



Will and Kate keep up a stout tradition - page 2



California's British Accent™ - Since 1984

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Always Free

Brexit delayed - but for how long?

- EU leaders strip initiative away from PM as hopes for second referendum fade
- If deal is rejected for third time, UK has until April 12 to decide way forward
- May welcomes delay, says MP 'now have clear choice' on final vote

BRITAIN will not be leaving the EU on March 29th after all, as European leaders this week seized control of the debate and offered the UK a delay until 22 May, provided MPs next week approve the withdrawal deal negotiated by Theresa May.

If they do not, the EU will back a shorter delay until 12 April, allowing the UK time to get the deal through or to "indicate a way forward".

Mrs May said there was now a "clear choice" facing UK MPs, who will vote on her deal for a third time.

MPs will then have to back the withdrawal deal and deliver on the referendum and leave the EU in "an orderly manner" or face the prospect of having to stand candidates in the European Parliamentary elections, three years after the UK voted to leave the EU.

She said she would be "working hard to build support for getting the deal through". She

said she had "expressed frustration" in her speech last night, in which she blamed MPs for the delay, but added "I know that MPs are frustrated too" and she was "very grateful" to those who had supported the deal.

"I will make every effort to make sure we can leave with a deal and move our country forward," she said.

political calendar

But despite May's upbeat assessment to the news cameras, for many this week's events signaled that patience was wearing thin among EU leaders. In a bruising meeting in Brussels on Thursday, May suffered a withering cross-examination from

her fellow leaders who appeared to conclude that she had no political strategy to pass a divorce deal nor knew how Britain would weather an uncontrolled Brexit next Friday. In essence the EU has taken back decision making from the Prime Minister, dictating a political calendar for the coming weeks that gives both sides time to prepare for the worst-case scenario.

If MPs at Westminster agree a divorce deal next week, they can leave the European Union on May 22. If they cannot, they must produce an alternative by April 12 or essentially be expelled from the EU with no deal in place.

"The E.U., to put



SQUEEZED OUT: Theresa May lost the initiative in Brussels on Thursday

it clearly, is facing a British political crisis," said French President Emmanuel Macron, who was among the most uncompromising of the EU leaders in the talks.

"British politicians are unable to deliver what the people asked them to do. The people voted for Brexit, but we are in

situation where the British Parliament is telling us they are not voting for the agreement we negotiated for two years."

And one European diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity, said May's assessments of the situation was "a bit like coming from another planet."

May was grilled for over two hours by her fellow leaders before being dismissed from the room then suffered the indignity of being disinvented from a dinner of duck à l'orange while they hammered out a deal. The Bulgarian ambassador to the European Union

cont. on page 4, col 6

News from Britain

One million sign petition to halt Brexit - and break Parliament's website

While it's up for debate whether the British government is completely broken, Parliament's website most definitely is.

A petition calling for Prime Minister Theresa May to revoke Article 50 and remain in the European Union gained fresh momentum Thursday as thousands of exasperated, angry and seemingly embarrassed Brits took to the website in an attempt to stop Brexit from happening.

As of Thursday morning, the petition had racked up more than 800,000 signatures and had caused Parliament's website to crash because of the sheer volume of people attempting to add their names. By 3 p.m., British time on Thursday, the petition had climbed to over a million signatures.

"The government repeatedly claims exiting the EU is 'the will of the people'. We need to put a stop to this claim by proving the strength of public support now, for remaining in the EU. A People's Vote may not

happen - so vote now," the petition reads.

Those attempting to sign the petition on Thursday received a message that it was "down for maintenance. We know about it and we're working on it."

'every sane person'

Many were angered and some were suspicious of the error message, going on social media to declare they would continue to try throughout the day and urged their friends and followers to do the same.

"I've signed. And it looks like every sane person in the country is signing too. National emergency. Revoke Article 50 and remain in the EU. - Petitions," wrote actor Hugh Grant on Twitter late Wednesday evening.

The petition, which only British citizens and U.K. residents have the right to sign, comes after nearly three years of divisive Brexit talks, bickering in Parliament and various votes that have done nothing but blanket the nation under a cloud of

confusion.

Britain's government responds to all petitions that gain over 10,000 signatures and considers all petitions that receive over 100,000 signatures for a debate.

On Thursday morning, the petitions committee confirmed the website was "experiencing problems" and said it was doing its best to repair the website.

"As many of you have guessed, the number of people using the site has caused problems this morning. It's a mix of people reloading the front page to watch the signature count go up and people trying to sign petitions," a Twitter thread from the committee explained.

By Thursday lunchtime in Britain, Revoke Article 50 was trending worldwide on Twitter with over 100,000 tweets.

The petitions committee continued to post updates on Twitter Thursday, tweeting:

"A lot of people have been asking about numbers. Between 80,000



GOODBYE TO ALL THAT? the EU seems to be drifting away with the tide

and 100,000 people have been simultaneously viewing the petition to revoke article 50. Nearly 2,000 signatures are being

completed every minute. "The rate of signing is the highest the site has ever had to deal with and we have had to make

some changes to ensure the site remains stable and open for signatures and new petitions. Thanks for bearing with us."

Cheer Up! Turns out Britain is one of the happiest places on the planet.....

DESPITE the chaos surrounding Brexit, the Beast from the East, the price of a pint and soaring property values, Britain is one of the most contented countries on the planet.

Norway. Iceland and the Netherlands make up the top five. New Zealand in 9th and Canada in 10th are the only non-European nations inside the top 10.

The UN study comes

and corruption is also included in the report, but does not contribute to the overall happiness ranking.

It says the UK has the fourth highest generosity ranking, with



HAPPY ISLAND: the British are also among the most generous givers to charity

Britons are among the world's happiest people and can look forward to becoming even more cheerful, according to a new international report from the United Nations.

The UN's seventh World Happiness Report has ranked the UK 15th out of 156 countries, a rise of four places on the previous year's report.

