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WEATHER: **SUNSHINE AND SHOWERS**

WEDNESDAY JUNE 22, 2016 55p

FREE

FOR EVERY READER

BREXIT POSTER INSIDE

HANG IT UP WITH PRIDE: SEE PAGE 26

DAILY EXPRESS

THE WORLD'S GREATEST NEWSPAPER



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THURSDAY JUNE 23, 2016

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SPECIAL EDITION

GET BRITAIN OUT OF THE EU



**IT'S TIME TO CHANGE
THE COURSE OF HISTORY
VOTE LEAVE**

QUEEN ISSUES EU CHALLENGE

**Give me 3 good reasons
to stay, she asks guests**

THE Queen has asked her dinner guests to give "three good reasons why Britain should be part of Europe", it emerged last night.

One of her most respected biographers said the 90-year-

By **Richard Palmer**
Royal Correspondent

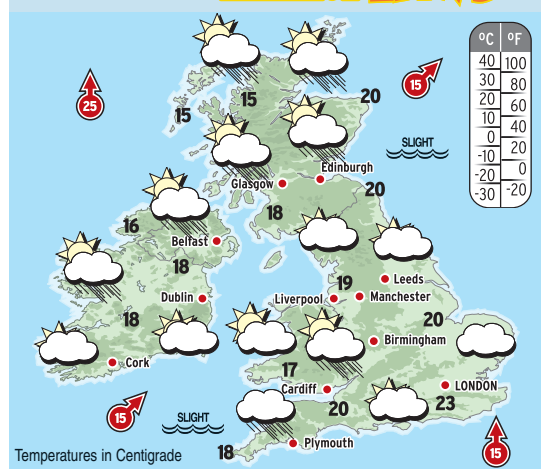
old monarch has been encouraging her guests to debate the vital question that lies at the heart of tomorrow's European Union referendum. Rob-

ert Lacey, who has been writing about the Queen and her family for 40 years, said that he believed Her Majesty was a "Euro-sceptic" at heart.

He said it was typical of her

TURN TO PAGE 5

Weather forecast

In association with **flamingo LAND**

Today's summary: Sunshine and showers

North West: Bright or sunny spells developing and just a shower. Gentle south-westerly winds. High 21C (70F).

Northern Ireland: Mostly bright but with a few showers developing. Gentle south-westerly winds. High 18C (64F).

Wales: Patchy light rain or drizzle clearing in the south. Bright with the odd shower elsewhere. High 20C (68F).

Midlands: Wet with patchy rain for a time. Bright with showers later. Gentle south-westerly winds. High 20C (68F).

North East/Yorks: Quite cloudy initially. Some sun but also a few showers later. Gentle south-westerly winds. High 21C (70F).

Scotland: Bright with sunny spells but also showers, these heaviest and most frequent in the west. High 19C (66F).

UK OUTLOOK TOMORROW: Showery rain with thunder possible in south-east England, Northern Ireland and western Scotland. Largely dry elsewhere with long sunny spells.

SIX-DAY FORECAST

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
London	15 24	12 22	12 21	14 22	14 22	14 23
Belfast	11 19	11 17	13 17	12 18	12 18	12 18
Birmingham	12 22	11 20	11 19	12 21	12 20	13 21
Cardiff	13 20	12 19	12 19	14 19	13 20	13 20
Glasgow	11 19	10 17	12 17	11 17	11 17	12 17
Manchester	11 21	10 18	10 17	12 19	11 19	12 20
Newcastle	11 19	10 18	10 17	11 18	10 18	11 18
Norwich	14 24	11 22	11 20	12 21	11 22	12 23
Plymouth	13 19	11 18	11 18	13 18	13 18	13 18

24 hours	SUN	RAIN	TEMP
(hrs)	(hrs)	(mm)	(max)
Aberdeen	2.6	0.0	8 19
Aberporth	2.6	0.0	10 16
Alwick	6.1	0.0	9 19
Belfast	1.4	0.01	12 18
Birmingham	8.7	0.0	11 19
B'mouth	6.5	0.0	14 20
Bristol	3.1	0.0	13 19
Cardiff	5.5	0.0	14 18
Durham	7.6	0.0	10 20
Edinburgh	4.8	0.0	10 19

Britain yesterday

Warmest	Gravesend 21C (70F)
Coldest	Redesdale 6C (43F)
Wettest	Writtle 0.08in
Sunniest	Leconfield 12.8hr

Lighting-up times

Belfast	10.04pm-4.47am
Birmingham	9.34pm-4.45am
Bristol	9.31pm-4.53am

Moon, sun and tides

MOON rises: 10.31pm, sets: 6.56am
SUN rises London: 4.43am, sets: 9.21pm
Manchester rises: 4.40am, sets: 9.42pm
Last Quarter 27 June
HIGH TIDE
London B'ge (3.49am), (4.08pm)
Liverpool (12.59am), (1.24pm)
Greenock (2.19am), (2.29pm)
Dover (12.44am), (1.07pm)

Europe forecast

Today	Tomorrow
Amsterdam Cloudy	25C/77F
Brussels Cloudy	27C/81F
Dublin Fair	18C/64F
Frankfurt Fair	28C/82F
Geneva Sunny	27C/81F
Lisbon Sunny	29C/84F
Madrid Sunny	28C/82F
Paris Fair	28C/82F
Rome Sunny	28C/82F

Around the world yesterday

Around the world yesterday											
A			C			F			A		
Amsterdam	Cloudy	18	64	Hong Kong	Fair	32	90	New York	Fair	26	79
Athens	Sunny	33	91	Istanbul	Sunny	32	90	Nice	Fair	22	72
Barcelona	Fair	24	75	Jersey	Drizzle	16	61	Nicosia	Sunny	34	93
Berlin	Drizzle	19	66	Larnaca	Sunny	34	93	Perth	Sunny	16	61
Budapest	Fair	26	79	Las Palmas	Sunny	27	81	Prague	Cloudy	19	66
Cairo	Sunny	36	97	Los Angeles	Sunny	26	79	Singapore	Fair	31	88
Cape Town	Fair	14	57	Luxor	Sunny	40	104	Stockholm	Fair	21	70
Casablanca	Sunny	27	81	Malaga	Sunny	25	77	Sydney	Fair	18	64
Corfu	Sunny	31	88	Malorca	Sunny	26	79	Tel Aviv	Sunny	34	93
Dublin	Fair	17	63	Malta	Sunny	25	77	Tenerife	Sunny	28	79
Dubrovnik	Fair	25	77	Melbourne	Cloudy	13	55	Toronto	Cloudy	31	88
Faro	Sunny	29	84	Miami	Cloudy	31	88	Tunis	Shwrs	26	79
Florence	Sunny	27	81	Moscow	Fair	27	81	Venice	Sunny	24	75
Gibraltar	Sunny	22	72	Nairobi	Rain	16	61	Vienna	Sunny	23	73
Guernsey	Fog	15	59	New Delhi	Shwrs	35	95	Warsaw	Fair	21	70

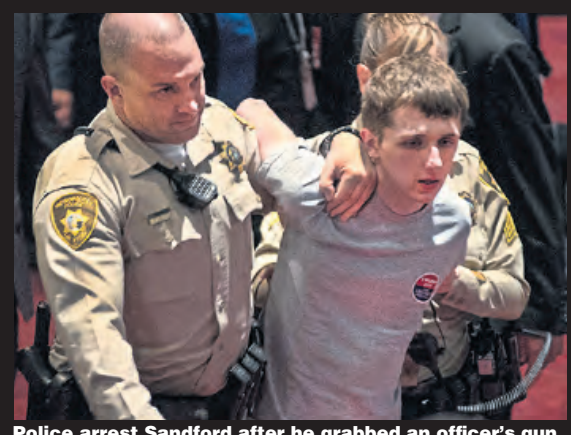
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'Polite British boy' obsessed with toy guns held over bid to kill Trump



Police arrest Sandford after he grabbed an officer's gun

By **Cyril Dixon**

A BRITISH man accused of trying to kill Donald Trump is a "polite and peaceful boy" obsessed with toy guns and building robots, his family claim.

