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EBOLA: Screening starts after first British death

■ As London man succumbs in Macedonia, screening begins at airports and on Eurostar

AMID RISING FEARS OF a global Ebola epidemic, the UK has begun screening arrivals at both its major airports and London's EuroStar terminal.

The development came shortly after reports that the deadly virus had claimed its first British victim, a 58 year-old man who died in Macedonia on Thursday morning after suffering Ebola-like symptoms.

A second man, a friend of the deceased, has also shown symptoms of the disease. The man's death and nationality was confirmed by the Macedonian Foreign Ministry Thursday evening.

The spokesman said the friend told the authorities there they had travelled to Skopje directly from Britain and had not been in any country known to have Ebola outbreaks - raising the terrifying possibility that he contracted the disease in the UK or Macedonia.

Public concern about the risk of the disease spreading to Britain has led to calls from some

politicians for the government to step up its border defences.

"Enhanced screening will initially be implemented at London's Heathrow and Gatwick airports and Eurostar terminals," a statement from prime minister David Cameron's office said on Thursday.

"[It] will involve assessing passengers' recent travel history, who they have been in contact with and onward travel arrangements as well as a possible medical assessment, conducted by trained medical personnel."

three weeks

The government said the overall risk to Britain remained low but that the additional screening had been recommended by the country's chief medical officer as a way to improve detection and isolation of Ebola cases.

Ebola can take as long as three weeks before victims show symptoms, at which point the disease becomes contagious and can be spread through contact with bodily fluids such as blood or saliva.

On Wednesday, the US government ordered five airports to start

screening passengers from West Africa for fever. Canada said it was taking similar measures.

Public Health England (PHE), the government body that deals with protection against infectious disease, had earlier warned that screening is not fully effective at catching

cases because symptoms take time to develop and are not unique to Ebola.

"Screening at borders sets up a security that is sometimes dangerous because then people think the solution is there," David Heymann, chairman of PHE told Sky TV.

Earlier this week, PHE

said there were no plans to introduce any form of entry screening, citing advice from the WHO.

Ebola has a 50% chance of reaching the UK within three weeks, new research has suggested, because of London's status as a major international transport hub.

Manchester lads rock Santa Monica Place.....



Hundreds of fans gathered at Santa Monica Place Wednesday night to watch the Manchester four-piece Rixton perform at a free concert. The band performed their new single, *Wait On Me* from their debut album, *Let The Road* set for release on January 6. After the concert, fans received autographs and took photos with the band. (Photo: CODE FOUR)

UKIP sweeps to victory in Clacton

- Stunning win gives upstart party first seat at Westminster
- General election now a battle between 'at least four parties'

The UK Independence Party has gained its first-ever elected MP, with Douglas Carswell taking the seat of Clacton by 12,404 votes on Thursday.

Mr Carswell, who defected from the Conservatives, knocked his old party, which enjoyed a 12,068 majority at the 2010 election, into second place.

Meanwhile, Labour held on to Heywood and Middleton, Greater Manchester, but UKIP slashed its majority to 617.

Turnout was 51% in Clacton and 36% in Heywood and Middleton.

When Mr Carswell, a Tory MP since 2005, defected, he also resigned as an MP to trigger the by-election in the Essex seaside town.

'Stay true'

In his acceptance speech Mr Carswell, who gained 21,113 votes (59.75%) on a 44% swing from the Conservatives, said: "I resigned from parliament to face this election because I answer first, foremost and last to you. You are my boss. I will not let you down.

"To my new party I offer these thoughts:

humility when we win, modesty when we are proved right. If we speak with passion, let it always be tempered by compassion.

"We must be a party for all Britain and all Britons: first and second generation as much as every other. Our strength must lie in our breadth.

"If we stay true to that there is nothing that we cannot achieve. Nothing we cannot achieve in Essex and East Anglia, in England and the whole country beyond."

Labour 'in trouble'

He condemned the other Westminster parties for operating "cosy cartel politics". His party leader, Nigel Farage, said: "Congratulations Douglas Carswell, a brave and honourable man who has a just reward."

In 2008, another Tory MP, Bob Spink, defected to UKIP but he did not resign and stand for election.

In Clacton, Conservative candidate Giles Watling got 8,709 votes (24.6%). Labour's Tim Young got 3,957 (11.20%) and the Green Party's Chris Southall 688 (1.95%). Andy Graham of

the Liberal Democrats came fifth with 483 votes (1.37%).

Mr Watling said: "I intend to stand here next May at the general election when this country will face a clear choice of who they want to be the leader - David Cameron or Ed Miliband."

A "bundle check" of votes took place in Heywood and Middleton after the initial count, because of the closeness of the result in the seat, which has been held by Labour since its creation in 1983.

Labour's Liz McInnes got 11,633 votes (41%), with UKIP's John Bickley gaining 11,016 (39%).

Conservative Iain Gartside came third with 3,496 votes (12%) and Liberal Democrat Anthony Smith fourth with 1,457 (5%). The swing from Labour to UKIP was 18%.

'Very different election'

Ms McInnes told the BBC: "I'm going to work damn hard in this constituency. People here will have an MP who is going to fight for their interests."

But Mr Bickley said: "Labour are in big trouble. This should have

been a safe seat. They have thrown everything at it and they have only just scraped home."

Elections expert Professor John Curtice of Strathclyde University said: "We have to accept that the battle in England for May 2015 is not going to be a battle between simply three parties; it's going to be a battle between at least four parties.

"And bear in mind that also according to some of the opinion polls, the Greens are running at 5% or 6% as well. We are looking at a very different kind of electoral competition in England from anything we have previously experienced in post-war elections."

The Heywood and Middleton contest was prompted by the death of long-serving Labour MP Jim Dobbin last month. His majority at the last general election was 5,971.

Another by-election is due to take place next month in Rochester and Strood, Kent, following the resignation of Mark Reckless who, like Mr Carswell, defected from the Conservatives to UKIP. Mr Reckless is also running for re-election.



MAJOR REALIGNMENT IN BRITISH POLITICS?

Ukip's victory in Clacton, which follows Douglas Carswell's defection in August, marks a major breakthrough for the party (Getty Images)

Booming Britain set to outpace its rivals

The UK remains on course to outpace the world's major advanced economies this year, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has said.

Growth is projected to average 3.2 per cent this year and 2.7 per cent in 2015, which is about a quarter of a percentage point stronger than forecast by the IMF in April but unchanged on its last estimate in July.

The 2014 projection, disclosed in the IMF's World Economic Outlook, is better than the organisation's other forecasts that the United States will grow by 2.2 per cent this year, Germany by 1.4 per cent and France by only 0.4 per cent.

Rising geopolitical tensions, the moderation of growth in emerging markets and a slowing

eurozone economy mean the IMF's overall global output forecast is 3.3 per cent this year, which is 0.4 per cent lower than April's forecast. The figure for 2015 is also slightly lower at 3.8 per cent.

The IMF said: "Despite setbacks, an uneven global recovery continues.

"In advanced economies, the legacies of the pre-crisis boom and the subsequent crisis, including high private and public debt, still cast a shadow on the recovery."

