



**Boris to EU: play ball or no deal- page 3**

# CANADA TO HARRY: NO MORE SECURITY CASH

**“The Duke and Duchess of Sussex proudly declared that they would work to become financially independent.....  
“It is a pledge that must be fulfilled.”**

**The Duke and Duchess of Sussex will lose their Canadian security in the next few weeks, it was revealed on Friday.**

Raising again the question of how the couple will keep their police protection, the Canadian government said it would no longer pay for their security.

The duke and duchess, who are based at present on Vancouver Island, will cease to be working members of the royal family on March 31. Harry is now in Britain as he and Meghan prepare to carry out the last of their engagements.

Critics have said that British taxpayers should not continue to fund their security when they live abroad and are no longer working royals.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) has been providing security since November but Bill Blair, the public safety minister, has said that will stop. His office said in a statement:

“The Duke and Duchess of Sussex choosing to relocate to Canada on a part-time basis presented a unique and unprecedented set of circumstances.

### **obligation**

“The RCMP has been engaged with officials in the UK from the very beginning regarding security considerations. As the duke and duchess are currently recognised as internationally protected persons, Canada has an obligation to provide security assistance.

“At the request of the Metropolitan Police, the RCMP has been providing assistance to the Met since the arrival of the duke and duchess to Canada intermittently since November 2019. The assistance will cease in the coming weeks,

in keeping with their change in status.”

The cost of the couple’s security has been estimated at up to £6 million per year. Norman Baker, a former Liberal Democrat MP who wrote a book on royal finances, has said that their move to Canada could send the costs “through the roof”.

A poll showed this month that 77 per cent of Canadians opposed paying the bill because the Sussexes were not in the country to represent the monarchy.

### **‘effective security’**

Caroline Pidgeon, a Lib Dem London assembly member, said the cost must not fall on Scotland Yard. “The Duke and Duchess of Sussex proudly declared that they would work to become financially



The Canadian government has announced that will stop paying for Meghan and Harry’s protection when they stop being working royals

independent,” she said. “It is a pledge . . . that must be fulfilled.”

Although Harry and Meghan have dropped their claim to be internationally protected persons, they have implied that an agreement has been reached. A statement on their website said: “It is agreed that the Duke and Duchess of Sussex will continue to require effective security to protect them and their son.

“This is based on the duke’s public profile by virtue of being born into the royal family, his military service,

the duchess’s own independent profile, and the shared threat and risk level.”

British officers have no automatic authority to use police powers or carry firearms abroad, so protection by British police would require negotiations with Canada. The couple may be forced to use private companies for at least some of their needs.

### **security costs**

Decisions on what the UK will provide will be made by the Royal and VIP Executive Committee, a Home Office body.

Royal security costs have soared in recent years and the Met has struggled with a demand to grow its protection unit by 20 per cent.

During their seven-week stay in Canada over Christmas, Harry and Meghan were accompanied at all times by six armed Met officers, from a total deployment of ten.

The concept of internationally protected people dates from a 1973 United Nations convention. It was introduced into British law in the 1978 Internationally Protected Persons Act.

## News From Britain

# Coronavirus: first case caught INSIDE the UK revealed

## ■ Surrey man takes total of cases to 19

THE SPREAD of coronavirus to the UK took an ominous turn on Friday as it emerged the latest patient diagnosed with the disease was the first to catch it in the UK.

At press time it was unclear whether this was directly or indirectly from someone who recently returned from abroad, England's chief medical officer said.

The man is a resident of Surrey who had not been abroad recently himself.

It takes the total number of UK cases to 19 and comes after a British man in his 70s became the first UK citizen to die from the virus.

That man, who lived abroad, had been taken to hospital in Japan after catching coronavirus on the Diamond Princess cruise ship, which was quarantined off the port of Yokohama earlier this month.

Confirming the latest UK case, England's chief medical officer Prof Chris Whitty said the man had been transferred to a specialist NHS infection centre at Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital in central London.

He was a patient at

Haslemere Health Centre in Surrey which has been closed for "deep cleaning" since Friday morning.

Prof Whitty said the case was being investigated and contact tracing has begun.

The Department of Health and Social Care said the virus was passed on in the UK but the original source was "unclear" and there was no "immediately identifiable link" to overseas travel.

### 'close contact'

Public Health England said it was working with Surrey County Council to contact people who had "close contact" with the latest coronavirus case.

Prof Jonathan Ball, from the University of Nottingham, said the latest case marks a "new chapter for the UK" and that it is "crucial" to understand the infection's origin.

