. My approach of not worrying came in rather handy when coronavirus moved the whole endeavour to the sweltering Namibian desert, from where I write to you now.

I wasn't especially troubled about my trek across the desert until I got the memo that we'd be sleeping outside, as I don't understand tents. I'm all for camping but only when it involves jazz hands and glitter balls. I am currently incarcerated in some hideous tarpaulin sarcophagus, attempting to sleep on a wafer-thin mattress and choking on my own sweat, and can report that it is as appalling as I imagined it would be.

Apart from these Spartan sleeping arrangements, in the lead-up to this challenge I felt entirely relaxed. It was only when interviewers started asking me questions which made it sound like they thought I was going to expire that I felt a moment of nerves.

The whole thing reminded me of questions people would ask while I was on *Strictly*, such as "So how does it feel to dance in front of 13 million viewers and potentially publicly shame yourself?"

Rob Rinder



Be kind to everyone and carry on camping — lessons from my adventure in the Namibian desert

Before this trip, various tabloid types tried and failed to eke some kind of apprehension out of me, appearing to actually hope that I might melt or spontaneously combust on what I was picturing as a multi-day beach stroll. People's supposedly innocent questions barely concealed undertones of "Yes, but don't you think it will be awful? Don't you think you might DIE?"

This is an inexcusable way to speak to people, and my top tip for your mental health is to simply refuse to play along. Any other response only encourages this kind of anxiety-mining and makes life

harder for the next person coming along to talk about some upcoming trial.

Attempting to cajole stress out of people who aren't experiencing any is utterly deranged — not to mention cruel. We



To cajole stress out of people who aren't experiencing any is utterly deranged, not to mention pretty cruel

all have plenty of perfectly legitimate panicking to be getting on with. Managing to feel calm about anything, ever, should be a cause for grand celebration.

We should never go around putting a brave face on things when we aren't feeling brave, but nor should we be conscripting others into feeling worse. In a world where the tundra can turn into the desert before you can say "coronavirus", there is no excuse to incite anxiety. Things don't have to be terrifying to be interesting, and we should be truly delighted when we see others getting on with life and doing just fine.

Good manners get you through anything

FORTY years ago, the wife of an American diplomat was invited to lunch with the late Queen Mother. Everything went perfectly well until the diplomat's wife made the unforgivable faux pas of speaking to Her Majesty without being spoken to first. "What do you think the most important thing parents can impart to their children?" asked the American. The Queen Mother replied with regal nonchalance: "The answer, of course, is manners. One can cope with any situation if one has manners."

Apart from her connoisseur's taste for a decent gin cocktail, I never gave much thought to Her late Majesty. Then I found myself sharing a tent in the Namibian desert with *Strictly*'s Karim Zeroual (pictured). He has the

best manners of any person under 30 I've ever met. He laughed at my fifth-rate jokes, and was concerned I had everything I needed. He even gave a favourable review of the musicality of my snoring.

Having spent a few days knee-deep in sand and portable-potty swill, my patience was at a low ebb. The only cure was to spend as much time as possible in Karim's delightful company. Her late Majesty was right — manners do indeed get you through anything.



● THERE'S nothing quite as satisfying as overhearing a conversation between two people speaking a foreign language who think you don't understand them. Last week on the Tube, one Russian passenger said to another in their native tongue: "That's the judge from the TV; he's much fatter and older in real life." I was going to say something but didn't have the courage. I just waited for the doors to close and simply said "Spasiba" — thank you.

A MODERN CLASSIC

ROYAL ASCOT

BE PART OF THE DRAMA

16-20 JUNE

ROYAL ASCOT PRESENTS A BRITISH OCCASION STEEPED IN TRADITION. A TRUE MASTERPIECE.
EARLYBIRD TICKETS AVAILABLE UNTIL 31 MARCH. TICKETS FROM £32 AND FINE DINING PACKAGES FROM £277+VAT. BOOK NOW.

OIPCO LONGINES
OFFICIAL PARTNER OFFICIAL PARTNER

Evening Standard

Established 1827

**We must rally together to defeat coronavirus**

THE meeting today of the Government's emergency committee Cobra is an indication of what has been apparent for some time: the threat posed to this country by the coronavirus Covid-19 is a serious one that requires comprehensive action. This is needed to minimise any loss of life and the economic damage that the disease could inflict. In that respect today's meeting is a welcome sign that the Government has listened to the exhortation of this newspaper, and others, for it to "get a grip" before the situation deteriorates. The coming publication of its formal "battle plan" for tackling the virus — with likely options including school closures, a ban on big sporting events and mass working from home — confirms that the Government is, as the Health Secretary Matt Hancock writes opposite, preparing for the worst.

That's sensible, but as Mr Hancock also points out, the priority now must be to "work for the best" by taking less drastic measures that can, hopefully, ensure that harm is contained. Much of this, of course, involves government action. This must include the provision of clear information to the public, as well as making sure that the NHS is as ready as it can be to cope with a surge in cases beyond the current total of 36 infections.

But individuals and employers must do their bit, too. The most obvious way is by following official recommendations on hand-washing, but equally important will be the need for people to "self-isolate" if advised to by doctors, to protect others. Mr Hancock says the Government has the power to compel this, but this shouldn't be needed if people act in the public-spirited manner that's required, however inconvenient it might be.

Employers, too, must assist — not just by making it possible for staff to work from home if necessary, but also by making it clear that any forced to self-isolate will not be penalised as a result. This is particularly the case for those on insecure contracts who might worry about the loss of their employment if they stay away to avoid infecting others. There's still time to avoid a national calamity. But how well we survive the coronavirus menace could well be determined by all our actions over the coming days.

A London surgical first

TODAY brings yet another illustration of the outstanding brilliance present in London's hospitals, with the revelation that cancer surgeons at Guy's have achieved a world first by using a robot to remove tumours from a patient's neck and lung during a single operation. Their success has not just benefited the patient involved, who is recovering well, but means that similar surgery should be possible for others in the future, too.

That's good news because, as this first operation showed, surgery of this type is less invasive and quicker, resulting in both a shorter recovery period for the patient and more time for surgeons to fit in extra operations on others. It also allows the radiotherapy and chemotherapy that cancer patients typically need post-surgery to start sooner, further boosting their chances of a successful outcome. It's wonderful progress, and a reason to once again be thankful for London's world-beating medics and the teams who work with them to such life-saving effect.

Cheer England's women

AWAY from the worries about coronavirus and stock-market turmoil there's good news from Australia to cheer, following the qualification of the England women's cricket team for the semi-finals of the T20 World Cup. Their place in Thursday's match, where they will play either Australia or India, was sealed by a fine performance against the West Indies. If replicated, it could take our team all the way to Sunday's final in Melbourne and victory there too. We hope so. Let's cheer on our women and keep our fingers crossed that their triumphs continue.

**Matt Hancock****We're planning for the worst and working for the best in virus battle**

THE whole country is concerned about coronavirus (Covid-19). That is a good thing. Because everyone has a part to play in tackling it.

As a new virus, the lack of immunity in our population means that Covid-19 has the potential to spread widely. A vaccine is unlikely to be developed for some months at the earliest. We need everyone to act on their concerns, not with fear but by following expert medical advice.

The Government's approach is to prepare for the worst and work for the best. This means we are basing our planning assumptions not just on what is most likely to happen but on the reasonable worst-case scenario.

The Prime Minister has today chaired a meeting of the Government emergency Cobra committee on the outbreak, where we finalised and signed off our battle plan — a four-part strategy to contain, delay, research and mitigate the virus, which we will be publishing this week.

We have some of the finest scientific minds on the planet working on our response day and night, and this plan is driven by the best possible evidence and guided by leading experts such as the Chief Medical Officer, Professor Chris Whitty.

Currently, we are in the contain phase of the plan, which is where we have been since we first learnt about Covid-19 at the end of last year. The contain phase is about detecting and isolating the early cases — currently standing at 36 people in the UK — tracing their close contacts and preventing the disease from taking hold in the UK for as long as we reasonably can. This has also given the NHS time to ramp up its preparations.

We have not taken more radical measures such as banning flights from China because the science shows they would not work, as Italy's example indicates.

We have had some success with the

contain approach. But we are realistic about the fact that globally cases are rising and we may not be able to rely on it forever, especially if coronavirus becomes more widespread in Europe.

The next phase is delay. We will move to this phase if the global situation makes containing the virus impossible. At this point widespread transmission may become inevitable so delay is about slowing the spread, lowering the peak impact and pushing it away from the winter season when the NHS is under maximum pressure.

Everyone can do their bit today by using and binning tissues and properly washing their hands more often. This becomes even more critical in the delay



If everyone does their duty, follows the Government's advice and plays their part we will make it through

phase. If you are advised by the NHS to self-isolate then you need to follow that advice to protect others. If necessary we have the power to compel people to self-isolate, but I do not want to have to see that power widely used. You can also help by keeping yourself informed with the latest official advice on gov.uk, combating the virus of fake news in parallel with the real virus.

We may need to take further measures to delay the spread of coronavirus, including actions that have already been taken by other European countries at more advanced stages of an outbreak. All options are on the table. And while protecting the public is our first priority, as far as reasonably possible we want to minimise the social and economic costs that some options entail. It will not help the situation — nor the NHS — if we cause widespread social or economic

disruption by going too far too fast. Our actions will always be guided by expert scientific advice: planning for the worst and working for the best.

The third part of our battle plan is to research the virus. This has been ongoing ever since we learnt of its existence. The UK has world-leading expertise and we are putting it at the world's disposal, working with international partners to co-ordinate research on better diagnostics, treatments and ultimately a vaccine. This could take many months or longer to develop and our plan does not assume the availability of a vaccine in the near future.

If coronavirus does become established in the UK population, we will only be able to delay for so long. Once it becomes widespread we will then move to the mitigate phase.

This is about providing the best possible care for those who fall sick, with the best use of resources in the hospital system which will come under major pressure.

Our focus will also be on maintaining essential services at a time when large parts of the workforce may be off sick. The NHS has been preparing for this kind of situation for many years and will be able to draw on medical stockpiles that we built up during Brexit planning last year.

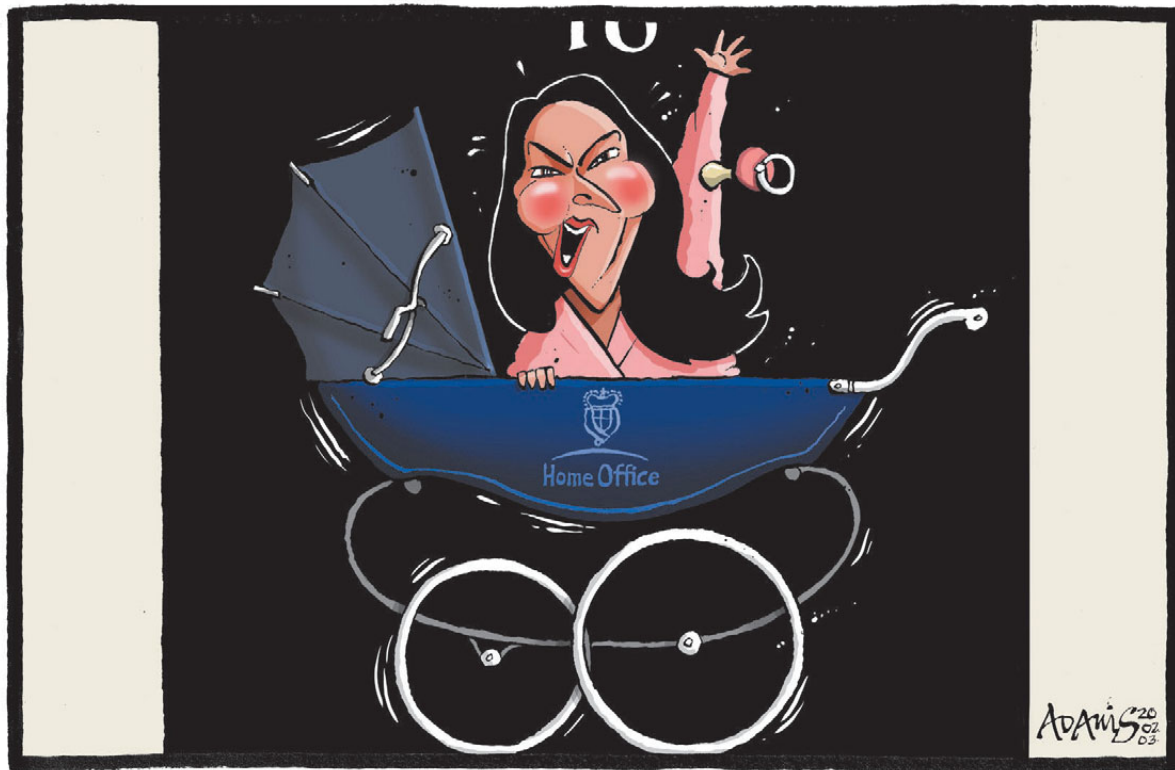
The whole machinery of government has been working round the clock on this battle plan for many weeks now. The Prime Minister and I have been hugely impressed by the response of my officials, Public Health England and the whole NHS and we thank them for their hard work. I will do everything I can to protect the public and I know they will too.

The Government has duty to the public but times like this remind us that we all have a duty to each other. If everyone does their duty, follows advice and plays their part we will make it through.

● *Matt Hancock is the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care*



Taking action: the Government has devised a four-part battle plan to contain, delay, research and mitigate. The public are urged to keep up to date with the latest official advice



To order prints or signed copies call 0191 603 0178 or visit eveningstandard.newsprints.co.uk • Contact Adams at: cartoonist@standard.co.uk • Instagram: @adamstoon

The Reader Your letters

Racist abuse has left me hollow

I WAS racially abused last week, something that hasn't happened for more than 20 years.

I was born and bred in London; "Best place to live in the world, progressive, post-racial, meritocratic," I have bragged to my international friends.

Having endured the often violent Seventies and Eighties, I thought I was now immune. I was wrong.

How can I explain it to those who will never suffer it? Think burglary. You work hard to make your house a home, fill it with love and memories you cherish and in a moment someone tears them away from you, wrecks your house and leaves grubby boot stains all over your soul.

It has left me hollow and afraid. In the past I rebuilt thinking racism, like public executions, would evolve out of civilised societies, but now I don't think there's any point.

There are many British values that the country should be proud of but there is one peculiar to a few that she should be deeply ashamed of.

S Pathak

Labour needs Hazarika's vision

AFTER Ayesha Hazarika's succinct deconstruction of the candidates for leadership of the Labour Party [Comment, Feb 26] it's clear that there is one outstanding suitable alternative: Ayesha Hazarika.

Barry Hyman

EDITOR'S REPLY

Our plan for a third way for Heathrow expansion

THE Arora Group remains an unwavering supporter of Heathrow expansion and we have already filed to participate in the Supreme Court appeal against last week's decision.

However, it is in the best interests of everyone that Heathrow Airport Limited's monopoly over the entire expansion project ends.

We have an advanced proposal to design, develop and operate a new terminal servicing the additional runway. Our project, called Heathrow West, will deliver the fully expanded airport 18 years earlier

than the plans by Heathrow Airport Limited. It will also require less land and in turn less disruption to the environment, so we can expand the airport in a more sustainable and environmentally friendly way.

We call on the Government and regulator to acknowledge that Heathrow West is the greener, better and quicker option that can bring in much needed innovation to the airport.

Surinder Arora
Founder and chairman,
The Arora Group



Jim Armitage
City Editor



Dear Surinder

Few issues divide Londoners like Heathrow expansion. For those of us under the flightpath, it will make noise pollution worse, yet we know we must keep business coming to our shores. This is why we need to press on with the third runway.

You run many hotels around the airport and have land there too. You have more skin in this game than most. But what troubles me about having a rival plan to Heathrow Airport Limited's is the extra delay and dither it would cause. Who

knows how long it would take the powers-that-be to assess a whole new bid proposal? And let's not forget it was the Government's mess-up that made the court block the third runway last week, not HAL's. Your proposals would have fallen at the same hurdle.

Your bid does highlight some important factors, though. HAL's budget for the project has surged from £14 billion to £32 billion. Passengers will doubtless end up paying the extra.

Jim

Ulez 2.0 won't change behaviour

"Expanding Ulez will cut toxic-air diseases by third" [Feb 26] makes a good headline, but ignores the fact this cut is set to happen anyway thanks to EU emissions standards for new vehicles. The mayor's proposals merely retrospectively mandate these standards, already in force for up to 15 years, so the number of non-compliant vehicles will be insignificant in a few years' time even if no action is taken.

Worse, forcing people to upgrade vehicles now means they won't take advantage of future improvements in engine technology, particularly the electric revolution.

The central London Ulez made sense, but expanding it will cause enormous hardship for negligible benefit. A mayor who was really serious about tackling pollution would be taking pragmatic steps such as promoting car clubs and removing barriers to electric vehicle take-up, as well as reviewing 30 years of disastrous traffic management policies which have led to massive increases in congestion and pollution, and damaged bus services.

Robert Munster



Have your say

Email: thereader@standard.co.uk

Twitter: @ESTheReader

Online: standard.co.uk/thereader

Please give a daytime phone number. Letters withholding name and address will not be published.

The civil service will be hurt by this resignation

Julian Glover



I WAS once a special adviser — the sort of job belonging to the shouty people in The Thick Of It, only not many special advisers actually work like that. Mostly you are trying to join up bits of government, chase people to get things done, worry about the money, and, if you are lucky, catch disasters before they happen. You have to do all this while working very closely with civil servants, and there's only two ways that can go. Either you decide they are the enemy, getting in the way of all your bright ideas. Or they become allies in the mad, frustrating world of government.

On the first day I started at the Department for Transport, the most senior civil servant of all — the Permanent Secretary Philip Rutnam — asked me into his office. I expected an awkward warning about not leaking things (I never did). Actually, the conversation went differently. "Julian," he began, "something really terrible is about to happen and I have to tell you about it." I gulped. How bad could this be?

It turned out that the department had messed up badly on a contract to run trains on the West Coast mainline from Euston. We had to confess, sort things out and keep the trains running. We could have diverted anger away from ministers by blaming Philip — but we needed a solution, not a scapegoat.

It was the start of four years of working closely with a clever, decent, committed man who had a job in government because he wanted to make Britain a better place. The fact that he has now resigned spectacularly after falling out with the Home Secretary, Priti Patel, says a lot more about her than him.

Philip isn't flash: the tie he wore for his powerful resignation statement at the weekend was at the muted end of unexciting. When I went out for dinner with him early on in my job I eyed up the wine list. After some persuasion, he went for a small dry sherry.

But that's exactly the sort of person we need as an official of state: someone clever who can get things done while politicians go out and make the case for their plans and get elected.

That's the hard bit of government: making things happen. My friend Tim Leunig, now a Treasury official, was all over the papers yesterday because of an email he sent about farming. He's one of the cleverest and nicest people I know, and that means he says what he thinks and challenges the system. We need people like that in government. Tim has actually spent much of the last two years trying to help farmers by replacing the mad subsidy system with something better for them and nature.

He doesn't want to be famous. Like Philip, he'll be mortified to make the news. Both of them know the way you make this country better isn't by boasting about how radical you are to friendly journalists, and then blaming the system when it turns out nothing happens. Instead, you must use your brain, work hard and push for change. Sometimes things go wrong. They always will. It's how you overcome this that counts.



V STANDS FOR INVESTMENT VALUE

We want to give everyone the best chance of success with our low-cost, uncomplicated investments.

We are Vanguard and we stand for value.

Join us.



The value of your investments can go down as well as up and you may get back less than you invest.

Vanguard[®]
VALUE TO
INVESTORS

FIRST NIGHT

Opera superstars underwhelming in Beethoven's tale of heroism

Fidelio

Royal Opera, WC2

★★★★☆

Barry Millington

THE first act of Tobias Kratzer's new production of Beethoven's *Fidelio* relocates the action from Spain to France during the Reign of Terror.

Tickets for this staging, featuring superstars Jonas Kaufmann and Lise Davidse, were as elusive as the Scarlet Pimpernel himself and I'm not sure that the starstruck punters at yesterday's opening, now considerably the poorer, will feel they got their money's worth.

An under-the-weather Kaufmann (for whom an apology was made before the curtain went up) intermittently displayed his golden tone and famed legato, but was underwhelming in Florestan's central aria *Gott! Welch Dunkel*. At curtain call, clearly discontented, he took the most perfunctory of bows.

Davidse's character, Leonore, in her big aria, *Abscheulicher!*, sings frequently of love giving her strength. Davidse's imposing tone — her voice is indisputably a magnificent instrument — certainly had a steely strength, but it lacked the vital gleam of humanity here.

The intellectual brilliance of Kratzer's conception, focusing on the challenges faced by ordinary people confronted by injustice and loss of freedom, is not always matched by



Strength through love: Lise Davidse as Leonore and Jonas Kaufmann as Florestan in Tobias Kratzer's new *Fidelio* at the Royal Opera House

convincing execution. Florestan, rather than being imprisoned in a dark dungeon, lies on a slab of slate in a brightly lit room observed by modern-day witnesses, who begin to empathise with Leonore's heroic endeavour to save her husband.

Marzelline, beautifully sung by Amanda Forsythe, recovers from her disappointment at discovering that the disguised Leonore is not actually

an eligible bachelor to lead the fight against oppression, appearing at the climax of the prison scene like a latterday Annie Oakley, with blazing gun and trumpet (the symbol of liberation). Sadly the moment was sabotaged here by a cack-handed piece of blocking.

Georg Zeppenfeld is outstanding as Rocco. Antonio Pappano conducts with characteristic sensitivity. ● Until March 17 (020 7304 4000, roh.org.uk); live in UK cinemas on March 17

ARTS & CULTURE PAGES 34-37

Israeli intelligence unit could be model for UK

Defence chiefs planning a new 'cyber force' to protect Britain from online attacks look to Israel's young tech warriors for inspiration, **Robert Fox** reports

BRITAIN'S cyber and space operations will be at the heart of the Government's ambitious defence and foreign policy review.

A new cyber force under military command is due to be announced in April by the Prime Minister. A space command, proposed in the Tory manifesto, is already being built.

Close attention is being paid to Israel's cyber command and operations — particularly a signals intelligence formation called Unit 8200, thought to be the most successful cyber unit in the world, rivalling anything from the US or China. It recruits 18- to 21-year-olds from schools and colleges with a special aptitude for computer operations, especially hacking. More than half the unit are women.

As the Standard revealed last month, the UK is looking to attract its own teenage cyber warriors — hence a recent schools' visit to the HQ of MI6. The cyber formation will work across government departments and link with both MI5 and MI6, the armed services and the National Cyber Security Centre at GCHQ. It will come

under the new Strategic Command, which heads up all military special operations, and was recently rebranded and relaunched.

Strategic Command's General Sir Patrick Sanders said it was looking for a new brand of "cyber warrior" from cadet forces, youth groups and



I'm not sure whether we will call them cyber warriors, but we must learn from those who do this well

General Sir Patrick Sanders

schools. "I am not sure whether we will actually call them cyber warriors, but we definitely must learn from those who do this well, like the Israelis," he said.

Boris Johnson has been briefed about Unit 8200 and the Israeli cyber force structure, Israeli sources say.

Unit 8200 graduates form an elite

within an elite. "You never quite leave the unit, it is like joining for life," said one. They are highly successful in business as well as military and intelligence careers — and many return for specific operations. Unit 8200 is credited with much of the creation of the Stuxnet malware that set back the Iranian nuclear programme for years.

It is felt cyber operations were somewhat neglected in the last big UK defence review in 2015. The need for a new command is deemed urgent across Whitehall. Last year alone the UK sustained 658 major cyber attacks on infrastructure, according to the National Cyber Security Centre.

Steve Beeching, of ViaSat UK, a major cyber contractor, said the armed and intelligence services must talk to each other in a way they haven't before. He believes the commercial sector needs to be integrated into defence policy, as in Israel.

Dr Oliver Lewis, part of the 2015 review, said cyber operations need continuous updates, but added: "We can only plot where we are going after we know the terms of the EU deal."

AHH. FINALLY CROSSING "STOP PAYING SO MUCH FOR BROADBAND" OFF YOUR TO-DO LIST.

YOU CAN'T PUT A PRICE ON THAT

- No set-up fee
- Average speeds of 38 Mb/s
- Switch now for a fairer price

Faster Fibre
£22.95
a month, fixed for 24 months

TalkTalk
For Everyone

☎ 0800 049 1391 | 🔍 TalkTalk Fibre

Available to new and existing customers. Subject to availability. No mid-contract price rises on Faster Fibre price of £22.95 a month for 24 months. This does not include phone or TV boosts or other charges. Average download speeds: 38Mb/s. Based on the download speeds of at least 50% of our customer base at peak time (8pm-10pm). Offer ends 26/03/20. Registered in England. Company number 4633015.



Six-page special supplement. See page 28

Evening Standard

We do love something new



NatWest
We are what we do

If you're looking for a new home, you could fix your mortgage rate at 1.49% for 5 years

🔍 NatWest Mortgages

🏠 Visit your nearest branch

☎ Call us on 0800 096 9527



Your Mortgage



BEST BANK
NATWEST



BEST MORTGAGE
WINNER 2019
Best Home Loan Bank



BEST MORTGAGE
PROVIDER
WINNER 2019

1.49%

fixed until 30/06/2025

4.24%

variable after that

3.3%

APRC is the overall cost for comparison

5 year fixed rate of 1.49% with a fee of £995 and cashback of £250. Applies to Home Movers only – excludes First Time Buyers – up to 60% LTV. Cashback will be paid to the solicitor on drawdown of the mortgage, offer can be changed/withdrawn any time. Early Repayment Charge applies until 30/06/2025.

Representative example: A mortgage of £135,775.00 payable over 25 years initially on a fixed rate for 5 years at 1.49% and then our variable rate of 4.24% for the remaining 20 years would require 60 monthly payments of £542.38 and 240 monthly payments of £696.06. The total amount payable would be £200,856.53 made up of the loan amount of £135,775.00 plus interest of £65,081.53. A product fee of £995.00, valuation fee of £248.00 and a CHAPS fee of £30.00 are also payable. **The overall cost for comparison is 3.3% APRC representative.**

YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE

thelondoner@standard.co.uk

@esTheLondoner

The

Hirsch family turn out for Afua award

IT was a family affair at Old Finsbury Town Hall last night where anti-racist activist Afua Hirsch was honoured by the Campaign for Broadcasting Equality in front of dad Peter, mum Mary and sister Ama, who she called "her first ally".

BBC presenter Samira Ahmed, who recently won an equal pay tribunal against her employer, presented the award. She told us: "Afua represents everything that is good about Britain," and praised her for "standing up against intolerance and the importance of solidarity". Hirsch said she was honoured to receive the award. What about the abuse she often gets? "It makes the case and strengthens my resolve," she replied. She also had strong words about the Prime Minister's personal news. "I look forward to no longer hearing the Tories talking about broken families... now that we have a serial baby father in No10."