Since the IMF's forecast last year that the UK would grow by just 1.5% in 2014, the recovery has been driven by consumer spending and a tentative rebound in the production sector.



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Country gentleman: Clooney snaps up £10 million Berkshire manor house

George Clooney and his new wife, the London-based human rights lawyer Amal Alamuddin, appear to have settled for their marital home on the River Thames in Berkshire.

It didn't take long for word to spread through the small Berkshire village of Sonning that someone had bought one of the finest homes in the area - a £10million Grade II listed manor house on the River Thames.

But when it was revealed that the buyer may be none other than George Clooney, arguably one of the most famous men on the planet, there was a certain amount of

confusion among the locals.

"It was the vicar of our local church who told me," said Trishaws Redrup, 78, a retired designer. "But to be honest I couldn't quite believe it. Why Sonning?"

"It's a lovely place, on the river, but I can't imagine he'll find much time to spend here - what with all his work in America."

The nine-bed roomed house has its own library, gym, spa and steam room, along with a cellar and a boathouse and separate cottage for guests or staff.

Set in four acres and surrounded by dense trees and expansive gardens it offer all the seclusion required of an

A-list couple.

And with Uri Geller and Theresa May, the Home Secretary, living nearby, the residents of Sonning are used to spotting the occasional celebrity.

Nevertheless the imminent arrival of Mr and Mrs Clooney has caused more than a little excitement.

Mrs Redrup is among several women in the village who are now hoping to get the opportunity to see the actor, and his wife, up close before too long.

"It would be nice if they started taking part in some of the village activities," she said.

Marisol Frost, 39, said: "It's nice that he has chosen Sonning and we



SETTLING DOWN BY THE THAMES: newlyweds Amal Alamuddin and George Clooney

will make them very welcome."

Her friend Sarah Hele, 40, added: "We are a small, friendly community where people get involved. It's a great place.

"We have the village show every year and the Scarecrow hunt every two years. The village rounders match is also great fun and the school children do a lovely nativity play in the local church."

Clooney and his wife were reportedly spotted in the village pub, The Bull Inn, on Saturday night - apparently after viewing their new home. One resident wrote on Twitter: "George Clooney has bought a



GEORGE'S LOCAL: the couple were spotted at the Bull Inn on Saturday night after viewing their new home

house in my village and was drinking in my local last night. We're going to become best mates."

No doubt hoping for return custom Christine Mason, the landlady, was remaining discreet about the visit. But she said the couple would be more than welcome to pop in for a pint. "We are a real taste of England," she said. Clooney is understood to have been drawn to the area after visiting the nearby Oxfordshire village of Fingest last June to shoot scenes for his film *The Monuments Men*.

Ailing Morrissey: 'If I die, then I die'

■ Singer likely to have undergone cancer treatment

SINGER MORRISSEY has seemingly confirmed that he is suffering from cancer.

Over the past few years, the former Smiths frontman (pictured, right) has been forced to cancel a string of live dates citing various illnesses - from double pneumonia to bleeding ulcers.

And speaking during a Spanish language interview with *El Mundo*, this week, he appears to explain that he has undergone a series of treatments.

"They have scraped cancerous tissues four times already, but whatever," he told the publication.

"If I die, then I die. And if I don't, then I don't. Right now I feel good. I am aware that in some of



my recent photos I look somewhat unhealthy, but that's what illness can do. I'm not going to worry about that, I'll rest when I'm dead."

He went on to say he feels he's reached an age when he "should no longer be making music".

"Many composers of classical music died at age 34. And I'm still here, and nobody knows what to do with me.

"With luck I will be able to stop singing forever, which would make many people happy!"

Morrissey most recently pulled out of a tour of the United States in June,

citing a respiratory infection. He said that doctors had warned him last year to stop touring, but that he had ignored the advice because the lifestyle has "ingrained" within in.

In typical Morrissey style, he continued to pour vitriol at well known targets. This time, the Beckhams felt his wrath. As did the BBC for their apparently biased coverage of the Scottish referendum.

Of the Beckhams, he said: "They are nothing, but their egos are a b n o r m a l l y overdeveloped."

And of the BBC's coverage of the Scottish issue, the singer, a staunch proponent of the Yes vote, opined: "They did everything possible to tilt the vote toward no and never reported on the potential benefits of an independent Scotland."

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McCanns 'Twitter troll' found dead in hotel

■ Vicious poster believed to have taken own life after being outed by Sky News reporter

A 63-year-old woman who was accused of targeting internet abuse at the family of Madeleine McCann has been found dead in a hotel.

Brenda Leyland, from Burton Overy, Leicestershire, was accused of being one of

the so-called "trolls" directing abusive messages at the McCanns. Her body was found days after she was confronted outside her home by a Sky News reporter.

Madeleine McCann disappeared while on holiday in Portugal in

2007. Mrs Leyland was confronted by the reporter who put to her she had posted messages attacking the family on Twitter via the handle @sweepyface.

She replied: "I'm entitled to do that." A spokesman for



NASTY: Brenda Leyland was said to use the handle @sweepyface on Twitter

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Leicestershire Police said: "Police were called at 13:42 on Saturday 4 October to reports of a body of a woman in a hotel room in Smith Way, Grove Park [in Leicester].

"Officers have attended the scene and a file is being prepared for the coroner. The death is not being treated as suspicious."

Sky issued a statement saying: "We were saddened to hear of the death of Brenda Leyland. It would be inappropriate



'TOO UPSETTING': the McCanns reportedly do not read or respond to internet posts about them

to speculate or comment further at this time."

A statement released by the Marriott Hotel in Leicester read: "We are very sad to confirm the death of a guest at the Leicester Marriott Hotel and our thoughts go out to the family and friends of the deceased."

On Friday, Madeleine's father, Gerry McCann, told the BBC: "Clearly something needs to be done about the abuse on the internet."

"I think we probably need more people charged."

He described how he and his wife Kate, who live in Rothley, Leicestershire with their

nine-year-old twins, did not read posts about them on the internet because it was too "upsetting".

His interview on BBC Radio 4's Today programme followed the news police were reviewing a dossier of abusive messages about the family on social media, although the Met Police said nobody had been interviewed in connection with the investigation.

In a list of thousands of tweets, apparently sent by Mrs Leyland, none of the messages are directed personally at the McCanns, who have "no significant presence" on social media.

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New Pink Floyd album to be the last says David Gilmour

Pink Floyd guitarist and singer David Gilmour has said he is "pretty certain" the band's latest album will be their final LP.

Speaking to the this week, Gilmour said: "This is the last thing that'll be out from us."

The record, *The Endless River*, is a tribute to Pink Floyd's keyboard player Rick Wright, who died in 2008.

Gilmour said Wright was "underestimated by the public, by the media and by us at times I hate to say".

The album will be released in November and will include material recorded by Wright before his death at the age of 65.

Gilmour said: "I didn't necessarily always give him his proper due. People have very different attitudes to the way they work and we can become very judgemental and think someone is not quite pulling his weight enough, without realising that their's is a different weight to pull."

Bandmate, drummer Nick Mason added: "It is a great opportunity to recognise, remember and maybe give some credit rather late on."

