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DASH TO SEAL BREXIT DEAL

Alarm over plot to scupper our EU departure

By **Macer Hall** Political Editor

DAVID Cameron was last night under pressure to speed up his departure from Downing Street as concerns grew that a stitch-up is being plotted to scupper Britain's exit from the EU.

As the Prime Minister prepared to announce the next steps in the Brexit process today, senior MPs including Cabinet ministers said a successor dedicated to severing Britain's ties with Brussels must be appointed as soon as possible.

Former work and pensions secretary Iain Duncan Smith, a leading Leave campaigner, led calls for the next prime minister to be a confirmed "Brexitite". Former London mayor Boris Johnson, who remains the firm favourite to take

TURN TO PAGE 5

LABOUR CRISIS AS SHADOW CABINET REVOLTS: PAGES 6&7



Rescuers battle to free children from the wreckage yesterday

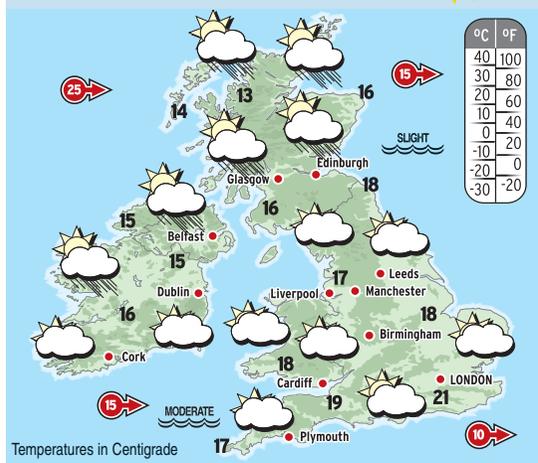
10 are hurt in roller coaster horror



SEE PAGE 9

Weather forecast

In association with **flamingo LAND**



Today's summary: Sunshine & showers

North West: Some sunshine at times but with areas of cloud and scattered showers. Brisk westerly winds. High 17C (63F).

Northern Ireland: A few showers. Rather a lot of cloud but sunny intervals too. Moderate westerly winds. High 17C (63F).

Wales: Some sunshine at times but there will be a few light showers too. Moderate westerly winds. High 19C (66F).

Midlands: Some sunshine, but also scattered showers. Drier later. Moderate north-westerly winds. High 19C (66F).

North East/Yorks: Sun, but also patchy cloud. The odd light shower is possible. Moderate westerly winds. High 18C (64F).

Scotland: A scattering of showers with variable cloud and some sunny intervals. Brisk westerly winds. High 17C (63F).

East Anglia: Variable cloud and just an outside chance of a light shower. Moderate westerly winds. High 20C (68F).

London/South East: Early drizzle in the east then bright with the small chance of a shower. Moderate winds. High 21C (70F).

South: Isolated light showers but in general, dry with sunny intervals. Moderate westerly winds. High 20C (68F).

South West: A largely dry day with spells of sunshine and patchy cloud. Moderate north-westerly winds. High 18C (64F).

Channel Isles: Some early drizzle possible but generally dry with sunny spells. Moderate winds. High 18C (64F).

Sea: North Sea: Slight. Irish Sea: Slight. Channel: Moderate.

UK OUTLOOK TOMORROW: Rain, some of which will be heavy, will spread eastwards across the UK. Brighter later in south-western parts but with showers. Windy in the south.

SIX-DAY FORECAST

	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
London	12/17	13/18	13/20	12/20	13/20	13/21
Belfast	10/15	10/15	10/16	10/15	10/15	11/16
Birmingham	10/15	11/17	12/19	11/18	12/18	12/19
Cardiff	12/16	13/16	13/18	12/17	13/17	13/18
Glasgow	10/15	10/15	11/16	10/15	11/16	10/16
Manchester	10/15	10/16	11/17	11/16	11/17	12/18
Newcastle	9/15	10/15	10/17	10/16	10/16	11/18
Norwich	10/18	12/19	13/20	11/19	11/19	12/20
Plymouth	13/16	13/16	13/17	12/16	13/17	13/17

Britain yesterday

	SUN	RAIN	TEMP
Aberdeen	0.7	0.06	10/18
Aberport	0.5	0.16	12/15
Alnwick	6.6	0.04	11/20
Belfast	0.4	0.11	12/16
Birmingham	5.1	0.04	12/18
Bristol	1.6	0.09	10/18
Bristol	1.6	0.07	12/16
Cardiff	1.9	0.06	13/15
Durham	5.7	0.15	12/19
Edinburgh	4.2	0.12	10/18

Lighting-up times

	Warmest	Cooldest
Warmest: Aviemore 20C (68F)	Belfast	10.03pm-4.50am
Cooldest: L. Glascaoch 5C (41F)	Birmingham	9.34pm-4.47am
Wettest: Lakerheath 1.31in.	Bristol	9.31pm-4.56am
Sunniest: Jersey 10.4hr.		

Moon, sun and tides

MOON rises: 12.37am, sets: 12.46pm
SUN rises: London: 4.45am, sets: 9.21pm
 Manchester rises: 4.33am, sets: 9.41pm

New Moon 04 July

HIGH TIDE
 London Bge (7.20am), (7.33pm)
 Liverpool (4.41am), (6.12pm)
 Greenock (5.33am), (6.12pm)
 Dover (4.23am), (4.55pm)

Europe forecast

Today	Tomorrow
Amsterdam Rain 18C/64F	Amsterdam Cloudy 19C/66F
Brussels Rain 18C/64F	Brussels Cloudy 19C/66F
Dublin Cloudy 21C/63F	Dublin Rain 14C/57F
Frankfurt Drizzle 21C/70F	Frankfurt Cloudy 22C/72F
Geneva Fair 21C/70F	Geneva Sunny 26C/79F
Lisbon Sunny 33C/91F	Lisbon Sunny 28C/84F
Madrid Sunny 35C/95F	Madrid Sunny 33C/91F
Paris Cloudy 21C/70F	Paris Cloudy 22C/72F
Rome Sunny 28C/82F	Rome Sunny 28C/82F

Around the world yesterday

	C	F		C	F		
Amsterdam	Fair	18	64	New York	Sunny	27	81
Athens	Fair	29	84	Nice	Fair	25	77
Barcelona	Fair	25	77	Nicosia	Sunny	37	99
Berlin	Fair	21	70	Perth	Sunny	16	61
Budapest	Sunny	28	82	Prague	Cloudy	19	66
Cauro	Sunny	36	97	Singapore	Fair	31	88
Cape Town	Fair	16	61	Stockholm	Shwrs	18	64
Casablanca	Fair	23	73	Sydney	Fair	14	57
Corfu	Sunny	30	86	Tel Aviv	Sunny	32	90
Dublin	Rain	15	59	Tenerife	Sunny	26	79
Dubrovnik	Sunny	28	82	Toronto	Sunny	26	79
Faro	Sunny	24	75	Tunis	Sunny	34	93
Florence	Sunny	30	86	Venice	Sunny	28	82
Gibraltar	Sunny	25	77	Vienna	Fair	23	73
Guernsey	Fair	16	61	Warsaw	Fair	33	91
Hong Kong	Shwrs	33	91				
Istanbul	Sunny	29	84				
Jersey	Cloudy	16	61				
Lamaca	Sunny	31	88				
Las Palmas	Fair	26	79				
Los Angeles	Sunny	23	73				
Luxor	Sunny	42	108				
Malaga	Sunny	25	77				
Malorca	Fair	28	82				
Malta	Sunny	32	90				
Melbourne	Cloudy	10	50				
Miami	Cloudy	32	90				
Moscow	Sunny	30	86				
Nairobi	Cloudy	20	68				
New Delhi	Fair	37	99				

LIVE WEATHER SERVICE
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Carjack terror as migrants ambush families at Calais

Picture: PHOTOSHOT, MIRRORPIX



Migrants setting up a roadblock near Calais this month to force Britain-bound traffic to stop

ILLEGAL migrants are carrying out violent carjackings on British drivers in a desperate bid to cross the Channel.

French police say the attacks on UK-bound traffic near the port of Calais have become "common".

Migrant gangs get drivers to slow down by putting up roadblocks, then force the motorist to carry them through the border crossing.

The trend emerged after a couple from Oxfordshire were the subject of an ambush attempt by 15 thugs on a road outside the port.

Colin McKee was forced to stop when he saw branches placed in the road and was stunned to see a gang emerge wielding 4ft batons.

Mr McKee, who was returning from a caravaning trip to Austria with his wife Gillian, said the men came from behind the roadblock.

"About 15 migrants came from behind the branches

By **Cyril Dixon**

with batons trailing on the ground menacingly," he said. "As they approached I decided to try to get through the roadblock. I drove through the migrants as they smashed batons on to my car and battered the windscreen. I

'One of the mob indicated he'd slit my throat'

realised it was impenetrable and stopped, at which point they swarmed around my car and caravan."

Mr McKee, 54, had passed the wreckage of another car just seconds before which he thinks had been the subject of an earlier attack.

The mob then set upon a lorry which had pulled up

behind the couple and both drivers tried to attract attention by sounding their horns.

"One guy signalled 'shh!' with his finger and made a slashing gesture, indicating he'd slit my throat if I didn't comply," said Mr McKee.

They were eventually rescued when a police patrol car appeared and the gang scattered.

Officers told them to drive on as quickly as they could after moving the branches off the road.

A French police source said: "What happened to these tourists is relatively common now."

A spokesman for the Pas-de-Calais prefecture, which oversees public order for the region, said tourists were seen as "collateral damage" by migrants.

He said: "Some of them are ready to do anything to pass the borders. They are even prepared to risk their lives."

Tragic girl: Man bailed

A MAN arrested over the murder of a young woman 20 years ago has been freed on bail as police inquiries continue.

The 45-year-old suspect was held last week over the killing of hospital clerical worker Melanie Hall.

Miss Hall was 25 when last seen at the former Cadillacs nightclub in Bath on June 6, 1996.

The arrest came just weeks after detectives revealed they had made a DNA breakthrough through the national database.

Melanie's remains were discovered in vegetation by the M5 at Thornbury, Glos, in October 2009.

Police alerted Miss Hall's parents Steve, 72, and Pat, 71, about the suspect's arrest and his subsequent release on bail on Saturday night.

Coffee jobs for inmates

PRISONERS are to be trained as baristas by Pret a Manger - in the hope of a job on release.

Staff from the chain, which has 370 UK outlets, are to give workshops at coffee shops in jails.

The prison service and Justice Minister Michael Gove want to ensure prisoners do not offend again when they get out.

The UK scheme is to be piloted at women's prisons, which house 4,000 inmates in 12 jails.

There are about 19,000 coffee shops in the UK. It is estimated that within 15 years the number of coffee houses could overtake pubs.

There are around 48,000 pubs in Britain now compared with 69,000 in 1980. They are closing at a rate of 31 a week.

Sinkhole closes A1

MOTORISTS face delays today after a sinkhole appeared on one of Britain's busiest roads.

An old mine shaft collapsed under the A1 in Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, creating a crater 15ft wide by 9ft deep.

Motorists alerted police on Saturday just before noon, as the sinkhole started to appear on the northbound carriageway between junctions 67 and 68 near Lobley Hill.

It was being filled with concrete overnight.

Highways England said last night: "It will take significant time to complete this repair. Allow plenty of extra time for your journey."

Motorists are being diverted through a trading estate to the A692 junction.

Man stole £50k care cash of mum-in-law

A GAMBLING addict who stole the £50,000 his mother-in-law had earmarked to pay for her residential care has been jailed.

Mark Holmes, 49, withdrew the money from the 79-year-old's account after she sold her property in Leeds, a court heard.

After betting away the money, Holmes left his wife a note saying he had gone to kill himself. Just £30 was left in the account when police found him on the east coast.

Holmes, of Castleford, West Yorkshire, admitted theft at Leeds Crown Court.

John Bull, prosecuting, said Holmes's widowed mum-in-law moved into a care home in 2014. Holmes and his wife were trusted to manage proceeds of the sale of her home to pay for her care. But Holmes withdrew £51,781 over seven months.

Jailing him for 10 months, recorder Ray Singh said: "That was your selfish greed."

Afghan hero set to be stripped of his medal

AN ARMY captain is set to be stripped of his gallantry medal after claims his act of bravery was exaggerated by top brass.

Capt William Boreham, 35, from Cheshire, who was not at fault over the award, was given the Military Cross for rescuing a comrade from a minefield in Afghanistan.

In his citation, it was said his patrol came under heavy fire during the rescue in September 2012, a claim later found to be false.

The Queen is now set to rescind his bravery award, only the second time she has ever had to do so.

Captain William Boreham



Butcher gives metric measures the chop

Pictures: SWNS



A new sign at Gratton's Butchers offering meat for sale in imperial measures



David, left, and Darren Gratton with Davey Tucker from Gratton's Butchers, proudly displaying their wares

A BUTCHER is giving his customers the choice of whether they want to buy their meat in pounds and ounces or in kilos and grams.

The UK may face up to two years of diplomatic negotiations before it can finally leave the EU.

But Darren Gratton says many of his customers want meat sold in imperial measures again, and that the majority of them voted Leave last Thursday.

The EU's Units of Measurement Regulations of 1995 said weights

By **Peter Henn**

and measures of items for sale must be displayed in metric. Draught beer and bottled milk were exempt.

This means that while companies are free to sell items in traditional British measures, they must also be marked in metric units.

Mr Gratton, of Gratton's Butchers in Barnstaple, Devon, said the shop's scales measured in kilograms but he could work in both systems. "The next step is to speak to North

Devon Council and if they say we can go back to pounds and ounces then we will do," he said.

"Pretty much all the customers want it back in pounds.

"It seems to me like in North Devon everyone's for Brexit. I think it will be better for local farmers."

The move back to pounds has received support from the public. Writing on Facebook, Reg Hicks said: "We should fully revert to our imperial weights and measures that we lost on joining the Common

Market. Well done Gratton's Butchers for taking the lead."

David Heathfield agreed, saying: "Top blokes - I will be in for a pound of sausages!"

Others were more bemused, however, with Alan Careless wondering: "Do they want to pay in pounds, shillings and pence? Or groats?" Sharon Parkes added: "What next - will they be going back to feet and inches?"

The EU directive led to the formation of the Metric Martyrs, a group

comprised of businesses who had been prosecuted for selling produce solely in imperial measures.

They included Steve Thoburn, a greengrocer from Sunderland who was convicted of using weighing scales which did not show metric measurements.

However, the part of the law which says beer in pubs has to be sold in imperial led to a Polish restaurant in Doncaster being threatened with legal action after it sold beer in half-litre measures in 2008.

Don't panic! Why Brexit will be a breeze

BRITONS have been told not to panic about finances and travel in the aftermath of the Brexit vote.

Martin Lewis, founder of MoneySavingExpert.com, and other experts have urged people to keep calm and not change the way they do things.

Mr Lewis said: "The important thing to remember is that nothing has really changed yet and will not until we formally leave the EU in more than two years.

"My message to people is not to panic and change your behaviour in the way you use your money."

Here is our guide to how Brexit may affect some of the issues that matter to you.

SAVINGS

The Financial Services Compensation Scheme guarantees savings of

By **Douglas Patient**

up to £75,000 if a bank or building society goes bust and the scheme confirmed this is "unchanged" despite the UK voting to leave the EU.

Michael Ruck, of law firm Pinsent Masons, said: "In all likelihood, a protection of this type will continue to exist but the level of protection will be decided by the Government."

MORTGAGES

Interest rates may be slashed again so homeowners could enjoy even cheaper mortgages.

If this happens a tracker mortgage, which follows the interest rate set by the Bank of England, could provide the best value. Mr Lewis said: "Mortgages may slip a

little lower in the coming weeks. But rates are at an all-time low anyway so people should not be concerned about going for one now."

PENSIONS

The fall in the FTSE 100 on Friday will have caused concern among private pensioners with shares but the message from experts is not to panic as the markets should bounce back over the long term.

Investors are being warned not to sell funds and shares now if possible due to the depressed prices. State pensions are not affected until Government policy changes.

