

# May visits Salisbury after 'brazen' attack

■ Allies throw support behind PM as Russia continues to deny involvement

**Theresa May has visited Salisbury after the "brazen" nerve agent attack on a Russian ex-spy and his daughter.**

The prime minister was briefed by public health experts Thursday, as the pair remain critically ill in hospital.

Mrs May has said Russia is "culpable" for the attack and that she is expelling 23 Russian diplomats - but Moscow denies all involvement.

France, Germany, the US and UK said in a joint statement Russian involvement was "the only plausible explanation".

Mrs May added: "This happened in the UK, but it could have happened anywhere and we are taking a united stance against it."

The countries' leaders condemned "the first offensive use of a nerve agent in Europe since the Second World War".

US President Donald Trump told reporters at the White House: "It certainly looks like the Russians were behind it, something that should never ever happen."

"We are taking it very seriously as, I think, are many others."

Mrs May's expulsion of diplomats has prompted Moscow to say it will expel UK diplomats "soon".

Meanwhile, Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson said Russia should "go away and shut up".

The Russian Ministry of Defence called Mr Williamson a "vulgar old harpy".

### 'cosy nest'

Major General Igor Konashenkov said that "the extreme level of the intellectual impotence" of Mr Williamson confirmed London's accusations amounted to nothing.

"Long ago, Great Britain became the cosy nest not just for the world's turncoats, but also of all kinds of headquarters for producing fake scandals," he added.

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn, who has been criticised for not being firmer in his condemnation of Russia, has defended his stance, clarifying that he did think evidence pointed towards



**MAY:** "This happened in the UK, but it could have happened anywhere and we are taking a united stance against it."

Moscow.

Russian former spy Sergei Skripal, 66, and daughter Yulia Skripal, 33, remain critically ill in hospital 11 days after they were found unconscious on a bench in Salisbury, Wiltshire.

They had been poisoned with a nerve agent of a type developed by Russia called Novichok, the UK government has said.

A sample is to be sent to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons - the

independent international body set up to stop chemical warfare - for analysis.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov reportedly said the allegations against Russia were "absolutely boorish" and said the UK's approach was partly prompted by its Brexit problems.

Mrs May thanked emergency services in Salisbury and spoke to members of the public during her visit on Thursday.

She also visited Det Sgt Nick Bailey in Salisbury District Hospital, where he is being treated for exposure to the nerve agent after attending to the Skripals. Her spokesman said the two of them had a "private conversation".

Wiltshire Chief Constable Kier Pritchard said: "I know that both he and his wife really appreciated this time with [Mrs May]."

Earlier in the day, police cordoned off streets around Mr Bailey's home in Alderholt - 11 miles

from Salisbury - as part of the clean-up operation.

Speaking to reporters, Mrs May said: "We do hold Russia culpable for this brazen, brazen act and despicable act, which has taken place on the streets of what is such a remarkable city."

The PM, who also met Public Health England officials, expelled the Russian diplomats on Wednesday after Moscow refused to meet the UK's deadline to explain the use of the nerve agent.

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## News from Britain

## MAY:

cont. from page one

She said there was "no alternative to the conclusion" than to believe Russia was "culpable" for the poisonings.

In the joint statement released on Thursday, allies France, Germany, the US and UK said the poisoning was "an assault on UK sovereignty" and "a breach of international law".

"It threatens the security of us all," the statement read. "Our concerns are also heightened against the background of a pattern of earlier irresponsible Russian behaviour."

And in his first major speech - unveiling plans for a new chemical weapons "defence centre" in Porton Down - Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson said there was "no doubt the attack came from Russia".

Meanwhile, Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson told the BBC the attack was Russia's "way of saying to people this is what happens to people who stand up to our regime".

Mr Skripal is a retired colonel in the Russian military intelligence service. He was jailed by Moscow in 2006 for secretly working for Britain's MI6 but was later released and allowed to come to the UK.

## Corbyn under fire for failure to blame Russia

■ Citing the Iraq War, Labour leader points to 'problematic' history of UK intelligence agencies

The fragile truce on Labour's frontbench was strained this week as shadow ministers broke ranks with Jeremy Corbyn to blame Russia for the Salisbury attack.

On Thursday morning Nia Griffith, the shadow defence secretary, said that the party "very much accept what the prime minister said" about Russia's culpability in the poisoning of Sergei and Yulia Skripal in Wiltshire 11 days ago. She backed Theresa May's decision to expel 23 Russian diplomats from London.

Emily Thornberry, the shadow foreign secretary, had also said there was "prima facie evidence" that the Kremlin was to blame and added that it must "face the consequences".

Mr Corbyn caused fury among his shadow ministers and backbenchers on Wednesday with his

reluctance to explicitly hold Russia responsible for the attack. 24 hours later, on a visit to Carlisle he said that the source of the nerve agent that was used "appears to be Russia, either from the state of from a rogue element of the state" and conceded that "the evidence points towards Russia on this".

While his softened stance appeared more in line with the government, critics within Labour derided his remarks as lukewarm. One MP said: "The US, Germany and France have all lined up clearly outlining who bears responsibility - it's extraordinary that anyone thinks there's still grounds of doubt about it."

After Mr Corbyn's remarks in the Commons his spokesman said that "the overwhelming evidence points to the two alternatives that the government has set out" - that Russia was responsible

for the poisoning of the Mr Skripal and his daughter either by directly sponsoring the attack or by losing control of its nerve agent. However, he added that the history of information from UK intelligence agencies was "problematic", citing intelligence failures in the lead up to the Iraq war about the existence of weapons of mass destruction.

The spokesman also raised the possibility that someone other than the Russian state was responsible for the Salisbury attack, including a different former Soviet state.

Seumas Milne, Labour's director of strategy and communications, is a former Guardian journalist who has long been accused of sympathising with the Kremlin. He is thought to have been instrumental in crafting the party's response to the Salisbury



**CORBYN:** his equivocation over Russian culpability was 'dispiriting' said the Shadow Northern Ireland Secretary on Wednesday night

attack. Asked about his position, Ms Griffith's said she could not speak for him.

Other shadow cabinet members also intervened over the issue. On Wednesday night Owen Smith, the shadow Northern Ireland secretary, endorsed a critical editorial in The Guardian which called

Mr Corbyn's response to the prime minister "dispiriting".

A Labour spokesman again accepted that Russia was either directly or indirectly responsible for the attack. "The Russian authorities must be held to account on the basis of the evidence and our response must be both decisive and proportionate," he said.



## Russia Today NOT propaganda claims 'useful idiot' Salmond

Alex Salmond has launched a staunch defence of his weekly show on Russian broadcaster RT as he warned regulator Ofcom against closing the channel down.

Opponents have accused the former Scottish first minister (pictured, left) of being a "useful idiot for the Kremlin".

But Mr Salmond insisted that the state-funded channel was not propaganda, and he had never been told what to say.

And he said revoking its broadcasting licence in the UK would "make a mockery of freedom of speech".

Ofcom said earlier this week that it could strip RT (Russia Today) of its broadcasting licence if the UK government concluded that Moscow

was behind the chemical poisoning of a former spy in Salisbury.

There have been claims that RT acts as a propaganda tool for the Kremlin, although politicians from all of the major UK political parties have appeared on it.