Ireland slipped from 14th to 16th but it still finished above the likes of Germany at 17th, Belgium at 18th and the US which finished 19th. The happiest country - for the second year running - was Finland, ahead of Denmark and

a day after more positive news for the Britain. Office for National Statistics figures showed record numbers of people are in work, the jobless rate fell below four per cent for the first time since 1975 and average earnings increased by 3.4 per cent, outpacing inflation.

The happiness scores are based on individuals' assessments of their own lives over a two-year period. Up to 3,000 people in each country were asked to rank their lives on a scale of 0 to 10. Separate data on GDP, life expectancy, generosity, social support, freedom

72 per cent of Britons donating to charity in the past month. Meanwhile, South Sudan replaces Burundi as the least happy country, ahead of the Central African Republic and Afghanistan. The unhappiest nations are usually affected by economic, political and social turmoil, recognises the report.

But experts say people can influence their own happiness. Professor Laurie Santos, from Yale University, said: "Science proves that being happy requires a conscious effort. It's not easy."



171 Pier Ave. Ste. 121 • Santa Monica CA 90405
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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COUNTRY LIFE: ever more popular with young Brits

Young property buyers swap the city for the shires

SOARING property prices and fears of violence are forcing younger people out of cities and towns and into the countryside, research has found.

The average age of those relocating to the country has fallen below 40 for the first time. In 2008 it was 47, but last year it fell to 37. Aneisha Beveridge of Hamptons International said:

"Changing priorities such as starting a family, having another baby or seeking a better quality of life have been the traditional drivers. "But with housing affordability a problem, more movers are heading to the country sooner, leapfrogging rungs of the property ladder."

high crime rates

Mark Godman, of London-based removal company Gentleman & A Van, says more people in their 30s are quitting the capital. He said: "Until 2008, 95 per cent of our moves were within London and the M25, with only five per cent of clients moving to the countryside.

"Today, one in four moves are clients leaving the capital for the country. They're seeking a calmer and more affordable place."

As well as young families and firsttime buyers, Mr Godman is seeing more interest from entrepreneurs and the self-employed in their late 20s and early 30s, who are able to work from home. Factors driving the millennial exodus include air pollution, overcrowding, noise, competition for school places, dirty, littered pavements and the perception of high crime rates in cities.

Jemma Scott, of agents The Buying Solution, who moved from London to rural Buckinghamshire, said: "It used to be, 'Have baby, move to country', but these days it's more, 'Have absolutely had enough of the city, move to country'."

In London, market analyst Hometrack says the average property costs £479,800. It is £423,500 in Cambridge, £408,100 in Oxford and £276,800 in Bristol. In the past decade, property prices in cities across England and Wales have risen by 61 per cent, compared with 25 per cent in rural areas. Rather than going from a flat to a terraced house, people moving to the country head straight to a large home where they will live for years.



THE GREEN AND BLACK STUFF: The Duchess looked stylish in an emerald green Alexander McQueen coat and matching hat, while later, the royal couple enjoyed a traditional tippie at a Guardsman's lunch in Hounslow

Cheers! Wills and Kate keep up a stout tradition on St. Paddy's Day

WILLIAM and Kate toasted St Patrick's Day – and an afternoon without their children – by knocking back a glass of Guinness on Sunday.

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge enjoyed a drop of the dark stuff as they toasted the Irish Guards at their annual parade. Kate, 37, wowed in an emerald green Alexander McQueen coat and matching hat paired with a gold shamrock brooch and completed her look with green tourmaline earrings from Kiki McDonough.

The parade at the 1st Battalion's base in Hounslow, west London, began with the Last Post, before the Duke and Duchess led a minute's silence in memory of the 50 victims of last week's gun massacre in Christchurch, New Zealand, which was observed by the royals, the Irish Guards and their families. Dressed in a red coat, mascot Irish wolfhound Domhnall, who was presented with his first shamrock in

2013, had the honour of leading the regimental band and parade of 350 soldiers in a march at which William, Colonel of the regiment, took the salute.

Drummer David Murray, Domhnall's regimental handler, said the St Patrick's Day parade was number one in his calendar and like a second birthday. "We've had a couple of rehearsals, a couple of little bits that we've had to obviously fine tune.

"Domhnall has been in the battalion since 2012, he's pretty good at his job. He helps me through the parade to be honest, he knows what he's doing."

In a tradition dating back more than 100 years, Kate presented sprigs of shamrock to officers and warrant officers. The shamrock's three heart-shaped leaves represent Ireland and the Holy Trinity and each year on St Patrick's Day are handed

out to Irish Guards – and their mascot – by a senior female member of the Royal Family. The tradition, started in 1901, later became the trademark of the Queen Mother who maintained it until she died in 2002. It was later taken up by Princess Anne but since 2012 the responsibility has fallen to the Duchess of Cambridge. The royal couple were later toasted at the Guardsman's Lunch and treated to a tippie of the stout.



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News From Britain

British streets could soon be full of electric scooters

■ Transport Laws to change to accommodate latest transport technology

A WIDE-ranging shake-up of transport laws could lead to electric scooters being allowed on UK roads for the first time.

The Department for Transport is reviewing its regulations amid changes in the way people and goods move. In its "biggest review into transport in a generation", the DfT will look at utilising electric-powered scooters and cargo bicycles, encouraging data sharing and simplifying journey planning and payments.

Scooters with electric motors can exceed

30mph and are used for short journeys in many European nations and the US. Several firms such as Lime and Bird offer them for hire, often in competition with bicycle schemes.

Bird, which is well known to Los Angeles residents, recently launched a trial on private land at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in east London, but electric scooters are currently banned from the UK's public roads and pavements.

Police in the north east said a 15-year-old boy had six penalty points imposed on a future

driving licence last year, after being prosecuted for riding one at high speed in a public place. The DfT said it

had no immediate plans to legalise electric scooters and advised retailers to be clear to customers about their use.

