CITY A.M.

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HEY TOUGH GUY WILL BORIS' BIG CLAMPDOWN CUT CRIME? **P17**

THURSDAY 15 AUGUST 2019 | ISSUE 3,436 CITYAM.COM FREE

RECESSION FEAR ROUTS MARKETS

HARRY ROBERTSON

@henrygrobertson

THE DOW Jones plunged more than 800 points yesterday – its biggest one-day drop of 2019 – as fears of an imminent recession gripped trading floors on Wall Street and beyond.

Investors were spooked after Europe's largest economy, Germany, was shown to have shrunk in the second quarter of the year due to tumbling exports hit by trade tensions and weakening global demand.

Meanwhile in China, industrial output growth dived to a 17-year low as signs mounted that the trade war is taking a toll on the world's second-biggest economy.

Rattled nerves led to the yield curve on two- and 10-year US Treasuries inverting for the first time in a dozen years – an event which can signal an upcoming recession. Yield curves also inverted on UK bonds.

An inverted yield curve means long-dated government bonds have lower yields – the interest rate that holders receive – than short-dated ones.

The inversions are a sign that investors are piling into higher yielding parts of the ultra-safe government bond market because they fear for future growth and inflation and foresee lower interest rates to come.

The Dow closed 3.05 per cent down last night; the Nasdaq lost 3.02 per cent; the S&P 500 index dropped 2.93 per cent.

European markets also painted a sea of red following the German data. The German Dax index closed down 2.19 per cent, the French Cac ended 2.08 per cent lower, and the FTSE 100 shed 1.42 per cent.

"Predicting recessions and turning points in markets is extremely difficult but the risks have certainly increased," said Richard Carter of Quilter Cheviot.

The CBOE volatility index, a gauge of investor anxiety, jumped 4.76 points to 22.28. Spot gold prices rebounded, rising over one per cent as market participants fled to so-called safe haven assets.

Markets have been heavily affected in recent weeks by the US-China tariff war.

Corbyn urges Remainers to make him PM

CATHERINE NEILAN

@CatNeilan

JEREMY Corbyn has called on MPs opposed to a no-deal Brexit to back his attempt to form a "strictly time-limited" government, insisting he would call a General Election and campaign for a second referendum.

The Labour leader wrote to backbenchers and other opposition leaders promising to extend Article 50 and push for "a public vote on the terms of leaving the European Union, including an option to Remain". The plan would follow a successful vote of no confidence in Boris Johnson's government.

Remain-supporting MPs have been plotting alternative plans for a coalition opposed to a no-deal Brexit that would not be led by Corbyn.

Last night senior Liberal Democrats rejected Corbyn's plan, with new leader Jo Swinson saying: "Corbyn is not the person who is going to be able to build an even temporary majority in the House of Commons for this task."

Arch Tory Remainer Dominic Grieve told *City A.M.*: "It's a respectable letter, but its respectability doesn't mean I'm going to jump and down and say 'oh yes that's wonderful let's agree to it now'."

WOLLASTON DEFECTS: P5

Vice president Pence to speak at City banquet next month

ALEXANDRA ROGERS

@city_amrogers

US VICE president Mike Pence will speak at a trade banquet in the City when he visits London next month, *City A.M.* can reveal.

The black tie dinner, hosted by the City of London Corporation, will take place at Guildhall in the Square Mile on 5 September and will also be attended by the international trade secretary Liz Truss.

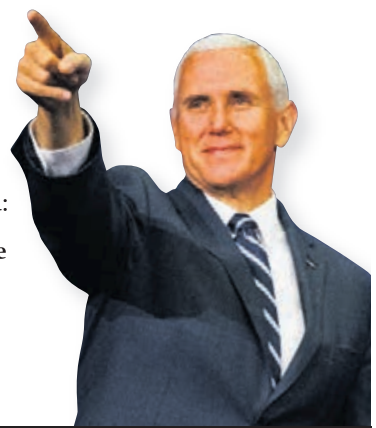
Some City councillors are unhappy that Pence was invited to the Square Mile in light of his opinions on a range of social issues.

Councillor Richard Crossan said: "Pence's views on LGBT rights and immigration are the polar opposite of what the City stands for. I hope the Corporation will think again about giving him a platform and tacitly endorsing his prejudice."

Another said they were not going to attend the event in protest and that other invitees could do the same. "I know what the justification for this dinner is," they said. "It is an important trading relationship. I think it is a very uncomfortable situation dealing with the current US administration."

City A.M. understands Pence was first invited by Truss' predecessor Liam Fox, who was sacked in July.

A Corporation spokesperson said: "A range of leading politicians, industry figures and dignitaries are invited to events throughout the year to promote the UK financial services sector and maintain our position as a leading international financial centre."



FTSE 100▼ 7,147.88 -103.02 FTSE 250▼ 18,731.05 -277.13 DOW▼ 25,479.42 -800.49 NASDAQ▼ 7,773.94 -242.42 £/$▼ 1.205 -0.001 £/€▲ 1.082 +0.003 €/$▼ 1.113 -0.004

CITY A.M.

THE CITY VIEW

FCA needs to bare its teeth to help investors

ANOTHER day, another investment scheme collapse. This time it is mini-bond firm Asset Life. News broke yesterday that the company crashed into administration last month, owing more than 500 investors £8m. Asset Life had close links with fellow mini-bond firm London Capital & Finance (LCF), which went bust in December owing 11,600 investors £236m. While LCF may grab headlines, it is only the most prominent of a string of investment firms to have gone bust in recent months, leaving investors millions of pounds out of pocket. In March, bond investment firm MJS Capital which raised up to £30m from investors went into administration; in May property investment firms Harewood Associates and Mederco both went to the wall owing investors and creditors £32m and £27m respectively; and in June foreign exchange investment firm Hudspiths shut up shop owing clients £40m. Although the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) belatedly intervened in LCF, and the Serious Fraud Office is now investigating after the fact, investors in smaller schemes seem hard-pressed to get regulators (or in cases where there is evidence of fraud – the police) interested. In the case of LCF, the firm was regulated by the FCA, but its mini-bond business was entirely unregulated – leaving creditors with no protection when it collapsed. In April, the Treasury Committee said the FCA should be given powers to recommend changes to its regulatory perimeter, in order to crack down on firms exploiting the grey area between regulated and unregulated activity, while FCA chair Andrew Bailey told its annual meeting in July that he was frustrated at the lack of support from internet service providers in cracking down on the advertising of high-risk investment schemes online. Whether a change in the scope of the FCA's powers is what is needed or more intense action to combat online advertising of high-risk schemes, it is clear that the status quo cannot continue. Thousands of retail investors, many of them pensioners, are being persuaded to put their cash into high-risk schemes and collectively lose millions in the process. The FCA's first objective is to protect consumers. It needs to do a lot more to protect them from investment products that promise the world and deliver nothing but misery.

> **It is clear that the status quo on investment firms cannot continue**

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SORRY SIGHT Hong Kong activists apologise after violent night of clashes at airport leads to injuries and sparks travel chaos

PROTESTERS in Hong Kong struck a note of contrition yesterday after a peaceful sit-in at the city's international airport descended into violent clashes that saw at least two men attacked by activists. Beijing condemned the protests as "close to terrorism," while satellite images appeared to show a build-up of troops close to China's border with Hong Kong.

Sports Direct shares tank after auditor steps down

JAMES BOOTH AND ANNA MENIN

@Jamesdbooth1 @annafmenin

SPORTS Direct shares tumbled to their lowest level since 2011 yesterday after it emerged that Mike Ashley's retail empire could be left without an auditor, breaching stock market rules.

The retailer said yesterday its auditor Grant Thornton had given notice that it would not seek reappointment, standing down on 11 September, the day of the company's annual general meeting.

Shares closed down 10 per cent yesterday.

The announcement once again threw Sports Direct into chaos, as all of the Big Four audit firms have indicated they are reluctant to take over as its auditor.

Sports Direct wrote recently to business minister Kelly Tolhurst to ask for clarification on what would happen if it was unable to find a new auditor.

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (Beis) replied setting out the circumstances where it would step in.

Under the Companies Act, business secretary Andrea Leadsom can appoint an auditor if a firm is unable to find one after a tender process.

A Beis spokesperson said: "We have not received a formal notification to provide assistance to the company to find an auditor. Lawyers for Sports Direct have requested clarity on our role, and we have responded."

Yesterday afternoon, Sports Direct and Grant Thornton issued a joint statement to the London Stock Exchange which said the retailer "has a longer term aim of looking to engage a Big Four auditor in the future".

The statement said "increased regulatory scrutiny" had contributed to Grant Thornton's decision to step down, alongside "audit profitability".

The auditor had reportedly decided to sever ties with the retailer following unprecedented delays to the publication of its annual results last month, coupled with the revelation that Sports Direct owed Belgian tax authorities €674m (£625m).

Embarrassingly for Sports Direct, its annual report – published on Tuesday – had told shareholders speculation that it was set to run an audit tender in 2019 were "inaccurate", and that the company intended to reappoint Grant Thornton.