"This was always a concern - this is a virus that frequently causes symptoms very similar to mild flu or a common cold, and it's easily transmitted from person

to person. This means it can easily go under the radar," the virology expert added.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson, who is due to chair an emergency Cobra committee meeting on Monday, said preparing for an outbreak in the UK was now the government's "top priority".

### criticism

When asked if the government should have acted sooner for Britons on the cruise ship, he said it had been following the "best medical advice" about not repatriating people unless it was certain there would not be a spread to the UK.

Mr Johnson has also faced criticism from Labour for waiting until Monday to hold the government Cobra meeting.

But he said he had been working behind the scenes, meeting with the health secretary and chief medical officers to discuss the NHS's preparations.

Hundreds of guests have been confined to the H10 Costa Adeje Palace in Tenerife after



at least four tourists were diagnosed with coronavirus.

Six Britons were among those told by Spanish authorities that they could leave on Friday

because they had arrived at the hotel on Monday - after those who tested positive had been taken to hospital.

Earlier three more cases of the virus were confirmed

in the UK, including the first one in Wales.

Two new patients in England contracted the virus while in Iran, the Department of Health and Social Care said.

## We are ready, insists Health Secretary

MATT Hancock this week said the Government was taking "all necessary measures" as he outlined the action being taken to minimise the risk to the public from the coronavirus outbreak.

In a Commons statement, the Health Secretary said a "clear four-part plan" to "contain, delay, research and mitigate" the spread of the disease had been

drawn up. Appealing for calm, he also insisted that schools with suspected cases of the illness did not need to close.

He said: "Our advice is for everyone to take sensible precautions, such as using tissues and washing hands more.

"Plans are in place in case of the virus becoming a pandemic, but it is not yet certain that that will happen.

"We aim to contain the

virus both abroad and here, and prevent it from becoming a pandemic, while of course ensuring that plans are in place should that happen."

Mr Hancock, who also chaired a meeting of the emergency Whitehall "Cobra" committee of ministers, officials and medical experts, said 7,132 people in the UK had been tested for the virus by Tuesday, with 13 testing

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# PM THREATENS EU: PLAY BALL OR IT'S NO-DEAL!

**Boris Johnson has threatened to walk away from Brexit talks in June if significant progress has not been made.**

The prime minister has also rejected European demands to submit to independent oversight of Britain's laws. In a hardening of the government's position, senior officials said that he would not allow disputes over the UK's future employment, environmental and state aid rules to go to binding arbitration in a free trade deal.

Mr Johnson had previously rejected Brussels' proposals to follow existing EU rules after Brexit, but insisted that Britain would retain high standards.

## high standards

The tougher stance will exacerbate fears in Europe that "populists" in the government are winning the prime minister over to collapsing the talks and blaming Brussels.

Michael Gove, the Cabinet Office minister, who formally launched the negotiating mandate, said that while Britain would maintain high standards it would not submit to EU ground rules. "The government seeks a free trade agreement with

robust protections for the environment and labour standards," he said.

"But we do not see why the test of suitability in these areas should be adherence to EU law and submission to EU models of governance."

He added that Brussels had never sought to apply those principles to the free trade agreements that it had previously signed and that they "should not apply to a sovereign UK".

## 'broad outline'

Mr Gove dismissed the EU's argument that stricter measures were necessary because the UK was closer to the EU than countries such as Canada. "Geography is no reason to undermine democracy," he added.

He also set a four-month deadline to agree the "broad outline" of a deal. If that failed, he said that ministers would decide whether to walk away from the talks to "focus solely" on preparing the country for a no-deal Brexit.

Angela Merkel, the German chancellor, is expected to play a key role in sorting out Brexit as she takes over the rotating EU presidency in July.

Privately, Berlin and Paris expect the trade talks to miss the end of June deadline set in the

joint political declaration and predict a "dramatic crisis" over the summer. "It will be the top priority for the Germans at the end of September into early October, there will be a lot of drama," a European ambassador said. "It will be extremely difficult."

The European Commission played down the British threat to walk away. "This is probably a very fair timeline to take for the UK," they said.

The government has also conceded that it cannot be part of the European arrest warrant after Brexit. Some European countries, such as Germany, have a constitutional ban on extraditing their citizens to countries outside of the EU, which would make participation impossible. Britain is expected to try to form bilateral agreements with those that can. Downing Street said that the government was seeking a better arrangement than the European arrest warrant.

## 'top priority'

The prime minister's spokesman said: "The safety and security of our citizens is the government's top priority, which is why we have said the agreement with the EU should provide



**LOSING SLEEP?** Boris Johnson visited the Connection at St Martin's, a charity for the homeless in central London on Thursday

for fast-track extradition arrangements based on the EU's arrangements with Norway and Iceland. These arrangements would include greater safeguards than those which are within the European arrest warrant."