Some of the laws being reviewed as part of the Government's Future of Mobility: Urban Strategy date back to the 1800s, when cars with an internal combustion engine were first used. Future of mobility minister Jesse Norman said "revolutionary technologies put the



LIME-Y SOLUTION? e-Scooter pioneer Bird recently launched a trial on private land at London's Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

country at "a potentially pivotal moment for the future of transport". He added: "Through this strategy, the Government aims to take advantage of these innovations; connecting more people and bringing big benefits, we hope, for both

the economy and the environment."

A Government competition for up to four new Future Mobility Zones will see firms receive a share of £90million to test ideas to improve journeys for people across the country.

Projects are expected to include smoother payment systems, more accurate travel updates and the use of innovative forms of transport, aimed to make travel in towns and cities more convenient, reliable and cheaper.

Childhood obesity timebomb 'could wreck the NHS'

CHILDHOOD obesity is a ticking timebomb that could ultimately destroy the NHS, experts warned this week.

Health chiefs said Britain is on its way to becoming a chronic "nation of fatties" as shocking figures laid bare the scale of the crisis. Public Health England statistics show that one third of UK children aged two to 15 – almost four million people – are now categorised as overweight or obese. If the current trend continues, it could "bankrupt" the NHS in the coming years, officials claimed.

new watershed

As the Government this week considers bringing in a 9pm junk food advertising, the percentage of youngsters who are overweight continues to rise. Analysis from the National Child Measurement Programme shows the proportion of children aged 10-11 with severe

obesity has reached an all-time high. Some 60,000 children at the end of primary school in England and Wales are now obese, of whom 22,000 are classed as "severely obese".

'potentially bankrupt'

A team of medical experts this week said that the situation is now critical, risking a future adult obesity crisis which could see an explosion in the numbers suffering from conditions such as Type 2 diabetes and heart disease. The knock-on effect for an already stretched NHS could be devastating. Health chiefs are now calling on the public, and parents in particular, to improve diets and encourage exercise.

Shirley Cramer, chief executive of the Royal Society for Public Health, said: "The childhood obesity crisis presents dangers not just to the health and wellbeing of the next generation, but to the future of the NHS too."

Tam Fry, Child Growth

Foundation chairman and spokesman for the National Obesity Forum, added: "It is imperative that children's growth is checked routinely to avoid the calamity that 82 per cent of obese children will become obese as adults and potentially bankrupt the NHS. "It is quite fair to say we are in danger of becoming a nation of fatties."

'obesity epidemic'

The latest figures from Public Health England show that 67 per cent of men and 57 per cent of women are now either overweight or obese. But it is childhood obesity that is sparking the most alarm for the future. In the UK as a whole, nearly one in five children aged 10-11 are now obese and a further 14.2 per cent are overweight. Of children aged four to five, one in 10 are obese and 12.8 per cent are overweight. The cost of diabetes to the NHS is staggering. An estimated £14billion is spent a year on treating the disease, or



"It's fair to say we're becoming a nation of fatties"

THE FATS AND FIGURES

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. 57% of women and 67% of men in UK are overweight/obese | 6. 82% of obese children will go on to remain obese as adults |
| 2. 19% of children in UK aged 10-11 are now obese | 7. Child obesity is twice as bad in deprived areas |
| 3. A further 14% are considered to be overweight | 8. Child obesity gap between rich and poor areas is widening |
| 4. Children aged 4-5: 9% are obese and 13% are overweight | 9. Just 16% of children ate five portions of fruit/veg in 2016 |
| 5. 60,000 children leave primary school as obese | 10. The situation is declining - in 2014 the figure was 23% |

£1.5million an hour.

Dominic Watkins, Head of Food at legal firm DWF, explained: "Just like the sugar tax, putting an end to promotional offers for foods that are high in fat, sugar or salt is unlikely to solve the UK's childhood obesity epidemic.

"Consumers may not be able to buy one chocolate bar and get a second free – but they will still want to buy that chocolate bar in the first place.

"Without increased physical activity and better education it is unlikely the desired result will be achieved."

BREXIT:

cont. from page one

tweeted a photo of a scrum of senior officials clustered in a corridor, some of them crouching on the ground, as they fought back and forth over the details.

Four long hours later after May had waited outside the room for four hours – European Council President Donald Tusk called her to deliver the news. She had won a reprieve – but not the one she requested.

The EU terms were received in Westminster as a clear indication that the EU has lost patience, and that EU bigwigs have given up hope for a second referendum that could reverse the Brexit decision – a clear shift on a continent that once wanted Britain to stay.

"We don't want in the coming months, in the coming years, to be busy with Brexit," said Guy Verhofstadt, the European Parliament's Brexit coordinator.

"We want to be busy with the renewal of the European Union."

Meet A Member: Mayling Ng

Meet Mayling Ng from England, who moved to LA three years ago to pursue an acting career.

After filming in Hong Kong Martial Arts movies including *Lady Bloodfight*, and *Kumite*, she moved to the US to work in films including *Wonder Woman*, playing the Amazon Orana. Most recently Mayling appeared in the latest *Scorpion King* movie as the villain Khensa.

Was there a particular reason you chose LA?

I chose LA as my final destination after living across the globe, as it compliments my life being in action movies, and wanting to be around other people who live the healthy lifestyle. I have an amazing inspiring group of friends who are like family in Golds Gym, Venice. Combined with the healthier lifestyle and the creative, laid-back vibe, I feel relaxed and inspired at the same time, which I never felt anywhere else.

What do you miss most from home?

I left the UK at 13 years old and grew up on the island of Tenerife where my family and brothers are still based. I later ended up in Singapore. So from what I remember,

maybe the excitement of London and an indulgent Sunday roast!

What was your first impression of LA and has it changed since?