Mike Ashley's retail empire is facing more challenges

WHAT THE OTHER PAPERS SAY THIS MORNING

FINANCIAL TIMES

BILL ACKMAN BUYS STAKE IN BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY

Bill Ackman's hedge fund, Pershing Square, has taken a stake in Berkshire Hathaway, adding a rare activist investor to Warren Buffett's shareholder register. Pershing's stake in Berkshire was worth $688m (£570m) based on its closing share price yesterday and represented roughly 0.25 per cent of the outstanding class B common stock.

CISCO UNNERVES INVESTORS WITH WEAK FORECAST

Shares in Cisco Systems tumbled seven per cent in after-market trading last night after the networking equipment company issued a weak financial forecast for the current quarter, further feeding Wall Street's renewed worries about broader economic deterioration. Cisco forecast revenue growth of zero to two per cent in the three months to the end of October.

THE TIMES

BUSINESSES GET 'NO-DEAL LENIENCY' FOR DIGITAL TAX

About 120,000 businesses that missed a tax deadline will escape a fine after HM Revenue & Customs said it would show leniency before a possible no-deal Brexit. The tax authority could have issued fines running into tens of millions of pounds after a quarter of companies failed to comply with new rules in time.

FRAUD VICTIMS MISLED AS POLICE FAIL TO INVESTIGATE

Call handlers working for the police insult victims of fraud and have been trained to mislead them into thinking their cases will be investigated when most are never looked at again.

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

BERCOW SLAMMED OVER MP PLOT TO BLOCK NO-DEAL

John Bercow has been accused of working alongside senior Tory rebels in a "coordinated" bid to block no-deal, amid allegations that he is attempting to position himself as the "man that stopped Brexit". Whitehall insiders have claimed the speaker has spoken to MPs seeking to prevent a no-deal.

PELOSI: TRADE DEAL NEEDS GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT

Britain will not get a free trade deal with America if Brexit undermines the Good Friday Agreement, the top Democrat in the House of Representatives has said. Nancy Pelosi said the Irish border must remain "seamless".

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

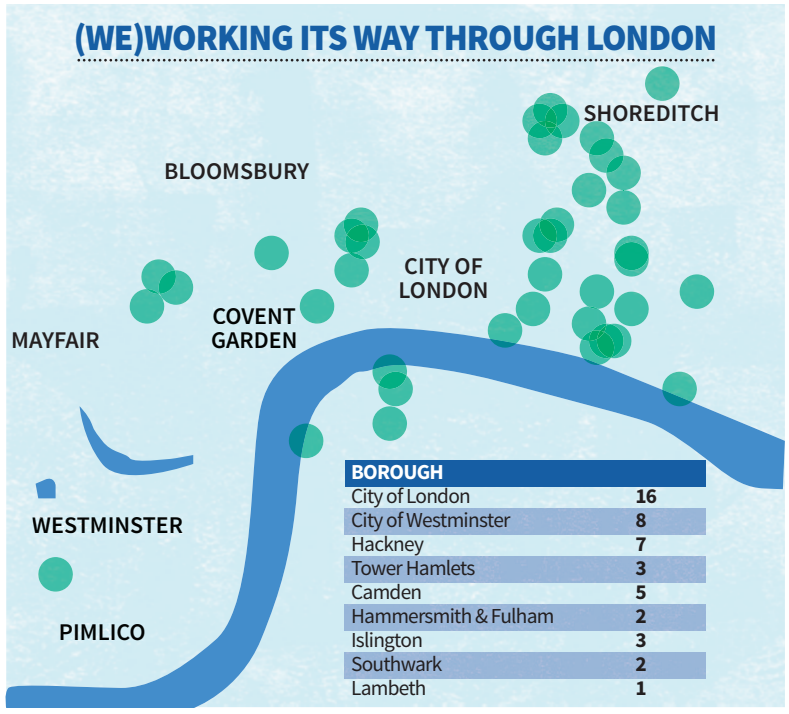
HUAWEI HELPED AFRICAN STATES SPY ON OPPONENTS

Employees embedded with cybersecurity forces in Uganda and Zambia intercepted encrypted communications and used cell data to track opponents, according to a Wall Street Journal investigation. Chinese tech giant Huawei said it "rejects completely the unfounded and inaccurate allegations".

MACY'S TURNAROUND HITS HARSH RETAIL REALITY

Macy's lowered its full-year earnings outlook after missing profit expectations in the latest quarter, even though it reported growth in a key sales metric.

Wework reveals major losses as it prepares float



BOROUGH	
City of London	16
City of Westminster	8
Hackney	7
Tower Hamlets	3
Camden	5
Hammersmith & Fulham	2
Islington	3
Southwark	2
Lambeth	1

AUGUST GRAHAM

@AugustGraham

WEWORK lost nearly $700m (£580m) in the first half of the financial year, even as revenue doubled, the company announced in its first detailed financial results yesterday.

The company, the listing of which next month is expected to value the business in the tens of billions, said it has no plans to start paying dividends in the foreseeable future.

Wework, which rents out flexible office space, did not reveal details of its float, such as the size of the offering or where it will list.

However, its last fundraising in January valued the business at $47bn.

Analysts estimate the company will seek to raise between $2bn to $3bn, and would likely become the biggest float since Uber earlier this year.

But with management warning that the company may wait years before becoming profitable, Wework faces a rough ride, said Neil Wilson, chief market analyst at Markets.com.

The filing showed revenue hit $1.54bn in the first six months of 2019. Full-year revenue last year hit $1.8bn, up from $436m in 2016.

Its pre-tax loss rocketed even faster, from $430m to $1.9bn in the same period. It appeared set to rise again in 2019, hitting $900m in the first six months at a 24 per cent increase year-on-year.

As it prepares to attract new investors, Wework recognised that such rapid growth could cause problems. Spending is going to continue increase as the company expands, it said, but its rate of growth may not be sustainable. The company also "may not be able to compete effectively with others," it added.

It warned that its "future success depends in large part" on chief executive Adam Neumann, who may leave despite having an unusually high amount of control over the firm.

"We have no employment agreement in place with Adam, and there can be no assurance that Adam will continue to work for us or serve our interests in any capacity," it said.

Wework has 528 offices which are rented out to startups and more established players across 111 cities.

European Central Bank tells lenders to speed up their Brexit preparations

SEBASTIAN MCCARTHY

@SebMcCarthy

BANKS have been urged to speed up their Brexit preparations by the European Central Bank (ECB), which warned yesterday that London-based firms are falling behind on potential plans to move jobs.

The Eurozone's top banking watchdog called on firms to step up their contingency plans as the UK nears Downing Street's 31 October deadline for leaving the EU with or without a deal.

"So far, banks have transferred significantly fewer activities, critical functions and staff to euro area entities than originally foreseen as part of their plans for Brexit day one," the ECB said in a statement.

It added: "Looking ahead, the ECB sees a risk that, as a result of the delays observed, banks will not be able to fully implement their target operating models within the timelines agreed with their supervisors."

Consultants from EY said in June that banks in Britain had been showing signs of restarting preparations for a no-deal Brexit following a lull in the shift of financial services jobs and capital from the UK to the EU in previous months.

Grant Shapps questions whether new Heathrow runway 'stacks up'

ALEXANDRA ROGERS

@city_amrogers

TRANSPORT secretary Grant Shapps yesterday cast doubt over Heathrow's third runway after he said there were "questions about whether the whole plan stacks up".

Shapps, who replaced Chris Grayling when Boris Johnson became Prime Minister last month, acknowledged that MPs had voted for Heathrow, but told Sky News: "There are questions about whether the whole plan stacks up. This is privately funded. They're going to need to make sure they bring in enough income to justify the billions of pounds spent on it, that's something that we'll be taking a really, really close look at, I certainly will as the new transport secretary."

A Heathrow spokesperson said: "This critical project is entirely privately-funded, and over the next few years we will create tens of thousands of new skilled jobs and boost British exporters by billions."

Weekly Little Helps

Fill up for less when you fill your basket.

Save 10p per litre of fuel when you spend £60 in-store or online by 25 August.

TESCO
Every little helps

Save
10p
per litre

Qualifying spend of £60 in one transaction after discounts and promotions are applied, exclusions apply. Offer applies to purchases made or delivered between 05/08 and 25/08. Coupons issued at till valid for 2 weeks from date of issue. Coupons issued online valid until 08/09. UK Tesco petrol filling stations only. Coupons not issued at Express stores selling Esso fuel, Kirkwall & Lerwick Superstores, ROI & IOM and cannot be redeemed at Express stores selling Esso fuel, Pay at Pump, unmanned petrol stations, ROI & IOM. See tesco.com/fuel-promo for full terms and conditions.

ALL CHANGE HERE Tory defector Sarah Wollaston joins Lib Dems after Change UK

MP SARAH Wollaston has joined the Lib Dems, six months after she left the Conservative Party in protest at the government's handling of Brexit. The MP for Totnes had been sitting as an independent after a brief stint at Change UK.