## The sticking points

Environmental and labour laws: The government says that it will not "weaken or reduce the level of protection" in labour and environmental standards. Brussels wants Britain to maintain the EU's present environmental and labour laws under the "level playing field provisions". It also wants a mechanism by which, if EU laws

become stricter, Britain would keep up — known as "dynamic alignment".

## State aid

The government wants its own state aid regime, which should "not be subject to the agreement's dispute resolution mechanism". Brussels wants the UK to abide by all parts of its regime and case law and be bound by rulings of the European Court of Justice (ECJ) in this area.

## Fishing

The government is suggesting annual negotiations to decide how much access EU fishing fleets can have to

British waters. Brussels is insisting that "existing reciprocal access to fishing waters and quota shares" and "current distribution keys for fishing opportunities" are maintained.

## Financial services

Britain wants "legally binding obligations on market access" for financial services and fair competition. The EU is insisting that access is a unilateral matter outside any trade agreement. It could offer UK financial services firms the ability to operate in the EU — but with power to shut down such access with three months' notice.

## Coronavirus:

cont. from page two

positive for the infection. He told MPs: "We have a clear four-part plan to respond to this disease: contain, delay, research and mitigate.

"We are taking all necessary measures to minimise the risk to the public."

Enhanced monitoring measures are in place at all UK airports while

health information is available at ports, airports and international train stations, he said. An isolation facility had been set up at Heathrow Airport to cater for international passengers showing symptoms of the virus.

Mr Hancock said: "The NHS is testing a very large number of people who have travelled back from affected countries, the vast majority of

whom test negative.

"In the past few days, we have published guidance for schools, employers, first responders, social care and the travel industry on how to handle suspected cases.

"If anyone has been in contact with a suspected case in a childcare or educational setting, no special measures are required while test results are awaited."



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## News From Britain

# Queen 'upset and saddened' as royal feud rumbles on

■ As Harry and Meghan express disappointment at not being able use the word 'royal', critics say couple are 'petulant and passive aggressive'

THE Queen was said to be "upset and saddened" this week after an extraordinary bout of feuding over the future of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex.

Her frustration was made clear after Harry and Meghan were criticized for releasing a statement stressing their disappointment at her refusal to allow them to use the word "royal" in their business and charity activities. As critics rounded on the couple and accused them of being "petulant and passive aggressive," royal sources said the Queen had tried her best to accommodate them while maintaining the reputation of the monarchy.

## 'bitter feuding'

A source close to the Royal Family said yesterday: "She's just extremely disappointed that it's turned out like this. I think she is upset and saddened by it all".

On Sunday the Queen, 93, appeared tired as she rode alone in the back of a chauffeur-driven car to a chapel in Windsor. The bitter feuding was made public on Friday when Harry and Meghan posted a hostile statement on their website which was widely attacked for being discourteous to the Queen. Ordered to drop the word royal from their Sussex Royal brand the couple appeared to hit back, saying the Queen did not have a monopoly on the word. The statement read: "While there is not any jurisdiction by the

monarchy or Cabinet Office over the use of the word 'royal' overseas, the Duke and Duchess of Sussex do not intend to use Sussex Royal or any iteration of the word royal in any territory, either with in the UK or otherwise when the transition occurs spring 2020."

The couple have insisted on keeping their HRH titles, although they have vowed not to actively use them. It is understood the ban on using the word royal was made after the Queen's advisers consulted lawyers.

## compromise

Harry and Meghan spent a small fortune developing the Sussex Royal brand and the economic impact is likely to be huge. After initial fury inside the Royal Family over the couple's decision to jump the gun and announce their plan to quit their public duties before it had been agreed, the Queen set out to accommodate the couple. Her Majesty, who had admonished them for their behaviour towards staff at times, had also tried to keep them happy last year. In Windsor she regularly popped around to see them at Frogmore Cottage. When they said they wanted to quit she was keen to find a compromise that would keep them within the fold. But despite an early intention to cut a generous deal, it quickly became apparent that it was just not possible for the Sussexes to do what they wanted and stay

within the fold.

There was at least one topic where both sides agreed – a decision that leaves the taxpayer with a possible £6million a year bill to protect the couple and their son Archie. Harry and Meghan will keep their team of SAS-trained Scotland Yard bodyguards when their public duties cease in a few weeks. The couple said in a statement: "It is agreed that the Duke and Duchess of Sussex will continue to require effective security to protect them and their son.

"This is based on the Duke's public profile by virtue of being born into the Royal Family, his military service, the Duchess's own



**STANDOFF:** The Duke and Duchess have insisted on keeping their HRH titles, although they have vowed not to actively use them

independent profile, and the shared threat and risk level documented specifically over the last few years."