Pink Floyd were formed in London in 1965 by Syd Barrett, Nick Mason, Roger Waters, and Richard Wright.

Gilmour joined the band in 1967 and Barrett, who suffered from mental health problems left a year later.

Their albums, which include *The Dark Side of the Moon*, *The Wall* and *Wish You Were Here* are listed among the most influential rock albums of the 20th Century.

Clarkson upsets the Arggies

■ Top Gear crew in dash for Chile border after provoking locals with '1982 Falklands' plate

JEREMY CLARKSON has attracted yet more controversy after a row over a 'mocking' license plate led to him and his Top Gear crew fleeing Argentina pursued by rock-throwing locals.

And the outspoken hosts even claimed this week that Argentine officials demanded Chile shut their borders to ensure the BBC stars could be prosecuted in the South American country.

Petrol-head Clarkson, together with co-hosts Richard Hammond and James May were reported to have been hounded by a mob wielding pickaxes, while also pelting them with stones and chanting "burn their cars, burn them" during filming.

Luckily for controversy-prone Clarkson and his crew, the Argentine demand was refused and the Top Gear team passed into Chile without hiccup.

'they love the British'

The 54-year-old told *The Sun*: "Our crew made a break for the border on Friday night.

"After they crossed a river into Chile, they spoke to the local official who said his opposite number in Argentina called him and told him to

chuck our guys out, back into Argentina.

"Their plan was to then arrest the crew for entering the country illegally."

But, Clarkson said that because Top Gear is hugely popular in Chile and "they love the British", the request was ignored.

The incident followed a row in Argentina over a number plate on the Porsche Clarkson was driving in the South American country, which was claimed to be taunting Argentina over the 1982 Falklands War.

A registration plate fitted to a Porsche used in filming - which read H982 FKL - was interpreted as a joke about the 1982 Falklands War.

coincidence

However, Clarkson and the BBC both stated the apparently controversial plate was nothing but an unfortunate coincidence.

Top Gear's executive producer Andy Wilman said: "Top Gear production purchased three cars for a forthcoming programme.

"To suggest that this car was either chosen for its number plate, or that an alternative number plate was substituted for the



Clarkson, Hammond and May: the Top Gear team were reportedly hounded by a mob wielding pickaxes as they left Argentina for neighboring Chile

original one, is completely untrue."

When the car was abandoned last Thursday near the border with Chile after the Top Gear team fled the country three days early following the outbreak of violence, it had been fitted with another number plate - HI VAE.

Another two plates with the same reg - BEII END - were found inside the vehicle although the BBC has insisted they were never used. For the uninitiated, BellEnd is a popular slang term for the male anatomy.

Clarkson and Top Gear's executive producer Andy Wilman have said the Falklands-referenced plate was not chosen



NOT MUCH IN IT: the 'offending' license plate

deliberately - but their claims have fallen on deaf ears in Argentina following the discovery of the other registration numbers.

'a great mistake'

Court sources in the city of Rio Grande, which is expected to announce next week if it is opening a criminal investigation, say the crime of falsification for using different number plates to those in a car's official documentation, carries a prison sentence of six months to three years.

Local mayor Federico Sciarano has described last week's violence, which ended with the Top Gear team being stoned by angry locals as they drove towards Chile with a police escort, as a "great mistake."

He said after Clarkson's

departure: "We have committed a great mistake with the violence. That never resolves anything and the impact it was going to have was not taken into account.

"Instead of talking today about a person who was trying to be clever, we're talking about the victimisation of that same person.

"Obviously I don't agree with violence and smashing windows or a car wasn't necessary.

"I believe the people responsible made a big mistake when they decided to act in that manner because now the news is that they decided to smash up the cars instead of talking about the real issue.

"The clever Dick ends up becoming the victim of this situation. It's deplorable."

London named birth-rate capital of Europe

■ British women are having two babies each on average - more than rest of EU

Soaring immigration has sparked a baby boom in Britain outstripping almost every other country in Europe, official figures have revealed.

Across the EU, the number of babies being born has dropped since the financial crash - sparking falls in population in some countries.

But the UK has

bucked the trend, with soaring birth rates in London, Birmingham, Manchester and Leeds contributing to a boom in the number babies being born.

British women are having two babies each on average - higher than anywhere else in Europe, apart from France and Ireland.

Overall, London is now seeing more babies

born per 1,000 of the population anywhere in Europe, according to the EU's official statistics body.

Across the EU, there were 10.4 babies born per 1,000 people. But in the capital, the birth rate has hit 17.7.

At least 14 births per 1,000 population were recorded in the west Midlands, Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire as well - a rate only matched in Brussels and Paris.

Something to seek your teeth into...

■ Welsh actor shines in vampire origin story, *Dracula Untold*

MOVIE REVIEW:
By Debbie Lynn Elias

Passionately fascinated with all things vampyric and particularly the historical facts and myth about Vlad the Impaler, needless to say I have been beyond curious about *Dracula Untold*. Mesmerized by Murnau's 1922 silent, "Nosferatu", many subsequent *Dracula* tellings have been hit and miss with me, including Werner Herzog's 1979 retelling, "Nosferatu the Vampyre", with something always missing or simply rehashed. But now, director Gary Shore brings us an origin story that is fresh in concept, painting a different picture of Vlad and what led him to his ultimate destiny.

We first meet Vlad on a river shore in

Transylvania. Something is amiss, leading Vlad to believe that an invasion by the Turkish ruler King Mehmed is imminent. Believing that a helmet found in the river floated downstream, Vlad and his men go in search of the source and the scouts or legion laying in wait to attack. But Vlad finds no army, no scouts. He finds a cave, a cave in which evil lives.

As two of his men are killed by whatever lurks within the cave, Vlad heads back to his home and to Brother Lucian, one of the monks within the kingdom. After all, who better to ask about evil than a religious man? Lucian spins a tale of a man being tricked into drinking the blood of a vampire, thus cursed for all eternity but with power of the darkest dominions and a thirst for blood.

Breaking a ten-year peace between Vlad and the Turks, King Mehmed demands 1000 boys for death squad training in his Army. Vlad refuses to protect his people, including his own son, Vlad knows what he must do and ventures back to the cave on Broketooth Mountain.

Basing *Dracula Untold* on the history of Romanian Prince Vlad Tepes (as did Bram Stoker), Shore and screenwriters Matt Sazama and Burk Sharpless show us the man Vlad; the loving husband, father and prince, the man who will sell his soul to protect his child. We also see an expanded love story between Vlad and his wife Mirena. Keeping the story straightforward and simplifying history and myth, director Shore than

has free reign to engage us visually with some stunning battle sequences, captivating shimmering imagery of glistening light against dark, and whirlwinds of bats at the command of Vlad. Much of the CGI effects are jaw-dropping.

Making the most of the picturesque yet rugged landscape of Northern Ireland, Shore and cinematographer John Schwartzman make the presence of Luke Evans and his performance even more commanding and impressive. And yes, Evan is just that. Commanding, impressive, intense, yet giving Vlad a vulnerability and likeability, not to mention romanticism that tempers the demonology of myth. A multi-textured emotional and physical performance for an emotionally complex



Commanding and impressive: Luke Evans

character. Disappointing is Dominic Cooper who never feels regal or militarily astute as the murderous Mehmed.

