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# ANDREW STEPS DOWN

- Fallout from Epstein scandal continues to grow after disastrous TV interview
- Prince says controversy "a major disruption" to the work of the royal family

**The Duke of York has stepped down from public duties after crisis talks with the Queen and the Prince of Wales following his television interview over his relationship with the sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.**

Prince Andrew said that he was withdrawing from his official life because the controversy had become "a major disruption" to the work of the royal family.

The duke's decision to become the first member of the royal family to in effect resign from duty because of his growing unpopularity came after he talked with the Queen, Prince Charles, who is on tour in New Zealand, and other family members.

Buckingham Palace said that it had been his "personal decision" following days of discussion with senior members of the family, culminating in a face-to-face meeting with the Queen at the Palace on Tuesday.

The Queen and the rest of the royal family are said to support the duke's decision.

Robert Lacey, the royal biographer, said: "Nobody will imagine that he has done this of his own free will. Everybody

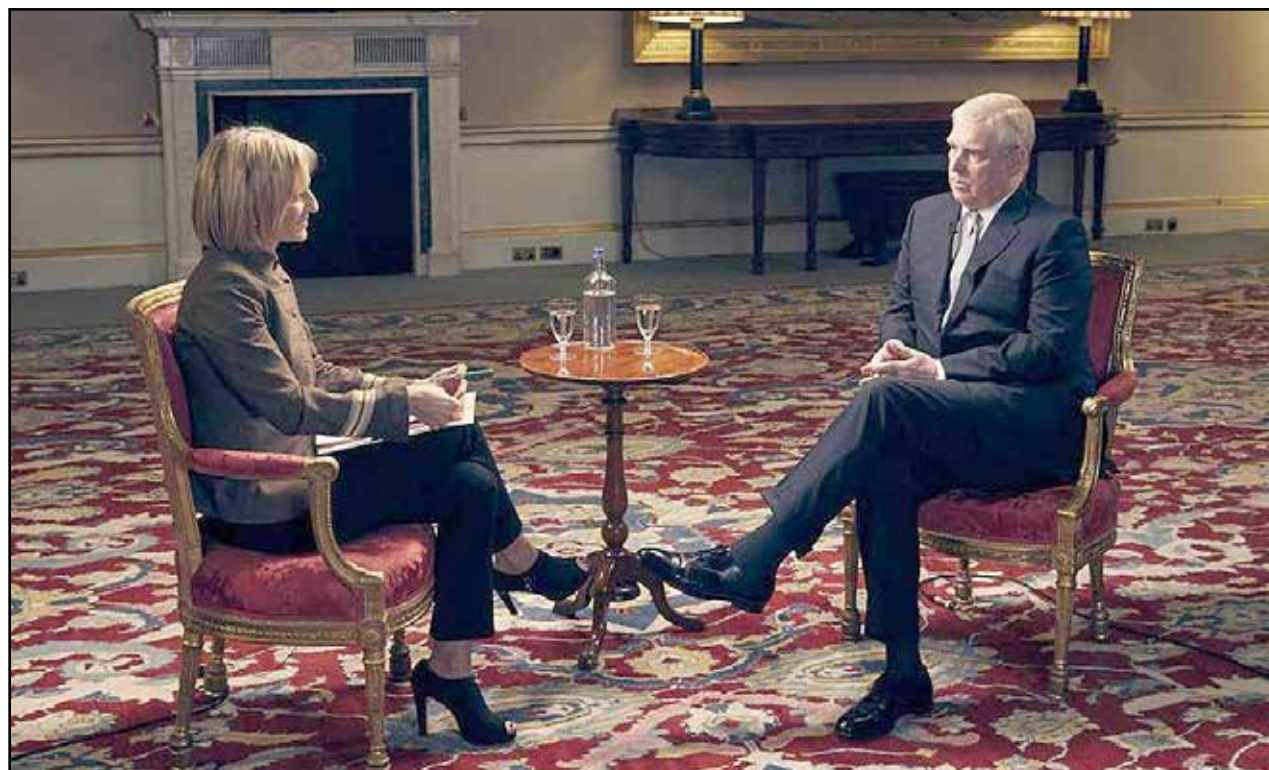
will assume that there has been pressure from above."

The duke's move followed days of highly critical headlines after the interview with the BBC's Emily Maitlis was broadcast in a *Newsnight* special on Saturday. Andrew, 59, was criticised for failing to express any sympathy for Epstein's victims and for defending his friendship with the billionaire.

### 'deeply sympathize'

He will now step back from all of his more than 200 charity patronages - temporarily, according to the Palace - and will take no part in public life for the foreseeable future. However, he will still be a member of the royal family and will be seen on the balcony of Buckingham Palace on occasions such as Trooping the Colour.

In a statement released on Wednesday - the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh's 72nd wedding anniversary -



**FOOT IN MOUTH:** The Prince's recent interview with Emily Maitlis, which reportedly went ahead against the advice of his advisors, has intensified the scrutiny on his relationship with Jeffrey Epstein

Prince Andrew said: "It has become clear to me over the last few days that the circumstances relating to my former association with Jeffrey Epstein has become a major disruption to my family's work and the valuable work going on in the many organisations and charities that I am proud to support.

"Therefore, I have asked Her Majesty if I may step back from public duties for the foreseeable future, and she has given her permission. I continue to

unequivocally regret my ill-judged association with Jeffrey Epstein. His suicide has left many unanswered questions, particularly for his victims, and I deeply sympathise with everyone who has been affected and wants some form of closure. I can only hope that, in time, they will be able to rebuild their lives. Of course, I am willing to help any appropriate law enforcement agency with their investigations, if required."

In his BBC interview cont. on page 5, col. 1



**INCRIMINATING?** The Prince with Virginia Roberts in London in 2001

## News From Britain

# Honors even as Bojo and Corbyn go head to head

BORIS Johnson and Jeremy Corbyn met for their first head-to-head televised debate this week – and the initial response from viewers was that neither man came out on top.

The key takeaway for Tories was that the Labour leader refused repeatedly to say how he would campaign in another EU referendum – a fact seized on by Mr Johnson, who said Corbyn's prevarication was the "void" at the heart of Labour's Brexit policy.