But Friday's news that Canada will not pay for the security posed a

thorny problem moving forward. Charging the British taxpayer for the protection is no longer possible and it is thought too large a sum for the Queen to manage out of her own purse.

Experts agree that only the Metropolitan Police's close protection officers are up to the job. They have access to the latest intelligence from MI5, MI6 and other intelligence agencies.

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# Trump wealth order probe urged over Scottish golf resorts

**“We saw patterns of buying and selling that we thought were suggestive of money laundering”**

Scotland’s first minister has been urged to use unexplained wealth orders to investigate how Donald Trump paid for his Scottish golf resorts.

Scottish Greens co-leader Patrick Harvie said the US Congress had heard concerns about possible money laundering involving some of the president’s business deals.

He claimed there were “big questions” over Mr Trump’s dealings in Scotland.

Mr Trump’s son Eric said the claims had “no basis in fact”.

He accused Mr Harvie of making “disgusting statements” that were “reckless, irresponsible and unbecoming for a member of the Scottish Parliament”.

And he said the Green politician had “long expressed deep-seated animus to the Trump Organisation”, which he said had “invested hundreds of millions of dollars in Scotland while

creating thousands of jobs”.

Donald Trump opened his controversial golf course on the Menie estate in Aberdeenshire in 2012, before purchasing the Turnberry golf resort in Ayrshire in 2014 - into which the Trump Organisation claimed to have invested about £150m within the first two years.

An inquiry by the House of Representatives into allegations about possible links between Mr Trump and Russia heard allegations that Turnberry may have been used for money laundering - a claim that Mr Trump has always strongly denied.

An unexplained wealth order (UWO) is a type of order issued by a UK court to compel someone to reveal the sources of their unexplained wealth.

It was introduced to target suspected corrupt foreign officials who have potentially laundered stolen money through the UK.

The first unexplained wealth order was issued in 2018 to Zamira Hajiyeva, the wife of Jahangir Hajiyev, the former chairman of the International Bank of Azerbaijan, who spent £16m in Harrods.

The media has sometimes nicknamed UWOs “McMafia laws” - after the BBC crime drama about a Russian crime family living in London.

Speaking in the Scottish Parliament on Thursday, Mr Harvie said the purchase of Menie and the Turnberry golf resort were part of Mr Trump’s “huge cash spending spree in the midst of a global financial crisis”.

Mr Harvie said that the House of Representatives had heard testimony which stated: “We saw patterns of buying and selling that we thought were suggestive of money laundering” - with particular concern expressed about Mr Trump’s golf courses in Scotland and Ireland.

He added: “Trump’s



Mr Harvie said there were questions over how Mr. Trump had funded his investments in Scotland



The Trump Organization owns the golf resorts at Turnberry in Ayrshire and Menie in Aberdeenshire

known sources of income don’t explain where the money came from for these huge cash transactions.

“There are reasonable grounds for suspecting that his lawfully obtained

income was insufficient.

“Scottish ministers can apply via the Court of Session for an unexplained wealth order, a tool designed for precisely these kinds of situations.”

The orders can be issued by the courts to compel their target to reveal the source of funding, and are often used to tackle suspected international money laundering.

## Actor Michael Medwin dead at 96

ACTOR Michael Medwin, whose supporting roles on TV and film made him instantly recognisable, died this week aged 96. He was best known as radio station boss Don Satchley of late-Seventies TV detective drama Shoestring.

Medwin (pictured) was born in London and trained for the theatre at the Italia Conti school in London, and made his acting debut in Where the Rainbow Ends at the New theatre in 1940.

After a busy period on stage, he had a couple of walk-on parts in the films Piccadilly Incident (1946) and The Root of All Evil (1947), before the director



Herbert Wilcox cast him as Edward Courtney in the glamorous and highly successful The Courtneys of Curzon Street. Medwin was up and running in the heyday of postwar British cinema, notching up around 20 roles in five years.

Later film roles

included a theatre surgeon in Anderson’s Britannia Hospital (1982), a doctor in the Bond saga Never Say Never Again (1983), a producer in Hôtel du Paradis (1986) and a speechmaker in The Duchess (2008).

In 2010, playing Paris, he was the oldest cast member of a Bristol Old Vic production of Romeo and Juliet that starred the 76-year-old Siân Phillips as Juliet and Michael Byrne, in his late 60s, as Romeo.

He was appointed OBE in 2005 for services to drama.

His marriage to Sunny Sheila Back ended in divorce in 1971.

