

EUROVISION: Getting the hump (Page 4)

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'This referendum is about Britain's future – it should be British citizens voting in it,' - Stewart Jackson, MP

Migrants banned from key EU vote

At least 1.5million European migrants living in the UK are to be barred from voting in the referendum on Britain's membership of the EU.

In a key concession to the Tory Right and Ukip, David Cameron has ruled that most EU citizens living in Britain should have no say on whether the UK decides to go it alone.

Mr Cameron has also ruled out giving 16 and 17-year-olds a vote in the referendum, which could be held as early as next spring. The details were published in a Europe Referendum Bill, which was included in the Queen's Speech on Wednesday as she reopened Parliament following the Conservative victory in the general election earlier this month.

'quite wrong'

EU migrants and the over-16s were both given the vote in last year's Scottish independence referendum and pro-EU campaigners had wanted that to be repeated in the EU in/out poll.

But the Prime Minister has long opposed lowering the voting age to 16. And sources said he could see no good reason for allowing EU nationals, who cannot vote in British general elections, to decide on Britain's future.

Eurosceptic Tory MP Stewart Jackson welcomed the move, saying it would have been 'quite wrong' for EU citizens to take part.

'This referendum is about Britain's future – it should be British citizens voting in it,' he said. 'EU citizens cannot vote in general elections, they could not vote in the referendum on an alternative voting system and they did not vote on the last referendum on Europe.'

'The circumstances would have had to be quite exceptional to depart from that precedent.'

The overwhelming

majority of EU migrants in this country were expected to vote to stay in the EU because their lifestyles would be hit if Britain left.

Prior to the election former Liberal Democrat leader Nick Clegg was planning to make their inclusion a 'red line' in any coalition talks with the Tories.

less controversial

But Conservative MPs had lobbied hard for them to be excluded, and Ukip leader Nigel Farage made it clear he would consider the referendum illegitimate if they were allowed to vote.

Downing Street said the franchise for the referendum would be the same one used for general elections. This means that about 800,000 Irish citizens, alongside thousands more Commonwealth citizens living in the UK will be allowed to vote.

But their inclusion has been less controversial because their right to come and work in Britain would not be affected by a vote to leave the EU.

For historical reasons a small number of Maltese and Cypriot citizens in the UK will also get a vote, as will members of the House of Lords and

Commonwealth citizens in Gibraltar. Some 1.8 million British citizens living abroad will also have a vote.

'in or out'

A Number 10 source said: 'No Brit under the age of 58 has had their say on the UK's membership of the

European Union.

'It is time to put this right and to give people the choice – in or out. This is a big decision for our country, one that is about the future of the United Kingdom.' The precise date for the referendum unlikely to be set, but the law will say it must be

cont. on page 2, col. 1

Three Queens meet on the Mersey...



LINER NOTES: The Queen Mary 2, the Queen Victoria and the Queen Elizabeth came together for the first time in Liverpool this week to mark the 175th Anniversary of the cruise line Cunard (story, page 5)

This Week at Westminster

EU VOTE:

cont. from page one

held by the end of 2017. The decision came as the Prime Minister met Brussels chief Jean-Claude Juncker at his country residence Chequers for talks on his demand to renegotiate Britain's relationship with the EU.

After the Queen's Speech, Mr Cameron began a whirlwind 3,000-mile tour of European capitals as he tries to secure concessions on immigration, welfare and the future of Europe.

He is scheduled to meet his French and German counterparts, Francois Hollande and Angela Merkel with key demands include tearing up EU welfare rules to allow Britain to ban migrants from claiming benefits, including lucrative tax credits, for at least four years.

Given that the UK has the second largest economy in the EU and is the second largest contributor to its budget, Cameron is quietly confident that significant concessions will be forthcoming.

And with the crisis in Ukraine and the now very real prospect of a Greek default, many European observers feel the last thing the Brussels elite want is for Britain to walk away.

Show some respect!

- Furious Speaker John Bercow orders SNP MPs to stop clapping speeches
- New crop of MPs blasted for snapping selfies in Palace of Westminster

AN exasperated John Bercow has ordered Scottish National Party (SNP) MPs to stop clapping in the House of Commons.

After a series of embarrassing gaffes in recent weeks, the 50 new MPs received yet another dressing down on Monday when they were told to "show some respect" for the "very, very, very long-established tradition" of not clapping after speeches.

The new intake of MPs erupted on at least three separate occasions when SNP Westminster leader Angus Robertson's responded to the Queen's Speech.

Traditionally, MPs are only allowed to speak in the Commons when they have made their maiden speeches, meaning most of the SNP cannot currently make their voices heard.

The Speaker ignored the first two instances but intervened after the third



I would invite them to show some respect for the traditions of this chamber of the House of Commons - Speaker John Bercow (inset: Alex Salmond)



Selfie. Not of @NicolaSturgeon standard, but happy faces all the the same #snp @theSNP



STICK FOR SELFIES: Some new MPs have been blasted for their social media antics

long applause that followed Mr Robertson's criticism of Labour's supposed support of austerity.

He said: "Can I say at the start of the Parliament that the convention that we don't clap in this chamber is very, very, very long-established and widely respected?"