Michael Sandford, 20, was arrested for allegedly trying to grab a policeman's gun during a Trump rally at a Las Vegas casino.

He appeared in court yesterday charged with an act of violence in a restricted area. Sandford, who has competed on TV's Robot Wars, faces up to 10 years in jail if found guilty.

Court papers say the Surrey-born defendant, who has Asperger's syndrome, admitted spending a year planning to kill Mr Trump.

But his stunned father Paul Davey, 50, of Havant, Hants, said yesterday he is not violent and has never been interested in politics.

Mr Davey, who with Sandford's mother Lynne, 41,



Mr Trump at the Las Vegas rally, Sandford's mother, centre, and grandmother, right, yesterday



helped him pursue his fascination for building full-scale, fighting robots, said: "It's an absolute shock. He's never been violent; he's always been polite and peaceful."

"It's totally out of character and we're worried about what has happened to him since he's been in America."

"Whether he's been blackmailed or put up to it, that's the only thing we can think

of." Mrs Sandford refused to comment yesterday as she and Sandford's grandmother left the family home in Dorking, Surrey, with a police family liaison officer.

Sandford, who had been in the US illegally for 18 months, is accused of trying to grab the gun as he asked for Mr Trump's autograph.

He allegedly told secret service agents that he

expected to die in the assassination bid.

Sandford travelled to the Nevada gambling city on Friday and said he practised firing a 9mm Glock pistol at a local range before embarking on his mission to shoot Mr Trump on Saturday.

He appeared in court yesterday with shackles on his legs. He was refused bail and will appear again on July 5.

Breakthrough as study finds diabetes link to Alzheimer's

HAVING Alzheimer's disease could greatly increase the risk of developing Type 2 diabetes, say scientists.

A breakthrough study by Aberdeen University found brain damage caused by dementia can also alter how the body handles glucose.

This is contrary to what was previously thought - that diabetes always begins with a malfunction in the pancreas or through an unhealthy diet.

The study is the first of its kind to show that Alzheimer's can lead to diabetes.

It is hoped the discovery could mean medicines used for one illness can be used to treat and alleviate the other - and vice-versa.

The research, published in the journal *Diabetologia*, was led by Professor Bettina Platt and Professor Mirela Delibegovic, who wanted to establish why the two diseases are so commonly found together in elderly patients.

They discovered increased levels of a gene called BACE1 - which causes the formation

EXCLUSIVE
By **Laura Milne**
Health Editor

of sticky toxic plaques in the brain - not only led to Alzheimer's-like symptoms but also to diabetes.

Prof Platt said: "Around 80 per cent of people with Alzheimer's disease also have some form of diabetes or disturbed glucose metabolism. This is hugely relevant."

Unhealthy

"Until now, we always assumed obese people get Type 2 diabetes and then are more likely to get dementia."

"We now show that actually it also works the other way around."

"Additionally, it was previously believed diabetes starts in the pancreas and lives often due to unhealthy diet."

"But here we show an abnormality in the brain can equally lead to development of very severe diabetes. The good news is that there are a

number of new drugs we are testing to see if they would reverse both Alzheimer's and diabetes symptoms."

Dr Emily Burns, of Diabetes UK, said: "We know that having Type 2 diabetes can increase a person's risk of dementia."

"But we don't know why that link exists, or which condition might come first."

"This study is helping to unravel that complex question. While this could potentially help to combat the progression of both conditions, we are at a very early stage."

Research shows Alzheimer's is the prime health concern for over-55s.

There are 850,000 UK sufferers and by 2050 it will rise to two million.

One in three people born this year is expected to develop dementia.

A study at Imperial College London is looking at whether Type 2 diabetes drug liraglutide could also be used to prevent degeneration of brain cells caused by Alzheimer's.

2,300 jobs at risk in store chain

THOUSANDS of jobs are at risk after the owner of the My Local convenience store chain announced it is to put the company into administration.

Greybull Capital has lined up accountancy giant KPMG to act as administrator of more than 100 stores, which employ 2,300 people.

It is understood that staff were briefed about the decision yesterday.

Struggled

My Local was sold to Greybull last year by supermarket Morrisons and has struggled to compete in a grocery price war.

The collapse caps a torrid few months for the retail sector, following on from the failures of BHS and Austin Reed.

KPMG will attempt to sell the business as a going concern but if a buyer cannot be found, then the stores will be sold off piecemeal.

Battle of Calais as mob of 300 block trucks



Migrants block the road to the port to stop a truck, then try to break into the cab before clambering on to the roof as they seek a 'backdoor' route into Britain



Pictures: JEAN PIERRE BRUNET/PHOTOSHOT, CALAIS LIBRE

By Giles Sheldrick

HUNDREDS of rioting migrants staged a desperate attempt to reach Britain while shouting "***** the UK".

The 300-strong mob brought traffic to a standstill on the motorway leading to the Port of Calais and tried to clamber on trucks and lorries.

Riot police used tear gas as refugees holed up in the "Jungle" camp nearby blocked the road and threw rocks.

They took advantage of gridlock caused by fans heading to Saint-Etienne for England's Euro 2016 match against Slovakia and those returning from the Le Mans 24-hour race.

Police, already on heightened terrorism alert, were forced to intervene on Monday night to prevent gangs storming Dover-bound ferries.

Debris littered the road and horrified British motorists described the scene as a "battleground". Pictures showed how the mob had cut through fencing



Debris strewn across the road near the Port of Calais after battles with migrants

paid for by the British government as part of a £63million contribution to beefing up security at the ferry terminal.

Exactly a year ago strikes and protests cost the transport industry an estimated £21million.

Freight Transport Association deputy chief executive James Hookham said: "This can't be allowed to happen again. The Port of Calais

handles £89billion of UK trade every year – it's a vital route that must be protected."

Up to 7,000 refugees are thought to be living in a makeshift camp in Calais. Warmer weather has stoked fears of a fresh surge from the Mediterranean.

A Daily Express investigation revealed that 20,000 migrants are waiting along the coast to cross the Channel from northern France.



A police officer grapples with a migrant trying to board a lorry

4m migrants flock to Britain

DAILY EXPRESS VOTE

Q Has Britain let in too many immigrants?

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NO: 0901 616 5106

Yes text DXWEDYES to 86611

No text DXWEDNO 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.

MORE than four million migrants have arrived in Britain since the floodgates opened in 1997, official figures show.

Numbers since the last Labour government relaxed controls equal the combined populations of Birmingham, Manchester and Glasgow.

Over two decades net migration – the difference between those entering and leaving – has averaged 214,157 a year and is growing.

Last year it reached record of 333,000, half from the EU.

Critics said the Office for National Statistics data makes a mockery of Prime Minister David Cameron's pledge to slash the rate to tens of thousands a year. On the eve of the

By Giles Sheldrick

historic EU referendum Brexit campaigners called on Britain to seize a "golden opportunity" to take back control of our borders and close the UK's open door.

Tory MP Jacob Rees-Mogg said: "Tomorrow's vote is all about democracy and whether people can change anything. Nobody stood for Parliament saying four million people could come to this country."

"It's as if the lock has been picked by a burglar and the front door has been left wide open. By leaving the EU we can put a bolt on it."

Labour opened the country up to mass migration to enrich communi-

ties and plug gaps in the jobs market. But polls suggest it left the UK deeply divided while stretching public services to breaking point.

International passenger survey statistics show 4,069,000 people have come to the UK since Labour leader Tony Blair swept to power.

Ukip leader Nigel Farage said: "We will never be able to control immigration inside the EU."

Migration Watch UK has warned of "serious consequences" over the next 20 years if Britain votes to remain in the EU.

Last year 52,000 Romanians and Bulgarians arrived here to work but only 31,000 had a job to go to. There are now 2.1 million EU nationals and

1.2 million non-EU nationals working in the UK.

Tory MP Stewart Jackson said: "These figures are truly astounding and deeply troubling. We need a fair, open Australian-style points based immigration system."

Ukip MEP Steven Woolfe said: "Mass migration at this level into the UK is simply unsustainable."

"The government needs to control the numbers coming to the UK to plan for infrastructure projects."