On Wednesday, Prime Minister Theresa May told MPs that there was "no alternative conclusion other than that the Russian state was culpable" for the attack that left Sergei Skripal, 66, and his daughter, Yulia, critically ill in hospital.

Det Sgt Nick Bailey also fell ill after responding to the incident.

Speaking on his show on Wednesday morning, Mr Salmond said the chemical poisoning was a "heinous crime" that should be "universally condemned", although he did not

directly accuse Moscow of being responsible.

Mr. Salmond, who has had his own show on RT since November, did acknowledge that the UK government was "totally convinced that the Russian state is involved" and said it was therefore "entitled to take a range of additional measures".

But he said the government would need to produce "overwhelming evidence", which Russia would then have to answer.

The Kremlin-funded news channel began broadcasting internationally in 2005 in English, Arabic and Spanish as Rossiya Segodnya (Russia Today).

It shortened its name to RT several years later and began focusing on US news. It launched a dedicated UK service in 2014.



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# Tributes flood in as Stephen Hawking dies at 76

**TRIBUTES FROM around the world have flooded in following the death of Stephen Hawking, who died at the age of 76.**

The world renowned physicist died peacefully at his home in Cambridge in the early hours of Wednesday, his family said.

Prof Lord Martin Rees, the Astronomer Royal, who was at university with Prof Hawking, said his friend had "amazing willpower and determination".

Prime Minister Theresa May called him a "brilliant and extraordinary mind" and "one of the great scientists of his generation".

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn praised the scientist for his "determination to explain the mysteries of the cosmos" and his "burning passion to protect our National Health Service."

Sir Tim Berners-Lee, inventor of the web, said: "We have lost a colossal

mind and a wonderful spirit. Rest in peace, Stephen Hawking."

The British scientist was famed for his work with black holes and relativity, and wrote several popular science books including A Brief History of Time.

At the age of 22 Prof Hawking was given only a few years to live after being diagnosed with a rare form of motor neurone disease.

The illness left him in a wheelchair and largely unable to speak except through a voice synthesiser.

## 'extraordinary man'

In a statement his children, Lucy, Robert and Tim, said: "We are deeply saddened that our beloved father passed away today.

"He was a great scientist and an extraordinary man whose work and legacy will live on for many years."

They praised his "courage and persistence" and said his "brilliance

and humour" inspired people across the world.

"He once said, 'It would not be much of a universe if it wasn't home to the people you love.' We will miss him forever."

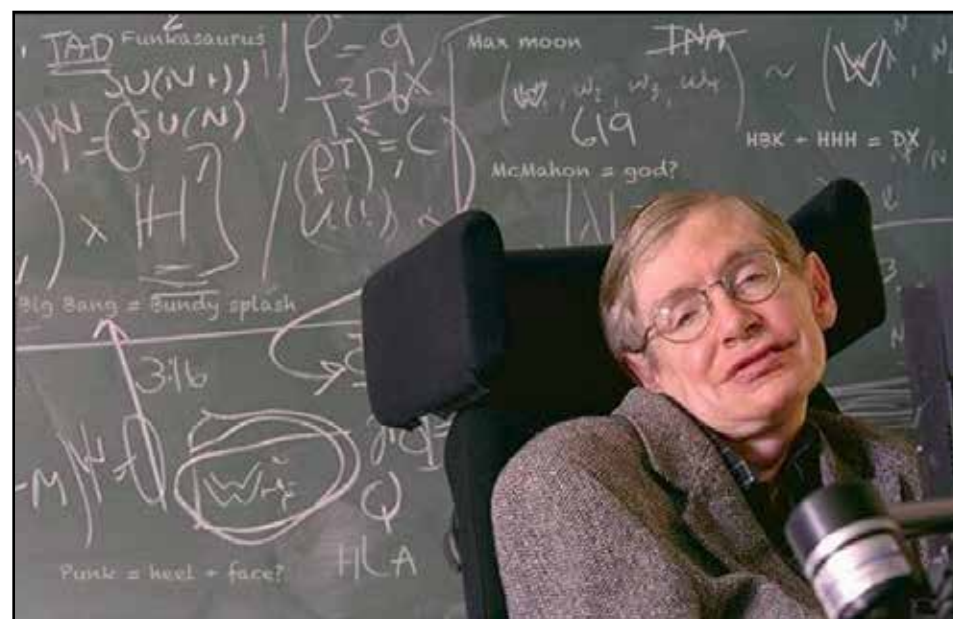
A book of condolence has been opened at Gonville and Caius College in Cambridge, where Prof Hawking was a fellow.

Prof Hawking was the first to set out a theory of cosmology as a union of relativity and quantum mechanics.

He also discovered that black holes leak energy and fade to nothing - a phenomenon that would later become known as Hawking radiation.

Through his work with mathematician Sir Roger Penrose he demonstrated that Einstein's general theory of relativity implies space and time would have a beginning in the Big Bang and an end in black holes.

The scientist gained popularity outside the academic world and



**HAWKING:** a "unique individual" who will be remembered with "warmth and affection".

appeared in several TV shows including The Simpsons, Red Dwarf and The Big Bang Theory.

He was portrayed in both TV and film - recently by Oscar winner Eddie Redmayne in The Theory of Everything, which charted his rise to fame and relationship with his first wife, Jane.

The actor paid tribute to him, saying: "We have lost a truly beautiful mind, an astonishing scientist and the funniest man I have ever had the pleasure to meet."

Benedict Cumberbatch, who played Prof Hawking in a BBC drama, said he was "a true inspiration for me and for millions around the world".

The Motor Neurone Disease Association, of which Prof Hawking had

been a patron since 2008, reported that its website had crashed because of an influx of donations to the charity.

The vice chancellor of the University of Cambridge - where Prof Hawking had studied and worked - Professor Stephen Toope, said he was a "unique individual" who would be remembered with "warmth and affection".

Prof James Hartle, who worked with him to create the Hartle-Hawking wavefunction to explain the Big Bang, said Prof Hawking had a "unique" ability to "see through all the clutter in physics" and get to the point.

He told BBC Radio Four's Today programme: "My memory of him would be... first our work

together as scientists and, second, as a human being whose whole story is a triumph over adversity [and] who inspired a lot of people, including me."

The comedian and presenter of the BBC's Stargazing Live Dara O'Briain said the scientist had an "immeasurable life" and "one of the few people I would call a hero of mine".

Theoretical physicist, professor Jim Al-Khalili, from Surrey University said Prof Hawking had a tremendous sense of humour.

He told BBC Radio Surrey: "He was a fun loving guy. Inside that shell, inside that body that was paralysed, was someone who was full of vigour, full of passion for life."