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# Stargazing with Annie Shaw



**ARIES:** Now is a good time to get ready for putting your financial goal for Spring at the top of your to-do list. Do not think that because it's been dormant for a while past that you can not start afresh.

**TAURUS:** You could be feeling nervous about your future finances this coming week. This is due to your boss planet Venus in Pisces. Do not be vague on how to improve this area – it's time to take control.

**GEMINI:** Your boss planet Mercury is really moving slowly backwards now. This is a good time to catch up with distant friends and unfinished business of every kind. Next week is lighter all round.

**CANCER:** Be strong now and do not let anything stop you from completion in anything outstanding. Your moods always change quickly and so gravitate to friends and others who will support you in all ways.

**LEO:** You should be starting to feel more upbeat and ready to take on the world. It's not been a settled time in your life of late. However as you should know nothing lasts forever. Onward and upwards.

**VIRGO:** Your life next week may not go in the expected direction. This is due in part to your boss Mercury moving sluggishly. So do not push too hard, let fate take a hand and it will get better by midweek.

**LIBRA:** Any plans set in stone will not be easy to move forward. However if you have patience and foresight you will know nothing will go by you if it's meant for you. You can still make plans, just don't act on them until mid-March.

**SCORPIO:** Life has been at somewhat of a standstill for a few weeks now. While it has not been easy, you of all the signs should and do know nothing lasts forever. You will get a reward very soon, it's on its way.

**SAGITTARIUS:** It's not currently a time to be self-indulgent or indeed to give to others. This is only for a short while and in fact by late next week you will be in a better place overall.

**CAPRICORN:** Life has been throwing you some curve balls this past month. For some it's time to take a break away from family and friends. If you are not the few who can just know that by keeping a low profile it will be better soon.

**AQUARIUS:** By refusing to acknowledge something or someone you are playing a game. This will not be to your advantage now. Be honest as only you can be to yourself and see the difference soon.

**PISCES:** It's the beginning of your new year and Mercury, which deals with all kinds of communication, is strolling slowly backwards in your life. Don't look down...just look life straight in the face. You will have a better month ahead. Happy Birthday!

## The British Weekly Crossword by Myles Mellor. #429

**Across**

- 7 SLR, for one (6)
- 8 Crossword specialty (6)
- 9 Match up (4)
- 10 Beatles album (8)
- 11 Perfect (7)
- 13 Send the ball into the box (5)
- 15 Butterfly, for one (5)
- 17 Durable wood (7)
- 20 Soccer, to a Brit. (8)
- 21 Steeple swinger (4)
- 23 Totaling (6)
- 24 Won't open (6)

**Down**

- 1 Disney dog (4)
- 2 Art material (6)
- 3 Curve at Brands Hatch (7)
- 4 Kitchen appliance (5)
- 5 Cathedral support (6)
- 6 Drivers' needs (8)
- 12 For ever Valentine's Day gift (8)
- 14 Bradley Wiggins, e.g. (7)
- 16 Get to (6)
- 18 Cottontail (6)
- 19 Mark of courage for law enforcement personnel (5)
- 22 "The \_\_\_ House" movie (4)

**Solution to Puzzle #428**

1	C	O	M	M	E	N	T	5	H	U	M	I	7			
	A	O	M	E					A	A			R			
8	M	A	I	L	B	O	X	9	V	E	N	U	E			
	E	S	A		A				O	N			S			
10	L	A	T	E	R			11	N	U	C	L	E	U	S	
					G				S				R		E	
12	P	I	G	E	O	N		14	C	R	I	S	I	S		
	I		A					16	C				U			
17	C	A	R	I	B	O	U	19	S	H	R	U	21	B		
	K		B		L				R		S		A		O	
22	L	E	A	S	E			23	F	A	I	L	I	N	G	
	E		G		E				E		A		N		U	
24	S	P	E	N	D			25	W	O	N		26	Y	E	S

## The British Weekly Sudoku by Myles Mellor #429

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

**Solution to Sudoku 428**

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

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## The Joy of LA's Writing Community: Find Your People!

By Guest Columnist Lisa Marks

While most of us have been on complicated journeys to get here, there's no doubt that Los Angeles can be a truly magical and exciting place to live.

The flipside is that it can be challenging, isolating and let's not get started on the insane traffic. The cure for all these ills is to find your people. Newbies I beseech you, search out your PLU's (people like us) and create your own tribe.

