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REMEMBERING DIANA

- 20 years on, Princes visit Kensington Palace gates to honor their much-loved mother
- William and Harry joined by Duchess of Cambridge on visit to memorial garden

Prince William and Prince Harry have marked the twentieth anniversary of their mother's death by visiting the gates of Kensington Palace, which were once again festooned with flowers, pictures and mementoes of the much-loved Princess Diana from well-wishers.

Back in 1997 their mother had just died and against their will, they had been paraded in front of the public to inspect the sea of bouquets and other offerings left by the thousands of Diana's admirers who had come in pilgrimage to the palace. But this week, in a tribute to their late mother, they willingly revisited the gates that had been the focus of

those extraordinary scenes in 1997.

As the rain came steadily down, they looked at the flowers and posters on the palace gates as a small crowd watched silently from behind metal barriers.

One poster read: "Diana, Princess of Wales. Forever in our hearts. Your good work continues through your sons."



OLDER AND WISER: In contrast to their forced visit immediately following their mother's death, William and Harry were animated and seemed almost upbeat while viewing the tributes at the Kensington Palace gates



AS THEY WERE: the younger princes with Prince Charles at the same spot in 1997

But unlike their previous visit, this time the pair were grown men and seemed animated and almost happy to be there, William occasionally pointing out some tribute that caught his eye.

Pointing out where the sea of flowers had stretched to in 1997, William told Harry: "Last time, it was all the way down."

Prince Harry smiled at the sight of a large

balloon among the bouquets, while William pointed out a photo of himself and his mother in sunglasses. "Look at my shades," he said, laughing.

stark contrast

The princes then walked over to the crowd, chatted to the people waiting there and took a handful of bouquets over to the gates to lay them with the others.

Their relaxed

demeanour was in stark contrast to how they felt when, aged 15 and 12, they were confronted by the mountain of flowers and notes outside the gates of Balmoral: "I was very touched by it but none of it sank in," William told Diana, 7 Days, a BBC documentary shown on Sunday. "All I cared about was I'd lost my mother and I didn't want to be where I was."

They told the

programme that when they returned to Kensington Palace after five days they found the public outpouring of grief peculiar. "People wanted to grab us, to touch us. They were shouting, wailing at us, throwing flowers, and yelling, sobbing, people fainted, collapsed," William said. "I couldn't understand why everyone wanted show such emotion when they

cont. on page 2, col. 1

News from Britain

Diana:

cont. from page one

didn't really know our mother."

The brothers, accompanied by the Duchess of Cambridge, also visited a memorial garden at the palace, which has been planted in Diana's memory. They were met by Sean Harkin, the head gardener, who showed them around The White Garden, planted in Diana's memory, which is filled with white flowers and foliage and was inspired by memories of her life, style and image, including her white "Elvis" Catherine Walker dress. It features white roses, scented narcissi and a carpet of forget-me-nots around the existing Sunken Garden, of which the princess was particularly fond.

'so charismatic'

The princes also met representatives of the six charities of which their mother remained patron at her death on August 31, 1997, and two others particularly close to her heart.

The eight charities are The Leprosy Mission, English National Ballet, National Aids Trust, the Centrepont charity for the homeless, Great Ormond Street Hospital, the Royal Marsden Hospital, Child

Bereavement UK and Landmine Survivors Network.

The afternoon event was designed to highlight the "significant achievements" of the princess in changing lives. The engagement took place the day before the anniversary of Diana's death in a car crash in Paris, allowing the princes and their close family to commemorate privately on the day.

It was Prince Harry's first appearance after his return from holiday in Africa with his girlfriend, Meghan Markle.

A Kensington Palace spokeswoman said the engagement reflected "on the significant achievements of the princess and the legacy of her work, which continues to resonate with so many today".

Among the charity representatives who met the royals was Ken Rutherford, a landmine survivor who accompanied Diana on her final trip to Bosnia and now works in the department for political science at James Madison University, Virginia.

"For me, it is an honour to be part of recognising someone who was so charismatic she actually changed the world," he said. "And now her sons, in such an uncomplicated way, are connecting the dots of her life and continuing her legacy."

I'm no quitter, says May

■ PM in defiant mood as rumors swirl of Tory plot to replace her

Theresa May has vowed to remain in No 10 for five years and fight the next election as Conservative Party leader, saying: "I am not a quitter."

The prime minister, who told Tory MPs that she would serve only as long as they wanted her after the party's election humiliation, said that she had no intention of leaving Downing Street.

"I'm in this for the long term because there's a long-term challenge for the United Kingdom," she said on Tuesday during a visit to Japan. Asked if she wanted to fight the next election, Mrs May said: "Yes."

emboldened

In another interview she dismissed as baseless a report that she would stand down in August 2019 after the conclusion of Brexit negotiations.

"There's been an awful lot of speculation about my future which has no basis in it whatsoever," she said. She made clear that she would not resign before the next election, effectively defying



MAY: "I'm in this for the long-term."

cabinet rivals to unseat her.

Mrs May, emboldened by the lack of a leadership challenge in the aftermath of her bungled snap election in June, set out what she said was an agenda beyond Brexit. Speaking to reporters en route to Japan, she previewed her speech to the Conservative Party conference in Manchester this October by saying that she had a purpose beyond delivering on the referendum mandate to take Britain out of the EU.

"What I want to do is, yes, get on with the job of Brexit, but it is not just about Brexit," she said. "What I want to do is a lot more in the long term,

which is about changes domestically and issues such as social justice. But also building these long-term relationships so we see the UK coming out of the EU able to build these trade deals around the rest of the world. We have to stand up as global Britain, and I want to take that forward."

misjudgments

Mrs May went into the election campaign with a 24-point lead over Labour but after a series of misjudgments lost her overall majority. She said that the public wanted her to get on with Brexit and secure a "good deal", adding: "That is exactly what we are doing and exactly why

we are starting to set out our position papers."

She added: "The other important thing is that, looking ahead, my government isn't just about Brexit. There is an awful lot more that we need to be doing in the domestic agenda and developing our place as global Britain."

After the election a contrite Mrs May told Tory MPs: "I will serve you as long as you want me." The lack of an obvious challenger, divisions over Brexit and fears that a change of leader could precipitate another election while Jeremy Corbyn, the Labour leader, enjoyed high levels of popularity, have helped cement her in place since.

Boris Johnson, seen as a likely leadership contender, offered his "undivided backing" but Grant Shapps, the former Tory party chairman, said Mrs May's future was up to the membership and that she should deliver on Brexit before discussing how long she would stay.

"It's too early to be talking about going on and on, as Margaret Thatcher once said. Let's get some progress for the British people first," Mr Shapps told the BBC.

Second arrest after jihadi with 4 ft sword tries to ram police at Palace

ANTI-TERROR police were questioning two men this week after a suspected jihadi attack at Buckingham Palace.

Detectives arrested a 30-year-old Sunday night as others searched an address in west London. They were still quizzing a 26-year-old held after Friday's attempted car and sword attack on an unarmed patrol.