Although there are moments that feel somewhat contrived, there is never a moment you are not fully engaged in the story or in the

character. Luke Evans puts us under a spell in *Dracula Untold*.

Rating: PG-13 for intense sequences of warfare, vampire attacks, sensuality.

Running time: 1 hour, 32 minutes.

In general release.

Dad's Army reboot: Line-up revealed as Bill Nighy and Michael Gambon lead all-star cast

READY FOR a Dad's Army re-boot?

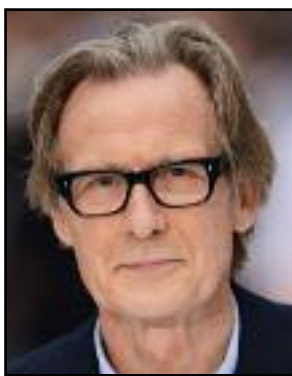
Proving yet again that nothing is sacred in the constant search for box office gold, comes the news this week that the beloved BBC comedy from the 1970s is getting a spiffy new makeover and already attached to the project are several acting talents from out of the top drawer.

We no longer have to remember Captain Mainwaring dismissively muttering 'stupid boy', now that acclaimed actor Toby Jones has signed on to fill Arthur Lowe's big boots.

And the ever-magnetic Bill Nighy has accepted the



TOP TALENT: Michael Gambon and Bill Nighy are on board to play Private Godfrey and Sergeant Wilson



role of Arthur Wilson, and will no doubt bring an air of British grace and poise to the character.

Wilson was originally played by Bedford-born actor John Le Mesurier, who died in 1983.

Doctor Zhivago actor Tom Courtenay will take on bumbling

Lance-Corporal Jack Jones; originally Clive Dunn played the bespectacled character.

A-lister

Retired shop assistant Private Charles Godfrey has been given to Michael Gambon, also famous for his turn in Harry Potter.



ALL IN THE CASTING: Arnold Ridley, Clive Dunn, Arthur Lowe, Ian Lavender, John Laurie and John LeMesurier starred in the classic BBC comedy, which ran from 1968 to 1977

Arnold Ridley, who originally played Godfrey, experience hand-to-hand fighting in the trenches of the First World War.

And even Catherine Zeta-Jones is getting in on the action. The Hollywood A-lister reportedly loved the show growing up in her

native Wales and will have a cameo as a glamorous reporter. Shooting is reportedly set to begin in October entirely on location in Yorkshire.

The storyline is set to pick up where the TV series left off, the Home Guard are set a new mission: to patrol

the Dover army base.

But all's not well when MI5 discover a radio signal sent direct to Berlin from Walmington-on-Sea.

Rumours of a spy brings the men together on a hilarious and touching adventure.

Can't wait for this one! - Nick Stark



“The Beatles and Me on Tour”

■ Author Ivor Davis featured speaker at The Fest for Beatles Fans 2014, October 10, 11 & 12 at Los Angeles Airport Marriott.

The Fest for Beatles Fans 2014, the oldest and largest Beatles fan experience, will feature author Ivor Davis at this weekend's Los Angeles event.

Ivor was added as a featured speaker in Los Angeles after his appearance at BeatleFest Chicago in August. The event takes place October 10 – 12 at the LAX Marriott hotel and features live entertainment, speakers and what is dubbed as ‘the ultimate Beatles expo’. Mr. Davis will have a booth at the event for fans wishing to have him sign copies of his new book.

Mr Davis will give different talks about his experiences, twice on Friday evening and once on Saturday evening in addition to being interviewed on Sunday afternoon.

Ivor met the Fab Four as a young reporter for the Daily Express and traveled with them as the only British newspaper writer invited on the entire tour. Through thirty-four days, Davis

watching them make rock history. He enjoyed unrestricted access to the four boys fresh from Liverpool - from their hotel suites to backstage at concert arenas to their private jet. He fended off excited girls (and their insistent mothers) and their attempts to hook up with the band. Ivor played all night games of Monopoly with John Lennon, became the ghostwriter of a newspaper column for George Harrison, and witnessed the night Bob Dylan “deflowered” the young marijuana virgins.

Later on his his career Ivor served as a foreign correspondent, traveling throughout the western hemisphere covering riots, floods, earthquakes and politics.

In “The Beatles and Me on Tour,” Davis recounts in frank and amusing fashion, the rip-roaring adventures of the most legendary band at a critical moment in the history of rock ‘n’ roll.

Ivor continues to write from his home in Ventura, California.

British crime drama makes welcome debut on Netflix

■ Peaky Blinders covers rise of Birmingham crime family following WWI

A FEW YEARS ago the BBC announced they were going to move away from making Jane Austen adaptations and other period dramas and concentrate instead on dramas with periods, places and people TV audiences had rarely seen on the small screen.

And this new focus has come to glorious fruition with the much-acclaimed crime drama **Peaky Blinders**, which centers on the rise of a crime gang in post-World War One Birmingham. The show debuted on BBC Two to huge acclaim last year and season two is currently being broadcast in the UK. Netflix have just made the show available on the USA.

Described by one critic as a mash-up of Boardwalk Empire and Brighton Rock, the show stars Cillian Murphy as crime boss Tommy Shelby, with sterling support from Helen McCrory as matriarch Aunt Polly, and Joe Cole as Tommy's little brother John. The show also features an ice-cool soundtrack and is shot through with self-conscious references to the great American gangster films such as Once Upon a Time in America and features a pub that looks straight out of a Western. And despite the bleak surroundings of impoverished Brum neighborhoods Bordesley and Small Heath, the thugs are nothing if not stylish, as screenwriter Steven Knight explains:

“Peaky Blinders was a name that used to mean something once in Birmingham....Peaky Blinders were real-life teenage hoodlums in the 1890s. They wore donkey fringes and bell bottom trousers whose width had to be measured precisely, and big buckles. Then, as these kids grew up, the



BRUM BOYS: Joe Cole, Cillian Murphy and Noah Taylor in Peaky Blinders

term also came to mean anyone on the wrong side of the law.”

But still the clothes mattered to the original Peaky Blinders gang, which was in reality on the wane by the 1920s. Most important were their caps, which gave them their name. Razorblades were sewn in just shy of the peaks, and with these the gangsters could blind a victim, or slash his ear off.

A Birmingham man himself, Knight has been trying to get his drama made for nearly two decades and has a personal connection to the story. His mother as a child was a bookies' runner – delivering illegal bets to the city's self-styled bookmakers. “There was this whole network of illegal gambling at the time,” says Knight. “And in one area of Birmingham

it was organised and run by my Dad's uncles – who were the Peaky Blinders.”

It was this history that inspired Knight to create his story, which focuses on the efforts of the fictional Shelbys, a family of illegal bookmakers, to better themselves in 1919. Their tale is set against a backdrop of the slums of Birmingham, then one of the most important industrial cities in the world, but one riven by the chaos left by the end of the war: social unrest, communist dissidence, strikes – even the police went on strike in 1919. There was also the threat of the IRA, one of the reasons Tommy Shelby's nemesis, the Northern Irish police inspector CI Campbell, played by Sam Neill, is brought over from Belfast by the then Secretary of State Winston

Churchill to clean up the city.