But Corbyn had some good moments of his own, landing a series of blows on the prime minister, including on the NHS after recent A&E performance figures which were the worst on record.

## 'in despair'

A snap YouGov poll after the ITV debate handed victory to Mr Johnson by the narrowest of margins, with 51 per cent saying that he was the better performer against 49 per cent for Mr Corbyn. YouGov also found that 54 per cent thought Mr Johnson



came across as more prime ministerial, compared with 29 per cent for Mr Corbyn. Fifty-nine per cent said, however, that the Labour leader was more in touch with ordinary voters, compared with 25 per cent for Mr Johnson.

Both leaders faced open mockery from the studio audience in Salford. A questioner who said that Britain was looking on "in despair" was cheered.

Mr Johnson was repeatedly reprimanded by the host, Julie Etchingham, for overrunning his allotted time as he drove home his claim that he could "get Brexit done" while Mr Corbyn's policy of a renegotiated EU deal and referendum offered only more delay.



**A COUPLE OF DUDS?** Both Mr. Johnson and Mr Corbyn were booed during the ITV debate this week

The Labour leader was jeered as he refused to say eight times whether he would campaign for Leave or Remain in that vote.

Dawn Butler, shadow equalities minister, claimed today that Mr Corbyn's own views on Brexit were not important. She told BBC Breakfast: "As prime minister he's not there to implement what he wants but what the public wants. What's

important to know is what he will do not what he thinks."

## 'room for improvement'

For his part Mr Corbyn confronted the prime minister with official documents that he said showed the US government was demanding "full market access" for American products to public services. Mr Corbyn said that the prime minister would "sell out the NHS to the United States" in a post-Brexit trade deal.

That drew a furious denial. Mr Johnson said: "There are no circumstances

whatever in which this government would put the NHS on the table."

Mr Corbyn paid tribute to his friend Jayne Rae, a lifelong Labour campaigner who recently died from cancer, as he called for more investment in the NHS. At the weekend Mr Corbyn shared a video in which Ms Rae told of arriving for hospital treatment to find a scene that "looked like Beirut".

Asked if the monarchy was "fit for purpose" Mr Corbyn said there was "room for improvement"; Mr Johnson said that the "institution" was "beyond reproach".

Both expressed sympathy for Jeffrey Epstein's victims and avoided direct criticism of the Duke of York after his BBC interview last weekend.

The snap YouGov survey was conducted among 1,000 likely voters and was weighted to reflect the 2017 general election result and 2016 EU referendum. Tory officials sought to put the best gloss on the result, saying that Mr Corbyn had failed to put in a game-changing performance.

A second debate, to be hosted by the BBC, will take place on December 6.

## Tories enjoy healthy poll lead

TORY hopes of a General Election triumph were boosted this week by a string of opinion polls showing the party extending its double-digit lead over Labour.

One survey gave Boris Johnson's party a 17-point advantage over

Jeremy Corbyn's Labour, enough for the Tories to win at least an 80-seat majority in the Commons.

Four other polls put the Prime Minister's party significantly ahead of their rivals.

On Tuesday night a Survation poll for ITV's

Good Morning Britain gave the Tories a 42% share, with 28% for Labour, 13% for the Lib Dems and 5% for the Brexit Party.

Mr Johnson was backed by 47% as the best choice to be prime minister. Only 17% preferred Mr Corbyn.



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# Salmond charged with sex offenses against 10 women

Alex Salmond has appeared in court charged with carrying out a series of sexual offenses against 10 women while serving as Scotland's first minister.

Mr Salmond faced a total of 14 charges at the High Court in Edinburgh on Thursday morning.

He denies all the allegations, which include one attempted rape, one intent to rape, 10 sexual assaults and two indecent assaults.

The offences are alleged to have happened between June 2008 and November 2014.

His QC, Gordon Jackson, said Mr Salmond was pleading not guilty, and judge Lady Dorrian set the trial date for 9 March next year.

The trial is expected to last about four weeks.

Mr Salmond served as first minister between 16 May 2007 and 20 November 2014.

Speaking outside court after the brief hearing, Mr Salmond said he was innocent of the charges against him, and would defend himself "vigorously" during the trial.

He added: "The only proper place to answer criminal charges is in this court, and that is exactly what I intend to do next spring."

The charges are set out in an indictment which includes the specific details of the allegations against the 64-year-old former SNP leader.

The attempted rape is said to have happened

in June 2014 at the first minister's official Bute House residence in Edinburgh. He is alleged to have pushed a woman against a wall and to have removed her clothes and his own, before pushing her onto a bed and lying naked on top of her.

The other 13 charges allege that he:

- Indecently assaulted a woman on a number of occasions in Glasgow in June and July 2008 by kissing her on the mouth and touching her buttocks and breasts with his hands over her clothing

- Sexually assaulted the same woman in December 2010 or December 2011 in the Ego nightclub in Edinburgh by touching her arms and hips with his hands



"I AM INNOCENT." The former First Minister denies all the charges against him

over her clothing

- Indecently assaulted a woman in October or November 2010 at Bute House by repeatedly seizing her by the wrists and repeatedly pulling her towards him and attempting to kiss her

- Sexually assaulted a woman in a car in Edinburgh in February 2011 by touching her leg with his hand over her clothing

- Sexually assaulted a woman on various occasions between 2011 and 2013 at Bute House, the Scottish Parliament and other locations by touching her buttocks with his hands over her clothing, stroking her arms, and touching and stroking her hair

- Sexually assaulted a woman at Bute House in October 2013 by

removing her foot from her shoe, stroking her foot, lifting her foot towards his mouth and attempting to kiss her foot

- Sexually assaulted a woman at Bute House in November or December 2013 by kissing her on the mouth

- Intended to rape the same woman in December 2013 at Bute House by causing her to sit on a bed, lying on top of her, making sexual remarks to her, touching her buttocks, thighs and breasts over her clothing with his hands, repeatedly kissing her face, struggling with her and pulling up her dress

- Sexually assaulted a woman in 2012 at the Ubiquitous Chip restaurant in Glasgow by touching her buttocks

with his hand over her clothing

- Sexually assaulted the same woman at Bute House in April 2014 by placing his arm around her, making sexual remarks to her and attempting to kiss her

## review

Police began an investigation following a Scottish government inquiry into complaints of sexual harassment against Mr Salmond.

