



Michelle to Meghan: Slow down, girl! - page 3

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Always Free

May humiliated again as Commons vote looms

BRITAIN'S future in or out of the EU remained shrouded in uncertainty this week as Theresa May suffered a Parliamentary humiliation amid rising demands for a second referendum on the issue.

Amid extraordinary scenes at Westminster on Tuesday, the government was found in contempt of Parliament for refusing to release its full legal advice on the prime minister's deal with the EU on the UK's exit from the bloc.

The vote also orders the immediate publication of the "final and full" legal advice on the Brexit deal. This forced two days of scrambling at Number 10 as Theresa May desperately tried to win over Tory Brexit rebels.

On Thursday she offered MPs a parliamentary veto on the most controversial part of her Brussels deal. The Prime Minister's plan would see the Commons get a vote before the UK is allowed to enter the so-called Northern Ireland "backstop". The offer, put forward by Mrs May in a series of private meetings with backbenchers, would introduce the extra "parliamentary lock" to prevent the country being tied into a customs union with the EU. It comes as ministers were

understood to be planning a new amendment to the motion for next week's crunch vote on the EU exit deal.

'ultrasoft Brexit'

Mrs May's efforts follow growing fears her plan will be rejected by a margin of more than 100 MPs on Tuesday.

And the Tory civil war deepened when senior Eurosceptics accused Downing Street of plotting an 'ultrasoft Brexit' that will leave the UK trapped forever in both the EU single market and customs union.

One said: "An attempt to effectively cancel Brexit and keep us in the EU is under way."

At press time Mrs May and her allies were stepping up their bid to persuade Tory MPs to back her deal. Chief Whip Julian Smith on Wednesday night addressed Jacob Rees-Mogg's European Research Group of Brexiteers to put the Government's case,



NOT MUCH CHRISTMAS CHEER: Prime Minister May's government was found in contempt of Parliament this week for refusing to release its full legal advice on the deal with the EU

while the Prime Minister was meeting dozens of MPs in small groups in her Commons office, imploring them not to block the so-called "meaningful vote" on her deal next Tuesday.

Several MPs who attended said the possible "parliamentary lock" to next Tuesday's motion had been discussed in an attempt to give extra assurance about the backstop.

The backstop is an

insurance policy to prevent a "hard border" between Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic in the event of a delay on agreeing the UK's future trade relationship with the UK. A Downing Street spokesman said Mrs May was "meeting colleagues and talking to them at this time".

opposition

And it emerged that three Cabinet ministers have urged Mrs May to

cancel next Tuesday's vote because of the scale of opposition.

Insisting the vote would go ahead, a spokesman said: "There's a binary choice here and people have got to focus their minds on it."

"Pulling the vote would not make any difference."

But the "parliamentary lock" was failing to convince hardline Eurosceptics.

One senior MP said: "It's silly and few will fall for

it." And Tory backbencher Andrew Bridgen said: "This is just kicking the can down the road. The whole withdrawal agreement is a trap designed to keep us in the EU, not get us out."

"Why should we pay a £40billion divorce bill for this?"

Other Eurosceptics claimed the Government had colluded with pro-Brussels rebels on an amendment passed on

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News from Britain

Hillsborough match commander to face manslaughter trial

■ Application to halt prosecution of David Duckenfield over deaths of 95 fans is rejected

David Duckenfield, the former South Yorkshire police chief superintendent who was in command of the FA Cup semi-final at Hillsborough in 1989, where 96 people died, has failed with a further application to have his prosecution for manslaughter stopped.

The judge who will preside over Duckenfield's trial, Sir Peter Openshaw, rejected his application for a stay of prosecution, following a hearing at Preston crown court on Thursday.

manslaughter charge

The trial, on criminal charges of causing death by gross negligence manslaughter of 95 people attending the semi-final, is scheduled to start in Preston on 14 January. He has already pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Duckenfield, 73, previously applied in June for the prosecution to be stopped on

legal grounds, but Openshaw dismissed that application, and also lifted a stay on prosecution, which had been ordered following previous proceedings in 2000.

The Crown Prosecution Service has not sought a manslaughter charge against Duckenfield in relation to the 96th person who died, Tony Bland, who was 18 when he went to support Liverpool at the semi-final against Nottingham Forest.

Bland suffered critical brain injuries in the crush on Hillsborough's Leppings Lane terrace, and was placed on life support in hospital. The life support was turned off four years later, in 1993, following a court application made by his family.

criminal charges

According to the law in 1989, a charge of manslaughter cannot be applied in relation to

a person who has died longer than a year and a day after the alleged criminal acts occurred.

Graham Mackrell, the former secretary of Sheffield Wednesday Football Club, which has Hillsborough as its home ground, faces two criminal charges for alleged breaches of safety legislation and of his duties as the club's safety officer, and will stand trial at the same time as Duckenfield.

Three other men are also being charged with criminal offences relating to the tragedy, which are due to be heard in September next year. Donald Denton, a former South Yorkshire police chief superintendent at the time of the disaster, Denton's then deputy, former Ch Insp Alan Foster, and the then South Yorkshire police force solicitor, Peter Metcalf, are charged with undertaking acts with intent to pervert the course of justice relating to Hillsborough.



DUCKENFIELD: South Yorkshire police chief at the time of the 1989 disaster

Brexit:

cont. from page one

Tuesday designed to strengthen Parliament's hand on Brexit policy if the Prime Minister's deal is rejected next week.

In the Commons, Mrs May acknowledged widespread concerns about the backstop but insisted her deal was the right one. She said: "I recognise that concerns have been raised, particularly around the backstop."

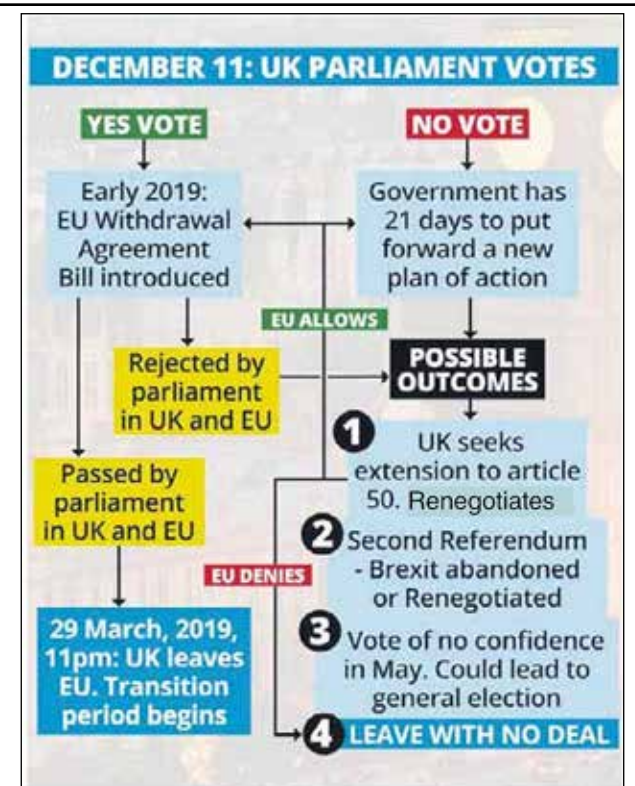
"I am continuing to listen to colleagues on that, and I am considering the way forward."

'worth all the risks'

Former defence secretary Sir Michael Fallon, among a string of Tory backbenchers threatening to rebel against Mrs May's deal, called it "a risk too far".

He said: "If we are to surrender our vote, our voice and our veto, then we need to have a deal that's worth all the risks of not knowing how it's going to work out - and we do not have that at the moment. This so-called deal is a gamble - we put all our cards and all our money on the table and then wait for another two years for the EU to set the rules of the game - and that is a risk too far."

Democratic Unionist Party MP Sammy Wilson said the deal



had shattered his party's alliance with the Tories to prop up their minority government.

He said: "Promises were made when we sat with the Prime Minister in Downing Street, where she said, 'I will make sure Northern Ireland has the final say on this because the assembly will be the final arbiter as to whether or not these arrangements are put in place'."

"They were taken out of the agreement, there has been bad faith. The agreement and the understanding we had has been broken."

Leader of the opposition Labour Party Jeremy Corbyn responded by calling the deal "a leap in the dark", and saying that Mrs May should seek a

better one or step aside.

Former foreign secretary and Brexiteer Boris Johnson then faced objections from other Tory MPs during his own address. He claimed that the deal was a "national humiliation that makes a mockery of Brexit".