Although the show is anchored by Murphy strong central performance, McCrory's Aunt Polly is also essential to the family dynamic. The actress was quick to reject accusations by one critic that the show glamorizes immorality.

“The whole idea of morality in this period, with the rise of feminism and communism, was up in the air; as well as the question of the morality of sending the boys who fought in the war to their deaths,” says McCrory. “Aunt Polly's no more immoral than the people around her.”

“The Peaky Blinders are like the Borgias in nail boots. These are highly intelligent people surviving the only way they know how.”

Jimmy turns a new Page at the Ace Hotel

Legendary British rock guitarist Jimmy Page will make a rare local appearance next month at the Ace Hotel in downtown LA to promote his official photographic autobiography.

The event, titled “An Evening With Jimmy Page, In Conversation With Chris Cornell” takes place on Wed. November 12th at 8.30pm. The audience will be invited to join Jimmy and Chris looking through unseen photos and memorabilia, many drawn from Jimmy's personal archives. The Led Zeppelin founder will be revisiting memories of his life in music - “from 13-year-old choirboy to Sixties session musician, through The Yardbirds to Led Zeppelin and beyond”.

“I always like to do something different – if you're inspired by an idea, really make something of that inspiration. That goes for music, as well as anything else – even putting a book together! To have a photographic autobiography is a totally different way of looking at things, but it does the job very well and I think it will bring a lot of pleasure to people,” said Page.

Doors open at 7.30pm and tickets are now on sale from from local outlets including Amoeba Music and Book Soup - and nationwide at Ticketmaster.

Brits in LA

Meet a Member: Cerris Morgan-Moyer

Meet Cerris Morgan-Moyer from Cornwall who moved to LA thirteen years ago to pursue acting.

Was there a particular reason you chose LA?

It was a natural progression west from NYC and London. After training at Central School of Speech and Drama, I completed a BA at Sarah Lawrence College in New York (I was born with dual citizenship to a Cornish father and American mother and decided to take advantage of the possibilities as soon as possible), then moved to NYC where I worked in theatre and independent film. During the summer of 2001 I visited my now-husband Caley O'Dwyer in Los Angeles, was in a play at the Los Angeles Theatre Center and returned to NYC to consider a move out

west. September 11th of that year was obviously devastating. Next to the citywide, national and global tragic impact, the fact that I lost a lot of work there seems trivial, but it added to the catalysts already in place for me to come to Los Angeles - the others being love, and a different culture of acting work. I sublet my apartment in Brooklyn and thought I'd try out Los Angeles for a year. Still here!

What one thing do you miss from home?

Friends, family and British chocolate. To me these constitute one thing ;)

What do you find the biggest difference is living here versus your home town of East Portholland?

After you get past the obvious differences

between Los Angeles and a 30-person hamlet on the beach in Cornwall, I'd say the main difference is outlook on life. Culturally, there's less of a safety net here and more wild west entrepreneurship. Cornwall, as the most western tip of mainland UK, is its own wild west, don't get me wrong; supremely creative and pioneering. But there is nothing quite like the daily culture of reinvention in this country and particularly in this city.

Do you have a hidden gem in LA that you want to share with us?

Not so hidden, but one of my favourite things to do when visitors come is to drive the length of Mulholland at twilight as sunset fades and the lights start to come out. Such a vista across both the

Valley and south and west towards the Pacific! Good for perspective and bearings

What would you suggest to others who are thinking about making the move here?

Be prepared for acclimatizing to take some time. Los Angeles is an investment - because it's so spread out, it takes longer to get to know than other cities, and longer to find your tribe. It's also a city of dreamers, so it's easy to lose sight of the practical necessities for fulfilling your own particular dream: be as prepared as you can be for those practicalities (save up, research, get to know yourself). Once you're here, ENJOY IT! Honestly, I've found the chapter I've lived here to be the most creative of my life so far. So many wonderful creative souls have found their way here, and because Los Angeles lacks that central hub and community aspect of cities like London and NYC (at the very least due to square mileage and public transportation), initially we're all having to dig deep and find our own creative voices to then



A LONG WAY FROM CORNWALL:

Cerris Morgan-Moyer (Photo: Nick Toren)

contribute to the world around us. It's a beautiful journey and a gorgeous place to be doing it! And here's the wonderful TRUTH: Because of the fantastic community generated and hosted by Eileen Lee and Craig Young with Brits in LA, it's so much easier to get connected and organized so you can enjoy all the glorious benefits of LA

without the headaches!

Lastly, how can we find out more about you? Are you on the Internet?

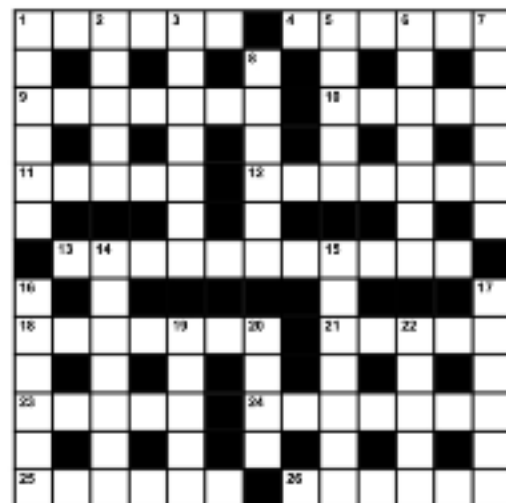
I host an industry chat show on Actors Entertainment and Actors Reporter, find me at: (actorsentertainment.com) You can also find me at: www.cerrismorganmoyer.com or at twitter.com/Cerris or even facebook.com/CerrisMorganMoyerActor

The British Weekly Crossword #135

Crossword by Myles Mellor

Across

- 1 Palace figures (6)
- 4 Tolerates (6)
- 9 Small cars for speed races (2-5)
- 10 Discretion (3-2)
- 11 Decrease (5)
- 12 Sequoia (7)
- 13 Game with little plastic disks (11)
- 18 Regular payment (7)
- 21 Choose by vote (5)
- 23 Sauce of garlic mayo (5)
- 24 Flyer (7)
- 25 Cruelty named for a marquis (6)
- 26 Turbulent (6)



Down

- 1 Laugh a little (6)
- 2 Cockeyed (5)
- 3 Crimson or ruby (4,3)
- 5 Established (5)
- 6 Where ships come to rest (7)
- 7 Inferior, in workmanship (6)
- 8 Fish-eating bird (6)
- 14 Freezing (3-4)
- 15 Say again (7)
- 16 Seeds through an atomizer (6)
- 17 Showing little change (6)
- 19 Prestigious institutions in the US (5)
- 20 Jello frame (4)
- 22 Brilliant success (5)

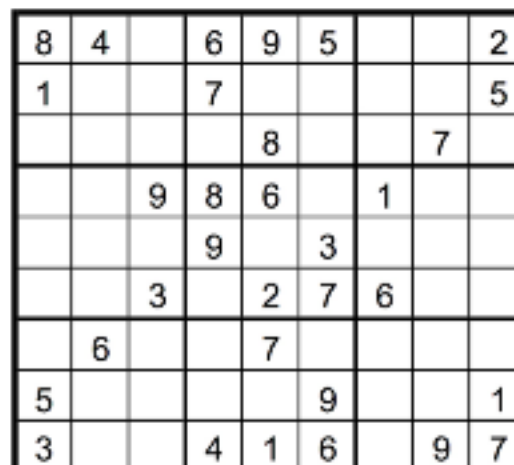
Solution to Puzzle #134



SUDOKU by Myles Mellor and Susan Flanagan

Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9X9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3X3 squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9. Puzzles come in three grades: easy, medium and difficult.