The Home Office said: "The Government's ambition remains to reduce annual net migration to the tens of thousands."

OPINION: PAGE 12

Shocking £29bn migrants bill

Brexit key in the hands of silver surfers

OLDER voters are set to lead Britain to freedom from Brussels rule with a new poll revealing that two-thirds are in favour of a Brexit.

The results of a Silversurfer survey of over-50s comes as four polls across all age groups shows that the fight for Britain's future is neck and neck.

YouGov put the Leave camp two points ahead with 44 per cent against the Remainers' 42 per cent.

And a poll of 4,202 by SurveyMonkey has shown that Out voters have crept ahead by one point – 49 per cent to 48 per cent.

A previous poll showed both sides tied on 48 per cent.

The Silversurfer survey of 1,384 over-50s appeared to confirm that pensioners or those close to retirement are most likely to turn out on Thursday with 98 per cent saying they intend to vote.

If 66 per cent back Brexit – as suggested in the poll – it could sway the result.

By **Macer Hall** Political Editor

SCHOOLING for the children of EU migrants is set to hit taxpayers with a bill of up to £29billion over the next 14 years, according to anti-Brussels campaigners last night.

Research from the Vote Leave pressure group forecast that an extra 261,000 youngsters will be crammed into Britain's classrooms by 2030 as a result of EU migration.

And the total could reach 571,000 if Turkey and a string of Balkan states join in the near future.

Vote Leave said the research showed the "devastating impact of uncontrolled migration on our schools" if Britain votes to remain in the EU in tomorrow's referendum.

Tory minister Priti Patel, a leading Vote Leave supporter, said: "The EU is undemocratic and interferes too much in our daily lives."

"We have seen that with the scale of migration and the impact this has had on local communities – and key public services such as the NHS, housing and schools."

"With more countries waiting to join the EU, including Albania, Serbia, and Turkey – and with British taxpayers paying almost £2billion to help them join – this problem can only get worse."

"This research proves that class sizes are already overstretched, with an eight per cent increase over the past year in the number of pupils in classes over 30."

"These demands will only increase if the UK remains in the EU with no control over its borders."

"Thursday offers a once in a lifetime opportunity to say that the

MAKE TOMORROW INDEPENDENCE DAY PLEADS BORIS IN TV DEBATE



BORIS Johnson was given a standing ovation last night after saying that a vote to quit the EU tomorrow will give a voice to millions across Europe who are sick of Brussels rule.

The Tory MP and former London mayor, pictured left last night, was cheered and applauded as he gave a passionate rallying cry for "democracy" and declared: "If we vote leave and take back control, I believe Thursday can be this country's independence day."

During a two-hour showdown, he repeatedly clashed with London Mayor Sadiq Khan, pictured right in the final live TV clash of the EU referendum campaign.

Temper flared repeatedly as the Remain supporters tried to taunt Mr Johnson.

But the man tipped as a possible successor to Prime Minister David Cameron brushed aside the

attacks to emerge as the winner for much of the 6,000-strong studio audience at the end of the debate.

Immigration, the economy and Britain's place in the world dominated the two-hour BBC One Great Debate show at London's SSE Arena at London's Wembley.

He was accused by his Labour successor of spreading "hate" by calling for an end to uncontrolled EU migration.

Mr Johnson was also repeatedly accused of "lying" by fellow Tory Ruth Davidson and TUC chief Frances O'Grady.

But he hit back by savaging the negative scaremongering of the Remain camp.

Mr Johnson was cheered as he told the audience: "There is a choice between those on their side who speak of nothing but fear of the consequences of leaving the EU and those on our side who offer hope."



situation is unsustainable – and to recognise that it is hurting British families. On Thursday, we have the chance to take back control and Vote Leave."

EU migration was already putting intense pressure on the country's education system, Vote Leave said.

Research from the campaign showed that nearly one in five primary school children (19.4 per cent)

has a first language other than English. About 100,800 infants were currently educated in classes above the legal limit of 30.

And 11.6 per cent of children were failing to get into their family's first-choice primary school.

But population projections by Vote Leave based on current migration trends suggested the pressure on schools will intensify drastically

over the next decade and a half. Vote Leave estimated that there would be an extra 261,000 EU citizens of school age in the country by 2030 if the EU remains at its current size.

Under that projection, an extra £12.3billion would be needed in the education budget over the period to provide schooling for them.

And on top of that sum, a further £3.4billion would have to be spent

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Comparison of BT Infinity 1 up to 52 Mbps vs standard entry-level products of major broadband providers, Sky Fibre, up to 38 Mbps broadband and Virgin up to 50 Mbps broadband. Up-to-speeds dependent on time of day, line and location. BT Broadband/BT Infinity: No calls are included in these packages. This may affect your BT calling plan. For new BT Broadband customers that sign up for 12 months and pay BT line rental. Both include 5GB Cloud and a BT Home Hub. A compatible line required otherwise £30 connection charge may apply. If you leave in the first year, we'll charge you up to £65 towards the cost of your new Hub. Subject to minimum line speed and computer specification. BT Broadband: Price from month 13 currently: £15 a month. Previous price: £10.00 a month on a 12 month term applied from 23.12.15 to 14.04.16. Includes a 12 GB usage limit. BT Infinity: Price from month 13 currently: £21 a month. Includes a 25GB usage limit. BT TV Entertainment Starter: £3 a month for 12 months. 12 month min term. £5 a month from month 13. You'll need BT Infinity. Existing broadband customers must have 12 months remaining on your contract, if not you'll need to re-contract your broadband. BT TV content subject to change at any time. Entertainment Starter includes 20 Extra channels and a YouView box. If you stop your service in the first year we will charge you up to £99. HDMI connection required. A 10m cable will be provided. £49 charge for an engineer install or £29 for Broadband extenders, if necessary. Availability of digital channels and quality of content depends on local transmitter and suitable rooftop aerial (www.freeview.co.uk/availability). We'll charge you for on demand content and HD/blockbuster/box office films not included in your bolt-on(s). You'll need to pay by Direct Debit. Subject to availability. Terms apply. £100 BT Reward Card (BT Broadband)/£125 BT Reward Card (BT Infinity)/£125 BT Reward Card (BT Infinity+BT TV) ends 22nd June 2016 and is available online only to new BT Broadband customers ordering a Broadband package (£100 BT Reward Card), Infinity package (£125 BT Reward Card) or an Infinity+BT TV package (£125 BT Reward Card) on bt.com (excludes existing BT Broadband customers upgrading to BT Infinity). You must claim your BT Reward Card once your broadband is installed and within 6 months of placing your order on bt.com by entering your details on www.bt.com/claimreward and must activate the card within 3 months of receipt. Following a successful claim, your card will be sent to the broadband installation address. Offer, BT Reward Card & BT terms apply (www.productsandservices.bt.com/products/bt-reward-card). BT Reward Card is issued by R. Raphael & Sons plc, pursuant to license by MasterCard International Incorporated. MasterCard® and the MasterCard brand mark are registered trademarks of MasterCard International Inc. Raphaels Bank is a UK Bank authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority (registration number 161302) and is permitted to issue e-money. Head office and registered office at 19-21 Shaftesbury Ave, London W1D 7EB, company registration number 01268938. Subject to availability.

for Britain's crammed schools



Class divide...Ukip leader Nigel Farage launches the party's latest campaign placard which highlights the difficulties facing our schools

on new school buildings over the period.

If Turkey, Albania, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia join over the next few years, the number of EU migrant pupils could reach 571,000.

An increase at that level would require an extra £21.7 billion for the day-to-day education budget plus £7.3 billion on school buildings.

A poster highlighting the impact of mass migration from the EU on Britain's schools was unveiled yesterday by Ukip leader Nigel Farage.

On the penultimate day of campaigning ahead of tomorrow's referendum, he refused to shy away from the crunch issue of immigration that has dominated the debate.

The latest billboard poster from his anti-Brussels party was headlined: "The school over-run".

It said: "Last year, nearly one in four primary schools were full or oversubscribed."

The poster declared that the EU had "failed us all" and urged voters to "take back control of our borders" by voting to leave tomorrow.