I was invited to compete at the The Arnold Classic (World Championships) in Ohio in 2013, to represent Singapore after winning silver in an IFBB (International Federation of Bodybuilding & Fitness) event in 2011. After landing at LAX a week before to acclimate here, and staying in Santa Monica at the Double Tree hotel, I knew instantly that I found my forever home.

Venice hasn't changed apart from the scooters and Instagram bloggers everywhere lol!

What do you find the biggest difference is living here versus UK, Tenerife and Singapore?

The lifestyle here is vibrant and exciting and fresh. I feel blessed everyday, even when driving around. People complain about the traffic, but in London the traffic is about the same and maybe even more aggressive. In Singapore you wouldn't have a car unless you're a millionaire because of the certification, GST,

tax costs, even though the infrastructure is the best and transportation is fantastic. But carrying your day's belonging around in a bag gets old. So I still feel lucky everyday just to have my simple SUV here. I think life stresses are a choice and you choose how to deal with them.

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

A great place I train at now in West LA is called Enter Martial Arts. Their Kung Fu-Wushu classes are great for both advanced martial artists and complete beginners. It is tailored for people to progress at their own pace and skill level. From basic kicks, weapons techniques, stretching and more.

Since I've been there, I've really noticed improvements in my flexibility, and sharpening up my stances and forms. There's also a great community atmosphere there, as everyone is very supportive of each other.

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

Join a group like Brits in LA on Facebook for things like advice on apartment rentals, car leases, immigration lawyers and medical insurance.

Lots of our members join our group Brits in LA seeking out words of wisdom - what is the best piece of advice you've been given?

"Opportunities are infrequent, so always be prepared for anything" from my acting mentor Judd Nelson- the infamous "Criminal" from *The Breakfast Club*. I'm grateful that since I moved here Judd has become one of my closest friends and I take this quote to heart. So I'm always working on my skills not just in martial arts or my physique but also learning as much as I can in acting, accent classes and watching and reading as much as I can



UK-SINGAPORE-LA: the well-traveled Mayling Ng now makes her home in Venice

to BEING READY!

Lastly, how can we find out more about you? Are you working on anything at the moment?

I'm filming all the time and also have a reality show concept that was optioned last year. And now I am in


talks with various other productions, so hopefully I will be moving into the producing side of the business soon. Very exciting!

You can find me on instagram.com/maylingng or facebook.com/ngmayling or maylingng.com



READY FOR ACTION: Mayling on the big screen

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ARIES: This spring time 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 springtime 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. If you feel like reaching out and asking someone for a helping hand in any area this is the time to do it. It's also the time of year for you to set up for the new season.

GEMINI: Time to deal with what has been on your mind recently so the faster you take this in hand the better will be the results for yourself and others. With the new season come new opportunities to open up and feel good in your own skin.

CANCER: A positive beginning to 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. Health-related issues should be taken as a priority.

VIRGO: If any area of life is not going as smoothly as you expect you can let go of worry about the outcome, all will be well by 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 in your financial area will bring 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 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 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 was in Aries he caused some problems for you and others. There are no coincidences and he was always seeking to bring out the truth of situations. With his recent move into stable Taurus for an extended visit 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 is due to the shift in season. By all means take a time away go for what feels peaceful to you. Listen to any messages your dreams send you.

The British Weekly Sudoku by Myles Mellor #381

SUDOKU by Myles Mellor and Susan Flanagan

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

Level: Medium

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

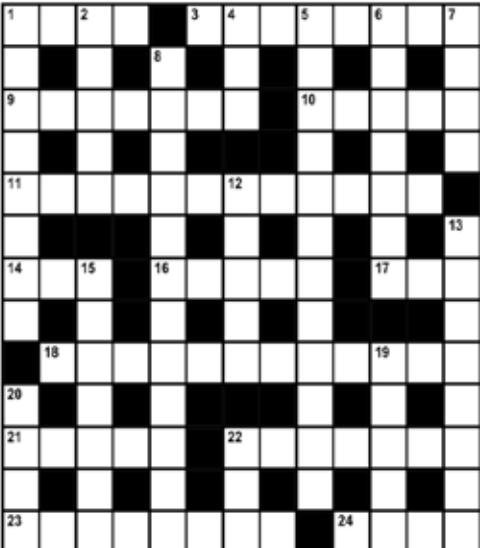
Solution to Sudoku #380

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

The British Weekly Crossword by Myles Mellor. #381

Across

- 1 Symbol of defiance (4)
- 3 English seaside town, Poirot's sidekick (8)
- 9 TV network's concern (7)
- 10 Diet ad caption (5)
- 11 Fearful (12)
- 14 She got into a spot of bother over Brexit (3)
- 16 Place for aluminum furniture (5)
- 17 Caspian, for one (3)
- 18 Different choices (12)
- 21 ___ con carne (5)
- 22 Calcium, e.g. (7)
- 23 Attractive (8)
- 24 Positive (4)



Down

- 1 Popeye has big ones (8)
- 2 Establish (5)
- 4 Body builder's muscles (3)
- 5 Sending (12)
- 6 People born in a particular area (7)
- 7 Laundry detergent (4)
- 8 Explaining (12)
- 12 All gone from one's plate (5)
- 13 Swallowable medicine units (8)
- 15 Shouting (7)
- 19 Like some internet memes (5)
- 20 Land area (4)
- 22 Door sign (3)

Solution to Puzzle #380

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|---|----|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | P | L | A | T | E | A | U | 5 | I | N | D | I | A | |
| | L | P | X | N | N | I | R | | | | | | | |
| 8 | A | T | T | I | T | U | D | E | S | 9 | F | O | R | |
| | Z | | R | E | E | F | E | | | | | | | |
| 10 | A | W | A | K | E | 12 | R | E | T | A | I | N | S | |
| | | T | M | G | | | | | C | T | | | | |
| 13 | E | N | T | R | E | P | R | E | N | E | U | R | S | |
| | N | R | | A | | U | L | | | | | | | |
| 15 | D | R | A | G | 16 | G | E | D | 17 | A | L | T | E | R |
| | E | C | I | | U | N | | | | | | | | E |
| 19 | M | E | T | | 20 | F | R | A | N | C | H | I | S | E |
| | I | E | T | | | T | E | | C | D | | | | |
| 22 | C | O | D | E | S | | 23 | E | N | D | L | E | S | S |

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BRITS IN LA



Traveling post-Brexit: (some) of your questions answered...