Level: Medium



Solution to #2



Stargazing with Annie Shaw

ARIES: It's time to make space for new opportunities and to explore your world in a different way. If you normally enjoy routine be ready to put that way of thinking on the back burner for a while. The eclipse in your sign last week was a stir up in your life!

TAURUS: On the upside you can expect a call from someone from the past and this time you need to be upfront, honest and (yes!) speak very frankly about your feelings. On the downside it may not be who you want to appear.

GEMINI: The sun in your cousin sign of Libra can bring out a very melancholy side of you and it favors getting a handle on any part of life with which you are not in tune. Along with your boss Mercury strolling backwards it is not a dull week.

CANCER: The consequences are long-reaching for you if you have not reconciled with who or what is not resolved. The past will catch you up this month for sure as last week's fire eclipse is still very much affecting you if you are not proactive.

LEO: This is a time for the inner artist to show itself for some of you who are not participating in life as you know you can. This past week's eclipse in a cousin sign will push you to make decisions if you don't take action yourself.

VIRGO: Its time for a trip, and short or long, near or far matters not as you benefit from the change of scenery. Just make sure you have caught up with any unfinished projects or home-based repair.

LIBRA: Last week's eclipse in your opposite sign may have brought some situations to a head. By mid-month or so you will need to complete what has been lingering by the end of the month. When this is done you will feel ready for some fun. Happy Birthday.

SCORPIO: Your recent financial activity should have cleared a lot for you. Therefore be ready to accept the changes and fill the space with only positive energy. The recent very full moon eclipse made you even more intent on changes.

SAGITTARIUS: Take the bull by the horns and this week ahead should be the right time to clear out that spare room or cupboard and be sure to finish by next weekend as life takes a turn for the better socially, as well as in other areas.

CAPRICORN: Be kind to yourself and take a quiet and restful trip and work out what position you want to be in this time next year financially. You have a lot of opportunities to make waves in these coming few months.

AQUARIUS: Follow the crowd and you will waste time this week; make it all about time alone and finishing up what needs to be done. The end of the week ahead will find you in a better place.

PISCES: No matter what others say or think you are one of the most intuitive signs and should always follow your gut. This week will bring something to a head, so stay cool and let nature work its magic.



Jolly Good

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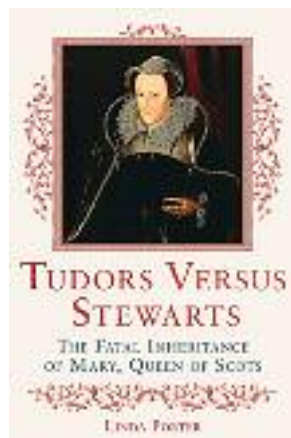
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Auld Enemies: Tudors vs Stewarts

■ Exclusive interview with author Linda Porter and a review of her new book with a fresh perspective on Mary Queen of Scots

Rating: ★★★



"I took the view, based on that of scholars currently working in the field, that Mary's so-called romance with James Hepburn, Earl of Bothwell, is poppycock," says *Tudors Versus Stewarts* author by Linda Porter. "Those closest to Mary at the time believed she had been raped at Dunbar Castle, where she was isolated from all of her servants, and kept there so that Bothwell could ensure that she married him. Mary seems to have feared that she was pregnant

almost immediately after the rape and she was, in fact, carrying twins. She later miscarried while a prisoner at Lochleven Castle. No high-born lady, let alone an anointed queen, could acknowledge such shame."

Of all the Stewarts Mary is the most well known in history, with Henry VIII her great uncle. Mary Queen of Scots became queen at six days old, after her father died. Mary had ambitions to rule both

England and Scotland and ultimately it was her downfall. Mary's son James VI became Elizabeth's heir and took the crown.

This book sets up the facts that make Mary an heir apparent for the British throne. You will learn about the Stewarts and their rivalry with the Tudors. When Margaret Tudor, Henry VIII's older sister, married James IV of Scotland in 1503 it was thought it would calm the waters, but instead it created more friction. It gave the Scottish king's descendants a claim to the British throne. Porter's book provides a rich description and reveals details from personal letters written at the time. Some of the text is in old English and many of the players had the same first name. Mary plays a small role in this book. It's mostly the rivalries of her

ancestors.

The idea for *Tudors Versus Stewarts* came to Porter as she finished writing her biography of Henry VIII's sixth wife, Katherine Parr. "I did not know there would be a referendum on Scottish independence in 2014 when I began research for the book, though *Crown of Thistles* should be of interest to anyone following the debate. As regent while Henry was away fighting in France in 1544, Katherine had to deal with the many Scottish prisoners still in England after the Scots lost the battle of Solway Moss at the end of 1542. This made me think more widely about Henry VIII's relationship with Scotland, which was always awkward."

"I've been interested in Scottish history for many years and particularly the background to why Mary

Queen of Scots suddenly arrived in England after fleeing her country in May 1568," says Porter. "The Stewarts were in no way inferior to the Tudors. They had been on the throne of Scotland for over 100 years before Henry VII won his unlikely victory at the battle of Bosworth in 1485."

Porter has written two other books, on Mary Tudor and Katherine Parr. She is a regular contributor to both the *Literary Review* and *History Today* and she also writes articles for the *BBC History Magazine*. She is currently writing a book about the English Civil Wars and the children of Charles I.

Porter enjoys traveling throughout England. "I've traveled the length and breadth of the British Isles promoting the book and spoken in some wonderful venues, like the



BY

Gabrielle Pantera

Tower of London and Hampton Court Palace. I think the high point was appearing at the Edinburgh International Book Festival in 2013, where *Crown of Thistles* was launched."

Porter was born in Exeter, Devon and now lives in Kent.

Tudors Versus Stewarts: The Fatal Inheritance of Mary, Queen of Scots by Linda Porter
Hardcover: 544 pages,
Publisher: St. Martin's Press;
Reprint edition (July 1, 2014)
ISBN: 9780312590741 \$29.99



Amanda Eliasch brings 'The Vortex' to West Hollywood

Following its very successful run at the Malibu Playhouse earlier this year, the award-winning production of Noel Coward's 'The Vortex' directed by Gene Franklin Smith is now headed to West Hollywood, being produced by British film director and writer Amanda Eliasch.

Raign of error: singer had no idea Cheryl hated her!