Mr Salmond launched a judicial review against the government over how it had handled its inquiry, saying he had been treated unfairly.

The government later conceded its procedures had been flawed and paid out more than £500,000 in Mr Salmond's legal expenses.

## General election 2019: Labour launches 'radical' manifesto

Labour has launched its general election manifesto, promising to "transform" the UK and to renationalise rail, mail, water and energy.

Leader Jeremy Corbyn also vowed "a green transformation" of the economy, aiming to get the UK "on track" for a net-zero carbon system by the 2030s.

The 105 page manifesto includes a windfall tax on oil firms and scrapping rises in the state pension age. Mr Corbyn said his offer to voters was "radical" and would mean "real change".

He accused "bankers, billionaires and the establishment" of wanting to thwart his plans, adding: "They don't own the Labour

### What is in the Labour manifesto?

- £75bn to build 150,000 new council and social homes a year, within five years
- An immediate 5% pay rise for public sector workers, with year-on-year above-inflation pay rises to follow
- Introducing a "real living wage" of at least £10 an hour
- Reviewing the retirement age for people in hard manual jobs
  - Introducing a second homes tax
- Reversing inheritance tax cuts and imposing VAT on private school fees
- Giving EU nationals living in UK the automatic right to stay
- Reinstating 3,000 bus routes that have been cut
  - Free broadband for all, delivered by part-nationalising BT
- A £3bn plan to offer adults in England free access to retraining

Party. The people own the Labour Party."

On Brexit, Labour says it wants to renegotiate a new Brexit deal, incorporating a close relationship with the EU, which would

then be put to a "legally binding" referendum.

On Scottish independence, the party says it would not grant permission for a referendum on the issue

cont. on page 4, col. 1



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## News From Britain

## No restriction on migrant movement under Labour, pledges Corbyn

JEREMY Corbyn did little to allay fears of increased migrant movement to the UK when he said this week “there will be a great deal” of it under a Labour government.

In contrast, Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab spelled out Tory plans to toughen border controls with an Australian-style points based immigration system after Britain leaves the European Union.

He said businesses must not rely on “cheap labour from abroad” and should instead focus on “innovation”.

The Conservatives warned Labour’s plans for maintaining free movement with the EU will see more than 15,000 criminals enter the UK in the next 10 years.

The Tories also said that under their system the majority of migrants would need a job offer to move to the UK to work.

Currently, EU citizens have preferential access to benefits, but under Tory plans they will have the same rights as the rest of the world. Migrants will no longer be able to send child benefits abroad to support children outside the UK.

Mr Raab told BBC’s The Andrew Marr Show:

### Manifesto:

cont. from page 3

“in the early years” of a Labour government.

Labour’s manifesto pledges would add an estimated £83bn to annual government spending by 2024.

The party said this would be paid for by tax increases on higher earners and reversing corporation tax cuts.

Speaking at Birmingham City University, Mr Corbyn

“It’s not just the volume, which, yes, we’re committed to bringing down, but it’s also the kind of immigration you’ve got coming into the country.

“We want people coming here who want to contribute, whether it is to our economy or whether it is to our public services.

“We want to make sure the best and the brightest can come here to contribute to the innovation, creating the jobs of the future for the people of this country.

“We want to be able to plug gaps in specific sectors, whether it is in the NHS, or whether it’s elsewhere.” But he added: “What you don’t want to do is encourage over-reliance on cheap labour from abroad, which has a depressing effect on wages in this country.

“Actually, the way to deal with those sectors that are concerned is to invest in innovation, to drive up the productivity of those sectors, rather than just engage in this rather artificial reliance on cheap labour from abroad.

“That’s better for this country, for both businesses and workers.” Mr Raab added.

insisted Labour’s policies were fully costed and “popular”.

Mr Corbyn said it was a “manifesto of hope”, adding: “Over the next three weeks, the most powerful people in Britain and their supporters are going to tell you that everything in this manifesto is impossible.

“That it’s too much for you. Because they don’t want real change. Why would they? The system is working just fine for them. It’s rigged in their favour.”

## Colman and Tennant named UK’s hardest working actors

BROADCHURCH co-stars Olivia Colman and David Tennant have been crowned Britain’s hardest-working actress and actor.

Oscar-winner Olivia and former Doctor Who Time Lord Tennant – who were police officers on hit ITV crime drama Broadchurch – were named the most prolific male and female British acting talent of 2019. A hundred TV and film stars who have won or been nominated for a Bafta or National Television Award in the past decade were analysed in the study. Statistician Geoff Ellis rated them on factors such as versatility in acting genres and number of appearances. Tennant topped the list followed by Martin Clunes, Sir David Jason, Olivia Colman and Dame Julie Walters.

Rounding off the top 10 are Sir Derek Jacobi, Dame Judi Dench, James Nesbitt, Steve Coogan and Sean Bean. Bean – who famously lost his head in HBO hit Game Of Thrones – was the actor most



GREAT BRITS: Olivia Colman and David Tennant starred together in Broadchurch

likely to suffer an on-screen death, closely followed by Luther and The Wire star Idris Elba. Bean was also ranked as having the most star power, followed by Only Fools And Horses’ legend Sir David. Doc

Martin’s Clunes and Catherine The Great lead Dame Helen Mirren were declared the most versatile actors.

The poll was conducted for BritBox which streams content from the BBC, ITV, Channel 4

and Channel 5. Reemah Sakaan, group director for ITV subscription video on-demand, said: “We’re excited that our fans can enjoy many of the actors’ classics and more recent work on the service.”

## Killer freed despite refusal to reveal victim’s body location

The mother of a murder victim is “horrified” her daughter’s killer will be freed despite never revealing where her body is.