Are you in a panic about traveling post Brexit?

There has been so much misinformation surrounding it, which is causing terrible uncertainty and unnecessary upset. Even the leave date of March 29th is still up in the air.

Passport questions and travel in general have been very hot topics on our Facebook page. If your passport is set to expire at any point this year it is probably a good idea to start your renewal application now. You can actually do it up to nine months before your current one ends and they then add the extra time on to your new passport. For those of you who are unsure, visit this useful web page that British

Consulate shared with us, www.passport.service.gov.uk/check-a-passport.

You just need to answer a few simple questions and it will then either tell you that you are fine, or that you need to renew.

Have you got friends or family coming for a visit this summer? Then tell them it is worth completing the ESTA application well in advance and wait for the approval before they book their tickets. The ESTA is a visa waiver program that is offered to tourists from select countries, including Britain/ Europe, Australia and New Zealand. You can check on the US government website to see the full list of countries that are eligible. Most people leave this until the very last minute, but I really

wouldn't recommend this. In the last month we have had at least two reports of denials from our members. In one case it was because the applicant mentioned they suffered from anxiety and were informed that they would need to go for an interview at the US Embassy in London. So don't just take the ESTA approval for granted as it isn't necessarily a done deal. They last for 2 years (as long as your passport has two years left on it), and costs \$14, so if you know anyone planning a trip tell them to get on it ASAP.

Many US citizens have contacted us worrying, as they were incorrectly informed (mainly on social media!) that they would now need to apply for visas to visit Britain. The current official advice from the British Government website is that you will not need a visa and can stay in the UK for up to 6 months as a tourist. But you will need to provide a few documents at your port of entry so visit www.gov.uk and then enter 'USA' in their search box for full details.

Global Entry

Have you applied for fast track service 'Global Entry' yet? I haven't gotten around to it, but I hear it really does speed up the airport queues. The recent government shutdown created a large backlog of pending applications. But it appears they are catching up, as I have just checked the LAX appointment calendar and it looks like they have a ton of openings over the next month or so. It does cost \$100 but lasts five years. Check with your credit card company as I think a few of them offer a refund to cover the fee if you use their card when paying for it.

If you are a US citizen you might be interested in the free Mobile Passport app that the government now offer to help expedite your international arrival. You can currently only use it to enter certain airports/ cruise ports in the USA,

but it does work at LAX.

I just downloaded the app and it seems very straightforward. I uploaded my US passport which is apparently stored encrypted...and also had to submit a current photo. The only annoying thing I noticed was that you can't submit your trip details in advance, as Custom Border Protection will send you a digital (QR) code receipt after they have reviewed your submission, which expires after four hours. Although, these days most planes have WiFi so I guess you could do it in the air. Other reviewers said the CBP response is pretty fast and report that you can still use the designated fast Mobile Passport lane

even if your confirmation hasn't come though yet. Some users mentioned that it gets you through the airport even faster than the Global Entry line! Have any of you tried it out yet? If so we would love to hear your thoughts. You can email us at info@britsin.la

I am planning a trip to the UK next month so I will let you know how I get on with it.

I will post all these links on our website too, so visit www.britsin.la if you need to look one up. And don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions that need answering. That is also where you will find our upcoming events listed, including our weekly Breakfast Club and

Pub Quiz.

I know a lot of you get apprehensive about coming along alone, but please put your shyness to one side as I promise we are a very welcoming bunch.

Lastly, this is your final reminder to remember Mothers Day in the UK, Sunday March 31st. If you have left it too late to send a card you should check out moonpig.com They send cards locally and help you personalize them online. If you are sending flowers try calling a florist that is local to your destination, as it is often much cheaper and a far better service.

Cheers!
Eileen



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Transformed from his Potter days, Radcliffe hopes to cast a spell on audiences in "Escape from Pretoria"

Daniel Radcliffe has shocked his army of loyal fans after undergoing a major transformation for his new role... Oo-er!

The English actor found international superstardom playing Harry Potter in the hugely popular franchise but these days Radcliffe is well established as far more than a former child actor, with well-received roles in *Equus* on Broadway, in movies including *The Woman in Black* and the Indie film *What If*.

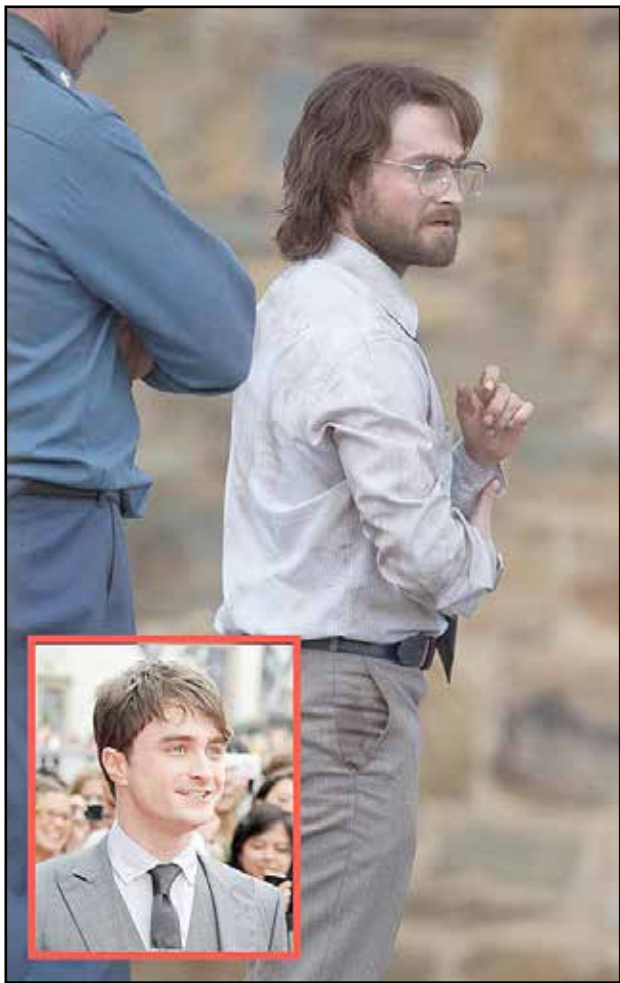
And the 29-year-old is back (but barely recognizable) in the brand new flick *Escape from Pretoria*.