Tom McPhail, of financial adviser Hargreaves Lansdown, said: "If you are years from retirement and making regular savings, then just keep going. Falls in the market mean

buying investments at a lower price."

THE POUND

David Lamb, of Fexco Corporate Payments, said exchanging cash for European holidays would not be too expensive because the euro is also affected by Brexit.

He said: "Sterling's one saving grace is that the euro is likely to be hit almost as hard."

TRAVEL INSURANCE

There will be no immediate change to the level of protection under travel insurance policies.

Existing policies that cover Europe or worldwide will continue providing cover.

Motor insurance policies will also continue providing protection in Europe if they include an extension

of cover for European travel. An Association of British Insurers spokesman said: "Travel insurance products will still offer all the cover they do at the moment. There will be no immediate change to any existing policies."

PASSPORTS

While the UK passport will have to be redesigned to remove any mention of the EU, there is currently no change to where you need to queue at EU border controls.

Negotiations on the terms of Britain's exit from the EU will determine how this works once Brexit is finalised.

A European Commission spokesman said: "Until this process of negotiations is over, the UK remains a member of the EU, with all the rights that derive from this."

Recession 'not fault of Brexit'

BRITAIN is heading for a "mild recession" but it has nothing to do with leaving the EU, according to Ukip leader Nigel Farage.

The victorious Leave campaigner rejected forecasts that the Brexit vote will have dire consequences for the UK economy.

Remain campaigners have seized on the market turmoil which erupted on Friday in response to the referendum result.

Growth

But Mr Farage, who was a metals trader before entering politics, insisted: "There's nothing new here."

"I think we are going into a mild recession anyway, completely regardless of Brexit. Our growth forecasts are down. Our public sector borrowing is still not under control at all and everyone forgets that sterling is in a bear market, declining since July 2014."

Mr Farage said that Britain could look forward to "increased global opportunities" outside the EU single market as long as the UK government did its job of managing the economy.

Battle for Boris to

By **Macer Hall** Political Editor

A BANDWAGON of support for Boris Johnson to become Britain's next prime minister was building last night.

A gang of senior backbenchers gathered with the former London mayor at his Oxfordshire home yesterday to plot their strategy for the looming contest to select David Cameron's successor.

Mr Johnson, who was the star of the Vote Leave campaign, welcomed a string of supporters to his home yesterday including MPs Jake Berry, Amanda Milling, Nigel Adams and Ben Wallace.

But allies of the Prime Minister – who resigned last Friday after his referendum defeat – have already launched a "stop Boris" operation, looking to push Home Secretary Theresa May forward as an alternative candidate.

However Andrew Bridgen, another Tory backbencher, described Mr Johnson as a "winner" whose popularity with voters could help the party to a general election victory.

"Boris is a proven winner. It's wrong that he is being smeared," he said.

"There are other good candidates too such as David Davis and Andrea Leadsom. There is some talk about delaying the leadership contest but that would not be right. The country wants us to get on, sort this out and provide some leadership."

Westminster sources last night said Justice Secretary Michael Gove,



Liam Fox yesterday. He said he may challenge for the leadership

another key figure in Vote Leave, was being lined up as co-chair of Mr Johnson's leadership campaign.

A second co-chair from the Remain camp could also be sought to try to forge a "unity ticket".

Still yet another suggestion was that Mr Johnson and Theresa May could team up to avoid a damaging leadership battle. Former ministers Liam Fox and David Davis also

emerged as possible contenders from the Right of the party as some senior Eurosceptic MPs cast doubt on Mr Johnson's Brexit credentials.

And Work and Pensions Secretary Stephen Crabb was also being pressed to stand.

There were also calls for senior figures from Ukip – including party leader Nigel Farage – to play a role in the Government's Brexit negotia-

tions. One Tory backbencher said: "If I were the next prime minister, I would put Nigel Farage in the House of Lords and let him join the negotiating team for our EU exit."

"I would also encourage as many Ukip members as possible to come and rejoin the Conservatives."

Lord Heseltine, a former deputy prime minister and a Remain supporter, said the decision to leave must

DAILY EXPRESS VOTE Has Boris proved he's a winner with his Brexit campaign?

Q

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Yes text DXMONYES to 86611

NO: 0901 616 5102

No text DXMONNO to 86611

Texts cost 35p plus standard charges. Calls cost 35p plus your telephone company's network access charge. Vote closes at midnight tonight. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390.

OSBORNE 'COULD SUPPORT JOHNSON'

LAST night it was reported that George Osborne was weighing up whether to support Boris Johnson as the next Prime Minister.

Aides said Mr Osborne would demand the post of foreign secretary but insisted he had not made a final decision on whether to back the former Mayor of London. The revelation

came as the Chancellor was under pressure to appear publicly amid calls for him to resign. He has not been seen since the vote to leave the EU.

MPs have criticised his disappearance after his part in the Remain campaign.

Business Secretary Sajid Javid said Mr Osborne had been "busy doing his job".



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lead us out of EU

Pictures: PETER MACDIARMID/LNP & DAVID HARTLEY

be respected and the Brexit leaders now needed to be held accountable for the promises they made.

"It is essential negotiations are conducted by Boris Johnson, Michael Gove and Nigel Farage, the architects of this policy," he said.

"Any other negotiating team will produce claims that those three would have achieved a better result and during the negotiations they will excuse any deterioration in Britain's position as a failure of the negotiators."

Lord Heseltine suggested there will need to be a general election for Parliament to sign off on Brexit.

Other MPs appealed for the infighting to be toned down.

"We need to stop slagging each other off. Let's leave the Labour Party to play at squabbling in the playpen," one backbencher said.

James Cleverly, another Tory MP, said: "I've always said this referendum would make life tough for the Conservatives but cause an existential crisis for the Labour Party."

"Our job now is to start showing the country the leadership that it is clearly crying out for."

International Development Minister Justine Greening appealed for a "united leadership" bringing Mr Johnson and Mrs May together to heal the party's referendum split.

Turbulent

"Instead of a leadership contest which could take months, Boris Johnson and Theresa May should agree to forge a deal which means they are a united leadership I hope the rest of our party could support," she wrote on the ConservativeHome website.

Sources close to Mr Crabb – a low-profile supporter of the Remain campaign – confirmed he had been pressed to enter the race.

"But he is taking some time to talk to his family and really think things through," said one.

Former defence secretary Liam Fox, a challenger for the party leadership against David Cameron 11 years ago, said he was still considering another challenge.

"I am thinking about it, it would be dishonest to say otherwise. But I will make a decision once I have spoken to my colleagues in Parliament."

Overall, the Tories face a turbulent and uncertain time. One ally of Mr Cameron warned: "This idea of a Boris bandwagon is going to peter out very quickly. He doesn't have a following in the Commons."

"David Cameron is head and shoulders above anyone else in the Commons in terms of ability and intellect. Boris comes nowhere near him."

Another MP echoed this: "We need to stop this idea that it is a coronation for Boris."



Boris waves to reporters outside his home yesterday while rival Theresa May attends church



Re-run petition's fake signatures

A PETITION demanding a new EU vote was being investigated last night after it emerged that thousands of its signatures were either fake or invalid.

More than three million people had apparently signed up online, forcing MPs to discuss holding another referendum.

But it was later revealed that 77,000 had been removed because they were "fraudulent".

It emerged that many of the names were duplicates and nearly one in 10 signatories were people outside the UK.

By Dan Young

Almost 300,000 signatures came from abroad, some from within the EU and others from as far afield as the Dominican Republic and Afghanistan.

It was also revealed that people could sign simply by creating an email address and claiming to be a British citizen.

Helen Jones, chair of Parliament's Petitions Committee, said: "We take fraud in the petitions system very seriously because it undermines

the process of parliamentary democracy."

Oliver Coulwill, of Leave.EU, said many of the signatures were from "sore loser" Remain supporters.

He said: "Everyone had their chance to have their voice heard equally when they voted in the actual referendum – and the country voted to leave."

He said dissenters will be proved wrong when Britain prospers and grows. Officials will continue to monitor the petition for suspicious activity.

COMMENT

CHRIS ROYCROFT-DAVIS

THE party's over but the malady lingers on. David Cameron may have had the decency to resign, George Osborne may have had the good sense to go into hiding, but the arrogance that has detached the Conservative Party from so many of its followers won't go away.

Witness the latest "bright idea" to emanate from Tory high command: Stop Boris at all costs, make Theresa May prime minister.

It is a truly ludicrous idea and one that will baffle the millions of us who voted for a new start.

Boris is a human magnet. He attracts support wherever he goes and has an uncanny knack of being an Old Etonian who would be a welcome pint-sinking partner at the Dog and Duck.

Man of the people may be a cliché, but in Boris's case it sums him up perfectly.

He was the figurehead of the Brexit campaign and through his forthright honesty and openness has earned the people's trust – and therefore the right to be our leader.

He is not without his flaws, but neither was Winston Churchill and look what he achieved.

Boris's greatest asset is that he is not a man who calls a spade a shovel. He says what he believes and he says it bluntly.

Persistence

Not so Mrs May. For many years as home secretary, she gave the impression she was firmly in the Eurosceptic camp.

On immigration her beliefs were clear – indeed as recently as last October she told the Tory conference: "When immigration is too high, when the pace of change is too fast, it's impossible to build a cohesive society."

"The numbers coming from Europe are unsustainable and the rules have to change."

But when it came to the crunch, she put her own interests above those of the country and tamed the Remain campaign rather than lose her high position up the greasy pole.

She cannot be trusted to lead our country.

If Boris becomes PM his first act should be to give Nigel Farage a seat in the Lords and a place at the negotiating table.

Without his dogged persistence we would never have had a referendum and no one has a greater understanding of how the devious minds in Brussels work.

The public would find it refreshing to see a peerage as a reward for outstanding service rather than for being a crony who wears the right public school tie.

PM told to go amid rumours of 'backtracking'

FROM PAGE ONE

over, spent yesterday with supportive Tory MPs at his Oxfordshire home as he prepares to launch a leadership bid.

Mr Duncan Smith said: "It would be very difficult for the public, who have voted for leaving the EU, to then find they had a prime minister actually opposed to leaving."

Other MPs said Mr Cameron and his discredited chancellor George Osborne needed to stand aside as soon as possible.

One senior backbencher said: "Cameron and Osborne are like a

couple of snake oil salesmen who need to get out of town now their ruse has been rumbled."

Alarm bells rang when a string of senior political figures suggested Britain could have a rethink over the result of the referendum.

Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon suggested her government could veto a Brexit by attempting to withhold "legislative consent".

Former Labour prime minister Tony Blair speculated that a second referendum could be held. "Why rule anything out right now?" he said.

And an official in German chancellor Angela Merkel's government

said the UK should "reconsider" the result. Her chief of staff Peter Altmaier said: "Politicians in London should have the possibility to reconsider the consequences of an exit."

He said a UK withdrawal would be "a difficult watershed with many consequences", before adding that Britain could rejoin at a later date "but that would take a long time".

Speculation about Britain's future grew yesterday as Westminster remained engulfed in the extraordinary political crisis sparked by the referendum result and Mr Cameron's resignation. The Prime Minister, who has pledged to stand down

within three months, will hold a Cabinet meeting today before making a Commons statement to MPs to set out the next steps for the country's future.

A Downing Street spokesman said: "There will be discussions about the administrative process needed to move forward at Cabinet. However, decisions around Article 50 (formally applying to the EU for an exit) are a matter for the next prime minister."

Mr Duncan Smith yesterday insisted there could be no backtracking on a referendum.

"There was a clear decision, and what has to happen is delivery on

that," he told The Andrew Marr Show on BBC One.

Tory backbencher Peter Bone, a leading Brexit campaigner, added: "That is not how we do democracy in the United Kingdom – although it may be how they do it in the EU."

Meanwhile, former Cabinet minister Liam Fox did not rule himself out of the race to be the next prime minister. He also warned against a hasty departure and being forced to accept an unfavourable exit deal. He said leaving the EU on January 1, 2019, was "a reasonable timetable".

OPINION: PAGE 12



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FREEDOM FROM EU

I'll fight off

By **Alison Little**
Deputy Political Editor

Pictures: ISABEL INFANTES/PA



Embattled Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn

JEREMY Corbyn last night challenged critics to put up or shut up after more than a third of the Shadow Cabinet quit in an attempted Labour leadership coup.

The Labour leader was left fighting for his political life after 11 members quit yesterday in an orchestrated effort to force him out of office.

And a procession of backbench Labour MPs also called on him to quit for showing a lack of leadership at a critical time for the country.

But last night the defiant socialist said he would not resign - and pledged to stand again in any leadership election if he was challenged.

"I was elected by hundreds of thousands of Labour Party members and supporters with an overwhelming mandate for a different kind of politics," he said in a statement.

"I regret there have been resignations today from my shadow cabinet. But I am not going to betray the trust of those who voted for me, or the millions of supporters across the country who need Labour to represent them.

"Those who want to change Labour's leadership will have to stand in a democratic election, in which I will be a candidate.

"Over the next 24 hours I will reshape my Shadow Cabinet and announce a new leadership team to take forward Labour's campaign for a fairer Britain - and to get the best deal with Europe for our people."

Dramatic

Mr Corbyn said the country faced a huge challenge following the vote to leave the EU and the British people had a right to know how their elected leaders were going to respond.

He added: "We have to respect the decision that has been made, hold the government to democratic account over its response and ensure working people don't pay the price of exit."

Yesterday's drama was triggered when Mr Corbyn sacked Shadow Foreign Secretary Hilary Benn at 1am for allegedly plotting a coup.

Mr Benn had set the tone of the day when he told the BBC's Andrew Marr that Labour needed "strong and effective leadership" after the referendum.

"We don't currently have that. There is also no confidence we will be able to win a general election as long as Jeremy is leader," said Mr Benn. "Jeremy is a good and decent man, but he is not a leader and that is the problem."

Then, announcing their departures one by one, the shadow ministers criticised Mr Corbyn's failure to inspire Labour supporters to vote to stay in the EU. He was already facing an

informal vote of no confidence by MPs tomorrow, but the process gained dramatic momentum yesterday.

A string of junior shadow ministers are also expected to walk out today. Swiftly dubbed "Jexit", the walk-outs began with health spokeswoman Heidi Alexander. She was followed by Shadow Transport Secretary Lillian Greenwood and Shadow Education Secretary Lucy Powell.

Shadow Young People's Minister Gloria De Piero, who is married to James Robinson, special adviser to Labour deputy leader Tom Watson, was also among those to go.

Shadow Environment Secretary Kerry McCarthy's resignation was

We won narrowly, so heal the discord with

BORIS Johnson last night sought to reassure Remain voters that the UK will continue to "intensify" co-operation with the European Union.

And he also told his fellow Leave supporters they must accept that the 52 per cent referendum victory was "not entirely overwhelming".

The Brexit campaign figurehead, the favourite to succeed Mr Cameron, insisted "the only change" will be to free the country from the EU's "extraordinary, opaque" law, which "will not come in any great rush".

He also signalled how he may cast himself in a Tory leadership election.

"We must pursue the one-nation policies that are among David Cameron's fine legacy, such as his campaigns on the living wage," he said. He also claimed Britain could intro-

By **Dan Townend**

duce a points-based immigration system while maintaining "access" to the European single market.

Writing his weekly newspaper column, Mr Johnson said: "This will bring not threats, but golden opportunities for this country - to pass laws and set taxes according to the needs of the UK.

"The Government will be able to take back democratic control of immigration policy, with a balanced and humane points-based system to suit the needs of business and industry."

Regarding the result of the referendum, he continued: "There were more than 16 million who wanted to remain.