"And it would be appreciated if members would show some respect for that convention.

"They will get their speaking rights from this chair, of that they can be assured.

"They will be respected

but I would invite them to show some respect for the traditions of this chamber of the House of Commons.

MPs on all sides cheered in support of Mr Bercow's intervention.

This comes after Prime Minister David Cameron told the Scottish Nationalists to "stop talking and start acting" by using the new powers devolved to Holyrood after a series of embarrassing gaffes for the party.

The SNP may have increased its size in the Commons from just six to

56 MPs - but their inexperience showed when they were ordered to behave like "adults" after one forgot to mention the Queen during the official swearing-in ceremony.

The fledgling group have also been warned against taking selfies in the Commons after a flood of pictures emerged of SNP MPs posing at the dispatch box.

One long-standing Tory backbencher was heard to grumble: "this lot are more like teenage tourists than sober-minded lawmakers."



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We three queens: grand dames of the sea come together for the first time

■ Majestic liners appear together in Liverpool to mark 175th anniversary of cruise line Cunard

The world's largest and grandest ocean liner, the Queen Mary 2, was joined for the first time ever on the River Mersey by fellow fleet members the Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth for an unprecedented 'dance' in celebration of Cunard's 175th anniversary this week.

The three-day long festival celebrating the founding of the venerable British cruise line was crowned by Monday's main event with a precision manoeuvre by the three vessels in front of thousands of spectators, rotating in perfect symmetry before forming a spectacular arrowhead formation, then posing for the cameras before arranging themselves three abreast for the first time in any body of water.

The 'dance' culminated with a flyover salute by nine jets from the famous Red Arrows, the Royal Air Force's Aerobatic Team.

The Queen Mary 2 treated onlookers to a magnificent sail-past of the city's historic waterfront earlier this weekend, before tying up at the berth for a little over 24 hours.

'most incredible day'

During her overnight stay, the 2,600 passengers on board were able to visit Liverpool's sights and experience the energy of the city as the buzz was building ahead of the May 25 event.

Cunard Director, Angus Struthers, said: 'The arrival of the Queen Mary 2...the largest passenger ship ever to sail up the Mersey, signalled the beginning of Cunard's Salute to Liverpool

celebrations in the place where the Cunard story began 175 years ago.'

The company was founded in 1840 in Liverpool and began its long history with trans-Atlantic crossings to Halifax and Boston.

It revolutionised trans-Atlantic travel in the nineteenth century, and between 1860 and 1900, around four million emigrants alone crossed the Atlantic from Liverpool.

Cunard chiefs say they were overwhelmed by Merseyside's response to the Three Queens spectacular which saw more than a million people descend on the

waterfront this week.

The company's director Angus Struthers described Monday as "the most incredible day" and said the event was "as much about Liverpool as it was about Cunard".

He said: "I really think that there wouldn't have been the reception, there wouldn't have been the atmosphere, there wouldn't have been the crowd numbers, anywhere else.

"Getting that close to the ships' manoeuvres, the heart of the city with the Three Graces as the backdrop - we always thought it would be incredibly special, but I think it surpassed



QUITE A SHOW: the Queen Mary 2, the Queen Victoria and the Queen Elizabeth delight the crowds in Liverpool on Monday

everyone's expectations. "Liverpool did itself proud."

Cunard flagship Queen Mary 2 is due to return on July 4 to re-enact the first transatlantic crossing from Liverpool to the New World in 1840 - with 400 of her passengers

embarking in the city for the journey to Halifax, Boston and New York.

But Mr Struthers said while Cunard had always described services from Liverpool as "suspended" rather than ceased all together, there were currently no plans to

re-start turnaround voyages from the Mersey.

He said: "You could see the appetite and interest in Cunard and cruising on Monday. And 175 years is a very special milestone, and we're delighted we'll be embarking 400 people to cross the Atlantic."

TEABAGS TO TOOTHPICKS, HOW THEY COMPARE	
QUEEN MARY 2 (middle ship)	QUEEN ELIZABETH (top ship)/ QUEEN VICTORIA (bottom ship)
■ Cost: £550 million	■ Cost: £365 million/£300 million
■ Passenger capacity: 3,098	■ Passenger capacity: 2,600/2,814
■ Length: 1,130ft (23 feet longer than the Shard in London in tall)	■ Length: 954.5ft
Average annual consumption:	Average annual consumption:
■ Teabags: 1,350,000	■ Teabags: 954,681
■ Coffee: 55,000lb	■ Coffee: 59,000lb
■ Eggs: 1,738,000	■ Eggs: 1,528,707
■ Packs of breakfast cereal: 420,000	■ Packs of breakfast cereal: 371,955
■ Smoked salmon: 38,000lb	■ Smoked salmon: 12,540lb
■ Fruit juice: 346,000 gallons	■ Fruit juice: 230,000 gallons
■ Potatoes: 240,000lb	■ Potatoes: 440,310lb
■ Toothpicks: 540,000	■ Toothpicks: 30,000
■ Wine list consists of 343 different labels of wine with annual wine sales of 730,000 bottles, serving 1.5 million drinks per year	■ Bottles of champagne/sparking wine: 115,400
	■ Bottles of red wine: 196,000
	■ Bottles of white wine: 115,000



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News From Britain



Fifty-FIVE Shades of Grey:

■ Kinky middle-aged UK population 'having the best sex on planet'

IT'S clear age is no barrier when it comes to the horizontal tango, because new research has shown over 55s are having the best sex of anyone on the planet.