He said the UK would be permanently trapped in a backstop because the EU had "no reason to take its foot off our neck."

"They will keep us in permanent captivity as a memento mori, as a reminder to the world of what happens to all those who try to leave the EU."

"This is a recipe for blackmail and it's open to any member of the EU to name its price for Britain's right to leave the backstop."



171 Pier Ave. Ste. 121 • Santa Monica CA 9005
Tel: (310) 452 2621 • Fax: (310) 314-7653
editor@british-weekly.com
www.british-weekly.com • Twitter/BritishWeekly



Managing Editor: Neil Fletcher

Deputy Editor: Nick Stark

Contributing Writers: Sean Borg, Alan Darby Drake, John Hiscock, Eileen Lee, Rick Parcell, Anne Shaw, Nick Stark, Craig Bobby Young

Showbusiness Editor: Sean Borg

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Petulant Piers mauls Meghan

■ Outspoken TV hosts blasts Duchess for 'ghosting' him

By Sean Borg

British TV host Piers Morgan did not hold back in his latest rant about his former friend, Meghan Markle, Duchess of Sussex.

Following rumours that the Palace is beginning to turn on the former Suits actress, the Good Morning Britain host said he was "not surprised" in an eye-opening column this week.

Their friendship began after Piers followed the 37-year-old on Twitter in 2015, and then he reported Meghan sent him a friendly direct message.

He said they spoke frequently and formed a friendship where they discussed 'sensitive' and 'private' things about Meghan's family.

In early June 2016, the pair met up at Piers' local pub, the Scarsdale Tavern in Kensington, for an "enjoyable" 90 minutes before he put her in a taxi to a dinner she was having with friends at 5 Hertford Street, a chic club in London's Mayfair.

Writing in his latest MailOnline column, Piers claimed Megan sent him a series of text from the cab, saying she was looking forward to meeting up again.

Piers claimed Meghan met Prince Harry for dinner that same evening, went on a solo date with him the following night

and according to Piers, never messaged him again since.

Speaking of his thoughts on Meghan, Piers wrote: "When someone more important and influential came along, in the shape of Prince Harry, I was instantly dumped like a sack of spuds.

"The whole experience left me feeling suspicious and cynical about Ms Markle.

"Nothing in her behaviour since marrying Prince Harry has alleviated those concerns."

Following rumours of a growing rift between the Duchess of Cambridge Kate and Meghan, the Queen being "displeased" over the Suits star demanding an emerald tiara for her wedding, and her personal assistant quitting after just six months, Piers said: "Given my unfortunate experience with her, I'm afraid I'm not remotely surprised."

He added: "Meghan Markle is a self-obsessed professional actress who has landed the role of her life and is determined to milk it for all she's worth. She's ruthless.

"For the first time in her life, Meghan Markle has discovered she can't always get what she wants."

'Don't be in a hurry', former First Lady advises Meghan

■ Michelle Obama weighs in amid reports of Meghan/Kate feud

FORMER First Lady Michelle Obama spoke out in support of the Duchess of Sussex this week amid a Royal Family row, telling her: "Don't be in a hurry."

Pregnant Meghan is at the centre of a storm that could split the royals after reports of a fall-out between Meghan and William and Kate. It was reported on Monday that a personal assistant quit her job in tears over Meghan's demands. In a magazine interview out Tuesday, Mrs Obama said: "Like me, Meghan probably never dreamt that she'd have a life like this and the pressure you feel – from yourself and from others – can sometimes feel like a lot.

"So my biggest pieces of advice would be to take some time and don't be in a hurry to do anything.

'pushy'

"I spent the first few months in the White House mainly worrying about my daughters, making sure they were off to a good start at school and making new friends before I launched into any more ambitious work.

"I think it's OK, it's good even, to do that.

"What I'd say is that there's so much opportunity to do good with a platform like that – and I think Meghan can maximize her impact for others, as well her own happiness, if she's doing something that resonates with her personally."

There have been allegations that Meghan upset the Royal Family when she demanded that air fresheners were sprayed inside Windsor Chapel at her wedding. Other reports claim she



FRIENDLY ADVICE: The Obamas are known to be close to the Duke and Duchess

upset a member of the Duchess of Cambridge's staff and has been pushy with other courtiers.

Prince Harry and Meghan are close to Barack and Michelle Obama and Mrs Obama's encouraging words will comfort Meghan as she finds her place in the British establishment. On a tour to promote her memoirs, Mrs Obama told Good Housekeeping of her hopes for today's women, admitting that in many ways, life is harder. However, she said: "But what's inspiring to me is

that so many of the young women I've met are triumphing in incredible ways.

"Unlike my generation, they're not as held back by the societal belief that girls and boys can't do the same thing. "They're charging forwards in sports and maths and science and technology.

"They're speaking up and speaking out, not just in classrooms but in the public arena at a young age."

Asked what she missed about White House life, Mrs Obama said she did

not do "a lot of looking back or pining for what used to be, which is something that is true for every phase of my life, not just my time in the White House".

She said: "I recognise that I'm incredibly blessed to live the kind of life I live today and mainly, I'm grateful that my daughters, my husband and I all came out of those eight years in one piece. "We had a wonderful life in the White House, full of great memories with family and friends."



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News From Britain

Attenborough's bleak warning on climate

Time is running out, Sir David warns UN meeting

SIR David Attenborough has issued a stark warning on climate change, saying the world "faces its greatest threat in a thousand years".

At United Nations climate talks in Katowice, Poland, this week, the naturalist and TV presenter called on world leaders to take charge of driving down greenhouse gas emissions. Sir David, 92, spoke in the UN's "People's Seat" initiative to give ordinary people a voice by gathering their thoughts, ideas and concerns through social media and polling. He said: "If we don't take action, the collapse of our civilisations and the extinction of much of the natural world is on the

horizon.

"The world's people have spoken: time is running out, they want you, the decision-makers, to act now. "They are supporting you in making tough decisions but are also willing to make sacrifices in their daily lives." The UN has launched an "ActNow. bot" which helps people discover simple everyday steps they can take to tackle climate change.

Sir David, whose recent BBC One series *Dynasties* highlights some of Earth's most endangered species, added: "Leaders of the world, you must lead. The continuation of our civilisations and the natural world upon which we depend are in your

hands."

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres told negotiators the world was "in deep trouble".

"Climate change is running faster than we are and we must catch up sooner rather than later, before it's too late. For many people, regions and even countries, this is already a matter of life and death.

'deep transformations'

"Climate action is not just the right thing to do, it makes social and economic sense," he said, pointing to how action to cut emissions will curb air pollution deaths and generate millions of jobs and trillions of dollars. Four former presidents



"Leaders of the world, you must lead," Sir David told the meeting in Poland

of the annual talks have warned the "world is at a crossroads" and decisive action in the next two years will be crucial. In a joint statement, France's Laurent Fabius, Fiji's prime minister Frank Bainimarama, Morocco's Salaheddine Mezouar, and Peru's Manuel Pulgar Vidal said: "The challenges

are there, as are the solutions. We require deep transformations of our economies and societies to build a better world for all. This must be powered by multilateral co-operation."

They called for ambitious decisions to back up the Paris Agreement, secured three years ago in the French

capital to curb global warming. Countries must be encouraged to ramp up commitments to cutting greenhouse gases by 2020 as current efforts are not enough to prevent dangerous temperature rises, they said. And they called for progress on mobilising £78 billion a year for poorer countries to drive clean growth.

JK Rowling's former PA described as 'good liar'

The former personal assistant of JK Rowling has been described as a "good liar" by the author's husband.

Dr Neil Murray made the comment during a civil case at Airdrie Sheriff Court against Amanda Donaldson.

Ms Donaldson is accused of fraudulently using the Harry Potter creator's credit card to fund spending sprees that included buying £3,629 of luxury cosmetics from Molton Brown.

The 35-year-old, from Coatbridge, in Lanarkshire, denies the claims.

Dr Murray said Amanda Donaldson had been employed to help organise his wife's business and personal matters.

He said she was suspended and later dismissed in 2017 over alleged unauthorised

spending that also included £2,139 in stationery shop goods from Paper Tiger and more than £1,800 spent at Starbucks and Costa Coffee.

His wife claims Ms Donaldson wrongly benefited to a total value of nearly £24,000.

Dr Murray said the biggest concern was over cash withdrawals of £400 and £250 in December 2016 that Ms Donaldson claimed were for a Christmas lunch deposit.