When I first moved here 13 years ago I was a film journalist working for the Guardian

and obsessed with scriptwriting. I'd had previous success. I'd sold my first script to Chris Evans – not Captain America but the Brit known for spinning discs not throwing them. I was signed to the William Morris Agency and two more scripts were optioned. I briefly story-lined on Coronation Street, performed my own material at the Edinburgh Festival and when the chance came, I moved to LA to write some more. I knew only one other person. I lived on the west side and my go-

to hang out was the long-gone original Novel Cafe. Sitting in a sunlit cafe hammering away at my keyboard was liberating. I found my way and you will find yours. Like me, you'll get to know your favourite writing haunt, be it a hipster cafe for the oat milk or Starbucks for the WiFi.

And you never know who you might meet; I have found myself writing next to director Oliver Stone, Jim Rash (who went on to win a Best Screenplay Oscar for *The Descendants*) and actor Adam Devine. That was particularly memorable because he was being interviewed for a university magazine. Afterwards we got talking and he revealed, with a big smile on his face, that Comedy Central had green-lit his show *Workaholics* that very morning.

I also signed up to Writer's Boot Camp in Santa Monica, and I'm still in contact with the writer I sat next to at my first panel. Within three months my short, *Maconie's List*, had won a New Mexico film competition and I later produced and directed it in Albuquerque.

Early days seeking my PLU's, I joined a writing group that congregated in the glorious Billy Wilder Reading Room at the WGA library, in Hollywood. There, I met a hilarious (and heavily pregnant) lady who used to be a touring stand up. We're remain great friends and occasional writing partners.

I revelled in this weekly meeting of word nerds. When LA life became too intense I'd hang on to those few hours of geeking out, which is why I started the Atwater Ladies Writing Group. It wasn't exclusively for women by the way but no man ever showed up. Our tight-knit gang of gals met every Monday evening for two years. It was joyous, and there was always grapes.

Sharing our stories, being held accountable for our word count, and encouraged by the group dynamic we all improved our social circle and our writing. That group is one of the reasons I now offer my services as a motivational writing coach. By its very nature, writing can be a solitary and emotional roller-coaster. A mentor can get you through the dark times and help make that screenplay or book a reality.

We listened to each other's stories, we critiqued, we laughed, we cried, we shared break ups. We got to know each other's allergies and favourite herbal teas. Oh god,



LISA MARKS: 'create your own tribe'

that sounds horrible. But it was great. And grapes!

The screenplay I wrote during that time became a Nicholl Fellowship quarter-finalist, as did my script after that. My screenplay about a British comedian has talent attached and seeking financing, and I've just completed a memoir called *How To Interview a Celebrity*.

One of our tribe ended up taking a series of meetings at Disney about her children's book,

another (who was the first manager of Guns 'n' Roses) wrote a brilliant memoir called *Appetite for Dysfunction*. The fourth was a fantastic writer who now runs a successful make up school in Portland.

They were my people. I felt safe with them. I nurtured them. They made navigating Los Angeles a lot more fun. And best of all, they helped me become a better writer.

For more visit [lisamarksmedia.com/writing-mentor](http://lisamarksmedia.com/writing-mentor).



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# Meet A Member: Steve Bell

Meet Steve Bell from Stirling, Scotland who moved to LA full time 8 years ago to pursue a new career.

## Was there a particular reason you chose LA?

My wife (who is from Montana) had completed a year-long residency in Slovakia, as part of the Fullbright Scholarship program, and had to finish her Masters at CGU in Claremont. She's been in LA since 1992 working in the entertainment business, so it made sense to stay here afterwards.

## What do you miss most from home?

Good curry (there are one or two very good places here, but not quite the same), proper bacon!, nipping into the pub on a Friday after work for a few beers with friends, otherwise not much! Most foods I like you can get here albeit more expensive.

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

I first lived here in 1989 and having already been to most European countries, it was unlike any place I had been to before. Houses, roads, food portions were all

HUGE in comparison! Culturally, it was also big change from what I'd been used to; people were definitely not the usual, quiet, reserved Brit type! With the 80's car styles, as you'd only ever seen them before in movies, it was a bit surreal to see them up close (especially those stretched limos!). Also, at that time, it felt that most Americans didn't have that much exposure to other countries and cultures. Being "foreign" was definitely a novelty - I was even asked once "is Scotland near England?" Well, yeah, kinda! Oh yes, and that smog. Since then, it's definitely gotten busier, more gridlocked, and the fact you're from another country barely even registers any more. But it's still laid back and a fun place to live, with lots and lots to do.

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

The weather! Though that can be double edged, as sometimes in late summer rain would really feel good. It can also be hard to get used to living amongst 20-odd million people going about their lives.

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

Two (both food related) I would recommend to anyone - Shutters in Santa Monica. It's right on the beach and upscale enough to get a taste of the high-end LA vibe. For something different, the churrascaria in the Grove Farmers Market has great food.