"They are our neighbours, brothers and sisters who did what they pas-

MP rebellion, vows Corbyn



RESIGNED: Gloria de Piero



RESIGNED: Heidi Alexander



SACKED: Hilary Benn



RESIGNED: Seema Malhotra



RESIGNED: Ian Murray



RESIGNED: Lilian Greenwood



RESIGNED: Kerry McCarthy



RESIGNED: Lucy Powell

seen as significant because she was closer to Mr Corbyn's politics, while Shadow Chief Secretary Seema Malhotra, who also resigned, was a key member of John McDonnell's Treasury team. Northern Ireland spokesman Vernon Coaker, Shadow Justice Secretary Lord Falconer, Shadow Attorney General Karl Turner and Shadow Commons Leader Chris Bryant joined the resignations later in the day. Labour MP Ian Murray, who quit as Shadow Scottish Secretary despite being his party's last Scottish MP, denied it was a "planned coup". He said it was

the sacking of Mr Benn that had prompted the walkouts. He asked if Jeremy Corbyn could "see himself walking down Downing Street as PM, whether there's a general election in six months or in May 2020". MP Stephen Kinnock said the referendum had "changed reality and we need a post-Brexit leader" used to being disagreed with, unlike Mr Corbyn who had "spent the last 30 years in rallies where everyone agrees with him". Former Shadow Chancellor Ed Balls told ITV1's Peston on Sunday: "When you have a big divide between urban Britain which

wanted in and heartlands and rural Britain which wanted Out, Jeremy Corbyn has managed to alienate both sides." However Diane Abbott, Shadow International Development Secretary, said: "Party members will not understand why Labour MPs want to set themselves at odds with the membership and choose to play Westminster games." There was even speculation David Miliband was returning to seek the leadership his brother Ed denied him in 2010, after he was spotted flying into the UK. COMMENT: PAGE 12

let's reach out and Remain says Boris

sionately believe was right. In a democracy majorities may decide but everyone is of equal value. "We who are part of this narrow majority must do everything we can to reassure the Remainers. "We must reach out, we must heal, we must build bridges - because it is clear some have feelings of dismay, loss, confusion." Mr Johnson expanded on his vision of post-Brexit Britain, writing: "I cannot stress too much that Britain is part of Europe, and always will be. There will still be intense European co-operation and partnership in a huge number of fields: the arts, the sciences, the universities and on improving the environment. "EU citizens living in this coun-

try will have their rights fully protected, and the same goes for British citizens living in the EU. "As the German equivalent of the CBI - the BDI - reminded us, there will continue to be free trade and access to the single market." He went on: "The only change - and it will not come in any great rush - is that the UK will extricate itself from the EU's extraordinary and opaque system of legislation: the vast and growing corpus of law enacted by a European Court of Justice from which there can be no appeal." And he said: "Yes, there will be a substantial sum of money which we will no longer send to Brussels, but which could be used on priorities such as the NHS."

Now we need hundreds more trade experts

BRITAIN will need to hire hundreds of new civil servants when it comes to negotiate the terms of Brexit. Forty years of EU membership have left the country without a sufficient number of experts on international trade deals, former senior civil servant Sir Simon Fraser has claimed. It is believed extra trade experts will have to come in to help with talks between the likes of the EU, China, India and the United States to get Britain the best possible deal.

Party time for Watson

APPARENTLY oblivious to the gathering chaos in his party, Labour's deputy leader Tom Watson parties away at the Glastonbury Festival over the weekend. Mr Watson posted pictures on social media of a "silent disco" and a picture of him standing in a field drinking a can of cider, right, as he lived it up at the event. However, as word of the party's turmoil in the aftermath of the Brexit vote reached him, he was forced to make an exit of his own. He was spotted yesterday at Castle Cary station in Somerset waiting for a train to London to, as he put it, "find out what's going on".



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Gene cure for autism

A GENE that makes people sociable has been discovered by scientists.

The breakthrough could lead to new treatments for autism and other disorders.

A study of 129 people found those with less of the so-called "chatty" gene had more difficulty recognising facial expressions and tended to be more anxious about relationships.

Medication could boost its production in patients who have difficulty socialising.

Scientists at Georgia University, USA, found when the gene OXT was reduced, patients produced less oxytocin - known as the "cuddle hormone" because of the part it plays in bonding.

Their findings are in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

£1k payout for racism

A JEWISH student has accepted a £1,000 payout from the University of York Students' Union after complaining of anti-Semitism.

Law student Zachary Confino, 21, was offered the sum after two years of battling anti-Semitism from students.

It is understood he narrowly missed out on a first class degree, had suffered with stress and had been racially abused and bullied.

The university, which acted as a mediator, confirmed Mr Confino has also accepted a written apology from the students' union.

Jonathan Sacerdoti, from the Campaign Against Antisemitism, praised Mr Confino's "incredible strength and dedication" but said the union's apology and payout was not enough.

Breast is really best

BABIES who are breast-fed until six months old are less likely to suffer behavioural problems when they grow up, a study reveals.

The research shows children aged seven to 11 are less likely to misbehave if they were breast-fed as babies.

More than 1,500 children in South Africa were assessed, including 900 who had been involved in an infant feeding study.

Dr Peter Singer, chief executive of Grand Challenges Canada, which funded the project, said: "This study shows how parents can help develop smart, social kids who make good decisions - breastfed babies."

The study was published in the journal Plos Medicine.

Pictures: E-PRESS/XPOSURE



Abbey's having an anniversary ball in the sun

By Peter Henn

FORMER England footballer Peter Crouch and his model wife Abbey Clancy relax in the sunshine as they combine business and pleasure.

They are in France where Crouch is a pundit with ITV's team for Euro 2016. The pair, who will celebrate their fifth wedding anniversary on Thursday, took time out to head for the beach in Antibes on the Cote d'Azur.

Abbey, 30, who won BBC's Strictly Come Dancing in 2013, turned heads as she showed off her figure in a purple metallic patterned bikini top. And her blue and white sarong revealed the shapely legs that helped make her a top model.

Accessories were a pair of gold-rimmed sunglasses and sandals which she carried.

The couple, who have two daughters, Sophia Ruby, five, and Liberty Rose, one, took a stroll around the exclusive Mediterranean resort's docks before heading for the beach.

Crouch, a striker with Stoke City famous for his 6ft 7in frame and robotic goal celebrations, wore a white T-shirt and blue and white striped shorts.



Peter Crouch and wife Abbey, above and left, soak up the sun

Children saved in roller coaster plunge drama



Rescuers working among wreckage yesterday after the roller coaster crash

CHILDREN were trapped upside down for more than two hours yesterday after a roller coaster carriage came off its tracks and plunged 30ft to the ground.

Horrified onlookers rushed to haul victims from the wrecked 65mph Tsunami ride only to find they were held firm by safety harnesses.

Eight children, aged between 10 and 15, and two adults were taken to hospital.

First aid volunteers among the thousands at the theme park tended the "walking wounded" while paramedics and rescue crews helped those trapped.

Medics stopped people from helping anyone out of the carriages for fear of making injuries worse.

Several were fitted with neck braces before they were freed.

Witnesses described scenes of "carnage" after the ride, at M&D's park in Strathclyde Park, Mother-

By Stephen Wilkie and Findlay Mair

well, left the rail on a bend and plunged on to a children's ride below.

Witness Gavin McInally said: "It will be a miracle if no one is killed."

First aider James Millerick, who was queuing for another roller coaster, heard "shrieks" and rushed over to help.

He said: "The roller coaster had come off the track and was upside down on a concrete path.

"There were maybe seven or eight people, mostly aged between maybe 10 and 15, trapped. The harnesses were still on." Many were upside down with only their feet visible.

Katie Burns, of Uddingston, said: "It's like something in a horror film."

In 2011, nine people were rescued from the same ride after being trapped for eight hours. They were stranded 60ft from the ground.

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Picture: YUI MOK/PA



Adele and Lyla, 10, on the Pyramid Stage at Glastonbury

Adele of a night for Lyla, 10

ADELE gave a young fan the night of her life when she invited her on stage for a selfie during the singer's first Glastonbury Festival performance.

Lyla, 10, looked delighted as a beaming Adele embraced her on the Pyramid Stage on Saturday night.

She was picked out from the crowd by the chart-topping singer who told her she had been coming to the festival "since I was your

age". Despite a crowd of 150,000 and face-to-face with her idol, Lyla was remarkably calm and told the singer she had enjoyed Bastille's set earlier in the day.

Adele had previously refused to play at the Somerset event because of her fear of performing in front of large crowds.

But she did not lack confidence as she strutted about the stage in a dazzling dress studded in sequins with winged sleeves.

I fear vengeance of cocaine barons says £1.5m drug mule girl

By John Twomey

A YOUNG British woman caught smuggling cocaine worth £1.5million out of Peru said last night that she is living in fear.

Melissa Reid, 22, who was released from prison last week, revealed that she is terrified of being tracked down by the drug gang she was involved with.

She said: "You are going to be pretty angry if you give someone £1.5million in drugs and they lose them.

"I am still scared of the men who asked me to do it."

Melissa, of Lenzie, Dumbartonshire, said she wanted to brag to friends and be seen as a "big person". She said: "I thought I was invincible and nothing bad would happen to me."

She was brought down to earth at Peru's Lima airport in 2013 when she and accomplice Michaela McCollum, of Dungannon, Northern Ireland, were stopped carrying the drugs in two suitcases.

They were jailed for six years and eight months each after admitting the offence.

Melissa, who was freed halfway through her sentence, revealed how she was drawn into the drug plot. The well-



Melissa was caught at the airport

educated daughter of middle-class parents went off the rails after flying to Ibiza for a wild holiday. She was soon on a downward spiral of drink and ecstasy and cocaine.

She said: "I think that if I had carried on the way I was going, I would be dead right now."

A young English woman acting as a tout for the gang offered her £4,000 to be a mule. She never received the money. She said: "I made a conscious decision to do it and no one forced

me. I think I wanted to be this big person that I'm not.

"I thought it sounded like a challenge and I was blasé about it. I did an awful thing and paid the price."

Melissa flew to Mallorca where she first met Michaela, now 23, before they travelled to Lima via Madrid. After posing as sightseers, they picked up the drugs in 34 packages, put them in two suitcases and headed back to the airport.

Security staff were immediately suspicious of the two young women with cases wrapped in sheets of plastic.

The luggage was checked and the drugs were found inside packs of porridge and jelly mixture. Footage of their arrest was broadcast worldwide.

"I broke down and could not stop crying," Melissa said. "I was a mess and pulling my hair out."

At first she claimed she and Michaela had been forced to become mules but later admitted the truth. She said: "We thought we would be believed and it would all go away but we were wrong."

Michaela was freed in April but was ordered to stay in Peru to serve the rest of her sentence on parole.

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WE LIVE in extraordinary times in which we have a paralysed Government and a disintegrating Opposition. With David Cameron reduced to the role of temporary caretaker and Jeremy Corbyn humiliated by his Shadow Cabinet, cynics might well conclude that with two political leaders sidelined the country is in safer hands.

But Britain needs resolute men and women to quickly band together with a joint purpose that will give confidence to the City, bring harmony to the people and show the leaders of the EU that we mean business.

During the early days of the war, when Britain and the Commonwealth stood almost alone to fight for the freedom of Europe, we formed a government of national unity with Churchill as its inspiring figurehead and the boldest and best from political and business life at its core.

Today, with Britain negotiating its own liberty from the European Union, we need smart leaders and wise counsel who understand that after Thursday the game has changed for ever.

We need a government of differing shades united in one goal: delivering the new deal.

That means enlisting experienced business people to advise on the negotiations, because they are too important to be left to the Sir Humphreys of Whitehall.

Silence those noises off

THEY just don't get it, do they? Tony Blair – probably the most despised politician since Oliver Cromwell – says Britain should not rule out a second referendum.

In Scotland Nicola Sturgeon threatens to block the will of 17.4 million Britons by somehow vetoing last Thursday's result.

In London Labour MP David Lammy says MPs should vote to stay in the EU.

In Brussels the president of the European Parliament says it is scandalous that Britain is "taking the whole continent hostage" by delaying the day we set the Brexit clock running.

In Paris the French foreign minister accuses Britain of not being respectful.

To all of them, we have one succinct message: when we want your advice, we'll ask for it. Until then, and most respectfully, belt up!

It is time for 'love all'

STAND by for endless arguing about whether it was in or out. No, not the EU – thank goodness. Wonderful Wimbledon starts today. It is the perfect opportunity to put politics aside for a while and for everyone to back the same winner – Andy Murray.

Don't go, Jeremy we need someone as useless as you

Picture: PA

NOT long after the unconditional surrender of Germany in 1945, Winston Churchill addressed a huge, jubilant crowd in central London. "This is your victory. It is a victory for freedom," he declared to resounding cheers. The same words could now be used about the EU referendum.

Brexit represents a triumph of democracy over bureaucracy and of nationhood over federalism. Above all, it is an inspiring win for the loyal British people. Despite a relentless barrage of scare stories, the majority of voters had the spirit of national pride to save our country from the destructive embrace of the Brussels regime.

The referendum campaign has proved that most of the political class is hopelessly disconnected from the electorate. Our rulers thought that they could impose their fashionable ideologies, especially uncontrolled immigration, on the public without any consequences or mandate. Now the voters have had their revenge.

The establishment is utterly shell-shocked, unable to comprehend the scale of the uprising. Already the tearful Prime Minister has announced his resignation, prompting a sulphurous leadership contest, while Chancellor George Osborne, once so ubiquitous with his alarmist forecasts, has disappeared.

Labour is in an even worse state than the Conservatives, because the referendum highlighted the mass desertion of the party's traditional working-class supporters. The crisis has been compounded by the hapless leadership of Jeremy Corbyn, whose mix of internationalist, pro-immigration dogma and chronic lack of authority has alienated millions of core Labour voters.

IN THE wake of the Brexit result, around half the Shadow Cabinet have now resigned in protest at Corbyn. Tonight, if he is still there, he faces a motion of no confidence from the Parliamentary Labour Party, which he is expected to lose badly.

Even with the huge mandate from the party membership in last year's leadership contest, it is hard to see how he can long survive.

But anyone who really cares about Britain's future should hope that Corbyn stays in place. The unrivalled useless-



WATCH YOUR BACK! The knives are out for the Labour leader but he remains defiant



Leo McKinstry
Daily Express columnist

ness is exactly what the nation requires from its official Leader of the Opposition at this moment of historic change.

One of the greatest myths of British politics is that our democracy must have an effective Opposition to function successfully. Like so much conventional wisdom this is nonsense. The finest administrations, such as Margaret Thatcher's from 1979, were confronted by divided opponents. Indeed, the greatest modern government of all, Churchill's wartime coalition, had no real opposition at all.

Today, as the process of Britain's departure from the EU starts, we do not need a partisan Labour Party in Parliament that seeks to thwart the popular will with opportunistic grandstanding, point-scoring and nit-picking. On the contrary, Corbyn's spectacular ineffectuality would be an ally of the Brexit cause by making Labour a complete irrelevance.

Alternatively, the best government to implement the referendum decision would be one headed by enthusiastic

Brexiters who are determined to uphold our national interests. That means a premiership of Boris Johnson supported by Nigel Farage.

In this new political era of British freedom, Johnson deserves to be prime minister, partly because his charisma was central to the Leave victory, partly because he is the only senior Tory who commands a following beyond his party and partly because he has already proved himself a surprisingly effective administrator as Mayor of London.

But Farage, as the real architect of victory, should be at his side throughout the Brexit process. If it were not for him, Britain would still be trapped inside the EU. Not since Churchill has any politician been so instrumental in shaping our national destiny.

So far he has received nothing like the credit he deserves for his colossal achievement. In fact, some Leave campaigners have argued that he should be left out of the negotiations. That would be a travesty. No one better understands the

inner workings of the EU. At the very least he should be given a peerage so he can act as the Minister for Brexit.

The process of negotiating our withdrawal will be far easier than the Remain camp pretend or the EU claims. Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker said yesterday, "It is not an amicable divorce." But we are not going through a divorce.

ON THE contrary, we are just leaving a mismanaged club that keeps changing the rules, putting up fees and bullying the members. All we need is to pass legislation that enshrines the supremacy of Parliament and British law, while also creating a free trade zone.

But we need Farage there to ensure this happens and to prevent the continuation of mass immigration. Some of the more liberal Leavers talk of keeping free movement from the EU. That would make a mockery of the referendum.

A Johnson-Farage alliance would not only revive our national self-confidence but would also realign our politics. The division would no longer be between Left and Right but between patriotic democrats and globalist progressives.

That is another reason for Corbyn to stay. Worshipping every country but his own, he can keep the metropolitan chattering in the wilderness, while Boris and Nigel get on with rebuilding Britain as an independent country.