X Factor singer Raign (right) has opened up about her feud with former Girls Aloud loudmouth Cheryl Tweedy.



The televised catfight, played out over the last few weeks in the UK, has riveted viewers - especially when Raign missed out on the chance to progress in the top-rated TV talent show after Cheryl persuaded head honcho Simon Cowell to let her go.

Cheryl made it clear that she disliked the eccentric Los Angeles-based singer right from the off and even said to Simon: "I can't stand her. I couldn't work with her. There's no way. I'm allergic to her."

Oo-er...

But Raign (real name Rachel Rabin) said she was unaware of Chezza's ire and only found out when she watched her auditions on TV.

She told top British showbiz website *Digital*

Amanda, an award winner herself for her film 'The Gun the Cake and the Butterfly' which transformed into a play 'As I Like It' - played last year in London, followed by a successful run at the Macha Theatre in West Hollywood. Eliasch explains how she, "Fell in love with the play."

Eliasch, a known supporter of the arts told *The British Weekly*: "I saw this production, which is now set in the Sixties, back in May and fell in love with it immediately. I felt it needed a wider audience, so I reached out to the super-talented director Gene Franklin Smith and propose I produce it."

Starring the remarkable talents of Shannon Holt as "Florence" and Craig Robert Young as "Nicky," 'The Vortex' premiered in 1924 in London, and its scandalous subject matter of drug abuse, repressed homosexuality, nymphomania and Oedipal jealousy made Coward an overnight sensation. Combining



MORE COWARD: Amanda Eliasch (left) and Vortex stars Craig Bobby Young and Shannon Holt (photo: Brian McCarthy)

the playwright's trademark wit and trenchant one-liners, *The Vortex* surprises audiences with its climactic emotional showdown between a mother and son that evokes Hamlet.

Holt and Young are joined by an impressive cast which includes Victoria Hoffman as "Helen," Daniel Jimenez as "Tom," Skye LaFontaine as "Bunty", newcomer John Mawson as "David"

and Cameron Mitchell Jr as "Pawnee".

In this new production the setting is updated to Mod London of 1965. The play opens with Nicky Lancaster bringing his elegant fiancée Bunty home to introduce her to his famous mother, stage actress Florence Lancaster. Nicky is shocked to discover that Florence has taken a much-younger lover, and when Bunty ditches Nicky to run off with Florence's boy-toy, both

are forced to confront the truth about themselves.

The *Vortex* will be a guest production of The Matrix Theatre, located at 7657 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90068 and opens November 13 and runs to December 14 with performances Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 PM and Sundays at 3 PM. Tickets are \$34 and may be purchased online at www.plays411.com/vortex or by calling (323) 960-7735.

Mark this was the hardest year of my life! After 12 years our time together may have not been as long as we had planned.....

I thought of you with love today
but that is nothing new
I thought about you yesterday,
and days before that too.
I think of you in silence.
I often speak your name
All I have are memories
and a picture in a frame
Your memory is a keepsake
with which I'll never part.
God has you in his keeping
I have you in my heart.

I would like to thank all of our family and friends for all their support, love, kindness and patience. You have all been amazing I couldn't have got through this year without all your love and support.

- Michelle Morgan Hill



In Loving Memory of Mark James Hill who lost his fight with cancer a year ago on October 13th, 2013. Mark James Hill was born on August 22, 1959 and moved to Santa Monica in 1987 from Wolverhampton. He and Michelle Morgan were married on September 22, 2009.

Hi Everyone!

Greetings from London! I have only been here a few days but have already experienced all the seasons! I almost forgot what it was like to have unpredictable weather and need a sweater and sunglasses all in the same hour!

I managed to get along to the Raindance Awards at the Mayfair Hotel and caught up with a few Brits in LA members including Siobhan Ellen and Louise Hart, who were here representing LA. There were some fantastic entries for this rapidly-growing film festival, to find out more about the event and for a full list of the winners, visit: www.raindance.org.

They have a local mixer at Vaucluse in Hollywood on October 15th - so make sure to RSVP by visiting the Raindance Filmmakers Mixer page on Facebook.

La Liz's earrings

I have managed to spend a bit of time with old friends and family - and received a very exciting gift from my friend Jo. A pair of



Nothing quite like London in the autumn....



LIVING LARGO: Jeff Garlin and Michael Sheen are in conversation at Largo at the Coronet on La Cienega Boulevard, this Saturday, Oct. 11th at 7pm

earrings once owned by Elizabeth Taylor! I managed to find a photo of her in **Ivanhoe** wearing them! I have been wearing them non-stop all week! Shame I didn't have them last year when

Craig dressed up as Elizabeth Taylor for our Dead British Halloween Party! I wonder who he will be this year...

I also caught up with one of my favorite singers, **Angela McClusky**. Her husband



Siobhan Flynn, Louise Hart, Eileen Lee and Sally Norris at the Raindance Awards at the Mayfair Hotel this week (Photo: L Hart)

Paul Cantelon composed the music for the newly released film **Effie Loy**, and we were treated to a live performance at the stunningly beautiful **Leighton House Musuem** in Kensington. If you are in the area I highly recommend a quick visit as it is a real hidden gem. It is available for hire - would love to do a Brits in LA event there one day!

Swinging Sixties

I see I am missing lots of great events happening in LA this week including Craig's birthday **Swinging Sixties** birthday celebration this weekend - make sure to post lots of pictures if you attend. **Michael Sheen** is also in conversation with Jeff Garlin at Largo at the Coronet - these evenings

are always fun. I attended one a few months ago with **Stephen Merchant** and it was brilliant. So get tickets whilst you still can!

It is raining again today - but sounds like you all have an intense heatwave again, so I am not sure which is worse!

I am dying to go and see the poppy installation at the Tower of London, may have to brave it in the cold! - if you have any recommendations of places for me to visit whilst I am here, drop me a line at Eileen@britsin.la - I hear Borough Market is worth checking out, so will report back next week.

Cheers!
Eileen

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BW Sport

Old Firm poles apart in financial health league

THEY have been leagues apart in Scotland of late but research shows the country's two biggest football clubs at either end of a European table on financial health.

The independent study by City analysts, which is geared towards investors, shows Scottish champions Celtic topping a league of publicly-listed European clubs for financial standing and stability while cross-Glasgow rivals Rangers are ranked bottom.

When the 17-team table is extended to include some of the Continent's most successful privately-run clubs, Celtic are third of 44, while Rangers are in 31st place.

Topping the 44-team financial health league are Dutch champions Ajax, followed by London club Arsenal.

At the other end are French side Lens, with Inter Milan second-last, with the club's financial structure and ownership model to blame.

Tapping into the surge in foreign ownership and global appeal of football, the report, by US-based markets and risk specialists McGraw Hill Financial, pulls together what it describes as a "virtual Credit Football League".

The positioning of both Glasgow clubs reflects their fortunes in the past few years, with Rangers playing in the lower divisions following their liquidation in 2012 and beset by boardroom turbulence since, while Celtic have enjoyed a number of relatively successful European campaigns and sold a number of players.