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

As many others have said, be prepared for things to be expensive (and pay for health insurance if you don't have an employer who provides it. It can easily be \$1,000 a month or more!). And be ready to accept that it can/will take hours to get anywhere in LA. Distances aren't always huge but traffic is the killer. Finally, LA sometimes has a reputation of being a lonely, transient place, perhaps due to the ebb and flow of people in the biz. You have to get out there, find your tribe and join groups (like BritsInLA!) and socialize!

## Lots of our members join our group Brits in



STEVE BELL: "LA is what you make it."

## LA seeking out words of wisdom - what is the best piece of advice you've been given?

LA is what you make it. It certainly can be the land of opportunity, so network, explore and put yourself out there. Visas are always a thorny problem, and generally most companies won't sponsor you (unless

you genuinely have a rare skill/talent). Be prepared to find (and accept) an indirect route if you are set on coming here.

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

I'm the co-founder of wpyellowfish.com. We

manage Wordpress sites for people, business and non-profits who don't have the time, inclination or skills to do it themselves, freeing up their time to focus on what's important to them. We have an exclusive discount for BritsInLA members, so DM me for details!

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# Pep relishes Real victory

Pep Guardiola says Manchester City are "not used to doing these things" after his side won at Real Madrid for the first time to take control of their Champions League last-16 tie.

Isco had put Real ahead but a Gabriel Jesus strike and a Kevin de Bruyne penalty secured a 2-1 first leg win on Wednesday.

It is the first time City have won at a major European team in the knockout stage of the competition.

"To win at the Bernabeu is a great satisfaction for us," Guardiola said.

"It is amazing to be able to win here for us because we are not used to doing these things.

"We hope it will help us in the future to believe in ourselves and to be able to go to any stadium and play the way we did against Real."

Manchester City's only previous away wins in the Champions League knockout stages were against Dynamo Kiev, Basel and Schalke.

Guardiola's side are hoping to win the Champions League for the first time, having progressed as far as the semi-finals only once before.

Real Madrid are the most successful side in the competition's history - winning it 13 times - and Guardiola accepts that the tie is far from over.

"It's just the first part, it's not three points," said the manager, whose side will host Real for the second leg on 17 March.

"If one team can overcome this situation, for experience, for everything, it is this club, but of course it is a good result."

# Ihalo strikes as United cruise

Odion Ighalo scored his first goal for Manchester United Thursday night as they cruised into the Europa League last 16 at the expense of Club Brugge with a 5-0 win and one of their best performances of the season.

Bruno Fernandes scored his second United penalty in a week after Simon Deli was sent off for a ludicrous handball to block Daniel James' shot.

The Portuguese, who was at the centre of everything, had a hand in the second as he lifted a pass over the top to Juan Mata, who squared for full debutant Ighalo to tap in from six yards.

And Scott McTominay, making his first start following an injury, side-footed in a third to wrap the tie up before half-time.

Fred scored his first two



IGHALO: the boyhood United fan scored his team's second on Thursday night

goals of the season in the final 10 minutes as United got the big scoreline their performance deserved.

Club Brugge brought thousands of noisy fans to Old Trafford to help with a good atmosphere - but their players could not match their efforts and created nothing of note.

United were excellent - although Brugge did not look as dangerous

as they did in the 1-1 first-leg draw - with the Old Trafford faithful appreciating what they were watching.

The biggest cheer of the night was probably for McTominay, who guided the ball home from 20 yards following Fred's cutback. It was his first

start after two months out with a knee injury.

The game seemed to be drifting to a close until Fred stepped up to score twice - first converting Jesse Lingard's cross from close range and then scoring from the edge of the area from Tahith Chong's pass.

# Sorry exit for misfiring Gunners

Captain Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang missed a glaring chance with the last kick of the match as Arsenal crashed to a shocking Europa League 2-1 defeat at the hands of Olympiakos on Thursday.

Aubameyang, so often the Gunners' saviour, looked like he had once again rescued his side from an abject showing when his superb scissor-kick - which cancelled out Pape Abou Cisse's opener - put them in the driving seat with seven minutes left of extra time.

But the visitors punished awful set-piece defending for a second time on the night as Youssef El Arabi poked home in front of their raucous travelling fans.

And there was still time for the unmarked Aubameyang to somehow screw wide from five

yards out and condemn Mikel Arteta's side to their first defeat of 2020.

Olympiakos were hardly buccaneering in their approach, especially considering they had lost the first leg in Athens, but carried out their gameplan perfectly to steal a famous win and progress to the last 16.

To go out in such limp fashion will leave the manager livid - and for most of the night he was the most animated member of the Arsenal contingent.