Police say the suspect drove a car at the officers before reaching for a 4ft sword and shouting, "Allahu akbar" - 'God

is great' in Arabic. A police spokesman said the second suspect was arrested Monday morning on suspicion of "being involved in the commission, preparation or instigation of terrorism".

Friday's drama unfolded shortly after 8.30pm when the suspect, from the Luton area, drove a blue Toyota Prius at a marked police car in Constitution Hill. Commander Dean Haydon, of the Metropolitan Police's

counter-terrorism branch, said: "Uniformed officers confronted the driver of the vehicle. "During that confrontation the driver reached for a 4ft sword that was in the passenger footwell. CS gas was used as part of the arrest and during the struggle the individual repeatedly shouted the words Allahu akbar.

"I would like to pay tribute to the bravery and professionalism of these officers who quickly brought this incident under control."



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Charles takes 'vow of silence'

EMBATTLED Prince Charles has taken a "vow of silence" in the face of criticism as the nation marked the 20th anniversary of Princess Diana's death.

Charles and Camilla have stayed away from Kensington Palace, Diana's former home, taking refuge out of sight in Scotland and have not issued a statement. The couple will stay in Balmoral on their summer break along with the Queen and Prince Philip. Friends of Charles have claimed he is keen to "avoid being caught up in a media storm" and will instead throw himself into a busy autumn schedule of official engagements.

The heir to the throne is set to attend a naming ceremony for the new aircraft carrier Prince Of Wales in September and step up his visits overseas as the Queen enters her 92nd year.

Earlier this week royal commentator and biographer Robert Jobson claimed Charles hopes to follow the example of his mother this week and retain a dignified silence in the spirit of the motto "keep calm, keep quiet and carry on". The Prince was said to be "famously damaged" and "determined to avoid" a repeat of controversial televised interviews.

The Prince has seen his popularity plunge after a spate of television documentaries reminded the public of the crisis facing the monarchy. Polls suggest his son William is growing in stature and popularity as Britain's future king. More than half of Britons would like William to take the crown when the time comes but just a fifth say his father should become king.

After two decades, Diana's flame still burns brightly in the hearts of many

■ Kensington Palace again sees crowds gather to remember 'The People's Princess'

Wistful now, not grieving, 20 years older but still with the same love and affection for Diana, Princess of Wales, some of the same people who mourned her amid such extraordinary scenes in 1997 returned to Kensington Palace on Thursday to pay tribute on the 20th anniversary of her death.

The palace gates which were once the centre of a vast sea of bouquets were again surrounded by flowers and posters.

But in a sign that this gathering was as much about celebrating her life as mourning her death, this time there was cake. It was a large sponge cake, covered in icing and white roses, and it was decorated with a picture of Diana.

"We are not going to cut Diana's face," said John Loughrey, 62, the diehard fan who supplied the cake as he prepared to share it out. "We are going to peel it back. We are going to show respect."

Two decades ago those hastily penned tributes were handwritten affairs, composed in the first rush of grief. Today, with the planning that an anniversary allows and the advances of technology, many of them were professionally printed, but the emotion was the same.

'quite soothing'

"We have been watching all the TV programmes about her," said Amanda Elliott, 51, a PA from Ashford, in Surrey, who came to Kensington Palace - Diana's former home - 20 years ago in the aftermath of the princess's death.

"It is 20 years ago but it feels like yesterday. Suddenly all the emotions that you experienced at the time come flooding back. But it is quite soothing in a

way. There is sadness but there is also joy because she was a representation of what we would all like to be. Here there are people of every background, every nationality, every ethnicity, every orientation — it is amazing how people come together," she said.

"She was our princess. I don't think anybody has come as close to us as a human being as she did. The Queen is amazing and we adore her but Diana seemed more like us."

"great joy"

Across social media there was an outpouring of tributes to the princess. Sir Elton John, a close friend of Diana's who performed a specially written version of *Candle In The Wind* at her funeral, posted a picture on Instagram of the pair together, with his arm around her. "20 years ago today, the world lost an angel. #RIP", he wrote.

Elizabeth Emanuel, co-designer of Diana's wedding dress, tweeted: "Thinking of the wonderful times we spent with Diana and the great joy she brought into our lives and all those who knew her." She posted a photo of the Emanuels tending to the train of Diana's bridal gown inside St Paul's Cathedral in 1981.

Diana's former head chef, Darren McGrady, recalled her caring side. "When Princess Diana heard I had become a father she sent this note and flowers to the hospital," he tweeted. The handwritten message congratulated him on the "safe arrival of your little lady".

Terry Hutt, 82, one of the most dedicated royal fans, has been camped outside Kensington Palace since midday Wednesday. Mr Hutt - who celebrated his 80th birthday outside



Royal fans cut a cake outside Kensington Palace in London as they marked the 20th anniversary of Diana's death

TEA AND SYMPATHY: Royal fans cut a cake outside Kensington Palace in London as they marked the 20th anniversary of Diana's death on Thursday

the Lindo Wing of St Mary's Hospital waiting for the announcement of Princess Charlotte's birth - has visited the palace on August 31 every year for the past 20 years.

He said: "You can think of it as happiness and you can think of it as sadness. Today is sadness, but yesterday William and Harry were here and that brought a lot of happiness. Diana was someone special - she modernised the royal family. She did a lot of good. She's got a couple of good sons and one of them will become king - that will be a real burst of happiness, and if Diana was here she would be really proud of her family."



ROYAL FAVORITE: Sir Elton John marked the anniversary with a tweeted photo of himself and Diana

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News from Britain

Adams clashes with DUP over insistence on Irish language act

Stormont will not resume without the implementation of an Irish language act, Gerry Adams has claimed in remarks branded "totally unreasonable" by his political opponents this week.

The Sinn Féin leader was addressing an event in Belfast alongside the SDLP, Alliance Party, Green Party and People Before Profit this week when he made the claim.

"Let's be very, very clear - there won't be an assembly without an acht na Gaeilge [Irish language act]. The DUP know that, the governments know that," he said.

"I understand that there are elements within Unionism who think that this is in some way threatening but it's a matter of whether we want this part of the island to embrace everyone.

"You don't have to agree with everyone but you do have to have a legislative basis for respect and that includes the Irish language act."

Mr Adams said equality must be the bedrock of any future executive. His party is also seeking a bill of rights and a vote on marriage equality.

'majority support'

"These basic rights are protected in England, Scotland, Wales and the rest of Ireland. It is time they were extended to citizens living in the North."

Niall Comer, president of Conradh na Gaeilge, a leading Irish language group, said that 50 of the assembly's 90 MLAs were in favour of Irish language rights being extended to the North.

"The message from

today's event is very clear. There is widespread, cross-party, majority support for a stand-alone Irish language act," he said.

"Given this majority, we now call on those who continue to oppose a stand-alone Irish language act to reflect on their position and to acknowledge that the time for change is now. Conradh na Gaeilge would like to thank the parties for their support to date but calls on them to continue to stand together for and with the community as the Stormont talks recommence."