Also picking up an award last night from WhatsOnStage was Andrew Scott, aka Fleabag's Hot Priest, while singer Ellie Goulding was very much trackside at the Formula E 2020 Marrakech E-prix in Morocco.



VANESSA FISHER

SAMIRA AHMED

SHIRLEY THOMPSON
JASMINE DOTIWALA

Women in theatre

LEADING female figures in theatre have doubled down on their criticism of "shabby treatment of women" in Arts Council England's 10-year strategy, saying there's a "climate of fear" about criticising the powerful industry body.

"People will only be interviewed anonymously as they fear losing funding or jobs," Julia Pascal (right), the first female director at the National Theatre, warned at a recent conference. ACE's 10-year strategy, entitled Let's Cre-

ate, was criticised last month for failing to commit itself to the 50/50 representation of women. The December Group, a collective of women working in theatre, said the strategy showed a "serious disregard" for women.

Although ACE chairman Sir Nicholas Serota hit back at their claims, key figures in the December group have been left unimpressed.

Serota (left) had defended Let's Create in a letter, saying it shows "no disregard" for women and was in fact intended to



The Basildon Bond

FORGET Brexit, Mark Francoise has a new mission: to get his book done. The Londoner spotted the ERG deputy chairman at the Parliamentary Book Awards last week. "I'm here partly tonight to try and find a publisher," he told us. His autobiography, You Really Couldn't Make It Up, will document his journey from council estate to the Commons. He promises "plenty of anecdotes" from his time in Basildon council where he learned his "robust debating style", explaining "it was once described as the only council where the councillors heckled the public gallery".

Who will play him in the movie?

TRACY-ANN Oberman tells us "something needs to change" in the Labour Party. The actor, who won plaudits for her stand against anti-Semitism in the party, was speaking at a new interpretation of The Merchant of Venice she stars in. "I would've supported Jess, but she left. Continuation Corbyn probably isn't the way to go." That's a no for RLB, then?

MORE US branches of publishers, including HarperCollins and Hachette, have pulled out of The London Book Fair, as the Paris sister event is called off over coronavirus. The books world is irritated with organisers Reed, which plans to go ahead in Olympia next week unless government recommendations change.

Londoner



ANDREW SCOTT

PETER HIRSCH
AMA QUARSHIE-COLLISON
AFUA HIRSCH
MARY HIRSCH

ELLIE GOULDING

DAVE BENNETT/PAUL HAMPTON/STILLMAN



● BORIS Johnson (below) and Carrie Symonds's happy news led The Londoner to look up the last PM to get divorced and married in office — the 3rd Duke of Grafton, in the 1760s. Before he took power the Duke had a very public affair. While in office, his wife got pregnant by her lover, so they divorced. He married a new wife three months later, and they went on to have nine children. Grafton resigned after a dispute with France. Puts the current incumbent to shame.



● MEANWHILE, Jess Phillips had to clarify she's "definitely not pregnant" after she showed a male journalist her period-tracking app, which said she was 54 days late. "He said congratulations but I just forgot to press the button." Red alert.

● ZAC Goldsmith is glad that the "angry men popping blood vessels" who wrote abusive comments about Greta Thunberg have been named and shamed by a local newspaper, saying the situation was "very, very weird".

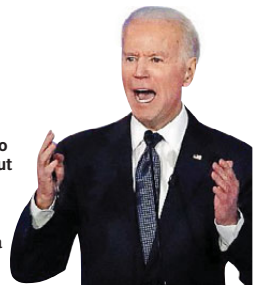


Ayesha Hazarika

QUOTE OF THE DAY

'We are very much alive'

Joe Biden, who had seemed out of the race, celebrates winning the South Carolina Democratic primary



attack arts body

reflect industry inequality. Dame Rosemary Squire, founder of the Ambassador Theatre group, told a Women in Theatre forum last week, "We hope that by raising the endemic inequality of women in performing arts... that the Arts Council will revise its shabby treatment of women in the new 10-year strategy".

The forum discussed the recent research from among others Jennifer Tuckett, director at the University Women in the Arts scheme. "0.64 per cent of funding went to women's theatre companies," said Tuckett. "That's compared to 1.51 per cent going to disabled-led [organisations] and 1.57 per cent going to BAME led companies."

Serota was invited to attend the forum, but declined the invitation sending two representatives instead.

Pascal also accused Let's Create of containing "zero references to women in the body of the text", despite the report referring to the "support that we give to... women".

"The Arts Council is public money," said Pascal. "We shouldn't be ashamed of asking for it." With International Women's Day coming up this Sunday, this row shows no sign of going away quietly.

The Londoner online:
standard.co.uk/thelondoner

Joanna keeps the blue flag flying high

● JOANNA Trollope is most famous for her romance novels — but there's another side to her and it comes wrapped in a blue scarf. Trollope has an "addiction to football", specifically focusing on her local team, Chelsea. The Blues, she says, are "not a very fashionable team" as most writers are "great supporters of Arsenal". What Trollope loves, she explains to Paul McKenna's podcast, is "the psychology of it. When you're a footballer it's rather like being a ballet dancer, you've got this tiny window of life and opportunity". Apart from all the money and drug-fuelled orgies.



B
BUSINESS
TODAY
LONDON
DUO IN
£500M
FILM
STUDIOS
VENTURE
PAGE 50

★★★★★

'REMARKABLE'

GUARDIAN

★★★★★

'SUPERB'

THE TIMES

★★★★★

'POIGNANT'

FINANCIAL TIMES

★★★★★

'EXCELLENT... A DIGNIFIED SOUTH AFRICAN TREAT'

THE SUNDAY TIMES

ANTHONY SHER JOHN KANI

KUNENE AND THE KING

WRITTEN BY JOHN KANI

ONLY UNTIL 28 MARCH

AMBASSADORS THEATRE, LONDON

kuneneandtheking.com

Stay up to date all day every day at:
standard.co.uk/business

Child drowns as migrant crisis deepens on border with Greece

GREECE

Ben Morgan

A CHILD has died after a boat carrying dozens of migrants capsized off the Greek island of Lesbos as thousands of people were trying to cross Turkey's border into Europe.

The Greek coastguard today said it had rescued nearly 50 people from the boat — as it was revealed 1,000 fleeing

war and poverty have reached the eastern Aegean islands in the past 24 hours.

The port authority said the migrant boat overturned as the coastguard approached at about 8.30am. Two children were taken to hospital unconscious. The other child was said to have recovered.

Today's tragedy will evoke memories of Alan Kurdi, the three-year-old Syrian refugee whose dead body washed up on

a Turkish beach in September 2015 after he fled his war-torn homeland with his family. Images of the boy became a symbol of Europe's migrant crisis.

The new crisis started unfolding after Turkey declared it was reneging on a £5.1 billion deal with the EU and opening its border with Greece to migrants and refugees hoping to reach Europe. Thousands of people have massed at the frontier since the announcement

on Friday, which came in the wake of the deaths of 33 Turkish troops in an air strike in Idlib province in Syria.

About 10,000 migrants were blocked from entering Greece yesterday and this morning amid skirmishes with border guards who used tear gas, water cannons and stun grenades to push back the crowds.

A few managed to make it across the land border, including Therese Ngonda, a 40-year-old woman from Cameroon, who wading across the Evros river that runs along the border.

Her feet still wet from the river crossing, she said she had been told migrants had 72 hours from Friday to leave the country. She got on one of dozens of buses that have been ferrying people from Istanbul to the border — about 2,000, including families with young children and Syrians.

Greek prime minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis today said the country was bolstering its security to maximise "the level of deterrence" at border crossings.

He said Greece had invoked an emergency clause of an EU treaty "to ensure full European support".

Mr Mitsotakis said: "The borders of Greece are the external borders of Europe. We will protect them. Once more, do not attempt to enter Greece illegally — you will be turned back."

Athens also announced it was suspending all asylum applications for one month in an attempt to avert a repeat of the migration crisis of 2015, when nearly a million migrants crossed from Turkey to Greece.

The army announced a 24-hour live fire exercise along the Greek border for today, declaring the area dangerous and



Treacherous: migrants disembark an

banning any movement of people or livestock during the exercise.

Turkey announced today it had killed 19 Syrian soldiers in a drone strike in Idlib. Thousands of Turkish troops are supporting the last rebel forces holed up in Idlib against the onslaught of Russian-backed Syrian forces.



Moving in: armed police at the V-mall today where a gunman reportedly shot and injured one person and took dozens of hostages

WATCH THE VIDEO ONLINE
standard.co.uk/manila

'Sacked guard' holds hostages at gunpoint in shopping mall

PHILIPPINES

Ted Hennessey

ARMED police today swooped on an upmarket shopping mall in Manila where officials said a recently-sacked security guard had fired gunshots and taken dozens of people hostage.

Dramatic pictures showed SWAT commandos entering the V-mall with assault rifles.

A local mayor said the gunman had shot one person, who was taken to a nearby hospital for treatment.

A police negotiator was trying to communicate with the suspect.

"We have evacuated all the people in the shopping centre and we're in a

lockdown here in the entire mall," said Francis Zamora, mayor of San Juan, in greater Manila.

An initial police report said the hostage-taker shot a mall official before going to the second floor of the complex, where he was holding dozens of people, mostly employees, in an office.

The mall is near an expensive residential enclave, a golf club, and the police and military HQ in the metropolis of more than 12 million people.

In 2017, a gunman stormed a mall-casino in Manila, shooting TV monitors and setting tables on fire. Thirty six people died, most of them from smoke inhalation. The attacker killed himself after a confrontation with police.

The fastest way to make someone's day

London
to Birmingham

1hr 22min

avantiwestcoast.co.uk

Let's get together

AVANTI
WEST COAST

Journey time shown represents a typical Monday-Friday journey.



Inflatables on the Greek island of Lesbos, which is facing a new wave of crossings after the crisis of 2015

GLOBAL BRIEFING

UNITED STATES
POLICE FIND
5FT ALLIGATOR
IN BASEMENT

POLICE called to a home in Ohio found a five-foot alligator that had been living in the basement for 25 years. Owner Dusty Rhoades said he had bought "Alli" at a reptile flea market. It will be rehomed at a sanctuary in South Carolina.



Rehomed: the alligator had been living in the basement for 25 years

ISRAEL

NETANYAHU CHALLENGED AS HE
FACES THIRD ELECTION IN A YEAR

VOTE-WEARY Israelis were today taking part in an unprecedented third general election in less than a year.

With opinion polls forecasting another deadlock, prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu was seeking a late surge in support to finally achieve a parliamentary majority along with other nationalist parties. He hopes that will deliver him a fourth consecutive term. He faced a stiff challenge once again from retired military chief Benny Gantz, whose centrist Blue and White party claims Mr Netanyahu, 70, is unfit to lead, as he faces trial on corruption charges in two weeks' time.

NORTH KOREA

KIM JONG-UN RESUMES MISSILE
TESTS WITH TWO LAUNCHES

NORTH Korea has carried out its first missile tests of the year, firing two projectiles from a coastal area.

Seoul's military chiefs confirmed the launches, which took place near Wonsan, and said the unidentified missiles flew about 150 miles north-east reaching a height of about 22 miles. North Korea carried out its last weapons test in November.

The lack of testing activity had experts wondering whether Kim Jong-un's regime was focusing on efforts to fight the coronavirus emergency, which state media has called "a matter of national existence".

SENEGAL

UK TROOPS
HELP FIGHT
EXTREMISM

BRITISH troops have been deployed to West Africa to help fight extremism in the Sahel region. About 30 troops from 1 Scots Guards and the Royal Marines are training three African nations in Senegal. Later this year, 250 further troops will be sent to Mali to join a UN peacekeeping mission.

Switch and Save

with Vodafone Broadband

Join the Great British
Broadband Switch

Search 'Vodafone Broadband Deals'

Save with Vodafone vs publicly available out-of-contract non-promotional monthly pricing of competitors at 20.01.20. Source: (Q3 2019). Ofcom Fairer pricing. For terms and verification visit vodafone.co.uk/broadband

The future is exciting. Ready?

 **vodafone**

New in Focus | Interview

As Yvette Cooper calls for all political parties to unite against abuse, the Labour MP tells **Susannah Butter** about the

Voters did not trust Labour to keep Britain safe

DURING our interview Yvette Cooper keeps coming back to how aggressive our culture has become. She's seen the shift over her 23 years as a Labour MP but it's become painfully acute in the last few months. "It's been tough," she says when we meet for a cup of tea at her office opposite Parliament. A busker plays the bagpipes outside and pinned to the wall there's a picture of her dancing with husband Ed Balls, the former Labour MP turned Strictly star. As well as fighting

to keep her seat, Pontefract and Castleford, Cooper, aged 50, has battled opposition in her own party from politicians who she says "see me having been in the last Labour government as a problem". She's also been subjected to threats of violence. This month a Conservative activist was sent to prison for sending messages in which he claimed to have paid people to beat her up.

"I started out in politics very sensitive to people's views," she says. "I channelled that into responding to them. But I feel everyone has had to become more resilient and

develop a thicker skin. It's become everybody shouting at each other, which is a shame and goes against the way we should do politics."

After we meet, her point is highlighted by the resignation of senior Home Office civil servant Sir Philip Rutnam, after clashes with Home Secretary Priti Patel. Cooper sends an email saying: "The Home Office appears to be a complete mess. I've never seen anything like it before. I worry at the chaotic and destructive way the whole Government is operating...all the reports of Dominic Cummings throwing his weight around. None of this is the sign of a confident, purposeful government. It looks more like insecure and chaotic lashing out." She adds that "if ministers and civil servants can't work together they won't achieve anything at all".

One of the few politicians Cooper seems to admire is former chancellor Sajid Javid. His resignation speech was, she says, "powerful in how measured it was". The same applies to Cooper. She has a forensic mind, deftly summarising well-researched arguments to make her case. No wonder Tory MPs were worried when she ran for Labour leader in 2015. Despite the blow her party took in the general election, she remains focused on what she believes Labour stands for: "holding a broad coalition together to fight against injustice". She has neatly cut short hair and jokes that people say her face looks "grumpy" (the last time she had a "nice chat" with Theresa May in the House of Commons even her staff assumed from their expressions that they were arguing).

In her own party, there's a binary culture, which has crystallised in the debate about what constitutes transphobia that is overshadowing the Labour leadership election.

"I fear that because of the way in which the debate is starting to happen, with no one able to have a sensible or thoughtful discussion, transphobia gets worse as a result," she says. "We're in danger of losing sight of experiences and ending up rowing. It's especially bad as you want the Labour leadership debate to be about building consensus not talking about arguments."

"The election was hard," she continues. Pontefract and Castleford voted for Brexit and while Remain-supporting Cooper hung onto her seat, her share of the vote was down 21.6 per cent and many of the constituencies around her went Tory for the first time. "There were issues about perceptions of Jeremy Corbyn's leadership and there were divides in the country which were there before but Brexit put us on steroids — between young and old, cities and towns. Labour has previously straddled those tensions. One issue which came up was security. People didn't trust us to keep the country safe and didn't trust Labour to care about our country. That's a nightmare for us. Unless you can persuade people you're going to keep the country safe you're not going to get past first base."

On election night her votes weren't counted until late so she delayed going to the count for as long as she could, staying



MATT WITTE

➤ Are you even a Londoner if you haven't done six months in Clapham?

rightmove 
find your happy

I fear that the way debate is happening makes transphobia worse. No one is able to have a thoughtful discussion any more

home and watching her husband on ITV's election night programme instead. "If I'd gone early I'd have just been pacing around in circles." "The result wasn't a surprise," she adds, pausing to reflect. "There was a part of me that thought we suspected it was going to be this bad and people were saying it wouldn't be, so the result reaffirmed the sense we were right."

HAVING been in government when we were able to do things and could bring in Sure Start and change people's lives you feel we've lost the ability to do anything."

Has she ever considered leaving Labour, especially as so few of the MPs who were elected at the same time as her are still in Westminster? "No." She is firm. "My grandad was a miner, my dad was a trade unionist. The strength of Labour Party is in its sense of purpose and values of fighting for a fairer life for everybody." For the next

Interview | News in Focus

threats she has faced, dancing with husband Ed Balls and how their daughter helped keep her new book fresh



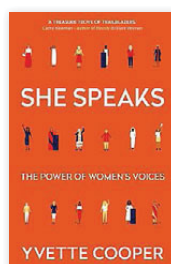
now he's having a great time — and not being an MP means he cooks more. He's much tidier than I am, though ironing is a bit of a push." She shows me a picture of his 50th birthday cake, with a model of the two of them dancing on top and there is a copy of his book *Speaking Out* on her shelf.

There's a strong feminist theme in Cooper's office, with a giant picture of Emmeline Pankhurst made up of hundreds of photos of women looming over us ("Mo Mowlam's in there somewhere"), Emily Wilding Davidson's census entry and a poster saying Mothers Vote Labour. A speech by Pankhurst features in Cooper's new book, *She Speaks: The Power of Women's Voices*. The idea has been brewing a long time; she has always liked reading speeches and looking at them for inspiration. "But all the books of speeches I'd find were 90 per cent by men," she says. "So I thought we should pull women's speeches together. It started to feel more important to do it last year because women are more likely to be targeted by abuse or threats so celebrating their voices felt more important than ever."

THE book is a rallying cry for women to express themselves, with no fear. It begins with a speech by Boudica and includes words from Lupita Nyong'o, Jo Cox and Theresa May. She worked on it during her summer holidays to Greece and France, with help from her eldest daughter, Ellie, aged 21. In September last year Ellie sent a series of tweets about the impact of Jo Cox's murder on her family and how children of MPs shouldn't have to fear for their parents' lives. "She's amazing," says Cooper. "She was keen there were speeches, by Greta Thunberg and Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez and made sure I didn't get lost in dull detail." Cooper's favourite speech in the book is by Audre Lorde "because it admits it can be hard to speak up but your silence won't protect you — you can be choked by it".

She was at her office in Castleford when she heard about the threats towards her in last April. Her staff were sent a screenshot of one of the messages Conservative party member Joshua Spencer had written threatening to beat her up. "It makes you draw breath when you see something like that. Plus it was from someone we knew and had helped out. I worried about the people working in my office being alone. It makes you pause." Eventually he pleaded guilty. Cooper wasn't in court but is glad "the judge took it seriously".

The reaction in Westminster disappointed her. "Sajid Javid was the only member of the Conservative party who messaged me in solidarity. Nationally, the Conservatives were much too slow to respond. It's easy for parties' social media accounts to challenge incidents like this and say 'not in my name'." She's critical of her own party, especially "not taking stronger action on a awful anti-Semitism". "Jeremy talked about a gentler politics but politics will never be gentle, it is always going to be robust. But I would like a culture of kindness." Today, she made a speech calling



Say it proud: She Speaks by Yvette Cooper is out now, £10, Atlantic Books. Below, with husband Ed Balls

of Caroline Flack. But the other, more positive thing is that people are conscious of attempts to stand firm against it and show kindness."

Cooper considered running for the leadership but decided she wasn't what the party needed. "There are people in the shadow cabinet who see me having been in the last Labour government as a real problem. I think it's something we should be proud of. There were a lot of things the last Labour government did wrong but there were a lot of amazing things."

"I'm not walking away though," she adds. "There are a lot of good things to be done on the home affairs select committee if it's set up — they're delaying setting everything up — and on the future of the party. We have to find a way to pull back together."

If she were starting out in her career today would she still choose to be a Labour MP? "I stumbled into being an MP," she smiles. "I never thought I'd be selected. You only go into politics if you strongly believe you want to change things and feel like you can make a difference. That feels more important than ever. You can simultaneously be angry about abuse and vitriol that can prevent people going into politics and still believe that most people do want to be kind. That's what keeps you going."

leader she's backing Keir Starmer and Angela Rayner. But how can she reconcile their policy to continue free movement with the EU after Brexit with what her constituents voted for in the referendum? "People assume immigration is polarised but we did a home affairs committee report on it speaking to people all over the country and found it is possible to build consensus. You need a system that is controlled so it's fair. I'm less pessimistic than some people but it's possible we'll get stuck if we don't listen to what anyone else is saying."

When her husband lost his seat in 2015 it was "hard and strange". "We used to travel to and fro together but



SUMMER 2020 NOW ON SALE!

SUN & SKI

FROM LONDON STANSTED

DESTINATION	FROM	DESTINATION	FROM
ALICANTE	£48	LESVOS	NEW £90
ALMERIA	£51	LYON	SKI £25
ANTALYA (TURKEY)	£90	MADEIRA	£71
BERGERAC	NEW £35	MAJORCA	£48
CHANIA	£87	MALAGA	£45
CORFU	£78	MENORCA	£51
DALAMAN (TURKEY)	£96	MURCIA	NEW £45
DUBROVNIK (CROATIA)	£49	NAPLES	£34
FUERTEVENTURA	£76	NICE	£33
FRIEDRICHSHAFEN	SKI £25	PAPHOS (CYPRUS)	£75
GENEVA	SKI £25	PREVEZA	NEW £85
GIRONA (COSTA BRAVA)	£39	PULA (CROATIA)	£39
GRAN CANARIA	£80	REUS	£39
GRENOBLE	SKI £25	RHODES	£96
HALKIDIKI	£79	SALZBURG	SKI £25
HERAKLION (CRETE)	£96	SANTORINI	NEW £85
IBIZA	£48	SKIATHOS	NEW £98
INNSBRUCK	NEW SKI £25	SPLIT (CROATIA)	£49
IZMIR (TURKEY)	£78	TENERIFE	£85
KALAMATA	NEW £85	THE ALGARVE	£49
KEFALONIA	£98	TIVAT	NEW £49
KOS	£98	TURIN	SKI £25
LANZAROTE	£79	VERONA	£47
LA ROCHELLE	NEW £35	ZADAR	NEW £42
LARNACA (CYPRUS)	£85	ZANTE	£96

SPECIAL OFFERS

BODRUM (TURKEY)	£80	MALTA	£64
BULGARIA	£76	MYKONOS	NEW £85

Jet2.com

Friendly low fares®

Price one way inc. taxes. Selected flights only, subject to availability. Prices correct at time of print 2nd March 2020.

Showbiz news & gossip

How Washington and Witherspoon were brought together by Time's Up

Lizzie Edmonds

KERRY WASHINGTON has revealed how she bonded with Reese Witherspoon over their work for the Time's Up movement, fighting for women in the workplace.

The *Scandal* star is set to appear in drama *Little Fires*, which the women executive produced. Washington told

Porter magazine that Witherspoon is "just amazing and a great friend. The sort of girlfriend who when she asks you how you are, you can tell really cares about the response."

She said Time's Up "has created a myriad of female creative partnerships, though that was never our intention".

● net-a-porter.com/porter



LIZ COLLINS/PORTER/
NET-A-PORTER.COM

The Unsung Heroines of WWII



Between 1939 and 1945, against all odds, 168 women flew urgently needed planes for the Air Transport Auxiliary. Without them, the Battle of Britain would never have been won. This is their story.



Spitfire Women

TONIGHT AT 8PM



Freeview 8 Sky 117 Virgin 159

**LONDON
LIVE**



WILD WEST? JONASES PREFER LIFE IN SLOW LANE

SOPHIE TURNER and husband Joe Jonas had a lazy Sunday at a farmers' market in Los Angeles. Further up the west coast, Jonas's brother Nick went riding with his wife Priyanka Chopra.

Annie Mac: Moaning on Twitter won't solve music's diversity gap

Lizzie Edmonds

Showbusiness Reporter

ANNIE MAC has called on fellow members of the music industry to be more proactive about improving diversity instead of "sitting on Twitter" moaning.

The Radio 1 star, below, hailed the "celebrated" British music world, but said there was still a "deep-rooted" problem to be tackled.

She said: "The British music industry [...] is an aspirational place. But as always there are always things that can be improved. There are things to do in terms of gender. And diversity as a whole at large. A lack of women, people of colour, people of LGBTQ community at the top and in the charts. There is a conservatism there that can be pushed and probed."

Mac said it was "a systematic problem and it comes from the very back end. The amount of women there are in the industry, the amount of people investing in female acts. It is a deep-rooted problem that has to be solved. It is

easy to sit on Twitter and moan. I want to make sure I am being proactive."

The DJ was one of a number of names who criticised a lack of female artists at Reading and Leeds festivals, which will be headlined in August by Stormzy, Liam Gallagher and Rage Against The Machine.

Last month Matt Healy of The 1975 pledged not to play festivals that did not have a 50/50 gender balance.

Mac, who is married to fellow DJ Toddlà T, also discussed sustainability and how she is considering her impact on the planet while touring. She said: "For me it is the global touring, bringing huge teams of people with you everywhere. Can you source local people? Do venues provide a team of people that can serve that band when they are in the area? Locally sourced instruments. How do you make your whole tour lighter?"

Mac was speaking ahead of AMP London, four days of performances and a conference on Thursday on the future of music.

● anniemac-presents.com/london



Life & Style

Fitness & Beauty

WHY MEN ARE
CLEANING UP THEIR
GROOMING ROUTINE
PAGE 27

Wearing black is gym kit gold

TRENDS

Stealthy living begins with your workout wardrobe as London's fitterati opt for stylish simplicity, says **Emma McCarthy**

IF you want to fit in at the chicest gyms, it's not about peak physical performance or owning the right heart rate tracker. It's all about the kit.

From Clapton to Kensington, Blok to Barry's, London's fitterati are easy to spot — and not because they're dressed in a tiger-print Lycra onesie. Instead, the stealth sweat set are far more likely to be found with their honed limbs and taut abs decked out exclusively in black.

A swift sweep of the die hard disciples pounding the treadmill — probably in perfect unison — at your next HIIT class will reveal that logos are

for losers. And fluoro shades are as out of date as step aerobics.

If you want to be taken seriously at the gym, basic is best. But don't be mistaken in thinking that low-key means low maintenance.

The new breed of all-blacks like to invest as much into their activewear as they do their gym membership — and there's no shortage of premium performance wear brands poised to supply it.

This year, Equinox — an upscale establishment where subscription rates are sky-high and the towels are always fridge-cool and infused with eucalyptus — launched its first performancewear range which features leggings, sports bras and long-sleeved crop tops.