Ian Simms, 63, was jailed in 1989 for murdering Helen McCourt who disappeared in February 1988 aged 22.

He was originally sentenced to a minimum of 16 years.

The killer was considered for parole for the seventh time on 8 November and officials said he “met the test for release”.

Simms killed Ms McCourt as she walked home from work in

Liverpool.

Her mother Marie said she was left shaking with anger after receiving a call earlier from her victim liaison officer at the parole board confirming Simms’ release.

“I’m just in a state of shock to be honest,” Mrs McCourt said, from the family home in Billinge near St Helens, Merseyside.

“I’ve just had some forms come through, I think that’s on what grounds the parole board has granted him release on licence, but I don’t know all the conditions.

“I was just in shock. I’m still trying to deal with

it. I’m horrified by it, I’m horrified by it. This man is a danger.”

She has urged the next government to introduce Helen’s Law, legislation that would deny parole to killers who do not disclose their victims’ remains.

The bill recently ran out of time, when the general election was called.

Simms was denied release at a hearing in 2016, but was subsequently transferred to an open prison “due to progress made”, where he has “followed the rules” when granted temporary release.

The Parole Board said it had “carefully considered” Simms’

failure to reveal where he concealed Ms McCourt’s body and concluded there is “no prospect of Simms ever disclosing the whereabouts of his victim even if he were kept in prison until he died”.

The board added the refusal continues to cause understandable distress and misery to the victim’s family and the panel concluded this demonstrated a lack of empathy.

But it said denial was not a “necessarily-determining factor” and also considered evidence from two psychologists who recommended release.

## Black Wetherspoon's customer boycotts pub over banana order

A customer who had a banana sent to his table at a Wetherspoon's pub in an act of racial abuse is boycotting the popular British pub chain.

Mark D'arcy-Smith was drinking with a friend at The Richmal Crompton in Bromley, south-east London, on 8 November, when the fruit arrived on a plate with a receipt.

The 24-year-old said he "froze" when staff gave it to him and was left feeling "upset, shocked and scared".

Wetherspoon's said it had apologised to Mr D'arcy-Smith.

The pub chain has an app that allows customers to order food and drink and have it delivered to a table.

The Met Police said it was investigating the "racially aggravated public order offence". No arrests have been made.

Mr D'arcy Smith said: "I looked at my friend and he knew straight away. We both thought this is wrong.

"I had this rush of emotions - I was upset, a little bit angry, shocked and scared. I just froze in place.

"I don't think a lot of people understand what racial abuse is like.

"You are essentially



Mark D'arcy-Smith said he and his friends were now boycotting the Wetherspoons in Bromley, London (below) the banana he didn't order - but was given



saying a black person is not human and they are an animal."

In a statement, Wetherspoon's said it had apologised to Mr D'arcy Smith for any distress caused.

"This is now a police matter," a spokesman added.

"We have responded to the customer and pointed out that the pub cannot be held responsible for app orders."

## ANDREW:

cont. from page one

the duke denied sleeping with Virginia Roberts Giuffre, who claims that she was trafficked by Epstein, at the billionaire's New York home in 2001. He said that he had been staying with the consul-general at the time. Last night, however, Sir Thomas Harris said that he had "no recollection" of the duke at his official residence.

Andrew said: "Because of what I was doing, I was staying with the consul-general . . . so I wasn't

staying there [at Epstein's home]. I may have visited but no, definitely didn't, definitely, definitely, no, no, no activity."

Sir Thomas, who served in New York from 1999 to 2004, told the Daily Mail: "It doesn't sound as if he stayed with me. I don't recall him staying with me."

He said that overnight stays by senior royals at a consul-general's residence were usually formally registered in the Court Circular. Over April 9-11, 2001, when the duke was carrying out formal engagements in the US, no such visits were recorded.

Since his interview, in which Andrew said that he did not regret his friendship with Epstein, a series of companies and institutions have distanced themselves from him, including BT, Standard Chartered and KPMG.

Lisa Bloom, a lawyer representing a number of Epstein's alleged victims, said that the duke "must cooperate" with US authorities. She tweeted: "He and his staff must cooperate with all investigations, show up for civil depositions and trials and produce all documents. We are just getting started."

## George Clooney among the latest flood victims

FEARS were raised for George Clooney's £9million riverside estate this week as large parts of Britain faced further flood chaos.

Gardens of the Thames-side mansion the actor shares with wife Amal and their two-year-old twins were left submerged. River levels around the five and-a-half acre island in Sonning, Bucks, remained high as downpours battered swathes of the country. Many areas remained mired in floods as experts warned the chaos could continue for several days.

The Environment Agency issued 70 flood warnings this week, meaning flooding is expected and immediate action required. The rivers Severn and Avon burst their banks, leaving properties waterlogged in Worcestershire and Gloucestershire, where the market town of Tewkesbury was one of the worst-hit areas.

Residents were still battling to clear their homes in the Midlands and Yorkshire.

## Looks Who's first on the Music Walk of Fame



ROCK OF AGES: Townshend and Daltrey at the Music Walk of Fame in Camden this week

THE Who became the first act to be immortalised on the Music Walk of Fame on Tuesday. Frontman Roger Daltrey and guitarist Pete Townshend unveiled the founding stone in Camden, north London.

Daltrey, 75, who revealed he is set to have vocal cord surgery this week, said: "Camden's roots with the

music business go way back. May this avenue of stars grow and grow and grow." Townshend, 74, said the project would be "great for business". "One of the biggest exports that we have in the UK is the fact that we are artistically very talented," he added.

A panel of judges will give the go-ahead for up to 20 stones each year.

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# Stargazing with Annie Shaw



**HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!**

**ARIES:** It's time to speak out in a situation that has been in flux. While your boss Mars is visiting intense Scorpio your intuition will be on alert. The full picture will be clearer by the middle of next week.

**TAURUS:** You can be sure you are on the right track this next week when you listen to your intuition. Pay attention to your needs are rather than wants. Life is somewhat hectic, so it's time to chill out and ignore anything that is not relevant.