Prudential eyes business split by end of the year

SEBASTIAN MCCARTHY

@SebMcCarthy

BRITAIN's biggest insurer Prudential has said that its highly-anticipated de-merger will take place later this year.

Plans to separate the firm's UK business, M&G Prudential, from its Asian and US operations were confirmed by the group's management team yesterday, in a move that will create a new FTSE 100 company.

Group chief executive Mike Wells said he expects the split to take place in the fourth quarter of 2019.

Wells added: "We believe that the demerger will enable both businesses to maximise their potential performance. Both will have experienced management teams better able to focus on their strategic priorities and distinct investment prospects, as well as improved allocation of resources and greater flexibility in execution."

M&G Prudential's name will be changed to M&G plc in the run-up to the split.

Yesterday, the group also posted a 14 per cent rise in operating profits that it said was driven by the company's Asian business. "Prudential's 14 per cent rise in operating profit was ahead of analysts' expectations and the five per cent increase in the dividend will be well received by the market. However, the main focus for the company is the de-merger of M&G Prudential," said Alasdair Ronald of Brewin Dolphin.

"The proposal is largely seen as a positive move and will likely narrow the discount between Prudential's share price and the sum-of-its-parts valuation. After this process, Prudential will be almost entirely focused on the US and Asia – in the former it is a leading variable annuity provider, while the latter is its key growth engine."

Richard Hunter, head of markets at Interactive Investor, said: "In terms of sheer size and potential, Prudential is likely to rule the roost post-demerger, with the M&G business looking to define a growth path nearer to home.

"It will be interesting to see whether these rather different businesses will attract a similar – and positive – investor following."

Uber shares fall to fresh all-time low amid wider Wall St turmoil

EMILY NICOLLE

@emilyjnicolle

SHARES in ride-hailing giant Uber dived almost seven per cent yesterday, closing at a record low as investors remained cautious and US stocks suffered across the board.

Uber's stock fell as low as $33.36 at one point, before closing at $33.96.

The firm last week revealed its largest-ever quarterly loss of $5.2bn (£4.3bn), spurred on by a hefty bill from its market debut in May in which it listed at $45 per share.

Investors voiced concerns about Uber's potential to turn a profit, after it also missed sales estimates.

Other recently listed companies, such as social media network Pinterest and Uber rival Lyft, also got burned in the wider stock market sell-off. Pinterest shares dropped as much as 6.4 per cent, while Lyft fell 6.2 per cent.

The three main US indexes all suffered falls of around three per cent, as fears of a recession rose. The Dow experienced its largest one-day drop so far this year,

IN BRIEF

EPSTEIN ACCUSER SUES HIS ESTATE AMID PRISON REVIEW

A New York woman who said she was sexually assaulted by Jeffrey Epstein at the age of 14 sued the disgraced financier's estate and a former associate yesterday, as prison officials began an internal review of how he died in an apparent suicide last week. In the first of an expected wave of lawsuits, Jennifer Araoz said she had just entered high school in 2001 when an Epstein associate brought her to the financier's mansion in Manhattan, beginning a grooming process that led to months of sexual abuse including a "brutal rape". The lawsuit is among the first of a series by women made possible by New York's Child Victims Act, which opened a one-year window to sue over alleged sexual abuse regardless of when it occurred.

US REGULATOR BANS APPLE PRO LAPTOPS FROM FLIGHTS

The US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) yesterday banned certain models of Apple's Macbook Pro laptops on flights, after the company recalled select units which had batteries posing fire risks. "The FAA is aware of the recalled batteries that are used in some Apple Macbook Pro laptops," the agency's spokesman said in an emailed statement, adding that the agency has "alerted airlines about the recall". Apple said in June it would recall a limited number of 15-inch Macbook Pro units as their batteries were susceptible to overheating. The units were sold between September 2015 and February 2017. Apple did not respond to a Reuters request for comment. The company's share price closed down 2.98 per cent yesterday.

PESO SLIDES FOR THIRD DAY DESPITE MACRI'S MEASURES

The Argentine peso dropped 7.1 per cent at 60.2 pesos to the dollar in its third straight day of heavy losses yesterday, finding no solace from a package of welfare subsidies and lower taxes for workers unveiled by President Mauricio Macri. The rout in Argentine markets was set off by Macri's loss by a wide margin to opposition candidate Alberto Fernandez in presidential primaries on Sunday, as it raised risks of a return to interventionist policies under Fernandez if he were to win in the October election. Fernandez yesterday said Macri's new economic measures were too late and warned that Argentina could run out of foreign currency reserves as it defends the peso. The bank sold $355m (£294m) from its own reserve this week.

Rail fares to jump almost three per cent in January after inflation bites

HARRY ROBERTSON

@henrygrobertson

UK TRAIN fares are set for another substantial rise in January 2020 after the inflation gauge they are based on climbed by a yearly rate of 2.8 per cent in July, according to official figures released yesterday.

Each January, train fares are allowed to rise by as much as July's retail price index (RPI) measure of inflation.

The rise is lower than the 3.1 per cent increase recorded in January this year, which pushed up the prices of some annual season tickets by over £100, but will still cause fares to rise significantly. Many commuters will be angry that their rail fares are set to increase 2.8 per cent in January.

Yet train service providers and industry groups say the rise along with the higher rate of inflation is vital to ensure they can properly maintain the infrastructure.

The Campaign for Better Transport has called for price increases to be based on the consumer price index, which is usually lower than RPI.

However, the Rail Delivery Group said that "by holding rises down to no more than inflation, government is ensuring that money from fares continues to cover almost all of the day-to-day costs of running rail services".

AIR STRIKE Ryanair's Irish pilots to strike next week after union talks hit stalemate

RYANAIR's pilots in Ireland will strike for 48 hours next week, after talks over the union's pay proposals failed to bear fruit. The Irish Airlines Pilots' Association said Ryanair did not table an acceptable counter-proposal before its deadline yesterday.

First to replace Virgin on West Coast mainline

JAMES BOOTH

@Jamesdbooth1

THE GOVERNMENT yesterday announced that First Trenitalia had been appointed to run the West Coast mainline from December 2019 to 2031.

First Group and Italian firm Trenitalia will replace Virgin on the line that runs from London Euston to Glasgow via Birmingham, Liverpool and Manchester.

The First-Trenitalia consortium saw off a rival bid from a Chinese consortium led by Hong Kong's subway operator MTR.

MTR said it was "very disappointed" at the decision and that it would seek feedback from the Department for Transport as to why it was unsuccessful.

The announcement came despite an ongoing review into rail franchising by former British Airways chief executive Keith Williams.

Transport secretary Grant Shapps and Williams approved the partnership, which the Department for Transport said was designed to fit with the direction of the review and to facilitate Williams' recommendations in due course.

"This award is positive news for passengers, with more services, more direct connections and ambitious plans for a cleaner, greener railway, and also represents a decisive shift towards a new model for rail," the transport secretary said.

The consortium has promised 263 extra services each week from 2022, the introduction of new environmentally friendly trains and a £117m refurbishment of the existing Pendolino fleet.

Williams said: "This West Coast Partnership delivers for passengers.

"It is a step forward that is firmly in line with the review, introducing benefits for passengers today and capable of incorporating the reforms needed for the future."

The award of the new contract has not been a smooth process and still threatens to boil over into litigation.

Virgin's partner Stagecoach is currently suing the DfT over the West Coast mainline tender process after it was disqualified for a non-compliant bid.

Mick Cash, the general secretary of the RMT rail union, said First Trenitalia was being "shunted on to the West Coast mainline".

He added that the decision was "another political fix by a government whose privatised franchise model is collapsing".

Balfour adds to HS2 concerns by not including project in figures

ALEX DANIEL

@alexmdaniel

ONE OF HS2's main contractors has amplified worries the project still may not go ahead, despite the government already having spent billions on the controversial railway.

Britain's biggest construction company Balfour Beatty, which has been tasked with £5.2bn-worth of work on the £56bn project, said it had not included HS2-related work in its financial results yesterday.

This is because the main civil works contracts have yet to be signed.

The project, as well as a long-awaited Heathrow airport expansion, would boost the UK's investment in infrastructure, "even though vital decisions on infrastructure projects are being repeatedly delayed," Balfour said.

Investors in the construction firm were cheered after hearing that if HS2 is signed off and goes ahead, it will "significantly improve" Balfour's outlook. That comes on top of first half pre-tax profit growing a whopping 26 per cent in 2019.

UK inflation rate overshoots two per cent target

HARRY ROBERTSON

@henrygrobertson

UK PRICES rose more significantly in the year to July than economists had expected, official figures showed yesterday, lowering the chances that the Bank of England will cut interest rates unless the country faces a no-deal Brexit.

The consumer price index (CPI) – the inflation rate that the Bank focuses on – unexpectedly rose to 2.1 per cent in July, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) said. This is above the target rate of two per cent and economists' predictions of a fall to 1.9 per cent, after a two per cent reading of June.