In its own words, Equinox has "taken its obsession for fitness and channelled it into creating the perfect collection, with every detail from waistbands to hems created for Equinox high-performers". Naturally, bright colours need

Continued on Page 26



Base line: shorts, £35, bra, £85, Lucas Hugh (lucashugh.com). Far left, a yogi at Blok

THE LIST FIT FESTIVALS



Balance Festival
This Shoreditch festival includes healthy cooking classes, workouts from studios such as Boom Cycle, and yoga studio The Sanctuary. *The Old Truman Brewery, April 17-19 (balance-festival.com)*

Hackney Moves
The UK's largest outdoor fitness festival returns; choose either the Hackney half or 5k, soundtracked by carnival mixes. Celebrate after at the market on the marshes, where shoppers can try on athleisure and hit local food stalls. *May 15-17 (uk.virginsport.com/event/hackney-moves-2020)*

Also Festival
Set in 50 acres of parkland, this is a chance to try new wellness trends, from lantern-making to laughter yoga. Stay at the Hippy Heights Hotel — spacious bell-tents with a lakeside view. *Park Farm, Warwickshire, July 3-5 (also-festival.com)*

Green Man Festival
Find the Nature Nurture forest for meditation workshops, yoga, sound baths and more. Then listen to headliners Michael Kiwanuka, Mac DeMarco and Little Dragon. *Crickhowell, Wales, August 20-23 (greenman.net)*

In Your Element
After last year's successful Monaco launch (which included everything from breathwork to healthy-eating talks), Leicestershire's Belvoir Castle hosts this year's event. *July 4-5 (inyourelementfestival.com)*

@shannonmahanty
Shannon Mahanty

ROYAL ALBERT HALL IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE COSMIC SHAMBLES NETWORK PRESENT



SEA SHAMBLES

SUNDAY 17 MAY, 7PM

ROBIN INCE
JOSIE LONG
HELEN CZERSKI

STEVE BACKSHALL
BRITISH SEA POWER
LEMN SISSAY



Royal Albert Hall

Call: 020 7589 8212
royalalberthall.com

Evening Standard

Life & Style | Fitness & Beauty

Continued from Page 25

not apply. "Black is definitely our best-seller — it is slimming and versatile," says Alison Gordon, director of retail buying at Equinox. "Dark colours also work best because they hide sweat better than lighter colours. We know that this is important to our client, so we actually 'wear-test' a lot of the products ourselves."

She credits much of this appeal down to the athleisure boom. After all, why shell out a (hyper-toned) arm and a leg for the perfect leggings only to whip them off when you reach the locker room?

"You can get away with wearing black leggings outside the gym," she confirms. "They're the perfect to and from piece."



Keep it neutral: one-piece, £230, Wone (wear wone.com), far left. Equinox's first performance wear line (equinox.com), left. Right, sports bra, £75, leggings, £125, Vaara (vaara.com)

Equinox also stocks a wealth of chic, cherry-picked brands in its on-site shop, spanning Castore, PE Nation and Lululemon. More than half — 65 per cent, to be precise — of the products are pure black, with some brands such as London-based Vaara keeping its colour-saturated styles off the shop floor in favour of its more popular haute-neutrals.

Lucas Hugh — a brand which specialises in premium Italian performance fabrics and tailored fits — boasts a staple all-black offering within its core collection, available each season, in every style and distinguishable only by the

subtle gilded wing branding. Wone, on the other hand, is a brand so high-end, sustainable and cutting-edge that it has done away with colour altogether. Instead, every single item in its ruthlessly engineered and super streamlined range is available only in black, from hero leggings with built-in contour technology to a thermo-regulated warm-up rash vest, all of which come with an eye-wateringly expensive price tag. But then again, this is anything but basic.

@miss_mccarthy



The Unsung Heroines of WWII



Between 1939 and 1945, against all odds, 168 women flew urgently needed planes for the Air Transport Auxiliary. Without them, the Battle of Britain would never have been won. This is their story.



Spitfire Women

TONIGHT AT 8PM



Freeview 8 Sky 117 Virgin 159

LONDON LIVE

LONDON LOVE STORIES

Shooting zombies in a VR game was date one — it was sick



Alex Tomlinson and Priyanka Parmar

Jobs: Co-founder at BeRightBack travel startup and creative strategist at AR startup Poplar

Ages: Alex is 28, Priyanka is 25

Live: Shoreditch

Length of time together: One year

Status: Official

The meet-cute

Alex: When I was founding my travel subscription service BeRightBack, Priyanka joined another startup in the same accelerator, incubator program Founders Factory. I was already friends with her sister as she also works there so we got to know each other around the office. I've always had reservations about dating people I know from a professional context but eventually I realised I was starting to catch feelings. I had this whole amazing speech planned out and asked her to go for a walk around the block and then just ended up blurting out "I just fancy you a bit, okay?" Looking back on it, it's probably one of the cringiest things I've ever said to another human being, but it worked.

Chat-up lines

Priyanka: I now have "I just fancy you a bit, okay?" quoted on a pin-board hung up in our living room. It still makes me laugh.

The first date

Priyanka: We didn't have a proper first date for a very long time but after a couple of months Alex arranged it all as a surprise for me. As there aren't many AR events around, he arranged for us to do some VR gaming. What he didn't realise was that it would mean spending the hour separated in different booths. My virtual avatar did get to shoot zombies with his

virtual avatar, though — that was pretty sick.

Making it official

Alex: Priya finally got bored of my terrible attempts to make it official — I asked three times very poorly and she rightly said "No" each time. Eventually she popped the question during New Year's Eve fireworks. I couldn't really say no to that.

Like mother like son

Alex: My mum married someone from her work, so her reaction was a sarcastic "Yeah, that will never work". Also Priyanka has a cute dog and my mum loves dogs.

Dad-dorsement

Priyanka: My dad's just happy he has someone he can talk to about coding.

Moving in

Alex: We moved in together last year with a school friend of Priyanka's and it was a nightmare. A week before we moved in we got told that the basement was flooded with damp. We had nowhere else to live so the three of us slept on a mattress and sofa in the living room for the first month while the basement was re-renovated. Once we got past that, living together has been pretty easy.

Opposites attract

Alex: Priyanka's most annoying habit is going to bed before 10pm. I'm a night owl and then feel guilty about going to bed late.

As told to Katie Strick

♥ To tell your love story, email londonlovestories@standard.co.uk

“Being soft is great and we want to redefine what the word means to men — and then subvert it



So fresh and so clean

BEAUTY

Precision skincare is in and unruly beards are out as modern man returns from the wilderness, says **Samuel Fishwick**

YOU may bristle at the suggestion, but a new micro-age of man is upon us. An overdue and intensive clean-up operation is underway on the overgrown masculine mien: he's done his hair toss (tossed away the scraggly beard, anyway), checked his nails and invested in a roller, the right oil and exfoliator. The resultant look is both fresh and so clean.

The retaming of the male visage is well under way in 2020. Witness the upper lip of Justin Bieber, emerging blinking into the sunlight this month, shorn of a wispy moustache so synonymous recently with his later-life scumbro aesthetic (scumbro: a slapdash style largely defined by men who pay a lot of money to look bad). “Baby-faced Bieb,” he announced to a relieved fanbase who have strongly opposed said ‘tache.

Or look to Brit Award-winner Tyler, The Creator who alluded to his self-care

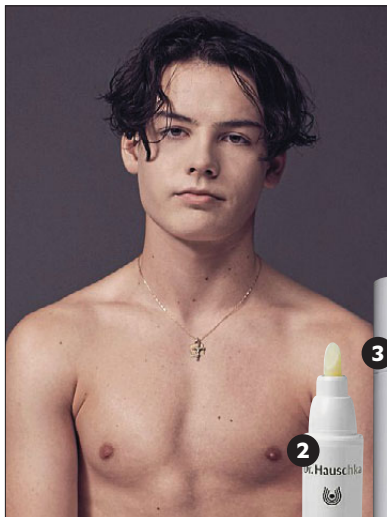
skincare routine in a recent GQ Magazine interview. “Not moisturising or having weed breath? Big no-nos,” the 28-year-old rapper and youth-culture multi-hyphenate laid out.

The same magazine has also noted the rise of “the male skinfluencer”, a relatively new but growing style of online content creator focusing “less on beauty and more on pure skincare itself”. Sheet masks and Korean skincare regimes are lapped up by millions of men. The Jaxon Lane Bro Mask is one of the better sellers in the grooming section of men's style bible Mr Porter: sheet masks packed with collagen, vitamin B3 and plant extracts to target blemishes, redness and sun damage.

Then there's Dr Augustinus Bader, a medical school grad and stem-cell pioneer beloved by Victoria Beckham. His cellular renewal moisturisers have been hailed as the secret to rich-person skin.

Google searches for men's skincare routines have risen by 400 per cent over the last five years and skincare companies are recording record profits in the billions, growing year-on-year by 16 per cent.

“There's definitely a clean-up process in action,” says Spencer Wallace, co-founder of Beast, a men's grooming store. Beards aren't out, he says, but need to be neat — polished but not overdone. But freshness of skin is imperative. “Keep it smooth by using an exfoliator, keep it hydrated with a good moisturiser and look after your eyes,” he says. “If you want to really invest in one product over the others, we say to our customers, ‘Make it your



Kit goals:

1. Jaxon Lane sheet masks, £25 (mrporter.com)
2. Cuticle pen, £17 (drhauschka.com)
3. The Grey 3 in 1 cream, £75 (shopbeast.com)
4. Foreo Luna 2, £149 (foreo.com)
5. The Ordinary peeling solution, £6.30 (cultbeauty.co.uk)

Scrubbed up: Beast campaign, left, and Tyler, The Creator, right



eye cream.” Beast's heavyweights include the Allies Of Skin Bright Future Sleeping Facial, which both exfoliates and hydrates the skin while you sleep, and The Grey 3 in 1, which hydrates the skin as well as looking after your eyes.

Then there's Soft, a New York-based skincare line which is making inroads in a men's market where once there were no roads at all. Its moisture mask applies like a soothing, orange-scented water bomb and leaves happy, stubbly customers... well, soft. “Not so long ago, if you weren't ‘masculine enough’ or you showed any sort of emotion, you were ‘soft,’” says James O'Dwyer, one of the brand's co-founders. “But being soft is great and we're hoping to redefine what the word means to men and subvert it.”

It is, perhaps, a telling development in the broader zeitgeist. While the trend, hitherto, has been to retreat and hide behind a bushy Arctic-explorer crop, the direction of travel is bright, open and front-facing.

We are comfortable with unruly hair, we've owned it. Now we're owning its cultivation and a softer, kinder, sunnier mug.

The focus has shifted up from the jawline; we are looking at the complete picture. Bye bye, beardy. Hello, sweet cheeks, we've missed you.

@Fish_o_wick



MOTORS

Six-page special supplement

Dream machines: introducing the future of motoring

From exciting all-electric and hybrid debuts to super-covetable new cars from luxury brands, **David Williams** rounds up the cars to watch

Yesterday was a cause for celebration for petrol heads and electric warriors alike: the latest '20' registration number plates are now released.

Here's some more good news for motorists: there's never been a wider range of all-electric and hybrid vehicles speeding into view – as well as conventionally-powered new models from Volkswagen, Audi, Fiat, Kia and Skoda. And for those with the very deepest of pockets, there are super-luxurious designs from Aston Martin, Bentley and Aiyways to salivate over.

From clean and practical city cars, to open-top models, here's our pick of the best incoming dream machines...

GB CONVERTIBLE AND LUXURY

ASTON MARTIN VANTAGE ROADSTER

The convertible version of Aston Martin's Vantage, main image, is a showstopper, with gorgeous lines, a 503bhp engine and an expected price tag of £126,950. Claimed to have a top speed of 190mph, the Roadster will shoot from 0-62mph in 3.8 seconds.



Little gem: diamond-pattern seats are a neat, opulent touch in the new Bentley Continental GT Mulliner

BENTLEY CONTINENTAL GT MULLINER CONVERTIBLE

This will be an exclusive, limited-edition version of the firm's flagship grand tourer, aimed at customers who are especially demanding. Shown right, it comes with Double Diamond front grille, diamond-patterned seats, new 22-inch wheels and special enhancements to the interior.

BENTLEY BACALAR

In addition to the aforementioned Continental GT Mulliner Convertible, the luxury car maker has another special project to look forward to – the Bacalar. Produced in small numbers, this ultra-luxury grand tourer has only been revealed in teaser glimpses by Bentley to date, but it's likely to be powered by the firm's 12-cylinder motor and be supplied with unique luggage, matching the car's interior.

CZINGER 21C

Czinger will have a sleekly-styled 21C hypercar, below, to tempt those with deep pockets. It has 3D-printed body panels made from aluminium and carbon fibre. Power comes from a new 2.88-litre twin-turbocharged V8 coupled with two electric motors. It will have jet fighter-style 1+1 seating, for extra aerodynamics.

Style and substance: head-turning and streamlined, the statement Czinger 21C has 3D-printed body panels and jet fighter-style 1+1 seating



GB SUVS

VW TOUAREG R

VW's capable Touareg is sometimes described as the unsung hero among big SUVs; now it's getting even better. Shown right, a hot, new version with 3-litre turbocharged V6 and 134bhp plug-in electric motor will be unveiled this year. It will cover typical commuter distances on zero emissions, says VW.



MERCEDES GLA

The new GLA, left, is bigger, pitching it more firmly against the Audi Q2 and BMW X2. That extra room means it will have a useful 421-litre boot and more ground clearance. There will be a faster AMG 45 edition producing more than 400bhp, later in 2020.





Licence to thrill: not only beautiful, the convertible version of Aston Martin's Vantage is claimed to have a top speed of 190mph

There's never been a wider range of hybrid vehicles speeding into view, as well as conventionally powered models

GO ELECTRIC

Turn to p33 for the lowdown on Ford's Mustang Mach-E



CUPRA FORMENTOR

Cupra, the high-performance SEAT brand, has a production-ready version of the Formentor SUV incoming. It will boast an upmarket interior and muscular exterior lines. Powered by a plug-in hybrid, the Formentor will be capable of driving for around 30 miles on clean electric power alone.

GB ELECTRIC VEHICLES

FIAT 500E

Fiat's cheeky 500 has been hugely popular, now the firm will soon be unveiling an all-electric model, cementing its reputation as a fun-but-clean city car. It will go on sale later this year, giving the new Honda e a run for its money.



AIWAYS U5 SUV

The Chinese start-up car firm has a European version of its all-electric U5 SUV. The firm says it will have a range of more than 300 miles and produce 185bhp. The U5 is expected to arrive in European showrooms in April.

APEX AP-0

Who said electric cars were only for the city? British sports car manufacturer Apex has an all-electric AP-0 'hypercar' on the horizon – a rival for the forthcoming Lotus Evija. Especially lightweight for performance, it is expected to weigh just 1,200kg.

DS AERO LOUNGE

Pictured left, the DS Aero Lounge concept car will be unveiled at Geneva – alongside the firm's production-ready DS 9 model. Although still a design study, the electric car is aimed at achieving an impressive 400-mile range.

Continued on Page 31

GLUG
GLUG
GLUG
PLUG

SWITCH IT UP

New all-electric Corsa-e

Search Corsa-e



VAUXHALL

Fuel economy and CO₂ results for the Vauxhall Corsa-e 100KW (136PS). Mpg (l/100km): N/A. CO₂ emissions: 0g/km. Electric range up to 209 miles (WLTP).

The Corsa-e is a battery electric vehicle requiring mains electricity for charging. Range data given has been determined according to WLTP test procedure methodology. Figures are intended for comparability purposes only. The range you achieve under real life driving conditions will depend upon a number of factors, in particular: personal driving style, route characteristics, exterior temperature, heating/air conditioning, vehicle load, pre-conditioning and battery condition. For more information contact your local Vauxhall Retailer.



THE FORD
NEW FOR OLD
SCRAPPAGE
SCHEME



SAVE BETWEEN
£2,000-£7,250
WHEN YOU SCRAP A VEHICLE
WITH US RESPONSIBLY BY
31st MARCH*

0% APR
REPRESENTATIVE
ON 3 YEAR FORD
ACQUIRE†

†FORD ACQUIRE MINIMUM DEPOSIT OF 20% OF THE BASIC RECOMMENDED RETAIL PRICE (EXC VAT)
PLUS THE VAT ON THE INVOICE PRICE

SEARCH: FORD SCRAPPAGE

*Between £2,000 and £7,250 (exc. VAT) Scrappage Customer Saving available on selected new Ford commercial vehicles if: (1) you trade in any car or commercial vehicle that was first registered before 1st January 2014; and (2) you contract and register a new vehicle between 1st January and 31st March 2020. You must have owned the scrappage vehicle for at least 90 days. Eligible retail and small business customers only.

†Finance subject to status. Guarantees may be required. Freeport Ford Credit. Excludes non-Sport Fiesta Van, Ranger XL & XLT and Raptor.

MOTORS SPECIAL

Continued from Page 29

POLESTAR PRECEPT

Polestar, Volvo's electric sub-brand, has announced its Precept design study, indicating how future models will appear over coming years. It will be a four-door car and is described as a grand tourer – little wonder, as it will be impossibly long, offering luxurious levels of travel.

RENAULT MORPHOZ

French firm Renault is set to unveil its sleek, electric-powered Morphoz design study, illustrating its "vision of future mobility". According to Renault, the modular vehicle will adapt to the "personal needs, desires and uses of each user", and be used to preview a new range of Renault electric motors that will arrive in the coming years.

RIMAC C.TWO

Croatian electric car maker Rimac has revealed its 1,900bhp all-electric C.Two hypercar. Claimed to be capable of 0-60mph in less than two seconds, it has an alleged top speed of 258mph. All 150 examples are said to have been sold already – at £1.5 million apiece.



AUDI A3

The fourth-gen Audi A3 gets a light revamp with a new grille design and slimmer LED headlamps. It will also have a range of new mild-hybrid and plug-in hybrid powertrains. It will be offered as a five-door Sportback model.



CITY CARS AND SUPERMINIS

HYUNDAI I20

The Korean firm's next-generation supermini will have a sportier look, as well as improvements to the powertrain and chassis. It will be roomier, with more of an accent on connectivity. It's likely that this will be followed by a higher-performance version too.

TOYOTA YARIS

The from-the-ground-up redesign of the popular Yaris is about to be revealed to the public. The new model has a totally new chassis and longer wheelbase – despite the overall car being shorter. There will be an economical new three-cylinder petrol hybrid drivetrain too.

Future looks: clockwise from above, Rimac C.Two; Skoda Octavia VRS IV; Honda Civic Type R; New Audi A3

SEAT LEON

Due to be offered in estate, hatchback and crossover form, SEAT's striking new Leon will sport stylish, angular LED headlights and the firm's punchy new grille design. Based on the underpinnings of the new VW Golf, the range will also include an electrified variant.

PORSCHE 911 TURBO

Porsche's long-famed 911 Turbo is widely expected to be officially announced very soon. Observers are expecting in excess of 600bhp for the Turbo version and more than 650bhp for the Turbo S, from a new 3.8-litre flat-six engine. Ride and handling will be sharpened too.

SALOONS AND COUPES

BMW M340D XDRIVE

BMW's hot new M340d xDrive – the most powerful diesel-powered 3 Series to date, producing 335bhp – will be available in both saloon and touring/estate guise. It will have mild hybrid technology to save fuel and emissions while boosting power.



HATCHBACKS

VOLKSWAGEN GOLF GTI AND GTD

Following the launch of the Mk8 Golf, VW fans will now be treated to the diesel-powered GTD and petrol-powered GTI performance models. The petrol model will produce 242bhp, sufficient to propel the practical hatchback from 0 to 62 mph in less than six seconds.

HONDA CIVIC TYPE R

Honda's revised flagship hot hatchback will make a stir with styling and mechanical updates. Expect more performance-oriented front suspension, stronger brakes and an upgraded interior. The 316bhp turbocharged 2.0-litre engine and butch triple tailpipes remain.



ESTATES

SKODA OCTAVIA VRS

The hot new Octavia range – in saloon and estate guise – will also feature a 1.4-litre petrol hybrid plug-in version, producing an all-electric in-and-around-town range of about 30 miles. Manual and auto dual-clutch versions – and four-wheel drive versions – are expected.



V&A

V&A South Kensington

23 November 2019
– 19 April 2020Members go free
vam.ac.uk/cars

Supported by BOSCH

★★★★★
THE TELEGRAPH★★★★★
THE GUARDIAN★★★★★
TIME OUT

CARS

ACCELERATING THE MODERN WORLD



The Touareg with Night Vision Warns you of danger ahead



Night Vision is an optional feature. Detects objects between 10 – 130 metres. Activation required. System limits (including speed and distance) apply. Performance may be affected by the weather. Driver assistance only – driver must pay attention to the road, retain control and use headlights at all times. Find out more at www.volkswagen.co.uk/new/touareg. Official fuel consumption figures for the Volkswagen Touareg range in mpg (litres/100km): combined 25.4 (11.1) – 34.4 (8.2). Combined CO₂ emissions 173 – 205g/km.

Figures shown are for comparability purposes; only compare fuel consumption and CO₂ figures with other vehicles tested to the same technical procedures. These figures may not reflect real life driving results, which will depend upon a number of factors including the accessories fitted (post-registration), variations in weather, driving styles and vehicle load. There is a new test used for fuel consumption and CO₂ figures (known as WLTP). The CO₂ figures shown, however, are based on a calculation designed to be equivalent to the outgoing (NEDC) test cycle and will be used to calculate vehicle tax on first registration. For more information, please see www.volkswagen.co.uk/owners/wltp or consult your retailer. Data correct at 02/20. Figures quoted are for a range of configurations (including non-UK) and are subject to change due to ongoing approvals/changes. Please consult your retailer for further information.

Ford unveils Go Electric exhibition

The show simplifies the science behind electrification and explains how switching from petrol can help save drivers money, while protecting the planet. By *David Williams*



Car giant Ford took Marble Arch by storm last month when it revealed its Electrification Promise to motorists in a future-gazing new road show – and unveiled its dashing, new all-electric Mustang Mach-E.

Now the Go Electric exhibition is to entertain and educate millions more visitors as it tours the UK, returning to London later this year.

Star of the show is the all-electric Mustang Mach-E prototype with its targeted pure-electric driving range of more than 370 miles – and striking lines inspired by the legendary muscle car. It is due to reach UK showrooms at the end of 2020.

Prices for the fast, clean Mach-E will start at £40,270 for the entry-level rear-wheel-drive model, rising to £46,570 for the more powerful four-wheel-drive version. There will also be a flagship First Edition model.

ELECTRIC CAR BENEFITS

Motorists will be able to choose from 14 electrified Ford vehicles by the end of this year however, growing to 18 by the end of 2021. Ford is promising to



Visions in blue: the star of the show is the all-electric Mustang Mach-E with its striking lines inspired by the legendary muscle car



electrify all future passenger vehicles coming to market and is investing \$11 billion worldwide to ensure the dream becomes reality.

The aim of Go Electric, now touring the UK following its London reception, is to explain the benefits of electric cars with interactive displays and demonstrations. The exhibition also demystifies some of the language that has grown up around EVs, explaining the difference between hybrid, mild hybrid, plug-in hybrid and all-electric drive systems.

Go Electric simplifies the science behind electrification and explains how switching to electric-powered cars can help save consumers money, while protecting the environment.

The exhibition also illustrates how estimated fuel savings for customers, delivered by electrified variants of Ford's Fiesta, Focus and Kuga models alone, could reach more than £28 million per year.

GO ELECTRIC ROADSHOW

All-electric and plug-in hybrid Ford vehicles will be backed by the Ford Charging Solutions ecosystem that aims to deliver seamless, integrated access to charging at home and across Europe.

Mustang Mach-E customers placing a reservation in 2020 will receive a free one-year subscription to the FordPass app, enabling motorists to use FordPass Charging Network locations and pay for charging services from a single account.

Following its London launch at Marble Arch, Go Electric will go on to reach an estimated audience of four million consumers during a 50-stop, 200-day UK tour. "Our Go Electric roadshow will help consumers understand that electrified vehicles are ready and waiting to slip seamlessly into their lives," claims Stuart Rowley, president, Ford of Europe.

For more on Go Electric, visit ford.co.uk/experience-ford/motor-shows/go-electric-event



Arts & Culture

Boxer's tale that delivers belters

COMEDY
James McNicholas

Soho Theatre, W1

★★★★☆

Bruce Dessau

HIT, knockout, punchy. There is considerable overlap between the language of boxing and arts criticism. Which is apt because in this impressive solo debut, based on a true story, James McNicholas neatly unites the two strands.

In *The Boxer* McNicholas, from sketch troupe Beasts, intertwines the life of his grandfather, Terry Downes, with his own career. Downes casts a long shadow. The "Paddington Express" was world middleweight champion in the Sixties. McNicholas's greatest achievement to date is starring in a Belgian TV advert for TUC crackers.

But behind the easy-laugh contrasts they are more similar than meets the eye, as a recording of Downes's widow chatting to McNicholas confirms. Both men were driven, both had to overcome major setbacks. Defeats in the ring for Terry, illness for James.

McNicholas is fast on his feet to acknowledge that the trajectory of this piece pretty much follows that of every boxing movie ever made. A rise, a fall, a rise again. Our hero, kitted out in Lonsdale gear, puts everything into his jabby performance. Full marks for method acting though. Shortly before curtain-up I spotted him jogging Rocky-style through Soho Square.

● February 29-March 10
(sohotheatre.com)

Impish genius's seven-year etch

The dazzling work produced in illustrator Aubrey Beardsley's short career is brilliantly captured in this show, writes **Melanie McDonagh**

EXHIBITION

Aubrey Beardsley

Tate Britain, SW1

★★★★★

AUBREY Beardsley was 25 when he died of tuberculosis. His career spanned seven years — but what a life and what a career. He created work of dazzling variety and originality — almost all in black and white — and was the epitome of what critics identified as fin de siècle Decadence, a movement in art reflected in life, or at least in pose.

For detractors, what Oscar Wilde was to literature, Aubrey Beardsley was to art — early notoriety came from his illustrations for Wilde's *Salome*.

But there was more to him than the still-shocking picture of *Salome* leering at the head of the Baptist which advertises the Tate Britain's new Beardsley exhibition. He had impish wit and filthy imagination, was an affectionate brother and son, and died a Catholic.

The Brighton-born Beardsley absorbed an extraordinary range of influences, and they're all here. There's the early Pre-Raphaelitism, channeling his earliest supporter, Burne Jones; the crucial impact of Japanese block prints; the Rococo prints manifest in his fab-



WILSON CENTRE FOR PHOTOGRAPHY

ulous *Rape of the Lock* series; the Attic pornography in his later illustrations. And he brings to them all, as biographer Matthew Sturgis says, "an unexpected and asymmetrical arrangement of space"

The great thing about the show is the selection of original works in ink on paper, not just prints from the new mass production photo-mechanical techniques, which he mastered bril-

Dazzling originality: early notoriety for Aubrey Beardsley came from his illustrations for Wilde's *Salome*

liantly. His mischievous priapism is evident in the wonderful detail of King Arthur and the Questing Beast. What strikes you initially is how king and beast eye each other up despondently; only later do you find a delicate phallus worked into the decorative scheme. Later, the curls in his distinctive signature of three vertical strokes take the form of three tiny phalluses. He was master of telling detail as well as dramatic form; in the Toilette of *Salome* you see authors she reads: de Sade, Zola, The Golden Ass.