## Stephen Hawking...in his own words

### ON HUMANITY...

"We are just an advanced breed of monkeys on a minor planet of a very average star. But we can understand the Universe. That makes us something very special" - Interview, Der Spiegel, October 1988

### ON LIFE...

"One, remember to look up at the stars and not down at your feet. Two, never give up work. Work gives you meaning and purpose and life is empty without it. Three, if you are lucky enough to find love, remember it is there and don't throw it away" - Interview with ABC's Diane Sawyer, June 2010

### ON COMMERCIAL SUCCESS...

"I want my books sold on airport bookstalls" - Interview, New York Times, December 2004

### ON LIVING WITH A DISABILITY...

"My advice to other disabled people would be, concentrate on things your disability doesn't prevent you doing well, and don't regret the things it interferes with. Don't be disabled in spirit, as well as physically" - Interview, New York Times, May 2011

### ON STAYING CHEERFUL...

"Life would be tragic if it weren't funny" - Interview, New York Times, December 2004

### ON EUTHANASIA...

"The victim should have the right to end his life, if he wants. But I think it would be a great mistake. However bad life may seem, there is always something you can do, and succeed at. While there's life, there is hope" - People's Daily Online, June 2006

### ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE...

"The development of full artificial intelligence could spell the end of the human race. It would take off on its own, and re-design itself at an ever increasing rate... Humans, who are limited by slow biological evolution, couldn't compete, and would be superseded" - Interview, BBC, December 2014



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## News from Britain

**Jut a few of Doddy's gems...**

1. "My dad knew I was going to be a comedian. When I was a baby, he said, 'Is this a joke?'"
2. "I haven't spoken to my mother-in-law for 18 months. I don't like to interrupt her."
3. "My act is very educational. I heard a man leaving the other night, saying: 'Well, that taught me a lesson.'"
4. "So it turns out that if you bang two halves of a horse together, it doesn't make the sound of a coconut."
5. "The man who invented cats' eyes got the idea when he saw the eyes of a cat in his headlights. If the cat had been going the other way, he would have invented the pencil sharpener."
6. On his famous tax fraud trial: "I told the Inland Revenue I didn't owe them a penny because I lived near the seaside."
7. On his marathon live shows: "You think you can get away, but you can't. I'll follow you home and I'll shout jokes through your letterbox."
8. "Do I believe in safe sex? Of course I do. I have a handrail around the bed."
9. "I'm a sex symbol - I am a sex symbol for women who don't care."
10. "I do all the exercises every morning in front of the television - up, down, up, down, up, down. Then the other eyelid."
11. "I did 25 minutes running on the spot this morning - I had my braces caught in the banister."
12. At the Royal Variety Performance: "This audience tonight represents the creme de la creme. That's French for evaporated milk."
13. On approaching his 80th birthday: "Age doesn't matter, unless you are a cheese."
14. "I wanted to take the dog to obedience class but it wouldn't go."
15. "Did you hear about the shrimp that went to the prawn's cocktail party? He pulled a mussel."

# Comic legend Ken Dodd dead at 90

**COMIC LEGEND Sir Ken Dodd passed away this week after a 70-year career which made him one of Britain's most famous entertainers.**

His swept-up hair, protruding teeth and expression of lunatic bewilderment made Doddy unique among his peers and surely one of Britain's most instantly recognizable figures.

He was one of the most popular artists of his time, topping the record charts, filling theatres and starring on TV.

An old-fashioned variety performer with his roots in music hall, he added a unique dash of surrealism to his act,

Even allegations of tax fraud failed to diminish his standing with his adoring public.

**long apprenticeship**

Kenneth Arthur Dodd was born on 8 November 1927 in the Liverpool suburb of Knotty Ash, the son of a coal merchant.

His birthplace would play a central part in his later stage show as he wove surreal tales around Knotty Ash and its inhabitants the Diddy people, with their jam butty mines and black pudding plantation.

As a child he showed an early talent for clowning but without any thought of making it a career. However one prank went wrong when he tried

riding his bike with his eyes closed and sustained injuries to his mouth that resulted in his distinctive toothy appearance.

Despite getting a scholarship to grammar school, he left at 14 and got himself a little cart with which he went round the outskirts of Liverpool, selling pots and pans.

As he used to say in later years: "If you can sell pots and pans to housewives on their washing day, you can sell anything, even jokes."

He served a long apprenticeship as an amateur performer in local clubs and halls before making his first professional appearance as Professor Yaffle Chucklebutty, Operatic Tenor and Sausage Knotter, in Nottingham in 1954. "At least they didn't boo me off," he later recalled.

A year later he appeared in Blackpool, and by 1958 had gained top billing in the seaside resort which has been the making - and sometimes breaking - of a host of variety acts.

During the next decade he gained a steadily-increasing reputation in the northern music halls, and became well known to a wider public for his broadcasts and his recordings of popular songs, like 'Happiness'.

But his debut in the West End of London was deferred until 1965,



**SIR KEN DODD:** "My job isn't to educate people or even do politics, I've got to make people feel good, I want to make them happy."

when he topped the bill at the Palladium in an extraordinarily successful 42-week run.

Throughout the 1970s and 80s he was a firm favourite on television and radio, and kept up a punishing schedule of stage appearances.

**tax fraud charges**

But in 1989, Ken Dodd faced the possibility of disgrace, when he stood trial at Liverpool Crown Court on eight charges of tax fraud spanning a period of 15 years and involving £825,000.

The trial abounded with stories of his eccentricity. He had claimed to live on £3,500 a year, while his personal wealth ran into millions, and he did not take a holiday until he was 51.

It also emerged that he had 20 bank accounts

in Jersey and the Isle of Man, and made regular 'cash and carry' flights to deposit money in them which was not declared to the Inland Revenue.

He also had £336,000 hidden in wardrobes, cupboards and under stairs.

The jury was swayed by Dodd's defence counsel George Carman QC, who remarked: "Some accountants are comedians but comedians are never accountants". Dodd was acquitted, although he faced a reported £2m bill for legal fees and tax he had previously promised to pay.

He took up his career again and later made light of his court ordeal, quipping "I told the Inland Revenue I didn't owe them a penny because I lived near the

seaside."

He was still touring in his ninth decade with his shows sometimes lasting into the early hours of the morning. "Some of you are optimists," he'd tell his audience at the start of a show, "you've booked your taxis for half-past 12 But they say the breakfast here is good."

Behind the banter Ken Dodd was a private man, and a serious student of comic theory.

Ken Dodd was the UK's last great music hall entertainer, from an age when comedians trudged from venue to venue plying their trade of laughter.

"My job," he once told the Daily Telegraph, "isn't to educate people or even do politics, I've got to make people feel good, I want to make them happy."

## Royally unfair: Netflix pays the Queen less than the Duke....

**Claire Foy, Queen Elizabeth in the acclaimed Netflix series The Crown, was paid less than her on-screen Duke of Edinburgh Matt Smith.**

Despite Foy's Golden Globe-winning performance, Smith's previous work on Dr Who earned him higher pay, the show's producers said.

They said it would not be the case for the

third series, when Olivia Colman replaces Foy.

It is the latest example of the gender pay gap in the industry.

According to Hollywood trade publication Variety, The Crown's producers said Smith's Dr Who fame meant he commanded a bigger salary.

Foy, 33, who before The Crown appeared in the BBC's Wolf Hall, was reportedly paid \$40,000

(£28,000) per episode for the first two series, which portrayed the monarch in the 1950s and 1960s.

It is unclear what Smith was paid.

The Crown co-producer Suzanne Mackie told a television industry conference in Jerusalem that the pay difference would be rectified.

"Going forward, no-one gets paid more than the queen," Variety quoted Ms Mackie as saying.



**NOT AMUSED:** Claire Foy stars in The Crown

## Sky suspends Carra for post-match flob job

TV football pundit Jamie Carragher has been suspended for the rest of the season by Sky TV after he was caught spitting at a car containing a 14-year-old girl.