Chartered accountant Steven Simou had earlier told the court that he had contacted the restaurant involved and found no deposit had been requested or taken off the final bill.

Dr Murray said he had then challenged Ms Donaldson in "an astonishing encounter".

He said: "Amanda had always adopted a lively, slightly bubbly, a bit

scatty demeanour.

"I thought she might be emotional or run about the office looking for bits of paper, but what I found was a completely different personality.

"She shut down, was calm and basically lied. At the end of the encounter I was really taken at how good a liar she was."

'Doesn't make sense'

The author's husband said there was a small staff of four full-time and two part-time workers who shared an office with Ms Donaldson in Edinburgh.

Asked by JK Rowling's solicitor, Kathleen MacDonald, if there was any reason for the £3,629 spend at Molton Brown, Dr Murray said: "Well not for the office, it doesn't make sense.

Dr Murray said there was "no question" about what the credit card was



JK Rowling with husband Neil Murray. The author was made a Companion of Honor by the Queen at Buckingham Palace in 2017

meant to be used for.

"This was a business card to facilitate my wife's business life," he told the court.

'Quite shocked'

He added: "I heard from office staff there was an occasion Amanda was out socially with staff and they bought pizza.

"Amanda offered to pay for the group and took out the business credit card. I was told she said 'don't worry, Neil doesn't check this card.'"

Accountant Steven Simou earlier told the court that a safe, which Ms Donaldson had access to, was found to be missing more than £7,700 after she was suspended.

The accountant said he had analysed the credit card account after a concern was raised by another member of staff.

He said: "I was just quite shocked to see so many expenses there, clearly not of a business nature."

He added: "Certain

expenses stood out more than others - Costa, Starbucks, bakeries, Boots and other high street shops you wouldn't normally associate with a business spend."

Cross-examined by Amanda Donaldson's lawyer, Mr Simou acknowledged that he did not know what instructions she had been given for using the card.

The civil case before Sheriff Derek O'Carroll continues.

Baby Boom! Little Ralphie, the UK's youngest 'influencer', really brings in the readies...

AS MUCH a part of Christmas as Santa the tree, turkey and presents is the army of relatives who descend, cameras in hand, to take endless photos of the kids, amid cries of "My, haven't you grown!" That is unless they're guests in the immaculate Waplington household, home to internet sensation Ralphie, who is Britain's youngest ever "influencer" on Instagram and whose image is so precious that family are banned from posting his picture.

Ralphie's mother Stacey Woodhams has bagged more than £10,000 of freebies by posting photos of her son on his Instagram account, which has 14,800 followers. In addition to the free nappies, clothes, furniture and holidays Stacey has secured, Ralphie can earn up to £375 from a single sponsored post. He has a different pram for every day of the week and top brands clamour for him to model their collections, all of which means that his social media exposure has to be as carefully stage-managed as a catwalk model.

"If a photo of him in a tracksuit with snot running down his face and his hair is messy gets put on social media, that is not representative of the brands we are representing," says Stacey, 28, from Brentwood, Essex.

"So our family aren't allowed to post photos unless it's a photo we've already posted or one that I've approved."

Stacey originally set up an Instagram account for Ralphie when he was seven days old so that their family could see him grow. But within a month, she had amassed more than 1,000 followers and



now spends hours every day carefully constructing photo opportunities and styling shoots on her smartphone – often with the help of Ralphie's father, Adam Waplington, 29. The pair recently set up an Instagram account focused on Adam and hope that he may soon be able to quit his fulltime job in the wholesale catering business.

"I'm still really new to the whole thing," says Adam. "We found that opportunities would come up that involved dads so we thought it was a no-brainer if I got involved."

Despite Ralphie's Instagram success, Stacey still spends a lot of time contacting brands to suggest they work with her. "It's like any business, you have to go out and get it," she says. "I'd say 70 per cent of the work we obtain is through me reaching out to source it, and 30 per cent where we get contacted directly."

Now Stacey is running workshops for fellow parents on how to use

social media and promote their businesses or their own family influencer accounts. Stacey makes sure she plans ahead so photos of Ralphie are strategically shared when they're likely to receive the most attention, including at 2am when fellow frazzled parents are kept up by babies and young children and are likely to be scrolling through Instagram.

"I'm so passionate about what I do. I think Instagram is quite misunderstood but it can be a really positive place to share your story," says Stacey. She credits the social media giant for giving her the opportunity to work from home as she earns enough from running the account alongside her own business Mummas Prints. In the near future, Stacey and Adam hope to have another child, preferably a girl, who maximize their social media earning potential.

Let's hope she hits the ground running....

Pete Shelley, singer with The Buzzcocks, found dead at 63



PUNK HEYDAY: John Maher, Steve Diggle, Pete Shelley and Steve Garvey founded The Buzzcocks in Bolton in 1976

Buzzcocks lead singer Pete Shelley has died at 63 of a suspected heart attack.

The punk band are best known for their hit, *Ever Fallen in Love (With Someone You Shouldn't've)*.

Their management told the BBC that Shelley died on Thursday in Estonia where he was living.

The Buzzcocks, who formed in Bolton in the 1970s, were regarded as more polished, but musically no less influential, than the Sex Pistols.

The band have tweeted saying Shelley was "one of the UK's most influential and prolific



songwriters and co-founder of the seminal original punk band Buzzcocks".

His music inspired generations of musicians over a five-decade career with his band and as a solo artist, they said. And singer Tracey Thorn, formerly of *Everything But The Girl*, said Shelley had been an "amazing songwriter".

Homeless mag sellers go cashless as Brits ditch cash

SIGN OF THE TIMES: the homeless sellers of The Big Issue are ditching cash payments in favor of contactless technology.

The paper has teamed up with technology company iZettle to test the idea in London, Bath, Birmingham, Bristol and Nottingham. It wants vendors to continue to make a living in an increasingly cashless society.

Managing director Russell Blackman said: "Vendors are microentrepreneurs, effectively running their

own small businesses, so understandably there are many who are keen to respond to market forces and offer their customers an alternative to cash.

"The partnership with iZettle reflects our shared values and commitment to creating a more financially inclusive society, supporting those whose lives have been blighted by poverty and a lack of opportunity. "The Big Issue looks forward to providing our vendors with the opportunity to cater for their customers'

needs and increase their ability to earn a legitimate income."

Seller Mary Holden, 52, based in Victoria, central London, said: "It's brilliant news that The Big Issue are moving with the times and we can now offer our customers the option to pay by contactless. I hope I see my sales go up as a result."

Edward Hallett of iZettle, said: "People who aren't carrying cash can simply tap to pay and show their support by buying a magazine."

Local News

Christian Williams: sailor, raconteur, You Tube guru....and my friend with the sewing machine

As an author and journalist when I heard there was a sailor who had written for the Washington Post just down the dock from my boat at the California Yacht Club in Marina del Rey, I was interested to chat.

When I learned he had sailed his Ericson 38 solo to Hawaii I was intimidated. Nothing I could say or write would be worthy and I certainly wasn't a sailor by comparison!

Bob Woodward of Washington Post fame says, "Christian Williams is a genius sailor, observer and writer." No one would argue this. I would add that Williams is a master educator; he can spin the dull practice of retrofitting a boat into a tale that you will want to read again and again.

Sailing with Ted

Williams has clocked more than 20,000 miles at sea since learning to sail as a boy on the Chesapeake Bay. But what is amazing is his ability to write and speak about sailing's glory and trials.

Williams sailed on Ted Turner's famous yacht Tenacious, and was his biographer for "Lead, Follow, or Get Out of the Way." As a sail trimmer for Turner he confesses he was fired and rehired at Turner's mercurial whim (or maybe it was part of his motivational and



By Julia Dawson

management style.)

If you're brave enough, I highly recommend reading William's account of Turner's sail in the deadly 1979 Fastnet Race, the grueling 600-mile dash from Cowes on the Isle of Wight to Ireland's Fastnet Rock lighthouse and back. It's personal, downright scary, and detailed in gut-wrenching accuracy. Only the bravest of sailors will want to venture out from their bathtub without the comfort of their rubber ducky after reading this article published by the Washington Post. It's vividly tangible in details and absolutely haunting.