The film documents the life of anti-apartheid activist Tim Jenkin, who famously escaped from a notorious South African jail in 1979.

Daniel plays the lead role in the new biopic, and has undergone a major makeover.

He was recently pictured on-set in Adelaide, Australia sporting long hair and a full beard.

The film is based on Jenkins' autobiography.



It's not the first time Radcliffe has undergone a new look for a role.

Last month, he sported new facial hair for his role in the American sitcom *Miracle Workers*.

Daniel said Hogwarts

fans were giving him odd looks because of his new dress.

He said: "Yes, they're like, 'What's happened to him?' Like they think I have fallen on hard times, or something."

Bender like Beckham? Brooklyn and Hana reportedly suffer 'booze-fuelled bust-up' after night out in Camden

Oh the pressures of fame...Brooklyn Beckham and his main squeeze, model Hana Cross, allegedly had a heated exchange after catching alt-rocker Yungblud performing in Camden, London.

David Beckham's eldest son has been accused of 'drinking too much' during a 'booze-fuelled bust-up', in which Hana reportedly took young Becks to task.

The pair have been dating for a few weeks and all had been going swimmingly, with them supporting Victoria Beckham's Autumn/Winter collection at London Fashion Week in February.

It has been claimed that Brooklyn may have had 'a drink too many' when he attended the concert of the Doncaster-born rocker at the Camden Assembly.

The couple were heading to the after-party with Hana, when they started arguing and the fall out quickly becoming very public.

Oo-er!

A source has told The Sun that Brooklyn, 20, "had sunk a few beers," before he, "ended up getting into a row with Hana."

Then went on to say



that, "it had been a bit of a wild night out and it got a bit messy," before Brooklyn allegedly, "got really upset and ended up storming into the street."

It was at this point that Hana put her foot down and apparently, "read him the riot act and told him she didn't like it when he was acting up

and drinking too much." It seemed to be enough to snap Brooklyn out of his drunken stupor and the pair were soon looking like the loved up couple that wanted to enjoy a night out.

The source added that they "kissed and made up," soon afterwards.

So hasn't shown him the red card then...yet!!!



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Bright start for Northern Ireland



Delight for captain Steven Davis who scored his 12th international goal on Thursday

Northern Ireland made a winning start to their Euro 2020 qualifiers with Niall McGinn and Steven Davis on target in a 2-0 victory over Estonia on Thursday.

A frustrating first half saw the hosts fail to turn their dominance of possession into goals.

McGinn lashed the ball into the net from 16 yards from Kyle Lafferty's lay-off in the 56th minute and Davis fired home from the penalty spot in the 73rd.

Northern Ireland play Belarus in their next Group C game in Belfast on Sunday.

With Northern Ireland drawn in a difficult group alongside European giants Germany and the Netherlands - only two countries to qualify for Euro 2020 - manager Michael O'Neill had emphasised the necessity of building early momentum and getting early points by beating lower ranked teams Estonia and Belarus in

their first two games.

O'Neill's side will face Estonia and Belarus again away from home in June, before the formidable double-headers against the Dutch and Germans in the autumn.

Northern Ireland had gone eight competitive games without a win going into this fixture but they now have the opportunity to repeat or better their start to their successful Euro 2016 qualifying series when they triumphed in their first three matches.

The win over the Estonians ensured O'Neill began his fourth qualifying campaign on a winning note as he attempts to lead his side to successive European Championship finals by negotiating the condensed qualifying competition which runs from March to November.

Ward Prowse aiming to fill Beckham's boots for England

JAMES WARD-PROWSE says he wants a shot at emulating former England captain David Beckham by becoming the team's go-to free-kick specialist.

The Southampton midfielder received a late call-up to Gareth Southgate's squad following his stunning dead-ball winner against Tottenham on March 9.

And he is keen to bend it like Beckham if he plays against Czech Republic at Wembley on Friday or Montenegro in Podgorica on Monday.

Ward-Prowse, 24, honed his dead-ball technique by watching videos of Beckham, Steven Gerrard and Frank Lampard.

"They are good role models but ultimately I created my own technique, what was right for me, with a lot of hard work and a lot of hours on the training pitch," he said.

"But it is nice to get moments in games like against Tottenham. It is nice to see those moments paying off given it was possibly the last chance to win the game."



WARD PROWSE: "You have to have that bite."

Ward-Prowse, drafted in after Fabian Delph and Ruben Loftus-Cheek pulled out with injury, is hoping Southgate notices his dead-ball prowess in training.

But he also plans to roll out a new, grittier side to his game after being encouraged by Saints boss Ralph Hasenhuttl to get rid of his nice-guy image.

He said: "I want to get away from that perception of the Southampton academy boy, that's not

what I want to be any more.

"I want to be a bit more aggressive, to try and stamp my authority a bit more on what's going on.

"Can you be too nice? Possibly. That's not a bad thing but to get to a certain level at football you have to have that side to your game.