Dad-of-two Carragher, 40, formerly a defender for Liverpool, was caught spitting at the passenger window of a car which contained the teenage Manchester United fan and her father. United had just beaten Liverpool 2-1 in Manchester on Saturday. The girl's father said he had been having "a bit of banter" with Carragher as they left the game but he said it had "gone dark" after he mentioned the score.

He said: "He looked at me and waved I waved back and then he put his window down. "I said, 'Hey Jamie, good result, 2-1' and he sort of looked at me and I said, "2-1, ha ha" and his face just changed. I could just see him lurch towards his window and spit.

"I was stunned. I had not insulted him, not sworn at him. I have not got out and banged on his car. I have done nothing abusive, I've not stuck two fingers up at him.

"For a grown man to do that to a girl who had not done anything. She was in a passenger seat while her dad was trying to have a bit of harmless banter."

Carragher said: "It was a bit more than, 'Hiya Jamie, it was 2-1'. It went on for two or three times. I drove away at first and it just continued. I lost my head."

He later tweeted: "Totally out of order & I've apologised personally to all the family this evening. I was goaded three or four times along the motorway while being filmed and lost my rag. No excuse, apologies."

## Motty hangs up his sheepskin after 50 year career

LEGENDARY football commentator John Motson brought his five-decade live commentary career to a close on Sunday.

The 72-year-old, fondly known for his sheepskin coat, began his career 48 years ago as Everton beat Derby County 1-0.

But Arsenal's 3-0 victory over Watford at the Emirates Stadium in north London was Motson's final live commentary before he retires at the end of the season in May.

The father-of-one will still appear on six more Match Of The Day shows before his glittering career ends.

Master of the mic Motty has covered 10 World Cups, 10 European Championships, 29 FA Cup finals and more than 200 England games.

He started out at the weekly newspaper *Barnet Press* before moving to

the *Morning Telegraph* in Sheffield. In 1968 BBC launched their local radio channels and Motson joined the Sheffield station before being hired by Radio 2 and *Match Of The Day*.

The lifelong Barnet fan said: "I was very fortunate to be in the right place in the right time."

### 'lucky to be there'

Speaking about the power of radio commentary, Motson revealed a story from his first game in December 1969.

He said: "When I came back to Euston on the train that night I was walking behind two guys who were blind and I heard one of them say: Wasn't it great to be able to listen to the game? I learned then how radio service could support so many people who could not watch the game on television."



JOHN MOTSON: The Match of the Day stalwart joined BBC local radio in 1968

During a phone-in show on BBC Radio 5 Live last week, a caller put to Motson that his best commentaries were of Italy's famous 3-2 win over Brazil in the 1982 World Cup, Northern Ireland's victory over Spain during the same tournament and France's last-minute win over Portugal in the 1984 European Championships.

Motson said: "He has

picked three great games there.

"I couldn't have done better if I was asked to pick my top three. I might have included Germany 1 England 5.

"Certain games you do stick in the memory. Those World Cups, European Championships and FA Cup finals, I was lucky to be there."

He also admitted he

only has one sheepskin coat left.

He said: "I have always had them made to measure. I didn't set out to make the sheepskin coat anything special but it just happened when I was at Wycombe in 1990 and the snow came down. I looked forlorn and it just stuck from then on. Even when it is warm people ask where the coat is."

## Bullseye star Jim Bowen dead at 80

Broadcaster and comedian Jim Bowen, best known for hosting darts-based game show *Bullseye* in the 1980s and '90s, has died at the age of 80.

His wife Phyllis confirmed the news to BBC Radio Lancashire.

The former deputy headmaster, who lived in North Lancashire, began his career as a stand-up comedian on the club circuit in the 1960s.

He became a household name when he began presenting *Bullseye* in 1981. The Sunday tea time show ran for 14 years.

It attracted 17.5 million viewers at its peak and involved three pairs of contestants - with a "thrower", who would throw the darts, and a "knower", who would answer general knowledge questions.

Bowen became known for catchphrases including "Super, smashing, great", "You can't beat a bit of Bully!"

and "Let's look at what you could have won".

Another favourite phrase - "keep out of the black and in to the red, nothing in this game for two in a bed" - referred to the segments of the darts board that the players had to hit.

His warm-hearted and quick-witted rapport with the contestants was a big part of the show's appeal.

Bowen became *Bullseye* host after appearing on the ITV show *The Comedians*, alongside the likes of Frank Carson, Russ Abbott and Bernard Manning.

He also had a number of TV acting roles, including in *Muck* and *Brass*, *Jonathan Creek*, *The Grimleys*, and as Hoss Cartwright in the second series of *Peter Kay's Phoenix Nights*.

Bowen started out as a teacher but was inspired to take up comedy after watching Ken Dodd perform two shows -



LATE BLOOMERS: Jim Bowen with Bullseye mascot Bully

lasting a total of seven hours - one night in Blackpool.

"I watched seven hours of Ken Dodd and I watched him completely decimate 7,000 people. He left them in ruins with laughter," he told Radio Lancashire last year.

"And I thought, that's some feeling that he must get after that. And so I learned his act."

Between 1999 and 2002, Bowen presented a

live morning magazine programme on Radio Lancashire. He resigned after making a racist remark on air.

Fellow comedian and Radio Lancashire presenter Ted Robbins said he was a "very generous, kind man" who was "greatly loved" by the nation.

His agent Patsy Martin told the Press Association: "I will very sadly miss Jim. He was a very lovely,

genuine man."

In 2011, Bowen said he had learned to "appreciate all the things in life" after suffering two strokes.

Family friend John Pleus said Bowen died on Wednesday morning with Phyllis by his side after several weeks in hospital.

"He passed away very peacefully, she was with him. We are all shedding a tear," he said.





**Meet A Member**

# Meet a Member: Scott Cairns

This Week's Meet a Member is a little different from our regular format. Meet Scott Cairns from Berkshire, whose mum Suzanne Cairns Caldecote moved to the USA several years ago to retire. Scott asked Brits in LA if we could share his story in the hope that some of our members might be in a position to donate a few dollars to help fund a radiation treatment for his ex-wife.



Scott Cairns with daughter Molly

**Seeing as you don't live in Los Angeles how did you end up joining Brits in LA?**

My mum loves America and spends six months of the year over there, (and is old friends with Brits in LA co-founder Eileen Lee). I've been out to visit her last year and, though I miss her terribly, it makes me happy to see her so content. It's funny to think but the people she has met in America are some

of her closest friends and she has a much better social life and sense of community being in the USA than here in the UK.

**Have you ever visited Los Angeles - if so we would love to hear what your impression of LA is?**

I've been to LA several times and, of all the places to settle in the US, the City of Angels is definitely my first choice. However, the big move will stay a pipe

dream as life is currently getting 'in the way' as it is often wont to do. Which is one of the reasons for writing this note.

My name is Scott Cairns. I am a writer and father of one teenage daughter, Molly. Though her mother and I are separated, being self-employed, I've always been able to juggle my work life to be able to spend as much time with my daughter as possible. She currently lives with



EMMA CAIRNS: struggling with cancer

and too hard to express here just how important every single day is for both Molly and her mum to spend together.