**GEMINI:** You have a lot of different areas you are dealing with and you can achieve a lot by taking some time to relax and while that is a cliché for you, try it; it can change your momentum in life overall. Your boss Mercury is now moving in a positive direction.

**CAN CER:** Chances are you have been a bit reclusive of late. While this is often a normal way of life for you be sure you are seen out and about this next week. Mars the fire planet visiting your cousin Scorpio is giving you some steam to get you motivated.

**LEO :** This is a time for being more understanding about others in your life and the way they conduct their lives. While life has its ups and down always remember the lesson in everything. It's mostly about family now the holidays are coming, so look for the positive in every thing.

**VIRGO:** It's time for you to be actively looking for a healthier way to be in your life. This may mean different things for some of you. If it is physically or emotionally draining for you make it a priority to change.

**LIBRA:** Now that Jupiter has moved to grace your finances take any opportunity to enhance this area. So do not sit around waiting for the opportunities to appear, be proactive and available for any new adventure. You will receive an unexpected gift and it's one you will love.

**SCORPIO:** This may have been a challenging past few weeks in several areas. It's more than likely been stressful. If you feel overwhelmed and ready to hide away no one could blame you. Now your boss Mars is in your house and Mercury is moving forward by next week you will ready to take on anything.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Now your boss planet Jupiter is going to move into your money house it's time for you to take some chances. This can be in any are of life so be sure to be ready. This period is absolutely made for you adventurous souls, just remember to be realistic and take one step at a time.

**CAPRICORN:** Your boss planet Saturn will soon have company with the arrival of mighty Jupiter for a long time visit, be sure to make him welcome and give him time to work his magic. He will bring changes where they are due and he will assist you in any other areas that are difficult to change for any reason.

**AQUARIUS:** You are on the verge of a brand new cycle and you can actually achieve this week something you have long desired. Your boss Uranus is settled in earthy Taurus and will not take no for any answer. Go for your goal, it's a good time.

**PISCES:** Life has been a bit uneasy of late for some of you while for others of your sign it may seem downright troublesome. Now that a lot of planets are in your cousin sign of Scorpio it's time to let others do their bit. This week is time for you to let go and enjoy life and make ready for a busy holiday season.

**The British Weekly Sudoku by Myles Mellor #415**

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

**Solution Sudoku #414**

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

**The British Weekly Crossword by Myles Mellor. #415**

**Across**

- 1 Pay attention to (4)
- 3 Lofty pursuit (8)
- 9 Saved (7)
- 10 Some change (5)
- 11 Golden state dwellers (12)
- 14 Tear (3)
- 16 Type of TV service (5)
- 17 Royal wish (3)
- 18 Unstoppable (12)
- 21 Credo (5)
- 22 Destructive windstorm (7)
- 23 Getting hitched (8)
- 24 At this point (4)

**Down**

- 1 Very loyal (4-4)
- 2 Stand (5)
- 4 Rental item (3)
- 5 Building design and creation (12)
- 6 Periods when strikes are called (7)
- 7 Can't help but (4)
- 8 Enough (12)
- 12 Jewish leader (5)
- 13 Wrapper (8)
- 15 Associate (7)
- 19 Steady (5)
- 20 Express-checkout unit (4)
- 22 Bart Simpson's age (3)

**Solution to Puzzle 414**

1	L	2	L	3	A	4	U	5	P	6	P			
7	L	I	N	E	U	P	8	S	Y	R	I	A	N	
	M	A		P		H		I		R				
9	O	P	E	D	10	O	V	E	R	S	E	A	S	
				E		I		R		O		D		
11	12	S	T	A	R	I	N	G	13	S	N	A	I	L
		R				T		A						G
15		T	A	S	T	Y	16	P	R	E	S	U	M	E
		V		R			19	C		C		T		
20		R	E	S	E	A	R	C	H	21	A	F	A	R
		L		N		O		A		N		R		
22		F	E	N	C	E	S	24	I	N	D	I	A	N
		D		H		S		C		S		B		

## Go Green...Go Grey

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Help Save an Endangered  
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of weeks, but don't forget Thanksgiving is coming up and most businesses close for a day or two for the holiday.

**Fun in Beverly Hills**  
I decided to celebrate



**SPOT THE COLUMNIST:** Eileen having fun at The Scenario Studio

Regular readers will be aware that it is 'open enrollment' season, which means we have a brief window to sign up or change our health insurance plans.

This year I am feeling rather pleased with myself as I haven't left it until the last minute for once! I heeded our advice and went over my options with Christine at **Beach Financial Group**, which I highly recommend you

do too if you still struggle with remembering the difference between your co-pays and deductibles, which are known as your 'excess' in the UK. BFG don't charge for the consultations and it won't inflate your premiums either. I was delighted to learn that my plan has actually decreased by \$100 per month! The deadline to sign up is December 15th so you still have a couple

my 'windfall' with lunch and a wander in the shopping district of Beverly Hills. They already have their Christmas decorations up along the iconic Rodeo Drive and have a diverse range of festive performances and entertainment lined up for the next few weeks - from strolling carolers, to acrobatics and dance at popular crosswalks on Rodeo, and the Paley Center is hosting free screenings of holiday classics from their archives along with hot cocoa!

My personal favorite attraction was The Scenario Studio: "A Photomuseum Experience" at the bottom of Rodeo Drive. It's an array of interactive photo sets designed by the photographer John Ganun. We got to dress up in winter coats dusted with fake snow, for a traditional Christmassy shot, but I think the definite winner was the camouflage set, which is right by the door as you walk in. They provide all of the costumes and props and have staff on hand to take photos for you on your cameras. It



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**ONE OF A KIND:** Friends gathered at Crustacean this week to honor the beautiful and ageless Kerstin Alm (seated, far right) a founding member of Brits in LA

is really silly but tons of fun. Best of all, it is again all FREE!. Visit [www.thescenariostudio.com](http://www.thescenariostudio.com) for more details. And [LoveBeverlyHills.com](http://LoveBeverlyHills.com) for their winter

calendar, it's well worth a trip and I do think it actually made me think that it is actually starting to feel a bit like Christmas... I think next on my list is the Winter

Market at Yamashiro and then Craig and I are considering organizing an ice skating night down at Pershing Square, so we will keep you posted in

**CONT/**

case you want to join us.