Mr Farage unveiled the latest Ukip Brexit poster in Clacton, Essex, days after sparking controversy with another which carried the slogan Breaking Point, with a photo of a line of refugees moving through Slovenia to Croatia.

Ukip came under fire from Remain campaigners and the official Vote Leave group for the uncompromising image.

Mr Farage yesterday denied toning down Ukip's campaign following the row.

He said: "We had six posters to unveil over the week. The first one was about the EU, which you saw, which some people didn't like. All the rest of them were about this country."

He rejected criticism from Tory Chancellor George Osborne likening the "Breaking Point" poster to "Nazi propaganda".

Mr Farage said: "It's an utterly disgusting attempt to do that."

"I wonder what George Osborne's got to say about the Operation Black Vote poster that showed a skinhead thug menacing an elderly Asian lady. Nothing was said about that."

Mr Farage was welcomed in Clacton by scores of Brexit supporters as he toured the town in his open-top Ukip bus.

Later, the vehicle travelled on to Harwich where the Ukip leader tucked into a plate of whelks.

He said: "The best reason for these is you develop a terrific thirst and there's a pub over the road."



THE Queen sent only her second message on Twitter yesterday, to thank those who wished her a happy 90th birthday on social media. Her Majesty tweeted: "I am most grateful for the

many digital messages of goodwill I have received and would like to thank you all for your kindness. Elizabeth R."

OPINION: PAGE 12

One's three questions

FROM PAGE ONE

and her family to initiate a forthright discussion about the merits of staying or leaving the EU.

Mr Lacey said the Queen asked her guests at dinner this year: "Give me three good reasons why Britain should be part of Europe."

He said: "Throughout her reign she has been famous for going through her boxes from Government departments and finding things even prime ministers have missed. It would be surprising if she was anything other than a Eurosceptic."

"She likes to speak in a forthright way and her question produced a forthright discussion among guests."

But he insisted the Queen - who is prevented from voting on Thursday - has not indicated a preferred result.

He said: "The fact that the Queen is a Eurosceptic does

not mean she is a Brexiteer. Does she jump to Leave or does she jump to Remain and work to improve things from within the EU?"

"She's aware of the complexities for different parts of the UK. As we know, she's very careful not to betray whatever her personal opinions may be on this."

Buckingham Palace declined to discuss the monarch's remarks but a spokesman said: "The Queen is above politics and acts on the advice of her Government in political matters."

"The referendum is a matter for the British people to decide."

Palace officials said the same of the Queen's views on the Scottish referendum.

In the event, she bowed to ministerial pressure when polls suggested Scots were about to vote for independence and intervened. Shortly before the 2014 vote she told

well-wishers at Crathie Kirk at Balmoral: "Well, I hope people will think very carefully about the future."

After Scots rejected independence, Prime Minister David Cameron was caught out revealing the Queen had "purred" down the phone to him about the result.

Last June, when Her Majesty made a speech in Germany, critics accused the Foreign Office of pressuring her to support the EU.

She told a dinner hosted by German president Joachim Gauck: "We know that division in Europe is dangerous and that we must guard against it in the West as well as in the East of our continent. That remains a common endeavour."

Prince William was also accused of making a case for staying in the EU in a Foreign Office speech. But Palace aides insisted the Royal Family was above politics.

PM 'purdah' row over his panic plea to older voters

By Alison Little Deputy Political Editor

DAVID Cameron was yesterday accused of "breaching" EU referendum campaign principles as he made a desperate appeal for older people to vote Remain tomorrow.

In a statement branded "panicky and weird" by Leave backers, the Prime Minister spoke outside 10 Downing Street, appealing to parents and grandparents to back him for the sake of the "hopes and dreams" of young people.

Pro-Leave Tory MP Bernard Jenkin said that by using Downing Street, Mr Cameron had broken the "spirit" of purdah, a period designed to limit the use of public resources during election campaigning.

Mr Jenkin, who has campaigned to limit the use of public resources to boost the Remain movement, said: "It's certainly a breach of the spirit of purdah. Ministers aren't meant to use public funds or public resources during the purdah period. It can be argued it doesn't apply to his own residence but I would have thought use of Downing Street facilities is a breach of the spirit of purdah. He would not do that during a general election."

Downing Street sources denied Mr Cameron's appearance in front of his trademark lectern breached rules banning the use of Government property.

Leave.EU co-founder Arron Banks tweeted his shock after Mr Cameron's unexpected declaration that his own organisation's polling showed Leave had a "healthy lead".

Mr Banks wrote: "Cameron is panicked. It's out of his hands now. We are heading out."

Mr Cameron's former aide Steve Hilton said the Prime Minister's statement was "weird". He added: "It was very interesting and rather an amazing thing to hear. What you saw from the Prime Minister was an admission that they have lost the economic argument, lost the argument on immigration and so he has been wheeled out by rather panicky spin doctors, it seems, to try to change the subject."

OPINION: PAGE 12

High power bills? 'Blame Brussels'

FAMILY power bills are among the world's highest because of the EU, according to a top energy analyst.

Tony Lodge, a research fellow at the Centre for Policy Studies, said last night: "Britain has some of the highest gas and electricity prices. Energy policy has been in the grip of European Union lawmakers and a subservient Whitehall."

Mr Lodge said the sector was "in deep trouble" after being forced to close coal- and oil-fired power stations before replacements are ready.

He said: "Brussels drives up prices by setting high renewable targets and through legislation. A medium-sized business pays 20 per cent more for energy than an equivalent firm in China."



In full glory, the solstice strawberry moon



ONLY the lightest cloud mars a magical scene on Glastonbury Tor as a stunning full moon coincides with the summer solstice for the first time since 1967.

Crowds gathered on Monday night eager to photograph the rare "strawberry" moon.

It will take almost another 50 years for the two events to coincide again.

Observers stood next to the 14th century St Michael's Tower on Glastonbury Tor in Somerset, which is steeped in mythology stretching back a thousand years.

It is believed to be the home

By **Douglas Patient**

of Gwyn ap Nudd, King of the fairies, and the location of the Holy Grail.

Legend has it that King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table visited the site and in 1190, the monks of Glastonbury Abbey claimed they had discovered his coffin.

The romantic term strawberry moon was coined by the Algonquin tribes of North America who saw it as a signal to gather ripening fruit.

Summer solstice marks the official start of summer as well as being the longest day.



The crowd is silhouetted as the moon rises on Monday night

Blast of hot air from Spain will leave voters in a sweat

By **Nathan Rao**

BRITAIN will swelter as a current of hot air sweeps in from the Continent tonight with tomorrow shaping up to be the hottest day of the year.

Thermometers are expected to soar close to 86F (30C) making it a muggy day at the EU in-out referendum polling stations.

Forecasters warn the sudden heat will trigger heavy showers, hail and intense thunderstorms as air sweeps up from Spain and France.

However, the steamy blast is likely to be short-lived.

The Met Office is predicting highs of about 77F in the South with the North slightly cooler at 68F tomorrow.

Independent forecasters are predicting the mercury will nudge towards the 86F mark.

Met Office forecaster Alex Burkill said: "Wednesday night into Thursday is going to be very warm and muggy. On

DEATH AT GLASTONBURY FESTIVAL SITE

A MAN has died after being discovered on fire at the Glastonbury festival site.

The emergency services were called but were hampered by mud in their efforts to reach the victim.

The man, who is said to have been in his 20s, was airlifted to hospital in Bristol with life-threatening injuries

and then transferred to Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, where he died.

Avon and Somerset police are treating the death as unexplained, but do not believe it to be suspicious.

Final preparations are taking place for the festival which opens its doors to the public today.

Thursday this plume of hot air will spread from the South-east bringing showers through the morning which will spread further northwards through the day.

"Rain will be heavy in central parts and there could be thunder."

He warned rainfall could be on a scale similar to last week which saw parts of the country under inches of floodwater.

Glastonbury-goers are being warned to pack brollies and wellies with the festival at risk of turning into yet another mudbath.

Organisers at Worthy Farm, in Pilton, waded through ankle-deep floodwater this week after rain fell on to sodden ground.