Familiar failings were their undoing as the Greek side twice scored from set-pieces. First, Aubameyang allowed 6ft 6ins centre-back Cisse a totally free header from a corner, and then David Luiz appeared to leave a cross from a half-cleared 120th-minute corner and gift El Arabi a lunging tap-in.

## TUESDAY RESULTS

Table with football results for Tuesday, including UEFA Champions League, Scottish Premiership, Sky Bet Championship, Sky Bet League Two, and Sky Bet League One.

## THURSDAY RESULTS

Table with football results for Thursday, including Europa League Round of 32 Second Leg, Espanyol vs Wolves, Man Utd vs Club Brugge, and other matches.

## WEDNESDAY RESULTS

Table with football results for Wednesday, including UEFA Champions League Round of 16 First Leg, UEFA Europa League Round of 32 Second Leg, and Scottish League Two.

# Canaries edge Foxes to keep slender survival hopes alive

Norwich moved to within four points of an unlikely escape from the Premier League relegation zone as Jamal Lewis' fine goal gave them a precious 1-0 win against Leicester on Friday night.

The Canaries were in real danger of being cut adrift heading into the final 10 games of the season but can now retain hope of overhauling the struggling sides above them after a much-needed win.

Daniel Farke's side had not scored from open play since New Year's Day but managed to hang on after Lewis smashed in for a fifth win of the season.

For the second week in a row, Leicester will feel hard done by as they saw Kelechi Iheanacho's excellent 20-yarder ruled out by VAR for handball.

Brendan Rodgers saw his side have plenty of pressure without the injured Jamie Vardy but the Foxes have now gone five games without a win in all competitions.

Leicester have looked locked in for a European

place for months now and will remain in third place no matter what happens over the Premier League weekend - but they will now be starting to worry after a damaging slump in form.

At the other end of the table, survival was starting to look improbable but this win could prove absolutely vital come the end of the campaign.

On the 15th anniversary of Delia Smith's famous "where are you?" outburst at half-time of a 3-2 defeat by Manchester City, the club were in need of inspiration once again.

One win in 14 league games had left the Canaries rooted to the foot of the table and a further defeat would have left them on 18 points after 28 games.

Only one side in Premier League history - Portsmouth in 2006 - had stayed up after being in such a predicament but now Norwich can focus on Watford and West Ham just a win ahead.

Delia was watching on again as defender Ben Godfrey went close with an early header

before a familiar tale of pretty approach play with no end product began to play out.

Top scorer Teemu Pukki dragged wide after fine play from Todd Cantwell and Emiliano Buendia but it was hard to see where a goal could come from.

Lewis was the unlikely answer, arriving on to right-back Max Aaron's deep cross to hit a swerving shot on the bounce that curved past Kasper Schmeichel and in. It was his first league goal for the club on his 82nd appearance.

The hosts actually wasted two great counter-attacks - including a six-on-three break - but held on for just a second league win since November.

"A win is always good for the mood and confidence but I am not over the moon," Farke said.

"It was important that we were on top of our game to get some points because we are the underdogs in this league.

"There are more than 20 points, let us see how far we can go. We will be brave and let's see what the outcome can be."



**CANARY LIFELINE:** Jamal Lewis celebrates scoring for Norwich Friday night



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3/7 Six Nations Rugby PPV  
8.45am England vs Wales

#### Sat. 3/1: EFL Cup Final

8.30am: A. Villa vs Man City

Sat. 3/7: English Premier League  
11.45am: Arsenal vs West Ham

#### Tues 3/3: FA Cup 5th Round

11.45am: Chelsea vs Liverpool

3/8 Six Nations Rugby PPV  
7am: Scotland vs France

#### Wed. 3/4: FA Cup 5th Round

11.45am: Spurs vs Norwich

Sun 3/8: English Premier League  
8.30am: Man Utd vs Man City

#### Thurs. 3/5: FA Cup 5th Round

11.45am: Derby Co. vs Man Utd

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## Europa League last 16 draw

Manchester United have been drawn against Austrian league leaders LASK in the last 16 of the Europa League.

Fellow Premier League side Wolves will face Olympiakos, who knocked Arsenal out to reach this stage.

Scottish Premiership outfit Rangers will face

former winners Bayer Leverkusen.

Five-time champions Sevilla face Roma and another Spanish-Italian duel sees Inter Milan, third in Serie A, up against Getafe.

#### Full draw

Istanbul Basaksehir v Copenhagen

Olympiakos v Wolves

Rangers v Bayer

Leverkusen

Wolfsburg v

Shakhtar Donetsk

Inter Milan v Getafe

Sevilla v Roma

Eintracht Frankfurt v

Basel

LASK v

Manchester United