Sailing with Ted

When I read Williams' book "Alone Together," detailing, at 71, his single-handed voyage from California to Hawaii, I was impressed. Not only does he so dramatically and accurately describe his voyage across

the sea, he tells us in superb detail about his experience preparing his boat and how he fixed things en route. He has escaped floating shipping containers, hurricanes, and doldrums. Repaired broken helms, whisker poles, and squeaky barometers. And been entertained by stowaway dragonflies and flying fish.

Williams is also a dab hand with video. His You Tube productions associated with his book have generated 2,000,000 internet hits. For those of you who aren't interested in this computer stuff that is tantamount to making the New York Times Best Seller List.

Christian recently spoke at the Catalina Owners dinner at the Del Rey Yacht club in Marina del Rey. He discussed his second voyage across the Pacific and his new book "The Philosophy of Sailing." From this voyage he created a beautiful, informative and sometimes hilarious video of his journey which is available to view for free on YouTube. (He really should be monetizing this because he gives much more than he takes.)

Christian Williams is arguably the most erudite sailor since Francis Chichester. In the back of "The Philosophy of Sailing," he lists nautical terms used in the book, an



THE WISDOM OF THE HIGH SEAS: Christian Williams surveys the horizon (above) and (below), leaving the Marina Del Rey channel aboard Thelonius



evaluation of the parts he used to retrofit his boat, and a list of philosophy books. In addition to having the mind for the works of Greek sophists he enjoys jazz well enough to name his boats Thelonius I & II after Thelonius Monk.

Not only does Williams have an ear sensitive enough for fine music, he goes to great lengths to eliminate squeaks, rattles, and creaks on his boat. Often resolved comically with duct tape (man's solution for all problems) and perfectly carved

widgets. Or maybe that's what we would all do while alone for 5,000 miles.

Williams is gregarious and warm and clearly seems to like people. He is self-proclaimed "Not a loner." So that begs the question that he says many query:

"The first thing everyone asks is, 'Why are you doing this again?' Or, 'You're doing this again?'" In "Alone Together" and "Philosophy of Sailing" he expertly answers this question and ... how to cook spaghetti and pour chianti on a rocking and rolling boat.

He says, "Sailing teaches you what living is, the same way a violin teaches a player what music is."

Christian understands his boat from bow to stern. He has three sewing machines and he sewed all the canvas for his boats - I can't do that. He calls it, "Sewmanship - the manly art." Christian is a man with a sewing machine and he knows how to use it. He keeps his beautiful wife Tracy in stitches.

Contact the author at Julia@JuliaMichelleDawson.com

Stargazing with Annie Shaw



ARIES: If you are interested love is in the air...sooner than later. This can be established or new. Either way, enjoy this time frame. Mars your boss is heading into watery Pisces and although this can slow things down in other areas, Mercury is moving forward but will not be for long.

TAURUS: Your finances could be a problem (or lack thereof, more likely). Try not to freak out as it is all temporary. Most situations will stabilize due to Mercury going forward so be wise and keep a handle on your emotions and it will feel better by mid-week.

GEMINI: You would be wise to not use up all your energy this week as by the weekend your boss planet Mercury will be in a positive mood. Whatever business you have going on is ok to put on hold. This is not a time to make long-time plans, late month is better.

CANCER: You are in a good time frame for letting go of what you have no space in your life for. Mars and Venus are both in water signs currently. There is no better time to do this than now. Look back over the last few weeks and take stock of what worked and what did not.

LEO: You may have felt a little out of sorts this past week; this is because a lot of action is happening in water signs. Take stock of what you have achieved, chances are you will understand what was important is complete and you can rest easy.

VIRGO: This past week or so has not been as forward moving as you need. This is because everything seems hard work. This is due to your boss planet Mercury moving backwards. However, next week begins better as he is back in form and progressing.

LIBRA: Without a doubt you have achieved a certain amount of attention lately...personal or otherwise. Make sure you take full advantage of your lovely boss Venus in your money house as soon as next week. You will start seeing more of what you want in several areas.

SCORPIO: You have had some difficult life cycles recently. This week ahead will start a more balanced time when your boss Mars moves into cousin Pisces and will enhance your life for a while. Work and relationship opportunities are already gearing up for you.

SAGITTARIUS: This week ahead use your head (not your heart) to navigate any uneasy situations - especially family matters. There is help as your boss Jupiter is now in your house and however you look at your current situation you should put your attention on following through on your own plans.

CAPRICORN: There will be changes coming soon so do not rock any boats this coming week. Be prepared to go with the flow at the same time do not take anything for granted. Try to not to put too much pressure on yourself or you will not be able to move forward where you wish.

AQUARIUS: Some good news is on its way, just make sure your everyday life is in order before you take on anything else. Finances are still not as you want, however by midweek it's looking much more positive. Then you can let your hair down and enjoy the season.

PISCES: You should surround yourself with people who only have your best and highest good at heart these next few days. You are very intuitive usually and you will get to use it for your own benefit soon. The next couple of weeks lay low and by the month's end it's time for fun galore.

The British Weekly Sudoku by Myles Mellor #366

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

Solution to Sudoku 365

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

The British Weekly Crossword by Myles Mellor. #366

Crossword by Myles Mellor

Across

- Baby lions (4)
- Supreme Court cohort (8)
- Sugar pill (7)
- Moth-___ (timeworn) (5)
- Not out (5)
- Mixes (6)
- "Nope" (3)
- Evaluated a stock (5)
- Ran (3)
- Nix (6)
- Not healthy (5)
- Good acid (5)
- Maintained (7)
- Pitcher (8)
- Hold back (4)

Down

- Hook and Cook (8)
- Support provider (3)
- Supermarket tabloid subject (3)
- A lot (12)
- Stronghold (7)
- Get in tune with (4)
- Festivities (12)
- Blonde shade (3)
- Female dog (5)
- Revise a manuscript (4)
- Relax (5)
- Boxing match (5)
- Captures (4)
- I found out! (3)
- Not very bright (3)

Solution to Puzzle #365

T	A	B	S	D	E	P	I	C	T	E	D
A	L	R	A	N	O	I					
P	R	O	T	E	C	T	C	E	N	T	S
E	O	P		R	O	G	H				
S	I	M	U	L	T	A	N	E	O	U	S
T		A	G	A	E		L				
R	A	N	C	O	I	N	S	S	P	A	
Y	O	E	N	I			V				
U	N	I	M	A	G	I	N	A	B	L	E
C	S	E				G	O	N			
L	A	T	I	N	O	B	L	I	G	E	D
A	O	T	U	Y		U	E				
D	E	P	O	S	I	T	S	U	S	E	R

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BRITS IN LA



Serendipity: Clever Brits teaming up

GREAT THINGS HAPPEN at our creative British Breakfast – it's been said that the best ideas happen in the mornings... many collaborations have been born from our weekly breakfast, from songwriters getting together, filmmakers and actors, and now here's a story about some wonderful creative women....

Once upon a chance meeting at the Brits in LA weekly breakfast at Cecconi's, three British lasses (Tina, Katie and Kate) came up with the idea for a unique creative business partnership. They conceived creating a gift box of all their speciality crafts. The

florist, the chocolatier and the artist. With Christmas around the corner, and of course, every romantic's favourite, Valentine's Day, looming, their timing is perfect.

All three came to LA for their own individual reasons but, as with most LA transplants, all came with an aim to succeed in their chosen fields. People tend to equate British products with high quality and this offering is bringing together the best of each of their individual crafts. Quintessentially British with a LA sparkle.

Stylist-turned-artisan-chocolatier Tina set up her bespoke chocolate company (Hawkridge &

Sons) which specialises in hand crafted chocolates made with all organic ingredients, with her two sons. Their chocolates are the result of years of research into nutritional health and food production and reflect the team's discriminating taste as well as their commitment to organic farming, ethical trading and non-GMO ingredients. Most recently Hawkridge and Sons also began collaborating with Byron Blatty Wines, a small, family run business offering a distinctive selection of handcrafted wines.

Artist Katie Brightside believes in community and people coming together to create a unique foundation to see life in a different perspective. Off the back of her success of her 600 feet mural at the corner of Santa Monica Boulevard and Crescent Heights, she decided to create a limited edition artisan candle with Hawkridge & Sons to celebrate their British flair.