Netweather forecaster Jo Farrow said: "In potentially torrential downpours, there could be hail and gusty winds,

with flooding." James Madden, forecaster for Exakta Weather, warned that the burst of extreme heat carried by unstable air from the Continent will trigger a fierce bout of thunderstorms.

He added: "Temperatures could approach the 86F mark in parts before the end of the week with other areas seeing temperatures of about 68F."

"A number of weather fronts and low pressure areas will keep the theme unsettled."

"There is a risk for some of widespread and vigorous thunderstorm activity."

Piers Corbyn, forecaster for WeatherAction, said: "It is going to be very muggy and humid over much of the UK with the threat of thunder."

Forecasters say that after the hot weather tomorrow another change in wind direction will bring a fresher feel.

Their prediction is the mercury dropping back to average by the weekend.

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Picture: ITV



Sir Cliff in the pre-recorded chat

BBC 'sorry for Cliff distress'... but not for filming raid

THE BBC said sorry to Sir Cliff Richard yesterday but stood by a controversial decision to broadcast a search of his home.

Live pictures from a helicopter of police raiding Sir Cliff's apartment caused him great distress.

The officers were probing false allegations of historic sex abuse.

Sir Cliff, 75, endured nearly two years of anxiety before the drawn-out inquiry was dropped last week.

In a hard-hitting interview published yesterday, he said he feared the stress would kill him and his health has been seriously affected. Corporation chiefs issued a semi-apology but defended the

By **John Twomey**

broadcast of the raid on Sir Cliff's £3million flat, near Sunningdale, Berks, in August 2014.

It said: "The BBC is very sorry Sir Cliff Richard, who has worked for so many years with the organisation, has suffered distress. The BBC's responsibility is to report fully stories in the public interest.

"Police investigations into prominent figures in public life are, of course, squarely in the public interest, which is why they have been reported by all news organisations. Once South Yorkshire Police confirmed the

investigation and Sir Cliff Richard's identity and informed the BBC of the timing and details of the search, it would neither have been editorially responsible nor in the public interest to choose not to report fully the investigation because of his public profile.

"The BBC, at every stage, reported Sir Cliff's full denial.

"The BBC, therefore, stands by the decision to report the investigation undertaken by police and the search of his property."

Scotland Yard handed inquiries to South Yorkshire Police after a man accused the singer of assaulting him at a Billy Graham evangelical

rally in Sheffield in 1985. Other complainants included a convicted sex attacker and a man who tried to blackmail the singer in the past.

The £800,000 probe was officially closed last week when the Crown Prosecution Service said there was insufficient evidence to prosecute.

Sir Cliff consistently denied any wrongdoing and says there was no evidence. He says the broadcast left him hung out "like live bait". His friends want the CPS to issue a public declaration of innocence.

Sir Cliff's pre-recorded interview with Susanna Reid was scheduled to be shown today on ITV's Good Morning Britain.

By **John Twomey**

AN EVIL father who beat his six-year-old daughter to death a year after a judge ruled he posed "no risk" to her was jailed for life yesterday.

Ben Butler smashed little Ellie's skull in a fit of violent rage and tried to cover up the crime.

With the help of her wicked mother Jennie Gray, he placed Ellie's lifeless body by an upturned stool and claimed she killed herself by falling out of bed.

In a final act of breathtaking callousness, the couple even let Ellie's younger sibling find her body before Gray rang 999.

Doctors described Ellie's head injuries as similar to a victim of a car crash.

In the last days of her life, the little girl had been in agony after her father broke her shoulder blade in a brutal beating.

Tragic Ellie's murder came just 11 months after Butler and Gray, of Sutton, south London, won custody of the little girl following a high-profile court battle.

She had been brought up by her grandparents after Butler was jailed for violently shaking her when she was just seven weeks old in 2007.

Butler was jailed for 19 months but the conviction was quashed in 2010 when new evidence suggested her head injuries were caused by a traumatic birth.

Chilling

Two years later, a High Court judge granted custody to Butler and Gray.

Mrs Justice Hogg even gushed how it was a "happy ending" and added: "It is a joy for me to oversee the return of a child to her parents."

But Neal Gray, Ellie's grandfather, made the chilling prediction: "You will have blood on your hands."

Just 11 months later, Ellie, who was happy with her grandparents and often cried pining for them, was dead.

Butler had even portrayed himself as an innocent victim of a miscarriage of justice during an interview with Eamonn Holmes on ITV's This Morning.

Butler, 36, who had convictions for violence and robbery, was told he must spend at least 23 years in jail before he can be considered for parole after an Old Bailey jury found him guilty of murder. But Mr Justice Wilkie warned him: "You may never be released."

Butler pointed menacingly at the judge and angrily muttered under his breath before being led to the cells. In four-letter outbursts during his trial, the killer had claimed he was the victim of an establishment conspiracy.

Former removals man Butler and graphic designer Gray, also 36, were found guilty of child cruelty for failing to get medical aid for Ellie's shattered shoulder.

Ex-bit part actress Gray, who appeared briefly on EastEnders and The Bill, admitted trying to

Life for father who battered his daughter, 6, to death just a year after winning custody



Gray with Ellie. Police, right, on duty outside their home

pervert the course of justice by lying to police about Ellie's death. She wept as she was jailed for 42 months. Social workers were partially hampered by Mrs Justice Hogg's order in 2012 which stated, "Neither parent poses any physical risk" to the little girl.

Alex Clark, headteacher of the

school that Ellie attended for 10 months, said they "had concerns" about her welfare but found the parents "very difficult".

A neighbour told ITV News how Butler was violent, saying: "They used to go out, get drunk then in the silly hours of the morning he'd start on Jennie."

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30-SECOND CHALLENGE

JUST follow the instructions from left to right, starting with the number given to reach an answer at the end of the row. Set your own 30-second challenge: for the very young or arithmetically rusty, you

have 30 seconds for the BEGINNER task. For a greater challenge, try BEGINNER and INTERMEDIATE in 30 seconds. True mental gymnasts should try INTERMEDIATE and ADVANCED in 30 seconds together.

YOUR ANSWERS

Beginner	53	-42	x6	+12	50% OF THIS	+6	÷3	-7	x6	
Intermediate	344	7/8 OF THIS	-41	3/10 OF THIS	+244	÷7	-32	x11	+187	
Advanced	462	8/11 OF THIS	-255	REVERSE THE DIGITS	SQUARE IT	+159	6/7 OF THIS	-59	INCREASE BY 60%	

Today's answers can be found on page 48

LOTTO RESULTS

EURO LOTTO

Tuesday June 21
5 17 32 35 49 1 5
Millionaire Maker:
NPB 205470

SAT LOTTO

June 18
10 17 26 31 35 38 47
T-Ball: 8 21 28 29 30 12

EURO LOTTO

Friday June 17
1 7 18 27 43 4 8
Millionaire Maker:
MNR 722401
T-Ball: 27 28 30 34 37 8

WED LOTTO

June 15
2 14 19 20 29 38 27
T-Ball: 7 10 20 27 39 3

EURO LOTTO

Tuesday June 14
13 34 39 42 50 9 11
Millionaire Maker:
LNN 393135

£1 HEALTH LOTTERY NUMBERS TUESDAY, JUNE 21



The society raising money this week through the Health Lottery is HealthEngage in Southern Scotland and the society raising money next week is HealthRespect in Tyneside.

£1 HEALTH LOTTERY NUMBERS SATURDAY, JUNE 18



SUDOKU

Fill in all the squares so that each row, each column, and each 3x3 square contain all the digits from 1 to 9

1		3		9	2			
			7		1		6	
7		6		8		1		9
	7		9		6		2	
6		5				3		7
	1		3		4		9	
5		1		4		7		3
		8		5		3		
		2		1		4		6

For today's solution call:

0907 181 2571

(calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge)

For extra clues call:

0901 322 5602

(calls cost 75p plus your telephone company's network access charge)

MORE PUZZLES - PAGE 48

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

9	2	6	4	7	1	3	5	8
4	5	7	3	8	9	1	6	2
1	3	8	6	2	5	4	7	9
3	9	2	7	1	4	5	8	6
6	8	5	2	9	3	7	4	1
7	1	4	5	6	8	9	2	3
2	6	3	1	5	7	8	9	4
5	4	9	8	3	2	6	1	7
8	7	1	9	4	6	2	3	5

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PHONE POLL RESULTS

We asked in our poll on Saturday:

Would Britain thrive outside of the EU?