'time for compromise'

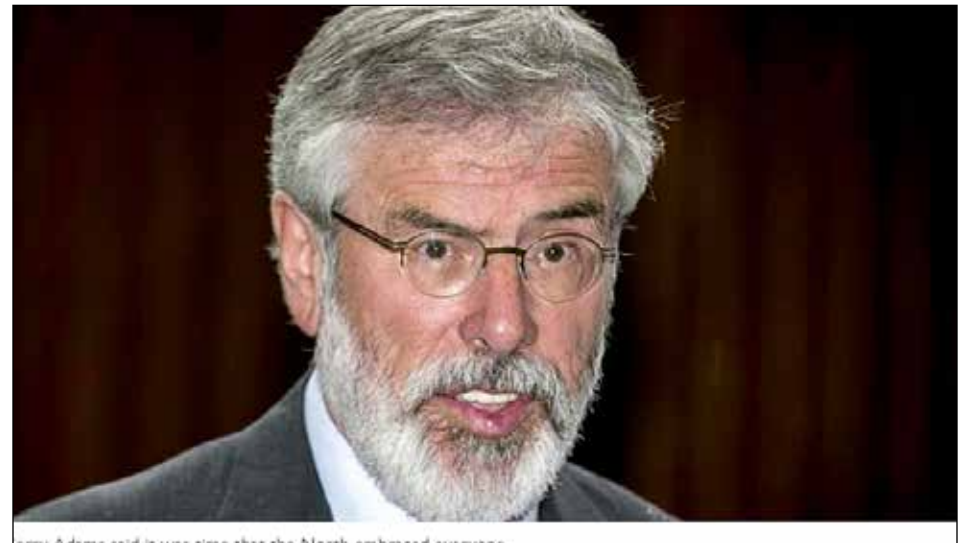
But Sir Jeffrey Donaldson, a Lagan Valley DUP MP, said the Irish language proposal was out of the question and suggested it was delaying talks. "Sinn Féin's request is totally unreasonable. The party needs to get around the table and reopen the dialogue on power-sharing. They won't succeed in agreeing anything with this same old rhetoric, it is time for compromise and time to start moving towards a position where everyone can work together.

"The DUP has been very clear on the Irish language issue; it is not acceptable and not workable. They need to come up with more realistic proposals."

But Arlene Foster, the Democratic Unionist Party leader, told her party on Wednesday that Unionists will only accept legislation for the Irish language if it also includes protections for British culture and the Ulster Scots identity. In a keynote speech Thursday night the

former first minister told the DUP ruling executive that despite holding the balance of power at Westminster her party was still committed to bringing back the regional government in Belfast. But she added that she did not regard the Irish language as a threat to the union or her Britishness.

The bitter political impasse between Stormont's two largest



Gerry Adams said it was time the North embraced everyone

parties has left the region without a first and deputy first minister since January and a functioning devolved executive since March.

The process was

parked for the summer but the talks involving the five Stormont parties and the UK and Irish governments are due to resume at the start of next month. Simon

Coveney, the foreign affairs minister, met parties for preliminary discussions in Belfast this week to ascertain whether there was an appetite for further talks.

British family rescued from remote South Pacific reef after issuing distress call

A BRITISH family of four were "very fortunate" to escape with their lives after their catamaran ran aground on a remote reef in the South Pacific in heavy seas, it has emerged.

The Copper family, which included a boy and girl, aged 13 and 11, had made an emergency radio call from Beveridge Reef, which is 250-miles south-east of the small island of Niue and about 1,700 miles from New Zealand. The only other vessel in the vicinity had, by chance, been monitoring the emergency channel and was able to assist.

The family had also sent out a distress beacon just after 2.30am on Sunday. Martin Vogel, the captain of the ketch, Dona Catharina, that came to their aid, said all four members of the family were now recovering from their ordeal.

Speaking by satellite phone Monday night, he said: "They were pretty distressed but they're all sleeping now. "Honestly, they're



Bobby Cooper and family, who lost their yacht when it was wrecked on a coral reef in the South

DREAM'S OVER: Bobby Cooper and family, who lost their yacht when it was wrecked on a coral reef in the South Pacific this week

coping remarkably well."

The family's 50ft catamaran, Avanti, had taken on water but was "well aground" when it was found, confirmed Mr Vogel. His crew waited until daylight before collecting the family by life raft at 6.30am. The four left the vessel, which is now likely to break up on the reef, with just their passports, clothes and "a few treasured items", said Mr Vogel.

Geoff Lunt, a senior

officer at Rescue Coordination Centre of New Zealand, said: "The skipper of the steel ketch Dona Catharina answered the emergency radio call from our Maritime Operations Centre within seven minutes. "It was very fortunate they were anchored in the lagoon and listening to the distress channel at 2.30am."

He said the ketch, manned by seven crew members, was taking shelter as it sailed from

New Zealand to Niue to help with a study of humpback whales. Beveridge Reef is normally submerged with a small part visible at low tide. It is a danger to shipping and has been blamed for a number of vessels running aground. They include a fishing boat, the fibreglass Nicky Lou, which is visible on the reef. The lagoon inside the reef can provide calm water for boats but the Avanti ran aground opposite the narrow entrance.

Sky pulls the plug on Fox News in UK

■ Decision to stop broadcasting controversial channel is not tied to Fox's £11.7bn takeover bid for Sky, suits insist

Rupert Murdoch has taken the rightwing US channel Fox News off the air in the UK after 15 years.

His US media group 21st Century Fox said it would withdraw Fox News from Sky in the UK on Tuesday because it no longer regarded the service as commercially viable.

The decision came as Karen Bradley, the culture secretary, is set to return her verdict on whether to ask the competition regulator to launch an investigation into the Murdochs' adherence to



HATE FIGURE: Rupert Murdoch is detested by many in the British establishment, who are opposing Fox's takeover bid for Sky

broadcasting standards in the UK as part of an inquiry into Fox's £11.7bn takeover bid for Sky. However, sources said the decision to stop broadcasting Fox News, which went off air at



SEAN, NOT HEARD: Hannity is just one of the many Fox offerings that have failed to attract viewers in the UK

4pm on Sunday was not connected to the takeover bid, arguing that the channel attracted only about 2,000 viewers a day in the UK.

"[Fox] has decided to cease providing a feed of Fox News Channel in the UK," a spokeswoman for the company said. "Fox News is focused on the US market and designed for a US audience and, accordingly, it averages only a few thousand viewers across the day in the UK. We have concluded that it is not in our commercial interest to continue providing Fox News in the UK."

Fox News has become increasingly troublesome for the Murdochs as they attempt to buy Sky.

The channel is embroiled in a sexual harassment scandal that led to a string of high-profile figures leaving, including the chairman Roger Ailes, who has since died, and leading presenter Bill O'Reilly.

discredited story

It has also been accused of colluding with Donald Trump's White House on a discredited story about a murdered Democrat activist, which critics of the Murdochs have compared to the News of the World hacking the phone of murdered schoolgirl Milly Dowler.