Before I go I must give a special mention and big thank you to fellow Brit Christine Peake. She organized a fantastic gathering earlier this week at Crustacean in Beverly Hills (again!) to honor one of our founding members Kerstin Alm, who many of you know as 'Mamarazzi'. Kerstin is moving off to an 'old people's place', (her words not mine) in San Pedro, so she won't be too far away, but we saw it as a good opportunity to show her how much we all love and care for her. Massive thank yous to everyone who came along and made such a lovely fuss of her.

Lastly, we have a competition for you! The LA Phil have given us a pair of tickets to give away to A Tribute to Oliver Knussen at the Walt Disney Concert Hall on December 10th. Email us at [info@britsin.la](mailto:info@britsin.la) to put your name in the hat. Winner will be selected at random and notified via email on December 4th. Make sure to include your name on your photo ID!

That's also the email address to use if you have any comments, questions or suggestions, please do get in touch as we always enjoy hearing from you.

Happy Thanksgiving to all...

Eileen

## Meet A Member: Sera Golding-Young

*Meet Sera Golding-Young from the UK who moved to LA five years ago to pursue music*

### Was there a particular reason you chose LA?

It was all such a magical experience. I'd never thought about moving here but I remember going on holiday to Brazil and as I watched the plane map, we began to go south and I had the strangest feeling like I was flying in the wrong direction and wanted to head to the US. A little later down the line I had a psychic reading that talked about me making an album in America. Then one day a few years later, my wife and I were making our way through a bottle of wine or two and received a sales email about SYNC CON, a conference in Hollywood focused on placing music in films/TV/commercials. There and then we decided to book to go, woke up the next morning and remembered we were on our way to LA! The minute we got here we knew it was the place we were meant to be and so we moved here and never looked back. Thank God for wine!

### What do you miss most from home?

Obviously people most importantly. I love the food here but there are certain things that I can't wait to get back to when we go back to England - proper sausages, roast dinners, and good chocolate! And I also really miss how green it is at home, that is so refreshing.

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

The first three days we spent inside the Hollywood Roosevelt hotel performing at the conference and didn't see daylight. When we finally got outside all we saw was Hollywood Boulevard which is perhaps not the best part of LA! But there's a magic to this place that we immediately felt. Since we've spent more time here, for me it's all about the incredible nature spots - the hiking, the beach, driving out to spots like Idylwild and Palm Springs - we're so lucky to have such a range of dramatic scenery that is like nothing I'd ever seen before. I think (and hope) I will find it

forever inspiring.

### What do you find the biggest difference is living here versus Guildford?

I love that there's always something (usually something weird and wonderful) to do. I love the music scene and how you can walk into a bar and see some of the greatest musicians ever. There's also something very cutting edge about California in terms of evolutionary thought leaders and teachers - it's an inspirational place to be.

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

Honestly my favourite place is at the top of any of the hiking spots! That's where I'd always take anyone visiting, even after five years I still find it so mind-blowing that there's such incredible hiking and nature in the middle of a city. One of my favourites is where we shot the music video to our song 'Fly' in Topanga. Its just the most beautiful spot and the video came out absolutely stunning.

### What would you suggest to others who



UNSUNGLILY: Sera (left) and Frankie

### are thinking about making the move here?

If it feels right, do it. It's not an easy town though - only do it if you feel called to. Especially as a music artiste, whilst it feels like the obvious spot to go, there's a lot of competition and everyone is incredible at what they do!

LA also can be such a transient town so at times it's hard to truly connect with people. However it's also full of magic and everyone you meet seems to lead to something wonderful, so that alone makes it worth it to me.

### 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?

I saw a piece of street art on Fountain Avenue the other day that said... 'Johnny Carson asked

Bette Davis "what is the best way an aspiring actress could get into Hollywood?" Ms Davis said, "Take Fountain". It made me giggle, and is so true. Route planning is probably the most important aspect of keeping your sanity here!!

Lastly, how can we find out more about you? Are you working on anything at the moment? My wife and I create epic and soulful power pop music together.

Our band is Unsung Lilly. We have a new single coming out called 'Demons' on Nov 21 and have a celebratory gig that evening at the Peppermint Club in West Hollywood. We'd love to see you there!

You can find us on all social media and streaming sites as @unsunglilly

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Lottery Thistle fan completes takeover

A SCOTTISH man who scooped a £161m EuroMillions lottery win has completed a takeover at Partick Thistle and plans to gift ownership to fans next year.

Colin Weir, 71, has purchased a majority shareholding and a holding in land at the club's Firhill Stadium.

The lifelong supporter will immediately give the land back to the Scottish Championship club.

His 55% shareholding will then go to a fan group being developed, based on the Well Society model at Motherwell.

The free transfer of shares will happen "no later than the 30 March 2020".

Weir has already invested around £2.5m of his £161m lottery win

from 2011 in the Glasgow club and previously set aside £6m for a new training ground.

But he withdrew his support in August citing "uncertainties" about a mooted takeover by a foreign consortium.

An interim board will be established "comprising of a mix of experienced business people and fan representatives", while a working group is to be set up jointly by the PTFC Trust and Thistle for Ever organisations to create the body that will receive the shareholding.

The land purchased from Firhill Developments is the south terrace area and main stand and it will revert back to full Thistle ownership after 10 years under the terms of the

deal.

"Thistle for Ever planted the thought of fan ownership as a real option in my mind," said Weir in a statement.

"But this has all happened quicker than anyone might have anticipated. That's why I have offered a three to four month window for fans to get everything in place before handing over shares.

"They want to get it right and I want to be sure that when the new entity is operational, there is a structure that will allow for a smooth transfer of ownership. This is a major financial commitment on my part as fan owners will not need to repay a penny - but I believe this gives fan ownership the best possible start."

No one to fear in play-offs, says McCarthy

Mick McCarthy says the Republic of Ireland have no-one to fear in the play-offs after his side fell agonisingly short of automatic Euro 2020 qualification following a draw with Denmark at the Aviva Stadium.