Lawyer-turned-florist Kate came to LA to set up her floristry business, Foxgloves & Folly. Kate's bouquets and arrangements have an overarching natural, loose, asymmetrical style and she is very much influenced by her English background. She loves combining this much more natural style of flowers with the glamour of LA and loves this opportunity to collaborate with Tina and Katie in bringing the very best of British to LA. I especially recommend their Christmas gift box option, which you can buy with a 10% Brits in LA Discount. Contact info@hawkridgeandsons.com

For further information on this sublimely talented British trio: Tina Hawkridge: hawkridgeandsons.com or instagram @hawkridgeandsons; Katie Brightside: welcometothebrightside.com or instagram @



HONESTLY: is there anything better than Hamley's at Christmas time?

welcometothebrightside; Kate Norris: foxglovesandfolly.com or instagram @foxglovesandfolly

Window Shopping

I was back home in London last week and it was surprisingly mild. I got to see a show, "The Inheritance" a seven-hour masterpiece at the Noel Coward Theatre - It was worth every minute and the achy-achy bottom afterwards. Moving, poignant, funny and incredibly well

acted. If you get a chance to see it...do! I also got to do a spot of Christmas shopping and see all the wonderful lights on Regent Street and of course the wonderfully festive shop windows. I'm a big kid at heart so HAMLEY's toy store is always high on my list. Speaking of Christmas we are holding our annual Christmas Party this year at "No More Heroes" (7746 Santa Monica Blvd, West Hollywood, CA) on Monday the 17th

of December 7-11pm. Tickets are only \$10 this year and include a free welcome drink. Please consider bringing an unwrapped toy for the amazing charity, adopt-a-letter. Tickets are available via Facebook group (Brits in LA) or by www.britsin.la

It's always a great idea to shop locally for the season so why not buy some gifts from BiLA members?

**Till next time,
Craig**



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Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



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Hollywood or bust? 'drunken snog' ended Kelly's acting career



Sexy Brit Kelly Brook never fails to amaze her fans with her endless display of raunchy snaps.

While her modelling career has continued to rise, her career as an actress hasn't been as successful.

Although she appeared in some Hollywood classics in her time, Kelly revealed that her antics in the Playboy Mansion might be to blame for her downfall she claims.

After years of working with Playboy, she joined the rest of the playmates for a party – but things went downhill for the brunette beauty.

Spilling all about her time in the mansion recently, curvy Kelly said: "I had been working for Playboy and I just signed with a new agent, so we, together, went to the Playboy mansion for their Christmas party."

As she explained that there was a lot of drinking, she admitted

she did something she would soon live to regret.

She added: "I got absolutely annihilated and then I thought, well I'm at the Playboy Mansion, where's the grotto?"

"Obviously I was alone, I was single – and I dragged my Hollywood agent into the grotto, snogged him, then puked on him.

"That was the end of my Hollywood career, right there."

The busty babe sheepishly admitted that she never heard from him again, resulting in the end of her career.

Although she's not strong in the acting business, she's maintained her modelling career, with fans gushing over her endlessly.

The 39-year-old appeared in a number of films in her time, including The Italian Job in 2003 and Survival Island in 2005.

She has been crowned FHM's Sexiest Woman In The World a number of times, appearing in every countdown since 1998 until it ended in 2015.

Turning heads since the age of 16 after winning a beauty competition, it's not looking like Kelly is taking a break from modeling anytime soon...even if her acting career's a bit of a...bust!

- Sean Borg

Is Panto Back? Oh yes it is!!

■ The Wonderful Winter of Oz opens Dec. 15 in Pasadena

WITH THE festive season almost upon us expat minds will doubtless be turning to British Christmastime traditions, and what is more classically British at this time of year than a Panto?

Those clever people at Lythgoe Family Productions have done us proud in recent years with a succession of entertaining, fun-filled British pantos and this year is no exception with The Wonderful Winter of Oz, starring Kermit the Frog, no less, which runs December 15-30 at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium.

Joining Kermit are singer, actress and dancer Mackenzie Ziegler as Dorothy, Tony-Award winner Marissa Jaret Winokur as Glinda, Phil LaMarr as The Tin Man, Jared Gertner as The Scarecrow, and Yvette Gonzalez-Nacer as The Wicked Witch of the West.

The holiday version of America's favorite fairy tale sees Dorothy gets swept away by a 'freak' Kansas blizzard on Christmas Eve before landing in a world of munchkins and witches. With songs from Imagine Dragons to Earth, Wind and Fire, the show promises to provide the perfect family experience



LYTHGOE CRAZY: Mackenzie Ziegler stars as Dorothy, with Marissa Jaret Winokur as Glinda in Lythgoe Family Productions' latest Panto, The Wonderful Winter of Oz

for local audiences.

The production will be directed by Bonnie Lythgoe and choreographed by Napoleon and Tabitha D'umo, with book by Kris Lythgoe and Michael Orland (of American Idol) serving as musical arranger and supervisor.

The Lythgoes are best known on this side of the pond for the television hits "American Idol" and "So You Think You Can Dance," and are dedicated

to bringing affordable theatre to families across America. Based on the Grimm fairytales and others, each story has been modernized with topical scripts for parents and well known pop songs for kids. In 2017 over 6000 title 1 students were introduced by the Lythgoes to live theatre, through the medium of Panto.

Tickets start at \$40 and Family Four Packs for just \$99 can be purchased

at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium, online at thepasadenacivic.com or by calling 626-449-7362. Golden Tickets, which allow the ticket holder (children ages 4 – 12 only) a special on-stage experience during the production, are available for an additional \$75.00 each. This will be the seventh holiday season of Lythgoe Family Panto in Pasadena, and the second at the Pasadena Civic.

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BRITISH WEEKLY SPORT

After ferocious draw, Fury and Wilder in rematch talks

TYSON FURY and Deontay Wilder are already in talks over a rematch of their thrilling heavyweight clash.

Discussions between their teams took place on Tuesday with both men keen to face each other again after Wilder retained his WBC title in a dramatic draw in Los Angeles. The talks were preliminary but it is understood next spring is the preferred date, with both US and UK venues possible.

The WBC are set to meet in the coming days to discuss their position following the

controversial result. Fury's promoter Frank Warren has written to them to request a rematch stating they are unhappy with the judges' decision. The Briton's team are confident the sanctioning body will mandate a rematch, which will mean Wilder will not be allowed to defend the belt against anyone else – ending any hopes of Anthony Joshua facing the American in April.

That is not expected to be a problem for Wilder, who insists he is ready to send Fury "back to hell".

"I'm ready to do it again," he said. "My

main goal is Tyson Fury. I'm looking forward to giving him the rematch as soon as possible.

"This is still the biggest fight in the heavyweight division and we're ready to give the fans what they want. He woke up from hell – I want to put him back there.

"Both sides definitely want it to happen and I don't see why we wouldn't. It's a great fight

and the build-up has already started – we can't get away from this fight.

"It's only right for us to go back in and do it



Wilder and Fury fought to a thrilling draw in downtown LA last weekend

again. I don't want no other fights to happen for him or me before then. I want to give Fury the rematch ASAP.

"It might even be a trilogy if the second fight is as good as the first."

Barry Hearn, from Joshua's promoters Matchroom, says the first choice for his man is a clash with Wilder in April. A Fury-Wilder rematch would scupper those plans but Hearn says they are also in

discussions with other fighters, saying: "We are controlling the shots. AJ has a policy of wanting to fight the best but not on silly terms."

The referee of last weekend's fight has revealed he allowed Fury to recover from his final round knockdown because he was a champion. Jack Reiss said: "I was evaluating these guys throughout. In the 12th round, they'd boxed their hearts out, threw a lot of punches but there wasn't a lot of heavy damage.

"They both moved into the 12th round tired but not extremely hurt. When Fury got hit and he went down hard, that was an unbelievable

knockdown. Two things went through my mind – No1, always count a champion out, and No2, give this guy the benefit of the doubt and let's see how he still is.

"When I said five his eyes popped open like I startled him. He rolled over and got up and said, 'I'm OK, Jack!'"

Gomez out with fractured leg

Liverpool defender Joe Gomez could be out for six weeks after fracturing his left leg during Wednesday's victory over Burnley.

The 21-year-old England international was taken off after 23 minutes following a challenge with Claret's captain Ben Mee.

Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp complained about Burnley's tackling during the 3-1 Premier League win at Turf Moor.

Burnley boss Sean Dyche said it was a "fantastic tackle" by Mee.

A Liverpool statement on Thursday said "initial indications" were that Gomez would be out for up to six weeks, "though this is dependent on how his treatment and rehabilitation programmes progress".

Gomez has played in 13 of Liverpool's 15 league games this season.

He made his England debut last year and has won six caps, but missed this year's World Cup in Russia because of an ankle injury.