Ofcom, the UK media regulator, has also made a number of rulings against Fox News broadcasts in the last year, adding to the total of 22 breaches by Fox of its license and Ofcom's codes and rules in the last decade. Of those, Fox News was responsible for seven, including four last year, one of them being a programme which featured a guest who said Birmingham was a city "where non-Muslims just simply don't go".

'deeply relevant'

Tom Watson, the deputy Labour leader and shadow culture secretary, said the disappearance of Fox News from British screens should not affect the government's decision on whether 21st Century Fox should be allowed to buy Sky.

"Fox News has breached Ofcom's rules over and over again, so 21st Century Fox clearly thought it was easier to pull it from the UK altogether than to clean up its act," Watson said.

"But the ongoing corporate governance and sexual harassment scandal at Fox News is still deeply relevant to the question of whether 21st Century Fox should be allowed to take over Sky, whether the channel is broadcast here or not."

Earlier this year Fox News was taken off air between 5am and 11pm on election day to avoid any issues with Ofcom.

UK fans of Fox News will not be able to turn to the internet to watch the channel as it is not streamed online. Only clips of Fox News programming are available online.

Sky, which is 39% controlled by 21st Century Fox, continues to fund Sky News, which loses tens of millions of pounds a year.

Ed Miliband, the former Labour leader and long-time Murdoch critic, said: "This decision shows the Murdochs panicking about their bid for Sky. It amounts to an admission that despite having broadcast here year after year, Fox News is not fit for UK broadcasting in the standards and ethics of its journalism. It's yet more proof that the Murdochs can't be trusted to own 100% of Sky."

Stopping broadcasting in the UK changes nothing. Fox News in the US is the Murdochs' channel, they are responsible for its broadcasting standards and the appalling racial and sexual harassment that happened on their watch. The Murdochs can't run from their record at Fox News."

Brit whose wife was 'lost at sea' charged over coin theft

A BRITON whose wife vanished during their honeymoon sailing trip was remanded in custody in connection with the theft of rare coins worth £77,000.

The coins were found in Lewis Bennett's rucksack after the couple's catamaran capsized and sank, US prosecutors said. Mother-of-one Isabella Hellman, 41, has been presumed drowned since the incident off the Bahamas in May. The 38-year-old businessman appeared in court in Florida Monday night charged with transporting stolen goods valued at \$5,000 (£3,868) or more. He was scheduled to appear before the court on Friday for a bail hearing.

After his rescue from the 37ft catamaran Surf Into Summer, Bennett told US Coast Guard officials he went below deck to get some sleep. He came back up after hearing the boat hit something to find the



ISABELLA HELLMAN went missing during a sailing trip with her British husband, Lewis Bennett

vessel sinking and Ms Hellman gone. He then called for help before getting into a life raft. According to prosecutors, nine plastic tubes containing 225 rare coins were found in a rucksack in the life raft. They were given back to Bennett but later confiscated after FBI agents found they had been stolen a year earlier from a Caribbean vessel, the Kitty R, while Bennett was a crew member. Bennett had told police that the Kitty R, which sails out of St Maarten, had been burgled while

no one was on board.

A search of the Miami home Bennett shared with Ms Hellman and their 11-month-old daughter Emelia later found 162 coins hidden in a pair of his boat shoes. The total value of the coins stolen from Kitty R was \$100,000 (£77,000), according to its owner, who said the ones that were recovered are worth more than £20,000 but only account for part of the theft. The FBI has refused to say if Bennett is a person of interest or a suspect in the disappearance of his wife.

News from Britain

Tireless Anne puts other royals to shame

PRINCESS Anne has worked more days than anyone else in the Royal Family this year, figures show.

She has completed 114 days of engagements compared to 93 by Prince Charles and 71 by the Duke of York. Younger members of the family failed to work as hard, with the Duchess of Cambridge covering the fewest number of engagements at just 39 days. The Duke of Cambridge and Prince Harry have each worked 46. Prince Philip, who retired from public engagements earlier this year, has completed 52 days while The Queen has worked 50 days and the Duchess of Cornwall 51 days.

The Princess Royal is patron to more than 300 charities and has served as president of Save The Children since 1970. Kensington Palace officials stressed that Prince William worked as an air ambulance pilot until last month and Kate has prioritised time with Prince George, four, and Princess Charlotte, two, "even as she continues to increase her work in support of the Queen".

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry will be stepping up the amount of engagements they undertake this autumn, Kensington Palace confirmed. A spokesman said they will attend "a number of away days and visits to communities, charities and organisations across the UK, as well as engagements and visits overseas."

The Duke of Cambridge will next week host England's under-20 football champions. They are the first national team to win a football World Cup since 1966.

Too-jolly dodgers scupper Penzance pirate record bid

■ Cornish town's bid for place in the record books sunk by 'pirates' lingering too long over their grog

PENZANCE has failed once again in its bid to hold the world's biggest pirate gathering... after a few boozy buccaneers failed to leave the pub in time.

This year's attempt to reclaim the record of more than 14,000 pirates in one spot flopped after "just a few" stayed in the pub and missed the official count on Sunday. The Cornish port famous for Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera *Pirates of Penzance* first won the Guinness World Record in 2011, stealing the title from Hastings. But its south-east rivals won back the record in 2012 and have yet to be beaten. Pubs in the seaside town

had promised to make sure pirates were in a recognized counting zone by 4pm. But there were groans as organiser Andy Hazlehurst announced the attempt had fallen short of the 14,231 needed. He told the stunned sea dogs: "Sorry to say we're back again next year, we fell short by a few."

And although he refused to name names it was clear those at fault should be made to walk the plank.

Mayor of Penzance Dick Cliffe said: "It is a disappointment to miss out by such a small amount."

"The pirates of Penzance is an



LIGHT AND SHIFTY? these Penzance revellers stick to the soft stuff

expression everyone knows – not the pirates of Hastings. They are just impostors."

To qualify in the count, pirates have to be wearing at least two accessories such as a

cutlass or an eye patch. Controversy erupted around the last bid in 2014 – which fell 77 short – after it emerged Penzance Town Council had blown £55,000, including £2,000 on

pirate T-shirts and £600 on Jolly Roger flags. This year's event was funded privately, Mr Cliffe said yesterday, with the council giving a "modest contribution" believed to be about £1,500.

EU ban sparks vacuum cleaner rush

EU RULES that will suck the power out of vacuum cleaners have caused a near stampede at some UK electrical stores as buyers tried to snap up more powerful models before new legislation kicked in on Friday.

The imports of machines which operate at more than 900 watts has been stopped by EU directive, making the second blow in a round of regulations brought in three years ago to curb household energy use. Initial legislation slashed 2,000 watt motors to 1,600 watts, with the latest drop set to render the motors of some weaker than those of food blenders.

Retailers have stocked up on powerful machines ahead of the ban. Currys PC World spokesman Freddie Dare said: "When the legislation first came into effect in 2014, we saw a

sudden rush of customers coming in to pick up a powerful vacuum cleaner.

"We're predicting a similar demand in the lead up to the legislation coming into effect on Friday."