The current chemotherapy she is being treated with is having a positive effect and stabilizing her liver and bone tumors but the spread to her brain is currently not receiving any treatment. Again, the NHS has limited resources and the radiotherapy that she needs will come at a great expense. The current estimate is around £25k.

My ex has already started campaigning for fundraising and has been on several TV and radio interviews here in the UK including BBC radio and Sky News. Her determination and drive have meant that she has almost reached half of her target.

I know it's a big ask to reach out to strangers but given the circumstances I would do anything to try and secure more time for them both to spend together. I am sure that most of you, if you were in my shoes, would do the same.

For that reason, I wondered if you would be willing to donate anything to help or share her fundraising page. Every little helps and after all, without the kindness of strangers, where would we be?

me for 50% of the time but there is every possibility that soon I will have full time care. Unfortunately, Molly's mum has cancer and she is fast running out of options for her treatment. What started as breast cancer several years ago has advanced and spread to her bone, liver and, in the last few months, her brain.

Though she works tirelessly for causes like Breast Cancer Care, even lobbying parliament and meeting with Jeremy Corbyn, she is not able to access some of the

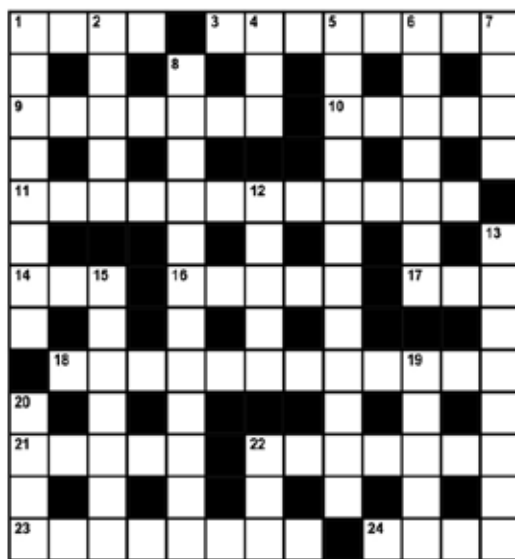
treatments that would extend her life; as we all know, the NHS is an amazing resource but does not have the financial backing to be an endless one.

My ex-wife is pragmatic about her outlook and has already achieved far more than she first expected to when receiving her original diagnosis. But as she reaches each milestone and sees our daughter growing up, it is more and more painful that the reality is Molly will lose her mum before her time. It's heartbreaking to witness

**The British Weekly Crossword by Myles Mellor. #329**

**Across**

- 1 Joe of cricket (4)
- 3 Leek cousins (8)
- 9 Apartment dwellers (7)
- 10 Rapacious desire for wealth (5)
- 11 Points of unfairness economically or socially (12)
- 14 Panel truck (3)
- 16 Meeting of the minds (5)
- 17 Squeal (3)
- 18 Not permissible (12)
- 21 Book's name (5)
- 22 Sending invoices to (7)
- 23 Seconds (8)
- 24 Drug abbr. (4)



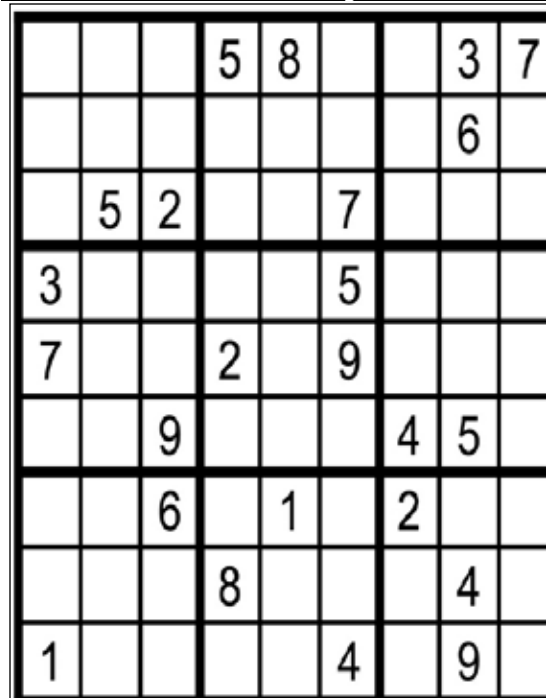
**Down**

- 1 Fetch, as stored data (8)
- 2 16 per lb. (5)
- 4 Part of O.H.M.S. (3)
- 5 Legally (12)
- 6 Class president's term (3-4)
- 7 Fizzy drink (4)
- 8 Leaving something to be desired (12)
- 12 The "L" of XXL (5)
- 13 Military capability (8)
- 15 Round-the-clock (7)
- 19 Grooms partner (5)
- 20 Type of earring (4)
- 22 Apiary resident (3)

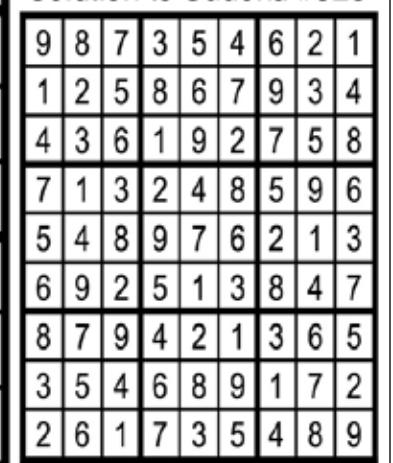
**Solution to Puzzle #328**



**The British Weekly Sudoku by Myles Mellor #329**



**Solution to Sudoku #328**



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**EMMA'S BLOG:** [theonewhereifightforeverylastmonth.wordpress.com](http://theonewhereifightforeverylastmonth.wordpress.com)



# Stargazing with Annie Shaw



**ARIES:** This springtime for you is filled with new challenges. You thrive on this energy and you can make a lot of headway if you put your energy into it. While you always fare well in spring time this year especially is just what you have wanted for some time. Happy Birthday!

**TAURUS:** Write a list of priorities and start with the biggest as your ruler is in a positive sign right now. So if you feel like reaching out and asking someone for a helping hand (in any area) this is the time to go for it. It is the time of year for you to set up for the new season.

**GEMINI:** It's time to deal with what has been on your mind recently, and the faster you take this in hand the better will be the results for yourself and others. With the new season comes new opportunities to open up and feel good in your own skin.

**CANCER:** A positive beginning of the week would be to make peace or amends with anyone or anything that has caused you upset. You moon children like to hide away in your shell sometimes. Don't waste any energy this week ahead as chances are you will regret the time wasted.

**LEO:** Any trip taken before mid-month will not go as planned, so take a rain check and make it later in the month. With this in mind expect and plan for a better week or so. Family matters are in the limelight these next few days.

**VIRGO:** If any area of life is not going as smoothly as you expect, let go of worry about the outcome, all will be well by the end of the month. Be confident when asked for your advice or opinion in a family situation. Just be open and all will be well.

**LIBRA:** The main lesson of the next week or so is that it's not the time to begin anything you will not have time to finish up. Your conscience will not allow you to take chances and rightfully so. Jupiter is in your financial area so he brings good news.