It's been revealed the older generations are now experiencing better sex than their younger counterparts - which is good news for everyone.

The research comes shortly after 69-year-old actress Helen Mirren divulged she has a wonderful sex life, and it seems she's not the only one refusing to slow down anytime soon.

She joins a plethora of 'older' stars - including the likes of Mick Jagger, Michael Douglas and Jane Fonda - all of whom aren't shy in explaining that sex does improve with age.

A new survey has taken a closer look under the covers to reveal that it really is people aged 55 and over who are having all the fun.

Why, I hear you ask?

Well it would seem confidence has a lot to do with the satisfaction - knowing exactly what you want and how you want it comes with age.

Fifty per cent of those surveyed said they were confident talking to their partners about what they want in the bedroom in comparison to fifteen per cent of 18-35 year olds.

And with confidence comes a helping hand from various sex toys - claims British sex toy brand, Hot Octopuss.

They claim 1 in 4 over 55-year-olds admit to improving their sex lives with the introduction of sex toys and role play. What was once something kept secret, between just man and wife, it seems is becoming far more acceptable to talk about openly.

Adam Lewis, Hot Octopuss co-founder and the designer of the PULSE - a wildly

Engelbert gets the hump over 'unfair' Eurovision

■ Competition is biased against UK, claims veteran crooner

SOME may call it sour grapes but singing veteran Engelbert Humperdinck has dubbed the annual Eurovision Song Contest "unfair" and biased against the UK.

Engelbert, 79, who came a dismal second from last in 2012, accused the organisers of arranging the contest so that the British entrant stands little chance of winning.

Speaking a few days after the latest event, which saw the UK put in yet another poor show with duo Electro Velvet finishing with five points and fourth from bottom, he said: "It wasn't fair. It is all to do with politics. Look what happened this time."

The crooner, speaking on TV show Loose Women, believes that because he performed first out of the 25 entrants three years ago he was forgotten by the time the voting began a few hours later - affecting his chances - and that the competition may be regularly set up so that Britain is one of the first performers. They were fifth this year.

The last time the UK won the competition in 1997, Katrina & The Waves performed their song Love Shine A



SCORING A ZERO: Engelbert finished second from bottom in 2012

Light second from last. its voting patterns, with and historical links Eurovision is nearby countries or seeming to favour each regularly criticised for those that share cultural other in the voting.



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'Bit early' for young George's Villa debut

■ Ahead of Cup Final appearance for his beloved team, Prince William reveals his hopes to attend matches with son George

The Duke of Cambridge has revealed he would "love" to attend football matches with his son Prince George in the near future, but he will have to "pass that by the missus".

William, who is a loyal Aston Villa supporter, said it would be "fantastic" if his 22-month-old son decided to follow the same club as his father, although "it'll probably end up being that Charlotte is the Villa fan".

He was speaking to Match Of The Day presenter Gary Lineker ahead of Saturday's FA Cup final, where the Duke will watch his beloved Villa take on holders Arsenal at Wembley stadium.

In his first broadcast interview since the birth of his daughter Princess Charlotte, William

admitted he was "terrified" ahead of the game as he prepares to present the trophy to the winning team.

Asked when he will take George to his first football match, the Duke replied: "I don't know, I'll have to pass that by the missus, see how I can get away with it. At the moment, being only 22 months, it's a little bit early."

'very nervous'

William said the "responsible thing" would be to allow George to "make his own mind up" about which team to support but he may be "quite biased".

"Of course he can support whoever he wants, but if he supports Villa, it'd be fantastic," the Duke added.

"I'd love to go to the odd match with him in the future.

"It'll probably end up being that Charlotte is the Villa fan, and George will go and support someone else," he joked.

William praised Villa's manager Tim Sherwood, who has also guided the team to Premier League safety, but admitted he would be "very nervous" during the match.

"I'm terrified," he said. "I think it's been an interesting season for Villa, the last two seasons have been quite hard work, being close to relegation. The guys have battled through, they've done seriously well. And I'm really excited about Tim's leadership, he's doing a really great job with them."

William said he decided to support Villa while at school because he did not want to follow "run of the mill" teams such as Manchester United or Chelsea, which most of



ROYAL APPROVAL? William will seek the Duchess of Cambridge's permission before he takes Prince George to his first Aston Villa match

his friends supported.

"I wanted to have a team that was more middle of the table, that could give me the more emotional rollercoaster moments. To be honest, now looking back, that was a bad idea. I could have had an easier time," he joked.

'foreign element'

One of the first FA Cup games the Duke attended was Villa's semi-final tie with Bolton in 2000, where he "sat with all the Brummie fans and had a

great time", he said.

William, who is president of the Football Association, said he would like to see racism stamped out of the game across Europe and the rest of the world and more home-grown players being given opportunities in the English game.