Popular models used in millions of homes will have a considerably reduced ability to suck up dirt. Britain will fare worse than most of our European neighbours as carpets are more common than on the Continent. There is even a potential health risk as lower powered cleaners will struggle to pick up allergy-provoking dust. Similar Brussels diktats over the years have contributed to huge support for the assorted crusades to get Britain out of the EU.

Ukip energy spokesman and MEP Roger Helmer said Britain must fight to break free of European



ON THE CARPET: the EU says most vacuum cleaners use too much energy

regulations after Brexit.

He said: "By all means let's make pathetic under-powered vacuum cleaners for export to the EU. "But we must retain the right to make and use sensible full-powered appliances in the UK. This shows why we must not agree to be bound by EU rules after Brexit."

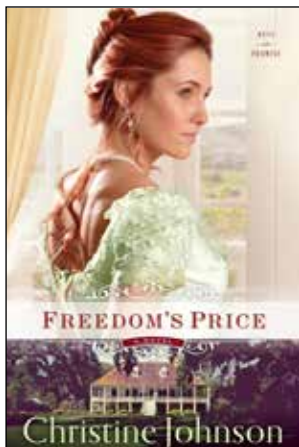
Dr Benny Peiser, of the Global Warming Policy Foundation, said the move will simply force people to use less-efficient machines for longer. He said: "This is of course absolutely bonkers and has nothing to do with energy, climate or saving the planet. "I suspect it has more to do

with businesses in Europe wanting to compete with successful industry in Britain. All that will happen is appliances will be less efficient and people will have to use them for longer."

The rules apply to upright and cylinder vacuum cleaners.

Freedom's Price: things were different then...

Exclusive interview with author Christine Johnson discussing her novel set in 1856



"My curiosity was piqued by the true story of a young woman who came to America from Germany in 1856," says Freedom's Price author Christine Johnson.

"Her ship was caught in a hurricane and wrecked on a reef off the Florida Keys. She fell in love with the wrecker, a ship salvager, who rescued her. That got my imagination going. What if the heroine of my book came from England instead of Germany? What would

prompt her to make such a life-altering decision? It's not like today, after all. In 1856, she would likely never see England again."

The book opens with Englishwoman Catherine Haynes, who has already lost both parents, caught in a hurricane as travels to America. She is saved from shipwreck off Key West but on arrival at the family's Louisiana plantation she finds no one there. The place is in a shambles. With the help of Tom Worthington, who makes his living salvaging wrecked ships, she will try to make it a home. Freedom's Price, which is part of the Keys of Promise series, shares with the other books in the group a strong foundation in the history of Key West.

"Part of the research for the series involved spending a great deal of time in the historical collections housed at the

Monroe County Public Library in Key West," says Johnson. "They house many documents, including the admiralty court records from the era. Alas, some of the information that would have been very useful was lost to hurricanes and fires over the years."

"My favorite part was the hands-on research of finding historical locations, such as a home from the era, and then searching for elements in the location that still remain from the 1850s or earlier," says Johnson. "Since many are museums, the docents and caretakers often offered additional information that I wouldn't have thought to ask. It can be challenging to mentally recreate how a place must have looked, smelled, sounded, etc. 150 years ago. The Key West of today is nothing like the Key West of the 1850s. Even the shape

of the island is different. Exotic species have been added, so botanical gardens were very helpful in discerning what might have been growing on the island in the mid-19th century."

Freedom's Price is a Christian faith-based story which is also set partly in Louisiana, near New Orleans with plenty of nautical settings involving sailboats and paddlewheel steamships.

"It's less a question of weaving in a faith thread, and more a matter of building characters whose faith is important to them," says Johnson. "Then, especially when under duress, their faith will be a key element in the decision process. If

a character is struggling with faith, it's also a large element in their thinking, because he or she will be struggling to figure out how faith fits in with what is happening. In this book, the theme of freedom from bondage, from spiritual to physical, grew organically out of the characters and situations."

Johnson has written three books in the Keys of Promise series: Love's Rescue, Honor Redeemed and Freedom's Price. She has written twelve books for Love Inspired Historical, for which she has won the Laurel Wreath and the Write Touch awards. She is currently finishing the last book in that series,



BOOK CORNER with Gabrielle Pantera

which will be released in December.

John and her husband are based in rural Michigan, on the shores of Lake Huron, and in the Florida Keys.

Freedom's Price by Christine Johnson. Series: Keys of Promise (Book 3). Paperback: 336 pages. Publisher: Revell. June 6, 2017. Language: English, ISBN: 9780800723521 \$14.99

BABC hosts Business Mixer: 'The Future of Los Angeles'

The British American Business Council in Los Angeles is gearing up for its traditionally busy Fall schedule and first on the docket this month is a networking mixer at the Fairmont Hotel & Bungalows in Santa Monica where the guest speaker will be Alan Rothenberg - Chairman of 1st Century Bank - discussing the "Future of Los Angeles".

The British American Business Council Los Angeles is a key chapter in the largest

transatlantic business network. With 22 chapters and 2,000 member companies, including many of the world's largest multinationals, based in major business centers throughout North America and the United Kingdom, the BABC offers world-class networking and business opportunities.

The organization hosts events year round, including their successful Distinguished Speaker Series, Silicon

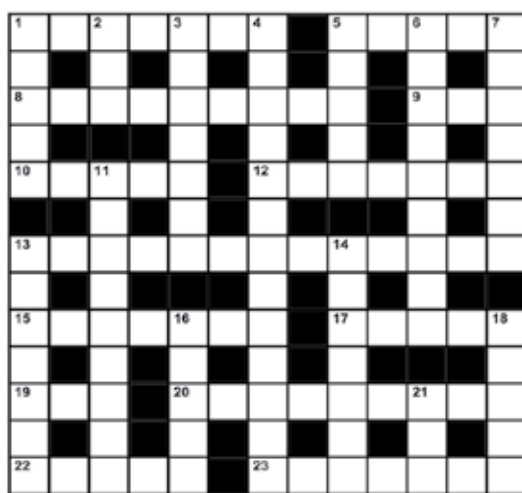
Beach and Women in Business Breakfasts, as well as bi-monthly Business Networking Mixers. And don't forget their annual Christmas party, considered by many to be THE social highlight of the year for the British American business community.

The Fairmont Hotel mixer is scheduled for 6pm on Tuesday September 19th and space is limited, so to book your tickets contact the BABC at www.babcla.com.

The British Weekly Crossword by Myles Mellor. #302

Across

- 1 Chemistry, biology and physics are branches of it (7)
- 5 Heading (5)
- 8 Persuaded (9)
- 9 Extra money for the waiter (3)
- 10 Bang up (5)
- 12 Most unsightly (7)
- 13 Crossing borders (13)
- 15 Family tree entry (7)
- 17 VAT part (5)
- 19 Long time period (3)
- 20 Yanks (9)
- 22 "A Midsummer Night's ____" (5)
- 23 "Ruby ____" (7)



Down

- 1 Boxes (5)
- 2 It may have a vacancy (3)
- 3 Not one or the other (7)
- 4 Inspiration (13)
- 5 Like some pools (5)
- 6 Having a decorative style (9)
- 7 City of importance (7)
- 11 Sub (9)
- 13 Rather (7)
- 14 John Lennon's most famous song (7)
- 16 Morning wake-up call (5)
- 18 Singer Springfield (5)
- 21 Assistance (3)

Solution to Puzzle #301



The British Weekly Sudoku by Myles Mellor • #302



Solution to Sudoku #301





Jucy Rentals reinvent the RV

Greetings Britlings:

Last week's musings from Eileen about good places to take visitors got me thinking about my own visitors from overseas.