**SCORPIO:** Now your problems are sorted out (or just about) it's a good time to relax or take time out. This has been a long drawn-out period, most of the past year in fact. You may be having financial worries also, fear not all of this will be resolved going forward.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Your boss Jupiter is slowing down currently now ready to take a break. So as he is always for your best good outcome get ready to assist him. This not a time for make big moves just shine your light in areas that need work to this next week or so.

**CAPRICORN:** Your boss Saturn has brought a lot of situations up for attention these past few weeks. You now have opportunities to sort things as never before. Although it has been tough, sometime soon you will see that what has transpired has cleared away a lot of dead wood.

**AQUARIUS:** While your boss Uranus is in Aries he has caused some problems not only for you but also for others in your life. There are no coincidences and he is always seeking to bring out the truth of situations. With this in mind look at what he is bringing up for healing...it is all positive.

**PISCES:** You may be feeling like hiding away or at least spending time by yourself. This is a temporary feeling and due to the shift in season. By all means take time away - go for a short trip or walks in nature and come back refreshed. You will be ready for new opportunities. Happy Birthday.

## Almost Henry IX: The Prince Who Would Be King

*Exclusive interview with author Sarah Fraser, discussing her novel about a forgotten prince of Great Britain*



**"He's not a character most of us know anything about," says *The Prince Who Would Be King* author Sarah Fraser of Henry Frederick Stuart.**

"Grandson of Mary Queen of Scots, he has the Stuart allure. His huge funeral is the first recorded state funeral for a prince. Only monarchs and consorts had them before him. Then, he disappears. I wanted to bring Henry and his era to life, describing his achievements and his

ambitions. And end by asking who and what was behind the suppression of his memory."

Adapted into the BBC2 documentary *The Best King We Never Had*, Henry Stuart's life is the last great forgotten Jacobean tale. Against the backdrop of religious turmoil in Europe, he stood ready to unite and lead all Protestants.

Henry was the heir to James VI of Scotland, who became the king of England and Ireland when his son was just nine years old. He was born in Stirling Castle in 1594 and, as the first child of James and his Danish wife Anne, Henry was celebrated as guaranteeing the succession of the Stuart bloodline.

"By 1612, Henry, Prince of Wales, was a celebrity across Europe," says Fraser. "His short life spanned an extraordinary period in history. The first

prince born to inherit the four countries of Britain, in 1603 Henry represented the kingdoms united."

There were great hopes for Henry - who would have been England's Henry IX, - all across Europe. But then fate intervened when, aged just 18, he took ill and died shortly after taking a swim in the River Thames near Richmond.

"Following Henry's untimely death," says Fraser, "the succession fell in 1625 to his younger brother, Charles I. Henry's court was dissolved. His followers retired from court or were dismissed. They returned to fight in the civil wars that led to the Cromwellian republic. But not on the side you would expect, with perhaps dramatic consequences for history."

For research, Fraser referred to the letters and objects from Henry's lifetime. She covers the

Thirty Years' War, the writing of the King James Bible and the Gunpowder Plot. Fraser visited the major archives: the British Library, the British Museum, the National Library of Scotland, the Tower of London, the National Gallery.

"There's something slightly mysterious about handling the things they handled," says Fraser. "Books and official documents, bills for fabulous possessions still in the great collections of the world today, and private little notes between the key players, medical records and the first copies of poems and plays, the paintings of him, and the ones he bought, his armour, and his beautiful bronzes."

Fraser also wrote *The Last Highlander: Scotland's Most Notorious Clan Chief, Rebel and Double Agent* (HarperCollins), focusing on Simon Fraser,

grandfather of the hero Jamie Fraser in the hit series *Outlander*. The *Last Highlander* won the Scottish Saltire First Book Prize, a New York Times ebook bestseller, the Telegraph History Book of the Year.

Both of Fraser's books have been made into documentaries for the BBC. Historian and presenter Dan Snow made a podcast with Fraser about *The Last Highlander*. *Highlander* was adapted into a documentary shown on Snow's new TV channel HistoryHitTV.com in January.

Fraser is currently writing a true crime story set in Edinburgh in the run up to Bonnie Prince Charlie's Jacobite rebellion. She is also writing about the Union of Crowns that created Great Britain in 1603.

Fraser lives on a farm by the sea in the Highlands of Scotland,



BOOK CORNER with Gabrielle Pantera

but spends much of her time in London doing research. She was born in Bath. She's active on Twitter @sarah\_fraseruk and Facebook. She's visiting America in April 2018, speaking at the Tartan Week celebrations of the Scots contribution to American life, the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C., and in Virginia.

*The Prince Who Would Be King* by Sarah Fraser. Hardcover: 352 pages, Publisher: William Collins. March 13, 2018. Language: English, ISBN-13: 978-0007548088 \$27.99

## BRITS IN LA



## Bidding a fond farewell to a truly Great Brit

"I have noticed that even people who claim everything is predetermined and that we can do nothing to change it, look before they cross the road."

Those are the words of the late scientist Stephen Hawking, who died this week and whilst he may not have believed in fate it was rather perfect that he died on 3.14 - Pi Day the annual celebration of the mathematical constant  $\pi$ . He was an inspiration to many and was a rare 'celebrity' who managed to cross the borders and reach audiences outside of the science field. Partial credit should go to his British sense of humor. I think many of us must have watched the Oscar winning film "The Theory of Everything"

and felt ashamed that we were not being our best selves.

Dr Hawking was diagnosed with ALS at the age of 21 and was only given a few years to live, but instead of giving up he chose to make the most of every moment (55 years!); he was famously quoted as saying "My expectations were reduced to zero when I was 21. Everything since then has been a bonus." I often think Brits who opt to move to Los Angeles have a similar zest for life. Living here really does feel like a reward and motivates me, to enjoy every given minute.

If you haven't already seen page eight of this week's paper, check out the story of this week's Meet A Member, Scott

Cairns. He is trying to raise money for radiation treatment for his ex-wife. He reached out to us in the hope that we could share his story. Many marriages end in a hostile way, so it is truly heartwarming to see an ex-husband trying his best to make her last months better. To read Emma's story visit [facebook.com/everylastmonth/](https://www.facebook.com/everylastmonth/)

Now it is time for a competition, our last Fake Bake giveaway was so popular we asked Fake Bake United if we could do another competition. And they said yes! So we have two more bottles to give away of this award-winning Fake Tan - email us at [info@britsin.la](mailto:info@britsin.la) if you fancy your chances. Winners will be picked on Monday March 19th at noon - please note you must have a USA mailing address for us to ship it to you.

Don't forget the LA Marathon is this Sunday, the route goes right across town which means many roads are closed, so plan your trips accordingly.

Cheers!  
Eileen



### It's Time For Tea...

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## Piers Morgan is sure he has the right stuff for a Hollywood blockbuster...!

TV host Piers Morgan has revealed his dream to be a Hollywood movie star...

Oo-er!

The gobby Good Morning Britain host longs to star in a US blockbuster such as *Taken* or *Die Hard*.

He is hoping film bosses will seriously consider his idea and claims it would make for boffo box-office on both sides of the Atlantic.

Piers, 52, said: "A movie? Bring it on. I'd be like Liam Neeson in *Taken*. I can see it now."

*Taken* sees Neeson's former CIA agent fighting his way across Europe

to save his kidnapped daughter.

But Piers, who has no acting experience, did not reveal any plot ideas for his film.