As portraitist and caricaturist he was brilliant. He could do colour, as in his bold poster work, but black and white was his forte; few artists have made an expanse of black so telling, as in, say, *The Wagnerites*. There's a disapproving note from the Tate identifying possible "stereotypical portrayals of Jewish people" — really? It doesn't care for his "people of restricted growth" either.

But nothing can detract from the genius revealed in this splendid show, culminating in his Rabelaisian illustrations for the *Lysistrata*. It's followed by an account of his posthumous influence, including a caricature by Gerald Scarfe so filthy it's put behind a curtain.

● March 4 to May 25 (tate.org.uk)

“What Oscar Wilde was to literature, Aubrey Beardsley was to art... he had impish wit and filthy imagination”



MARK SAMUELS LASNER COLLECTION, UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE LIBRARY

STARS SHELLEY VON STRUNCKEL

Aries March 20 – April 19

If you're irritated or upset by what somebody has said or done, you'll usually express your feelings, then put it all behind you. However, you're still fuming about one particular issue. Talk about it openly, and the sooner the better.

0904 470 1141 (65p per minute)*

Taurus April 20 – May 20

Unexpected and unsettling as recent setbacks were, you're now beginning to recognise them as warning signs that something was going wrong. If you've not already taken action, plunge in as soon as you can.

0904 470 1142 (65p per minute)*

Gemini May 21 – June 20

Occasionally, you meet somebody who's not only opinionated, but who truly believes those whose views differ need to learn the truth. At the moment, that's exactly what one particular individual has in mind. Don't get involved.

0904 470 1143 (65p per minute)*

Cancer June 21 – July 21

Not only have you made little progress dealing with recent unsettling issues, you worry tensions are getting worse. However, there's no reason for concern. Once Mercury's retrograde cycle ends in a week, issues will be resolved.

0904 470 1144 (65p per minute)*

Leo July 22 – August 22

Dealing with dull practicalities is never your idea of fun. However, at the moment you not only have no choice, you need to learn enough about the matter in question that next time you'll know what to do.

0904 470 1145 (65p per minute)*

Virgo August 23 – September 22

Only days ago you were battling setbacks. But now, looking back, you realise how much you've accomplished. What's more, you've also learned that you can deal with certain matters you once regarded as intimidating. Don't be impossible.

0904 470 1146 (65p per minute)*

Libra September 23 – October 22

When your ruler Venus moved into the part of your chart that accents close alliances a month ago, you began a cycle of review. While you've learnt and dealt with a lot, several major issues remain unresolved. Be ready to tackle them.

0904 470 1147 (65p per minute)*

Scorpio October 23 – November 21

While remaining silent about potentially tricky issues recently was probably wise, it doesn't mean these can be ignored. The trick is to decide whether it's worth taking a chance on one of them or deciding to organise it yourself.

0904 470 1148 (65p per minute)*

Sagittarius November 22 – December 20

Judging by this week's dynamic planetary activity, what seems solid one day is likely to change the next, and need to be rethought the day after. That being the case, regard whatever you organise as an opportunity to learn.

0904 470 1149 (65p per minute)*

Capricorn December 21 – January 19

If it seems like once you define and deal with one particularly tricky matter, another appears within days, you're right. While no single issue is that challenging, each is offering a valuable insight about a series of perplexing problems.

0904 470 1150 (65p per minute)*

Aquarius January 20 – February 17

Often, arrangements others have organised fall apart, then need to be rethought. This is because they didn't invest sufficient time or effort initially. Tempting as it is to give them advice, forget it. They won't understand.

0904 470 1151 (65p per minute)*

Pisces February 18 – March 19

Recent disagreements were as informative as they were unsettling. In fact, in the heat of the moment, certain otherwise secretive individuals revealed their intentions. You must act on this, to protect yourself and those closest.

0904 470 1152 (65p per minute)*

IF IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY TOMORROW...

It's time for a serious analysis of certain arrangements. The powerful link between Venus, which accents both your assets in practical and financial terms, and also close associates, and practical Saturn indicates it's time for a review. As a Pisces, you're an idealist, and will often put up with unfair or even costly arrangements in the hope things will improve. This is the time to consider where improvements could be made.

NEED ADVICE ON LOVE?

Call and speak to one of Shelley's Astrologers on
0906 400 1008**
(£1.50 per minute)



DO YOU WANT A **LIVE** CONSULTATION WITH ONE OF SHELLEY'S TEAM OF PROFESSIONAL ASTROLOGERS? CALL **0906 400 1008** NOW**

*Astro line horoscopes are updated every Friday. Calls cost 65p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge and will last approximately five minutes. **0906 number costs £1.50 per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge. Maximum call duration for live services is 20 minutes. Service open daily from 8am-1am. You must be over 18 years old to use this service. Calls recorded and regulated by PhonePayPlus. For entertainment purposes only. Service provided by Spoke. Customer service: 0333 202 3392



ARTS & CULTURE TOMORROW

DAVID GENTLEMAN DRAWS 60 YEARS OF LONDON

Read the latest reviews online standard.co.uk/arts



Heavily adorned but still a beautiful Butterfly

OPERA Madam Butterfly

Coliseum, W2

★★★★☆

Nick Kimberley

EVERY opera company needs its box-office bankers, shows guaranteed to fill the theatre. For English National Opera, Anthony Minghella's 2005 production of Puccini's *Madam Butterfly* continues to do its job: this is its seventh revival.

Some of Minghella's stage images have a visionary beauty. Before the music begins, we see Butterfly being prepared

for marriage, her fate prefigured in the swathes of red fabric behind her. Han Feng's costume designs are bewitching and, if previously the use of puppetry hasn't been wholly convincing, this time the first appearance of Butterfly's son moves us in the way a flesh-and-blood child rarely does.

Yet Minghella adds a surfeit of Japonaiserie: paper birds, wings flapping, flowers stuck on kimonos. At times, the pictorialism overwhelms the storytelling, so that it's easy to forget that the opera depicts the

Butterfly: Natalya Romaniw stars

relationship between Butterfly, a Japanese teenager, and Pinkerton, the American sailor who marries her in an act that is one part infatuation, three parts sex tourism.

Fortunately, this revival is strongly cast. Roderick Williams is Sharpless, the US consul, a man who sees what's going on, but has no idea what to do about it. As usual, his enunciation is a model of clarity. It's less easy to follow the words sung by Dimitri Pittas as Pinkerton, but his is a powerhouse voice. By contrast, Natalya Romaniw captures every devastating moment of Butterfly's transition from love-struck bride to despairing mother. Whenever the kitsch imagery threatens to overwhelm, Romaniw reminds us what's at stake.

● Until April 17 (02078459300, eno.org)



JANE HOBSON

Sprawling evocation of the elusiveness and majesty of trees

EXHIBITION Among the Trees

Hayward Gallery, SE1

★★★★☆

Ben Luke

EIJA-LIISA AHTILA'S video *Horizontal — Vaakasuora* (2011) features six screens that together show a vast evergreen, tilted 90 degrees. Ahtila, like many of the 38 artists in this new Hayward exhibition, evokes the elusiveness of trees, the struggle to represent their majesty; only by filming it six times along its height and projecting it on its side can its awesome scale be captured.

But Ahtila's pine is also metaphorically felled, and many of the works here inevitably suggest

fragility. Simryn Gill's photographs show plastic debris choking Malaysian mangroves. Roxy Paine's diorama is all too familiar: a landscape reduced to ash. Steve McQueen and Sally Mann's images feature landscapes scarred by white suprematism and war.

At times, the show feels scattergun: it's at its best when thematic groupings are tight or where there are several works by a single artist, like the painter George Shaw's skewed memories of the woods near his Midlands home or Giuseppe Penone's poetic exploration of the essence of trees. It's sprawling, but there's much here to absorb, unsettle and even, occasionally, provoke wonder.

● March 4 to May 17 (020 3879 9555, southbankcentre.co.uk)



Unsettling: Plastic Tree B by Pascale Marthine Tayou blossoms with bags

Leather shoes Buy one pair and get one pair free

Available in sizes 6-13
(with half sizes 7.5-9.5 inclusive)

Only
£44.99
(plus £4.95 p&p)



Slip-ons



Oxford lace-ups



Traditional brogues

Evening Standard

TO BUY: visit shop.standard.co.uk

ES
SHOP

Terms & Conditions: Allow up to seven working days for delivery. Products are purchased from, and your contract is with, BVG Group Ltd. Please note BVG Group Ltd does not refund postage on unsuitable items or cancelled orders unless faulty. If not happy for any reason, BVG Group Ltd will accept faulty/unused goods in sealed, original packaging for refund or replacement within 30 days. Visit shop.standard.co.uk/information.html#tnc for our full Terms & Conditions and privacy policy.

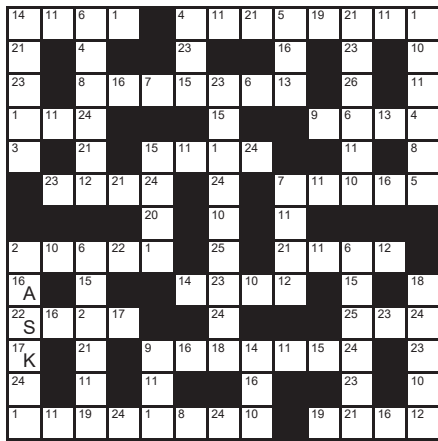
Puzzles & Games

CODEWORD

WIN AFTERNOON TEA FOR TWO



Don't miss tomorrow's paper for another chance to enter



ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ



Friday's codeword: EVERYBODY

Enjoy a delectable afternoon tea treat for two at the luxurious hotel Dukes London in Mayfair. Enjoy a spread of savoury and sweet dishes, including a platter of sandwiches, a selection of pastries and warm scones, all washed down with a generous serving of tea or coffee. This week's theme is new words.

TO ENTER: Text **ES CODEWORD** followed by your answer to **85100** by 23:59 tonight (eg: **ES CODEWORD HANGRY**). Texts cost £1 plus your standard network charge. Or call **0901 292 5008**. Calls cost £1 plus your network access charge*.

Need a little help getting started? Text or call our clue line for up to four extra clues. Text **ES WORDCLUE** to **85100**. Texts cost £1 plus your standard network charge. Or call **0905 652 6230**. Calls cost £1 plus your network access charge*.

buyagift.com

MINI CODEWORD

WIN A COCKTAIL MASTERCLASS FOR TWO

Enjoy a fun, interactive cocktail masterclass for two adults at MAP Maison. Learn the history and technique of cocktail making with helpful tips from experienced mixologists, before you create two delicious cocktails yourself.



CRYPTIC ACROSS

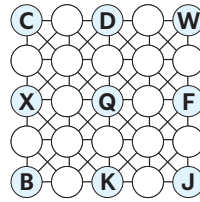
- 3 A sound clause, but potentially damaging (5)
- 8 It's after seed, this bird (5)
- 10 New poems with racy associations (5)
- 11 Dog given remedial treatment by Ed (3)
- 12 He may march to his music (5)
- 13 Can seem somehow, to suggest danger (7)
- 15 It's worth making an about-turn in the valley (5)
- 18 He does his job in wet areas (3)
- 19 Quoting what one's said to be seeing? (6)
- 21 Canter around the corner in mid position (7)
- 22 Ken of Hampstead? (4)
- 23 Viola's voice? (4)
- 24 To give a girl fur is a damaging thing to do (7)
- 26 A case of one and one not making two (6)
- 29 An animated art form (3)
- 31 In colour, it can be described as great (5)
- 32 Name a centre of development out East (7)
- 34 Thing that breaks when it falls? (5)
- 35 In truth, it's monotonous (3)
- 36 Performs songs at the piano (5)
- 37 Sort of saw for cutting a joint? (5)
- 38 He had some fabulous ideas (5)

DOWN

- 1 Is it better to be cold-hearted? (5)
- 2 Greek letter judged to be illegally copied (7)
- 4 She mixes oils (4)
- 5 In very small numbers, it can be a nuisance (6)
- 6 Is it fishy in parts? (5)
- 7 The boatwain's alternative (5)
- 9 Puny bit of humour? (3)
- 12 Apply to become a painter? (7)
- 14 Buccaneer's vessel? (3)
- 16 Where the French are about to be unwell? (5)
- 17 Urge a horse to take one around, possibly? (3,2)
- 19 In which to be nude during a clever act? (7)
- 20 We set out to be charming (5)
- 21 Desire to give a man tea, we hear (5)
- 23 Changed when alerted? (7)
- 24 Her need is for change (6)
- 25 Was it exclusive in Prohibition? (3)
- 27 Sort of thread Leslie endlessly tangles (5)
- 28 He's avuncular in play (5)
- 30 Should he be a good liar? (5)
- 32 A familiar name for the duck (4)
- 33 She's so good, none can match her (3)

GOGEN

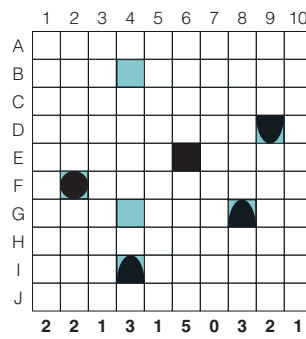
Insert letters to form the listed words, moving between adjacent cells horizontally, vertically or diagonally in any direction. Insert the remaining letters of the alphabet (except Z) in the grid so that all the listed words are spelt out in this way.



ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

Play more puzzles: **standard.co.uk/games**

BATTLESHIPS

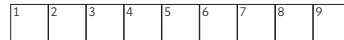


THE FLEET 1 x Battleship 3 x Destroyer 2 x Cruiser 4 x Submarine

Find where the fleet of ships is hidden in the grid. The numbers to the right of and below the grid show how many squares in that row are filled in with ships or parts of ships. Some squares have been filled in to start you off, a coloured square denotes a clear space. Ships do not touch each other, even diagonally.

HOW TO PLAY

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word that uses all nine letters. **Friday's solution:** DEFANTLY



THE CLUES 46951232 gives a cloth 863867 gives a cloth 1295 gives a fabric

THE TUBE QUIZ

Plan a journey using the Tube map from OLD STREET to FINSBURY PARK. The answer to each question will suggest to you the name of a station at which you should stop to change to a new line or branch.

OLD STREET

Copenhagen tunnel is a three-arched railway tunnel on the tracks a mile north from which station?

Opening a new line on 7 March 1969, Queen Elizabeth II travelled from which station to Oxford Circus?

Which station is an anagram of WES TAGS STOIC?

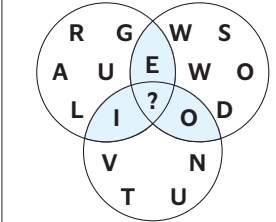
Which station sounds like a second-hand large beer or wine cask?

FINSBURY PARK

Friday's solution: FULHAM BROADWAY, Cannon Street, Latimer Road, West Ham, West Silvertown, BLACKWALL

CIRCLEGRAM

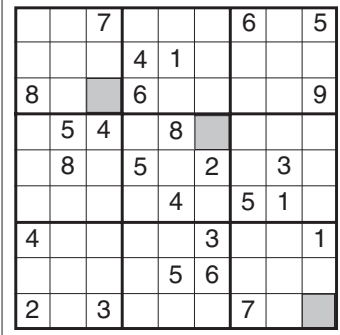
Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be arranged to form words, names or terms on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?



Need a little help getting started? Text or call our clue line for a keyword clue. Text **ES CIRCLECLUE** to **85100**. Texts cost £1 plus your standard network charge*. Or call 0901 293 5270. Calls cost £1 plus your network access charge*.

Friday's solution: O: Gazpacho, Fasolada, Borscht, all types of soup.

SUDOKU



For a chance to win £50 complete the Sudoku puzzle to discover the numbers in the three shaded squares. Text **ES SUDOKU** followed by your answer (reading left to right) and name to **85100** e.g. **ES SUDOKU 123 John Smith**. Texts cost £1 plus your standard network charge*. One prize of £50 is available each week.

The winner will be chosen from all correct entries received between Monday at 00:01 and Friday at 23:59. Texts after this time will not be entered but you may still be charged. Answers change each day at 23:59. Text helpline 0800 839 174.

TO ENTER: Text **ES MINICODE** followed by your answer to **85100** by 23:59 tonight (eg: **ES MINICODE AMSTERDAM**). Texts cost £1 plus your standard network charge. Or call 0901 292 5006. Calls cost £1.02 plus any network extras. **Need a little help getting started?** Text or call our clue line for up to three extra letters. Text **ES MINICLUE** to **85100**. Texts cost £1 plus your standard network charge. Or call 0901 292 5063. Calls cost £1.02 plus any network extras.

buyagift.com

Answers and clues change each day at 23:59. Usual promotion rules apply - see standard.co.uk/rules Phone & Text Services Helpline: 0800 839 174. One prize of £50 is available each week. Terms & Conditions will be sent with the voucher. One winner will be selected at random from all correct answers received from 2/3/2020 to 6/3/2020.

DOUBLE CROSSWORD

EASY ACROSS

- 3 Whole range (5)
- 8 Artificial waterway (5)
- 10 Amphibians (5)
- 11 Small portion (3)
- 12 Cloth made of flax (5)
- 13 Civilian fighting force (7)
- 15 Elections (5)
- 18 Arrest (3)
- 19 Angelic being (6)
- 21 Ground (7)
- 22 Rabbit-like mammal (4)
- 23 Eight furlongs (4)
- 24 Judas (7)
- 26 Soldier on guard (6)
- 29 Permit (3)
- 31 TV, newspapers, etc. (5)
- 32 Fundamental (7)
- 34 Viper (5)
- 35 Vehicle (3)
- 36 Liquid measure (5)
- 37 Flower part (5)
- 38 Gaseous element (5)

DOWN

- 1 Nun's costume (5)
- 2 Afternoon show (7)
- 4 Continent (4)
- 5 Irregular (6)
- 6 Male voice (5)
- 7 Soak in liquid (5)
- 9 Nothing (3)
- 12 Book collection (7)
- 14 Pitch (3)
- 16 Long-snouted mammal (5)
- 17 Woolly animal (5)
- 19 Alike (7)
- 20 Abyss (5)
- 21 Fashion (5)
- 23 Reasons (7)
- 24 Dealer, merchant (6)
- 25 Boy's name (3)
- 27 Weird (5)
- 28 Jewelled headress (5)
- 30 Trite (5)
- 32 Perform again (4)
- 33 Popular pet (3)

FRIDAY'S SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 50

If you call or text after competition closing date you will not be entered, but you may still be charged. By using our competition text and phone services you are agreeing to receive occasional SMS messages from Evening Standard Ltd informing you of promotions and events. You will not be charged for receiving these messages and you may opt out by texting STOP to the originating number at any time.

Samuel Fishwick *The Viewer*

The return of a whodunnit where nothing is as it seems in eerie Essex



Liar
ITV 9pm
★★★★☆

SOMETIMES you wonder if writers feel a duty of care for their fictional brain-spawn. Case in point: poor Laura Nielson. About five million viewers tuned in to watch Joanne Froggatt's first stricken, then vengeful English teacher. She was abused, disabused and wholly disbelieved in the first season of this twisty-turny Broadchurch-adjacent ITV drama. Drama indeed. Guess what? The tide doesn't turn on this haunting Essex coastline. She's going through the ringer again.

A little fog might have lapped at lapsed memory banks since 2017, when this Williams brothers (Harry and Jack, the producers behind Fleabag and Relik) whodunnit had its first run in the hazy southeast coast sun (moody shots abound, again). So, to recap. The fallout of Laura's date with handsome surgeon Andrew Earham (Ioan Gruffudd) saw the former accuse the latter of both drugging and raping her; the latter denying it. Friends, police, viewers — all rounded on Laura. What a twist it would be if Andrew was innocent, no? Flighty opinion columns were half-winded to flutter puffily at a society who never, ever believe the man could be victim (at one point, the show even leant towards the notion that Laura had a murky past in destroying her lovers' reputations). Hogwash, it transpired.

The truth (on screen) came out: Laura's account was verbatim, and all the more awful for it. Then things got a bit silly. Gruffudd's Earham revealed himself before our eyes into a dark, smirking monster, while Laura set out to set him up, drugging him, kidnapping him, failing to bump him off. But someone



Looking for closure: Joanne Froggatt's character Laura was attacked by Ioan Gruffudd's Andrew Earham in series one of *Liar*

did. Via a canoe. Again, silly. Series two washes in where we left off: Andrew, dead, his throat slit in an Essex marsh. Monster slain. It is, frankly, one of the most striking crime scenes I've seen on telly, the camera hanging mournfully over a dusky marshland lit up by police halogen lamps. Accidental Renaissance masterpiece, perhaps.

New questions abound because they have to. Who killed Andrew? Whodunnit? Did we really, truly need a second roll on *Liar*'s dice? Raison d'être, not atmosphere, is the problem. Motive for the sake of motive animates

this battered clutch of characters. Yes, the liminal seaside is a spooky spot to linger. Yes, the new-in-town, nicotine-gum pulverising, leather-jacket rocking DI Karen Renton (Katherine Kelly) adds a bit of coil and spring to this new chase. She's got questions that need answering. "If you throw someone off balance, they tend to drop things," she says (on loan from the Metropolitan Police, she smacks of a DFL attitude). What things?

A plot, maybe. You feel that this will be about closure, a service series to the women whose lives were trampled and

traded by Andrew's terrible crimes. We don't get off to a good start. "I wanted Andrew to suffer," admits Laura, protesting her innocence. "When I found out he was dead I was relieved."

My money, though, is on the 16-year-old son, seen imploding as police tell him of his father's crimes in a flashback. There's plenty of scope for this thriller to pick its winding way to a resounding denouement through the marshland. For now, it feels like we're following our own footprints, borne ceaselessly back against the tide.

@Fish_o_wick

TONIGHT
Starbucks
And
Nespresso:
The Truth
About Your
Coffee
Channel 4, 8pm

For this episode of *Dispatches*, Antony Barnett visits Guatemala to investigate the ethical claims made by some of the world's biggest coffee brands. He discovers young children working long hours to pick coffee beans, earning little more than the price of a latte for a day's work.

TONIGHT
Age Of The Image
BBC Four, 9pm

Art historian James Fox explores the role of images in the transformation of the modern world. He starts at the beginning of the 20th century, making connections between aerial photography and modern art. Salvador Dalí's debt to Einstein is examined, along with the visual trickery of Buster Keaton, and the fakery of First World War photography.

SERIAL BOX
Gentefied
Netflix

Executive-produced by Ugly Betty's America Ferrera, this web series turned 10 part comedy drama is set in the gentrifying Boyle Heights neighbourhood of Los Angeles. It centres on three Mexican-American cousins. Ana (Karrie Martin), a queer artist, has to continually explain herself to her mother; Chef Chris (Carlos Santos) left the barrio as a child and has to readjust on his return; Erik (JJ Soria) runs the taco shop and finds he is continually underestimated.

LONDON LIVE
Spitfire Women
8pm

Between 1939 and 1945, 168 women flew planes for the Air Transport Auxiliary, taking them to those fighting the war and often being put in dangerous situations. Without them, the Battle of Britain would never have been won. Using interviews with the few surviving veterans, archive footage and dramatic reconstruction, this documentary brings to life the forgotten story of the ATA.

TONIGHT'S TELEVISION

BBC1

- 6.00 BBC News at Six (S,HD); Weather.
- 6.30 BBC London News (S); Weather.
- 7.00 The One Show (S,HD).
- 7.30 Coronavirus: Everything You Need to Know (S,HD). A panel of experts answers questions on the outbreak.
- 8.00 EastEnders (S,HD). Keegan and Tiffany have a run-in with a burglar.
- 8.30 Spying on the Scammers — Panorama (S,HD). A report on fraudsters operating call centre scams in India.
- 9.00 The Split (S,HD). 4/6. Hannah deals with the fallout from her anniversary party.
- 10.00 BBC News at Ten (S,HD).
- 10.25 BBC London News (S); Weather.
- 10.35 This Country (S,HD). 3/6. An infamous Mucklowe family member returns to the village.
- 11.05 Young, Welsh and Pretty Minted (S,HD). 2/6. Gonth makes a new friend who shares his passion for fast cars.
- 11.35 Live at the Apollo (R,S,HD). 4/6. With Jon Richardson, Sara Pascoe and Nathan Caton.
- 12.20 A Question of Sport (R,S,HD). 12.50 Weather for the Week Ahead (S,HD). 12.55 BBC News (S,HD).

BBC2

- 6.00 Richard Osman's House of Games (S,HD). 91/100. With Chizzy Akudolu, Miles Jupp, Amol Rajan and Ellie Taylor.
- 6.30 Great British Railway Journeys (R,S,HD). 6/15. Michael Portillo travels from Newry to Portadown.
- 7.00 Coastal Path (R,S,HD). 2/5. Paul Rose explores the north Cornish coast.
- 7.30 Mastermind (S,HD). 23/31. Specialist subjects include John Lennon and Lorenzo de' Medici.
- 8.00 Only Connect (S,HD). 24/28. The last quarter-final.
- 8.30 University Challenge (S,HD). 30/37. The sixth of the quarter-final matches.
- 9.00 Murder 24/7 (S,HD). 4/5. Police investigate a double stabbing in Colchester's homeless community.
- 10.00 Inside No 9 (S,HD). 5/6. Seven disparate characters share their stories.
- 10.30 Newsnight (S,HD).
- 11.10 Weather (S,HD).
- 11.15 Hospital (R,S,HD). 3/8. 12.15 Sign Zone: The Farmers' Country Showdown (R,S,HD). 1.00 Sign Zone: Countryfile (R,S,HD). 2.00 Sign Zone: Secrets of the Museum (R,S,HD). 3.00 This is BBC Two (S,HD).

ITV

- 6.00 ITV News London (S,HD); Weather.
- 6.30 ITV Evening News (S,HD); Weather.
- 7.00 Emmerdale (S,HD). April receives an unwelcome message regarding her dad.
- 7.30 Coronation Street (S,HD). Alya confronts Geoff, demanding to know why Yasmeen was crying in the garden.
- 8.00 St Davids — Britain's Smallest City (S,HD). 1/6. New series. The busiest tourist service in the Pembrokeshire city's history.
- 8.30 Coronation Street (S,HD). Adam and Sarah prepare to tie the knot.
- 9.00 Liar (S,HD). 1/6. New series. Andrew's body is found on the Kent marshes, but Laura once again finds herself drawn into his destructive path. Return of the thriller, starring Joanne Froggatt.
- 10.00 ITV News at Ten (S,HD); Weather.
- 10.35 ITV News London (S,HD); Weather.
- 10.45 Tyson Fury: the Gypsy King (R,S,HD). 1/3. Following the boxer as he prepares for his rematch with Deontay Wilder.
- 11.45 All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite (S,HD). 12.35 Ideal World (HD). 3.00 James Martin's French Adventure (R,S,HD). 3.50 ITV Nightscreen (HD). 5.05 Judge Rinder (R,S,HD).