If you are like me you probably have a lot of visitors throughout the year, and some that repeat, so finding new things for them to do and enjoy can be a challenge. How about Disneyland, or Universal, Venice Boardwalk, Santa Monica pier? Oh look there's the Hollywood sign!!

Been there, done that?

My sister Sharon and her friend Audrey were recently over for a fortnight and opted for another classic American adventure; the road trip. They rented an RV and set out to discover our beautiful West Coast. They booked through **Jucy RV**, the small RV specialists (www.

jucyusa.com) where prices start at around \$45/day (depending on the season, dates and availability). They upgraded to a Trailblazer RV - which is the size of an SUV but with a penthouse extendable sleeping compartment on the roof. The RV includes a mini fridge, a stove top, two very comfortable double beds and bedding (sleeps up to 4 people), towels... and it even includes the kitchen sink!

The gals decided on a four-day trip down the coast heading towards San Diego. First stopping in Newport Beach at **Crystal Cove campground**, (www.crystalcovestatepark.org) It's pretty new and boasts a great location overlooking the ocean. There are over three miles of beach to explore and 2,400 acres of

backcountry wilderness. It's family friendly and well-equipped for about \$50 a night to camp (\$75 if you need electricity). But beware of the locals: the ranger informed them to look out for coyotes, rattlesnakes, wildboar and **BUNNY RABBITS** - which of course got a huge giggle from the girls.

From there they headed south to **San Clemente**, where they found a lovely camping spot up on the bluff overlooking the ocean. Sharon told me going to sleep while hearing the waves crash on the shore was pretty spectacular - this place also has fire pits, picnic tables and shading from the sun. (parks.ca.gov).

The next day their journey took them a little more inland, as they stayed at the **La Jolla Indian** campground (22000 Hwy 76 Pauma Valley, CA 92601 - info at www.lajollaindians.com). This is a great spot for hiking and the smell of the outdoors. The place also has a really quaint coastline with a lot of beach activities available, from surfing, canoeing and paddle boarding and some of the best snorkeling in



LOOK OUT CALIFORNIA: The Jucy Crew of Sharon and Audrey gear up for their recent Southern California road trip

Southern California, if that floats your boat.

The final night the pair drove to San Diego, staying at **Sunland RV** resort, (sdrvresort.com) which has a pool for those afraid of the ocean - (anyone seen Jaws?) Prices starts at around \$77 a night. They took lunch at the famous Del Coronado Hotel, where the Jack Lemmon/Tony Curtis/Marilyn Monroe classic

"Some Like It Hot" was filmed. They found the best way to explore San Diego was by renting the **City Bikes**. (\$15 for two hours) They also had a lot of fun shopping and eating in the Gaslight district.

All in all they thoroughly enjoyed the experience and can't wait to come back and explore the Northern route of California, to visit places like Ojai, Santa Barbara,

Carmel, and San Jose. So until then, Happy Camping!

If you are inclined to take a tent and get out there, don't forget the essentials: a couple of flashlights (with spare batteries), a whistle, tons of bug spray and a charger for your phone, just in case you get a chance to capture those deadly bunny rabbits!

Happy Trails! Craig Young.



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Stargazing with Annie Shaw



ARIES: Your planetary guest Uranus is no stranger to drama and your boss Mars is getting a little pushed around...which is NOT in his natures since he prefers to be in charge. So keep a cool head at all times and in all situations. Bear in mind nothing lasts forever. Try to use this down time to chill out.

TAURUS : You need to listen to wiser souls who are directing you to a complete change. This can be in any area, however if it is your health and well being in the spotlight it must be at the top of your priority list. Follow the path of least resistance for a while.

GEM INI: With Mercury and Saturn going forward next week you are about to enact changes that have been on the back burner for too long. Keep some time these next couple of weeks to have an emotional change of heart.

CAN CER: With the love planet Venus visiting, you be able to make some changes that have been long overdue. You might feel you have been spinning around with out any direction to focus on. That is about to change. Take a short trip with good friends or family and..... rest.

LEO: As the new month begins you could find yourself less restricted in several ways. Your priority should be your own highest good overall. You have been holding on to outdated thoughts and ways for too long...it is time to trust that you will be taken care of now.

VIR GO: Be on the safe side this week - make family and friends your priority and the reward will be a sense of pride for putting things to rest. If someone is resisting you, do not get upset, just let it go. It will all look better by mid-September. Happy Birthday.

LIB RA: Saturn is finally progressing in your area of communications and learning. This means you can expect help in enacting changes, especially relating to others. Ask for any assistance that you can get and make the next month a winning period.

SCOR PIO: Pressure in several areas may have got you down and feeling blue recently. This is not surprising, especially in the area of relationships and finance. However, with Jupiter's help within a few days you can expect to be back in the good graces of the Universe.

SAG ITTARIUS: Whatever way you look at your life it's a bit of a balancing act currently. The good news is now your boss Jupiter is moving in a positive way, which will balance out sooner than later for you. However do not take any short cuts as you are still dealing with Saturn, who is keeping a watchful eye on you.

CAPRICORN: It is time to tell the people in your life to back off and give you some space. Whatever is lurking in the shadows of your mind will not come to the light to be healed or changed if you bury your head in the sand. Seek to overcome your self-made shadow and be sure that you give yourself some space.

AQUARIUS: Meetings of the minds is starred this coming week for you in work areas. There will be the much on your agenda these next few days or so. Be open to what you hear from others. It will be much to your advantage to listen and not react.

PISC ES: This month ahead be ready to take a trip at a moment's notice. It may bring the change you have asked for and if nothing else you will feel much more in control and ready for anything. Word of warning: put your own wants and needs first.

A VERY PSYCHIC TEA....

In the Tea Room at Ye Olde Kings Head with famed stargazer and psychic Annie Shaw. For bookings call: (310) 392-1681

'Smash and Grab' take on Dickens classic opens this week in Pasadena

FANS OF CHARLES DICKENS (and who isn't?) will not want to miss the American premiere of Mike Poulton's acclaimed and popular adaptation of A Tale of Two Cities, which starts previews September 3rd (ahead of their September 9th opening) and runs through November 19

at A Noise Within in Pasadena. Since its publication 158 years ago, more than 200 million copies of A Tale of Two Cities have been printed - making it the second bestselling single-volume book of all time (the first is Cervantes' Don Quixote). Set in London and Paris before and during the

French Revolution. A Tale of Two Cities (1859) depicts the plight of the French peasantry demoralized by the aristocracy in the years leading up to the revolution, the corresponding brutality demonstrated by the revolutionaries toward the former aristocrats in the early years of the revolution, and many



OF THE MOMENT? a scene from the British tour of A Tale of Two Cities

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unflattering social parallels with life in London during the same period.