"I know Harry Kane is one everyone's talked about recently a lot, and I know he's benefited from someone like Tim Sherwood who's helped him through the youth academy," he said.

"It's the foreign element, we don't want to degrade the Premier League - it's one of the most fantastic in the world and everyone loves watching it - but we have to find a clever balance, to allow the England team more talent to come through."

The full interview, which was filmed in the grounds of Kensington Palace, will be shown as part of BBC One's live coverage of the FA Cup final from 12.10pm on Saturday.

GREY SEX:

cont. from page five

successful male sex aid dubbed 'the guybrator' - spoke about the rise in the older generation purchasing from his site.

He said: "Since the launch of our original PULSE toy back in 2013, we've seen a continued increase in demand from the older market and I can't see that changing any time soon.

"It comes as no surprise to me that the older generation are getting their rocks off at the tender age of 70 - so they should be."

The survey has been conducted in conjunction with the brand's recent 'Sex Not Stigma' conversation - an invitation to the global population to talk more honestly and openly about sex.

Booming Britain: disposable income hits record highs

BRITONS are enjoying their highest ever disposable incomes - with £17,559 (\$26,924) a year to spend after paying their bills, official figures show.

Across the UK, a huge £1,126 billion is being pumped into the economy each year.

Londoners have the most to spend or save as they wish with £22,516 - while people in Northern Ireland have the least with £14,347.

But the biggest growth in disposable income was in rural areas, especially in Scotland. It grew faster in the Borders, West Cumbria and the Western Isles than in the most affluent boroughs

of the capital.

According to 2013 figures, it grew 5.2 per cent in the Borders, and 5.1 per cent in West Cumbria and the Western Isles. But residents of Kensington and Chelsea and Hammersmith and Fulham saw only a 3.7 per cent rise.

However London residents were easily richest, said the Office for National Statistics - and Westminster had the highest disposable income in Britain with £43,577.

In 1997, each Briton had £10,000 in disposable income and last year it was £17,378.

Analyst David Andrews said: "If more

evidence was needed the recovery is in full swing, this is it. ONS data is a reliable economic barometer. The news will be welcomed by retailers and businesses relying on the pound in the consumer's pocket.

"Low interest rates and hyper low inflation are offsetting the relative lack of significant wage rises. But the UK is on course for a major economic renaissance."

But in some areas the money people had to spend fell. Parts of north-east London were worst affected, including Redbridge and Waltham Forest, where incomes dipped 3.8 per cent.

Manchester saw a 3.4 per cent drop while in



GOOD TIMES: Brits are splashing the cash

York it was 3.3 per cent. But Bradford saw 4.2 per cent growth and Hull and Sheffield had rises of 3.8 and 1.5 per cent.

Growth was strong across Shropshire, Staffordshire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire.

Regional growth was above the UK average in four areas - London at £22,516, the South East at

£19,898, East of England at £18,523 and the South West at £17,693.

Accountant Jamie Morrison of HW Fisher & Company said: "Few figures give more clues to the average Briton's mood. Disposable income is a figure few know but all feel.

"We all know what we earn but it's what we have left after bills that matters."

News From Britain

Is that you, Mrs. Robinson?

■ Cosmetic surgery-loving TV star almost completely unrecognisable as she heads out for a morning jog

TV STAR Anne Robinson made the news again this week, looking unrecognisable as she headed out for a jog in London over the weekend.

The 70-year-old presenter was all smiles as she exercised in a neon green jacket and black leggings, however her puffed-up appearance sparked surgery rumours among fans.

Anne – who has been open about having facelifts in the past – looked notably different as she enjoyed her morning run.

Clutching a bottle of water as she sped along the street, the former Weakest Link star defied her age showing off her incredible figure and youthful complexion.

The images have sparked much activity on social media – with many fans shocked at the star’s change of appearance.

One fan posted on Twitter: “That is NOT Anne Robinson? Looks nothing like her.”

Another added: “Anne Robinson - plastic surgery overload! Just stop!”

Anne has been open about having a facelift in the past and recently admitted keeping up her appearance can be hard work.

She once said: “My appearance is all down to maintenance. I’m like the Forth Rail Bridge. I run, I have facials, I eat an awful lot of salmon and salad.”

“If you want to expose bare arms in primetime, there’s no choice.”

In 2012 she also admitted to wanting a

third facelift, saying: “I’ve asked my surgeon if I could have a third lift. I had my eyes done ages ago and I had work on my chin and brow five or six years ago.”

She added to Weekend magazine: “A facelift in LA makes you look as if you’re in a wind tunnel. And there’s the New York facelift that makes you simply look lifted. I had mine done here. You just look good.”

One leading British

cosmetic surgeon, Dr Mabroor Bhatti of Transform Cosmetic Surgery in London, commented: “She’s been very open in the past about having a face lift and I suspect she may have had another one.”

“I wouldn’t be surprised if she’s had a neck lift to keep her jaw nice and defined. The treatments and procedures have worked well for her but age and gravity can’t be kept at bay forever.”



NO COMMENT: Anne Robinson in London this week



THE KNIVES ARE OUT: Anne Robinson (left) in 2010 and (right) 2015



THE WAY SHE WAS: Anne Robinson in 2006

UK’s oldest twins die shortly after their 103rd birthday

Britain’s oldest twins have died just weeks apart after being inseparable for 103 years.