YES: 98% NO: 2%

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FOR GREAT READER OFFERS



Mr Ellerington, partner Zoe, with children Nathan and Jaden

Hotel dad survives 80ft balcony plunge

A BRITISH holidaymaker has miraculously survived falling seven storeys from his Benidorm apartment.

Neil Ellerington landed on a plastic roof, which saved his life, although he fractured his skull, back, ribs and collarbone. He also suffered a collapsed lung.

Mr Ellerington and his partner, Zoe Irving, 29, were enjoying the last night of their Spanish holiday, while children, Nathan, 10, and Jaden, four, slept.

With the family due to fly home to Hull hours later, Mr Ellerington, 43, leant over the balcony to say goodbye to some friends he had spotted walking below.

By **Robert Kellaway**

Seconds later, he slipped and fell to the ground.

He was taken to hospital where he was placed in an induced coma. With no one to look after her children, Ms Irving was forced to take them back to the UK.

She then turned to social media to appeal for financial help to allow her to fly back to Spain.

Last Friday she arrived back in Benidorm, where Neil remains in a critical condition. It is unclear if he will make a full recovery. His special medical flight back to the UK will cost £15,000.



Neil in hospital

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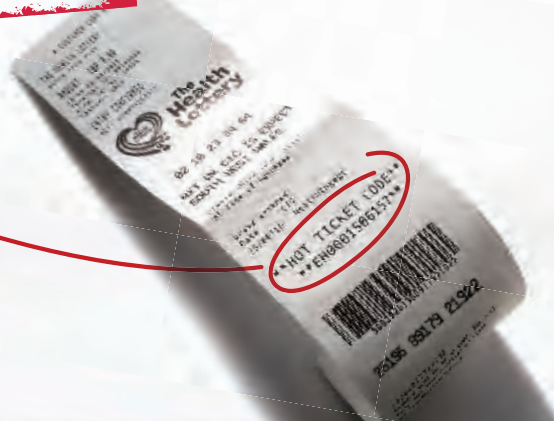
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Picture: DARREN CLARKE/FERRARI PRESS AGENCY



You've bin framed... CCTV catches warden hiding behind bin, ready to strike

Parking warden hides behind bins to catch drivers

A PARKING warden dubbed "Sneaky" has been caught hiding behind bins to catch unsuspecting motorists.

The jobsworth crouches down beside containers on the fenced forecourt of a neighbouring business.

He then leaps out to issue tickets to any unauthorised parkers.

CCTV pictures caught the warden launching his covert crackdown. Now drivers are warning each other about the over-zealous warden via Facebook and other social media.

The plot on the Wincheap retail park in Canterbury, Kent, is meant only for shoppers using stores immediately adjacent to the parking bays.

"Sneaky" is said to spy on motorists to see if they comply with the rules.

Adam Sampson posted on the Canterbury Residents Group Facebook page: "Fellow residents. Anyone using the car park on Simmonds Road in Wincheap please take note."

"The chap enforcing the parking restrictions in the car park at Bamboo Tiger and Carpet Right has taken to hiding in the hope more people park there and wander off site."

"The car park is only for people using the buildings within it, step off site and you're eligible for a park-

By John Twomey

ing ticket. He often hides down the side watching and only coming out to issue a ticket. You have been warned and please share."

Mr Sampson also posted pictures of the man standing behind the fence.

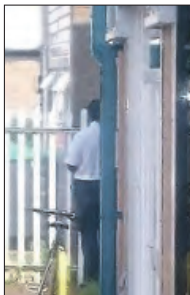
His claims were backed by Darren Clark, owner of Canterbury Plumbing Supplies, who uploaded stills from his CCTV cameras to Facebook.

They show a warden, believed to be the same one, crouching near bins.

Mr Clark spotted the official from his van as he approached the forecourt. He said: "I saw someone hiding behind my bins. I thought at first it might be someone lining up for a break-in. I went up to him shouting 'Oi, what do you think you're doing?' Then I realised he was a parking warden."

The man works for contract company UK Parking Control (UKPC), which posted signs on the buildings of three stores warning motorists the spaces are for customer use only. UKPC failed to respond to requests to comment.

Covert...but the warden is poised to issue a ticket



Drugs dealer with private zoo to pay back £55k in tax

A DRUGS dealer who used his ill-gotten gains to house a 200-animal private zoo has been ordered to pay the taxpayer back £55,000.

Paul Dunn made his semi-detached a home to snakes, bearded dragons, chickens, goats, sheep, turkeys, rats, hamsters and tortoises. He also dug a 50ft lake for his Koi carp.

But he was also storing crack cocaine, amphetamine, ecstasy, cannabis resin and £86,000 cash.

Dunn, 62, had even been illegally claiming thousands in benefits.

In 2011, the father-of-six was jailed for three years after admitting possession of Class A drugs with intent to supply but now he has been ordered to pay back £54,812 under a Proceeds of Crime Hearing - or face

By Chris Riches

another 18 months behind bars. Dunn, of Bredbury, near Stockport, was first investigated 10 years ago.

As well as his barking dogs officers also found 40 reptile tanks. Dunn grabbed a snake and threatened an officer shouting: "You have got the dogs, have my ***** snakes!"

In 2008, after officers unearthed stashes of drugs and cash he claimed he made £300,000 trading in pets.

At Manchester Crown Court this week, after hearing no tax or National Insurance was paid, Judge Mark Savill said: "The way the money was found highly suggests drug money."

A neighbour said: "He had that many animals it resembled a zoo."

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We did not vote to let in four million more people

MORE than four million migrants have come to Britain since Tony Blair threw open the floodgates in 1997. This mass influx is the equivalent of the entire populations of Birmingham, Manchester and Glasgow combined and they have arrived in less than two decades.

Supporters of immigration will tell you that this has been nothing but a wonderful benefit to our nation. They will claim too that all those who have misgivings about this unprecedented period of demographic upheaval are simply racist.

They could hardly be more wrong, just look at what has happened to this country. The NHS is stretched to breaking point, the costs of housing have rocketed and parents struggle to find a school place for their child.

We have witnessed extremist preachers spreading hate on our streets, the establishment of ethnic enclaves that only encourage division and disharmony, and the importation of backward practices such as female genital mutilation.

It is not bigoted to want a level of immigration that does not threaten our public services and ensures that new arrivals integrate fully into British society. Nor is it wrong to want to preserve the values and culture that define our great nation.

Nobody ever voted for limitless immigration. Yet on Thursday we do have the chance to vote Leave and win back full control of our borders. We must take it.

PM is getting desperate

DAVID CAMERON has been heavily criticised for using 10 Downing Street as the backdrop for a pro-Remain speech. Government property is not supposed to be used for campaigning and, says leading Tory MP Bernard Jenkin, even if he has not technically fallen foul of the rules he has certainly broken "the spirit" of them.

From the start of the campaign Mr Cameron has behaved poorly. We have been fed a stream of half-truths and outright falsehoods. He has corralled his friends into backing his lacklustre campaign efforts.

And he has proved time and again that he will employ all manner of tactics to try to win over the British people. That he continues to do so is a sign of his desperation.

Queen takes to Twitter

THE Queen yesterday took to Twitter to thank well-wishers for their messages congratulating her on reaching 90 years of age. It is astonishing to look back and remember that for many people the first television set they owned was bought just in time for her coronation. What a long way we have come.

Cameron knew his migration pledge was unachievable

WE HAVE become desensitised to politicians making promises which they know they cannot meet. But none stands out so brazenly as the promise David Cameron has made repeatedly over the past few years, including in the 2015 Conservative manifesto, to deliver "annual net migration in the tens of thousands, not the hundreds of thousands".