While A Tale of Two Cities is always timely - its famous opening words "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times ... it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair" don't let us forget that idea -- it speaks directly to America now.

Playwright-adaptor Poulton is best known for Wolf Hall, Bring Up

the Bodies and Fortune's Fool and his plays and adaptations have been seen on Broadway, in the West End, at the Royal Shakespeare Company, the Theatre Royal, and - as was the case with this new adaptation - on tour throughout Great Britain.

The Guardian said the show's UK incarnation "felt like a smash-and-grab raid on Dickens's text," adding "Such relentless pace, matched by the dynamism of

James Dacre's staging, keeps this Tale of Two Cities fresh. It should, by rights, feel doughy and dusty...Instead, as the French revolution takes hold, Poulton builds up the terminal velocity of a political thriller."

The show will be performed at A Noise Within's stage at 3352 E. Foothill Boulevard in Pasadena. Tickets start at only \$25 and can be bought by visiting anoisewithin.org

BRITISH WEEKLY SPORT

Sanchez:

cont. from back page

for the 21-year-old France international.

City are currently not prepared to resurrect a deal for Sanchez by offering a player in exchange or more

money for a straight cash deal.

Barring a remarkable last-minute turn of events Sanchez, who wanted to join City to be reunited with his former Barcelona manager Pep Guardiola, will stay at Arsenal.

He is into the final year of his contract and is likely

to leave on a free transfer next summer.

One player who is leaving the Emirates is striker Lucas Perez, signed last summer for £17.1m, who is returning to former club Deportivo La Coruna on loan after scoring seven goals in 21 games for the Gunners.



SERGE AURIER: combustible character?

Last-gasp Spurs snag Aurier and Lorente

DANIEL LEVY'S infamous last-minute brinkmanship in the transfer market may have yielded better results this year as Spurs completed the signings of Serge Aurier and Fernando Llorente as the transfer deadline ticked down.

Aurier moved from Paris St-Germain for a fee in the region of £23m on Wednesday. The Ivory Coast right-back, 24, signing a five-year contract until 2022.

And barely 24 hours later the club day scooped Chelsea to seal the transfer of Swansea striker Fernando Llorente on a two-year deal for an undisclosed fee.

The Blues had been close to a reported £15m deal for the 32-year-old, who played under Chelsea boss

Antonio Conte at Juventus. But the Spaniard has joined Spurs instead, becoming the club's fifth addition of the transfer window.

Llorente joined Swansea in August 2016 and scored 15 goals as the club avoided relegation last season.

But Chelsea HAVE signed midfielder Danny Drinkwater from Leicester City for £35m.

The 27-year-old was a key part of the Foxes side that won the Premier League in 2015-16, but asked to leave the club amid interest from the Blues. Drinkwater played in 35 of Leicester's 38 league games in their title-winning season and formed an impressive

midfield partnership with N'Golo Kante, who joined Chelsea last July.

Windies stun England in Second Test

England 258 & 490-8 dec: Moeen 84, Root 72, Malan 61, Woakes 61 West Indies 427 & 322-5: S Hope 118*, K Brathwaite 95 West Indies win by five wickets

West Indies produced a masterful chase to win a Test in England for the first time in 17 years with a five-wicket victory in a thrilling match this week.

The nerveless Shai Hope led them to their target of 322, becoming the first man to score a century in both innings of a first-class match at Headingley.

Opener Kraigg Brathwaite had earlier struck a superb 95 after being dropped by Alastair Cook on four.

Aided by Jermaine Blackwood's 41, Hope hit the winning runs to finish on 118.

Victory for the tourists - which looked unlikely at the start of day five, particularly given their heavy defeat in the first Test - ties the series at 1-1 before the decider at Lord's from 7-11 September.

In scoring the 317 further runs they required on day five, West Indies completed the 20th highest successful fourth-innings chase in Test history, and third highest in England.

Hope entered this Test with an average of 18 after 11 matches, but leaves it having set one of the most long-awaited records in cricket history - this was the 534th first-class match played at Headingley.

Captain Joe Root declared with England on 490-8 in their second innings late on day four, giving West Indies six tricky overs to negotiate before the close.

Ultimately, Root and England may have to just concede that - Anderson aside - they did not bowl full or accurately enough on a balanced pitch and were beaten by two batting performances of rare quality.

Premier League		HOME		AWAY		Pts	
	P	W	D	L	F	A	
1 Man Utd	3	2	0	0	6	0	9
2 Liverpool	3	2	0	0	5	0	7
3 Huddersfield	3	1	1	0	1	0	7
4 Man City	3	0	1	0	1	1	7
5 West Brom	3	1	1	0	2	1	7
6 Chelsea	3	1	0	1	4	3	6
7 Watford	3	0	2	0	3	3	5
8 Southampton	3	1	1	0	3	2	5
9 Tottenham	3	0	1	1	2	3	4
10 Burnley	3	0	0	1	0	1	4
11 Stoke	3	1	0	0	1	0	4
12 Everton	3	1	0	0	1	0	4
13 Swansea	3	0	0	1	0	4	4
14 Newcastle	3	1	0	1	3	2	4
15 Leicester	3	1	0	0	2	0	4
16 Arsenal	3	1	0	0	4	3	3
17 Brighton	3	0	0	1	0	2	1
18 Bournemouth	3	0	0	2	1	4	0
19 Crystal Palace	3	0	0	2	0	5	0
20 West Ham	3	0	0	0	0	0	0