Glenys Thomas died in April before her heartbroken sister Florence Davies passed away within a month.

The great-great-grandmothers were born in 1911, the year before the Titanic sunk. They lived through two world wars, the civil rights movement and

huge advances in technology and transport.

But they always lived in the small mining village of Abertridwr, in Caerphilly, South Wales, where they had homes next to each other.

The twins - believed to be the oldest identical twins in the world - built an interior door joining the two kitchens of their homes to make it easier to see each other.

The pair (pictured,

right) did everything together before Mrs Thomas died on April 23, followed by Mrs Davies last Wednesday, May 20. Their family put their great age down to a “nice, quiet life”.

Mrs Thomas’s daughter Gwenda Stacey, 65, said: “They have lived a simple life, they never went abroad, they were always happiest together.”

Both sisters - who worked as cleaners



before becoming housewives - outlived their husbands.

They both suffered

from dementia, but still “asked for each other” at the care home where they both went to live.

Mrs Stacey added: “Their connection was lasting and truly life long.”

Meet A Member: Evan Marlowe

Meet Evan Marlowe, who was born and raised in Southern California, moved away for his medical education and then moved back in 1999 to pursue medicine and eventually directing/screenwriting.

Was there a particular reason you chose LA?

I grew up here and my family are all here. This is also the place to be to pursue my passion for filmmaking.

What one thing do you miss from home?

As I'm married to a Brit (BLA member Kerry Marlowe) I've found the UK (and East Grinstead) to be my second home. I miss the food there. It's the first thing I plan when I go back, my menu of eats - fish & chips, Pizza Express, Indian, etc. I also enjoy spending time with

Kerry's friends and family. They're all so creative, authentic and bright. The UK seems to preserve a lot more of its history, which enriches the culture. LA is quick to keep up with what's new and trendy, and seems quicker to pull down landmarks to build malls and condos.

What do you find the biggest difference is living here versus East Grinstead?

East Grinstead is a lovely small town surrounded by lush countryside and everyone pretty much knows everyone else. LA is very spread out, which can create more than geographical distance between people. There are a few little hidden green gems like parks or lakes in LA but they're often crowded. In spite of LA's spaciousness, it can be

hard finding a piece of quiet, peaceful nature here.

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

We moved to OC and hang out at Seal Beach often. The town is full of great restaurants, free parking is plentiful and the beach is clean.

Heading north, one of the best burgers I've had here is from a small beach shack called **The Spot**, in Carpinteria. That's another quaint town with a few good places to eat if you're driving up to Santa Barbara.

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

It's expensive. There's no getting around the fact that houses and the cost of living are way up there.



TALENTED COUPLE: Evan and Kerry Marlowe

And be prepared to sit in traffic, wherever you want to go. If you are a filmmaker or writer, you will find yourself in a pool with hundreds if not thousands of others hoping for the same opportunity. But on the flip side, talent is abundant in LA so collaborations can be found easily.



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

I'm an Amazon bestselling horror author so I can easily be found on Amazon.com. My wife

and I also produced two horror features which are distributed by Brain Damage Films. Our third feature Abruptio, starring James Marsters, Sid Haig

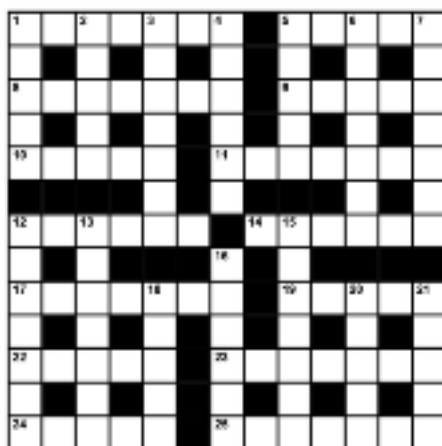
and Chris McDonald, is in preproduction. Visit us at: www.sweethomefilms.com, or facebook.com/BrainDamageFilms or [Twitter/braindamagefilm](https://twitter.com/braindamagefilm)

The British Weekly Crossword #166

Across

- 1 Look mischievously scorned, as eyes (7)
- 5 Dusky boundary (5)
- 8 Type of coffee (7)
- 9 Stomach woe (5)
- 10 Snaffed (5)
- 11 Better (?)
- 12 Coiffure (6)
- 14 Diddling (6)
- 17 Make filthy (?)
- 19 Very slow-moving (5)
- 22 Foe for Bilbo (5)
- 23 Winter Olympics event (3,4)
- 24 Piano adjuster (5)
- 25 Impressive array (7)

Crossword by Myles Mellor



Down

- 1 Clay throwers (5)
- 2 Vacant (5)
- 3 Needed a sweater (7)
- 4 Nail polish (6)
- 5 What a gambler plays against in a casino (5)
- 6 State clearly (7)
- 7 Sincere (7)
- 12 Home (7)
- 13 Like some toe nails (?)
- 15 Particular publication (7)
- 16 Golf (4-2)
- 18 Lazybones (5)
- 20 Outfit (5)
- 21 A little drunk (5)