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 The Simpsons (R,S,HD). 17/22. Homer wakes up to find he and the world around him are made of Lego.
- 6.30 Hollyoaks (R,S,HD). Warren is on the warpath after Liam's latest stunt.
- 7.00 News (S,HD).
- 8.00 Starbucks and Nespresso: The Truth About Your Coffee — Dispatches (S,HD). A report on children picking coffee beans used by two major brands.
- 8.30 Food Unwrapped (S,HD). The secret to perfectly shelled walnuts.
- 9.00 Prison (S,HD). 3/3. The difficulties of being a mother in prison, with staff at Foston Hall believing that keeping family contact is vital to reduce reoffending. Last in the series.
- 10.00 Baghdad Central (S,HD). 5/6. Zubeida Rashid offers to help Khafaji find Sawsan.
- 11.00 Emergency Helicopter Medics (R,S,HD). An appearance at a charity event is cut short by an emergency.
- 12.00 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (R,S). 12.55 Hunted (R,S,HD). 1.50 The Supertvet (R,S,HD). 2.45 Liberty (R,HD). 3.55 Come Dine with Me (R,S,HD). 4.50 Location, Location (R,S,HD). 5.50 Countdown (R,S,HD).

LONDON LIVE

- 6.00 London Live News.
- 7.00 Callan. Spy drama, starring Edward Woodward.
- 8.00 Spitfire Women. The story of the 168 female pilots who served in Britain's Air Transport Auxiliary during the Second World War, risking their lives to transport aircraft to the front lines.
- 9.00 Fox. Drama following the lives of a London gangster and his family. Guest starring Bill Nighy. Originally broadcast in 1980.
- 10.00 Queensbury Boxing League. Boxers battle it out over three, four and five two minute rounds against opponents — the most successful competitors will earn the right to challenge for the coveted Queensbury British title.
- 11.00 Silk. Billy suspects Clive's continued presence at Shoe Lane is a threat to his position as the chambers' clerk, and Martha hears former client Mark Draper has been arrested for murder.
- 12.15 Film: Burning an Illusion (1981). Drama, starring Cassie McFarlane. 2.20 Film: Hooligan Escape: the Russian Job (2018). Thriller, starring Ali Bastian. 4.00 Spitfire Women. 5.00 Walks Around Britain. 5.30 Walks Around Britain.



SETTING THE STANDARD IN TRAVEL SINCE 1970

FIND YOUR GREAT RAIL JOURNEY...

Best of New Zealand

19 nights from **£2,879***

Flights, car hire and a free upgrade, 3★ to 4★ accommodation, TransAlpine rail journey, Kaikoura Whale Watch Cruise, Mount Aspiring Wilderness Adventure, Milford Sound Day Tour and Interislander ferry transfers
• Enjoy spectacular scenery

Best of Eastern USA by Rail

12 nights from **£2,199***

Direct flights, 4★ hotels and Business Class rail travel
• Washington DC • Philadelphia • New York • Boston
Why not add a Washington Monuments by Night tour for just £55?

Australia's Ghan - Ultimate Wildlife & Outback

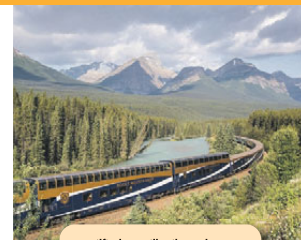
12 nights from **£3,299***

Flights, car hire, 8 nights 4★ to 4★+ accommodation, 2 nights on board The Ghan, Darwin Sunset Dinner Cruise, 2 night small guided group 4WD Kakadu & Litchfield Tour, ferry transfers and 17 meals

Rocky Mountains & Alaska Cruising

14 nights from **£3,699** dep 6 Sep 20

Direct flights, 7 nights 3★ to 5★ hotels, Columbia Icefield Discovery tour, Rocky Mountaineer rail journey and 7 night full board Celebrity cruise
• Banff • Jasper • Vancouver • Scenic cruising of the Inside Passage • Alaska



Trailfinders will tailor make any holiday to suit your individual needs

FIND YOUR SERENITY...

Lisbon & the Sunny Algarve

7 nights from **£799***

Direct flights, car hire, 4★ hotels and 4 breakfasts
• Algarve's quiet towns and glorious beaches • Explore the sights of colourful Lisbon

Magical Mexico

7 nights from **£1,229***

Direct flights, 4★+ all inclusive Cancun beach resort and private transfers
• Pristine white sand beach • Infinity pool
• Non-motorised watersports
Includes an early booking discount - saving over £450 per couple

Luxury Crete Getaway

7 nights from **£949***

Direct flights, 5★ Grecotel Amirandes, Crete with breakfast and private transfers
• Stylish & contemporary resort • Stunning location • Direct beach access

Wellness, Wildlife & Waves, Costa Rica

10 nights from **£3,529***

Flights and private tour incl 4★ to 4★+ hotels, transfers, selected day tours & 14 meals
• Yoga & relaxation • Ocean vibes • Delicious fresh food
• Fantastic wildlife viewing opportunities



Ask your consultant about including a stopover or upgrading any of our hotels

Thailand Summer Sun & Elephant Fun

13 nights from **£1,499****

Flights, 3 nights Bangkok hotel, 3 nights Elephant Hills Tented Camp incl activities, 7 nights Phuket beach resort, Phang Nga by Speedboat tour, transfers and 20 meals
Priced for summer holidays

Fun Filled Caribbean Cruising

8 nights from **£999**** dep 23 Oct 20

Flights, 1 night Miami hotel and 7 night full board Royal Caribbean cruise
Includes 2 full days at Royal Caribbean's exclusive private islands
Saving over £700 per couple
Priced for October half term

Western Canada Family Summer Adventure

13 nights from **£1,899****

Direct flights, car hire, 3★ to 5★ hotels, Vancouver Hop-on Hop-off City Tour, Vancouver by Bike, Whistler Peak 2 Peak Alpine Experience, Bear Viewing Tour and Ultimate Rockies Explorer Ticket
Priced for summer holidays

Atlantic Sunshine, Florida

11 nights from **£1,349****

Flights, car hire incl a free upgrade, 3★ to 4★ hotels, Fort Lauderdale Island Adventure and Kennedy Space Center Admission
• Fort Lauderdale • Palm Beach • St Augustine • Amelia Island
Priced for summer holidays



Order your Worldwide Family Holidays brochure for more inspiration

FIND YOUR WILD SIDE...

India's Temples & Tigers

10 nights from **£2,199***

Flights and private tour incl 9 nights 3★ to 4★ hotels, 1 night overnight train, private vehicle & driver, private guides & 12 meals
• Explore incredible Varanasi • Visit the majestic Taj Mahal • Look for the elusive tiger

South Africa's Garden Route & Game

12 nights from **£1,479***

Flights, car hire incl a free upgrade, 4★ to 4★+ accommodation and all inclusive Eastern Cape lodge with game drives and Meerkat Safari
• Cape Town • Winelands • Beautiful scenic drive

Vancouver Island's Bears and Whales

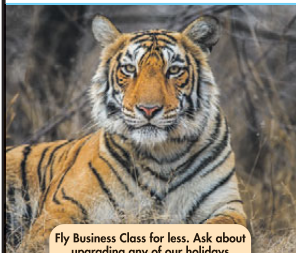
14 nights from **£1,379***

Flights, 2 nights Vancouver hotel, 12 nights motorhome, Campbell River Whale Watching tour, Tofino Bear Cruise and return ferry transfers
• Marvel at the humpback whales • Discover Tofino's black bears

Australia's Western Shores & Whale Sharks

13 nights from **£1,949***

Flights, car hire incl a free upgrade, 3★ to 4★ hotels and Swim with Whale Sharks tour
• Picturesque Perth • White sand beaches of Monkey Mia • Beautiful Coral Bay • Ningaloo Reef Marine Park



Fly Business Class for less. Ask about upgrading any of our holidays - call 020 7368 1400

FIND YOUR PERFECT COMBINATION...

Dubai & Mauritius

10 nights from **£1,279***

Flights, 3 nights Dubai hotel, 7 nights 5★ LUX* Belle Mare, breakfast and private transfers
• Bright lights of Dubai
• Stunning tropical island of Mauritius
Includes an early booking discount

Superb Sri Lanka & Magnificent Maldives

14 nights from **£2,449***

Flights, 7 night private tour incl 3★+ to 4★+ hotels & private driver/guide, 7 nights 4★+ Maldives island resort incl speedboat transfers and breakfast
Saving over £450 per couple

Masai Mara & Zanzibar

9 nights from **£1,999***

Flights, 2 nights safari lodge incl game drives, light aircraft transfers from Nairobi to Masai Mara & 5 meals, 7 nights Zanzibar beach resort with full board & private transfers and Nairobi Carnivore Experience
Including 2 FREE nights

Western USA & Hawaii

14 nights from **£2,499***

All flights and 3★ to 4★ hotels
• Bright lights of Las Vegas • Famed beaches of the Hawaiian Islands • Different neighbourhoods of lively LA
Why not add a Hoover Dam Classic tour for just £86?



Say hello to the fastest booking engine in travel



TRAILFINDER Magazine Winter Edition is out NOW! - order your FREE copy today

BEST SELLING AIRFARES - INCLUDING AT LEAST 20KG BAGGAGE

USA from **£326*** South Africa from **£446*** Australia from **£599***

BRITISH AIRWAYS CLUB WORLD SALE - NEW IN!

USA from **£1,195*** South America from **£1,799*** South Africa from **£2,599***

FLY WITH QATAR IN THE WORLD'S BEST BUSINESS CLASS

Sydney from **£3,099*** Auckland from **£3,099***

AWARD-WINNING SERVICE

Travel Brand of the Year - Voted by Which?

Best Tour Operator - readers of The Times, The Sunday Times & The Sunday Express Travel Magazine for 7 consecutive years
Travel Experts - readers of National Geographic Traveller
Most Trusted Travel Brand - readers of The Guardian & Observer



Trailfinders is Trustpilot's No.1 rated travel company

"Truly excellent: patient, friendly, helpful and a mine of knowledge, tips and advice."

SPECIALIST TEAMS

HONEYMOONS & WISHLIST 020 7408 9008
EUROPEAN TRAVEL 020 7937 1234
GROUP TRAVEL 020 7938 3858
VISA SERVICE 020 7368 1504
TRAVEL INSURANCE 020 7408 9005
CORPORATE TRAVEL 020 7368 1499

Calls may be recorded for accuracy & training

Travel

Edited by *Susannah Ramsdale*

SLOPE OFF FOR A SHORT
BREAK TO BELGRADE

SEE STANDARD TRAVEL ON FRIDAY



Happiness of the magic kingdom

Buddhist Bhutan with its monastic fortresses, ancient temples and rice terraces is a place of wonder, finds *Mary Lussiana*

I AM sitting in the quiet of the Chorten Ningpo monastery, high up in the hills above the rice terraces of Punakha Valley. A young Lama, across the room from me, is preparing the tools for my blessing; a bell and tiny drum, holy water and a brush to dip into it, thin threads in yellow to tie around my wrist. While I am waiting I watch how the sunshine streaming through the intricately carved wooden windows illuminates the brilliant yellow and deep red silks that festoon the room. A clock, hanging slightly askew on the wall, ticks quietly, five hours ahead of real time. It is just one of the memories that I carry back with me into the real world when I go, across an invisible, but very real divide, for Bhutan is definitely as otherworldly as I have ever come across.

The last time I went to Bhutan was 2006; few people had heard of it, even fewer had been there. As it has slowly opened up to the world with its high-end, low-impact tourism model aiming to preserve the country by limiting the number of incoming visitors, it has gained column inches. These articles describe how Bhutan is a country the



Higher place: the Six Senses lodge overlooking Bhutan's capital Thimphu is one of four the group opened in the country last year

size of Switzerland on the eastern edge of the Himalayas. That it is the last Buddhist kingdom in the world. That it is the world's only carbon-negative state, with a commitment to preserve 60 per cent of the country as forest. That fourth King Jigme Singye Wangchuck's belief in Gross National Happiness being more important than Gross National Product became a guiding philosophy

which the government enshrined in the 2008 constitution. But even armed with these facts you will be amazed within minutes of your arrival, if not before as you tightly corkscrew down, having flown over the Himalayas, into Paro airport; its short runway playing centre stage in a national joke about being the longest stretch of straight road in the country. Male passport officers wearing

the national dress of gho, a woven cloth, striped or checked and worn to the knee above long black socks and shiny black leather shoes, greet you before you are swept out into a landscape of white-washed stone Dzongs, or monastic fortresses, and Chortens, or stupas, fluttering prayer flags and spinning

Continued on Page 41

There is a national joke that Paro airport's runway is the longest stretch of straight road in Bhutan



Drinks with attitude: local refreshments

FEEL AT HOME IN
BUSINESS CLASS
RETURN FARES FROM
GBP 2,245

FROM LONDON	BUSINESS CLASS	BUSINESS SUITE
BALI	2,245	3,729
KUALA LUMPUR	2,409	2,809
BORNEO (KOTA KINABALU)	2,509	2,909
PERTH	3,145	3,625
SYDNEY	3,245	3,725
AUCKLAND	3,595	4,075

MORE DESTINATIONS ON OFFER ALL-IN RETURN FARES (FROM GBP)

LAST CALL

Private dining & award-winning wines

Renowned Malaysian satay

Book: Now until 2 March 2020 | Travel: Now until 31 January 2021

Book now at malaysiaairlines.com

Terms and conditions apply.





OCEANIA CRUISES®
Your World. Your Way.®

With Oceania Cruises® you will enjoy...

- Luxury cruising on intimate mid-sized ships
- An elegant yet casual onboard ambience
- The Finest CuisineSM at sea, with complimentary dining in speciality restaurants
- Exceptional value for money, with many included amenities and special offers
- Spectacular port-intensive voyages



Wonders of the Mediterranean

9 nights from **£2,499** dep 30 Aug 20
Direct flights, 2 nights 4★ Rome hotel, Rome Walking Tour, 7 night full board cruise aboard Riviera in a **Balcony Stateroom** and private transfers

- Monte Carlo • Antibes • Marseille • Palma de Mallorca • Barcelona

Includes FREE gratuities, 4 shore excursions, house beverage package, wi-fi and \$400 onboard credit per stateroom



Classic Caribbean

9 nights from **£2,299** dep 11 Dec 20
Direct flights, 2 nights 4★ Miami Beach hotel, 7 night full board cruise aboard Riviera in a **Balcony Stateroom** and private transfers

- Key West • Straits of Florida • Costa Maya • Roatan • Cozumel

Includes wi-fi and \$400 onboard credit per stateroom



Spectacular South America

13 nights from **£3,499** dep 6 Jan 21
Direct flights, 3 nights 4★ hotels, 10 night full board cruise aboard Marina in an **Oceanview Stateroom**, Corcovado & Sugarloaf Mountain private tour and private transfers

- Buenos Aires • Punta del Este • Rio Grande • Ilha Grande • Buzios

Includes wi-fi and \$600 onboard credit per stateroom

OCEANIA CRUISES®

Book now to WIN the cost of your holiday as part of TF's 50th anniversary celebrations^o



Call **TRAILFINDERS** dedicated Cruise Team on **020 7368 1300**

Prices are per person based on twin/double share. All prices are correct at time of going to print on 28 Feb 20. Offers can be withdrawn at any time. Flights are from London on the departure dates shown and are subject to availability - ask about flying from your local airport. Full terms & conditions apply. (visit trailfinders.com/win for T&C's)



Classic Sri Lanka & Beach

14 nights from **£2,149**
Flights, 7 night private tour incl 3★ to 4★ hotels, private vehicle & driver/guide, selected sightseeing & breakfast and 7 nights 4★ beach resort with half board & private transfers
Includes early booking discounts & FREE half board - saving over £550 per couple



Luxury Beach Escape

7 nights from **£1,129**
Flights, 5★ Shangri-La's Hambantota Golf Resort & Spa, half board and private transfers

- Ruggedly beautiful beach • Artisan village showcasing traditional arts & crafts

Includes a 40% booking discount & FREE half board - saving over £600 per couple



Natural Wonders, Wildlife & Waves

14 nights from **£2,679****
Flights and family friendly private tour incl 3★ to 4★ accommodation, private vehicle & driver/guide, selected sightseeing & 20 meals
Priced for summer holidays
Includes FREE half board - saving over £750 per family



Sri Lankan Summer Escape

14 nights from **£2,199**
Flights, 1 night 4★ Negombo hotel, 8 night private tour incl 3★ to 4★ hotels, private vehicle & driver/guide, selected sightseeing & 8 meals and 5 nights 4★ beach resort with breakfast & transfers
Includes a FREE room upgrade

Book now to WIN the cost of your holiday as part of TF's 50th anniversary celebrations^o



Call **TRAILFINDERS** on **020 7368 1200** to **FIND** your perfect escape

Prices are per person, based on 2 adults sharing. Valid for selected June departures & subject to availability. ** 2 adults and 2 children under 12 travelling together. (visit trailfinders.com/win for T&C's)




DELTA | **virgin atlantic**

The Wonders of Oregon

11 nights from **£1,729**

Direct flights with Delta Air Lines, car hire incl a free upgrade, 3★ to 4★ accommodation and Portland City Tour

- Sample craft beer in Portland • Relax in Gleneden Beach
- View incredible Crater Lake • Visit stunning Columbia River Gorge

Book now to WIN the cost of your holiday as part of TF's 50th anniversary celebrations^o



Call **TRAILFINDERS** on **020 7368 1200**
trailfinders.com

Prices are per person, based on twin/double share and are subject to availability. Valid for selected May departures. (visit trailfinders.com/win for T&C's)




ULTRA ALL-INCLUSIVE
THE PALM DUBAI BY RIXOS

3 NIGHTS FROM ONLY £999^{PP}
INC. RETURN FLIGHTS FROM LONDON GATWICK & PRIVATE TRANSFERS

Emirates FLY DIRECT FROM 8 UK AIRPORTS

CRUISE CLUB UK **PRESTIGE • LUXURY • INDULGENCE • RELAXATION**

CALL FREE: 0808 273 6467

LINES ARE OPEN: MONDAY - FRIDAY: 9AM - 8PM | SATURDAY 9AM - 5PM | SUNDAY 9AM - 5PM

ABTA ABTA No. 59095

Price based on 11 Mar 2020, based on Gatwick airport. Other durations available on request. Terms and Conditions: Prices And Availability Were Correct At Time Of Print. These Offers Are Subject To Change And May Be Withdrawn Without Notice. Prices Are From, Per Adult. Cruise Club UK Acts As Atoll Holder/Agent For Financial Protection. *For Full T&C's Visit www.cruiseclubuk.com/terms-conditions.pdf

Continued from Page 39

prayer wheels, ancient temples where butter lamps flicker and hay fields are being harvested by women in colourful long skirts or kira. Houses, all white-washed, have pitched roofs, with overlapping wooden shingles held down by stones, normally covered with a scattering of red chilli drying in the sun.

But whereas in 2006 I was taken to a simple house for a lunch of the national dish Ema Datshi, a concoction of cheese and chillies, and a cup of yak butter tea which I managed to fob off on my son to drink, this time I was transported to the Six Senses Paro. It is one of four lodges that the group opened across the kingdom last year, with the fifth due in the forests of Bumthang in the east this spring.

My lunch there of an elegant circle of quinoa, topped with avocado, and a sprinkling of fresh flowers prompted a need to question my guide as to what else had changed since I was last there. "Now we have mail vans instead of runners," he told me, "and there is the internet and Facebook." And, I added, looking at the map "there are passable roads which can take me to Punakha and Gangtey from Thimphu, something I couldn't do before".

After two days in Paro to acclimatise to the altitude, we set off on our travels. I had, again, succumbed to the magic of Bhutan. In the Six Senses Lodge in Paro, the caring gentleness of the staff pervaded my stay, from my dressing gown being warmed before I was helped into it after spa treatments, to a hot water bottle



Special treatment: a room at the Six Senses Paro which offers organic dishes, below, and yoga, inset left



tucked into my bed at turndown and the wood-burning bukhari stove stoked to glow in my bedroom until the early hours.

We drove to Thimphu, the only capital in the world without traffic lights, just a policeman in a carved and painted wooden podium. There the Six Senses stands high above the town at 2,650m, designed to reflect a palace in the sky, a prayer pavilion surrounded by water mirroring the blue pine forests on the surrounding mountains. From there to Punakha, a deep and fertile valley where I tried the potent Ara, the national drink of fermented or distilled

high-altitude grain and visited the 17th century Dzong on the riverside. In Gangtey, where the endangered black-necked cranes migrate to the wetlands from Tibet every year, apparently flying three times around Gangtey Goenpa Monastery as they arrive, I walked through fields of buckwheat, visited a yak farmer and his herd and searched for the elusive Himalayan red panda.

I didn't see a panda, and nor did I see the dragons that Bhutan, called Druk Yul or "the land of the thunder dragons" in the local dzongkha dialect, is named after. It is said the name originates from the belief that thunder was the noise of dragons. But then, anything seems possible in Bhutan.

I visited a yak farmer and his herd and searched for the elusive Himalayan red panda



THREE MORE GREEN COUNTRIES TO VISIT

Costa Rica

With ambitious plans to become a zero carbon country by 2050, Costa Rica already has plenty of eco initiatives in place; hydro-electric dams provide for 75 per cent of its energy needs and national parks cover 25 per cent of the country.

Iceland

A country that is super-serious about sustainability, almost all electricity in Iceland is produced using renewable sources. Hydropower plants provide 73 per cent and 26.8 per cent comes from geothermal energy.

United Kingdom

The UK was ranked sixth in the latest Environmental Performance Index, receiving top marks for its water and marine protected areas. A third of the UK's power comes from renewable energy — with wind power accounting for 15 per cent alone.



kenwood travel
THE ART OF ESCAPE

Depart the Everyday

Discover the USA & Caribbean in style, with cabin upgrade offers, generous luggage allowance, free seat selection and more.

7-night holidays with Virgin Atlantic flights from £479 per person



ABTA
The Travel Association



feefo
Gold Trusted Service 2018



SUNSHINE TRAVEL AWARDS
BEST HOLIDAY COMPANY TO THE CARIBBEAN & BETHROGA



SILVER TRAVEL AWARDS
BEST LUXURY HOLIDAY COMPANY



BRONZE TRAVEL AWARDS
BEST FAMILY HOLIDAY COMPANY

020 7749 9231 kenwoodtravel.co.uk



virgin atlantic

Terms & conditions apply

EXCLUSIVE
TO IMAGINE CRUISING

IMAGINE CRUISING
MORE THAN JUST A CRUISE.

No-Fly Cunard & Silversea Cruise with a North America Adventure

Includes a Cruise on board Queen Mary 2 and Silver Whisper

DURATION: 30 NIGHTS
DEPARTING: 21 MAY 2021

INSIDE &
VISTA SUITE *fr*
£6,499_{pp}

OUTSIDE &
VISTA SUITE *fr*
£6,999_{pp}

BALCONY &
VERANDA SUITE *fr*
£7,999_{pp}

GRILL SUITE &
SILVER SUITE *fr*
£13,999_{pp}



Indulge in this unique adventure where you'll relish a double cruise on board Cunard and Silversea ships and immerse yourself in a series of North American tours.

DISCOVER YOUR ITINERARY^A

- **Day 1 Southampton**
(Embark Queen Mary 2)
- **Days 8 - 9 New York**
(Disembark ship & hotel stay)



Walk the streets of this bustling metropolis and find iconic sights such as the top of the Empire State Building or even catch a Broadway show.

- **Day 10 Philadelphia**
(Hotel stay & tour)

Considered the 'Birthplace of the Nation', Philadelphia is host to heaps of history including the location where the Declaration of Independence was signed.

- **Days 11 - 12 Washington DC**
(Hotel stay & tour)



Your tour of this city takes you to some of its most famous icons including the Lincoln Memorial, the National Mall and, of course, the majestic White House which you'll get to view from the outside.

- **Days 13 - 14 Niagara Falls**
(Hotel stay & tour)

Enjoy the most privileged experience of Niagara Falls on board your Hornblower cruise as you sail past all three of the falls. Watch as the sun glints off the surface and the roaring waters plunge, creating a mesmerising mist that your ship will disappear into.

- **Day 15 Watkins Glen**
(Hotel stay & tour)



Uncover the captivating landscapes of scenic Watkins Glen State Park, home to magnificent waterfalls, winding gorge paths and cascading streams.

- **Days 16 - 18 New York**
(Hotel stay, embark Silver Whisper & overnight in port)
- **Day 19 Cape Cod**
(Canal Transit) / Boston



- **Day 20 Bar Harbor (Maine)**
- **Day 21 Halifax (Canada)**
- **Day 22 Sydney (Canada)**
- **Day 24 St. John's (Canada)**



- **Day 29 Cork (Ireland)**
- **Day 30 Falmouth**
- **Day 31 Southampton**
(Disembark ship)



YOUR HOLIDAY INCLUDES

CRUISE

- 7 night full-board cruise on board Queen Mary 2
- 14 night all-inclusive luxury cruise on board Silver Whisper
 - Pre-paid gratuities and complimentary Wi-Fi on board
 - In-suite butler service and fully stocked fridge
 - All-inclusive alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages including fine wines and premium spirits whilst on board

HOTEL STAYS

- 3 nights in New York
- 1 night in Philadelphia
- 2 nights in Washington DC
- 2 nights in Niagara Falls
- 1 night in Watkins Glen

FULLY ESCORTED TOURS

- Philadelphia
- Washington DC
- Hornblower Niagara cruise*
- Niagara-on-the-Lake including wine tasting



ALL TRANSFERS INCLUDED

10 DAY FULLY ESCORTED NORTH AMERICA TOUR

TO BOOK ☎ 01793 575 128 🌐 imaginecruising.co.uk 📄 Cruise code: **AME7357**

CALL:

For full terms and conditions please visit www.imaginecruising.co.uk. Prices are per person based on two adults sharing a cabin and suite. *Hornblower Niagara cruise is dependant on weather conditions. ^Days at sea not detailed. Imagine Cruising are fully ABTA and ATOL bonded. Prices are correct at the time of print and are subject to change. Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 9am - 9pm, Saturday & Sunday 9am - 8pm.