'Corbyn can help keep Left in the wilderness'

BIRTHDAY CARD

Pictures: BARCLAYS; SWNS

By Liz Hodgkinson

ON JUNE 29, 1966, I received a little surprise through the post that was to change my life and that of millions of people, particularly women, all over the world. It was a Barclaycard, the first credit card to be introduced into the UK, and I was one of the very first batch of a million customers to receive one. I didn't ask for it, it just arrived and at first I had no idea what it was.

At the time I was 22, newly married and had only been out at work for a year. My husband, also aged 22, didn't receive a card as he banked with Lloyds and only Barclays customers were eligible for these early cards. To this day he remembers that it felt very strange for me to get a card in my own name six years before he did.

Strange, because in those days the man was very much in charge of money matters and married women were still seen as pretty much chattels. The majority of women in those days were housewives, without any money of their own.

The introduction of the credit card was to put women in control of their own money for the very first time in history. From now on men were longer the automatic custodians of the household cash.

Hard to believe now but it was a bold step indeed – unprecedented in fact – for Barclays to make a decision to issue these cards directly to their female customers as well as the men.

Before such cards came in women could not get mortgages or sign a hire purchase agreement without a male guarantor – her husband or father usually. Credit cards were to change all that by treating women as grown-ups and really they were as important to female emancipation in the 1960s as the Pill.

Naturally I wanted to use my new card without delay and went off to John Lewis, feeling very glamorous as I did so (that's me on the right in one of my first outfits). No more fiddling in my handbag to scrape together the cash. From now on I could just flash my card. And hey, I didn't even have to have enough money in the bank to pay for the purchase.

At first I didn't understand how credit cards worked but the illusion of getting something for nothing soon vanished when the statement – always frightening – arrived about three weeks later. The statement issuers forgot nothing and they unfortunately remembered all the purchases that had slipped your mind.

BUT even then not all was lost as another new thing about these credit cards was that you could just pay off a minimum amount. The sobering reality was that if you did, interest mounted up at a terrifying rate.

No wonder that when initially these new-fangled cards were introduced there was an outcry from guardians of public morality and questions asked in Parliament as to whether it was right for people to be spending money they did not have. And as for letting empty-headed women loose with their very own credit cards – what was the world coming to?

Before the credit card it was pretty much impossible to spend



REVOLUTION: Barclaycard is launched, above, to the delight of journalist Liz Hodgkinson, pictured left in 1966

Fifty years ago this week one little piece of plastic changed all our lives for ever

money you did not have. In the 1960s many people did not even have a bank account and received their wages every week in brown envelopes in cash.

In fact in the 1960s a woman with her own cheque book was a rare bird indeed. The only reason that I possessed a bank account was because I had been to university and the account was opened to receive my student grant. Ah, those were the days when we were paid to go to university. But ordinary female workers, such as nurses or typists, would be unlikely to have their own accounts.

And then even if you did have a bank account, credit was extremely hard to come by although it was always easier for men than women. In order to qualify you had to have a personal interview with your bank manager, usually a pompous Mr Mainwaring type out of Dad's Army – and who delighted in making you feel very small indeed.

He – and it always was a he –

would decide whether or not you deserved an overdraft after making you squirm and wriggle in fear for an hour. If you dared to go overdraw without this arrangement and into the red – quite literally, as your negative balance would be shown in red – your cheque would bounce.

You always had to have enough money in your account to make a purchase or your cheque would not be honoured. In fact many shops in those days had signs in the window saying, "Do not ask for credit as a refusal may offend."

Not that cheques always got you out of trouble even if your account was full to bursting because many places, including cinemas and restaurants, did not accept cheques anyway. So often unless you had the ready money you were stuck.

To make things even worse there were no ATMs in the 1960s, banks closed at 3pm and were shut on Saturdays. Looking back I do not really know how we managed but

in the event credit cards changed not only the way we shopped but the way we thought about money.

Our parents were terrified of debt and we grew up equally terrified until credit cards made us easier in our minds about owing money. Indeed a famous slogan for a later credit card claimed that it took the waiting out of wanting and from then on debt became OK and even a badge of honour.

Well, 50 years have passed and I have remained loyal to my original credit card even though like most people my wallet is now stuffed with cards of all kinds. My credit card has long outlasted my marriage and continues to be used daily although with extreme caution. I always pay it off in full every month as I am still old-fashioned enough to be frightened of debt.

The days when women were treated as financial airheads are long gone but it took that initial little bit of plastic half a century ago to set the process in motion.

WOULD YOU CREDIT IT!

Barclaycard was the first UK credit card, issued to one million clients in June 1966.

Charge cards such as Diners Club and American Express had previously been available but only for rich people.

The first cash machine in the world was installed by Barclays in Enfield, Middlesex, on June 27, 1967.

The Access card was introduced into the UK on October 23, 1972 by a consortium of three of the four big UK banks at the time.

Lloyds Bank Cashpoint, the first modern ATM, was introduced in 1972.

Until 1974 unmarried women in the US could not get a credit card and husbands had to co-sign their wives' applications.

In 1977 the first company card was introduced, again by Barclays.

The first credit card hologram was introduced by MasterCard in 1983

Debit cards were introduced in 1987, again by Barclays.

In 1986 electronic card payment machines were introduced.

By 1994 half of all UK adults held a debit card. By 1998 they exceeded cheques as a form of payment.

In 1997 internet banking was introduced.

2003 saw the introduction of chip and pin.

In 2007 contactless payments were introduced.

In 2012 contactless payments were introduced on London buses.

There were about 60 million credit cards in circulation in November 2015. Placed end to end they would cover 3,125 miles, from Dublin to New York.

Total UK credit card debt in April 2016 was £64.4 billion, at £2,387 per household.

In March 2016, 289 million card purchases were made or 6,000 transactions per minute.

About 60 per cent of us pay off our credit cards in full every month.

Here is how the numbers on your card work: the first six identify the card issuer, the numbers from seven to 15 identify you as the card holder and the final number is the check digit which validates the previous 15 digits.

The UK is the biggest card market in the EU – or was until Brexit.

Picture: EPA



Desperate residents are rescued in Rainelle, West Virginia

Record US flood leaves 26 dead

AT least 26 people have been killed in the US after devastating floods hit West Virginia.

President Barack Obama declared a major disaster after hundreds of residents had to be rescued from their homes in the state's worst flooding for more than a century.

Mr Obama agreed to give aid to the worst-affected areas to pay for temporary housing and home repairs.

Four-year-old Edward McMillon and Emanuel Williams, eight, were among those killed in the flooding.

A total of 15 deaths struck the tiny town of Rainelle.

About 30,000 homes in West Virginia have been left without power. Up to 10 inches of rain fell in some areas.

By **Nathan Rao**

SUMMER is on hold for another week with more heavy rain, thunder and chilly winds forecast up to the start of July. Britons hoping for a spot of sun will be disappointed, with grey skies and below-average temperatures making this week feel more like autumn.

Although it will be drier than last week, when downpours and flooding hit the UK, experts have warned not to hang up the brollies just yet.

There will be further rain in the coming days, while temperatures will hover around 70F (21C) in the South and about 61F in the North.

Forecasters warned it could be the second week in July before the weather shows any signs of cheering up as hopes of a scorching summer dwindle.

'More like autumn' as wet week looms

The Met Office warned of an unsettled week ahead. Forecaster Chris Page said: "This week is looking mainly unsettled with Monday looking the best day with some decent amounts of sunshine.

"Showers will move in from the Atlantic later on and these will be heavy at times before things go downhill from Tuesday. There is quite a bit of rain on the cards as fronts push

in from the West. Wednesday and Thursday are looking mixed with more showers and by Friday the southern half of the country may see a bit of a respite although it is staying wet in the North with heavier spells of rain."

Netweather forecaster Nick Finnis said: "Atlantic fronts will move in across the West, bringing rain which will be heavy on the higher ground. Hot

summy weather is absent as we head into early July."

● Spring began at its slowest pace for more than 60 years, a survey has revealed.

The Woodland Trust found spring events such as the first plants flowering and birds travelling north occurred later than in recent times.

The last period to have such a slow blossoming of spring was pre-1947.

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Picture: SWNS



Colin Peaker on his round...

Britain's oldest paperboy still delivering at 85

By Dan Townend

THE man thought to be Britain's oldest "paperboy" has turned 85.

Colin Peaker has been delivering newspapers around the streets of Wakefield in West Yorkshire for 23 years.

Former barber and councillor Mr Peaker arrives at Preens newsagents each morning before 6am to await delivery of the day's papers. And his 85th birthday on June 10 was no different.

"It was just a normal day. If we get the papers delivered on time I can be away from here about 6.20am and back home for about 7.45am," he explained.

"I said I was just going to do it for a month and see if I liked it. Now it's 23 years later.

"It's good exercise, you see a lot of people and find out what's going on. That's the main thing – and it keeps my knees going."

Mr Peaker said he has no plans to quit any time soon: "I'll keep going as long as I can."

Brian Smith, owner of Preens, said: "Colin is very well liked. He knows everybody and is a real authority on this area."

Mr Peaker started work as a barber in 1947 and ran a shop in the city until 1993. He said: "I was the cheapest barber. I only charged 50p when I retired."

He also represented the old ward of Northgate on the city council from 1964 until 1974, when it became Wakefield Metropolitan Borough Council.



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Picture: LUKE JOHNSTON/SWNS



Nicky Willis, left and below, takes on a male rival in the medieval jousting tournament at Kenilworth Castle

Joust deserts...woman beats men at arms

THIS is the dramatic moment a woman competed against men for the first time in a jousting tournament – and won.

In medieval times all knights were male. But this weekend English Heritage invited professional rider Nicky Willis to join the men competing at Kenilworth Castle in Warwickshire.

Hundreds of spectators braved thunderstorms to cheer her on.

Nicky, 46, who was wearing full armour and carried a red shield, managed to accumulate more points than her three male competitors before rain forced the contest to be suspended.

By Dan Townend

Afterwards she said: "Kenilworth is famed for some of the most elaborate tournaments in medieval England, as well as playing host to one of England's strongest women, Queen Elizabeth I, so it's the perfect place to sort the women from the boys."

English Heritage's change of policy follows the huge popularity of American TV drama Game Of Thrones, in which British actress Gwendoline Christie plays a knight.

Spectator Jemma Page, 36, said: "It's great to see women can do exciting things like this."



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As the big gamble ends in tears, what next for Cameron?

By Adrian Lee

IT WAS one of the biggest gambles in British political history and the dice did not roll favourably for David Cameron. In the early hours of Friday cautious optimism gave way to disbelief, as it dawned that the nation had voted to leave the EU. Simultaneously his tenure as Prime Minister was effectively ended.

In the aftermath of his humiliation Cameron just about managed to hold his emotions in check for the cameras but privately the tears are said to have flowed. However as he ponders his future and prepares to leave 10 Downing Street, no one should feel too sorry for the PM.

As one door closes plenty more will burst open. In the short term, once the reins are handed over to a new Tory leader, Cameron will return to the backbenches. He has represented the safe Conservative seat of Witney, in Oxfordshire, since 2001 and has a home in the county.

In fact, if he so desires, he could probably spend the rest of his working life doing that job.

Recently the PM expressed a desire to remain an MP after stepping down as leader. He said last year: "I love serving my constituents. I love politics. I love public service. It's what I care about. It's a vocation."

He's also been scathing about Tony Blair's decision to resign from Parliament immediately after leaving Downing Street, regarding that as a show of disrespect to those who elected him.

Yet the tumultuous events of the past few days will inevitably have tainted his view of politics and may trigger a serious rethink.

Cameron always intended that this would be his final term as Prime Minister, but expected to go on his own terms, in his own time and with Britain still in the EU. The PM feels betrayed by senior Tories who campaigned to leave the EU - self-servingly in Cameron's eyes.

It's possible that the PM could take his revenge from the backbenches by making mischief for years to come, in the style of Edward Heath against his nemesis Margaret Thatcher. But that's not really Cameron's style so, depending on the identity of his successor, an earlier departure from politics than anticipated could be on the cards.

One compromise option is to stand to become Lord Mayor of London, a post carrying status befitting a former PM.

But with his sizeable intellect, old-Edonian connections and a CV which includes six years as Prime Minister of the UK, if he decides to turn his back on politics Cameron will be inundated with enticing offers from the private sector. As Blair has demonstrated, the riches available to



BYE-BYE! David Cameron and wife Samantha outside No.10 for his resignation speech and away from it all in Padstow

The Prime Minister has been left devastated by the turn of events. We look at his options after he quits the top job in the land

someone with a deep knowledge of the machinations of British government are bountiful. If he chooses to go down that route, Cameron will find himself in demand as a lobbyist or adviser for big business.

Before standing to become an MP he worked for media company Carlton Communications for seven years. He was director of corporate affairs, giving him an insight into the world of PR.

He could also take a handful of well-paid part-time consultancy posts, which would allow him to spend quality time at home with his children Nancy, Arthur and Florence and wife Samantha. In Oxfordshire the Camerons are members of the so-called Chipping Norton Set, a group of powerful politicians and media elite.

There is also always the after dinner speaking circuit. Cameron is said to be an admirer of John Major, another former

PM, who is said to earn £25,000 per appearance. At some stage there is also bound to be a book telling the inside story of his disastrous gamble, which would be a sure-fire best-seller.

ALTHOUGH Brexit will be Cameron's defining event, leaving serious questions over his judgment, in most other respects he emerges from Number 10 with his reputation intact.

He has overseen the recovery of the UK economy, clearing up the mess left by Gordon Brown, successfully managed a potentially tricky coalition government and modernised the Conservative Party.

In his darkest hours he can also console himself with the fact that he is widely regarded as a decent man. While leader of the

Opposition in 2009 he had to cope with the death of his six-year-old disabled son, Ivan.

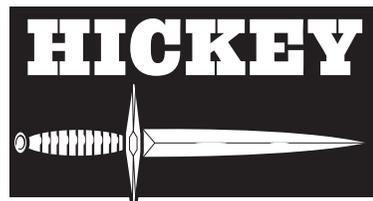
During the boy's short life Cameron frequently had to put family before politics, including abandoning two party conferences.

Friends say it has helped give him a more rounded view of the world, unlike some politicians who seem to exist solely in the Westminster bubble.

So Cameron, who is not short of cash, could even spring a surprise by taking a relatively poorly paid job in the charity sector as his way of "giving something back".

Within the corridors of Brussels, where many blame his arrogance for his willingness to risk a referendum, he is doubtless persona non grata.

So as David Cameron reaches a crossroads, perhaps all we can safely rule out for now is a cushy number at EU headquarters.



REFLECTING on the crisis engulfing Jeremy Corbyn's Labour leadership, presenter Jeremy Clarkson, pictured, less than helpfully points out, "Everyone called Jeremy gets sacked eventually."

Clarkson, of course, was memorably axed from the BBC's Top Gear last year following a well-documented fracas with a producer. The broadcaster's own political track record has proved less than successful of late. He recently appeared alongside pal David Cameron to support the Remain campaign.



WHILE it is reported the stress of the referendum has driven Samantha Cameron to smoking, what of the Prime Minister, who has long battled a nicotine addiction?

In 2009 he was confidently referring to himself as an "ex-smoker". By the end of last year, however, he more cautiously claimed his attempts to keep off the cigarettes had proved "relatively successful".

Judging by the past few days our soon to be former PM could be forgiven for puffing away in secret.

CHANCELLOR George Osborne's decision to go to ground over the weekend inevitably met with mockery.

Channel 4 News political correspondent Michael Crick enquired: "Has George Osborne died? Is he ill? Has he been kidnapped? Run off to Brazil?" later adding: "Does he still exist? Did he ever exist? Or did I imagine him?"

FORMER tennis favourite Tim Henman, this week reunited with the BBC's Wimbledon presenter Sue Barker, has known her longer than we imagine.

Henman, who these days appears as a TV pundit during the championships, fondly recalls getting lifts from the former French Open champion as a boy. Explaining that fellow Surrey resident Barker lived near the Henman family home, he tells *The Lady* magazine: "Sue Barker used to collect me from school. She used to play at the David Lloyd club where I played so sometimes she would bring us back from the tennis club. I always look forward to seeing her."