Solution to Puzzle #165

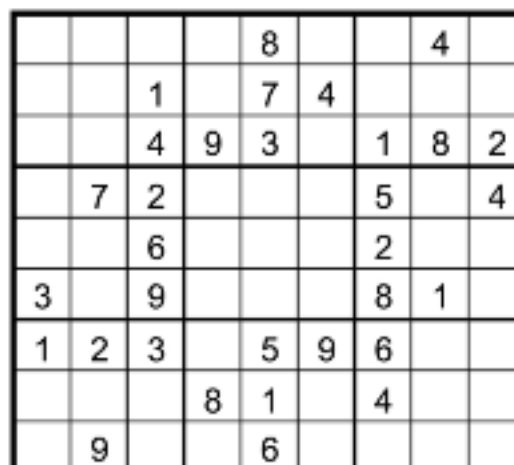


The British Weekly Sudoku #166

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 Puzzle #165



Stargazing with Annie Shaw



ARIES: Expect good news in a matter of your feelings in regard to another. This can personal or business, but by the end of this week you will just feel relieved it's over. This week ends on a better note than for some time.

TAURUS: By the end of this month you will be able to see your way to having space in your life for new people or projects - or both. What is definite this coming week is that you must sort out and discard any outstanding baggage.

GEMINI: Take a deep breath and understand that it's up to you how you want your life to be. Take time to really smell the roses and spend quality time with people or family who are good for you. Happy Birthday

CANCER: It is the right time to figure out what happens now after the past few weeks. You have to face up to what is not finished and deal with it this week, otherwise an opportunity will pass you by.

LEO: If you look at what the current unresolved situation means to you the faster you will change it. If only you could motivate yourself this week ahead all can be resolved and you will feel much more relaxed.

VIRGO: Hopefully this month can end on a high note for you. Recent events may have found you in a less than positive situation, but no action at all is not an option, so stand back, review all and then move through.

LIBRA: You are ready to clear away all the past dead wood which can mean many things to you - keeping healthy and feeling fit being the most important. Mercury in retrograde can bring someone or something back into your life.

SCORPIO: This is the time of year when you are thinking of shedding away what the winter months have left behind. You may be thinking of a diet or exercise change. Be sure you don't overdo it as this coming month will bring some fun opportunities to wine and dine.

SAGITTARIUS: A problem in your work situation is just a storm in a teacup, so lighten up, especially this weekend when you can relax with family or friends. But be sure you catch up with unfinished business, which means don't procrastinate!

CAPRICORN: This week get rid of any stuff in your life and this means all areas and start afresh. By the end of the month expect some clearance in the financial area. Pluto is visiting you but since it's in retrograde you can expect it to stall some plans you have.

AQUARIUS: Family situations heat up this week and as you already know what you should do, make an effort and be the peacekeeper. A large project may be on your mind, however do not make rash decisions based on emotions.

PISCES: This week ahead will bring back feelings you probably thought were over and done with. A trip for fun will cheer you up in the middle of next month. Please be aware all eyes are on you so show them how it should be done!

Jolly Good

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French Coast: a great read *sur la plage*...

■ Exclusive Interview with author Anita Hughes and a review of her new novel, set in the glamorous south of France



Rating: ★★★

"I love the French Riviera's mix of sophistication, gorgeous scenery and wonderful cuisine," says French Coast author Anita Hughes. "I got the idea for French Coast from stories my mother used to tell me about the Carlton-Intercontinental Hotel in Cannes. When I discovered the Carlton's website and stared at the yellow and white beach umbrellas lining the sand and the elegant marble lobby I knew that's

where I wanted to spend the next few months writing my novel. I also loved watching To Catch a Thief, with Grace Kelly and Cary Grant, which is also set at the Carlton-Intercontinental."

Set in the Cote D'Azur, Hughes writes beautiful descriptions of the food, fashion and locale. You feel as though you're there. This book is fabulous for a beach read. Hot, descriptive sex

scenes and lots of designer names and glamour. The story is a family mystery, not a murder, draped in a lavish setting with two subplots. With three stories running through the book, there is lots of jumping around. Staying emotionally connected to the characters may be a challenge for the reader.

The book opens with Serena Woods, daughter of a US Senator and a features editor at the Vogue offices in San Francisco. Her boyfriend Chase is a lawyer who is about to announce a run for mayor of the city. Chase proposes. Serena is on her way to Cannes to meet with the former editor of French Vogue, but when she arrives the film festival is in full swing and there's a mix-up at the Carlton-InterContinental. Her reservation is for

next week and every other room is booked. In the bar, Serena meets Zoe, a young woman with a two-bedroom suite at the hotel. Zoe will share it to help Serena out. But who is Zoe really? When Chase arrives a few days later, he breaks off the engagement. He says there's news about to break about her father that will hurt his chances of getting elected; specifically that her father has a second family. Serena's world turns upside down.

For research Hughes spent a lot of time on the internet researching Cannes, Monte Carlo and Juan-Les-Pins. "All the places I write about, the monuments and hotels and shops and restaurants, are real, so I spend a lot of time learning street names and looking at menus. I

watched To Catch a Thief a few more times to really soak in the landscape of the French Riviera."