Yet he could draw on the "near death experience" he once endured with the 'Die Hard' legend Bruce Willis.

Piers told how the movie hardman "forced" him tequilas in an LA restaurant for five hours.

He said: "I was nearly drowning. Eventually, I managed to persuade him to do the same, and the pair of us got absolutely hammered."

"At the end of the evening, he bear-hugged me, very hard."

Morgan found fame on these shores as a judge on *America's Got Talent* and followed up as the winner of season seven of Donald Trump's *Celebrity Apprentice*, before flaming out on CNN after replacing the venerable Larry King (thanks in part to his strong views on gun control).

I am half tempted to say I can't see Morgan's dream manifesting....But after his successful leap to international stardom this past ten years, nothing would surprise me...Oo-bloody-urgh!

## What a wizard wheeze...Jude Law stars in Fantastic Beasts sequel!

POTTER FANS may disagree, but I considered the first outing of the wizarding prequel *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, functional but unspectacular.

But judging by a recent trailer, all that is set to change with the second installment, *The Crimes of Grindelwald*, which is giving the people what they want: Young Dumbledore, and lots of him!

Oh and he's HOT... Of course he is, the eventual Hogwarts headmaster is played by none other than British actor Jude Law...

Oo-er!

Judging from the recently-released stunning trailer, 'Grindelwald' will be the most controversial of the Harry Potter canon so far. Fans have reacted strongly to the decision to cast Johnny Depp as the villain, Gellert Grindelwald, after his settling charges of domestic abuse during his contentious divorce in 2015.

In the trailer, Eddie Redmayne returns as the charmingly clumsy Newt Scamander, under orders from Dumbledore to head to Paris to find Grindelwald, who is on a mission to dominate all non-magical people with the help of his pureblood wizard followers.

The trailer debuted



amid casting controversy surrounding Depp, who was accused of domestic abuse by his ex-wife, Amber Heard, in court filings. Rowling, has since defended the decision to cast Depp on Twitter, citing both Heard's and Depp's desires to move on.

The movie will mark David Yates' fifth foray into the Wizarding World. He directed the last four Harry Potter outings and is set to direct the remaining three movies rounding out this saga, with Rowling continuing on as a screenwriter.

Additionally, there's been something of a backlash after it was revealed the 'romantic

history' between Dumbledore and Grindelwald would not be explored in this movie. Because they're setting that up for a later film? Perhaps, because author Rowling teased the press on the subject when she told a press conference "I can't tell you everything .....but I will say that you will see Dumbledore as a younger man and quite a troubled man because he wasn't always the sage. He was always very clever... but we'll see him at what I think was the formative period of his life. As far as his sexuality is concerned, watch this space."

The movie is slated for release in November.

Can't wait!

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BRITISH WEEKLY SPORT

Jones 'sorry' for Irish and Welsh slurs

England head coach Eddie Jones has 'apologised unreservedly' for offensive comments he made about Wales and Ireland.

At a sponsors' talk in July 2017, the Australian described Wales as a 'shit little place' and spoke about how disappointed he was by a recent defeat by the 'scummy Irish'.

Jones, 58 (pictured, above right), said he was 'very sorry for any offence caused' and added: 'No excuses. I shouldn't have said what I did.'

A spokesperson for English rugby union's governing body said the remarks were 'inappropriate' and the RFU would apologise to its counterparts in Ireland and Wales.

England's next match is against Ireland at Twickenham on Saturday.

Referring to their 13-9 defeat by the same opponents in the 2017 Six Nations, Jones said: 'We've played 23 Tests, we've only lost one



Test to the scummy Irish. 'I am still dirty about that game. We'll get that back, we'll get that back don't worry. We've got them next year at home, we'll get them back.'

The video of Jones' talk was uploaded to YouTube

by Japanese company Fuso in July last year, but has only now gained wider public attention.

Jones, who became Japan head coach in 2012, discussed Japan Under-20s losing to their Welsh counterparts 125-0 shortly

after he took over, and was comparing the population size of the respective nations to their rugby pedigree.

'Who knows Wales? Are there any Welsh people here? So it's this little shit place that has got three million people. Three million!' he said.

Ireland won this year's Six Nations with a game to spare and will complete a Grand Slam if they beat England on Saturday, which is St Patrick's Day.

Tuesday Football Results

UEFA Champions Lge Round of 16 Second Leg. MAN UTD (0) vs SEVILLA (0). ROMANA (0) vs SHAKHTAR D (0).

Sky Bet Championship. CHESTER 88 vs MANCHESTER 88. BARNLEY (1) vs NORWICH (0).

The William Hill Scottish League Cup 6th Round Replay. KILMARNOCK (0) vs ABERDEEN (0).

Ladbrokes Scottish Championship. DUMBARTON (1) vs BRECHIN (0).

Ladbrokes Scottish League One. AIRDRIEONIANS (1) vs STRANRAER (1).

Ladbrokes Scottish League Two. BERWICK (0) vs STIRLING (1).

HOW THEY STAND. Table with columns: P, W, D, L, F, A, BNS, PTS. IRELAND 4, WALES 4, ENGLAND 4, FRANCE 4, SCOTLAND 4, ITALY 4.

RUGBY UNION. NatWest Six Nations. FRANCE vs ENGLAND. IRELAND vs SCOTLAND. WALES vs ITALY.

Monday Results. Premier League. STOKE (0) vs MAN CITY (1). Sky Bet League One. BRADFORD (0) vs WIGAN (0).

Wednesday Results. UEFA Champions Lge. BARCELONA (2) vs CHELSEA (0).

Weekend Premier League Results

Table of Premier League results: CHELSEA (2) vs CRYSTAL PALACE (0), EVERTON (0) vs BRIGHTON (0), MANCHESTER UTD (2) vs LIVERPOOL (0), etc.

Weekend Football League Results

Summary of weekend football league results across Championship, League One, and League Two.

SCOTLAND

Summary of Scottish football league results: Ladbrokes Premiership, Ladbrokes League One, Ladbrokes League Two.

## Sparky returns to his old stamping ground

Mark Hughes says his "affinity" with Southampton is the reason he agreed to take charge of the Premier League strugglers until the end of the season.

The former Stoke boss replaces Mauricio Pellegrino, who was sacked on Monday with the club one point above the relegation zone after one win in 17.

"The objective is to make sure we're a Premier League club next year," Hughes said. "That's where we should be."

Hughes was sacked by Stoke in January, with the club in the bottom three.

The Welshman, 54, had been with Stoke for four and a half years and has taken charge of 445 Premier League matches for the Potters, Blackburn, Manchester City, Fulham, QPR.

He started his managerial career with five years in charge of his country.

Hughes spent two years at Southampton from 1998 to 2000 in a 22-year playing career that also included spells at Manchester United, Chelsea and Barcelona.

## England:

cont. from page 18

be playing regularly, you need to be in good form.

"It's obvious to everybody we have a very small number of English-qualified players in the Premier League. On top of that a lot of our better players have missed time with injury or through selection have missed matches.

"There are clearly some inclusions of players that are playing well for their club and who are getting their first call-up. So there is a little bit of a complex minefield to get through."

# Mourinho: Champions League exit 'nothing new' for United

Manchester United manager Jose Mourinho said being knocked out of the Champions League at home in the last 16 was "nothing new for the club".