Assistant head of inflation at the ONS Chris Jenkins said: "The inflation rate increased slightly, with computer games, consoles and hotel prices rising more than they did last year. Conversely, air, international rail and sea fares did not rise by as much as 12 months ago."

Consumer price index including housing costs rose to two per cent in July, up from 1.9 per cent in June.

Jenkins said: "Overall house prices growth was unchanged from May, but in London annual growth was negative once again, decreasing for the 16th month in succession."

The figures came a day after wage growth in Britain was shown to have reached an 11-month high of 3.9 per cent in the second quarter of the year.

Yesterday's inflation figures mean Britons' real wages have been eaten into slightly.

In normal times an overshoot of the target rate of inflation would prompt serious consideration of a rise in interest rates.

However, Institute of Directors chief economist Tej Parikh said "the small increase in inflation may not be enough to jolt the Bank of England away from its wait-and-see strategy on interest rates with Brexit around the corner".

WHAT A CORKER City grandee Spencer tables bid for Naked fine wine dealer L&W

CITY billionaire Michael Spencer is said to have tabled a bid for Lay & Wheeler, a fine wine merchant set to be sold by Naked Wines as part of its digital transformation plan. The offer was made by Spencer's BI Wine & Spirits, Sky News reported.

London house prices continue to slide as Brexit concerns mount

HARRY ROBERTSON

@henrygrobertson

LONDON house prices have continued their slide with a year-on-year fall of 2.7 per cent in June, figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) showed yesterday.

The figure marked a slowdown from the 3.1 per cent drop seen in May, however, which was the biggest fall since the financial crisis.

Average house prices in London have now been falling for 17 straight months – each month since March 2018.

Brexit uncertainty has put people off making big-ticket purchases until they can be more sure of the economic and political outlook.

Veteran media boss plots new takeover spree

JAMES WARRINGTON

@j_a_warrington

VETERAN Fleet Street executive David Montgomery is poised to launch a media takeover spree, with struggling publisher JPI Media slated as his first major target.

Montgomery has set up a company called National World, through which he is said to be planning a series of deals to snap up struggling newspaper groups.

Industry sources told the Daily Telegraph, which first reported the move, that National World will debut on the stock market via a reverse takeover.

Montgomery, former chief executive of the Mirror Group, is said to be within days of announcing the new venture.

Sources said the media boss' primary target was JPI Media, the owner of titles including i newspaper and the Yorkshire Post.

JPI is currently in talks to sell some of its assets, with media group Reach among the bidders.

One industry source told *City A.M.* that Reach had been "knocked sideways" by Montgomery, who has launched a "relentless pursuit" of JPI Media's titles.

RBS bank competition fund awards £40m to four firms in lending plan

SEBASTIAN MCCARTHY

@SebMcCarthy

FOUR UK fintech firms have been handed a combined £40m from an RBS fund aimed at increasing business banking competition.

Atom Bank, Iwoca, Modulr Finance and Currencycloud were awarded the capital yesterday as part of an effort to boost lending and payments services to small and medium-sized enterprises in the UK.

The board of Banking Competition Remedies (BCR), an independent body established to inject £775m from the RBS state aid alternative remedies package, received 76 applications for the latest round in its funding.

The fund is a condition of the government's £45bn bailout of RBS during the financial crisis.

Last month, Atom Bank raised £50m from investors, including under-fire fund manager Neil Woodford, partly to invest more in technology.

Lord Godfrey Cromwell, BCR's chairman, said: "Now the emphasis is on monitoring each recipient's reporting and deliverables. Their public commitments can be seen on our website and performance against these will be regularly updated there."

StanChart eyeing growth in private banking move

SEBASTIAN MCCARTHY

@SebMcCarthy

STANDARD Chartered is set to embark on a recruitment spree in Asia as part of a plan to grow its private banking assets to roughly $100bn (£82bn).

Over the next two to three years the lender is set to hire 30 to 40 private bankers every year to bulk up its private bank assets by 50 per cent, Standard Chartered's global head for private banking and wealth management Didier von Daeniken told Reuters.

Daeniken said: "Our ambition is to see us cross the $100bn mark. That makes us meaningful internally for the group, that makes us a meaningful player in this landscape... Hitting $100bn can give us credibility internally, help us to attract talent."

The lender's senior executive added that the private banking unit had come a long way, "but the task before us is as difficult because we really have to maintain the momentum in a difficult market environment".

With most of the new jobs expected in Hong Kong and Singapore, the London-based bank is planning to lure in more of the firm's corporate and institutional banking clients within Asia.

"With $65bn we are definitely not among the largest, but we are part... of a company with a large balance sheet, with an unmatched presence locally in all the markets, which really matters when you cover the emerging markets," Daeniken added.

The comments come several weeks after the lender posted a three per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £1.99bn, topping analyst estimates.

Standard Chartered warned that the current trade war between China and the US would "continue to reverberate" in 2019.

Standard Chartered is planning to hire a swathe of private bankers in Asia

However, chief executive Bill Winters said in an earnings call that the impact of the trade friction had been "pretty limited" so far.

StanChart's private banking business, which offers services to wealthy individuals across the globe, made up just under four per cent of total profit during the first six months of this year.

The firm's private banking business posted pre-tax profits of $100m during the first half of the year, rising from a loss of $5m in the previous year.

RETURN OF THE MAX Indonesia's Lion Air 'urgently' needs more jets for growth

INDONESIAN airline Lion Air "urgently requires" more Boeing 737 Max jets, after two crashes involving the model – one of which was a Lion Air jet – left the entire global fleet grounded in March. Co-founder Rusdi Kirana said it was to support growth.

British police have frozen more than £100m in accounts on bribery fears

KIRSTIN RIDLEY

UK POLICE have frozen eight bank accounts containing a total of more than £100m, which is suspected to have derived from bribery and corruption overseas.

The National Crime Agency (NCA) said yesterday a London court had approved the Account Freezing Orders (AFOs), the largest granted to date, and that police would recover the funds if investigators proved it had been intended for unlawful use.

The NCA said it could not provide any details that could identify individuals related to the accounts.

AFOs allow police to freeze assets until property owners account for their wealth, and are part of a toolbox introduced last year to help stem a tide of suspected corrupt cash washing through the country.

London has long attracted corrupt money, especially from Russia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Asia, and the NCA estimates that around $100bn (£829m) of dirty money is moved through or into Britain each year.

"The NCA is... seeking to... convince [its] foreign counterparts that even if they cannot prosecute untouchable oligarchs at home, if they have assets here, these can be attacked," said David Corker, a partner at law firm Corker Binning. *Reuters*

Admiral income hurt by updates to payout rules

ANNA MENIN

@annafmenin

CAR INSURER Admiral has taken a £33.3m hit to its profits following the introduction of changes to how compensation for those injured in accidents is calculated.

In July, the government changed the Ogden rate, which governs how much insurers pay people seriously injured in car accidents.

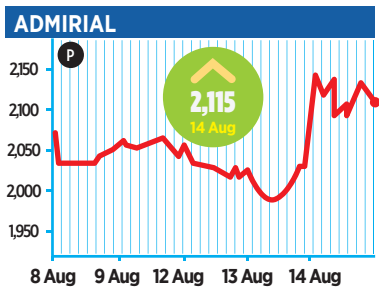
Admiral said yesterday the changes had cut its first-half profit by £33.3m. It reported a pre-tax profit of £218m, a four per cent increase on the same period last year.

The insurer said it expects the total impact of the new Ogden rate on full-year profit to be approximately £50m to £60m. Customer numbers rose eight per cent to 6.74m, driven by a 21 per cent increase in international car insurance customers to 1.36m by the end of the first half.

Chief executive David Stevens said the group's results were "a bit dull", cautioning: "If it's a can't-put-down, read-in-one-go page-turner that you're after, then I'm afraid our half-year results don't fit the bill."

Nevertheless, Stevens found some things to be enthusiastic about. "Profit growth, even if modest, is more exciting considering the £33m Ogden headwind," he said.

Shares rose four per cent yesterday.



FORUM

Fares have risen twice as fast as wages

CAT HOBBS ON RAIL NATIONALISATION

PAGE 17

CITY A.M.

Court blocks private prosecution over Johnson's Brexit bus pledge

CATHERINE NEILAN

@CatNeilan

A CAMPAIGNER attempting to prosecute the Prime Minister over claims that Britain would be £350m a week better off after leaving the EU has lost his bid to take the case to the UK's Supreme Court.

Marcus Ball was seeking to bring a crowdfunded private prosecution against Boris Johnson for misconduct in public office over the claims made on the side of his Brexit battle bus during the 2016 referendum.

The claim, which earned a rebuke from the chair of the UK Statistics Authority as "a clear misuse of official statistics", was seen by many as critical to the Leave victory.

In May, a magistrate ruled that Johnson should face charges. But that was overturned by the High Court, after judges ruled that the decision was flawed.

"This is a case of alleged misconduct in public office against the prime minister of the United Kingdom concerning repeated lies about the spending of the public purse," Ball said in a statement.