Weekend Football League

sky BET CHAMPIONSHIP		sky BET LEAGUE ONE		sky BET LEAGUE TWO	
BARNLEY (2).....3	SUNDERLAND (0).....0	AFC WIMB DN (0).....2	DONCASTER (0).....0	BARNET (0).....0	STEVENAGE (1).....1
Ugbo 31	Att: 15,697	Apiah 58	Att: 4,144	Cambridge (0).....0	Morecambe (0).....0
Barnes 35, Moncur 67		Blackburn (2).....4	MK DONS (1).....1	Cheltenham (2).....3	Exeter (2).....4
BIRMINGHAM (0).....0	READING (0).....2	Williams 2	Att: 10,111	Dowson 8, 12	Moore-Taylor 39
Att: 19,993	Bodvarsson 60	Muirgrew 29, 77		Holman 90	Roid 45, 77 (pen)
BRENTFORD (0).....0	WOLVES (0).....0	Samuel 83		Att: 3,168	Taylor 78
Att: 10,351		BLACKPOOL (2).....2	OLDHAM (0).....1	Colechester (2).....5	FOREST GRN (1).....1
BURTON ALB (0).....1	SHEFF WED (1).....1	Longstaff 6	Att: 4,642	Reid 4, Kent 21	Noble 23
Mason 65	Hooper 36	Vassell 15		Szmodics 65	Att: 3,047
CARDIFF (2).....2	QPR (1).....1	BRISTOL RVRS (2).....3	FLEETWOOD (0).....1	Vincent-Young 74	
Hollist 22	Smith 15	Sinclair 28	Att: 8,363	Senior 90	
Bamba 45	Att: 18,520	Bodin 43, Harrison 79	GILLINGHAM (0).....3	GRIMSBY (0).....2	WYCOMBE (2).....3
IPSWICH (0).....0	FULHAM (1).....2	Eaves 56, 63, 80	Att: 6,685	Rose 52 (pen)	Aventonwa 28, 75
Att: 16,844	Kebano 35	Payne 83; Att: 7,120	OXFORD UTD (0).....1	Hooper 65	Jacobsen 43 (pen)
MIDDLESBRO (0).....0	PRESTON N E (0).....0	Revel 85	Van Kessel 75	Lincoln C (1).....4	Att: 4,016
Att: 25,295	Rui Fonte 51	ROTHAMPTON (0).....1	PLYMOUTH (0).....0	Edwards 32, Morias 41	Att: 8,345
MILLWALL (3).....4	NORWICH (0).....0	Revel 85	Att: 9,605	Momott 70	Lambe 75
Gregory 15, Saville 17	Wallace 42, Hutchinson 72	ROTHAMPTON (0).....1	ROCHEDALE (0).....0	Maddison 90 (pen)	Att: 9,345
NOTTM FOR (0).....0	LEEDS (1).....2	ROTHAMPTON (0).....1	Att: 4,601	Shrewsbury (0).....1	Att: 4,332
Att: 25,682	Alfonsi 87	ROTHAMPTON (0).....0	CHARLTON (1).....2	Van Kessel 75	Att: 4,332
SHEFF UTD (2).....3	DERBY (0).....1	ROTHAMPTON (0).....0	Att: 4,817	Wigan (1).....1	Att: 3,754
Sharp 4, 90	Bryson 90	ROTHAMPTON (0).....0	WIGAN (1).....1	Att: 9,685	Att: 3,754
Russell 39 (og)	Att: 26,202	ROTHAMPTON (0).....0	WIGAN (1).....1	Chaplin 76	Att: 3,754
Cardiff.....5	0	0	10	2	15
Ipswich.....5	4	0	1	9	12
Leeds.....5	3	2	0	7	2
Wolves.....5	3	1	1	7	4
Sheff Utd.....5	3	0	2	5	4
Notre Forest.....5	3	0	2	8	9
Preston North End.....5	2	2	1	2	1
Hull.....5	2	1	2	12	7
Middlesbrough.....5	2	1	2	4	3
QPR.....5	2	1	2	6	6
Reading.....5	2	1	2	5	7
Derby.....5	2	1	2	5	7
Bristol City.....5	1	3	1	7	6
Fulham.....5	1	3	1	4	3
Barnsley.....5	2	0	3	7	6
Sheff Wed.....5	1	3	1	4	4
Millwall.....5	1	2	2	8	5
Aston Villa.....5	1	2	2	7	9
Sunderland.....5	1	2	2	5	8
Birmingham.....5	1	1	3	3	6
Bristol Albion.....5	1	1	3	4	4
Norwich.....5	1	1	3	6	12
Brentford.....5	0	2	3	5	9
Bolton.....5	0	2	3	4	10

Weekend Scotland

SCOTLAND		ON OF STH (2).....4	
Gasperotto 89	Kerr 2	Doobie 41, 46, 48 (pen)	Att: 4,108
MORTON (0).....0	LIVINGSTON (0).....1	Att: 1,599	Mullen 60
ST MIRREN (1).....3	DUNDEE UTD (0).....0	Morgan 26, 48	Att: 4,768
McShane 78			
Dunfermline.....4	3	1	0
Queen of South.....4	3	0	1
St Mirren.....4	3	0	1
Dunfermline.....4	3	0	1
Morton.....4	1	2	1
Livingston.....4	1	2	1
Inverness CT.....4	1	1	2
Dumbarton.....4	0	2	2
Falkirk.....4	0	1	3
Brechin.....4	0	1	3

League One		League Two	
AIRDRIEONIANS (1).....2	ALLOA (0).....0	ANNAN ATH (0).....0	MONTROSE (1).....1
AYR (1).....1	ARBROATH (1).....2	CLYDE (0).....1	STENHSMUIR (1).....1
EAST FIFE (0).....0	RAITH (3).....5	COWDENBTH (0).....0	BERWICK (1).....1
FORFAR (0).....0	ALBION (1).....2	EDINBURGH C (0).....0	ELGIN (2).....3
QUEEN'S PRK (1).....2	STRANRAER (2).....2	PETERHEAD (1).....2	STIRLING (4).....4

Klopp lands £35m Ox

■ Alex snubs Blues after Chelsea agree to higher price

Liverpool have completed the £35m signing of England midfielder Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain from Arsenal.

The 24-year-old, who rejected a move to Chelsea on Tuesday AFTER a £40m fee had been agreed between the two clubs, joins on a five-year contract worth £120,000 a week.

Oxlade-Chamberlain, who was in the last year of his Arsenal contract, rejected a new deal worth up to £180,000 a week to stay at the Emirates.

The England international, who has started each of Arsenal's four games so far this season did not want to play wing back, the position for which he had been earmarked by Blues boss Antonio Conte.

Oxlade-Chamberlain made 198 appearances

for Arsenal since joining them from Southampton in August 2011, scoring 20 goals.

"I know my choice might come as a surprise to many, and the decision to leave was tough after being a part of the club for so many years, but I feel that this move is right for the next stage in my ongoing development," he said in an Instagram post.

Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp said he was "really happy" to have signed an "exciting" talent he "didn't need to think twice" about.

The German described Oxlade-Chamberlain as a "positive" player who is "willing to take risks" and "has the mentality and desire to get even better".

He added: "This is someone making a tough decision to leave one great club and come to another great club and I think he



OXLADE CHAMBERLAIN: the player endeared himself to Liverpool fans last year by telling Steven Gerrard on TV that he would love to fill the legend's shoes at Anfield

had many options, so to get him means I am delighted.

"He didn't make an easy decision but I think he made a great one to go on this journey with this squad of talented boys and our great supporters. I welcome him to the Liverpool family."

So far this summer, Liverpool have signed from Roma for £34m, full-striker Dominic Solanke back Andrew Robertson after his contract at Chelsea winger Mohamed Salah from Hull for £8m and expired.

City end Sanchez chase

Manchester City's bid to sign Arsenal forward Alexis Sanchez looks to be over after the Gunners failed to secure a replacement before Thursday's transfer deadline.

It was reported a

conditional agreement was reached in principle between City and Arsenal for Sanchez, 28, to move to Etihad Stadium.

The fee was £55m, plus £5m add-ons, but it depended on Arsenal replacing him.

Their target was Monaco winger Thomas Lemar, who is thought to have decided against a move.

A fee in the region of £90m had reportedly been agreed between the Gunners and Monaco

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