"It's something that is new to me but I am relishing adding that to my game. You have to have that bite."

| SCOTLAND | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Ladbrokes Scottish Premiership | | | | | | | | | | |
| ABERDEEN (1) ... 1 LIVINGSTON (1) ... 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| McGinn 30 Sibbald 43 Att: 14,366 | | | | | | | | | | |
| HAMILTON (1) ... 1 HEARTS (0) ... 0 | | | | | | | | | | |
| McGowan 36 Att: 2,082 | | | | | | | | | | |
| HIBERNIAN (2) ... 2 MOTHERWELL (0) 0 | | | | | | | | | | |
| McNulty 19 (pen) Att: 17,184 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gray 39 | | | | | | | | | | |
| RANGERS (0) ... 1 KILMARNOCK (1) 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Morelos 64 McAlleny 29 Att: 49,527 | | | | | | | | | | |
| ST JOHNSTONE ... P ST MIRREN ... P | | | | | | | | | | |
| Postponed - due to adverse weather conditions. | | | | | | | | | | |
| DUNDEE (0) ... 0 CELTIC (0) ... 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Edouard 90 Att: 7,608 | | | | | | | | | | |
| P W D L F A Pts | | | | | | | | | | |
| Celtic ... 30 22 4 4 67 16 70 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rangers ... 30 17 9 4 66 22 60 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aberdeen ... 30 15 7 8 46 34 52 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Kilmarnock ... 30 14 9 7 39 28 51 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hearts ... 30 14 5 11 35 47 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hibernian ... 30 12 9 9 45 32 45 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Motherwell ... 30 12 4 14 33 41 40 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Livingston ... 30 10 8 12 32 31 38 | | | | | | | | | | |
| St Johnstone ... 29 11 5 13 29 39 38 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hamilton ... 30 7 3 20 20 61 24 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dundee ... 30 4 6 20 24 62 18 | | | | | | | | | | |
| St Mirren ... 29 4 5 20 21 56 17 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ladbrokes Scottish Championship | | | | | | | | | | |
| AYR ... P QN OF STH ... P | | | | | | | | | | |
| Postponed - due to adverse weather conditions. | | | | | | | | | | |
| DUNFERMLINE ... P DUNDEE UTD ... P | | | | | | | | | | |
| Postponed - due to adverse weather conditions. | | | | | | | | | | |
| FALKIRK (1) ... 1 PARTICK (1) ... 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| McShane 45 McDonald 10 Att: 4,896 | | | | | | | | | | |
| MORTON ... P ALLOA ... P | | | | | | | | | | |
| Postponed - due to adverse weather conditions. | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ross County ... 27 17 6 4 50 26 57 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dunfermline ... 27 13 7 7 37 34 46 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ayr ... 27 12 7 8 42 28 43 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dunfermline ... 28 11 7 10 30 40 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Inverness CT ... 27 9 12 6 36 30 39 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Morton ... 28 8 10 10 27 36 34 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Queen of South ... 28 7 9 12 35 35 30 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Falkirk ... 29 7 9 13 31 40 30 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Partick ... 28 8 5 15 30 45 29 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Alloa ... 27 6 8 13 27 41 26 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ladbrokes Scottish League One | | | | | | | | | | |
| ARBROATH (1) ... 2 EAST FIFE (1) ... 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| McKenna 27 Dowds 28 Linn 50 Att: 729 | | | | | | | | | | |
| BRECHIN ... P MONTROSE ... P | | | | | | | | | | |
| Postponed - due to adverse weather conditions. | | | | | | | | | | |
| DUMBARTON ... P AIRDRIEONIANS ... P | | | | | | | | | | |
| Postponed - due to adverse weather conditions. | | | | | | | | | | |
| FORFAR (1) ... 2 RAITH (0) ... 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hilson 22, 69 Nisbet 52 Att: 509 | | | | | | | | | | |
| STENHSMUIR (0) 0 STRANRAER (1) ... 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cameron 33 Att: 362 | | | | | | | | | | |
| P W D L F A Pts | | | | | | | | | | |
| Arbroath ... 29 19 6 4 57 29 63 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Forfar ... 29 15 5 9 44 41 50 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Raith ... 29 13 9 7 60 38 48 | | | | | | | | | | |
| East Fife ... 29 13 5 11 45 43 44 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Montrose ... 28 10 5 13 36 45 35 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dumbarton ... 28 9 7 12 47 48 34 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Airdrieonians ... 28 10 4 14 36 37 34 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Stranraer ... 28 8 8 12 34 43 32 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Brechin ... 27 7 7 13 33 45 28 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Stenhousemuir ... 29 8 4 17 29 52 28 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ladbrokes Scottish League Two | | | | | | | | | | |
| ALBION ... P COWDENBETH ... P | | | | | | | | | | |
| Postponed - due to adverse weather conditions. | | | | | | | | | | |
| ANNAN ATH (1) ... 3 EDINBURGH C (0) 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Smith 35 (pen) Henderson 53 Swinglehurst 58 Att: 341 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Nade 73 | | | | | | | | | | |
| BERWICK ... P PETERHEAD ... P | | | | | | | | | | |
| Postponed - due to adverse weather conditions. | | | | | | | | | | |
| CLYDE (1) ... 3 STIRLING (0) ... 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| McStay 18 Banner 51 McNiff 80 Rankin 90 Att: 614 | | | | | | | | | | |
| QUEEN'S PRK (1) 4 ELGIN (1) ... 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Roberts 12 MacIver 10 Galt 65, 68, 70 Att: 543 | | | | | | | | | | |
| P W D L F A Pts | | | | | | | | | | |
| Peterhead ... 28 21 3 4 54 20 66 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Edinburgh City ... 29 19 4 6 51 21 61 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Clyde ... 28 17 4 7 44 28 55 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Annand Athletic ... 29 15 5 9 52 33 50 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Elgin ... 28 12 3 13 46 55 39 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Stirling ... 29 11 4 14 38 40 37 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Queen's Park ... 29 9 8 12 37 39 35 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cowdenbeath ... 28 8 6 14 34 37 30 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Berwick ... 28 4 4 20 25 69 16 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Albion ... 28 3 5 20 22 61 14 | | | | | | | | | | |

Shocking weapons haul ahead of women's match

Weapons, fireworks and drugs have been found on a coach carrying Paris St-Germain fans to a Women's Champion's League game against Chelsea.