"It concerns the duties of Members of Parliament and mayors of London and as such goes to the heart of the United Kingdom's democratic process and public trust in it."

Boris Johnson will not be prosecuted for the claims on the Leave bus

Lookers profits splutter as sales probe costs rise

ALEX DANIEL

@alexmdaniel

PROBLEMS continue to mount for British car dealership Lookers, as the London-listed firm yesterday said it expects costs to rise as it addresses issues found with its sales practices.

The small cap firm posted a sharp drop in profit for the first half of the year, after car sales were affected by stricter emissions regulations, Brexit uncertainty and a customer shift towards electric and hybrid cars.

Lookers was founded 110 years ago in Manchester, and has grown to be one of the biggest dealerships in the UK. It sells cars for manufacturers including VW, Ford and BMW.

Pre-tax profit was £24.9m for the first six months, down 39.7 per cent on the same period in 2018. Revenue rose 2.7 per cent to £2.7bn.

New car sales were down 1.2 per cent on a like-for-like basis, though this was still stronger than the market average of a 3.4 per cent decline.

Net debt spiralled 35.6 per cent to £73.9m.

Lookers warned profit would fall last month, after it suffered from "weaker demand" for its new and used cars. The British new car market shrunk 4.1 per cent in July, its fifth straight month of decline, according to the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

The profit warning came after arch-rival Pendragon said in June that it expected "significant" losses in the first half.

To compound Lookers' headaches, the Financial Conduct Authority said in June that it was investigating the company's sales processes between January 2016 and June this year.

Yesterday, the dealership said it would make a one-off investment of £10m into improving its sales processes over 2019 and 2020.

Costs will then rise by about £3m a year after 2020, for a plan that will include reviewing its past business, revising its sales process and putting new quality checks in place.

Chief executive Andy Bruce said: "Our performance for the first half reflects an ongoing backdrop of challenging UK market conditions for the sector."

Hochschild hit by falling silver prices in tough first half of year

AUGUST GRAHAM

@AugustGraham

MINER Hochschild faced a tough first half of the year as low silver prices put pressure on profit.

The company said sales of the metal dropped by nearly 850,000 ounces to 10.2m. Meanwhile, silver prices fell 7.4 per cent from the beginning of 2018, hitting $15 in the six months to the end of June.

Its post-exceptional pre-tax profit fell as a result, hitting $29.5m (£24.4m), a drop of nearly $10m.

Meanwhile, revenue fell 4.8 per cent to $153.7m over the period, Hochschild revealed yesterday.

But chief executive Ignacio Bustamante was upbeat on the news, calling the operational performance "strong".

The company reached "the second highest level of production in our history and solid cost control leaving us firmly on track to meet our 2019 goals," Bustamante said.

After recent price hikes in gold and silver, the firm expects cashflow to improve in the second half.

Record high for venture capital firms in the UK

SEBASTIAN MCCARTHY

@SebMcCarthy

VENTURE capital (VC) funding in the UK soared to a record high during the first half of this year, bolstered by a growing appetite for tech investments.

Funding in VC rose to £4.3bn during the first half of 2019, rising 45 per cent on the same period last year.

The average deal size for UK VC investment doubled to £5.9m in the first half of the year with 724 deals recorded, falling from 1,147 in the first six months of 2018 as investors favoured larger but fewer rounds.

Technology has been the clear winner, attracting 60 per cent of all VC funding over six months, rising year-on-year from 44 per cent.

According to the findings, collated by a Savills-serviced office venture called Workthere, the increased VC investment has generated growth in the take up of flexible workspaces.

"Last year, it was all about healthcare, but this year tech is the most popular sector for VC investors. In particular, the sub-sector that is really driving growth is fintech, which has accounted for eight out of the top 10 funding deals so far this year, compared to just three last year," said Jessica Alderson, global research analyst at Workthere. "Moving forward, this is definitely an interesting sub-sector to watch in terms of expansion outside of their primary London offices into wider UK markets."

London enjoyed a particular boost in VC activity, with an 81 per cent rise in investment.

Freddie Ward, associate director at Workthere, said: "While overall VC investment in the UK has outpaced flexible office take up this year, there are some very obvious exceptions in the form of London, Aberdeen, Bristol, Edinburgh and Cambridge, where there seems to be a distinctive link between the two figures."

Green Reit floated in 2013 as Ireland's property market started to recover

Henderson Park buys Irish real estate fund Green Reit for €1.3bn

JAMES BOOTH

@jamesdbooth1

REAL estate investment group Henderson Park yesterday said it had agreed to acquire Irish real estate fund Green Reit for €1.3bn (£1.2bn).

Green Reit floated in 2013 as Ireland's property market began to recover after a real estate crash.

It put itself up for sale in April because its shares were trading at a discount to the value of its property portfolio.

The acquisition represents a premium of approximately 24.7 per cent to Green Reit's closing share price of €1.534 on 12 April – the last day before the announcement of a sale processes.

Just Eat backer leads $11m raise for City fintech

EMILY NICOLLE

@emilyjnicolle

PROLIFIC tech investor Index Ventures, which has previously backed the likes of Facebook, Skype and Just Eat, has led an $11m (£9.2m) series A round for London fintech firm Flatfair.

Other participating investors included Onefinestay founder Greg Marsh, former Savills boss Jeremy Helbsy, Transferwise co-founder Taavet Hinrikus, Revolt Ventures and Adevinta.

Flatfair allows tenants to rent a new property without a deposit by securing the tenancy against a debit card, in exchange for a membership fee. The City-based firm said it will use the funding to beef up its technology team with product engineers, data scientists and business development specialists.

Founded by alumni from Deutsche Bank, McKinsey and Google, Flatfair has established partnerships with real estate firms Spicerhaart, Touchstone and CBRE among others.

Index Ventures partner Martin Mignot, who serves on the boards of Deliveroo, Revolut and Livi, will join Flatfair's board.

Government sets out the scope for its probe into National Grid outage

AUGUST GRAHAM

@AugustGraham

THE GOVERNMENT has laid out its plans to probe National Grid over a blackout that left almost 1m homes without power and closed two major train stations in London last week.

The Energy Emergencies Executive Committee will look into whether National Grid, which runs most of Britain's power network, took the right steps after the power cut.

The committee will also examine what caused the outage, and how to avoid a repeat. It will report to business secretary Andrea Leadsom within the next three months.

She said: "National Grid has already confirmed that the incident was not linked to the variability of wind power, a clean, renewable energy source that the government is investing in as we work towards becoming a net zero emissions economy by 2050."

Engineers are currently battling to figure out what happened on Friday, when the lights went out across parts of England and Wales.

The outage is thought to have happened when a gas-fired power station in Bedfordshire disconnected from the grid at the same time as the Hornsea wind farm. The grid lost around five per cent of demand.

As a result, frequencies on the grid changed more than the system could cope with, triggering the Grid's automatic backup protection system.

It then disconnected certain customers to protect supply elsewhere.

Thousands of commuters were stuck on trains or in stations because of the outage

Rookie vets are Britain's highest paid graduates

JAMES WARRINGTON

@j_a_warrington

WITH tuition fees on the rise, the prospect of a well-paid graduate role is becoming even more attractive for UK university students.

As thousands of nervous students open their A level results today, new data has revealed which degrees promise the biggest pay packets.

Research by job site Indeed today showed vets are the university top dogs, with veterinary science students commanding an average salary of £31,636 on graduation.

Close behind them are property management consultants, who enjoy a typical starting salary of £31,362.

Development operations engineers came in third place, with a pay packet of £30,593.

The findings also highlight the rapid growth of the UK's tech sector – and the salaries it is willing to pay to attract top talent – with four of the top 10 best-paying roles in coding and development.

Overall, the UK's top graduates can expect to enjoy a good salary straight after university, with eight of the top roles paying more than the average UK salary of £29,500 a year.

Global car rental giant Enterprise emerged as the most prolific recruiter of new graduates, accounting for nearly one in 40 job postings on Indeed.

Graduate scheme mainstays PWC and KPMG also made it into the top 10.

However, a survey published last month by Glassdoor suggested traditional finance roles are often still the top earners for graduates.

The employment review website's figures showed graduate investment banking jobs have a median starting salary of just over £50,000.

But technology jobs again dominated the rankings, suggesting that students with skills in science, technology, engineering and maths – also known as STEM fields – may be best placed to launch their careers in a lucrative sector.

UK'S HIGHEST-PAID GRADUATE JOBS

JOB TITLE	AVERAGE STARTING SALARY
1. Veterinarian	£31,636
2. Property management consultant	£31,362
3. Development operations engineer	£30,593
4. Senior structural engineer	£30,168
5. Actuary	£30,153

Customers have shunned fur, hitting Canada Goose's figures

Canada Goose margins weaken as lightweight clothes hurt sales

JAMES WARRINGTON

@j_a_warrington

CANADA Goose reported a slip in its gross margin for the first quarter yesterday, as it increased sales of its less profitable lightweight clothes.