Weekend Football Results

CHAMPIONSHIP	EFL
BIRMINGHAM (0) ... 3 PRESTON (0) ... 0 Kieftenbeid 46 Meghoma 61 Adams 77 Att: 20,523	BLACKBURN (1) ... 4 SHEFF WED (0) ... 2 Graham 11, 66, 90 Dack 53 Lucas Joao 62 Raya 85 (og) Att: 15,154
BOLTON (1) ... 1 WIGAN (1) ... 1 Buckley 7 Att: 15,237	DERBY (2) ... 2 SWANSEA (0) ... 1 Wilson 30, 40 Tomori 87 (og) Att: 26,167
MIDDLESBRO (0) ... 0 ASTON VILLA (1) ... 3 Att: 23,424	NORWICH (0) ... 3 ROTHERHAM (1) ... 1 Cantwell 55 Aarons 71, Pukki 84 Att: 25,858
NOTTM FOR (2) ... 2 IPSWICH (0) ... 0 Grabban 10, 38 Att: 27,873	QPR (1) ... 2 HULL (2) ... 3 Waszlek 24 Freeman 90 Bowen 6, 69 Henriksen 22 Att: 13,824
READING (1) ... 2 STOKE (0) ... 2 McNulty 42 Afobe 48, Ince 69 Barrow 90 Att: 14,414	SHEFF UTD (0) ... 0 LEEDS (0) ... 1 Att: 25,794 Hernandez 82
YESTERDAY	YESTERDAY
BRISTOL C (0) ... 1 MILLWALL (0) ... 1 Cooper 52 (og) Williams 78 Att: 18,814	
Table:	
Norwich ... 20 12 4 4 35 22 40	
Leeds ... 20 11 6 3 33 17 39	
Middlesbrough ... 20 9 8 3 22 13 35	
West Brom ... 19 10 4 5 41 27 34	
Nottm Forest ... 20 8 10 2 32 21 34	
Sheff Utd ... 20 10 4 6 32 24 34	
Derby ... 20 10 4 6 30 24 34	
Aston Villa ... 20 8 7 5 39 30 31	
Birmingham ... 20 7 9 4 30 24 30	
Blackburn ... 20 7 8 5 26 30 29	
QPR ... 20 8 4 8 24 29 28	
Stoke ... 20 6 9 5 25 25 27	
Swansea ... 20 7 5 8 22 21 26	
Bristol City ... 20 7 5 8 24 24 26	
Wigan ... 20 7 4 9 23 28 25	
Sheff Wed ... 20 6 5 9 25 36 23	
Preston North End ... 20 5 7 8 31 35 22	
Brentford ... 19 5 6 8 30 28 21	
Hull ... 20 5 5 10 19 28 20	
Rotherham ... 20 4 8 8 19 30 20	
Reading ... 20 4 6 10 26 32 18	
Millwall ... 20 4 6 10 24 33 18	
Bolton ... 20 4 6 10 13 26 18	
Ipswich ... 20 1 8 11 17 35 11	

FA CUP SECOND ROUND



BRIGHT SPARK: Barnet's Darren Sparkes scores the winner against Stockport yesterday

ACCORNTHN (0) ... 3 CHELTENHAM (0) 1 Zanzala 49 Kee 66 (pen) Clark 79 Att: 1,066	WALSALL (0) ... 1 SUNDERLAND (1) ... 1 Cook 53 McGeary 37 Att: 3,140
CHARLTON (0) ... 0 DONCASTER (0) ... 2 Butler 66 Marquis 77 Att: 3,249	WREXHAM (0) ... 0 NEWPORT (0) ... 0 Att: 5,295
FC HALIFAX (0) ... 1 AFC WIMB'DN (1) 13 Hanson 86 (og) Purinton 42 Wordsworth 73 Piggott 76 Att: 2,044	YESTERDAY
LINCOLN C (1) ... 2 CARLISLE (0) ... 0 Rhead 1 Akande 86 Att: 6,438	BARNET (1) ... 1 STOCKPORT (0) ... 0 Sparkes 8 Att: 2,826
MAIDSTONE (0) ... 0 OLDHAM (1) ... 2 Clark 17 O'Grady 84 Att: 3,560	BURY (0) ... 0 LUTON (1) ... 1 Comick 42 Att: 2,977
PETERBORO (2) ... 2 BRADFORD (0) ... 2 Toney 29 Dembele 45 Att: 3,750	CHESTERFLD (0) ... 0 GRIMSBY (1) ... 2 Vernam 37 Clifton 70 Att: 4,537
PLYMOUTH (0) ... 1 OXFORD UTD (0) 2 Sarcevic 67 Henry 49 Brannagan 53 Att: 5,984	ROCHDALE (0) ... 0 PORTSMOUTH (0) ... 1 Green 90 Att: 2,555
SOUTHEND (1) ... 2 BARNLSLEY (1) ... 4 Minton 45 Dieng 84 Att: 3,616	SHRWSBURY (1) ... 1 SCUNTHORPE (0) 0 Holloway 35 Att: 3,427
	SLOUGH (0) ... 0 GILLINGHAM (0) ... 1 O'daker 48 Att: 3,654
	SWINDON (0) ... 0 WOKING (0) ... 1 Hyde 56 Att: 3,654
	TRANMERE (1) ... 1 SOUTHPORT (0) ... 1 Smith 18 Bauress 70 Att: 4,701

Monday Results

Sky Bet Championship	WEST BROM (0) ... 1 BRENTFORD (0) ... 1 Barnes 77 Macleod 90 Att: 20,949
The Emirates FA Cup Second Round	GUISELEY (1) ... 1 FLEETWOOD (2) ... 2 Purver 33 Madden 28 Burns 31 Att: 2,324

Weekend Premier League Results

CRYSTAL PALACE (1) ... 2 McArthur 16 Townsend 77	BURNLEY (0) ... 0 Att: 25,098
HUDDERSFLD (1) ... 1 Jorgensen 1	BRIGHTON (1) ... 2 Duffy 45, Andone 69 Att: 22,973
LEICESTER (2) ... 2 Vardy 12 (pen) Maddison 23	WATFORD (0) ... 0 Att: 31,353
MANCHESTER CITY (1) ... 3 Bernardo Silva 16 Sterling 57, Gundogan 79	AFC BOURNEMOUTH (1) ... 1 Wilson 44 Att: 54,409
NEWCASTLE (0) ... 0 Att: 51,853	WEST HAM (1) ... 3 Hernandez 11, 64 Felipe Anderson 90
SOUTHAMPTON (2) ... 2 Armstrong 13 Cedric 20	MANCHESTER UTD (2) ... 2 Lukaku 33 Ander Herrera 39 Att: 30,187
Played Sunday	
ARSENAL (1) ... 4 Aubameyang 10 (pen), 56 Lacazette 74 Torreira 77	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (2) ... 2 Dier 30 Kane 34 (pen) Att: 59,973
CHELSEA (1) ... 2 Pedro 4 Loftus-Cheek 82	FULHAM (0) ... 0 Att: 40,551
LIVERPOOL (0) ... 1 Origi 90	EVERTON (0) ... 0
Played Friday: Cardiff 2 Wolves 1.	

England face Dutch in Nations League semi

England will play the Netherlands in the Nations League semi-finals in Guimaraes, Portugal on 6 June 2019.

The hosts face Switzerland on 5 June at Porto's Estadio do Dragao in the other semi-final, with the final on 9 June.

"It's a very exciting game to look forward to and a second semi-final for us," said England manager Gareth Southgate.

England reached the last four of the World Cup in Russia this summer, where they were beaten 2-1 by Croatia.

They qualified for the Nations League semi-finals by finishing top of a group containing Croatia and Spain.

The game against the Dutch, managed by Ronald Koeman, at Estadio D Afonso Henriques will be the first competitive meeting between the sides since Euro '96, when an England side containing

Southgate won 4-1. "We play a team in Holland who are at a similar stage to us - developing, lots of exciting young players in both sides - and you can see the impact Ronald has had," said Southgate.

The Netherlands qualified for the last four thanks to a 90th-minute equaliser in their final group game in Germany.

Switzerland pipped Belgium to top spot by virtue of their superior head-to-head record, beating them 5-2 in their final game.

European champions Portugal progressed at the expense of Poland and Italy.

The Nations League, which began in September and featured 55 nations in four tiers, also provides a second opportunity to qualify for Euro 2020.