Fans gathered outside Centre Court famously used to sit on what was christened Henman Hill when Tim carried the nation's hopes. Noting subsequent attempts to rename it Murray Mound, Henman has joked: "[Andy Murray] can have all those grand slams... but I'm keeping my hill."

ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS creator Jennifer Saunders, pictured, says attempts to cast Benedict Cumberbatch in the new movie version proved unsuccessful, noting he is "busy for the next five-and-a-half years".

While disappointed to have missed out on the Sherlock star, she has claimed one celebrity is now blacklisted. Irritated that "Madonna always said no" when asked in the past, Saunders has defiantly insisted: "In fact, even if she said yes now we would have to turn her down."



RETURNING to the Brexit result, this column has previously highlighted cross-dressing comedian Eddie Izzard's uncanny knack for proving a political "curse".

Sporting a pink beret, the entertainer and Labour mouthpiece energetically campaigned for Remain. He was also a high-profile supporter during the doomed election campaigns of Ed Miliband, Ken Livingstone and Gordon Brown, not to mention a backer of Andy Burnham's ill-fated Labour leadership bid last year.

Anyone who ever receives Izzard's endorsement should run for the hills.

E-mail me at: hickey@express.co.uk

The Crusader Fighting for your rights

By MAISHA FROST

A real claim-changer

WHEN a car accident claim that a motorist thought had been permanently parked suddenly reared up, it caused havoc for his insurance cover.

The first warning Robin Clark had of the trouble ahead was back in May when he was preparing to renew his policy and was told the deal he had, and wanted to keep, was no longer available.

He found a new one but it cost some £100 more because of a crash his vehicle had been involved in last autumn. Although this was not his fault it was the first black mark on his otherwise pristine record of 55 years driving.

He explained: "I was stuck in a traffic jam and a pick-up truck belonging to a utility company went into the back of me. The driver apologised and admitted responsibility immediately. That did not change, the repair to my bumper went ahead and RSA, my insurer, confirmed it would not

affect my no-claims bonus. They were excellent, hence the reason I wanted to stay with them."

But Robin, from Hampshire, hit problems when renewing his policy and was told the accident was also showing up as a case that had not been settled.

"I was astonished, I had no idea there could be this grey area with claims," he admitted. "There had not been any dispute about liability but it seems the claim costs have not actually been handed over from the other party's insurer to mine.

"Apparently it's been asked for three times since September but the other side has dragged its feet. I've been told this is quite common, so there's been no closure.

"This has had a direct effect on the price of the new premium I've been offered and led to the £100 increase."

Since finding out about the hold-up Robin has been desperate to get the matter resolved, as his renewal is due at the end of this

month. "I live on a pension but rely on my car to get around, so if I can avoid paying £100 more to drive it when it is not my fault, I would really prefer it," he told Crusader.

We asked RSA if it could push things along for Robin and within a day matters were moving again.

Last week he was delighted to hear the case had been settled and happily received a £50 goodwill gesture from RSA too.

The company also confirmed he would get a letter proving that his no-claims discount was intact, the usual procedure when an existing policy is terminated.

Robin added: "I was reassured to be told that most insurers offer a grace period for customers, so even if the letter does not arrive straightaway, they apply the bonus on the expectation that it will.

"Crusader's helping hand was most appreciated in all of this. In future should I have a claim then I would insist on asking for proof of settlement."

BREXIT TRAVEL EFFECTS WILL TAKE TIME



Picture: GETTY

ENJOY: Travellers' rights are protected for the moment after EU referendum vote

HOLIDAYMAKERS' rights will not be affected by the UK leaving the EU in the short term, though prices might go up and money not go as far while overseas.

At least two years of negotiation lie ahead after which things may alter. Falls in sterling will impact on spending power but breaks already paid for should be in the clear.

Travellers are as free to move as before and passports remain valid. European Health Insurance cards (EHIC) are also valid and passenger rights remain in claims for flight delays and cancellations. You can still bring home unlimited goods

and there will be the same rules for using your phone abroad.

People paying for overseas accommodation in other currencies can expect to pay more in the event of a weaker pound which may also affect the cost of flights, advises leading travel trade body Abta.

If your travel company asks you to pay more because of currency fluctuations, check the terms and conditions of the organiser you booked with.

If it's a package, the maximum surcharge is up to 10 per cent of the original cost. If it's another arrangement, check the terms.

Do you have a consumer problem or a tale of service that deserves applause? The Crusader is here to help. We can't promise a reply but please write in with your full name and daytime phone number to: The Crusader, Daily Express, 10 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6EN or email us at crusader@express.co.uk. Don't send original documents you may need later.

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Letters

The Daily Express, Number 10 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6EN. Fax: 0207 098 2704
Email: expressletters@express.co.uk (include your address and telephone number)

Put daft EU laws on hold until Britain finally leaves

CONGRATULATIONS and thanks to the Daily Express for its long-term campaign to leave the EU.

Leo McKinstry and others have been great in the information they have provided. Could the experts now tell us if during the time it takes for the split to be completed, around two years, will any new EU laws apply to the UK?

And will any EU laws already used in this country be converted into British law and kept in force or be immediately scrapped?

Can we stop the European Court of Human Rights being used and convert to a British Bill of Rights?

I know many people are confused over these issues and it would be helpful to have answers.

Janice Bull,
Rawtenstall, Lancs

It feels great to be out of the clutches of Brussels

MANY thanks for the Daily Express's relentless campaign to release us from the clutches of the EU.

How about another campaign to let us have back our light bulbs, powerful vacuum cleaners and in my view most important of all, our British passports?

Richard Thomas,
Tonbridge, Kent

Cameron underestimated voters and paid the price

I WISH to convey my heartfelt thanks to the Daily Express for its unwavering support and determination to get Britain out of the EU.

I must also mention Ukip leader Nigel Farage, for it was his belief that Britain would be better out than in.

David Cameron foolishly thought people would never vote to leave and instigated a referendum.

Not only was Cameron wrong but his actions to make sure Britain remained in the EU were shameful.

This man will never be trusted by the British people ever again.

Harry Stephenson,
Kircubbin, Co Down

Farage deserves a lot of credit in freedom crusade

FOLLOWING the EU referendum result, which saw the British public begin to take back the nation from the unelected EU, I would like to thank the Daily Express for its part in aiding Nigel Farage in forcing the politicians to listen to the people.

Yours is truly a paper that stands up for the people of Britain, against those who wish to diminish our history and rob us of our heritage.

Yet there are already murmurings from politicians that leaving the EU will take years and people such as First Minister of Scotland Nicola Sturgeon are trying to make political gain from the result.

With this in mind would the Daily Express please continue to ensure politicians respect the democratic result and the will of the people.

Frederick Ayley,
Whittlesey, Cambs

Johnson fought the good fight and did us all proud

I AWOKE on Friday morning feeling very positive, happy and

Letter of the day

Top marks to the Daily Express for our Brexit victory

WELL done. Without the tenacity of the Daily Express the referendum would not have been possible. Not only that, we would not be celebrating the victory of the Leave campaign without it. The editor and columnists have contributed magnificently and laid out the facts clearly and unwaveringly ("Historic day for Britain", June 24).

My mother, who died in 2005, was an avid reader and would have been loud in praise for your campaign. She loved our country, as did my father and stepfather. Both served in the last war as nurse and soldier respectively.

The main reasons I voted Leave was because I felt to vote Remain would be dishonouring and disrespecting the memory of all those who had fought and gave their lives for our freedom. They would be horrified at the way the EU had been systematically strangling and diluting our culture and heritage with uncontrolled immigration.

We British are made of stern stuff and despite blips will step up to the plate.

Ruth Peberdy,
Bridgwater, Somerset



WE DID IT: Ukip leader Nigel Farage celebrates

looking forward to a great future for the United Kingdom.

What a great and sensible campaign. No wild rhetoric, just measured points which ordinary people appreciated. We cannot be any worse for leaving the EU and will be responsible for our future.

We are a good country with a good future. Let's be proud and build a good life for all our citizens, whatever their age, race or creed.

Boris Johnson and Nigel Farage worked hard and have been very honest. Well done.

Diane Chacewicz,
Stalmine, Lancs

Sour grapes from MP who is detached from reality

ANYONE in any doubt that leaving the EU was the correct outcome should have listened to Tory MP Anna Soubry on television following the result ("A very, very, very bad mistake" Remain Tory blasts those who mocked economic warnings", June 24).

She still doesn't get it. Having become so conditioned to being in the pro-EU bubble and reinforcing the idea we cannot survive outside the EU, she proved

how detached from reality she is by spitefully blaming the result on, "White working-class areas that have probably never seen a migrant". How insulting. Let's hope David Cameron is not the only casualty of Remain's arrogance.

Banish these peevish MPs to Richard Branson's private island and give us politicians who believe in Britain and are not willing to sell us out for 30 pieces of silver.

Stuart Harding,
Chorley, Lancs

Smug politicians given a bloody nose by electorate

IT was noticeable most if not quite all of Scotland voted to orders. Maybe now we will see another Scottish referendum on independence. I am half Scots but if they leave we will have more taxes for our people.

It was also seen that most of Wales, a Labour heartland, voted Leave. This is down to Jeremy Corbyn and fed up Labour supporters. It's hard to believe but voters gave a bloody nose to the smug MPs who thought people would follow their orders.

Most are Corbyn cronies and got what they deserved. The message is, start thinking of the Labour working class, not the cheats, fiddlers and crooks.

Martin Fletcher,
Thorpe Hesley, S Yorks

IS THERE TOO MUCH SEX ON OUR TV SCREENS?

Yes WHILE I was appalled at the antics on the TV show Love Island I wasn't in the least bit surprised ("Why Miss GB's tawdry TV sex 'is just a new reality show low'", June 24).

The people who appear on programmes like that must have really low self-esteem or mistakenly think they'll be able to carve out a TV career on the back of their very short-lived fame.

Ladies, you're better than this. Have a word with yourselves. The cameras are always rolling and whatever you do will be captured forever. Your actions will follow you around for the rest of your lives.

Jane Greene,
Birmingham

No THE people who turn up on shows such as Big Brother and Love Island know exactly what's expected of them and they rarely disappoint.

My only surprise is that there are still viewers out there who are still shocked by what goes on.

Here's my tip. If you don't like what's on TV then change the channel. Heaven knows there's enough choice these days.

I don't like Liverpool Football Club, Coldplay and Formula 1. Do you ever hear me moaning when they're on TV? No. I always change the channel or turn off the TV whenever they're on.

Adam Marley,
Manchester

Ten things you never knew about... pineapples

WILLIAM HARTSTON

June 27 is celebrated (in certain parts of the USA at least) as International Pineapple Day.

1. A pineapple is neither a pine nor an apple. The name was given to it by early European settlers in America who thought it looked like a pine cone.
2. Actually the word pineapple was used for a pine tree or pine cone a century before America was discovered.
3. Pineapples were unknown to Europeans until discovered by Columbus on Guadeloupe in 1493.
4. Pineapple juice mixed with sand is said to be good for cleaning boat decks and machete blades.
5. Charles Dickens mentions pineapples three

times in Martin Chuzzlewit and once each in Nicholas Nickleby and David Copperfield.

6. In Australian slang, "to get the wrong (or rough) end of the pineapple," means to get a bad deal.

7. James Howard Dole founded the Hawaiian Pineapple Company and became known as The Pineapple King.

8. In the 1930s in Britain, "being on the pineapple" became a slang phrase for being on the dole.

9. "Only the knife knows the heart of the pineapple," (Haitian proverb).

10. In December 2014 a boy named Grayson is said to have set a world record in Florida by popping 10 balloons with a pineapple in 30 seconds.

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All corrections and clarifications which result from complaints to this publication will be published on this page.

BEACHCOMBER



99 YEARS OLD AND STILL MAKING EVERY VOTE COUNT...

THE Referendum is at last done, the votes have been counted and both sides are beginning to survey the carnage of the campaign and remove the wounded. It has been a bitterly divisive contest but who would have expected anything else in view of what was at stake: biscuits or chocolates?

As you probably know, I have for a long time now ensured continuing bonhomie at the offices of the Daily Express by handing out either biscuits or chocolates every morning to the journalists within my catchment area. These snacks were homemade and of a quality universally admired. Yet sometimes, when offering biscuits, I sensed that some recipients may have preferred chocolates, and conversely.

This led, as one might expect, to a certain tension between the chocolate-lovers and their biscuit connoisseur colleagues. Earlier this year I realised that action was necessary to give my colleagues a once-in-a-lifetime chance to express their views on the matter and make a democratic decision. I accordingly designed a voting slip and distributed it around the office. It was headed: "Referendum on the Choice for Britain of a Mid-Morning Snack" and described itself as, "A chance to express your view on the question that has dominated our thoughts in recent months: biscuit or chocolate".

Voters were asked to put a cross in the box next to their choice: "I should like to have a chocolate please," or "I should like to have a biscuit".

The question asked on the form had, of course, been subject to intense debate and scrutiny. Some had wanted the choice to be extended to allow a choice to be expressed for various different flavours of chocolates, made with white, milk or dark chocolate, with fillings including or not including alcohol. The biscuit lobby too expressed a desire to choose from a list including nuts of various sorts, chocolate sprinkles, maple syrup, cardamom, dried and finely grated orange peel etc. Eventually it was agreed that the question should be as simple and direct as possible, which was why the above form was adopted.

The polling booths were kept open throughout the day to accommodate shift-workers and the votes were counted late on Thursday night. And that's when the trouble began.

The raw data indicated a clear though narrow victory for chocolates. But an analysis of the voting patterns immediately led to recriminations and a demand for a rerun of the whole referendum. The trouble was that votes cast early in the day were mainly for chocolates, with the biscuit supporters considerably making up ground as the day went on.

Cries of "Unfair!" came from the Biscuiteers when the result was announced against them, claiming that chocolates were a natural choice to accompany a morning coffee but that by teatime everyone wanted a biscuit.

But the newspaper has spoken and I urge both sides to abide by the result. While animosity prevails however I shall bring in both chocolates and biscuits and offer everyone a choice. For that is the true democratic way.

Brian Stewart says the Amplifon after care is second to none, and he is now enjoying a busy social life.



Hearing aids have changed Brian's life

How to switch from isolation to party mode

BRIAN Stewart is delighted he has a 'pushy' wife — because if his other half had not pushed him through the door of an Amplifon hearing centre he might never have found the solution to his problems.

He was already wearing hearing aids, but says: "The first aids I was given didn't fit and didn't do what I wanted or expected them to do."

And he had already asked for help at another high-street name and explains: "I didn't like the way they were trying to sell hearing aids to me."

So it was a case of third time lucky, when his wife gave him the nudge that he needed and he booked a free hearing test at his local Amplifon hearing centre. Brian, who lives in Cheshire, admits he was shocked to discover the extent of his hearing loss.

However, given his life-long exposure to loud noise it was inevitable. In the '60s he worked at the Ministry of Defence Proof and Experimental Establishment. "We were blowing things up all day without any ear protection," he says. After that, he worked in heavy industry, installing massive, and incredibly loud, diesel engines.

An Amplifon hearing test takes around an hour and 20 minutes and Brian says: "The testing was really good from a technical point of view and my audiologist was absolutely spot on with what he said. It was very systematic, nothing was pushed at me and nobody tried to sell me my hearing back."

"My experience at Amplifon was totally different to the other hearing providers I visited. Ben, my audiologist, is brilliant. He didn't try

to sell me hearing aids, he just proved to me that I needed them.

Brian was amazed at the

"I am back in the family where before I was squeezed out of it - not by them - but by myself."

difference when he tried on the aids his audiologist recommended. "As soon as I put them in it was, 'Woah! My life is back'.

I just could not take them out."

Now, looking back, he wishes he had done something about his hearing problems much sooner. He says: "I was slowly but surely isolating myself from conversations with other people, because I could only hear anybody I was looking at directly."

"I have six grandsons from 27 down to two years and it has just brought everything back. I am back in the family where before I was being squeezed out of it — not by them — but by myself."