As if it was not already obvious that a Conservative government had no prospect of realising this target so long as Britain remains in the EU, the Prime Minister's former director of strategy, Steve Hilton, confirmed yesterday that David Cameron was warned by his advisers that it simply was not credible.

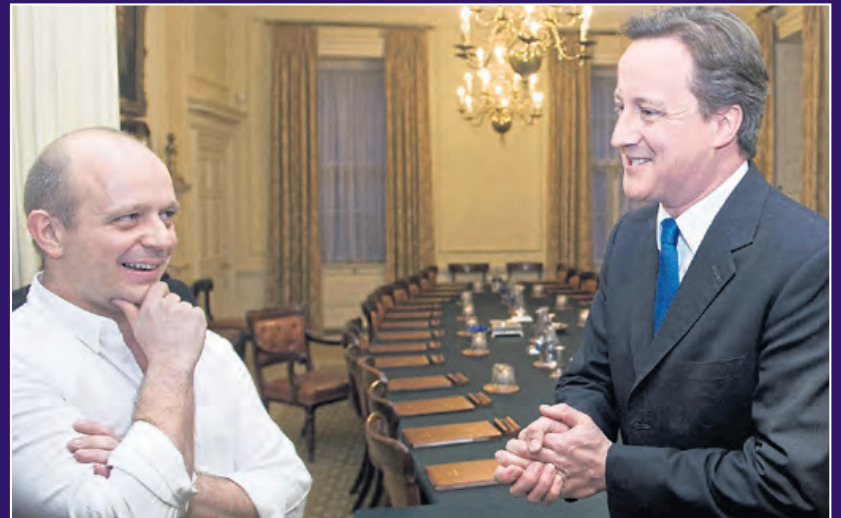
Sure enough, the figure for net migration to Britain for 2015 was 333,000, more than three times the Government's promise.

Britain is powerless to change the principle of free movement enshrined in the EU's Treaty of Rome, Cameron was reminded during his renegotiations. So long as citizens of other member states enjoy the right to travel to any other member state to look for work setting a target for net migration to Britain is meaningless.

The Government's promise has become even more infamous than Labour's estimate that only 13,000 eastern Europeans would take advantage of the right to look for work in Britain in the first year after the accession of former Soviet bloc countries to the EU in 2004. In the event, half a million turned up.

BUT at least the Blair government didn't turn their 13,000 figure into a manifesto promise. It becomes a much more serious issue when a party stands for office on promises which it knows it cannot meet. If the Conservatives were an investment fund and its manifesto a prospectus promising returns that it knew would be impossible to deliver it would be facing prosecution.

David Cameron tries to explain his failure to reach his migration target by saying that Britain's economy has been so much stronger than other EU countries and that it has therefore proved an unexpectedly strong magnet for job-seeking foreigners. That is a feeble excuse. It was clear well before



RIFT: Former strategy director Steve Hilton, left, with David Cameron on election night

Picture: REX



Ross Clark
Political commentator

last year's manifesto was written that the labour markets in many other EU countries are in a dire state - Spain has an unemployment rate of 21 per cent.

In any case, if Cameron is trying to tell us that migrants are coming here because the rest of the EU is an economic basket case, why is he simultaneously trying to convince us that Britain would hurt economically if we left the EU? Surely, if the rest of Europe is performing so poorly it is a good reason for decoupling our economy from moribund Europe and seeking investment and trading opportunities elsewhere in the world where economic growth is so much stronger.

Cameron's excuse simply doesn't stand up. It is clear that he sanctioned the promise to reduce net migration to a few tens of thousands a year in the hope that it would attract a lot of votes from Ukip yet knowing that it could not be delivered. Maybe he was counting on not winning a majority, in which case the promise could be

quietly dropped in a coalition agreement, or maybe he is so convinced by his ability to explain his way out of trouble that thought, he could get away with saying whatever he liked.

The irony is that in recent days David Cameron has been trying to make honesty the basis of his campaigning in the EU referendum. At the weekend he accused the Leave campaign of peddling three "untruths" - that Turkey is about to join the EU, that £350million a week goes to the EU and that there is going to be a European army. "If people, after serious thought and consideration, want to leave [the EU]," he said, "of course we must leave. But to leave based on three things that are not true would be a pretty desperate outcome."

Many might argue that the Conservatives' victory in last year's general election was the one based on something that was not true - the idea that net migration could be reduced to a few tens of thousands while we remained members of the

EU. That is a far bigger porky than any that have come from the Leave campaign.

How can David Cameron claim it is a lie to say that Turkey is on course to join the EU when his Government has been supporting Turkey's case for membership?

He himself told the Turks in 2010 that he wanted to "pave the road from Ankara to Brussels". Was he lying then or is he lying now?

DAVID Cameron has got himself into the position he is in because he has never grown out of the PR man he was before he was elected as an MP. He is not a political thinker in the way that Michael Gove or Steve Hilton are. It is no accident that no one ever uses the term "Cameronism" in the way that they used "Thatcherism" or "Blairism". He has always drawn his political ideas from others while putting them together into a marketable package.

The whole EU referendum was, to him, a PR stunt. He hoped that he could win over Ukip voters and silence Eurosceptics in his party by promising a renegotiation of Britain's terms of membership of the EU followed by the stamp of approval by the British people. Trouble is, he miscalculated that PR is a little more difficult in government than it was in the TV station where he used to work. His stunt has backfired on him horribly.

'He has never grown out of being a PR man'

Cliff Richard - CPS must take action

AS many of us predicted, Sir Cliff Richard has been cleared of the ludicrous allegations of sexual assaults but it now emerges that one of his accusers was himself a sex offender and another had tried to blackmail the singer and was being investigated by the police, who dropped their enquiries when the man then made an allegation.

It used to be the case that a blackmail victim had anonymity but in the crazy world which the police and CPS now inhabit the victim is named and the blackmailer is protected.

As I have said before the CPS needs to find a new formula to replace the phrase "insufficient evidence". The words are legally correct because any allegations in which complainants state that they were assaulted by somebody they knew or could identify at the time are classified as evidence in themselves. The CPS needs to adopt some such phrase as "no evidence beyond the original allegation".

Meanwhile the police should reopen the blackmail investigation or is that too much like justice for them to consider?

Bob Geldof's behaviour was a disappointment

SOME time ago I was invited on to the Michael Parkinson chat show alongside Victoria Wood and Bob Geldof. I knew I would like Victoria Wood, who had done an affectionately funny sketch about me on her Christmas show, but I did not expect to warm to Bob Geldof whose vulgar language at one of his big charity concerts repelled me.

To my surprise he was charming and made me, then an overweight middle-aged woman, feel a million dollars. His manner was entirely courteous, indeed it was positively courtly.

Then we found ourselves united about fathers' rights. I had recently written a novel about a man whose ex-wife was trying to prevent him seeing his children and Bob had been through the whole separation-from-children experience himself.

So for years I have admired Bob Geldof but now it seems as if he has reverted to his old ways with his unbecoming conduct on the Thames last week in the Remain flotilla. All I can say is thank heaven he is on that side of the argument so I need feel only disappointed by his rudeness rather than embarrassed.



Ann Widdecombe

The real EU issue is always sovereignty

DO YOU want Britain to make its own laws? Do you want Britain to control British borders? Do you want Britain ruled by a democratically elected government? If your answer to any of those three questions is yes, then vote Leave tomorrow.

It is no good trying to decide on economic arguments alone because there is simply no united view as to what will happen if we stay in or if we come out. Even former chancellors of the exchequer are divided with Lamont and Lawson saying out and Clarke in. As for business, Sir Richard Branson says Remain, Sir James Dyson says Leave. And thus it is with academics, politicians, small business, large business and financial practitioners – they cannot agree.

So we need to take a long-term view because what we are discussing here is the very future of Britain. Will we be free or governed by 27 other countries?

For it is a certainty that if David Cameron could get no significant concessions from the others under the threat of Brexit we can kiss goodbye to having any influence if we meekly vote to stay in.

The Remain side often claim that we control 87 per cent of our own laws but that is mere sophistry. A law may not be a product of an EU directive but it must still be compatible with EU law, which is supreme. I spent seven years as a minister in, variously, Social Security, Pensions, Employment, Prisons and Immigration and in every department I spent an inordinate amount of time resisting EU intervention or making sure whatever we proposed was not likely to suffer challenge under EU law.