The winners of the competition will receive £6.7m in prize money, and the fourth-placed team £4m.

Keep it up, says boss as Wolves take bite out of Blues

Wolves boss Nuno Espirito Santo challenged his side to "maintain these standards" after they fought back from a goal down to stun Chelsea on Wednesday night and gain their first victory in seven Premier League matches.

Two goals in four second-half minutes - from Raul Jimenez and Diogo Jota - gave the hosts victory after Ruben Loftus-Cheek's 25-yard effort was headed into his own net by Wolves captain Conor Coady after only 18 minutes.

"This doesn't mean all the problems are solved," said Nuno, whose side won for the first time since their 1-0 away victory at Crystal Palace on 6 October.

"It was a very good performance. In the first half, the organisation and staying in the game was important.

"In the second half, we showed desire to go in front. It was fantastic work from the boys. The only way to play these teams is you have to run more than them and when you have your chances take them. We have to maintain these standards."



Ralph Hasenhuttl: impressive showing with RB Leipzig

Sparky out, German in at Saints

Former RB Leipzig boss Ralph Hasenhuttl has been appointed Southampton manager on a two-and-a-half-year deal.

Southampton sacked Mark Hughes on Monday, eight months after he took charge of Saints, who are 18th in the Premier League table.

Austrian Hasenhuttl, 51, has been out of work since leaving Leipzig in May, ending a two-year spell at the club.

"As soon as we met, Ralph's enthusiasm for football was contagious," said Southampton chairman Ralph Krueger.

"His hunger to take on a new and challenging job in the Premier League was evident. In our discussions, he quickly aligned himself with the values and the vision of the club."

Hasenhuttl led Leipzig to a second-place finish

in the Bundesliga in his first season in charge, after taking over following their promotion from the second tier.

The former Ingolstadt manager guided Leipzig to sixth in the German top flight last season but left after failing to agree a contract extension.

He officially took over on Thursday with first-team assistant coach Kelvin Davis taking charge for Wednesday's game 3-1 defeat against Tottenham at Wembley.

"This manager change offers us a fresh start and, very quickly, Ralph emerged as our ideal candidate," Krueger added.

"As a coach, he embodies the passion, structure, communication skillset, work ethic and appetite for growth we strive for in our Southampton way."

And he was was

reminded of the task facing him Tottenham took advantage of defensive frailties to win and move into third spot in the Premier League.

Despite a spirited start at Wembley, the Saints crumbled in four second-half minutes after Harry Kane had tapped in the opener in the ninth minute.

Brazilian Lucas Moura made it 2-0 in the 51st minute when he fired home from eight yards, before Son Heung-min notched his fourth goal of the season with a close-range finish from Kane's ball.

Southampton created several chances but were twice thwarted by the woodwork and by goalkeeper Hugo Lloris. They finally found a way past the France keeper in stoppage time when Charlie Austin fired home.

SCOTLAND																																																																																								
Betfred League Cup Final																																																																																								
CELTIC (1)..... 1 ABERDEEN (0).... 0 Christie 45																																																																																								
Ladbroke's Premiership																																																																																								
KILMARNOCK (2)..... 3 HIBERNIAN (0) ... 0 Brophy 6, 34 (pen) Att: 6,036 Stewart 90																																																																																								
LIVINGSTON (1) ... 2 MOTHERWELL (0)0 Lawless 22 Att: 1,982 Halkett 83																																																																																								
ST MIRREN (1)..... 1 HAMILTON (2) ... 3 Imrie 21 Gordon 42 Keatings 55 Att: 4,334																																																																																								
HEARTS (1)..... 1 RANGERS (2)..... 2 McAuley 27 (og) Goldson 35 Morelos 41 Att: 19,429																																																																																								
Ladbroke's Championship																																																																																								
ALLOA (0)..... 0 ROSS CNTY (0) ... 1 Watson 90 Att: 592																																																																																								
DUNFERMLINE (2)..... 3 MORTON (0)..... 0 Keena 4 El Bakhtaoui 42 (pen) Craigen 86																																																																																								
INVERNESS CT (1) 2 FALKIRK (2)..... 3 Walsh 6 Rudden 16, 36 Oakley 61 Harrison 90 Att: 2,260																																																																																								
QN OF STH (0)..... 1 PARTICK (0)..... 0 Dobbie 82 Att: 1,508																																																																																								
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ALBION (1)..... 1 COWDENBTH (1) 1 Gallagher 10 (pen) Skelly 21 (pen) Att: 220																																																																																								
CLYDE (0)..... 3 BERWICK (3)..... 3 Goodwillie 54 B Trialist 18, 36 Cogli 64 Willis 45 Rankin 69 Att: 578																																																																																								
EDINBURGH C (2) . 2 QUEEN'S PRK (0) 0 B Henderson 31 Att: 358 Shepherd 33																																																																																								
PETERHEAD (1)..... 2 ANNAN ATH (0)..... 1 Lyle 2 Wallace 80 (pen) McLean 84 Att: 577																																																																																								
STIRLING (3)..... 5 ELGIN (2)..... 2 Smith 25, 62 Hay 15 McLaughlin 32 Sutherland 19 MacKin 45 Att: 548 Docherty 90																																																																																								
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Tuesday Night Football

Premier League BOURNMOUTH (2) . 2 HUDDERSFLD (1)..... 1 Wilson 5 Kongolo 38 Fraser 22 Att: 9,980	NEWCASTLE U21 (1)1 MACGLESFLD (0) . 1 Sorensen 23 Wilson 84 Att: 1,126 Newcastle U21 win 5-3 on penalties.
BRIGHTON (3)..... 3 CRYSTAL PAL (0) 1 Murray 24 (pen) Milivojevic 81 (pen) Balogun 31 Att: 26,663	PORT VALE (3)..... 4 STOKE U21 (0)..... 0 Hannant 66 Att: 7,940
WATFORD (0)..... 1 MAN CITY (1)..... 2 Doucoure 85 Sane 40 Mahrez 51 Att: 20,389	SUNDERLAND (1)..... 2 NOTTS CO (0)..... 0 Jones 22 (og) Att: 8,580 Sinclair 73 (pen)
WEST HAM (0)..... 3 CARDIFF (0)..... 1 Lucas Perez 49, 54 Murphy 90 Antonio 61 Att: 56,811	Southern Section Second Round CAMBRIDGE (1)..... 1 NORTHMPTN (0) 1 Maris 9 van Veen 89 Northampton win 4-2 on penalties.
Checkatrade Trophy Northern Section Second Round ACCRINGTON (1)..... 2 LINCOLN C (1)..... 2 Brown 7 Green 6 Clark 70 McDonobe 60 Att: 746 Accrington Stanley win 4-2 on penalties.	CHELSEA U21 (1)..... 2 AFC WIMB'DN (0)1 Brown 37 (pen) Wordsworth 69 Redan 47
BARNESLEY (1)..... 3 MAN CITY U21 (1)3 Adebayeye 17 Matondo 45 J Williams 60 Povoda 59, 74 Lindsay 65 Att: 3,070 Man City U21 win 5-3 on penalties.	CHELTENHAM (0)..... 1 NEWPORT (1)..... 1 Addai 68 Amond 17 Att: 739 Cheltenham win 7-6 on penalties.
MANFIELD (0)..... 0 BURY (1)..... 1 Telford 35 Att: 1,029	EXETER (0)..... 0 PETERBORO (0)..... 2 Toney 67 Cummings 77 Att: 746
	PORTSMOUTH (1)..... 2 ARSENAL U21 (0)1 B Pitman 10 Saka 66 Green 83 Att: 3,109