Now he not only communicates more comfortably with his sons and grandchildren, Brian has such a comfortable relationship with his Amplifon audiologist it's almost as if there is a new member of the family. "Ben is just a great guy. We are talking family levels now, about kids and grandkids and everything

else, it's a great personal relationship. I trust him that's the important thing for me."

He adds: "The aftercare is just superb. I can go back whenever I want, or Ben will give me a nudge and say, 'Come and see me'. I have everything I need from Amplifon, all the cleaning materials all the batteries — I don't need anything else but I don't mind going back and sharing a coffee with Ben any time."

Like many of the hearing aids that Amplifon offer, Brian's devices can be adjusted for different situations such as a noisy restaurant or bustling high street and will even remember settings for regular haunts.

"We have quite a few friends in Wales and we do a lot of partying, now I just put my hearing aids into party mode and I can hear everything. Normal conversation has returned. It's like having the hearing I had 30 years ago, it has made a big difference to my life."

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By Chris Roycroft-Davis

WE THOUGHT we would serve you some behind-the-scenes facts about Wimbledon that will leave you saying, "You cannot be serious!"

FOOD AND DRINK

Wimbledon is the largest single annual sporting catering operation carried out in Europe. On any one day there are 39,000 people in the grounds of the All England Club and it takes 1,800 catering staff to keep them happy. In two weeks spectators will get through 300,000 cups of tea and coffee, 250,000 bottles of water, 207,000 meals and 190,000 sandwiches.

They will also consume 15,000 bananas, 20,000 portions of frozen yoghurt, 11.8 tons of poached and smoked salmon, 6,000 stone-baked pizzas and 32,000 portions of fish and chips. All washed down with 200,000 glasses of Pimm's, 100,000 pints of draught beer and lager and 6,600 gallons of milk. Plus, of course, what makes Wimbledon even more special – more than 150,000 glasses of bubbly.

CHAMPERS AND STRAWBERRIES

Over the fortnight 25,000 bottles of Lanson champagne will be opened – it is the only brand that is available at Wimbledon. Lanson has been By Royal Appointment since Queen Victoria gave it a Royal Warrant in 1901 and for the past 39 years it has been poured in the Royal Box on Centre Court.

To go with the champers, 27 tons of English strawberries from Kent (that is 112,000 punnets) will be served with 1,539 gallons of fresh cream. Every strawberry is picked the day before being served and they arrive at Wimbledon at 5.30am each day for a final inspection by hand. A punnet averages 10 berries and this year costs £2.50.

RAIN AND THE ROOF

Since 1922 only seven Wimbledon have been rain-free: 1931, 1976, 1977, 1993, 1995, 2009 and 2010. The 55,972 sq ft Centre Court retractable roof covers an area equivalent to 7,500 umbrellas and can be closed in less than 10 minutes in winds of up to 43 miles an hour.

The traditional Centre Court covers, which weigh one ton, can be pulled over by 16 men in 30 seconds and because they are see-through they allow light on to the grass to keep it in tip-top condition.

With the roof closed Centre Court could hold 290 million tennis balls and it seats 14,979 spectators. The Royal Box contains 74 dark green Lloyd Loom wicker chairs and the Queen attended Wimbledon in 1957, 1962, 1977 and 2010.

CELEBRITY CORNER

Wimbledon officials are always tight-lipped about which celebrities will attend but there is always a host of famous faces around Centre Court.

Sir Cliff Richard, a keen tennis player, went for 20 years in a row until last year when he faced false sexual allegations. He may be back this year as no charges are being brought – and who will ever forget his impromptu concert in the rain in 1996?

Two famous faces missing this year will be the late Sir Terry Wogan and Sir Bruce Forsyth, who is recovering from illness.

Popular guests in previous years included Kate Winslet and Benedict Cumberbatch. Formula One driver Lewis Hamilton was

WELCOME TO WIMBLEDON!

The world's most famous tennis tournament starts tomorrow and for two weeks the eyes of the world will be on London SW19

Pictures: GETTY



SERVE! The famous logo and Lanson champagne with sought-after cooler. Fans will eat 27 tons of strawberries and 52,200 balls will be hand-tested

famously refused entry to the Royal Box in 2013 because he was not wearing a jacket and tie.

BALLS AND RACKETS

Slazenger has supplied the balls since 1902 and this year is sending 52,200, of which about 20,000 are used in qualifying and practice. The balls are stored at a constant 68F and every one will have been tested by hand for bounce, compression and weight.

At the start of each day's play 48 tins of balls are taken on to Centre Court and No.1 Court and 24 tins on to all the 17 outside championship courts. Wimbledon also has 22 grass practice courts.

"New balls, please" is called by the umpire after the first seven games of a match (to allow for the fact they have been used in the warm-up), and then after every further nine games.

In Wimbledon fortnight the repairs team string about 2,000 rackets – 60 per cent of them for the hard-hitting men players – and use more than 40 miles of string (which is usually either nylon, polyester or Kevlar).

SOUVENIR BUSINESS

Souvenirs are big business and last year the Wimbledon shop sold

19,500 Men's Championships towels, 11,830 mini tennis ball keyrings, 9,500 Women's Championships towels, 8,352 packs of sweatbands and 7,553 racket-shaped keyrings. You can also buy used balls from the tournament at £2.50 for a can of three. The proceeds go to the Lawn Tennis Association's balls for schools scheme.

This year Lanson's sought-after bottle cooler jackets in the shape of blue or pink tennis shirts will be given out with every bottle bought. In previous years they have become a collectors' item.

ALL ENGLAND CLUB

Wimbledon began at the All England Club in 1877 and is the world's oldest tennis tournament. It is also the world's highest paid tennis competition – this year there's £28million to be won. The winners of the men's and women's singles will pocket £2million each and singles runners-up take home £1million each.

The record for the most Championships won since professional players were included in 1968 is seven, jointly held by Pete Sampras (1993-1995, 1997-2000) and Roger Federer (2003-2007, 2009, 2012).

Bjorn Borg (1976-1980) and Federer (2003-2007) jointly hold

the record for the most consecutive victories – five.

Martina Navratilova has won the Women's Singles a record nine times and also shares a record of winning 20 Wimbledon titles (including doubles and mixed doubles) with Billie Jean King.

Martina Hingis became the youngest player to win a title at the age of 15 years 282 days in 1996 by triumphing in the doubles championship.

The record for the most aces served in a single championship is 212 by the Croatian player Goran Ivanisevic in 2001. The most aces served by a woman is 80, achieved by Serena Williams last year.

The fastest serve ever was by Taylor Dent in 2010, who hit a ball at 148mph. The fastest women's serve was by Venus Williams in 2008 – at 129mph.

The maximum number of people allowed in the grounds at any one time is 39,000. The attendance record for the 13 days of the tournament was set last year at 484,391.

BALL BOYS AND UMPIRES

Every year about 750 youngsters apply to be ball boys and girls. Only 250 are chosen after undergoing a rigorous training regime.

There will be 350 umpires and line judges on duty. Most of them are British with about 60 from overseas.

All the white lines on the court are two inches wide except the baselines, which are four inches.

Apart from players and ground staff almost the only other people allowed to go on the grass are the 26 who operate the Hawkeye electronic line-calling system. Hawkeye is accurate to within two-tenths of an inch.

LONGEST MATCH

The longest match ever was played on Number 18 court in 2010 – it was spread over three days. After 11 hours and 5 minutes of play American John Isner finally beat Frenchman Nicolas Mahut 6-4, 3-6, 6-7, 7-6, 70-68.

The final set lasted eight hours and 11 minutes, which was one hour 38 minutes longer than the previous longest match in tennis history. A staggering 980 points were played in total. Isner served 113 aces (a record for the most in one match) and an incredible 123 balls were used.

● You can find more amazing facts about the tournament at www.wimbledon.com

Could a cavewoman diet help you drop a decade?

MOST women don't like being asked how old they are but for Kim Lloyd it's a question she loves to answer. "When I tell people I'm 52 they never believe me. They always think I'm in my early 40s, which I'm very happy about," says Kim, a dentist and cosmetic skin specialist.

Kim's secret weapon isn't the latest face cream packed with cutting-edge technology but an age-old diet that harks back to our caveman ancestors.

The paleo, or palaeolithic, diet is based on the principle of only eating foods that were available to hunter-gatherers including meat, vegetables, fruits, nuts and roots.

Sugar, grains, dairy, legumes, alcohol and processed foods are all off the menu.

The theory is that our bodies haven't adapted quickly enough to process the "new" food groups introduced into our diets 10,000 years ago during the first agricultural revolution such as grains and dairy. So by eliminating these foods from our diets, our bodies are able to function more effectively.

When The Paleo Diet was first published in 2002 it was a big hit with celebrities such as Hollywood stars Jessica Biel and Uma Thurman, who loved the health and fitness benefits, which include weight loss and reduced inflammation. But according to experts the diet has anti-ageing benefits too.

"There are a number of reasons why the paleo diet is good for your skin," says Dr Stefanie Williams, a

dermatologist, author and founder of the European Dermatology London clinic.

"The first is that the diet is low in sugar and starch. It is widely known that sugar is bad for our health, waistlines and skin but what people don't realise is that starch is also a sugar. As soon as you eat starchy foods, such as white pasta, starch is broken down into sugar molecules which attach themselves to proteins in our skin."

This process, called glycation, causes the proteins responsible for maintaining a youthful complexion (collagen and elastin) to become stiff and brittle. This can lead to wrinkling, lines and sagging.

"Another reason the paleo diet is good for our skin is because of the high protein content," says Stefanie, who published Future Proof Your Skin in 2013.

Protein is full of amino acids which help stimulate collagen production in the body.

"As our bodies are unable to store protein it is important for our skin health to consume protein on a daily basis by eating lean meat and fish," says Stefanie, who also advocates eating good fats such as oily fish and olive oil to keep skin healthy and supple.

"A study showed that people who have a higher intake of saturated fats experience less wrinkling of the skin."

Kim first heard about the paleo diet nine years ago at a medical conference.

"I was 43 and the diet wasn't as well known back then as it is now," says Kim, who lives in Buckinghamshire with her husband David, 53. "The

The paleo diet has helped thousands to lose weight but it now appears it can roll back the clock too

Pictures: GETTY; KOBAL



NATURAL BEAUTY: Raquel Welch in One Million Years B.C. and, inset, paleo diet advocate Kim Lloyd

theory behind the diet really appealed to me. For two million years mankind survived on what they could hunt and pick from the land. When the farming revolution happened 10,000 years ago, we started eating huge amounts of grains and dairy products, which our bodies struggle to process."

Kim says that the older she got the more her grain-based diet impacted her body.

"When I was younger I could get away with more but when I turned 40 my poor diet started to take its toll.

"Before paleo I'd have porridge or toast for breakfast, a tuna salad sandwich and a packet of crisps or slice of cake for lunch and dinner would be a bowl of pasta with a tomato sauce. It was a very starch-heavy diet.

"I suffered from mild adult acne, my skin was dry and developing lines and wrinkles."

SWITCHING to a paleo diet, she ditched bread, cakes, pasta, potatoes and porridge.

"Those foods were a big part of my diet so in the first few days I felt a bit sluggish. I also reduced my dairy intake.

"Suddenly my brain opened up to new ingredients. I ate more vegetables and fruit but limited my intake of high sugar fruits. Breakfast was fresh berries or a muffin made with nuts and eggs, lunch became salmon salad or free range chicken and avocado salad. I also started to make paleo cakes with ground almonds, chia seeds and sweetener.

"After a month my skin looked brighter than it had in years and my spots had cleared.

"To make sure it wasn't a coincidence I stuck to the diet for another three months."

When Kim's friends started to comment on her skin and ask for paleo recipes she came up with a business idea to make paleo-friendly foods.

In 2013 she launched Ugg Foods, a range of baking kits such as chocolate chia muffins and fruit and seed loaf mix.

After nearly a decade of following the paleo plan, Kim says she has never felt better.

"I feel really healthy and I'm confident in my appearance. I get a lot more compliments now I'm on the paleo diet.

"I feel good at 52 but I feel a whole lot better when people think I'm 42," she laughs.

• For more information see uggfoods.com

Interview by SOPHIE DONNELLY

FIVE FOODS THAT FIGHT THE SIGNS OF AGEING

WILD SALMON

Rich in omega 3 fatty acids, salmon helps to boost hydration levels and works to reduce inflammation.

ORGANIC CARROTS

Packed with vitamin A-producing beta carotene, carrots can help increase cell turnover in the skin.

BLUEBERRIES

These brightly coloured berries contain antioxidants, which help to neutralise and mop up



free radicals that accelerate ageing.

AVOCADO

Rich in vitamin E, avocados help to prevent dry skin, protect against UV rays and reduce the damaging effects of free radicals.

NUTS

Nuts, especially walnuts, are a great source of omega 3, which keeps skin lubricated. Eat a small handful every day for a hydration boost.

Army's sad jungle calls

TOMORROW'S wars will be fought remotely, with technicians in command centres with keyboards. Will that make them easier to start as well as finish? Watching **MESSAGES HOME: LOST FILMS OF THE BRITISH ARMY** (*Sunday, C4*) you could see why the people who lived through the Second World War were so keen to build a lasting peace.

This precious archive of film reels was uncovered by accident when some workmen were clearing out Manchester Town Hall.

Instead of chucking them, they gave them to Manchester Metropolitan University's film archive team, who realised they'd found gold. The films were messages from local men who were absent for years on end during the



Matt Baylis
on the
weekend's
TV

war as part of the "forgotten Army". This unhappy moniker sums up their position well for they were sent to the jungles of Burma with the near-impossible task of turning back the tide of the Far East's fortunes. Riddled with malaria and other diseases, they fought, often hand-to-hand, with Japanese soldiers in unbearable conditions. As a morale-boosting exercise, the Army sent out a film unit, so

these remote combatants could record messages to loved ones.

These were then shown at local cinemas back in the UK, where no doubt many tears fell into the popcorn. It was hard not to feel sad now, seeing the forced jollity of these frightened young men, talking without saying anything to people they couldn't see.

Some were stiff and awkward, some made cheeky jokes and sang. "Tojo can't shake a man oo's served his time on t' Corporation Bus!" Not one told the truth. It might have been fanciful imagining on our part but as the later films came on, there seemed to be even less pretence.

Blokes chattered on about their sunbans, how they'd soon be home, Lancashire accents clashing with the palms and Irrawaddy River but you could hear the weariness.

Those lucky enough to return rarely spoke of their experiences. Their messages didn't either but they told us what we needed to know.

SACRIFICE (*Saturday, Channel 5*) was full of shocks, mainly because so many good people had taken part in a tale of such unspeakable badness. Rupert Graves played Duncan Guthrie, a Shetland Islander returning to his homeland with his American wife Tora who, after a string of miscarriages, was determined to adopt a baby.

It didn't seem to strike Tora (Radha Mitchell) as odd that the entire population of the isle of Unst consisted of widowed men bringing up sons, solo. It didn't strike Duncan either but that was because he was up to his neck in a sinister cult whose USP was the

sacrificing of recently-pregnant women. It all began when Tora, a surgeon (who instantly found work in the tiny island's gleaming, state-of-the-art hospital), decided to bury a dead animal. Naturally, she started up a handily-adjacent bulldozer with its keys in, dug a 12ft pit and found a woman's body in it.

That was silly. So was the other state-of-the-art hospital just up the road, where young women flocked to give their babies up for adoption. So was the bit when Duncan told Tora her miscarriages were his fault because he'd been taking "an unapproved male contraceptive".

Ditto that the fairy-like "trows" of local legend were actually a warrior death cult being kept alive by a bunch of solicitors and quantity surveyors. The critic's verdict? Less sacrifice, more of a waste.

PICKS OF THE DAY



Drama: *Wentworth Prison*, 10pm, Channel 5

Picking up four months after the dramatic end to series three, we are back at Wentworth Prison tonight. The rebuilt facility is now under the governance of Vera with Will in place as deputy. Things have changed considerably for Bea. Once upon a time she was the one with the vast following but now Kaz Proctor, the Right Red Hand leader, is viewed as an inspiration to many while Bea is looked upon as a traitor. There is an unwelcome return to Wentworth for Joan Ferguson, the deranged former governess, who has been released from psychiatric care. Despite the fact that she finds herself in isolation, she is still hell-bent on taking her revenge. Danielle Cormack (fourth left) stars.