Up to 50 PSG fans were denied entry to the quarter-final tie at Kingsmeadow, Kingston-Upon-Thames.

Police were first called to reports of vandalism at the stadium at 08:00 GMT, then later to disorder at Waterloo and Wimbledon stations.

A coach that travelled overnight from Paris was searched and one arrest was made.

In a statement, the Met Police said: "Weapons, including knives and knuckledusters, were recovered along with class A drugs.

The game kicked-off at as scheduled at 19:05.

Chelsea won the match, 2-0.

Rice 'sorry' for Instagram post

Declan Rice has apologised after a social media post emerged in which he made an apparent reference to the IRA.

The England and West Ham midfielder, 20, was an Ireland youth player in 2015 when he wrote '#UPTHERA' on Instagram.

Rice, who recently earned his first call-up to the England squad, apologised for "any offence caused" by the "poorly expressed comment".

"I recognise my attempt to show support for my team-mates at the time could be negatively interpreted," he said.



RICE: the West Ham midfielder recently earned his first call-up to the England squad

"While my naive words were not meant to be a political opinion and do not represent who I am, I sincerely apologise for any offence caused."

Rice won three senior Republic of Ireland caps before transferring his allegiance to England last month.

England manager Gareth Southgate, speaking at news conference on Thursday before England's Euro 2020 qualifier against Czech Republic on Friday, said: "He's apologised. It's not representative of what he believes and what he feels."

BW SPORT

Blues star 'shocked' by England call-up

Callum Hudson-Odoi and James Ward-Prowse both in the frame for Euro 2020 qualifiers

Chelsea winger Callum Hudson-Odoi - who is yet to start a Premier League game - says he is "shocked" to have received his first England call-up.

The 18-year-old was brought into the England squad on Monday for the upcoming Euro 2020 qualifiers against the Czech Republic and Montenegro.

He has played 19 games for Chelsea this season, scoring five times.

"It's been a crazy experience but I'm delighted," Hudson-Odoi said. "I thought the manager was joking."

He was with England's Under-21 squad, having received his first call-up at that level last week, when he was told he was being

promoted to the senior squad by U21 manager Aidy Boothroyd.

"I was shocked and then when I heard that I actually had to go over, I couldn't believe it," Hudson-Odoi added.

"I was delighted. It's a dream come true. Now I've got to work hard, enjoy every moment and keep working to just hopefully make an impact when I get the opportunity."

Hudson-Odoi was called up after full-back Luke Shaw joined John Stones, Fabian Delph and Ruben Loftus-Cheek in withdrawing from the squad.

Earlier on Monday, Southampton midfielder James Ward-Prowse was added to the

squad as a replacement.

England host the Czechs at Wembley on Friday, 22 March and are away in Montenegro on Monday, 25 March.

Former Chelsea midfielder Andy Townsend says it is a "shrewd move" by England manager Gareth Southgate to call up Hudson-Odoi.

"Whenever I have seen Hudson-Odoi play I have thought he has got something about him and he suggests when you give him the ball he will make something happen," Townsend said.

"It is also saying to the player if you want more you have got to get your head down and find a way to get regular football, whether that is at Chelsea



HUDSON-ODOI: the subject of a £35m bid from Bayern Munich

or Bayern Munich." Unhappy with his playing time, Hudson-Odoi handed in a transfer request in January after

he was the subject of a £35m bid from Bayern but Chelsea refused to sell. Earlier this month, Blues manager Maurizio Sarri

said it was "dangerous" to put too much pressure on the teenager, adding he would only be a "top" player aged 22 or 23.

McLeish stays mum after Kazakh debacle

Alex McLeish refused to discuss his future after leading Scotland to one of the nation's most ignominious defeats, a 3-0 humbling in their opening Euro 2020 qualifier in Kazakhstan on Thursday.

The Scots were two down inside 10 minutes, and conceded again just after the break to give the Kazakhs only a second win in 21 qualifiers.

On Sunday, they face San Marino, who lost their opener 5-0 in Cyprus.

"I'll continue to do my job and won't get drawn into that," said McLeish.

Speaking to Sky Sports in the immediate aftermath of the abject defeat, the manager had conceded the result "possibly puts more pressure on me".

Celtic defender Kieran Tierney will not be involved against San Marino as he continues to struggle with a hip



ROCK BOTTOM? McLeish can't stand to watch

problem.

Scotland were guilty of abject defending at all three goals and offered little threat going forward against the country ranked 117 in the world.

McLeish was forced to field a makeshift backline after several withdrawals and the team's inexperience was cruelly exposed.

"It was a poor night for us defensively," said the Scotland boss. "We had one chance just before they scored and I was thinking it was looking

quite lively for us.

"But they scored two quick goals and we never reacted. They could have been prevented with better positioning."

"There's a lot of inexperience in the squad. We have introduced a few new names over the last year or so and it can take time, but I know we don't have time."

"It's never finished until it's finished. We have players to come back."

In the other game in the section, Belgium beat Russia 3-1 in Brussels.



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Sat 3/23 Euro Qualifiers

10am Gibraltar vs Ireland
12.45 Spain vs Norway
12.45 Italy vs Finland

Sun 3/24 Euro Qualifiers

10am San Marino vs Scotland
12.45 Netherlands vs Germany

Mon 3/25 Euro Qualifiers

11.45am Montenegro vs England
11.45am Portugal vs Serbia
11.45am France vs Iceland

Tue 3/26 Euro Qualifiers

11.45am Ireland vs Georgia
11.45am Norway vs Sweden
11.45am Malta vs Spain

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5pm USA vs Chile



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