The Irish created plenty of chances with one of their best performances in recent years, but Matt Doherty's 85th-minute equaliser came too late as they chased the win they needed.

Martin Braithwaite got in behind Doherty to stab home Henrik Dalsgaard's cross and open the scoring from Denmark's first shot on target - one of only two they had in the game.

The point means the Republic of Ireland finished third in Group D and will meet Slovakia in the play-offs, which take place next March.

"The players will go back to their clubs and we don't have a game until March. I'll be getting round them and reminding them it has been a good campaign and that we can play like that, so why not play like that in March?"

The Irish will rue their finishing against Denmark, with Conor Hourihane missing a glorious chance in the first half.

Doherty's header from Enda Stevens' cross set up a thrilling finale in a deafening atmosphere but they could not create that one last chance they needed.

The Irish players collapsed to the ground at the final whistle knowing they had given everything - as their fans gave them a standing ovation despite falling just short in the end.

"I am immensely proud of the players," McCarthy added on Sky Sports. "They pushed them right to the limit.

If my players and my team leave everything on the pitch I will take the result as it comes so I will have to take the defeat.

"You just need that bit of luck. We had opportunities but I am not going to criticise the lads - they have been brilliant. We lost one game out of eight. I'm very proud of them."

Tuesday Results

Table of Tuesday Results including International Match Ecuador (0) vs Colombia (1), Emirates FA Cup First Round Replays, and various league matches like Lincoln C (0) vs Ipswich (0).

Monday Results

Table of Monday Results including European Championship Qualifying Group D, Gibraltar (0) vs Switzerland (1), and various league matches like Rep of Ire (0) vs Denmark (0).

Wednesday Results

Table of Wednesday Results including European Championship Qualifying - Group C, Group E, Group G, and various league matches like GERMANY (2) vs IRELAND (1).

Weekend Football Results

Large table of Weekend Football Results covering European Championship Qualifying, Sky Bet League Two, and various international and domestic league matches.

## England stroll to Kosovo win

England concluded their successful Euro 2020 qualifying campaign with a 4-0 victory over Kosovo this week that ensures they will be among the top six seeds in next summer's tournament.

Despite the emphatic scoreline, it was an unconvincing performance by Gareth Southgate's side but they were still able to end as comfortable winners in a remarkable atmosphere in Pristina.

It was a celebratory occasion where the visitors' received a heroes' welcome as icons in this country and for the part the United Kingdom played in its 1999 liberation following the Kosovo war.

Needing to avoid defeat to make sure they are in the top pot when the draw is made, England took a first-half lead as Harry Winks produced a composed finish for his first international goal.

Captain Harry Kane effectively wrapped things up with his 32nd

GROUP A					
	P	W	D	L	P
ENGLAND (Q)	8	7	0	1	
CZECH REP (Q)	8	5	0	3	
KOSOVO (PO)	8	3	2	3	
BULGARIA	8	1	3	4	
MONTENEGRO	8	0	3	5	

goal for England from close range late on - maintaining a superb record of scoring in all eight qualifiers, before substitute Marcus Rashford got in on the act with a smooth finish.

Mason Mount rounded things off in the closing moments for his first goal for his country at senior level.

Kosovo, who were out of automatic qualifying contention but still played with great heart, had opportunities to make it even more of a gala night when trailing by a single goal but missed the chances that presented themselves, captain Amir Rrahmani headed wide of an open goal and Valon Berisha was inches off target.

England, however scrappy in spells, got the job done and can now start planning for Euro 2020.

## Heavy German defeat unimportant - O'Neill

Michael O'Neill has said that Northern Ireland's heavy 6-1 defeat in Germany will have no impact on their Euro 2020 play-off against Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Serge Gnabry scored a hat-trick, Leon Goretzka got two and Julian Brandt was on target after Michael Smith had opened the scoring in Frankfurt.

Despite the score, O'Neill was pleased with how his side performed - with several key players missing.

"This game will have no bearing on the play-offs whatsoever," said

O'Neill.

"Ultimately, we were punished by the quality of the opposition. We are asking League One players to come and play against Champions League players."

Blackpool's Jordan Thompson and Sunderland's Tom Flanagan were handed their first competitive starts with Jonny Evans, Stuart Dallas and Jamal Lewis all missing from the matchday squad.

"I thought there were several positive aspects in the first half but ultimately we were missing five or six players," added O'Neill.

## Bale should head back to Spurs, fumes former Madrid supremo

Former Real Madrid president Ramon Calderon believes a return to Tottenham Hotspur would be the ideal solution to Gareth Bale's troubles in Spain.

Calderon expects Bale, 30, to be booed at the Bernabeu after he celebrated Wales' Euro 2020 qualification behind a flag saying "Wales. Golf. Madrid. In that order".

Calderon says if Bale knew what was written on the flag it was "childish".

Moving to Spurs "would be a good solution for everyone", added Calderon.

Former Real manager Jose Mourinho has succeeded Mauricio Pochettino as Spurs manager and Calderon believes Bale could go back to north London, where he spent six seasons before his then-world record move to Madrid in 2013.

"It's true that Mourinho likes the player," Calderon told BBC Radio Wales. "He said that in 2017 when he tried to sign (him) for Manchester United and Real Madrid decided to extend the contract of Gareth Bale.

"I remember him saying 'if he is by the exit door, I will be waiting on the other side', so maybe it's a solution."

## Scotland 'optimistic' ahead of Euro 2020 playoffs

Scotland can be "very optimistic" as they look forward to the Euro 2020 play-offs, says manager Steve Clarke, after his side beat Kazakhstan 3-1.

John McGinn's double and a Steven Naismith goal helped Scotland come from behind to earn a fourth win in eight and finish third in the group.

Their opponents in the play offs - Bulgaria, Hungary,



**A LITTLE EXTRA?** Spanish media reacted angrily to the banner displayed by Gareth Bale as Wales celebrated reaching Euro 2020

GROUP E					
	P	W	D	L	Pts
CROATIA (Q)	8	5	2	1	17
HUNGARY	7	4	0	3	12
WALES	7	3	2	2	11
SLOVAKIA	7	3	1	3	10
AZERBAIJAN	7	0	1	6	1

Bale has been criticised in Spain for his love of golf and for prioritising Wales over his club.