Health: *Superfoods: The Real Story*, 8.30pm, Channel 4

A run of six new episodes begins tonight as Kate Quilton (left) ventures to Naples to look at claims that the humble tomato could have cancer-busting qualities. The series aims to discover if the reported health benefits of superfoods are genuine, canvassing the opinions of leading scientists, nutritionists and dieticians. Following her trip to Italy, Kate moves east and lands in Japan to find out whether or not the secret of youth lies within fermented soya beans.



Sport: *Euro 2016*, 7pm, ITV

Those who look on the bright side will say England have progressed from Group B without losing a game and have only conceded twice. The critics, though, will point out that Roy Hodgson (above) and his side have finished second behind Wales and were unable to break down Slovakia in their final group game. Either way, the Three Lions find themselves in a Round of 16 tie with Iceland tonight. Kick-off 8pm.



Reality: *The Great British Sewing Bee*, 9.30pm, BBC2

We reach the semi-finals stage tonight as the remaining four contestants face three difficult challenges which test their knowledge of complicated patterns as well as their cutting out ability. Patrick Grant and Esmé Young (above, with host Claudia Winkleman) judge the efforts of the final four as the competitors make an asymmetric yoked skirt, transform a duvet into garments and finally create dresses of their own design.

/mfx

Sport: *Wimbledon 2016*, from 1.45pm, BBC1 and 11.30am, BBC2

Novak Djokovic begins the defence of his Wimbledon title today as the eyes of the sporting world focus on SW19 for a fortnight. The Serb's opening-round clash with James Ward is the highlight of the first day of action. Djokovic holds all four of tennis' Grand Slam titles and the likes of Andy Murray and Roger Federer will have their work cut out to stop him over the next two weeks. Sue Barker (right) anchors the coverage with aplomb.



DID YOU KNOW? Former tennis professional Sue Barker was temporarily blinded in her right eye in 1980 after a large dog bit her in Spain. The 1976 French Open champion feared the attack would force her to retire, which "broke her heart".

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City & Business

Bumper profits boost for Dixons Carphone

ELECTRICALS and mobile phones giant Dixons Carphone is expected to unveil surging profits when it publishes its annual results this week.

The television-to-tablets retailer looks set to record an 18 per cent rise in its annual pre-tax profits to £450million in Wednesday's report, after snapping up a greater share of the mobile phone market.

The City is also expecting to hear an update on its push into the United States after it announced plans in July last year to launch up to 500 stores under a tie-up between its Connected World Services (CWS) arm and Sprint, America's third-largest mobile phone group.

Analyst Graham Spooner, of The Share Centre, said: "Investors will be

'It should benefit from market share gains'

keen to see if there have been any signs more recently that consumers have become cautious with spending due to the referendum.

"News on trading in Europe and any progress with the new Sprint joint venture in the US will also be of interest."

The firm shrugged off fears of a high street slowdown last month after it posted a strong set of results for the fourth quarter and raised its profit guidance for the year.

It pencilled in annual profits to hit between £445million and £450million during its update in May and confirmed that UK like-for-like sales had risen to 4 per cent in the fourth quarter and 6 per cent over the full

By Holly Williams

year. Year-end net debt was expected to be below £300million.

The company said it had seen market share gains across electricals and mobile phones in the UK & Ireland, Nordic countries and Greece.

At the time, Dixons Carphone chief executive Sebastian James said it showed that "consumers were ready to spend".

In an upbeat announcement, he said: "Our view is that consumers are ready to spend but have - rightly - become more canny, and so need to be tempted with great deals and exciting new products."

"We see this as encouraging; after all, launching new technology well, creating fun events and coming up with great deals for customers in both the digital and physical worlds is our stock-in-trade."

"We continue to make good progress in building out our new CWS and Knowhow businesses."

"We are, if anything, even more excited about the potential for these comparatively new areas of our group, and have had some real and tangible wins, as well as a strong pipeline and plans for the coming months and years."

Citi Research analyst Assad Malic said: "The core business should continue to benefit from broader market share gains."

"In addition, we see convergence of consumer electronics and mobile connectivity, along with the 'Internet of Things', as supportive of longer-term growth expectations."

The retailer was born out of a £5billion mega-merger between Dixons and Carphone Warehouse in 2014. It employs more than 42,000 people in 11 countries.

HEATHROW 'CAN HELP GROWTH TAKE OFF'



AIMING HIGH: John Holland-Kaye says further expansion is needed

THE boss of Heathrow claims the result of the EU referendum has strengthened the case for expansion at the airport.

A survey of MPs, which was commissioned by the west London hub, found two-thirds believe the project would strengthen Britain's economy.

MPs also ranked Heathrow expansion as the most important infrastructure project for spreading growth across the country, according to the airport. Some 150 MPs took part in the study between April 13 and June 14.

Heathrow chief executive John Holland-Kaye said: "At an

uncertain time for the British economy, MPs recognise that Heathrow is a private sector infrastructure project that will spread growth across Britain from the moment that we get a green light.

"Now more than ever, people across Britain are counting on the Government to take bold decisions that show we are a confident outward-looking trading nation."

"MPs are clear that expanding Heathrow will help secure Britain's long-term economic future."

"Heathrow is the right choice for a stronger Britain."

What the Sunday papers say

SUNDAY EXPRESS

BRITAIN'S growth outlook has been downgraded due to Brexit, with some economists and investors predicting that GDP will weaken for two years and may even flirt with recession.

CITY grandee Edi Truell is fronting a £1billion rescue bid for the British Steel Pension Scheme that will preserve members' benefits and enable Tata to sell its UK steel operations.

MILITARY MUTUAL is set to offer commercial insurance packages to small to medium-sized companies owned by former members of the Armed Forces and their families.

CANCER treatment firm Incanthera is close to sealing a £5million investment deal that will enable it to start human trials of its new "smart-bomb" drug.

SUNDAY TIMES

THE Bank of England is set to slash interest rates and even restart its money-printing programme to stimulate a slowing economy after the vote for Brexit.

THE world's biggest beer company, Anheuser-Busch InBev, will have to swallow a gigantic paper loss due to the plunging value of sterling.

OBSERVER

TO some, it is a political disaster that will bring financial Armageddon. To others, Britain's vote to leave the EU represents a golden opportunity. But the experts are still concerned that uncertainty will set the economy back.

SUNDAY TELEGRAPH

GLOBAL central banks are expected to unleash a fresh wave of stimulus before the end of the year as they deal with the impact of the Brexit vote.

Ocado's Amazon strategy in focus

ONLINE grocer Ocado posts half-year figures tomorrow amid speculation over its future following the launch of Amazon's rival service.

Ocado saw shares plunge to a three-year low earlier this month after Amazon Fresh entered the fray with its fresh food delivery offering. It comes after Amazon

signed a deal in February with Morrisons, which has agreed to provide ambient, fresh and frozen products to Amazon, despite already operating its own website in partnership with Ocado.

While Ocado's shares have clawed back some of the lost ground, analysts said the falls put it at risk of a possible

takeover move from the internet giant. Bosses at Ocado will be pressed on their plans to compete with Amazon.

Analysts expect half-year underlying pre-tax earnings to surge by 22.5 per cent to £46.8million, although bottom-line pre-tax profits are set to fall by 3 per cent to £7million.

North 'to see digital jobs boom'

THE north of England could become the cornerstone of the UK's digital sector, according to an economist.

Douglas McWilliams, president of the Centre for Economics and Business Research (Cebr), predicted the digital economy in northern cities would grow 20 per cent each year to 2020,

compared with 5 per cent a year in London. He said the number of digital jobs in northern England was set to grow from 284,000 in 2015 to 622,000 in 2020, with one in 11 jobs in the region in the digital economy by 2020.

Mr McWilliams wrote a book, *The Flat White Economy*, describing the rise of

the digital economy in Britain over the past few years. He and his colleagues at Cebr have used an analysis based on the United States to model the likely growth.

He said: "Using our modelling based on the US experience, we predict very rapid growth in jobs in the north of England."

++THE SHARE HUNTER++ LAITH KHALAF++HARGREAVES LANSDOWN++



LAITH KHALAF
 SENIOR ANALYST
 HARGREAVES LANSDOWN
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WHITBREAD is the UK's largest hotel, restaurant and coffee shop operator, with 45,000 employees and millions of customers both in the UK and overseas. The group owns well-known brands such as Costa Coffee, Premier Inn and the Beefeater Grill.

The company has just issued a mixed trading statement, reflecting difficult conditions in the hotel sector, not least because of new capacity entering the market. Part of this problem is self-inflicted, with Premier Inn opening up hundreds of new hotel rooms in the latest quarter - leading to an inevitable fall in revenue per room.

Total group sales over the quarter were up 8 per cent. Premier Inn grew sales by

Whitbread has room for expansion plans

8 per cent, with 474 new rooms opened in the period. Costa opened another 53 stores, driving sales up 11.5 per cent. On a like-for-like basis though, Premier Inn increased sales by 2.1 per cent, with Costa growing 2.6 per cent. The smaller restaurants business delivered total sales growth of 1.4 per cent.

Group CEO Alison Brittain remains confident that the group will make good progress for the full financial year, despite current market conditions. Looking forward, the group plans on opening 4,000-4,500 new Premier Inn rooms in

2016/17, with Costa set to open between 230 and 250 new stores, and to install at least 1,250 new Costa Express machines.

Premier Inn is a great product; a clean, comfortable room, in a good location at a sensible price. With over 60,000 rooms in the estate, it is the clear market leader in the UK branded budget hotel sector. Costa, meanwhile, is omnipresent on UK high streets and highways.

Even though both businesses have expanded recently, each has less than 10 per cent market share. This should mean that there is still plenty of room to grow.

With expansion fully under way, investors will be looking to ascertain if the softening of the UK's hotel market is a temporary blip or if there is any sign of a more structural decline. However, the group has delivered positive like-for-like sales growth in a variety of economic conditions. This should mean that there is excellent visibility of future growth.

"This article is designed for investors who make their own decisions without advice, if unsure whether an investment is right for you, you should seek advice. Shares can rise and fall in value so you could get back less than you invest."

Picture: DAVID ROGERS



VICTORY BOYS: Owen Farrell and England celebrate in Sydney

You're not the All Blacks yet

THE feel-good factor of whitewashing the Aussies has been flattened by former British and Irish Lions head coach Sir Ian McGeechan, who believes England are two years behind world champions New Zealand.

Replacing the All Blacks as the No1 side in the world is the ultimate aim for England coach Eddie Jones. And it was widely thought that his side had taken a giant leap towards that goal after Saturday's 44-40 victory in Sydney made it nine straight wins since he was appointed head coach in November.

England end a season in which they won the Six Nations Grand Slam placed second in the world rankings but McGeechan, right, was keen to prick the bubble of optimism.

"There is no doubt that England have been absolutely outstanding in winning 3-0 in Australia," he said.

"It is a magnificent achievement but the truth is that they are still some distance behind New Zealand. In fact, I would say they are two years

From **Michael Lardner** in Sydney

behind the world champions. England are clearly above Australia and South Africa but New Zealand are still some way out on top."

To underline that feeling, Owen Farrell said England will dwell only briefly on their success before refocusing.

"It has been brilliant. We'll enjoy this because it has never been done before. We're in a good place but our goal is clearly to be the best. That's what we're working towards," said Farrell.

"And to beat New Zealand we'll probably have to start joining things up a little bit more.

"We've had games in this series where, if one thing's going well, something else might not be. It might then swap around for the next Test."

It was Farrell's goal-kicking that ultimately proved the difference at Allianz Stadium after Australia edged the try count 5-4.

The man of the match amassed 24 points through six

penalties and three conversions and missed just one of his 10 shots at goal, finishing the series with a 66-point haul and an 88 per cent strike rate.

Jones describes his goal-kicking as "solar system class" and Farrell revealed that coaching sessions with Jonny Wilkinson have elevated his game to a new level.

"Working with Jonny has impacted on me massively," said Farrell. "He has made me understand a lot better what I do and how I get to where I want to get to. He's the best ever. I can't see anybody ever being better."

Farrell does, however, refuse to take any plaudits for his success rate from the kicking tee. "That's my job," he said. "The first Test probably spurred me on a little bit because, even though I knocked them over, I wasn't striking them as well as I thought I could.

"I really got back to it the week after and came good. Not everything is perfect at the minute, there's a lot to get on with, but I'm in a good place."

So, it seems, are England.



HENDERSON: Positives

IRELAND'S tour of South Africa ended in defeat on Saturday but second-row Iain Henderson is targeting more history as he sets sights on New Zealand. Joe Schmidt's side beat the Boks on home soil for the first time in the Newlands opening Test but lost the series 2-1 after a 19-13 defeat in Port Elizabeth.

More positives could be taken from the displays of new caps Tiernan O'Halloran,

ROUND-UP

Quinn Roux, Sean Reidy and Matt Healy.

Ireland face the All Blacks, who they have never beaten, in Chicago on November 5 before the world champions come to Dublin two weeks later. And Henderson said: "One thing we can take from this is that, as a young side, we've made history once on this tour and there's no reason why we can't do it again."

Sam Warburton is not banking on another crack at the All Blacks any time soon after Wales were humbled 46-6 in the final Test in Dunedin for a series whitewash.

That could have hit his hopes next summer of leading the British Lions. "A Lions tour to New Zealand is historically the most difficult," said the Wales skipper. "But that's miles away and selection for any squad is out of your control."

WORLD OF SPORT

MARC MARQUEZ said his second place to Jack Miller at a rain-lashed Dutch TT was as good as a win as he extended his lead in the championship.

"This was a race in which you could lose the points - I really had to concentrate as Valentino Rossi was pushing hard. But then I see he has crashed so this second place is like a victory," said Marquez, who has a 24-point lead over Jorge Lorenzo, who finished in 10th place.

Rossi crashed out while leading in the restarted race and is a further 18 points back in the standings.



MARQUEZ

MOTOGP

Australian Miller took his maiden victory in the series, running his Marc VDS Honda two seconds clear of the Repsol Honda of Marquez, while Britain's Scott Redding enjoyed his best result with third.

On another rain-hit circuit, Byrne crashed out in the opening race of the fourth round, which was won by Haslam.

DAVE FERN

RUGBY LEAGUE

WIGAN coach Shaun Wane aimed a jibe at Hull FC after the sides were paired together in the Challenge Cup semi-finals. Wane mocked big-spending Hull for having a side full of imports, saying: "I've not got 10 NRL players in my team, I've got 10 Wigan lads."

CHALLENGE CUP SEMI-FINALS: July 29 - Wigan v Hull (8pm); July 30 - Warrington v Wakefield (2.30pm).

1 to tackle

RATINGS
0-3 Oh dear
4-6 Small beer
7-9 So near
10 Sporting seer

- Which two uncapped players were included in Roy Hodgson's 23-man squad for the Euros?
- Who was sacked as head coach of Bath in May?
- Who has been appointed head coach of Cardiff City as successor to Russell Slade?
- Which Durham player made his maiden first-class century in the County Championship match against Surrey at the Oval?
- Which League One football team are nicknamed the Bantams?
- Which American won the men's 100m and 200m double at the 1956 Olympics?
- Which figure-skater won a record 11 British national championships between 2003 and 2014?
- What name is given to the main pack of riders in a cycling road race?
- For which American Football team did quarterback Dan Marino play from 1983 to 1999?
- Which US tennis player was men's singles champion at the Australian Open in 1980?

ANSWERS: 1 Marcus Rashford and Tom Heaton; 2 Mike Ford; 3 Paul Tait/Loipe; 4 Jack Burnham; 5 Bradford City; 6 Jenna McCorkeil; 7 Bobby Moran; 8 The Bantams; 9 Miami Dolphins; 10 Brian Lashler.

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WIMBLEDON CHAMPIONSHIPS

Andy on a

TONY BANKS
 reports

ANDY MURRAY does not mind if his daughter Sophia grows up to hate tennis. To be fair, at four months old, she probably has not decided yet.