Wednesday Night Football

Premier League BURNLEY (0)..... 1 LIVERPOOL (0) ... 3 Cork 54 Milner 62 Firmino 69 Att: 39,350 Shaqiri 90	RANGERS (0)..... 0 ABERDEEN (1)..... 1 McKenna 7 Att: 49,711																																																																																																							
EVERTON (1)..... 1 NEWCASTLE (1)..... 1 Richardson 38 Rondon 19 Att: 39,350	ST JOHNSTONE (1)..... 2 HEARTS (2)..... 2 Alston 20 Djoum 6 Kennedy 69 (pen) Bozanic 41																																																																																																							
FULHAM (1)..... 1 LEICESTER (0)..... 1 Kamara 42 Maddison 74 Att: 22,881	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>P</th><th>W</th><th>D</th><th>L</th><th>F</th><th>A</th><th>Pts</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Kilmarnock</td><td>16</td><td>9</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>24</td><td>12</td><td>31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rangers</td><td>15</td><td>9</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>37</td><td>13</td><td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Celtic</td><td>14</td><td>9</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>31</td><td>17</td><td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hearts</td><td>16</td><td>8</td><td>3</td><td>5</td><td>22</td><td>19</td><td>27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>St Johnstone</td><td>15</td><td>7</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>18</td><td>20</td><td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aberdeen</td><td>14</td><td>7</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>17</td><td>13</td><td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Livingston</td><td>15</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>14</td><td>12</td><td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hibernian</td><td>15</td><td>5</td><td>5</td><td>5</td><td>25</td><td>19</td><td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Motherwell</td><td>15</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>8</td><td>16</td><td>25</td><td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hamilton</td><td>16</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>36</td><td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>St Mirren</td><td>16</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>11</td><td>11</td><td>31</td><td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dundee</td><td>15</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>32</td><td>8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Kilmarnock	16	9	4	3	24	12	31	Rangers	15	9	3	3	37	13	30	Celtic	14	9	3	2	31	17	30	Hearts	16	8	3	5	22	19	27	St Johnstone	15	7	4	4	18	20	25	Aberdeen	14	7	3	4	17	13	24	Livingston	15	6	4	5	14	12	22	Hibernian	15	5	5	5	25	19	20	Motherwell	15	4	3	8	16	25	15	Hamilton	16	4	1	11	12	36	13	St Mirren	16	2	3	11	11	31	9	Dundee	15	2	2	11	12	32	8
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MAN UTD (1)..... 2 ARSENAL (1)..... 2 Martial 30 Mustafi 26 Lingard 69 Rojo 68 (og) Att: 74,507	TOTTENHAM (1)..... 3 SOUTHMPTN (0) 1 Kane 9 Austin 90 Lucas Moura 51 Att: 33,012																																																																																																							
WOLVES (0)..... 2 CHELSEA (1)..... 1 Jimenez 59 Loftus-Cheek 18 Jota 63 Att: 31,300	Ladbroke's Premiership DUNDEE (1)..... 4 HAMILTON (0)..... 0 K Miller 27, 51, 81 Att: 4,426 Loft 72																																																																																																							
HIBERNIAN (0)..... 2 ST MIRREN (1) ... 2 Shaw 56 Hammill 6 Porteous 73 P McGinn 67	Checkatrade Trophy 2nd Round ROCHDALE P OLDHAM P Postponed due to waterlogged pitch.																																																																																																							
KILMARNOCK (2)..... 2 LIVINGSTON (0)..... 0 Stewart 3, 20 Att: 4,143	Southern Section 2nd Round LUTON (0)..... 1 SOUTHEND (0) ... 1 Read 81 McLaughlin 88 Att: 1,545																																																																																																							
MOTHERWELL (0) . 1 CELTIC (1)..... 1 Johnson 88 Christie 13 Att: 8,433	Southend win 4-2 on penalties. SWANSEA U21 (0) 1 BRISTOL RYRS (0) 2 Garriok 54 Craig 58, Jakubiak 89 BOSTIK—Prem: Lewes 3 Corinthian 0.																																																																																																							

United show 'heart and soul'?

■ **Mourinho upbeat as midweek clash ends with honors even**

Manchester United showed "big heart and soul" to twice come from behind to earn a draw against Arsenal on Wednesday night, said manager Jose Mourinho.

Mourinho dropped high-profile duo Paul Pogba and Romelu Lukaku after recent disappointing performances which have brought only three points from the past 12 available - and, while quality was lacking, no-one could doubt his side's endeavour and character.

Goalkeeper David de Gea made an uncharacteristic error as he failed to deal with Shkodran Mustafi's tame 26th-minute header, which Ander Herrera could not clear before it crossed the line.

United were swiftly level through Anthony

HOW THEY STAND							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man City	15	13	2	0	45	7	41
Liverpool	15	12	3	0	30	6	39
Tottenham	15	11	0	4	28	16	33
Chelsea	15	9	4	2	31	13	31
Arsenal	15	9	4	2	34	20	31
Everton	15	6	5	4	21	17	23
Bournemouth	15	7	2	6	25	22	23
Man Utd	15	6	5	4	24	25	23
Leicester	15	6	4	5	21	18	22
Brighton	15	6	3	6	19	21	21
Watford	15	6	2	7	18	21	20
Wolves	15	5	4	6	15	18	19
West Ham	15	5	3	7	20	23	18
Newcastle	15	3	4	8	12	20	13
Crystal Palace	15	3	3	9	11	20	12
Cardiff	15	3	2	10	14	30	11
Huddersfield	15	2	4	9	10	26	10
Southampton	15	1	6	8	13	29	9
Burnley	15	2	3	10	14	32	9
Fulham	15	2	3	10	15	36	9

Martial after Arsenal keeper Bernd Leno could only half-clear a free-kick to set up an exciting second half.

Substitute Alexandre Lacazette scrambled Arsenal back in front after 68 minutes but United were on terms once more within seconds as Jesse Lingard pounced on Sead Kolasinac's attempted

backpass.

De Gea redeemed himself with a succession of fine saves as both sides had to content themselves with a point, with United now eighth in the Premier League and Arsenal, who extended their unbeaten run this season to 20 games, dropping to fifth.

"As always we made mistakes and we paid for the mistakes," said Mourinho.

"Today was more the same, but with great spirit and people ready to have a go and fight hard. It was a credit to the team."

Gunners boss Unai Emery, however, will feel disappointment that they did not leave with all three points after twice holding the advantage only to concede it quickly.

Emery's frustration was obvious when Lingard scored United's second



YOU BIG JESSE: Lingard's strike ensured United shared the points Wednesday

equaliser moments after Lacazette had restored their lead, as he knew had they held their advantage a little longer there is every chance United could have become frustrated.

The manner in which it was conceded will have also infuriated the

animated Emery, United striking back right from the kick-off with the aid of Kolasinac's error.

On the plus side, Arsenal coped well with United's predictable late aerial siege and this is a point that consolidated their good start to the

season and extends that fine unbeaten sequence.

Emery may not have got the win he wanted as Arsenal failed to reproduce the electrifying form that beat Spurs in the north London derby at the weekend but there was still plenty to satisfy him.

Kenyon readying Toon bid

Former Chelsea and Manchester United chief executive Peter Kenyon is heading a consortium that is in talks to buy Newcastle United.

Current owner Mike Ashley said in an interview this week that discussions over a sale "are at a more progressed stage than they have ever been".

It is believed a potential deal with Kenyon is what Ashley was referring to.

Kenyon is understood to be working with the American financial advisory firm Rockefeller Capital Management.

It is unknown if a firm bid has been lodged yet.

However, Kenyon's group are short on time if the purchase is to be made prior to the start of the January transfer window.

Premier League checks and processes when clubs change hands take around



Peter Kenyon has been the CEO at both Manchester United and Chelsea

14 days to complete.

The Christmas break and Richard Scudamore's departure as executive chairman of the league later this month could also be complicating factors regarding that timeframe.

Those regulatory checks can only take place after extensive due diligence of the club's financial position, and any final negotiations and legal work has concluded

between the two sides.

That makes a December purchase date optimistic - even if a deal was to be agreed in the coming days.

Other suitors are also reported to be interested in the club, which Ashley formally put up for sale in 2017.

Newcastle have twice been relegated from the Premier League under Ashley's ownership.



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Christmas Favorites!
Freshly baked Mince pies in our Bakery.

Sat 12/8 English Premier League

7am Man Utd vs Fulham
7am Arsenal vs Huddersfield
7am West Ham vs C, Palace
9.30am Chelsea vs Man City
11.30am Leicester vs Tottenham

Sun 12/9 NFL Football

We are showing ALL the games
- too many to list!

Mon 12/10 English Premier League

Noon Everton vs Watford
5.15pm Vikings vs Seahawks

Tue 12/11 Champions League

Noon Barcelona vs Tottenham
Noon Liverpool vs Napoli
Noon Monaco v Borussia Dortmund
Noon Crvena Zvezda v PSG
Wed 12/12 Champions League
Noon Valencia vs Man. Utd
Noon Man City vs Hoffenheim
Noon Ajax vs Bayern Munich
Noon Young Boys vs Juventus

Thurs 12/13 Europa League

10am Videoton vs Chelsea
Noon Celtic vs Salzburg
Noon Arsenal vs Qarabag



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