The report authors assessed how the equity markets react to the match performance of the 17

publicly-listed football clubs through stock price movements and built a picture of how the market perceives a club's credit. Of the 17, it claimed, Celtic were the least likely to default and their "status as perennial title contenders and their recent success in winning the Scottish Premier League for the last three seasons has apparently led to a positive market sentiment".

Arsenal scored highly due to "consistent match performance and increased revenue from the Emirates Stadium", as well as conservative control of finances, while Juventus bounced back from a poor rating

following their match-fixing relegation to one of the best after successive title successes.

Stuart Macdougall, senior manager at PWC, said: "The credit score results come as no surprise in light of recent events surrounding the Glasgow clubs. Despite the absence of the Old Firm fixture in recent seasons Celtic have continued to demonstrate financial stability and low debt.

"There is no guarantee of top flight football for Rangers next season, a high cost base to service and rising debt leaves them in a very unenviable position to their great rivals."

Keano goes off on Fergie

Roy Keane says ex-Manchester United boss Sir Alex Ferguson was wrong to criticise his former players in his autobiography and would not be afraid "to have a go at him" if the two met.

Ferguson discussed differences with ex-United players Keane and David Beckham in the book

published last year.

Keane left Old Trafford in November 2005, after falling out with Ferguson.

"I felt it was a bit harsh to criticise me or other players," Keane, 43, told Football Focus this week.

"We did OK for the club, had a bit of success, won a few trophies, and here is the manager criticising us all.

"A manager who has made millions of pounds out of us, got statues and

stands named after him, and he thinks he can criticise us without anybody saying anything to him because he thinks he's got all this power.

"I thought, 'No, why should we sit back and listen to this nonsense?'"

In his book, Ferguson claimed Irishman Keane, who played a key role in the club's success during his 12-year stay at Old Trafford, became an increasingly negative influence.

BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE table with columns for HOME, AWAY, and overall statistics for 20 teams.

Table of football league results and fixtures from various leagues including Championship, League One, League Two, and Scotland.

Thursday night's results & tables

Table with three columns: European Championship Qualifying Group C, Group G, and EUROPEAN U-21 CHAMPIONSHIP.

SCOTLAND

Table with two columns: Scottish Premiership and Scottish League One, listing teams and their performance.

England swallow up the minnows

- England on maximum points after two Euro 2016 qualifiers
- Rooney scores 42nd international goal in 5-0 hammering
- Chambers makes full debut ■ England away to Estonia on Sunday

England delivered the expected easy win over San Marino at Wembley on Thursday to maintain their 100% start to the Euro 2016 qualifying campaign.

Manager Roy Hodgson has been handed a highly favourable draw in Group E as England attempt to banish the memories of their miserable World Cup - and they are taking full advantage so far.

Phil Jagielka headed England in front and Wayne Rooney scored his 42nd England goal from the penalty spot before half-time as San Marino presented barely any serious competition.

Danny Welbeck, the two-goal hero of the opening win in Switzerland, added the third before substitute Andros Townsend got in on the act and Rooney saw his cross deflected in by Alessandro Della Valle.

The scoreline matched England's win here in October 2012 and Hodgson's men now move on to face Estonia on Sunday as they attempt to make it three

wins out of three.

San Marino's right to a place at this level - they are joint bottom with Bhutan at 208th in the Fifa world rankings - has been questioned, and nothing happened here to suggest they can ever be a going concern in international football.

Apart from the odd piece of token resistance - and the antics of keeper Aldo Simoncini - this was another unsuccessful exercise in damage limitation. England's record over them is now an aggregate 31-1 from five meetings.

For Hodgson and his players, this was job done in front of a highly respectable attendance of 55,990 and the impression remains that there would be the biggest inquest in England's football history should they fail to progress from this group.

Rooney's penalty moved him to 42 England goals, seven shy of Sir Bobby Charlton's national record, and the 28-year-old thought he might have added number 43 - but his

second effort took a heavy deflection and went down as a Della Valle own goal.

The game quickly settled into the expected pattern, with San Marino penned in their own half, but the visitors survived until the 24th minute when Jagielka rose to head in from a corner as keeper Simoncini stumbled in a melee.

England goalkeeper Joe Hart, as usual in these matches, was little more than a spectator, although he was kept interested by a 20-yard shot from Matteo Vitaioli that flew wide, an occurrence so rare it drew warm applause from the Wembley crowd.

Rooney earned and scored the spot-kick that put England further ahead just before half-time. Andy Selva raised his boot, and the Manchester United keeper drove in powerfully from the spot to set up the second half perfectly for the home side.

Hodgson made a double change at half-time, sending on Alex



ON THE SPOT: Rooney slots home England's second goal Thursday night

Oxlade-Chamberlain and Adam Lallana for Liverpool pair Raheem Sterling and Jordan Henderson.

Oxlade-Chamberlain made an instant impact with a run to the by-line and cross that Welbeck turned in neatly at the near post.

Rooney was getting the opportunities to add to his first-half goal but he found the eccentric Simoncini in defiant mood, saving three times from the England captain in quick succession.

It was another substitute, Townsend - on for Welbeck, who added

to England's tally after 72 minutes when his powerful shot beat Simoncini at his near post.

San Marino were simply trying to keep the score down but could not quite see out the rest of the game as Rooney's effort took a heavy deflection to complete the scoring.

Hodgson impressed by players' desire

England coach Roy Hodgson said he was impressed by his team's patient approach in breaking down San Marino at Wembley in their Euro 2016 qualifier.

The home side only managed to find the net twice in the first half against the world's joint-bottom side, before eventually running out 5-0 winners.

"We worked hard to break down a stubborn team," he told BBC 5 live.

"The longer the game went on we knew it

would open up and we'd get more chances, and that's what happened."

"In the second half our passing tempo was a bit quicker, but once you go 2-0 up and 3-0 up it gets harder for them to keep going," added Hodgson.

"What also impressed me was the players' desire to work hard to get the ball back. If they can develop those skills then it would stand them in good stead going forward."

San Marino coach Pierangelo Manzaroli

said he was impressed by his side's display, especially in the first half.

"The experience and pleasure of playing in such a fantastic stadium against a lot of fans was great," he said.

"Against teams of this stature, sometimes the results are worse."

Group E: How They Stand

	P	GD	Pts
1 England	2	7	6
2 Lithuania	2	3	6
3 Estonia	2	0	3
4 Slovenia	2	0	3
5 Switzerland	2	-3	0
6 San Marino	2	-7	0

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Sat Oct. 11th	Mon Oct 13th
EURO 2016 QUALIFYING	EURO 2016 QUALIFYING
9am Ireland v Gibraltar (tbc)	11.45am Iceland v Netherlands
9am Scotland v Georgia	11.45am Wales v Cyprus
11.45am Poland v Germany	11.45am Norway v Bulgaria
11.45am N. Ireland v Faroe Is	Tue Oct 14th
Sun Oct 12th	EURO 2016 QUALIFYING
EURO 2016 QUALIFYING	11.45am Germany v Ireland
9am Estonia v England	11.45am Poland v Scotland
11.45am Luxembourg v Spain	11.45am Greece v N. Ireland
11.45am Sweden v Liechtenstein	11.45am Denmark v Portugal

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