"People often ask if I travel to the locations I write about," says Hughes. "When I write a book, I truly feel like I am there."

Hughes' first novel was Monarch Beach, in 2012, followed by Market Street and Lake Como in 2013. Here fifth novel, Rome in Love, will be released in August. A sixth novel is coming next spring.

When Hughes was eight, she won a nationwide writing contest in Australia's national newspaper The Australian. "The photographer came to our house to take my picture and the caption read, 'Australia's next great writers,'" says Hughes. "That definitely



**Book Corner with
Gabrielle Pantera**

inspired me to write."

Hughes just finished writing a book set in Majorca, to be released next spring. "Another gorgeous location that was so much fun to write about," says Hughes.

Hughes lives near the beach in Dana Point, California. She was born and raised in Sydney.

French Coast: A Novel
Paperback by Anita
Hughes. Trade Paperback,
304 pages, Publisher: St.
Martin's Griffin (April 7,
2015), Language: English.
ISBN: 9781250052513
\$15.99

Gerrard's Galaxy debut scheduled for July 11th

Outgoing Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard's debut for Los Angeles Galaxy has been pencilled in for 11 July.

The 34-year-old midfielder is set to make his first appearance in a home fixture against Mexico's Club America in the International Champions Cup.

LA Galaxy boss Bruce Arena says he is eager to get Gerrard involved.

"We expect him here before July 11. He'll get some training in and by the time that he's eligible

to play, he'll be ready to go," he told lagalaxy.com.

Gerrard is currently on an end-of-season break in Dubai with his Liverpool team-mates, but will soon move to the United States and is eligible to play for the Major League Soccer outfit after 8 July.

The former England skipper has signed a two-year deal with LA Galaxy after announcing in January he would leave Liverpool following a 17-year professional career at Anfield.

Busy June for Orange County BABC

The British-American Business Council in Orange County will host a Business After Hours event on Tuesday, June 9th from 6-8pm at Timothy Oulton at HD Buttercup, 3305 Hyland Avenue in Costa Mesa. Wine and cheese will be served as

guests enjoy the unique creations of one of Britain's leading furniture brands.

Oulton currently has 34 retail galleries worldwide, and is well known for his collection at Restoration Hardware. His signature creations fuse modern construction techniques



ROCK OF AGES: Ronnie Wood, Keith Richards and Charlie Watts of The Rolling Stones perform onstage during their Zip Code tour at Petco Park on Sunday in San Diego.

informed by a classic British aesthetic.

Five days later, on Sunday, June 14th from 1-4pm the BABC OC will hold their Annual Garden Party at the Dunes Waterfront Resort, 1131 Back Bay Drive in Newport

Beach. Attendees can meet friends and business colleagues in a gracious setting featuring afternoon tea with croquet, Pimms, champagne, lemonade and

vintage cars. The event features a silent auction benefitting the BABC scholarship program, the popular hat competition and much more. Tickets are

priced at \$65 for members and \$75 for guests. For more information and tickets for either event, please visit www.babcc.org

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A bench for Amy, and avoiding the big one (again)

Hello Again!

You lucky people get me two weeks running!

Regular readers will know that Craig, who runs Brits in LA with me usually alternates as author of this column. However he is off the grid in Cuba right now - one of the few places in the world where internet isn't consistent. How funny that it now sounds like a complete luxury to have no internet! Hopefully we will all still be here for his return as it seems there is a lot of scaremongering going on about 'the big one' being imminent; although some of our savvy film industry members were quick to point out that the headlines are in perfect symmetry with the release of California earthquake movie San Andreas! I am planning to see it purely for the tips on how best to survive if it does happen, obviously top of the list is becoming friends with Dwayne Johnson!

Remembering Amy

Following on from my sentiments last week about how we need to fully appreciate those around us, it seemed rather apt that we got some news regarding our friend and fellow Brits in LA member Amy Watts. Some of you may recall that Amy sadly lost her battle with

cancer earlier this year. It was quite a shock to our community as she was only 37 and 'things like that don't happen to people like her'. Well it turns out they do. One

of her favorite spots in Los Angeles was the popular hiking trail Runyon Canyon; so you can imagine how delighted her friends were when LAParksFoundation.Org gave approval to have a memorial bench up on one of the peaks overlooking the city. Amy was an Eastenders fan too, so I am sure she will enjoy being remembered in the same way as Arthur Fowler! Big shout outs to her dear friend Andy Newton Lee who organized it all and to Tina Campanella who chose the beautiful words - also to the marvelous Caroline



Photo: Andy Newton Lee

A SPOT TO REMEMBER: Amy Watts bench at Runyon Canyon

Feraday and George Stark who donated sponsorship money from their 1/2 marathon towards the cost. So if you happen to be up there, make sure to stop and have a perch on Amy's bench. A great time to reflect and appreciate all that you have, as it is so easy and common to dwell on what you lack.

Come on down!