The Toronto based firm, best known for its luxury parka jackets, increased its revenue by 59 per cent to CA$71.1m (£44.3m), while its net loss widened to CA$29.4m.

But shares in Canada Goose dropped eight per cent as investors were spooked by a drop in profit margin, from 64 per cent in 2018 to 57.5 per cent.

The retailer said the narrower margins were sparked by higher sales of clothes in its non-parka lines.

Canada Goose has branched out into lightweight jackets and raincoats in recent years in a bid to boost seasonal sales and counteract growing opposition to its parkas, which are made with real coyote fur.

Chief executive and president Dani Reiss said: "We believe our business has never been stronger as we report our smallest fiscal quarter."

Tencent's profit rises after long China ban lifted

JAMES WARRINGTON

@j_a_warrington

CHINESE tech giant Tencent has reported a 35 per cent rise in profit for the second quarter as growth in its gaming division returned after a lengthy regulatory ban.

Tencent has suffered a string of disappointing quarterly results after Beijing imposed a nine-month freeze on licences for new online games.

It beat analysts' estimates to post profit of 24.1bn yuan (£2.8bn) over the quarter, while revenue rose 21 per cent to 88bn yuan. The figures were driven by a 26 per cent rise in revenue from smartphone games, as Tencent released 10 new titles after licensing resumed.

However, it was not all plain sailing, as growth from online advertising revenue slowed amid a weakening Chinese economy and fears of a trade war with the US.

"In recent months, we have accelerated our rate of innovation in games, releasing successful new titles in several different genres, introducing new play modes, and extending our popular season passes," said chief executive and chairman Ma Huateng.

"Amid the evolving macro-economic and competitive challenges, we continue to invest in enhancing our platforms, services and technologies, for better supporting our users and enterprise customers."

On a charge: An increasing number of Brits say their next car will be electric

The number of electric car charging points in UK surpasses fuel stations

JAMES WARRINGTON

@j_a_warrington

THE NUMBER of electric car charging points in the UK now exceeds petrol stations, as an increasing number of Brits turn to electric vehicles (EV).

There are now 9,300 charging locations, compared to 8,400 petrol stations, according to data released today by Nissan.

The milestone comes less than a century after the UK's first fuel station opened in November 1919 in Berkshire, and ahead of Nissan's previous prediction of August 2020.

Transport for London has installed more than 1,000 EV charging points in the past year, with the introduction on the new Ultra-Low Emission Zone prompting many London drivers to switch to zero-emission cars.

Kalyana Sivagnanam, managing director at Nissan, said: "Many consumers are saying their next car will be electric. That means the industry needs to ensure their desires are met with both the car – how far it can go, what technologies it has – and how it interacts with the world around it – where they can charge and how convenient that is for them.

"We've moved beyond the early concerns of range anxiety with EVs now exceeding the vast majority of customer's daily driving needs."

CITY DASHBOARD YOUR ONE-STOP SHOP FOR BROKER VIEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

LONDON REPORT

FTSE 100 slips as recession fears grip the market

THE FTSE 100 tumbled to its lowest in more than two months yesterday after the yields on 10-year US and UK government bonds fell below two-year equivalents for the first time since the financial crisis, signalling mounting fears of recession.

The blue-chip index, already under pressure from weak Chinese data, ended down 1.4 per cent, to 7,147.88 points. The FTSE 250 fell 1.5 per cent, to close at 18,731.05, a six-month low.

For the FTSE 100, which has fallen 5.8 per cent so far this month, this would be its steepest monthly decline in four years if it remains at that level for the rest of August.

Some analysts played down recession fears, saying central banks could again ride to the rescue.

"Quite frankly, this seems a little like a tempest in a tea pot," CMC Markets analyst Michael Hewson said.

"It's quite possible that we see a recession towards the second half of next year at the earliest. I wouldn't say it's the beginning of the end here," IG Markets analyst Chris Beauchamp said.

Upbeat corporate earnings helped some individual stocks.

Admiral rose 4.1 per cent on its best day in over two years after the insurer posted a bigger-than-expected rise in earnings, driven by more customers in its UK business.

Balfour Beatty jumped 9.3 per cent, its biggest one-day rise in more than 10 and a half years, after the infrastructure company reported a leap in profits and upgraded its annual cash forecast.

Cybersecurity firm **Avast** climbed 8.7 per cent after it said revenue growth would be at the upper end of its target.

The FTSE 100 is on track for its steepest monthly decline in four years

However, blue-chip **Prudential** slipped 4.1 per cent to its lowest since January after the insurer, which has a sizeable Asian business, said it was monitoring the protests in Hong Kong.

Sports Direct shed 10 per cent after the retailer said its auditor Grant Thornton had quit.

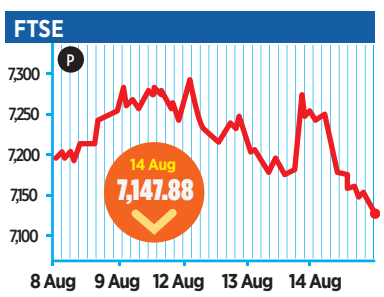
Later in the day, Mike Ashley's company said it was "comfortable" with its latest accounts.

TOP RISERS

1. **Admiral** Up 4.08 per cent
2. **Direct Line** Up 1.23 per cent
3. **Unilever** Up 1.22 per cent

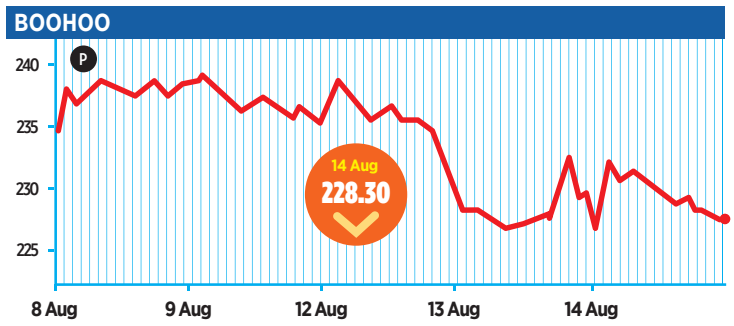
TOP FALLERS

1. **Melrose** Down 5.75 per cent
2. **Evraz** Down 5.21 per cent
3. **NMC Health** Down 4.88 per cent

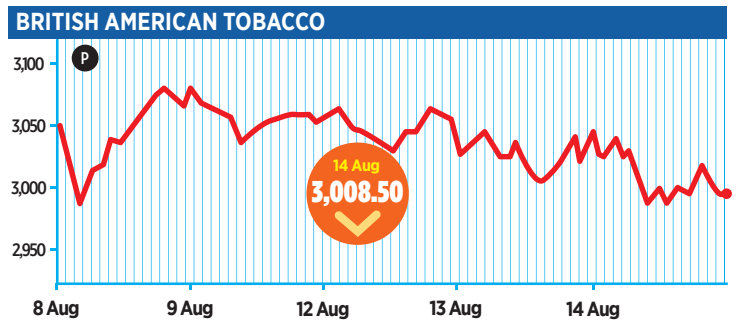


BEST OF THE BROKERS

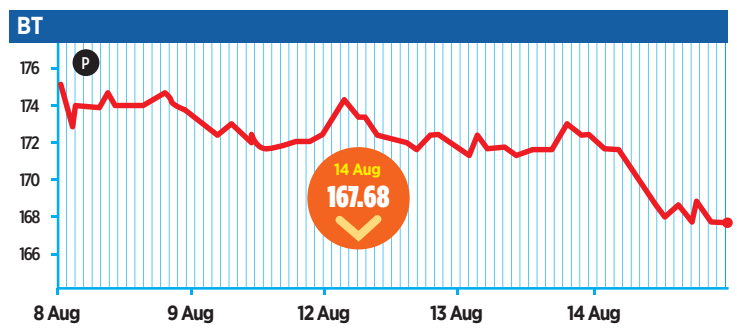
To appear in Best of the Brokers, email your research to notes@cityam.com



Boohoo investors will not be shedding any tears after the retailer's buyout of Karen Millen and Coast, according to Jefferies analysts. The £18m acquisition is "a compelling diversification into a more premium segment and, in our view, will be earnings accretive," they said. "With the stores expected to cease trading in the next few weeks [regrettably another casualty of lower footfall and high rents & rates], we expect a significant proportion of the latent demand for these brands to go online," they added. They gave Boohoo a "Buy" rating and a 325p target price.



British American Tobacco could be smoking hot property after Liberum analysts gave it a "Buy" rating yesterday, in anticipation of a decision on graphic warnings on packets of cigarettes this week. The US was already supposed to have graphic warnings on cigarettes by June 2011 due to the Tobacco Control Act, but the tobacco industry successfully litigated this on first amendment grounds and a lack of clear evidence that the specific warnings would lead to reduced smoking levels. It is expected today. They gave it a target price of 3,000p.