That is just one of many statistics along with trade statistics and those of votes in the Council of Ministers which can be made to look vastly more favourable than they are in reality.

For example it is often claimed that we are nearly always on the winning side in votes in Europe but that ignores the fact that we are rarely voting for what we actually want. Instead we are voting for the best deal we can get – after months of horse-trading – to avoid getting something much worse. Unless you have been directly involved in these



Monty Don is allowed not to like begonias!

POOR old Monty Don, left. Angry gardeners and plant sellers are throwing their trugls because he opined that begonias are "repulsive".

I disagree, finding them splendidly colourful and cheerful but such matters of taste are just that and one man's flower is another man's weed. Why should Monty not dislike a particular plant and why should he not say so?

Perhaps the lawyers will now advertise for begonia-growers with all the enthusiasm they have shown for PPI victims and encourage them to sue for hurt feelings. Of course that is a joke – at least I dearly hope it is.

Picture: ALAMY

crazy processes it is easy to be bamboozled by statistics.

As for imports and exports, the picture changes depending on

whether you are looking at percentages, value, goods or services or both. However consider this telling comment, published not by Brexit but by

the Government's own Office for National Statistics: "Strong economic growth in many developing economies outside the EU has resulted in non EU economies growing in importance to UK trade with the proportion accounted for by the EU falling consistently since 1999."

The same document points out that there is a trade deficit with the EU which has "widened noticeably" since 1999. In short the economic case for staying in falls well short of proven so look at the big principles instead: sovereignty, border control, democracy.

Not even the most rabid Remainer can argue that we will have more of each of those if we leave.

LET ONE RESULT OF JO COX'S DEATH BE THAT DEMOCRACY IS STRENGTHENED

JO COX'S horrible death is tragic but the best tribute to her would be that her cruel fate is used to enhance not diminish our democracy. Already, normally hostile journalists have hastened to point out that most MPs are both brave and devoted to the service of their constituents, which makes a change

from the usual picture they paint of two-faced, fork-tongued, sleazy, lazy and greedy careerists.

What a pity an MP has to die to drag forth that admission but it is good for democracy if democratic institutions command broad respect. What is not good for democracy is if our representatives

do not move freely among us, if they become inaccessible or remote.

MPs know that every time they walk down the street they take a risk of something happening. I have had custard pies hurled at me in a bookshop, eggs in a church and abuse in the street. Interestingly none of that was in my own

constituency where I had to call the police to protect me only once in 23 years.

What MPs do not expect is to encounter serious violence and its very rarity should encourage them not to go overboard with security now.

Jo walked among her constituents and so should every other MP.



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Michael Williams



BEGAN to feel spooked when the booking clerk was reluctant to sell me a ticket. "A day return to Goole, please?" I ask at Leeds station, the second busiest on the network outside London. A ghostly chill pervades the air. "A day return? Are you sure, son? I can sell you a ticket to get there but don't make any plans to come back in a hurry." I can feel hairs bristling on the back of my neck as he says. "There's only one train a day down the line – and it doesn't always come back."

There are other chilling omens. How come there are so few passengers on this ancient train? Why does the guard look

suspiciously like Christopher Lee? But the truth is even more sinister, since the 17.16 to Goole is one of Britain's elusive "ghost trains".

These are services that wend an eerie path around the rail network to deserted stations miles from anywhere, almost entirely unknown to the public and running mostly without any passengers – since they operate at deliberately inconvenient times, often giving travellers no hope of getting back to where they came from.

There are reckoned to be as many as 50 of these "secret services" woven into the timetables – some running as infrequently as once a week. The direct line from Leeds to Goole is as mysterious as any, with a single train only in one direction in the morning with a solitary service the other way in the afternoon, returning to Leeds – if it is in the mood.

Yet my train and others like it around the country serve a hellishly cunning purpose. For the cost of an occasional train service with some elderly carriages, the train operators are able to duck the long and costly consultation, accompanied by inevitable howls of public protest, that the law stipulates when a service is to be closed.

THIS is why the ghost trains are known as "parliamentary" or "parly" trains – because they supply the bare minimum of service required by the law without having to bother with an expensive closure process. The fewer the number of passengers and the more inconvenient the timetable, the better.

But a journey aboard a ghost train offers special pleasures. The daily ghost train from London Paddington to West Ruislip offers a rare chance to ride on the old Great Western direct line to Birmingham – and the rail buffs pile aboard.

In fact, some of the "parly" trains are often so packed with train spotters that they defeat their purpose – none more so than the "Stalybridge Flyer". This two-coach diesel service is one of the rarest trains in Britain, leaving Stockport at 9.22am on Fridays only, for its short journey around south Manchester.

At Gainsborough Central station in Lincolnshire, no passenger trains stop at all on weekdays (though there are six on a Saturday). Poor Newhaven Marine station in the Sussex port is officially open but has no services at all, except for a nightly ghost train that tantalisingly stops but allows no passengers to board.

More bizarre still is Barlaston in Staffordshire, where the last trains ran in 2004. The platforms are closed to the public, yet the service remains in the national timetable and you

All aboard Britain's spookiest train lines

can still buy a ticket there. But the trains will race through without stopping.

Surreal, too is Polesworth in Warwickshire, where there is only a northbound platform, serving a single train – the 07.23 to Crewe. If you want to get home again, forget it. You can't travel south since the platform footbridge was demolished years ago.

Weeds grow high on the platforms along the Leeds to Goole line. At sad-looking Knottingley, once a stop on the main line from York to London, the fine double-span over-all roof has been demolished.

From here on, as the train rumbles on into remoter countryside, I am the sole passenger. And I start to question whether I am still in the land of the living when we stop at little Hensall station, a time capsule with an enamel sign advertising Wills Capstan cigarettes, where an ancient railwayman opens the equally ancient crossing gates by hand.

As our ghost train sighs to a halt at Goole, mausoleum-like with its peeling paint and empty platforms, the words of Flanders and Swann from their 1963 song *Slow Train* couldn't be truer: "No one departs, no one arrives, from Selby to Goole, from St Erth to St Ives."

I muse on the luxury of having an entire train to myself – just the driver, the guard and me. But here's another thought. Is it just a quirky eccentricity of British life that a secret train should run empty down this line each night when my fellow commuters have travelled home in conditions worse than cattle?

Or is it simply a barmy way to run a railway?

● To order *The Trains Now Departed* by Michael Williams, £8.99, call the Express Bookshop on 01872 562 310 with card details. Or send a cheque/postal order payable to Express Bookshop to: Trains Offer, PO Box 200, Falmouth TR11 4WJ or visit expressbookshop.com. UK delivery is free

FERGUS KELLY IS AWAY

Night

email us at diary@express.co.uk

Spotted... ACTOR JOHN THOMSON at Thyme Out delicatessen in Manchester... Shaun Of The Dead star SIMON PEGG at the Dean Street Townhouse restaurant in Soho, London...

Pictures: REX; GETTY

SCOTTISH band **The View** might have sung about wearing the same jeans for four days but that's not a regime **Rita Ora** subscribes to... she can't wear the same pair for a day.

The 25-year-old was out and about in Manhattan, initially looking like she was on her way to play a game of cricket in an all white ensemble, before changing her jeans to a more traditional blue.

Having just signed a deal with Atlantic Records perhaps Rita wanted to celebrate with a denim splurge.

Alternatively, she might just have had an accident. One thing's for sure though, nobody could ever accuse her of attention seeking.



DESPITE how it appears, **Gwyneth Paltrow** hasn't attempted to tackle an exploding yogurt. Taking to picture-sharing site Instagram the 43-year-old shared the snap of her face covered with what she explains is the Goop instant facial which, claims her company's website, "instantly brightens and softens skin to reveal a glowing, smoother-looking complexion". Some might argue it's the least you'd expect from a product that will set you back a painful on the wallet £85. According to the Oscar-winning actress: "Goop facial is my everything. Can't. Live Without." How convenient.

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