Luxury Abu Dhabi

5 nights from **£549†**

Return flights with Etihad Airways, 5★ Fairmont Bab Al Bahr with breakfast and private transfers

• Soak up the sun on the private beach • Free shuttles to the Grand Mosque, Ferrari World & Yas Waterworld • Explore the fascinating history of Abu Dhabi
Includes an early booking discount – saving over £400 per couple



Classic Sri Lanka & Beach

14 nights from **£1,699^**

Return flights with Etihad Airways, 7 night private tour incl 3★+ to 4★+ hotels & private vehicle & driver/guide, 7 nights 5★ beach hotel, breakfast and private transfers

• Polonnaruwa • Sigiriya • Minneriya NP • Kandy • Koggala
Includes an early booking discount, 2 FREE nights & a FREE room upgrade in Koggala – saving over £800 per couple



Sydney & Beyond, Australia

14 nights from **£1,579†**

Return flights with Etihad Airways, 3★ to 4★ hotels, car hire incl a free upgrade, Sydney Opera House Tour,

Port Stephens Dolphin Cruise and Hunter Valley Wine School Tour
• Sydney • Port Stephens • Hunter Valley • Blue Mountains • Bondi Beach



Explore the world

Etihad not only offers outstanding value, but you can fly direct from London Heathrow or Manchester to Abu Dhabi and on to 84 destinations. With adjustable back support, generous legroom and over 100 hours of in-flight entertainment, you'll arrive into your destination relaxed and refreshed.

Why not ask your consultant about upgrading to Business Class?



50
1970-2020
ANNIVERSARY



Book now to WIN the cost of your holiday as part of TF's 50th anniversary celebrations^o

Call **TRAILFINDERS** on 020 7368 1200 to **FIND** your perfect holiday

Prices are per person based on a twin/double share, subject to availability & valid for selected ^Jun or Tsep departures. ^ovisit trailfinders.com/win for T&C's.



LOVE Leap SAVE

at
Sandals

BOOK BY MIDNIGHT



Sandals' South Coast, White House - Jamaica

VOTED THE WORLD'S LEADING ALL-INCLUSIVE RESORTS **24** YEARS IN A ROW AT THE WORLD TRAVEL AWARDS

Discover why Sandals are the World's Best All-Inclusive Resorts

You deserve the best, and Sandals includes the best of everything on the Caribbean's best beaches. Every land and water sport under the sun—with the best equipment and expert instruction always included. The most innovative and luxurious rooms and suites in the Caribbean. You'll even get the best savings at our all-inclusive resorts—even the tips, taxes, and Sandals transfers¹ are included.



Up to 16 Gourmet Restaurants & 11 Bars Included
With 5-Star Global Gourmet[™] dining, every meal is transformed into an extraordinary experience. Innovative cuisine is perfectly paired with Robert Mondavi[®] Twin Oaks[®] wines, while our bars serve up good times and 5-Star premium-brand liquors. All included. All unlimited. All part of the 5-Star Luxury Included[™] Holiday.



SAVE £129 QUOTE 'LEAP129'

Luxury Included ^o Resort	Accommodation (Room or Suite)	Travel Dates	7 Nights Inc. Savings
BARBADOS Sandals Barbados Royal Barbados	South Seas Crystal Lagoon CLUB LEVEL Barbados Suite with Balcony Tranquility Soaking Tub [™]	27 Aug - 16 Oct '20	£2,115pp
Sandals Barbados	Caribbean Deluxe	27 Aug - 16 Oct '20	£1,835pp
GRENADA Sandals Grenada	South Seas Honeymoon Poolside Hideaway Walkout Junior Suite with Balcony Tranquility Soaking Tub	27 Aug - 25 Sep '20	£1,969pp
ANTIGUA Sandals Grande Antigua	Caribbean Premium	27 Aug - 16 Oct '20	£1,759pp
SAINT LUCIA Sandals Regency La Toc	Honeymoon Luxury	27 Aug - 16 Oct '20	£1,599pp
Sandals Halcyon Beach	Grand Luxe CLUB LEVEL Room with Balcony Tranquility Soaking Tub	27 Aug - 16 Oct '20	£1,815pp
Sandals Grande St. Lucian	Caribbean Walkout Deluxe	01 Sep - 16 Oct '20	£1,955pp
BAHAMAS Sandals Royal Bahamian	Balmoral Premium	31 Aug - 18 Oct '20	£2,145pp
Sandals Emerald Bay	Beach House Luxury CLUB LEVEL Room	31 Aug - 18 Oct '20	£2,079pp
JAMAICA Sandals Ochi Beach	Great House Luxury	05 Sep - 16 Oct '21	£1,405pp
Sandals Royal Caribbean	Caribbean Deluxe	05 Sep - 04 Dec '20	£1,665pp
Sandals South Coast	Beachfront Deluxe	05 Sep - 04 Dec '20	£1,659pp
Sandals Negril	Caribbean Deluxe	05 Sep - 04 Dec '20	£1,749pp
Sandals Montego Bay	Crystal Lagoon Honeymoon Oceanview Luxury Room with Balcony Tranquility Soaking Tub	05 Sep - 04 Dec '20	£1,945pp
Sandals Royal Plantation	Viceroy Honeymoon Oceanfront BUTLER SUITE	05 Sep - 04 Dec '20	£2,010pp

Many other travel dates through to 10 Feb '22, room categories and holiday durations available. All the above prices include all savings and all packages include return economy flights with Virgin Atlantic or British Airways.

Call 0800 022 3773 | Visit [sandals.co.uk](https://www.sandals.co.uk)

See your local travel agent • Come In-store at 135 Fulham Road, London SW3 6RT

Lines are open until 11PM, 7 days a week

Kent's alternative 11+ option

Open Morning: Sat 7 March Year 7 Taster Day: Weds 11 March



We are a high achieving, non-selective private school with an academic, creative & lively sixth form
• Academic and creative • Small classes not exceeding 12 • Outstanding results • Minibus services

"It's a place for individuals, and there's a lovely air of tolerance and warmth" GOOD SCHOOLS GUIDE



ROCHESTER
INDEPENDENT COLLEGE

37 MINUTES FROM LONDON BY TRAIN

Day and boarding | Year 7 to 6th form

rochester-college.org | 01634 828115



HOMEOWNERS AND LANDLORDS



**YOU CAN SELL YOUR HOUSE
IN 7 TO 28 DAYS!**

...and up to **100%**
MARKET VALUE! (and sometimes better!)

HOMEOWNERS & LANDLORDS

- ✓ GUARANTEED CASH OFFER IN 7 DAYS
- ✓ Up to 100% MARKET VALUE IN 28 DAYS
- ✓ IMMEDIATE CASH ADVANCES
- ✓ TENANTED PROPERTIES
- ✓ PROBATE & REFURBISHMENT
- ✓ 100% REGULATED

Call **National Residential TODAY**
for an informal chat and to
request a quote:

0800 612 3799

THERE ARE NO HIDDEN CATCHES!

www.national-residential.co.uk



*"Delivering Fast House Sales to Homeowners and Landlords
throughout England and Wales"*

Education & Courses

Do you want to be more
useful at work?

AAT

Accountancy Courses

No previous qualifications required

**Courses start
Monday 9th March 2020!**

Part Time Study

Qualify by July 2020!

Course price from **£30/week**

5 mins from Old St/Barbican/Moorgate tubes

Give us a call on **07961 015 929**
or contact us at www.mcarthurmorgan.com

CRUFTS 2020 AT BIRMINGHAM NEC

**LOVE DOGS AND WANT
TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?**

**COME AND HELP US ON
OUR STAND 5-8 MARCH 2020**

Motivated volunteers needed to

- Meet and greet public
- Help with our rescues from the dog meat trade
- Leafletting / Fundraising



For more information
campaign@notodogmeat.com
0207 873 2250
www.notodogmeat.com

Property Purchase

**ARE YOU
IN DEBT?
ARE YOU A
HOMEOWNER?
AT RISK OF LOSING YOUR HOME?**

**WE HAVE THE PERFECT
SOLUTION FOR YOU!**

Our dedicated team will do
far more to help you stop
repossession or resolve
difficult financial issues.



**CALL US URGENTLY ON
0800 011 9233**

FasterPropertySolutions.co.uk (Free from Mobile)

Public & Legal Notices

LICENSING ACT 2003
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR THE
VARIATION OF A PREMISES LICENCE
PREMISES: Etc. 133 Houndsditch, Liverpool
Street, London, EC3A 7AH. Notice is given that
Etc Venues Ltd has applied to City of London to
vary its Premises Licence under the Licensing
Act, 2003. The proposed variation is:-
To include the third floor within the remit of
the Licence for all current licensable
activities and hours. Anyone who wishes
to make representations regarding this
application must write to the Licensing Officer,
City of London Licensing Authority,
Walbrook Wharf, 78-83 Upper Thames
Street, London, EC4R 3TD. Representations
must be received by 19 March 2020. The
register of Licensing Applications
can be inspected by appointment or at
www.cityoflondon.gov.uk.
It is an offence on summary conviction to
knowingly or recklessly make a false
statement in connection with this
application, the maximum fine for which is
unlimited.

Noticeboard

RASHID & RASHID
Immigration Solicitors
Specialists in
Immigration & Asylum
Family Matters (Divorce),
Overstayers, Brexit Changes
Illegal, Failed Asylum
European Law, Marriage Visa
Entry Clearance, Human Rights
Authorised & Regulated by SRA - SRA No 545244
02083 401 666
07873 33 5000
190 Watlington Rd, South Wimbledon, London SW19 1UN
1 minute walk from South Wimbledon tube station
www.rashidandrashid.co.uk

**To advertise call
020 79 38 38 38**

ESJobs

RECRUITMENT

TO ADVERTISE CALL:
020 79 38 38 38

You're never too young to change careers

Seven in 10 of us feel we are stuck in the wrong job. But while older workers are keen to make the switch, younger ones fear they are already past it. Now an Olympian is out to prove them wrong.
By **Niki Chesworth**

FOR 36 years, Brendan Padfield worked as a solicitor in London, before swapping commuting in the capital for a life in the country.

Today, he runs a pub in rural Suffolk called the Unruly Pig, and says it is "invigorating".

You might think his move was a little drastic — after all, the two lifestyles and career paths could not be more different. However, Padfield, now 60, says the skills he learned as a lawyer — particularly the management of people — have been invaluable as a pub owner. More importantly, he's never been happier.

Padfield is also proof that it's never too late to do something different. He recognises the benefits of a bit of maturity both in himself and those he employs, saying he loves hiring people with a bit of life experience, who have "been around the block".

He is also not unusual in choosing to switch to hospitality as a second career — in fact, this sector is now the most desired career option for the over-50s looking for a change in direction, who would choose this above any other career, according to hospitality jobs board Caterer.com.

Some, like Padfield, inset right, are taking an entirely new career path, while almost half are "boomerangs", having worked in the industry in the past — even if it was when they were students.

So why do these mid-lifers want to work in this sector? Well, they appreciate the flexibility of shift patterns, the strong social engagement and positive



Next round: Former Olympic boxer Nicola Adams is moving on from the ring to the world of TV presenting, and she also hopes to open a chain of gyms

workplace culture. In response, Caterer.com has teamed up with the Centre for Ageing Better to produce guidance for employers welcoming back workers who are now over 50.

YOU AREN'T PAST IT AT 30

Despite many over-50s planning a career change, younger employees — surprisingly — seem more reluctant to make a move, even though seven in 10 of them say they are stuck in the wrong job.

This generational divide means that while mature workers are keen to take a new direction, some younger employers fear that they are "past it" at 30, according to research for LifeSkills, created with Barclays.

In reality, however,

a successful career change can be made at any age. Looking at people over 55 that have made a change at some point in their career, more than four in 10 say they did so over the age of 45.

What's more, the vast majority of these career-changers have reaped the benefits of their decision, with seven in 10 saying that it led to them to be happy overall.

More importantly, six in 10 career-changers describe their move as the "best thing they've ever done".

Former Olympic boxer Nicola Adams knows exactly what it is like to start out in a new field, as she too is moving on from her career in the ring, going into the world of TV presenting.

"To me, making a career change is all about that mindset: identifying what you want to do, and how to build on the skills you have to make it happen," she says. "That's why I'm getting involved in helping others understand their true

potential and get the advice they need to make the most of their careers."

These are Adams' tips on how to make a successful career change.

Make your own opportunities: "When I started out boxing, there were very few opportunities for women to train or compete, so I learned early on that I had to make my own," she says.

"Embarking on a career change has been the same — opportunities aren't always handed to you on a plate, so I've needed to think about what I'm passionate about and go make it happen."

Use your existing skills in a different way: "TV presenting is a world away from boxing, but I've treated facing a teleprompter for presenting jobs like I would any opponent in the ring," Adams says. "When I thought about it, the core skills are the same for each: needing to apply yourself with discipline to the task at hand. That mindset has seen me through to where I am today."

Do your research: "Spend time working out what you like and what you're good at, and speak to as many people as you can about it, whether it's friends and family, or people already in the industry you're considering," she says.

Get the advice you need: "I'm entrepreneurial-minded, and plan to set up my own chain of gyms one day," she says. "I'm in the stages of sussing out business plans, locations and investors, so have needed to get advice on how to go about doing this. It's the same for any new venture — make sure you're getting help on how to navigate the practical aspects of launching your idea."

"LifeSkills (barclayslifeskills.com) has been extended to support all age groups providing online advice and resources around the biggest areas of need for the workforce, such as how to work flexibly, starting your own business and under

It's not just women going part-time — men can make it work, too

LONDON is the worst place in the UK for those wanting good-quality flexible jobs — and it is not just working mothers who want to work part-time, term-time, flexibly and to job-share.

Men can also want to work fewer hours and have a better quality of life. However, they can feel stigmatised for not putting in punishingly long days.

A few are bucking this trend and proving that you can hold down a top job without being in the office five days a week, and they include Stewart Patter-

son, a director at Willis Towers Watson, who worked full-time until a cancer diagnosis in 2014 which forced him to be absent from work for almost a year.

When he returned to work, he moved to a four-day week, as the combination of travel and post-chemo fatigue left him with little energy, and then later adjusted to a three-day week after the birth of his second child.

Patterson, who champions part-time work, features in this year's 2020 Timewise Power 50 list of the 50 most influ-

ential part-timers (timewise.co.uk/power-50) published last week.

Nick Strange, another Power 50 part-timer, is director (acting) of supervisory risk specialists at the Bank of England, and had different reasons for changing his working pattern to four days a week. He wanted time to enjoy more opportunities with his husband, who is partially sighted, and provide more care for his elderly parents.

Strange, who leads a team of 200, has successfully achieved this balance by

combining part-time with flexible hours and working from home.

Harry Gaskill, chief innovation officer, UK and Ireland for EY, works a 60 per cent contract from Tuesday to Thursday so he can have time to pursue his interests in education, inclusion and angel investing alongside his Accenture job.

These men are not alone: for the first time, one million bosses — or one in six jobs at manager or senior level with a salary of £40,000+ — are now part-time, according to Timewise. This is a 55 per

cent increase in the eight years since Timewise started tracking the figures.

However, the number of men in the top 50 has increased far more rapidly and has more than doubled since 2012, showing a sea-change in attitudes.

Timewise co-founder Karen Mattison says: "A few years ago, people were reluctant to admit they worked part-time for fear of being seen as less committed or ambitious. No more. But a key challenge remains when it comes to flexible hiring, which is in its infancy."



**Get your business
paperwork done
without feeling
like a robot.**

Try Xero free for 30 days.

Beautiful business



FTSE 100
6504.76
down 75.85

FTSE 250
19,056.52
down 274.40

£1 buys
\$1.2777
down 0.46 cent

1 Bitcoin buys
\$8761
up \$89

£1 buys
€1.1490
down 1.37 cent

€1 buys
\$1.1117
up 0.90 cent

Brighter building

Joanna Bourke meets the London duo shedding light on city planning » **Page 48**

Tycoons tie up

Capital pair in £500m plan to build UK's first network of world-class film studios » **Page 50**

City Editor **Jim Armitage**
standard.co.uk/business

Read by more City people than the *Financial Times*,
Daily Telegraph and *The Times* combined

Business

To beat this crisis we need unified spirit of 2008

Jim Armitage



COMMENT

AND so the parallels with the global financial crisis continue.

First came the crash in share prices, then the fall in demand for global goods and services, and today the promise of globally co-ordinated intervention from central banks.

Following on from the Fed's reassurance that it would apply whatever medicine it takes to the coronavirus-induced fever in the markets, today the Japanese central bank and the Bank of England followed suit.

They're absolutely right to make these noises. Markets needed reassurance and that's what they got. The trouble is, of course, that no 25 or 50 basis point interest rate cut will reopen factories in China. No amount of QE will coax people out into the shops and restaurants of Europe if cities go into lockdown. Hence the early FTSE-100 leap quickly fizzled out.

What it does do, though, is ensure that liquidity — the availability of credit to businesses squeezed by the crisis — will not dry up as the crisis unfolds. One worry taken off businesses' lists.

Another of their worries is one policy-makers can control.

While the rout in share prices last week got all the headlines, the pound's plunge was dramatic, too.

The virus was largely to blame, but doesn't explain why sterling fared worse than other currencies. For that, look no further than Brexit and the belligerent comments of the Prime Minister ahead of our EU talks.

Such bluster is the last thing we need right now. At the overdue Cobra meeting today, let's have a pledge to tone down the rhetoric of war in Brussels and start a spirit of co-operation.

@ArmitageJim



Manufacturing leaps despite disease panic

COVID-19 has taken a brutal, if predictable, toll on UK exports. Despite the panic, the closely watched PMI survey for February jumped at its fastest pace for 10 months, hitting 51.7, up from 50 in January.

Recent floods hardly helped, with companies "burning through their Brexit safety stocks", IHS Markit said. The shortage of raw materials is also pushing up input prices, which is leading to higher prices at the factory gate.

Chris Williamson, chief business economist at IHS Markit, said: "February saw encouraging signs that the eurozone's manufacturing downturn is easing."

Simon English

ACTIVIST TURNS UP HEAT ON STALEY OVER EPSTEIN LINKS

ACTIVIST investor Edward Bramson renewed his hostilities with Barclays today. He insisted it should remove its boss Jes Staley from the board amid a probe over his ties with Jeffrey Epstein. Bramson's Sherborne Investors said in a letter it "strongly recommends" the board "rescind their unanimous recommendation to re-elect Staley", as a director at its AGM. The Financial Conduct Authority is scrutinising Staley's links to the late sex offender.

Markets still jittery as central banks pledge to heal virus-hit economies

MARKETS
Simon English

THE Bank of England followed other leading central banks today, trying to reassure markets it would do whatever proves necessary to protect the economy from the increasingly unnerving coronavirus epidemic.

Last week saw £250 billion swiped from the value of UK shares as investors panicked amid talk of food stockpiling and the cancellation of major group gatherings such as football matches.

Across the globe, large companies lost trillions in market value as new cases emerged and senior politicians such as President Trump and Boris Johnson appeared slow to respond.

Today the Bank of England promises to take "all necessary steps" to support the economy. The Bank said it "continues to monitor developments and is assessing

its potential impacts on the global and UK economies and financial systems".

Despite the reassurance, markets remain extremely jittery. The FTSE 100 rallied hard in early trading, gaining more than 200 points initially. Later it was down 75.85 points at 6,504.76.

The Bank said it "is working closely with HM Treasury and the FCA — as well as our international partners — to ensure all necessary steps are taken to protect financial and monetary stability." Analysts noted that statement, while light on detail, was vital to market sentiment.

The US Federal Reserve and the Bank of Japan have also pledged to act where needed. That could mean emergency cuts in interest rates or yet more quantitative easing — electronic money being pumped into banks and pension funds.

In a statement, the Bank of Japan said: "The BOJ will monitor developments carefully, and strive to stabilise markets

and offer sufficient liquidity via market operations and asset purchases."

In a rare emergency statement, BOJ governor Haruhiko Kuroda said the central bank would take necessary steps to stabilise financial markets: "Overseas and domestic financial markets continue to make unstable movements due to heightening uncertainty over the impact on the economy from the spread of the coronavirus."

The sizable hit is being met with a policy response to mitigate some of the negative consequences

Mark Haefele
UBS Global Wealth Management

Mark Haefele of UBS Global Wealth Management says volatility will remain high, even if a global downturn is avoided.

He said: "The sizable though not recessionary hit to global growth is also being met with a policy response to mitigate some of the negative economic consequences. This should ultimately bode well for risk assets, but volatility is likely to remain high in the near term until this path becomes more apparent."

The OECD warned that it could halve its forecasts for 2020 global growth to 1.5% if the virus spreads across North America and Europe.

Oil is also rallying. Brent crude has gained almost 4% to \$51.59 per barrel, suggesting that fears of a global recession are easing, at least for now.

@SimonEngStand

Funeral group shares leap **Page 51**

Business

The London duo shedding some light on the matter of city planning

Joanna Bourke

**ENTREPRENEURS**

GORDON Ingram reckons there are three words that can bring the real-estate industry to tears. The chairman of property tech start-up Vu.City is referring to "rights of light".

The father-of-four is talking about the rights, which essentially offer building owners or tenants a reasonable level of natural light from the sky to rooms. It can be a challenge for some firms that want to develop new buildings, with careful consideration needed to make sure light is not obstructed.

Ingram, 56, has a specialist rights-of-light advisory business, Gordon Ingram Associates. In 2015 he set up Vu.City, with property technology and planning experts Wagstaffs, aiming to help those involved in building make clearer decisions.

Vu.City specialises in creating accurate and interactive 3D digital models of cities, including the whole of London, using photogrammetry and tech. For example, one model shows every building, road, tree and park in the capital.

Architects, property developers and councils can use the software to help with planning proposals, with the system allowing users to insert their own models of proposed schemes, from which they can visualise and assess what a new building might look like. Customers can also see how development heights could impact the rights of light neighbours have.

In addition there is scope for users to see what schemes will look like alongside other firms' planned new projects.

Sitting in Vu.City's Waterloo office alongside 52-year-old chief executive Jamie Holmes, Ingram says subscriptions typically cost from around £5000 a year per user. Businesses to have used



Room with a view: Gordon Ingram, left, and Jamie Holmes are creating 3D digital models so those involved in building can make clearer decisions

Vu.City

Founded: 2015 with 2017 launch
Staff: 52

Turnover: £1.5 million forecast for 2020

Business idol: Gordon — author and motivational speaker Simon Sinek. Jamie — "My dad Alan, a mechanical engineer. Throughout his career he treated everyone fairly and equally."

the tech include developers Landsec and Quintain.

Holmes thinks there is scope to widen the customer base to outside the property market. He says: "We plan to talk to advertisers about how they could use our system to see how certain billboards would look in London, and insurers could look at the whole resilience of a city with regards to such things as flooding or wind analysis."

The sophisticated tech couldn't be more different to the planning tools businesses had when Ingram started his career in the mid-Eighties. Ingram,

who grew up in Buckinghamshire, jokes it was inevitable he would become a chartered surveyor. His dad and grandfather had that job.

He got his rights of light training at a London firm called Michael Brooks. Ingram recalls: "There was no digitising. You used a protractor, drawings and a calculator to try and work out where buildings could sit and how big they could be."

But he was interested in tech and helped build software with IT experts to make the job easier. He set up on his own in 1993, launching GIA with a computer an older peer gave him, a £35,000 loan from Barclays, and his mum Janet as his PA. "We have evolved since then," he laughs.

GIA, which is still majority owned by Ingram, had been building digital models to help clients.

It was approached in 2015 by Wagstaffs' managing director Jason Hawthorne about creating a company that would make more in-depth and wide-scale models that people could interact with.

Shareholders in GIA and Wagstaffs invested to set up Vu.City, which also

counts estate agency Savills as a minority shareholder. Hawthorne is chief digital officer and Holmes was appointed to lead the business in 2017.

Holmes, a father-of-three who lives in Wandsworth, didn't have a conventional route into property. He grins when outlining his first jobs, including being a petrol pump attendant and washing dishes at a Maidenhead restaurant.

He went on to get a mechanical engineering degree and had a number of production manager roles at factories. He also spent 16 years at consulting and tech company Xoomworks.

Holmes says his time at Vu.City hasn't been without its challenges: "There was time and money spent on having to re-engineer programmes when we realised the software wouldn't work on certain clients' computers. That was painful."

But he thinks the pain was worth it. Vu.City has built up digital models of scores more places, including Bristol, Dublin and Sheffield, and there are plenty more customers to entice.

Things look bright for this start-up.

@es_jbourke

MARKET MINNOWS

TIDDLERS WHO WANT TO BE WHALES

Town Centre Securities

Share price: 212p



TRYING to pick tiddlers when the market is in meltdown is a dangerous business.

At the moment there are particular concerns for the small cap stocks as many of the firms were underfunded even before last week's sharp sell-off. As a result just a partial or temporary shut-down of a factory or a trading route can have devastating consequences for minnows.

With this in mind this week's tip is a small, unflashy real estate investment trust called Town Centre Securities.

Mainly focused on the North of England, its property portfolio is split between Leeds, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Manchester and a small smattering in London.

Its largest asset is the Merriam Centre in Leeds, which makes up more than a third of the value of the group's property portfolio.

The asset has managed to defy the retail downturn and over the past 12 months footfall has increased. It also recently renewed tenants, including The Co-op, Dominos, We are Cow, OKA, Greggs and Whittard. Its number one tenant is Morrisons, and its lease runs until 2040.

The only major issue remains the company's debt, which is high at £182 million. Nevertheless it is working hard to reduce the level and its loan-to-value measure is at 49%, which means the debts are half the value of the property.

The firm should also benefit from the Tories' pledge to spend £80 billion on infrastructure in the North. The Conservative manifesto included measures to boost Northern towns as well as road and rail schemes.

Let's see what new Chancellor Rishi Sunak comes up with in the Budget.

Mark Shapland

Unlock tax-free cash from your home...

... with the UK's number one equity release advisor*

- Tax-free cash to spend as you wish
- No monthly repayments required
- Maintain 100% home ownership with a lifetime mortgage

Speak to an Age Partnership advisor for your no-obligation quotation and find out how much tax-free cash you could release.

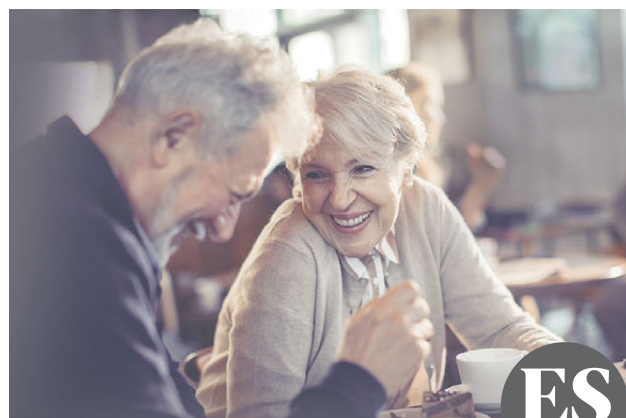
Equity release requires paying off any existing mortgage. The equity released, plus accrued interest, is to be repaid upon death or moving into long-term care.

Request your personalised illustration to understand features and risks.