BT shares have been sinking in recent weeks after first quarter results did little to ease investor fears that the telecom group's dividend is for the chop. But with stocks valued at a paltry 172p, Jefferies analysts think the telecoms giant could be set for a rise again soon. "BT faces tough second quarter comps, but Openreach will return to growth from the third quarter and consumer recovery should be visible by the fourth quarter," they said. They also said it would benefit from 5G convergence plans. They gave it a "Buy" rating and a target price of 325p.

NEW YORK REPORT

Dow plunges in worst day of trading of 2019

WALL Street sold off sharply yesterday as recession fears gripped the market after the US Treasury yield curve temporarily inverted for the first time in 12 years.

All three major US indexes closed down about three per cent, with the blue-chip Dow posting its biggest one-day point drop since October after two-year Treasury yields surpassed those of 10-year bonds, which is considered a classic recession signal.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average plunged 800.49 points, or 3.05 per cent, to 25,479.42, the S&P 500 lost 85.72 points, or 2.93 per cent, to 2,840.6, and the Nasdaq Composite dropped 242.42 points, or 3.02 points, to 7,773.94.

Dire economic data from China and Germany suggested a faltering global economy, stricken by the increasingly belligerent Sino-American trade war, Brexit woes and geopolitical tensions.

Germany reported a contraction in second-quarter gross domestic product, and China's industrial growth in July hit a 17-year low.

"It was all negative and not much positive today," said Chuck Carlson, chief executive officer at Horizon Investment Services in Hammond, Indiana.

"We're outside of the earnings season and markets are being batted around by news. It's a reactionary market right now and probably will continue to be," Carlson added. "My guess is we're probably in for this until after Labor Day."

The CBOE volatility index – the Fear Index – a gauge of investor anxiety, jumped 4.58 points to 22.10.

Macy's shares plunged 13.2 per cent after the department store operator missed quarterly profit estimates and cut its full-year earnings estimates.

Rival department store operators **Nordstrom** and **Kohls** slid 10.6 per cent and 11.0 per cent, respectively.

Facebook slid 4.6 per cent on news that the European Union's lead regulator is investigating how the social media company handled data during the manual transcription of users' audio recordings.

CITY MOVES WHO'S SWITCHING JOBS

MOSS BROS

Men's tailoring giant Moss Bros has appointed Avis Darzins (pictured) as a non-executive director, effective 1 September 2019. Moss Bros has announced also that Maurice Helfgott, in line with good corporate governance following nine years' service, will no longer be senior independent non-executive director from 1 October 2019, when the role will be handed over to non-executive director Alex Gersh. Maurice will stay on the board until the annual general meeting in May 2020. Avis joins from Accenture, where she was for eight years as a partner focusing on the retail and consumer products sector. She delivered successful engagement with many well-known national and international brands such as Gap, where she delivered the infrastructure to enable it to launch its Banana Republic brand on to the UK high street. While also at Accenture she led numerous projects for Sainsbury's, including shaping and leading the first phase of a performance improvement programme focused on delivering the customer promise in the retailer's top 50 stores. Avis also founded her own management consulting practice in 2013 following four years as director of business transformation at British media and telecoms corporation Sky.

MULLENLOWE GROUP UK

Danny Donovan has been appointed UK chief executive of Mullenlowe Mediahub – the global planning and buying arm of marketing communications network Mullenlowe Group. Starting 1 November, Danny will oversee the UK Mediahub team, which specialises in challenger brands and reinventing how to reach consumers. He will form part of the global leadership team and work closely with John Moore, global president of Mediahub, and Jeremy Hine, the chief of Mullenlowe Group UK. Danny has a career spanning 30 years in media agencies. Most recently, Danny spent almost nine years in the Mediacom UK leadership team, and has numerous awards to his name including those for IPA and Cannes.

QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART & SULLIVAN

Mark McNeill will be joining Quinn Emanuel as a partner in the business ligation and arbitration firm's New York office. For two decades, Mark has represented firms and states in numerous commercial and investment treaty arbitrations on issues such as intellectual property, technology, nuclear construction, pharmaceuticals, oil and gas, taxation, mining and insurance. Mark joins from Shearman & Sterling in London, where he was a part of the international arbitration practice. Before joining Shearman & Sterling, Mark was an attorney-adviser in the office of the legal adviser of the US Department of State, where he represented the US in investor-state arbitrations under the investment chapter of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

To appear in CITYMOVES please email your career updates and pictures to citymoves@cityam.com

FTSE 100	FTSE 250	FTSE ALL SHARE	DOW JONES	NASDAQ	S&P 500
7147.88	18731.05	3905.59	25479.42	7773.94	2840.60
↓ 103.02	↓ 277.13	↓ 55.57	↓ 800.49	↓ 242.42	↓ 85.72

£					
/€	1.0827	↑ 0.0032	€/$	1.1137	↓ 0.0034
/$	1.2058	↓ 0.0002	€/£	0.9233	↓ 0.0027
/¥	127.65	↓ 1.0541	€/¥	117.90	↓ 1.3324

GILTS

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Tsy 3.750 19	100.20	-0.01	103.3	100.2
Tsy 2.000 20	101.36	-0.02	102.5	101.3
Tsy 4.750 20	102.35	-0.02	106.4	102.3
Tsy 3.750 20	103.43	-0.03	106.3	103.4
Tsy 2.500 20	355.45	-0.02	361.4	355.2
Tsy 8.000 21	113.74	-0.05	120.3	113.4
Tsy 4.000 22	109.29	-0.05	111.3	108.9
Tsy 0.500 22	100.48	-0.06	100.5	97.7
Tsy 1.875 22	116.92	-0.05	118.3	115.5
Tsy 2.250 23	107.74	-0.08	107.9	104.7
Tsy 2.500 24	375.70	-0.03	377.1	358.7
Tsy 0.125 24	115.15	-0.04	115.6	110.9
Tsy 5.000 25	125.77	-0.08	125.9	122.1
Tsy 4.250 27	131.93	-0.05	131.9	122.6
Tsy 1.250 27	139.62	0.01	139.6	128.4
Tsy 6.000 28	151.07	-0.05	151.1	140.5
Tsy 0.125 29	132.73	0.05	132.7	118.8
Tsy 4.750 30	146.37	0.00	146.4	132.1
Tsy 4.125 30	398.25	0.04	398.3	355.2
Tsy 4.250 32	144.40	0.13	144.4	128.5
Tsy 1.250 32	163.65	0.19	163.7	144.1
Tsy 0.125 36	157.36	0.37	157.4	133.4
Tsy 4.250 36	152.99	0.24	153.0	133.1
Tsy 4.750 38	168.32	0.32	168.3	144.9
Tsy 0.625 40	179.40	0.46	179.5	152.8
Tsy 4.500 42	172.51	0.39	172.5	145.9
Tsy 3.500 45	154.68	0.45	154.7	128.0
Tsy 4.250 46	175.80	0.50	175.8	145.7
Tsy 4.025 49	182.88	0.57	182.9	150.0
Tsy 0.500 50	212.96	0.60	213.1	173.7
Tsy 0.250 52	210.30	0.65	210.5	168.8

AEROSPACE & DEFENCE

	Price	Chg	High	Low
BAE Systems	549.0	-6.4	636.2	443.9
Cobham	163.0	-0.4	168.3	96.8
Meggitt	609.8	-3.2	615.4	458.0
QinetiQ Group	267.0	-5.0	312.4	265.2
Rolls-Royce Holdi	752.0	-0.6	1033.5	730.0
Senior	197.8	-3.8	327.8	185.4
Ultra Electronics	2138.0	-42.0	2180.0	1232.0

BANKS

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Bank of Georgia G	1353.0	7.0	1878.8	1310.0
Barclays	138.8	-2.3	185.2	138.1
Close Brothers Gr	1227.0	-39.0	1660.0	1226.0
CYBG	137.3	-6.9	350.0	136.7
HSBC Holdings	602.2	-12.1	715.6	600.5
Lloyds Banking Gr	48.7	-0.3	66.6	48.4
Metro Bank	288.4	-10.2	3050.0	287.0
Royal Bank of Sco	198.5	-4.4	270.4	197.5
Standard Chartere	607.6	-14.8	736.8	519.8
TBC Bank Group	1322.0	-2.0	1728.0	1242.0

BEVERAGES

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Barr (A.G.)	623.0	-6.0	975.0	610.0
Britvic	850.5	-13.5	956.0	745.0
Coca-Cola HBC AG	2699.0	-10.0	3074.0	2244.0
Diageo	3407.0	7.5	3526.0	2523.5

CHEMICALS

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Croda Internation	4678.0	-16.0	5447.7	4576.0
Elementis	133.2	-7.8	247.8	129.8
Johnson Matthey	2802.0	-98.0	3673.0	2620.0
Sirius Minerals	8.9	-0.7	37.0	8.1
Synthomer	293.4	-2.2	532.1	279.8
Victrex plc	1853.0	-39.0	3408.0	1843.0

CONSTRUCTION & MATERIALS

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Balfour Beatty	220.6	18.8	296.5	194.2
CRH	2643.0	-56.0	2735.0	1971.5
Galliford Try	547.5	-17.5	1104.0	512.0
Ibstock	218.8	0.2	262.0	193.1
Marshalls	615.0	-18.0	690.0	412.2
Polypipe Group	374.6	-22.0	453.8	307.8

ELECTRICITY

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Contour Global	168.2	2.4	246.0	150.1
Drax Group	268.0	-7.0	427.2	260.2
SSE	1110.0	-8.5	1269.5	1008.0

ELECTRONIC & ELECTRICAL EQ.