The four-time Champions League winner came close to joining Chinese side Jiangsu Suning in July only for Real to call off the transfer.

Asked whether Bale is now destined to move on, Calderon added: "The problem is there are no offers.

"It happened last summer when (Real manager Zinedine) Zidane said the sooner he leaves, the better. I think he was a bit fed up with

the situation. Apparently only one club from China wanted to sign him.

"The salary is high, that's another problem. It's going to be something that the club, the agent and the player must decide."

Bale has been heavily criticised in the Spanish press over the flag celebration, which followed Wales' decisive 2-0 win over Hungary on Tuesday.

There was also consternation in Spain over Bale's return to Wales action in Azerbaijan last Saturday, as he had not played for Real since picking up an injury while with his country in the October international break.

"We don't if he knew what was on that banner," Calderon said.

"If he knew, it's clear that this was something childish but maybe he didn't.

"Maybe he was involved in the celebrations with other team-mates and he did that unwittingly, not trying to offend anyone or disrespect anyone. The problem is that picture has added fuel to the fire.

"You have to bear in mind that for fans it's a bit weird. They are angry because the player has gone around 50 days without playing for Real Madrid, missing six matches, and then suddenly they have seen him playing for Wales - very well by the way.

"That's been really the trouble, not just the banner but a combination of things."

I'm hoping it spreads to the supporters and the media."

Scotland failed to qualify automatically after finishing third in Group I behind Belgium and Russia. However, Clarke's men could be as little as 180 minutes away from a first major finals since 1998.

They are guaranteed home advantage for the one-off semi-final on 26

March after topping their earlier Nations League section, and Clarke is hoping to see Hampden at its best for one of the nation's biggest games in recent memory.

"The place will be full, I'm sure it will be," he said. "We've shown we can be a good team here. If we can get a good atmosphere and play on the front foot, we can be OK."

# Upbeat Mourinho takes Spurs hot seat

## ■ Portuguese makes return to Premier League following sudden sacking of Pochettino

José Mourinho described himself as happy and humble in his first press conference as Tottenham Hotspur manager and promised not to make the same mistakes at the club that he did in previous roles.

The 56-year-old, who replaced Mauricio Pochettino this week, insisted that he had learnt from his troubled spell at Manchester United but added that he did not need to be friends with his players in order to have a successful team.

The Portuguese replaced Mauricio Pochettino, who was fired by the North London club on Tuesday after five and a half years following a dismal start to the season. The news was confirmed in a Spurs club statement on Tuesday, with chairman Daniel Levy saying: "We were extremely reluctant to make this change and it is not a decision the Board has taken lightly, nor in haste. Regrettably domestic results at the end of last season and beginning of this season have been extremely disappointing."

The Argentinian departs with Spurs lying 14th in the Premier

League table on 14 points after 12 games.

Since beating Leicester City 3-1 on February 10, Tottenham have won just six times in 24 matches in the English top flight, and they are currently on a five-game winless run in the league.

Pochettino led Tottenham to their first UEFA Champions League final back in June, which they lost 2-0 to Liverpool, but the club's hierarchy clearly think that was merely papering over some fundamental cracks.

Early in the 2019-20 season, there have been issues off the field as well as on, not least the seeming disinterest of players like Christian Eriksen, Jan Vertonghen and Toby Alderweireld, who have all been linked with exits. But the manager so beloved of Spurs fans also oversaw one of the most successful periods in Tottenham's history and established the club as Champions League regulars, securing four top four finishes in his five years in charge.

But the past was barely spoken of on Thursday as Mourinho gave his first press conference in charge. Speaking to a packed room, he said

that he wanted to retain the same style he has employed at previous clubs — with tweaks — and that he does not need funds for players in the January transfer window, joking that he already has the best Christmas gift he could ask for with the players at his disposal. The Portuguese head coach tried to sign several members of the squad in the past, including Eric Dier and Harry Kane.

"The best gift are the ones [players] that are here," Mourinho said. "I don't need players. I am happy with the ones that we have."

There was no point-scoring or negative comments on his return to management 11 months after being sacked by Manchester United. "I'm not going to make the same mistakes," Mourinho said. "I'm going to make new mistakes. I'm going to be stronger."

"From an emotional point of view I'm relaxed, motivated and ready and I think the players felt that these two days. I'm ready and I'm here to support them. In life you go through periods like this, where it's not about myself, it's about my



**STILL SPECIAL?** "I'm not going to make the same mistakes," Mourinho said. "I'm going to make new mistakes. I'm going to be stronger."

players and my club.

"I am humble, humble enough to try and analyse my career — not just the

last year but the whole thing, the evolution, the problems and the solutions. Not to blame

anyone else. It was a great thing. I went really deep with that analysis. A break was very positive for me."



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7am Arsenal vs Southampton  
7am Crystal Palace vs Liverpool  
7am Everton vs Norwich  
9.30am Man City vs Chelsea

### Sun 11/24 English Premier League

8.30am Sheffield Utd vs Manchester United

### National Football League

10am Raiders vs Jets  
10am Panthers vs Saints  
10am Lions vs Redskins  
10am Dolphins vs Browns  
10am Buccaneers vs Falcons  
10am Seahawks vs Eagles  
10am Steelers vs Bengals  
10am Giants vs Bears  
10am Broncos vs Bills

1pm Jaguars vs Titans  
125pm Cowboys vs Patriots  
520pm Packers vs 49ers

### Mon 11/25 English Premier League

Noon Aston Villa vs Newcastle

### National Football League

5.20pm Ravens vs Rams

### Tue 11/26 Champions League

Noon Real Madrid vs PSG  
Noon Juventus vs Atletico Madrid

### Wed 11/26 Champions League

TBC

### Thurs 11/27 Europa League

TBC



**HE'S STILL MAGIC, YOU KNOW:** Mauricio Pochettino was fired by the North London club on Tuesday after five and a half years in charge