Equity release may involve a home reversion plan, or lifetime mortgage which is secured against your home. It will reduce the value of your estate and may affect entitlement to means-tested benefits both now or in the future.

£25 MARKS & SPENCER VOUCHER

When you receive your quote
Offer ends 7 March 2020**



ES
PARTNERS

To request your free equity release guide, call **0808 500 1433**

Evening Standard

Age Partnership
The UK's No.1 Equity Release Advisor

HEAD ABOVE WATER HISCOX 'CAN COPE' WITH CLAIMS FOR FLOODS



INSURER Hiscox will swerve a big claims bill from homeowners and small businesses hit by the UK floods. Storms Dennis and Ciara caused severe flooding in parts of Wales, Yorkshire and the Midlands in January and February. The company received more than 100 claims but any losses will be capped at £10 million after buying reinsurance to pass on losses above that level. "It's not zero but it's a manageable proportion," said Hiscox chief Bronek Masojada. The FTSE 250 company made lower profits of \$53 million (£44 million) last year after paying out \$165 million for Typhoons Faxai and Hagibis and Hurricane Dorian.

Michael Bow

NMC begs lenders not to call in debts

HEALTHCARE

Jim Armitage

NMC, the private hospitals operator spectacularly imploding following questions over its accounting by short seller Muddy Waters, today appealed to lenders not to call in their loans while it tries to stabilise the business.

The company is facing a major cash crunch having admitted last week to finding discrepancies in its balance sheet. In June, it declared it had £500 million of cash, but that figure is now seriously in doubt among analysts and lenders to the group. The firm's chief financial officer is on "extended sick leave" and another member of the

finance department has been suspended.

Financial adviser Moelis, accountant PwC and law firm Allen & Overy have been appointed to help the company. NMC said it was trying to keep funding its various trading subsidiaries, adding: "NMC is asking for continued support and an informal standstill in relation to existing facilities from its lenders to achieve an immediate stabilisation of the group's financing." Italian investor GKSD is seeking a partner for a bid for NMC, Bloomberg today reported.

● Finabl, chaired by NMC founder BR Shetty, said its Travelex currency business is expected to take a £25 million hit from a cyber attack in December.

@ArmitageJim

Director who received LCF loans to be sued

FINANCE

Jim Armitage

ADMINISTRATORS to the collapsed bond firm London Capital & Finance have confirmed for the first time that they are to sue one of the directors of a firm which received loans from the company.

The details emerged in a court filing from administrators Smith & Williamson to the High Court last week.

Elten Barker, a director of certain companies who received LCF loans, was attempting to have S&W removed as administrators from a business where he was a director, London Oil & Gas, which has also collapsed.

The administrators argued his claim should be thrown out because "the administrators intend to bring proceedings in respect of c. £1.5 million which he received from the company for no apparent commercial purpose".

It also said he had an interest in two of the companies S&W is suing over the LCF affair, London Group and LPE Enterprises. "It is to be inferred that Mr Barker's purpose in pursuing the appli-

cation is to vex the administrators and/or to deplete the administration estate," the legal filing says.

Barker disputes that version of events and says he and his fellow London Oil & Gas directors were wrongly advised to put the firm into administration.

Separately, LCF's administrators have issued an update to bondholders about their progress in hunting down the £238 million they invested.

The report says loans to the four main groups LCF claimed to have lent money to do not tally with funds going into the debtor's bank accounts. "Clearly, we are investigating the very substantial discrepancies which this analysis has highlighted," the report states.

It adds that it has "concerns" that one of the debtors, an equestrian business where Barker's friend Spencer Golding was patron, has been selling horses without handing over the proceeds to the administrators.

The boss of FS Equestrian Services, Sean Cubitt, has failed to deliver information requested on the business, the report states.

@ArmitageJim

Just Eat Takeaway takes rival to court

LEISURE

Simon English

NEWLY-merged Just Eat Takeaway today filed a legal action against rival Delivery Hero, which tried and failed to bust up the recent merger.

Just Eat Takeaway has filed arbitration proceedings over an agreement to buy 8.4 million shares in the new business.

Delivery Hero took a stake in Takeaway .com last year when it sold the company its German assets. As part of

the deal, it got a stake in Takeaway but agreed not to buy any more shares.

However, this stake was diluted down when Takeaway and Just Eat merged later in the year so Delivery Hero stated it wants to buy more.

Now, Just Eat Takeaway say this is a breach of the agreement not to buy shares.

It said in a statement to the stock market that it "regretted" having to take the matter to arbitration.

@SimonEngStand



45 YEARS OF
TRADING

£0

Trade 3+ times a month with us to
pay zero commission on US shares
– and just £3 on UK shares.*

Keep more of your returns. Search
'IG share dealing' to find out more.

Your capital is at risk.

Share dealing / ISA / IG Smart Portfolio / Spread betting

*Deal three or more times in the prior month to qualify for our best commission rate.

SHARE PRICES

SECTORS

	2019/20	High	Low
CONS & BUILD MATERIALS			
Bellway	371.1	-12	433.6
CPI	268.5	-46	311.6
Taylor Wimpey	202.3	-15	237.4
ELECTRONIC & ELEC EQUIP			
discoverE Grp	510	-4	606
ENGINEERING & MACHINERY			
Bodycote	740.9	-3%	975
FOOD PRODUCERS			
Cranwick	339.2	+62	391.2
HEALTH			
Comvital Grp	203.4	-1%	225.4
INSURANCE			
Admiral Grp	216.7	+55	235.6
Beazley	572.7	-2	634
Hiscox	128.7	+61	179.5
INVESTMENT COMPANIES			
AVI Global Trust	700.5	+5%	802
Custodian REIT	108.1	-1%	120.6
UKCP	80.4	-1	93
LEISURE & HOTELS			
Marston	89.4	-1%	133.4
MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT			
Cartoon Media	40	-59	30.4
OIL & GAS			
Cain Energy	139	-216.4	133
Hunting	323.4	+5%	657
Premier Oil	77.4	-1%	120.4
Pharos Energy	319.4	-1%	78
PHARMS & BIOTECH			
Hikma Pharms	187.1	+84%	221.2
REAL ESTATE			
Capital & Cities	198	-275	181.4
CLS	252	-6	322.4
Derwent Land	395.0	-30	436.2
Granger	299.4	+2%	341.4
Helical	459	-11%	540
Raven Property	451.4	-1%	513.4
Raven Prop Pref	127.4	-2%	143.4
RavenProp CnvPrf	103	-104	101
Savills	108.4	-4	126.4
Triax Big Box	131.4	-1%	162.4
U and I Grp	162	-2	203.4
Urban&ivic	344	-6	375
Workspace Grp	113.4	-6	131.4
RESTS PUBS & BREWERIES			
Fuller S.A.	844	-4	1250
SPECIALITY & OTHER FIN			
Mattoli Woods	845	-865	455
Paragon	459.4	-4%	555.4
SUPPORT SERVICES			
Dignity	580	-6%	765
Experian	268.7	+96	292.6
Ferguson	489.2	+40	768
Hays	137	-1%	186

	2019/20	High	Low
Homeserve	1206	+23	1352
Ricardo	650.4	-7%	846
Robert Walters	550	-	676
TRANSPORT			
Go-Ahead Grp	192.1	-28	230.4
UTILITIES OTHER			
Drax Group	264.4	-5%	390.4
AIM			
Appreciate Grp	57.4	-1%	80
Ashstead Group	239.1	-2	279.7
Christie Grp	109.4	-1%	132
Colt	620	-22	788
Dart Group	117.0	-59	1950
Elecosoft	74	-2	87.4
MMC Saatchi	77	-9%	405
Sophem	685	+5	1220
Tristel	459.4	-7	514.4
Union Jack Oil	0.4	-	0.4
Walker Greenhalgh	69	-2	91.4
RECENT ISSUES			
Adriatic Metals	66	-3	102.4
Brickability Group	70	-1%	77
Calsonic	220	-2	245
EverArc Hldgs	129.4	-	140.4
Galliford Try Hldgs	155	-1%	201
Genfields Grp	101.4	-	12
Helios Towers	120	-2%	140
Impreg	196	-	199
JPMorgan GH Core	102.4	-1%	109
Just Eat Takeaway	692.5	-110	8330
Longboat Energy	87	-1%	105.4
M&C	196.4	-2%	252.4
MJ Hudson	58	-1%	61.4
Mustang Energy	101.4	-1%	151.4
National World	111	-	111.4
Octopus Renewable	107.4	-2	112
Pebble Group	147	-4	159
Tasako Mines	35	-50	39.4
Vaako Energy	150	-	39.4
ZAIM Credit Systems	31.4	-	4

† Dealings suspended
* Ex-dividend
r Ex-rights issue

Ice DATA SERVICES
www.theice.com/data

For enquiries call +44 (0)20 7825 8300

Smooth landing for plane parts maker after cost cuts

Michael Bow



MARKET ROUND-UP

PLANE parts maker Senior's turbulence from Boeing's 737 Max debacle has left many investors feeling a little queasy but full-year results were cheered today after cost-cutting measures meant they landed better than expected.

The UK engineering group makes parts to help circulate air conditioning around planes including the 737 Max, among other things.

The grounding of the Max after two deadly crashes has hurt sales at Senior but it has ramped up cost cuts and turned its attention to manufacturing parts for other planes to mitigate the Max problems.

Despite reporting a 50% profit drop for 2019 to around £29 million, the market took a shine to the cost reductions and an upbeat outlook and sent the shares up 3% to 4.10p to 145.3p.

The FTSE 100 fell again after last week's coronavirus battering, dropping 75.85 points to 6504.76 despite a short-lived surge in early trading.

If you're dining out at a swanky restaurant this week please take a moment to inspect the whiter-than-white tablecloth; it could be one of those supplied by burgeoning laundry supplier Johnson Service Group. The AIM-listed firm does chefs' whites and tablecloths for



Protected: Avon Rubber sealed a deal to supply US Army soldiers with body armour

3000 eateries across London and the UK, including bankers' favourite The Wolseley as well as Cubitt House. The shares were on a tear, up 8.6%, or 15.8p, to 199p, as full-year results showed a 13% hike in the dividend to 3.5p after new contract wins boosted sales.

Avon Rubber, which makes protection equipment to try to stop people dying in nuclear or chemical attacks, clinched a large new contract with the US Army to supply soldiers with body armour.

The company's recently acquired ballistic-protection business, which it bought from 3M in January, will make the plates which go into bulletproof vests to protect US Army soldiers. The

new plates are designed to be lighter and more comfortable for soldiers to wear.

Avon chief Paul McDonald said it demonstrated Avon's position as the "leading provider of next-generation body armour to the US armed forces". The shares fell 65p to 266.5p.

Software group Sage's shares rose nearly 2% or 12p to 693p, after selling one of its Brazilian businesses to the local management team for £1 million.

The company flagged the sale in November saying the unit, which had sales of £53 million last year but was loss-making, did not fit in with plans to focus more on subscription software.

@bymichaelbow

Tycoons in £500m studios venture

MEDIA
Jim Armitage

TWO of London's top TV and advertising tycoons have secured £500 million of institutional investment to build Britain's first network of world-class film studios and capitalise on the Netflix-led boom in production.

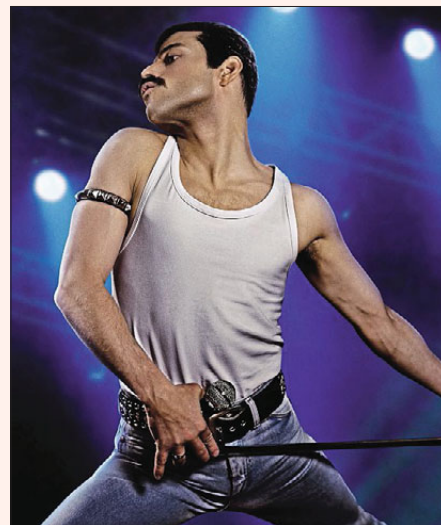
The Evening Standard has learned that Piers Read, producer of The Inbetweeners and Peep Show, and Jeremy Rainbird, the adman who launched Bafta-winning Merman have started with the takeover of the historic Twickenham Studios and have plans for around six major studio complexes around the UK.

They plan to invest £50 million in Twickenham, updating the stages and regenerating the post-production facilities and providing modern office space aimed at businesses in the creative industry.

Their company, The Creative District Improvement Company, has also applied for planning to build a £148 million new studio complex in Kent near the Ashford International train station, which will have four large stages totalling 80,000 square feet, plus a hotel and apartments for film crews to stay in.

The pair have tied up with colleges to provide in-studio education and training for local youngsters keen to get into the film business.

Another hoped-for site is in Liverpool,



We are the champions: Twickenham Studios won an Oscar for the sound on Bohemian Rhapsody

and the team is interested in taking over the running of the troubled Dagenham Studios project. They bid for Dagenham with the financial backing of CBRE's investment arm but the council instead chose a US operator, which later walked away from the project.

Both executives have property experience as well as TV expertise. Read

previously developed Wimbledon Studios and Rainbird has developed offices in Hackney.

Read said: "Traditionally, investors have considered studios too risky, but we've had a lifetime in the industry and understand what producers need. We can show developers how we can make it work for them and bring huge economic benefits to the community."

British Airways' pension fund led the Twickenham Studios buyout, and Read and Rainbird said they had secured funding from other major institutions for further deals totalling £500 million.

Kent developer Quinn Estates is teaming up with other backers for the Ashford project.

"Britain is the world leader for film-making and the industry is bringing the country more employment, more GDP, but it does not get the government support it should do," said Rainbird.

Twickenham Studios was bought eight years ago by hotels entrepreneur Sunny Vohra, a film fanatic who saved it from demolition and nursed it back to health. Established in 1903, it is one of the oldest film studios in the world and was recently credited with an Oscar for the sound on the Queen film Bohemian Rhapsody and a Bafta for sound engineering and mastering on Sam Mendes' hit 1917.

Vohra will remain as chairman and co-owner of Twickenham.

@ArmitageJim

THE FRAGRANCE FOUNDATION UK

National Fragrance Week

16th-22nd March 2020

A week long celebration of fragrance

#ScentMemories

Unlocking new stories through scent...

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

THE SECRET GARDEN

IN CINEMAS SPRING 2020

#TheSecretGarden

Instagram: @fragrancefoundationuk, @the_secret_garden_uk

Facebook: fragrancefoundationuk, thesecretgardenuk

www.fragrancefoundation.org.uk

FRIDAY'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

CRYPTIC Across: 9, Level best 10, Let me see 12, Rung 13, Re-Li-E'd 14, Gar-bag-e 15, She-a-thing 17, Off-handed 18, Port-Ray 20, Thiev-e 21, Go-on 24, No matter 26, Mart-i-net (rev) 28, R-rear 29, Won-der (rev) 31, Twitter 34, Meth-ought 36, Fur-ther on 38, Le-nien-t 39, Strain 40, Blue 41, S-inc-e-ure 42, First-rate.

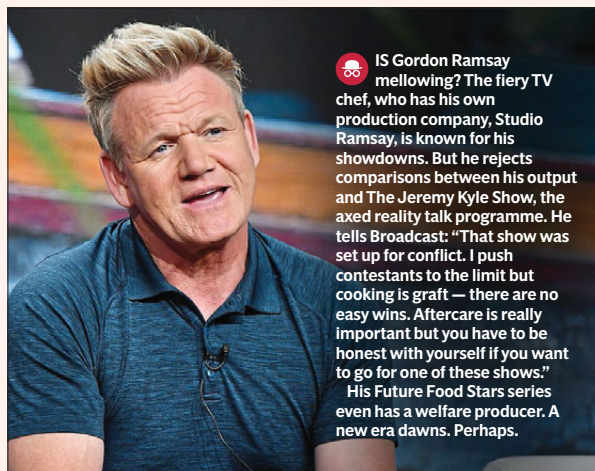
Down: 1, Fla-res-u-p 2, A-venue 3, Celer-ity 4, St-ring 5, Glad-Io-LI 6, Stage fever 7, Hear-say 8, Demand 11, P-end-ant 16, Th-re-at 19, Rh-O-da 20, Ta-r 22, Over-t 23, Finish (Finnish) 25, Thought-tout 26, Mar (rev) 27, Crumble 30, De-test-ed 31, Terriers 32, Rendered 33, Co-were-d 35, Ten-nis (rev) 36, Far-o-ff 37, Re-to-ad.

EASY Across: 9, Overwhelm 10, Geometry 12, Tomb 13, Kimono 14, Execute 15, Latter-day 17, Ampersand 18, Archaic 20, Retain 21, Asia 24, Somerset 26, Tattered 28, Liss, 29, Clumsy 31, Conkers 34, Efficient 36, Legislate 38, Discuss 39, Enmity 40, Asti 41, Daffodil 42, Extensive. **Down:** 1, Tortilla 2, Permit 3, Periodic 4, Embody 5, Ignorant 6, Power point 7, Revelry 8, Trauma 11, Headway 16, Eraser 19, Cross 20, Rat 22, Sweden 23, Tennis 25, Silverside 26, Toy 27, Already 30, Motherly 31, Cogitate 32, Specimen 33, Scruffy 35, Fiscal 36, Lumber 37, Assail.

BACK PAGE Across: 1, Grip 4, Cat 6, Made 9, Air 10, Attitude 11, Clad 14, Bar 16, Sweet 19, Conceded 21, Tenet 23, Relaxing 24, Fared 27, Wrig 31, Crut 33, Overtake 34, Sue 35, Beer 36, Pay 37, Pant.

Down: 2, Rite 3, Pail 4, Crusader 5, Tier 6, Macaw 7, All 8, Drape 12, Scott 13, Under 14, Bet 15, Renew 17, Equip 18, Tough 20, Delivery 22, Tag 25, Amuse 26, Enter 28, Coop 29, Stop 30, Skin 32, Rue.

City Spy



IS Gordon Ramsay mellowing? The fiery TV chef, who has his own production company, Studio Ramsay, is known for his showdowns. But he rejects comparisons between his output and *The Jeremy Kyle Show*, the axed reality talk programme. He tells *Broadcast*: "That show was set up for conflict. I push contestants to the limit but cooking is graft — there are no easy wins. Aftercare is really important but you have to be honest with yourself if you want to go for one of these shows." His *Future Food Stars* series even has a welfare producer. A new era dawns. Perhaps.

Dust-up on Pollen St over Waterfall deal

A BITTER row has broken out between private equity firm Pollen Street and the board of an investment trust it used to manage. Last week the trust, known as Pollen Street Secured Lending, was subject to a £670 million takeover offer by a US company called Waterfall, meaning Pollen Street would be sacked as manager and replaced by Waterfall. In a parting shot at Pollen Street, the board of PSSL, led by former Gartmore fund manager Simon King, blasted the firm for failing to hand over enough information on how it ran the trust, suggesting this may have been to

frustrate the Waterfall bid. Now Pollen Street has hit back. Today the wounded firm, led by Lindsey McMurray, launched a counter-attack by accusing the board of accepting a undervalued bid from Waterfall and claiming it had, in fact, handed over enough information by making more than 2000 documents available for bidders. "Despite numerous attempts to provide expert advice and propose a practical approach since learning of the Waterfall proposal, the board has refused to engage with us constructively and now risks endangering shareholder value," said McMurray. Let battle commence.

CORONA beer's new marketing campaign has raised eyebrows after the lager was dragged into the coronavirus storm. Shares in Corona owner Constellation Brands took a hit last week after polls suggested drinkers were shunning the beer due to its tenuous association with the virus (they, um, share the same name). But Corona isn't doing much to dispel the notion. Its latest advertising campaign features a string of Corona bottles with the logo "Coming ashore soon". That's one way to frighten customers.

PROPERTY industry shindig Mipim was formally postponed on Saturday due to coronavirus but signs all was not well emerged before that from one of the soirées's most popular bars. The landlord of Brown Sugar, an English pub in the heart of Cannes, was tweeting on Thursday that it had vacant slots after a string of property giants had unexpectedly cancelled reservations. Landlords are always the first in the know.

Email us at:
cityspy@standard.co.uk

Sagi's £245m sell-off in Holborn

PROPERTY
Joanna Bourke

BILLIONAIRE entrepreneur Teddy Sagi's investment firm today completed the £245 million sale of a large estate in Holborn to investors wanting to benefit from the arrival of Crossrail.

Sagi's LabTech has sold a cluster of shops and offices, known as the Holborn Links Estate, to property company Cording Real Estate Group and investment giant Tristan Capital Partners on behalf of one of its funds.

The site is home to some 50 tenants

and the new owners will look to refurbish part of it.

They reckon there will be a queue of businesses wanting to take space when the delayed Elizabeth Line opens, and amid a shortage of supply in the area.

Mark Millar at Cording said Crossrail is expected to bring an additional 1.5 million people within 45 minutes commuting distance of the capital, "creating a 'halo effect' around the new stations that will strongly benefit the Holborn area". LabTech will re-invest the proceeds in London and overseas.

@es_jourouke

Funerals group's shares leap on outbreak alarm

MARKETS
Jim Armitage

SHARES in funerals group Dignity have surged during the stock-market rout amid expectations that it will book big profits from coronavirus.

As the rest of the stock market dived 12% last week, with selling across the board, Dignity shares rose 6% as investors bet on a rise in the death rate.

Bloomberg filings indicate investment fund Granular Capital spent £8.3 million on a 3% stake in the firm on February 21, the day reports first suggested the virus had spread to Italy. It will have made a paper profit of



Contagion: death worries are rising

£600,000. Dignity is the only stock market-quoted funerals firm and has proved to be one of the few stocks for investors to buy to protect their wealth from the worst ramifications of the virus's impact on company earnings.

Charles Hall, an analyst at Peel Hunt, said: "This is entirely due to coronavirus. But if you look at the data on the virus, it seems unwarranted. Around 600,000 people die a year and the evidence shows that, even among people who are affected, the deaths from the virus are tiny compared with that."

He added that proposed caps on funeral charges by the Competition and Markets Authority also made Dignity shares a bad bet.

A few days before Granular was buying Dignity shares, BlackRock increased its short position bet that the share price would fall.

@ArmitageJim



A great rate and instant access to your business savings. Now that's smart.

1% Gross/AER (variable) on our Business Instant Access savings account.

Earn one of the best rates on the high street and access your money for whatever you need, whenever you need it.



Search TSB Business Instant Access Savings.

Source: Comparison of Business Instant Access savings accounts available in the UK, see tsb.co.uk/BIA. Rate correct as at 02/03/2020. Min balance £5,000. Interest paid monthly. Gross rate is the contractual rate of interest payable before income tax is taken off. AER stands for Annual Equivalent Rate, which shows what the interest rate would be if interest was paid and compounded once each year.

TSB Bank plc. Registered Office: Henry Duncan House, 120 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 4LH. Registered in Scotland No. SC95237. Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. Registration No. 191240. TSB Bank plc is covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme and the Financial Ombudsman Service. (Please note that due to the schemes' eligibility criteria not all TSB business customers will be covered by these schemes.)

Will Arteta keep the faith by opting for Martinez?

Argentine's return in goal for Cup tie will show belief is restored after Euro exit



Glove affair: Emiliano Martinez has played in every round of the FA Cup so far

PORTSMOUTH v ARSENAL
(Fratton Park, 7.45pm, BT Sport 1)
James Olley

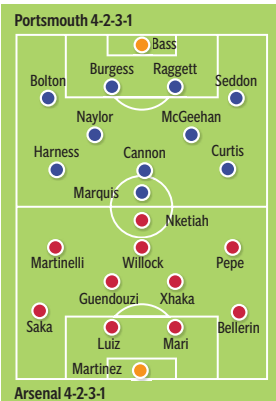
IT was an indication of how important Mikel Arteta viewed the Europa League that goalkeeper Bernd Leno was drafted in for both matches against Olympiacos last month.

Both Arsene Wenger and Unai Emery designated different goalkeepers for cup competitions, the latter drawing particular criticism for persevering with Petr Cech all the way to last season's Final despite Leno establishing himself as first choice.

Emiliano Martinez had played in all six group-stage matches under Emery and interim boss Freddie Ljungberg but Arteta introduced Leno for the last 32 tie without any equivocation.

Leno made several good saves in the first leg but while Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang took the brunt of criticism for a late miss in the return game, it was the Arsenal's Nol's panicked clearance which allowed Olympiacos the chance to win the tie.

Under only modest pressure, Leno conceded a needless corner from which the winning goal came. It was not a



**MORE WAYS TO BET
MORE WAYS TO WIN**

**SET YOUR OWN ODDS, SPORTS
TRADE AND EVEN LAY A BET
WITH THE BETFAIR EXCHANGE**

Exchange customers pay up to 5% commission, other charges may apply. Based on Betfair Exchange vs traditional bookmakers. T&Cs apply.



Antonio relieved the shackles are off

Giuseppe Muro

MICHAEL ANTONIO feels West Ham have found a formula for survival under David Moyes after they moved out of the relegation zone with a 3-1 win over Southampton.

The Hammers threw off the shackles and went for it at the London Stadium on Saturday in an attacking system that showcased their quality without exposing the defence.

Front two Antonio (right) and Sebastian Haller both scored and January signing Jarrod Bowen also found the net on his full debut as West Ham



secured a vital win with a display full of energy and pace.

West Ham are only out of the bottom three on goal difference after Watford won and Bournemouth drew over the weekend, but Antonio is confident they will stay up.

He said: "You have got to go out there and have a go, score goals, create goals and defend and work as a team. We had 11 men out there chasing, working hard and showing what we can do. We believe that we will be all right and we have always believed that. We have never really worried about it. In the situation we are

in, it has just been individual mistakes. When we keep the individual mistakes out, we perform.

"The key was keeping the tempo high, finishing opportunities that we had, pressing and basically just playing free. The last three weeks we have been playing under pressure but after the performance that we had at Liverpool on Monday, we realised that we can play and had the confidence to do it."

Meanwhile, there were more protests against David Gold, David Sullivan and Karren Brady on Saturday when an estimated 2,500 supporters held a demonstration march to the stadium. It was the biggest protest yet against the board.

Wenger, in particular, was usually happy to confirm his goalkeeper choice prior to FA Cup matches but Arteta kept his cards closer to his chest.

"I like to play the player I think is in the best condition for that game," he said. "If it is Emi, it is Emi, and if it's Bernd, it's Bernd. It's the same with the right-backs or the centre-backs. Because they played on Thursday, I am not going to say 'oh, they cannot play on Monday'."

"If I send that message to them, they are going to be tired, they are mentally not going to be prepared. It is not right. I could go individually like this with all

the outfield players as well. This player played six games in the Europa League and now under me he didn't start.

"I don't make any difference between goalkeepers, full-backs, strikers, attacking midfielders. They are all the same. They are part of the squad."

"We try to make the decision based on who we believe is better to win that competition. Players have to respect that, fight and compete between them. And if I made a wrong decision, probably sometimes I will do."