I hear from so many of you that are a bit apprehensive about

coming along to our events alone. I promise there is nothing to be afraid of but feel free to drop us a line at britsinla@gmail.com if you have any questions. We have Pub Quiz at the Pikey next week and of course every Tuesday is Brits Breakfast at Cecconis - Craig will also be back with all the details on the short film festival he is curating during LA Pride. I am sure he will have plenty of Cuban tales to tell too! You can also get daily

news from us via our Facebook page @BritsinLA or if you have a smart phone scan our QR code (below) and it should take you straight there!

Have a great week!

Cheers!
Eileen



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STOKED!

■ Cook hails Lords' hero and insists he can kick start a new England era

ALASTAIR COOK insisted an electrifying performance from Ben Stokes, an inspiring team display and the appointment of a new coach have fired the starting gun on a new era for England as they beat New Zealand in the First Test at Lords this week.

With the Ashes approaching fast, Cook said the win by 124 runs - giving England a 1-0 lead in the two Test Investec series - signalled a fresh start after a "rocky road".

"The way we kept taking a positive approach was fantastic. A lot of things pleased me about this Test but the best was that it was a real team effort from one to 11," said the England captain.

"I have never heard Lord's like that. When this guy [Ben Stokes] took two wickets in two balls all the lads said it was just amazing." Stokes's 3-38 heroics with the ball followed a blistering century in England's Second Innings which turned the

tide of the match after the tourists had built a hefty first innings lead.

Stokes's arrival as a star on the domestic stage came in addition to the news that Trevor Bayliss will take over as coach ahead of the Ashes.

"It has been a rocky road for us for two weeks and we turned up on Monday morning and had a hack around The Grove [golf club] there has been a really good spirit between everyone," said Cook.

"For me that ranks incredibly highly - it was a brilliant Test match played in a brilliant spirit."

Stokes's double wicket burst sent a 20,000 crowd beserk and reduced his own legs to jelly.

"They were wobbly, the crowd was electric and the noise incredible," said the all rounder, who had hit a record 85-ball century on Sunday. "The crowd geed all of us up.

"All 20,000 were on their feet. It was a bit different, the full house supporting the home

team."

Both men will be hoping that support continues throughout the summer and Cook was hoping that his own good form with the bat and an excellent match as captain will silence some of the doubters.

He said: "A lot of hard work has gone behind the scenes [on his batting] and long may a bit of form continue. Barbados and a century there was a big step for me, that hundred was a huge relief.

"With regard to the captaincy, a lot of it is luck and we had quite a bit today. It helps when they are 17-3 and then Stokesy getting two in two. It was a fantastic effort all round."



CAPTAIN'S INNINGS: Cook hit an assured 162



THIS WEEK'S HERO: Ben Stokes was in blistering form with both bat and ball at Lords as England won the First Test against New Zealand

LORD'S SCOREBOARD			
ENGLAND: Second Innings (Overnight 429-8)			
	Mins	Balls	Runs
A Cook c Latham b Boult.....	545	345	162
(slight inside edge, given on review)			
M Ali lbw Boult.....	113	80	43
(rooted back in crease, clipping onto)			
S Broad b Boult.....	8	13	10
(backing away, full and straight)			
M Wood not out.....	12	4	4
J Anderson b Boult.....	2	5	0
(pitched up, removes off stump)			
RS lbw w5.....			19
Total (129 overs).....			478
Fall: 14, 25, 74, 232, 384, 389, 455, 467, 478.			
Bowling: Boult 34.8-85.5, Southee 34.4-162.2, Henry 29.3-138.2, Craig 29.3-96.1, Anderson 3.0-13.0, Williamson 1.0-2.0.			
NEW ZEALAND: Second Innings			
	Mins	Balls	Runs
M Gupta c Ballance b Anderson.....	1	2	0
(beaten by away swing, edged to third slip)			
T Latham lbw Broad.....	7	1	0
(straightened slightly off seam, plumb)			
K Williamson c Root b Stokes.....	101	70	27
(rising ball, steered low to gully)			
L Taylor lbw Broad.....	18	12	8
(straightened slightly off seam, plumb)			
B Wadling c Butler b Wood.....	153	143	59
(knock/ring ball, glowed behind)			
B McCullum b Stokes.....	0	1	0
(big freewinger, chopped on to stumps)			
C Anderson lbw Root.....	128	87	67
(striking leg stump, out, confirmed on review)			
M Craig b Stokes.....	33	24	4
(beaten for pace, bat off stump)			
T Southee c & b Ali.....	21	16	20
(mistimed drive, caught low to left)			
M Henry not out.....	38	24	10
T Boult c Ali b Broad.....	37	26	10
(short, upper cut, well caught at midwicket)			
RS lbw w2 nb1.....			15
Total (67.3 overs).....			220
Fall: 0, 0, 12, 61, 61, 169, 174, 198, 258.			
Bowling: Anderson 14.5-31.1, Broad 16.3-3.50.3, Wood 13.3-47.1, Stokes 11.3-38.3, Ali 9.3-35.1, Root 5.3-7.1.			
Umpires: M Erasmus & S Ravi.			



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Sat May 30th: **FA CUP FINAL:**
9.30am Arsenal v Aston Villa

Sat. May 30th: **COPA del REY FINAL:**
12.30pm Barcelona v Athletic Bilbao

Sat. June 6th:
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11.45am Juventus v Barcelona

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