Sevilla substitute Wissam Ben Yedder netted twice for the Spanish side in their 2-1 victory at Old Trafford on Tuesday night.

Since losing the 2011 final, United have only reached the quarter-finals once - losing to Bayern Munich in 2014.

"I don't think the performance was bad," said boss Mourinho, who lost at the last-16 stage for the fourth time.

He added: "I don't have regrets. I did my best, the players did their best. We tried, we lost and that is football."

We should have done much better with the quality we have in the team," said Romelu Lukaku, who grabbed a late consolation goal.

"We wanted to go far in the Champions League, that's what a club like United needs to do".

When asked about the atmosphere in the dressing room after the game, the Belgium striker told BT Sport that "some players were hiding".

United were second best in the two matches against the Spanish side and Mourinho was made to pay for his cautious approach as they failed to join rivals Manchester City and Liverpool in the last eight.

The Red Devils have now won just one out of their past nine knockout games in the competitions and have been knocked out at this stage in two of their past three campaigns.

A bright opening five minutes saw Lukaku strike wide and have an effort blocked from close range, but La Liga outfit Sevilla controlled the contest thereafter.



UNCONCERNED: Mourinho's blasé attitude to United's exit will cause concern

Mourinho said: "I sat in this chair twice in the Champions League after knocking out Manchester United [in the last 16] at home, at Old Trafford. In this chair with Porto [in 2004] and Real Madrid [in 2013], they are out both times. It is not something new for the club.

"I don't think the

performance was bad, I think the intention and the way we started was really good and positive. Sevilla has a good team and they can hide the ball and have players in midfield who are good at doing that. They did that for the majority of the time.

"I think the first goal was always going to

be important, not just because of the first-leg result but also the profile of the match.

"Sometimes I am lucky with changes, others time other managers are. It was good, a happy move by Vincenzo to bring Ben Yedder on. When they scored the first goal, the game is completely different."

## Crooked Kane could be back soon, insists MoPo

Mauricio Pochettino has refused to rule out Harry Kane for Tottenham's Premier League match at Chelsea on April 1.

Tottenham have said Kane will return to training next month after suffering ankle ligament damage in the 4-1 win at Bournemouth last Sunday.

Kane will definitely miss Saturday's FA Cup quarterfinal at Swansea but, asked if he could play in the potential top-four decider at Stamford Bridge following the international break, Pochettino refused to put a date on the forward's return.

"You're going to read all the information in the media - that's one thing," the Spurs manager said. "The reality is now he's in his crutches and his boot and we need to assess him day by day and we'll see

the reaction of his ankle.

"We cannot put a day or date on him starting to participate in training with the team. That is the first step, the second step is for him to build his fitness. Of course, it's not a long-term injury and it's easier to keep your form and that helps you to be fit quicker when you fix your problem.

"We're happy because he's so positive and when you see a positive player it always helps us too to believe he can be ready again to compete as soon as possible."

It is the third time Kane has suffered the same injury in 18 months after he damaged the ligaments in his right ankle against both Sunderland and Millwall last season.

On the first occasion in September 2016, he

missed seven weeks but, after hobbling off against Millwall in the FA Cup fifth-round in March 2016, he missed just 26 days and three matches.

"He's a warrior. He put his leg in the washing machine for the team to try to score!" Pochettino said.

"Against Sunderland, Millwall and now - because he's so brave. Maybe another player says, 'I'm not going to take a risk.' But he's a warrior, that's how he is. That why Harry Kane is Harry Kane.

"He's very positive. He was positive after the [Bournemouth] game. His character is always to be optimistic. He's trying to be focused on recovering as soon as possible. We'll see if it's two weeks or three weeks, I don't know."



England holds its breath: Harry Kane leaves the Bournemouth ground on crutches Sunday

# Wellbeck brace as Gunners ease through

## Europa League

Arsenal.....3  
AC Milan.....1  
(agg: 5-1)

Danny Welbeck scored twice on the day he was recalled to the England squad as Arsenal beat AC Milan 3-1 to reach the quarter-finals of the Europa League on Thursday.

Leading 2-0 from the first leg in the San Siro, the Gunners fell behind on the night when Hakan Calhanoglu produced a wonderful finish from 30 yards after being allowed to run unchallenged.

Arsenal quickly levelled, though, from a controversially awarded penalty - Welbeck going down under minimal contact from Ricardo Rodriguez before scoring from the spot.

And, after highly rated Milan keeper Gianluigi Donnarumma allowed Granit Xhaka's long-range attempt to squirm into the net, Welbeck sealed a third straight win with a close-range header.

Victory meant Arsenal reached a European quarter-final for the first

time since 2010.

They will learn their last-eight opponents when the draw takes place on Friday from 12:00 GMT.

Milan's players and fans were visibly - and probably justifiably - angered by the decision to award Arsenal a penalty in the closing stages of the first half.

Rodriguez appeared to do no more than brush Welbeck's shoulder, and the former Manchester United player fell to the floor.

The officials were in no doubt a foul had been committed, and a penalty was awarded.

Welbeck, hours after being called into the international squad for friendlies against the Netherlands and Italy, sent Donnarumma the wrong way for his first goal since 7 January.

With Arsenal 12 points adrift of fourth place in the Premier League, winning the Europa League appears to be their best chance of qualifying for next season's Champions League.

If they are to do that,



**DANNY BOY:** Welbeck celebrates his second and Arsenal's third goal against Milan on Thursday night

they will need more goals from Welbeck, particularly as January signing Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang is cup-tied.

And the 27-year-old's confidence certainly surged after his seventh goal of the season for club and country.

His clever cutback presented Henrikh Mkhitaryan with a great chance just before half-time, but the Armenian headed wide.

In an entertaining game, Xhaka gave Arsenal the lead on the night courtesy after a mistake by Donnarumma, before Welbeck nodded home the third after Aaron Ramsey's point-blank header was kept out.

Ten years ago, Milan were Champions League winners. They have a long way to go before they can class themselves as European heavyweights once again.

The Rossoneri spent £201.5m last summer, buying an entire team in an effort to lift this fallen giant back to its feet.

But they are 27 points behind leaders Juventus in Serie A and limped out of the Europa League after missing a string of chances.

## Four newbies in England squad

England manager Gareth Southgate has named four uncapped players in his 27-man squad to face the Netherlands and Italy on 23 and 27 March.

Burnley's James Tarkowski and Nick Pope, plus Swansea defender Alfie Mawson and Bournemouth midfielder Lewis Cook have all been included.

There are also places for Arsenal's Jack Wilshere and Danny Welbeck.

Injured Tottenham striker Harry Kane and Chelsea defender Gary Cahill are among those who miss out.

Wilshere, 26, returns to the squad, having last played for England in the 2-1 defeat by Iceland

at Euro 2016.

But the midfielder has enjoyed an extended run of games in the Gunners' side.

Goalkeeper Pope's call-up is reward for his impressive displays since replacing the injured Tom Heaton at Burnley.

The 25-year-old is one of four goalkeepers named in the squad, with West Ham's Joe Hart also included alongside Jack Butland (Stoke) and Jordan Pickford (Everton).

Southgate explained his selection process had been complicated, saying: "My preference is always that you have clarity for the players, in terms of you need to **cont. on page 18, col 1**



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