Maybe because of the euphoria of being a new dad, Murray feels better about his sport than ever. In fact, he believes that, going into this Wimbledon, he is a better player than when he won it in 2013.

He begins his last Wimbledon before he hits 30 years old tomorrow against fellow Briton Liam Broady but is adamant he is fitter and more motivated than ever - with the arrival of Sophia in February putting another spring in his step.

He is well aware that the clock is ticking. The oldest player to win Wimbledon in modern times was Arthur Ashe in 1975, aged 31. But maybe Sophia has given him the desire to keep on playing for a

'Every day now is more exciting'

while longer, to give her a chance of understanding just what dad does for a living.

"It would be nice," said Murray. "Maybe as I start to get older that might be more of a motivation."

"Playing still feels the same but every day now is different, more exciting, because she is changing all the time."

"Now I have something which takes my mind off tennis."

"I've been waking up earlier and going to bed earlier, so when I get up in the morning I have time to see her."

"I haven't really had too many bad moments with her. I haven't bumped her head, dropped her, or had her roll off the bed."

"Colin Fleming was saying when he is out with his daughter she always ends up bumping her head. But Sophia's so small she's easy to manage. I'm sure when she starts moving around a bit



SOPHIA, SO GOOD: Murray's wife Kim with the couple's four-month-old daughter

more then I'll make a few mistakes."

But dad will not mind if his daughter turns out not to want to follow in his footsteps.

"I'll encourage her to do sport, because it's a good way to stay healthy," he said.

"It can be a skill for life. My dad is in his sixties and he still plays five-a-side football."

"If she enjoys tennis and wants to play, then great. But if she hates tennis and finds it boring

then that's cool." Murray's reunion with coach Ivan Lendl is another factor in his increased confidence this year.

"I'm a better player than I was in 2013," said Murray.

"I've improved things. The game always improves and gets better and if you aren't improving you get left behind."

"I'm serving better than I was then, my second serve has improved. I'm better at the net. The basics of my game are the

Serena planning garden party

TWO weeks from now Serena Williams will hope to wear the crown that will elevate her, in many eyes, to the status of greatest female player in the Open era.

A seventh Wimbledon singles triumph will draw her level with Steffi Graf on 22 Grand Slam titles.

And for Serena, right, the Centre Court is like her own back yard; she loves it, wins on it, cares for it, carefully nurtures the fondest of memories that have fuelled her

By **Nigel Clarke**

remarkable career. But it has not all been rosy recently.

Hopes of a calendar Grand Slam in 2015 were left in tatters by a startling US Open semi-final loss to Italian Roberta Vinci. And defeats by Angelique Kerber in January's Australian Open final and Garbine Muguruza

in the French Open final have left questions being asked of Williams.

But naturally, she remained defiant ahead of her opening match against qualifier Amra Sadikovic tomorrow.

"This year I don't feel as much tension as I usually do," she said. "It is important to learn from every loss you have. Throughout my career I have been able

to learn a lot, to come back a much better player."

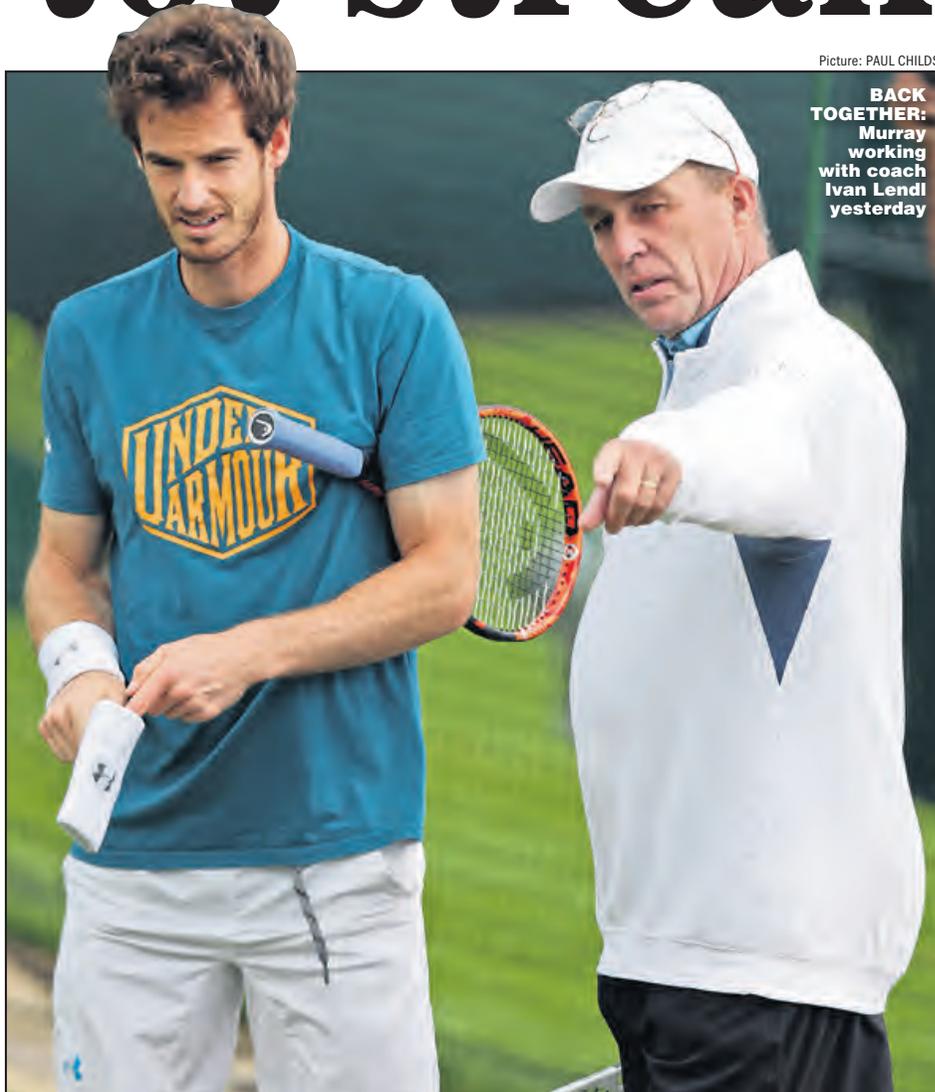
Muguruza was a surprise Wimbledon finalist last year and the way she avenged that defeat by Williams in straight sets in the French Open final makes her a serious contender this time.

But all eyes will be on Williams. "It's just that one time a year you get on this amazing, beautiful surface. It feels really good," she said.



BECOMING A DAD HAS GIVEN MURRAY NEW MOTIVATION

tot streak



Picture: PAUL CHILDS

BACK TOGETHER: Murray working with coach Ivan Lendl yesterday

same but, as you get older, you learn and make better decisions. "My back is definitely better – I'm not playing in pain like I was for two years for the peak physical years of my career, which weren't easy. I'm in good shape. "As you get older you want to make sure you make the most of every event you play. "You think more in those terms when you're starting to drop off a bit. But right now I don't feel that way. Me and Novak Djokovic are

one week apart in age and he shows no signs of slowing down. "But I'm aware I need to make the most of every opportunity I get. You do appreciate it more than when you were young. "You understand the history and the traditions and that they are the events you will be remembered for. "And he definitely still has the hunger. "I said after I won the US Open that I realised how difficult Slams are to win, so I'm

not surprised it has taken so long to do it again," he said. "I have been close a few times but I keep giving myself chances. Coming off the back of a tough loss at the French Open to win at Queen's shows me I still want it. "The character is still there to win the major events. I will stop when I don't think I can, or if I am not motivated. But I am. I'm pumped for Wimbledon." @tonybanksxp



WARD: Faces Djokovic

Ward sworn to do his very best

JAMES WARD'S reaction when he drew Novak Djokovic in the first round of Wimbledon said it all. "Oh ****!" The British No3 will step out on Centre Court today to face the world No1 and defending champion with the toughest task imaginable in tennis. To call the clash David versus Goliath would hardly be doing it justice. Ward, currently ranked 177 in the world but one of Britain's Davis Cup

heroes from last year, has not had an easy time of it lately with injuries and the personal tragedy of losing close friend and coach Darren Tandy to cancer last Christmas. Ward, 29, reached the third round last year but Djokovic comes into Wimbledon in awesome form. The Serb will be bidding for his fourth title here, having just won the French Open for the first time to add to the Australian. Ward said: "I was in the gym

doing some yoga when I heard the draw. My physio put his phone in front of me. It said: "Djokovic and J Ward." I went: "Oh ****." "But it is something you have to make the most of and enjoy. It's a once-in-a-lifetime chance to play the world No1 at Wimbledon, one of the greatest players of all time, on Centre Court. "He doesn't have a weakness. If anyone has any ideas, please let me know!" Ward has been

troubled with tendinitis in his right knee this year and is still trying to get over the death of Tandy last winter. "It is still tough to talk about," he said. "Darren was with me all day, every day. I trusted him 100 per cent. It has been a difficult six months." Djokovic said: "It makes a difference facing a British player. Obviously he doesn't have much to lose. It's important for me to start well." TONY BANKS



PLUCKY: Willis has fought his way to SW19 from near obscurity

Future's looking brighter in Willis Cinderella story

MARCUS WILLIS earned 60 euros at one tournament last year.

That was for a week's work at a Futures event in Spain, winning the singles and getting to the final of the doubles. He paid for his flight and hotel on his credit card.

Today he will take on Ricardas Berankis of Lithuania, below, the world No53, in the first round here – and a cool £30,000 will be his, even if he loses. But even better, the great Roger Federer could lie in wait if the world No775 can get past Berankis today. It is the fairy tale of this event.

The All England Club could have been kinder to the rank outsider in their scheduling today. Willis will play on the obscure Court 17, which has only about 250 seats.

The 25-year-old from Wokingham works as a coach during the week with the kids and ladies-who-lunch at Warwick Boat Club. He almost packed in tennis last year until his girlfriend talked him out of it.

Called up for pre-qualifying after a player dropped out, he has fought his way through to the main draw. Amiable Willis said: "It's surreal. I keep

By Tony Banks

waking up and thinking, 'Did that happen?' I never thought in a million years I'd qualify. "The money I will get from this is great. I tried to fund my own tennis for the last couple of years on my credit card. I played and won the singles at a Futures event, lost in the final of the doubles and my profit was 60 euros. That was a week's work. It is brutal, cut-throat."

Willis met dentist girlfriend Jenny Bate at an Ellie Goulding concert in March at the O2, at a low ebb. He said: "Jenny makes me think straight. I was in a really bad place, I didn't want to get out of bed. I was close to packing it in."

"She just said, 'Why are you stopping? You're obviously good. Just give it another go, you're still young'."

And now, from scraggling around in the tennis wilderness, playing in backwoods events at Frinton and Felixstowe, if he can get past Berankis, itself a mighty ask, a seven-time Wimbledon winner lies in wait.

Willis said: "It would be amazing. I have thought about it, I'm not going to lie. It would be awesome."

As for the court, he said: "Ideally I'd be playing on a bigger court but they're all the same size. It's not an issue. It will be packed out."

Jenny cannot be at Wimbledon today, though, because she will be busy in the surgery. "My mum and dad and coach will be here," he said. "You're only allowed three tickets. Sorry to everyone! Jenny's got to work."

There are 15 Britons in the first round this year, the most – excluding wild cards – since 1985.

ORDER OF PLAY

All courts 11.30am start except Centre and No1 (1pm).

Centre Court: (1) N Djokovic (Ser) v J Ward (GB), (2) G Giorgi (Ita) v (2) G Muguruza (Spa), (3) R Federer (Swi) v G Pella (Arg).

Court 1: (8) V Williams (USA) v D Vekic (Cro), S Groth (Aus) v (5) K Nishikori (Jpn), L Robson (GB) v (4) A Kerber (Ger).

Court 2: K Edmund (GB) v A Mannarino (Fra), L Siegemund (Ger) v (9) M Keys (USA), P Carreno-Busta (Spa) v (6) M Raonic (Can), (5) S Halep (Rom) v A Schmiedlova (Svk).

Court 3: (14) S Stosur (Aus) v M Linette (Pol), D Sela (Isr) v (13) D Ferrer (Spa), (11) D Goffin (Bel) v A Ward (GB), N Broady (GB) v (17) E Svitolina (Ukr).

Court 4: V Duval (USA) v (29) D Kasatkina (Rus), D Istomin (Uzb) v (20) K Anderson (SA).

Court 5: (25) I Begu (Rom) v C Wittthoef (Ger), L Rosol (Cze) v (28) S Querrey (USA), D Schwartzman (Arg) v R Haase (Ned), D Kovinic (Mne) v M Barthel (Ger).

Court 6: S Zheng (Chn) v M Sakkari (Gre), Z Dijas (Kaz) v A Friedsam (Ger), A Seppi (Ita) v G Garcia-Lopez (Spa), M Jaziri (Tun) v S Johnson (USA).

Court 7: N Almagro (Spa) v R Dutra Silva (Bra), M Gasparyan (Rus) v D Allertova (Cze), T Pereira (Bra) v V Lepchenko (USA), (29) P Cuevas (Uru) v A Kuznetsov (Rus).

Court 8: B Coric (Cro) v (23) I Karlovic (Cro), (28) L Safarova (Cze) v B Mattek-Sands (USA), (27) J Sock (USA) v E Gulbis (Lat), M Doi (Jpn) v L Chirico (USA).

Court 9: L Arnaubarena (Spa) v O Govortsov (Blr), N Gibbs (USA) v K Filipkens (Bel), E Rogger-Vasselini (Fra) v T Gabashvili (Rus), A Sevastova (Lat) v F Schiavone (Ita).

Court 10: P Lorenzi (Ita) v L Lacko (Svk), T Bellucci (Bra) v R Bemelmans (Bel).

Court 11: J Cepelova (Svk) v M Duque-Marino (Col), S Crawford (USA) v P Kania (Pol), J Benneteau (Fra) v I Marchenko (Ukr), S Giraldo (Col) v G Muller (USA).

Court 12: (9) M Cilic (Cro) v B Baker (USA), E Alexandrova (Rus) v (23) A Ivanovic (Ser), S Zhang (Chn) v (12) C Suarez Navarro (Spa), (17) G Monfils (Fra) v J Chardy (Fra).

Court 14: S Stakhovskiy (Ukr) v Y Nishioka (Jpn), (20) S Errani (Ita) v P Tig (Rom), E Donskoy (Rus) v (30) A Dolgoplov (Ukr), I Falconi (USA) v M Erakovic (Nzl).

Court 15: D Dzumhur (Bih) v D Kudia (USA), A Cornet (Fra) v P Herceg (Slo).

Court 16: (21) P Kohlschreiber (Ger) v P Herbert (Fra), B Fratangelo (USA) v G Dimitrov (Bul), Y Shvedova (Kaz) v J Goerges (Ger).

Court 17: K Nara (Jpn) v M Bregline (USA), B Klein (GB) v N Mahut (Fra), R Berankis (Lit) v M Willis (GB).

Court 18: S Lisicki (Ger) v S Rogers (USA), J Tipsarevic (Ser) v (16) G Simon (Fra), D Evans (GB) v J Struff (Ger), (22) J Jankovic (Ser) v S Voegelé (Swi).

THE latest weather forecast for Wimbledon fortnight suggests that we are unlikely to see any rain-free days and William Hill have cut the price the organisers will be forced to implement a 'People's Sunday' on July 3 to help catch up from 12-1 to 8-1. It is 10-1 a full day's play is lost – excluding Centre Court. "The stormy summer looks set to continue and we fully expect the court covers to get a thorough workout," said William Hill's Rupert Adams. "There have only been three People's Sundays and we are 8-1, from 12-1, that we'll have a fourth."

Novak Djokovic is 8-11 men's odds-on favourite, with Andy Murray, 5-2 second favourite, Murray and Djokovic are 7-4 to meet in the final for the third Slam in a row. "Djokovic and Murray are quickly becoming the big two and we fully expect them both to go the whole way," said Adams. Serena Williams is the 11-8 women's favourite with British No1 Johanna Konta a 50-1 shot. Both Heather Watson (4-9) and Konta (8-13) look set to reach the second round.