Leno has made a few wrong decisions of his own. The German international is in an unwanted four-way tie at the top of a list of keepers with the most errors leading to goals since the start of last season. David De Gea, Jordan Pickford and Martin Dubravka have all made seven mistakes.

Martinez played in the previous two rounds and would expect to feature tonight, with Pablo Mari also a possible debutant and Eddie Nketiah in line for a recall up front.

Arteta has a delicate balancing act between trusting his squad and selecting a line-up to avoid what would be a first defeat at Portsmouth in 22 meetings — dating back to March 1958.

Mikel needs his dependables tonight, not the undesirables

Alan Smith



AS A manager, you only find out about the true character of players when working alongside them on a daily basis.

At Manchester City, Mikel Arteta would have had a view about the Arsenal squad without properly knowing all the finer details.

Well, he's got a much better idea now after two months in charge and not all of his opinions will be complimentary. Some performances in matches have been starkly revealing, as have attitudes in training and general behaviour.

As a result, the Spaniard (right) knows who can be trusted and who isn't focused. He knows who he wants and who can be released. The tough part is offloading those undesirables when they're on top money whilst recruiting replacements on a tight budget.

In the meantime, going far in the cups would be welcome. It would create some momentum to mask the shortcomings. That's why last week's Europa League exit would have stung badly, making tonight's FA Cup tie even more important.

But the trip to Fratton Park won't be very comfortable. Portsmouth are riding high in League One, pushing for promotion after winning 13 of their past 15 in all competitions.

That makes them bullishly confident in this free hit, a match few expect the home side to win.

Kenny Jackett's players will be pumped, the crowd typically raucous. It's a classic situation when you need to stay strong and refuse to roll over. Arteta must hope that his dependable characters can get the job done.



Bethany: Make mine a treble

Jack Rosser

BETHANY ENGLAND is targeting a domestic treble with Chelsea after her injury-time winner secured the League Cup for the first time in the club's history.

The 25-year-old had earlier broken the deadlock against rivals Arsenal before Leah Williamson looked to have set up extra time with an 85th-minute equaliser.

Chelsea are a point behind WSL leaders Manchester City with a game in hand and have reached the FA Cup quarter-finals. England (above) said:



"There is quite a few — myself included — for whom it was their first [trophy]. It's important. You play, you put so much work and effort into this, and you want some reward. Fingers crossed we can keep it up and do a treble."

"Last season, we were a nearly team and we came away with nothing. It hit the girls hard and we knew that was never going to be an option this season — we were coming to win."

"It wasn't the prettiest performance but we still found the result and that's the most important thing."



ONLINE SPORT SHOULD FODEN GO TO THE EUROS?

The Manchester City starlet (far left, with Rodri) was man of the match as Pep Guardiola's side beat Aston Villa to win the Carabao Cup yesterday. Now hear from the 19-year-old at 10.30pm tonight by logging on to: standard.co.uk/mancity

Liverpool Cup clash kicks off defining month for Lampard

Simon Collings

FRANK LAMPARD knows only too well from his playing days that the business end of the campaign begins when the season ticks over into March.

Manchester City claimed the first trophy of the season by beating Aston Villa in the Carabao Cup Final yesterday and Chelsea hope to secure some silverware of their own this season as they continue their FA Cup campaign tomorrow against Liverpool.

The fifth-round tie at Stamford Bridge kicks off a month for the Blues that will go a long way to defining how Lampard's first season in charge is remembered.

Some may question the importance of the competition but winning a trophy would be huge in the development of many of Chelsea's youngsters.

"It's Liverpool and our fans are coming to the FA Cup to see us try to overturn the best team in the land," said Lampard (right).

"I won't pick players that I casually am giving minutes to. I want to treat it with the care that I would give to any Premier League game."

Chelsea's showdown with Liverpool

may be the immediate priority for Lampard but beyond that this month will have a huge say on the race to finish in the Premier League's top four.

Lampard will have feared on Saturday night that his side had conceded ground in the battle for Champions League qualification by drawing 2-2 at Bournemouth but both Manchester United and Tottenham blew their chances to reduce the gap on them yesterday.

The failure of Chelsea's rivals to capitalise on their stuttering form has been a familiar tale. The Blues, despite not winning back-to-back League games since November, remain fourth.

"We have had this opportunity for a long time to make this gap [between fourth and fifth] and we haven't managed to actually do it," said Andreas Christensen.

"March is going to

be very important. It is a big month and we have to perform well."

Sandwiched in between this month's League games against Everton, Aston Villa and Manchester City is the second leg of Chelsea's last-16 tie against Bayern Munich.

They need a miracle in Germany after a 3-0 loss at home but if they do go out, the manner in which they do is important. A heavy defeat will hardly boost confidence as they seek domestic success.

Tammy Abraham's ankle problem is giving Lampard a major cause for concern ahead of a season-defining run of games. The striker missed the 2-2 draw at Bournemouth on Saturday and has been to see a specialist in Barcelona.

Christian Pulisic's return date is also unknown as he recovers from an adductor problem but Callum Hudson-Odoi could be back for Sunday's game against Everton after a hamstring injury.



Ayew will play anywhere

Jack Rosser

JORDAN AYEWE is happy to play anywhere to bring the best out of Crystal Palace's attacking players after being shifted out wide in recent weeks.

The striker (right) scored his seventh goal of the season to secure a 1-0 at Brighton on Saturday, during which he played down both flanks as he and Wilfried Zaha rotated around Christian Benteke.

"Personally, I don't have a problem, playing up front, on the right or the left — as long as I am on the pitch, then



I am happy," said Ayew, whose goals have earned 14 points for Palace this season.

"I just want all my team-mates to be comfortable. So, if Wilf is comfortable on the left or the right, he should decide [where to go]."

"I don't mind, I will just do what I have to do on the pitch. Our strength is our shape and I think the defence had a very good game."

"Honestly, I don't know [if we've got enough points to be safe]. We have our target, which is to win every game and try to finish as high as possible."

Hazard expects to win race for Euros

EDEN HAZARD is confident he will recover from ankle surgery in time to be fit for the Euros this summer.

The Real Madrid midfielder will have an operation in Dallas on Thursday after fracturing his right ankle in a defeat against Levante last month.

Hazard hopes to return for Real before the end of the season and be ready to captain Belgium at the Euros.

The ankle injury is another setback for Hazard, who has endured a difficult season in Spain since his £130million move from Chelsea to Real last summer.

Ecclestone admits wake-up call was what England needed

CRICKET

Matt Majendie

ENGLAND spinner Sophie Ecclestone believes an opening defeat to South Africa at the T20 World Cup has acted as the perfect springboard.

England's women qualified for the semi-finals yesterday after beating West Indies comfortably, their third straight victory since losing their opener.

Ecclestone (right) again starred with the ball, with figures of three for seven, taking her wicket haul for the tournament to eight at an average of just 6.12 runs apiece.

And she said: "I think it [the South Africa loss] was a bit of a wake-up call for us all to be like, 'Right, we're in a World Cup now, we need to up our game'. I'm really glad with how the girls have fought back. Everyone's really happy in the camp now, getting

through to the semi-finals. All the spinners, the bowlers are in great form, the batters are getting runs, too, so it's quite nice."

Nat Sciver again top scored for England with 57 in a 46-run victory and former England captain Charlotte Edwards said the team needed

Sciver to continue to shine to have aspirations for overall glory.



Edwards said: "She's playing the best I've ever seen — she's just so commanding at the wicket. She keeps putting in performance after performance."

"I guess she'll need two more big performances for us to win the World Cup. She's been without doubt our player of the tournament."

Hosts Australia clinched their spot in the semi-finals with a four-run win over New Zealand. India and South Africa complete the line-up.

Pulev can't wait for AJ test

Continued from Back Page

last week the Bulgarian's promoter, Bob Arum, had pushed for the fight to take place outside London rather than at Tottenham's stadium.

But this morning, Pulev announced the fight in the capital on his official Facebook page: "The contract is officially signed. I am happy to have the opportunity to show the world how strong I really am."

It was confirmed by Joshua, who posted a picture of him with his belts on social media with the words, "June 20th". Joshua will be defending his

WBA, IBF and WBO titles for the first time since winning them in December with a unanimous points decision against Andy Ruiz Jr, who had stunned the Londoner in June.

For Joshua, it is a first return to the capital since fighting Alexander Povetkin at Wembley Stadium in September 2018, having since fought in New York and Saudi Arabia.

Pulev, the IBF's mandatory challenger, fought for the world title against Wladimir Klitschko in 2014 but lost in five rounds. He had been scheduled to face Joshua in October 2017 in Cardiff, but withdrew injured.

Aussie race still on, despite virus

FORMULA ONE

Matt Majendie

THE F1 season will begin as planned with the Australian Grand Prix in Melbourne in two weekends' time, despite the coronavirus outbreak.

MotoGP has cancelled the first two races of its 2020 calendar because of the virus's spread, but Albert Park officials today insisted that Lewis Hamilton's title defence is scheduled to go ahead on March 15.

Australian Grand Prix chief executive Andrew Westcott said: "Formula One has again confirmed the race is going

ahead and we're looking forward to welcoming them and the teams to Melbourne. We are all systems go."

"The finishing touches are being put on the circuit, Formula One freight and personnel are arriving in the coming days and we're looking forward to opening the gates to the public on March 12."

"The health and safety of everyone at the race is paramount. The Australian Grand Prix Corporation has robust health, safety and emergency management arrangements in place at each event. We continue to closely monitor the situation in the lead-up to the race."

Jones boosted by returns

Continued from Back Page

Jones has three scrum-halves in his squad, although he is likely to trim numbers later this week.

England's announcement this morning came on a defining day for this year's championship.

Officials from all Six Nations countries will meet in Paris today to discuss the rescheduling of Ireland's fixture against Italy. It was due to take place this weekend but was postponed due to the outbreak of coronavirus in northern Italy.

Today's World Rugby meeting will now will be used as a convenient

moment to discuss the rescheduling and whether further games — such as England's trip to Rome on March 14 — need to be called off.

The Six Nations will be guided by the governments of those countries involved and remain in consultation with them as they continue to monitor the outbreak and spread of the disease.

● QBE Insurance helps businesses build resilience through risk management and insurance. For more information go to QBEEUROPE.COM



Dier: I'm a centre-half... it's

Versatile Spurs player says his future is at heart of defence as he earns praise from manager Mourinho despite latest defeat

Dan Kilpatrick



Tottenham

Bergwijn 13, Aurier 45

Wolves

Doherty 27, Jota 57, Jimenez 73

ERIC DIER returned to centre-half for Tottenham's defeat by Wolves yesterday and afterwards said he wants to settle in the position permanently, suggesting he no longer wants to play regularly in midfield.

Dier was converted to a holding midfielder by Mauricio Pochettino in the summer of 2015, a year after joining Spurs as a versatile young defender from Sporting Lisbon.

His performances in the club's unexpected title-challenge of 2015-16 attracted the attention of then England manager Roy Hodgson and Dier has since won 40 caps for his country, including at Euro 2016 and the last World Cup — almost exclusively as a midfielder.

He frequently returned to central defence from the 2016-17 season before a severe case of appendicitis in December 2018 left him on the fringes of Pochettino's squad.

Jose Mourinho's appointment in November looked set to change Dier's fortunes, with the Portuguese having tried to sign him as a midfielder during his time in charge of Manchester United.

Mourinho initially made a point of restoring Dier to the anchorman role, but he soon lost his place to fellow midfielders Harry Winks and Giovani Lo Celso. Yesterday was his first Premier League start at centre-half since Pochettino's final match in charge, the 1-1 draw with Sheffield United in November.

Despite yesterday's defeat, Mourinho afterwards praised Dier's performance, and the 26-year-old told Standard Sport: "That's the position I see myself playing, that's where I see my future."

"I was happy to be able to play and it's obviously very nice of the manager speaking that way about me. Obviously, the most important thing is the team to win games and we haven't done that."

Under Pochettino, Dier refused to commit to a preferred position, always insisting he was happy to play either role and would prioritise the needs of the team.

"I have always been very politically correct on the subject because of many different reasons, but I've come to a decision," he added. "It's been something that isn't new for me."

"The old manager knew where I stood for a long time about my position and centre-back is where I see my future and I think where I can be the best I can be. With Pochettino, I started to play there this season, in the two games before he left, and I'm happy I got the chance to play there under Mourinho."

"I always knew it would happen eventually. With Pochettino, we spoke about it over many years, not just this year. The most important thing is the team, what the team needs from its players at that time. But now I'm at a stage in my career where I want to be playing in my best position. That's it, really."

With Spurs leading 1-0 through Steven Bergwijn's second goal for the club since signing from PSV Eindhoven in January, Dier made a hash of Ruben Vinagre's cross in the build-up to Matt Doherty's equaliser and he could not prevent Diego Jota and Raul Jimenez scoring after half-time to condemn Mourinho's side to consecutive defeats against top-four rivals.

Centre of attention: Eric Dier, battling with Adama Traore yesterday, earned rave reviews from Jose Mourinho



NEED HELP SAVING FACE, JOSE?



SHARPENING YOUR STYLE
SINCE 1772

my best position



39

goals conceded by Spurs in the Premier League this term, which is 10 more than at this stage last season and 15 more than in 2017/18.

4

clean sheets in the top flight so far, the joint-worst record alongside Aston Villa and Bournemouth.

18

times this season Spurs have conceded two or more goals in a match, their most porous performance being the seven they let in against Bayern Munich at home in October.

MORE WAYS TO BET

MORE WAYS TO WIN

SET YOUR OWN ODDS, SPORTS TRADE AND EVEN LAY A BET WITH THE BETFAIR EXCHANGE



Exchange customers pay up to 5% commission, other charges may apply. Based on Betfair Exchange vs traditional bookmakers. T&Cs apply.

Premier League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	28	26	1	1	64	20	79
Man City	27	18	3	6	68	29	57
Leicester	28	15	5	8	54	28	50
Chelsea	28	13	6	9	47	39	45
Man Utd	28	11	9	8	42	30	42
Wolves	28	10	12	6	41	34	42
Tottenham	28	11	7	10	46	39	40
Sheff Utd	27	10	10	7	29	25	40
Burnley	28	11	5	12	33	39	38
Arsenal	27	8	13	6	39	36	37
Everton	28	10	7	11	37	42	37
Crystal Palace	28	9	9	10	25	32	36
Southampton	28	10	4	14	35	51	34
Newcastle	28	8	8	12	24	41	32
Brighton	28	6	10	12	32	40	28
West Ham	28	7	6	15	35	49	27
Watford	28	6	9	13	27	43	27
Bournemouth	28	7	6	15	28	45	27
Aston Villa	27	7	4	16	34	52	25
Norwich	28	5	6	17	25	51	21

Following the loss at Chelsea last weekend, Mourinho dropped Toby Alderweireld and Jan Vertonghen to the bench and named Dier at the heart of a five-man defence, flanked by Serge Aurier, who also got on the scoresheet, Davinson Sanchez, Japhet Tanganga and Ben Davies.

"Eric played very well," Mourinho said afterwards. "The thinking was simple: Davinson and Tanganga are the two fastest central defenders that we have."

"Eric is the one who, by nature, is a midfield player, so playing in the middle between those centre-backs is the one who is normally more comfortable to step up, he's more comfortable with reading the game and passing."

"It was a mixture of giving security but at the same time keeping fast people at the back. I think they played well, especially Eric. He was very, very good."

In another display littered with defensive errors, Spurs failed to deal with another routine cross for Jota's equaliser and the Portugal forward ran from inside his own half to set-up Jimenez's 73rd-minute strike.

Mourinho afterwards branded his players "too nice" and Dier suggested Jota could have been brought down in the build-up to the winning goal.

"For the majority of the game, I think we defended well," said the 26-year-old. "We nullified them. It is just in those moments, being smart in the right moments, stopping them in transition, making fouls at the right time. That's what I think cost us the game."



Class act: Ismaila Sarr scores his second goal in the 3-0 win against Liverpool

Sarr's looking a star as he comes out of his shell after difficult start at Watford

Simon Collings

IT WAS deep in the bowels of Anfield, after Liverpool had beaten Watford 2-0 in December, that Sadio Mane offered some advice to visiting captain Troy Deeney.

Stood next to fellow Senegal international Ismaila Sarr, who had endured a difficult afternoon that included spurning a golden opportunity to score, Mane told Deeney to "take care of my boy".

On the evidence of Watford's 3-0 victory over Liverpool this weekend, in which Sarr scored twice and assisted Deeney for the third, that advice has not been ignored.

"This is what Watford do. We buy players of potential," says Deeney.

"We did it with Richarlison and people of that ilk. Hopefully, he continues to learn and get better, but it's his first season in English football and he's taken to it like a duck to water."

Sarr is certainly flying now, but it has not always been easy for the 22-year-old after moving to Vicarage Road from Rennes in the summer for a club-record fee of £30million.

The deal to sign him was not done until deadline day, mainly because of Sarr's involvement in the African Cup of Nations, and it meant he arrived to pre-season late and short of fitness.

Added to that the winger (right) had the difficulty of living in a country for the first time where he didn't speak the language. Such a situation is tough for a player and sometimes overlooked, but Sarr is beginning to come out of his shell at Watford.

On the field he is impossible to miss, due to his blistering pace and trickery, but off the pitch he cuts a shy figure.

While Deeney has played his part in helping Sarr, in reality it is the club's French contingent who have led the way.

Around the training ground, Etienne

Capoue is affectionately known as Sarr's 'daddy', helping him settle into the local area. Capoue often acts as translator during training sessions, while Abdoulaye Doucoure and Christian Kabasele have also made Sarr feel at home.

"I was watching him at Rennes and he was doing the same thing," says Doucoure. "Ismaila is a big player for us and will be scoring more goals, he is a great lad and we are happy with him."

Language difficulties have played their part in it taking time for Sarr to adapt, but so has the turbulent environment of Vicarage Road this season. Sarr played just 16 Premier League minutes under head coach Javi Gracia before he was sacked, while the defensively minded approach of Quique Sanchez Flores did not suit his style.

Under Nigel Pearson, however, he is starting to show why Watford signed him. Pearson has installed confidence in Sarr who, given his shy personality, needs a coach who believes in him.

It was the case when he was bursting onto the scene at the Generation Foot academy in Dakar.

Academy coaches knew Sarr had the talent to make it to the top, but it would require a coach with the man-management skills necessary to coax it out of him. Sarr has that in Pearson and now he will be determined

to follow in the footsteps of his idol, Mane. He contacted Sarr when he completed his move to Watford and, as Mane showed at Anfield in December, he cares about the youngster's development and is keeping an eye on him.

That means a great deal to Sarr, who often watches videos of him in action on YouTube to prepare for matches.

You suspect in the future, however, it won't be long before others are watching clips of Sarr for inspiration.

We need to cut out mistakes, says Winks

Continued from Back Page

goal difference, having played a game more than the Blades.

Three of their next four League fixtures are against sides within two points of them in Burnley, Manchester United and Sheffield United, with the fourth against London rivals West Ham.

"There is no point giving up on the top four," said Winks. "We were 12 points off [when Mourinho was appointed], we managed to bring that deficit shorter. We are sort of in and out at the moment, but two or three wins and you are back in the running. It is something that we definitely believe we can do."

Mourinho, who said he does not think Lloris has a serious injury, afterwards described the result as "totally unfair" but accused his players of being "too nice", an assessment Winks agrees with. "I do think that," said Winks, when asked about his manager's comments. "What he said to us in the dressing



Fighting spirit: Harry Winks contests a decision in yesterday's defeat to Wolves

room was spot on. We are a very good side and when we play our football and defend with aggression, but there were moments in the transition on the counter-attack where we could have been more cute and been more like a winning team. If we stop the counter-attacks earlier, then we come away with the win."

Winks has been at Tottenham since he was five and he said to captain the club for the first time was the fulfilment of a dream.

"It was a special honour to be able to walk the team out, something that I've always dreamed of doing," he said. "It was a special moment."

"Before the game, at the team hotel, [the manager] just pulled me to the side and told me that I was captain and, of course, it was an amazing moment for me and my family."

"Talking about it now it's a lovely honour and a great honour, but when you lose the game it kind of takes [some of the gloss] away."



Standard Sport



MARTINEZ SET TO GET NOD FOR FA CUP TIE
ARGENTINE'S RETURN WILL SHOW BELIEF IS BACK AFTER EURO EXIT
Page 52

WINKS: WE MAKE FAR TOO MANY MISTAKES

» **STAND-IN SKIPPER WARNS ERRORS MAY COST SPURS PLACE IN TOP FOUR**

Dan Kilpatrick
at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium

HARRY WINKS fears Tottenham's defending will be their "downfall" in the race for a top-four spot and says they must start learning from their mistakes after yesterday's 3-2 defeat to Wolves.

Spurs's hopes of a fifth consecutive season of Champions League football were further dented as Raul Jimenez's 73rd-minute strike condemned the hosts to another defeat against a top-four rival.

Spurs had twice led through Steven Bergwijn and Serge Aurier but shipped calamitous equalisers to Matt Doherty and Diego Jota either side of half-time.

Despite dropping Toby Alderweireld and Jan Vertonghen to the bench, Jose Mourinho stuck with a five-man defence, but individual errors — notably from Aurier, Eric Dier and Japhet Tanganga — cost the Portuguese's side again.

Winks captained Spurs for the first time in the absence of Hugo Lloris, who was missing with a groin strain, and afterwards struggled to hide his frustration at their ongoing problems at the back.

"We need to learn our lessons," the England midfielder told Standard Sport. "The top-four run-in is becoming tighter and tighter and we need to start winning games and stop shipping goals because that is going to be our downfall at the end of the season."

"If we take away the goals we have conceded cheaply, we are in a completely different situation and talking about a much more positive outcome."

"All season we have been trying to defend better and concede less. The problem is not scoring goals. To score two and concede three is frustrating, especially when you're the home team of Tottenham's level. You should be winning the game."

"It is a disappointing atmosphere in the dressing room. It is not all doom and gloom. As I said, we are scoring goals, we have got a lot of injuries and we are still managing to create chances and score goals. As soon as we stop conceding, we will be fine."

The defeat leaves Spurs in seventh place, above Sheffield United only on

Continued on Page 55



Tottenham to host AJ-Pulev fight

ANTHONY JOSHUA will fight Kubrat Pulev at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium on June 20, writes Matt Majendie.

Hopes of a heavyweight unification bout between Joshua and Tyson Fury were put on hold when Deontay Wilder announced his intention to trigger a rematch clause against Fury. That paved the way for Joshua-Pulev, although

Continued on Page 53

England boost as Vunipola and Watson make squad

Simon Collings

ENGLAND'S Six Nations hopes received a boost this morning when Anthony Watson and Mako Vunipola were named in Eddie Jones's squad to prepare for the visit of Wales this Saturday.

Loose-head prop Vunipola missed England's win over Ireland last month after returning to Tonga for family reasons.

Jones said after that win he did not expect Vunipola to be available for the clash against Wales, but he was this morning named in a 34-man squad.

England have been further boosted by the return of Watson, who has not featured in the Six Nations so far due to a calf problem.

The full-back is back in contention now, though, with flanker Mark Wilson, who is on loan at Sale from Newcastle, also back in the fold after recovering from knee surgery.

There were not many surprises from Jones, but the inclusion of Exeter scrum-half Jack Maunders is eye-catching.

Northampton scrum-half Alex Mitchell has previously been with the squad as an apprentice, but is not available for selection.

In his place, Jones elected to call up Maunders, 22, ahead of the likes of Saracens' Ben Spencer and Wasps' Dan Robson, who have been in impressive club form.

Maunders has not been called up as an apprentice player, meaning

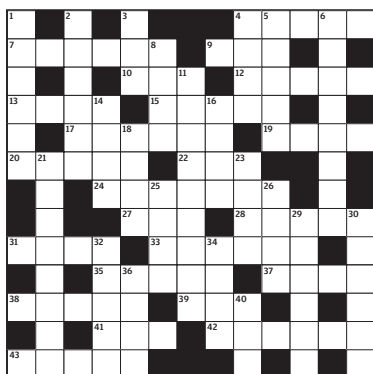
Continued on Page 53

QUICK CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 4 Choice (5)
 - 7 Massaged (6)
 - 9 Charge (3)
 - 10 Youth (3)
 - 12 Prompt (5)
 - 13 Unfortunately (4)
 - 15 Shy (5)
 - 17 Demean (6)
 - 19 Story (4)
 - 20 Stadium (5)
 - 22 Skill (3)
 - 24 Cloths (7)
 - 27 Pinch (3)
 - 28 Artists' stand (5)
 - 31 Prima-donna (4)
- DOWN**
- 1 Fleet (6)
 - 2 Scrape (6)
 - 3 Solidify (3)
 - 4 Fairy (4)
 - 5 Shrilf (5)
 - 6 Soften (8)
 - 33 Proper (6)
 - 35 Rid (5)
 - 37 Punt (4)
 - 38 Combine (5)
 - 39 Rodent (3)
 - 41 Dolt (3)
 - 42 Material (6)
 - 43 Learnt (5)
 - 8 Facts (4)
 - 11 Vanish (9)
 - 14 Despatch (4)
 - 16 Lake (4)
 - 18 Grain-store (4)
 - 21 Glow (8)
 - 23 Plant (4)
 - 25 Assistant (4)
 - 26 Pull (4)
 - 29 Smother (6)
 - 30 Preference (6)
 - 32 Performer (5)
 - 34 Stuff (4)
 - 36 Precede (4)
 - 40 Bath (3)

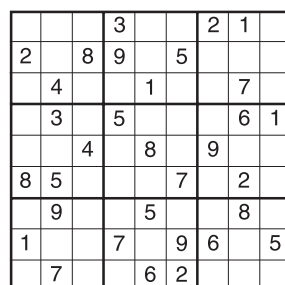
DOUBLE CROSSWORD - PLUS WIN AFTERNOON
TEA FOR TWO WITH CODEWORD: PAGE 36.
FRIDAY'S SOLUTIONS, PAGE 50.

Play our interactive puzzles online:
standard.co.uk/games



SUDOKU

02/03/2020



Fill the grid with the numbers 1 to 9 so that each row, column and 3x3 block contains the numbers 1 to 9.

A daily news podcast from the **EveningStandard**.

The Leader

Listen and subscribe on your usual podcast platform or visit standard.co.uk/TheLeader



Evening Standard incorporating the Evening News, published by Evening Standard Ltd., Northcliffe House, London, W5 7TT (020 3567 7000). Printed by Newsprinters (Bromborough) Ltd., Great Cambridge Road, Waltham Cross, Herts EN8 8DY.
© Evening Standard Ltd. 2019. 56,289 Newspapers Support Recycling.
The recycled paper content of UK newspapers in 2018 was 67.2%. Copies of the paper returned to Evening Standard are recycled by RRS London Waste Papers Ltd.