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Halma	1939.0	-34.5	2094.0	1237.0
Morgan Advanced M	250.0	-5.6	354.0	237.0
Oxford Instrument	1312.0	22.0	1424.0	842.0
Renishaw	3680.0	-42.0	5520.0	3460.0
Spectris	2297.0	-23.0	2898.0	1966.5

EQUITY INVESTMENT INSTRUM.

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Aberforth Smaller	1118.0	-22.0	1362.0	1116.0
Alliance Trust	790.0	-17.0	838.0	672.0
Apax Global Alpha	154.0	-1.0	159.0	127.0
AVI Global Trust	734.0	-14.0	781.0	660.0
Baillie Gifford J	790.0	-10.0	866.0	663.0
Bankers Inv Trust	916.0	-20.0	970.0	766.0
BBGI SICAV S.A. (	154.0	-1.0	168.0	142.5
BlackRock Smaller	1316.0	-40.0	1520.0	1160.0
BMO Global Smalle	1336.0	-42.0	1495.0	1220.0
Caledonia Investm	3015.0	-35.0	3110.0	2650.0
City of London In	396.5	-8.5	431.5	376.0
Edinburgh Inv Tru	535.0	-10.0	695.0	535.0
F&C Investment Tr	695.0	-13.0	737.0	616.0
Fidelity China Sp	206.0	-7.5	250.0	182.4
Fidelity European	243.5	-6.0	257.5	202.0
Fidelity Special	240.5	-6.0	277.0	220.0
Finsbury Growth &	906.0	-15.0	956.0	740.0
GCP Infrastructur	125.8	0.0	130.8	122.4
Genesis Emerging	744.0	-14.0	783.0	615.0
Greencoat UK Wind	136.4	-1.0	143.2	122.8
HarbourVest Globa	1704.0	-16.0	1726.0	1326.0
Herald Investment	1272.0	-34.0	1364.0	1055.0
HGCapital Trust	205.0	-0.5	220.0	175.0
HICL Infrastructu	162.8	-2.0	170.1	149.9
International Pub	160.6	0.2	163.4	146.8
JPMorgan American	472.0	-11.0	494.5	386.5
JPMorgan Emerging	990.0	-24.0	1066.0	759.0
JPMorgan Indian I	710.0	-8.0	790.0	566.0
JPMorgan Japanese	444.5	-5.0	466.0	367.0
Jupiter European	811.0	-12.0	895.0	666.0
Law Debenture Cor	552.0	-18.0	624.0	534.0
Mercantile Invest	188.0	-4.0	219.0	168.0
Monks Inv Trust	905.0	-29.0	964.0	710.0
Murray Internatio	1114.0	-38.0	1208.0	1056.0
NB Global Floatin	89.3	-0.1	93.3	87.6
NextEnergy Solar	119.0	-0.5	124.5	108.0
Pantheon Internat	2270.0	-20.0	2330.0	1955.0
Perpetual Income	284.5	-5.5	364.5	284.3
Pershing Square H	1432.0	-18.0	1480.0	990.0
Personal Assets T	42900.0	-50.0	43100.0	38900.0
Polar Capital Tec	1382.0	-40.0	1500.0	1066.0
RIT Capital Partn	2055.0	-30.0	2150.0	1892.0
Riverstone Energy	713.0	-17.0	1282.0	713.0
Schroder Asia Pac	424.5	-18.0	469.5	379.0
Scottish Inv Trus	797.0	-22.0	888.0	748.0
Scottish Mortgage	521.0	-19.0	568.5	441.4
Sequoia Economic	115.4	0.0	115.6	106.0
Smithson Investme	1222.0	-26.0	1278.0	1000.2
Syncona Limited N	223.0	3.0	302.5	213.5
Temple Bar Inv Tr	1162.0	-36.0	1366.0	1116.0
Templeton Emergin	762.0	-20.0	829.0	649.0
The Renewables In	126.6	-0.2	133.2	109.3
TR Property Inv T	410.0	-8.5	431.0	353.5
Vietnam Enterpris	474.5	2.5	478.5	420.0
VinaCapital Vietn	353.0	-2.5	356.0	318.0
Witan Inv Trust	209.5	-3.5	226.4	189.6
Woodford Patient	45.0	1.1	91.0	40.1
Worldwide Healthc	2730.0	-75.0	2915.0	2325.0

FINANCIAL SERVICES

	Price	Chg	High	Low
3i Group	1071.0	-15.0	1164.5	756.2
3i Infrastructure	283.5	-1.0	303.0	232.5
AJ Bell	383.5	0.5	477.0	220.0
Allied Minds	56.9	-1.1	87.0	37.3
Amigo Holdings	144.8	-1.6	297.5	137.5
Arrow Global Grou	194.0	-1.0	273.0	167.2
ASA International	359.0	-2.0	510.0	320.0
Ashmore Group	485.4	-16.6	542.5	337.0
Brewin Dolphin Ho	291.8	-0.2	366.0	287.6
Charter Court Fin	270.0	-4.5	375.0	228.8
City of London In	412.0	-3.0	440.0	360.0
CMC Markets	86.0	-1.6	193.0	77.4
Coats Group	72.6	-1.0	91.3	69.8
Georgia Capital	1024.0	8.0	1260.0	941.0
Hargreaves Lansdo	1876.5	-78.5	2433.0	1633.0
IG Group Holdings	544.4	-11.2	915.0	474.8
IntegraFin Holdin	378.0	-4.0	406.1	269.0
Intermediate Capi	1293.0	-20.0	1429.0	899.0
International Per	97.2	2.0	240.2	93.9
Investec	400.7	-18.5	561.0	398.6
IP Group	60.2	-1.6	131.2	58.5
John Laing Group	376.6	-7.6	402.0	285.0
JTC	358.0	3.0	440.0	287.0
Jupiter Fund Mana	334.6	-2.9	432.0	287.6
Liontrust Asset M	744.0	-14.0	816.0	532.0
LMS Capital	50.9	0.6	53.5	44.0
London Finance &	38.5	0.0	43.5	37.1
London Stock Exch	6728.0	-20.0	7058.0	3867.0
Man Group	161.2	3.2	183.0	126.8
OneSavings Bank	328.6	-5.6	447.4	327.8
Paragon Banking G	389.2	-6.4	490.0	379.2
Plus500 Ltd (DI)	660.6	-29.4	1858.0	495.0
Provident Financi	360.3	-8.0	692.6	359.7
Quilter	126.0	-2.6	156.6	110.6
Rathbone Brothers	2140.0	-15.0	2634.0	2085.0
Real Estate Credi	166.5	-0.5	175.5	163.0
Record	31.8	0.0	42.1	27.3
River and Mercant	268.0	3.0	330.0	212.0
S&U	2100.0	-90.0	2605.0	1767.5
Sanne Group	539.0	2.0	752.0	450.0
Schroders	2705.0	-33.0	3210.0	2334.0
Standard Life Abe	249.8	-0.7	376.7	224.9
TP ICAP	272.1	1.0	324.5	267.2
Walker Crips Grou	25.0	-0.1	39.0	23.3
XPS Pensions Grou	117.0	2.0	180.0	95.0

FIXED LINE TELECOMS

	Price	Chg	High	Low
BT Group	167.7	-4.4	264.7	167.7
TalkTalk Telecom	99.7	-2.8	137.0	96.6
Telecom Plus	1254.0	6.0	1528.0	1010.0

FOOD & DRUG RETAILERS

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Greggs	1992.0	-48.0	2476.0	1006.0
Morrison (Wm) Sup	181.9	-1.4	269.4	180.9
Ocado Group	1153.5	-20.0	1435.0	749.8
Sainsbury (J)	185.5	-2.4	341.5	184.7
SSP Group	684.0	-16.0	744.4	615.1
Tesco	214.3	0.2	260.0	189.6
UDG Healthcare Pu	775.5	-4.5	813.0	551.0

FOOD PRODUCERS

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Associated Britis	2256.0	-49.0	2638.0	2041.0
Bakkavor Group	100.0	-0.4	190.0	98.2
Cranswick	2598.0	-22.0	3454.0	2472.0
Greencore Group	202.6	-3.2	230.0	162.9
Hilton Food Group	950.0	-9.0	1088.0	884.0
Tate & Lyle	722.4	-9.2	800.4	630.6
Unilever	4967.0	60.0	5091.0	3931.0

FORESTRY & PAPER

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Mondi	1565.5	-61.5	2200.0	1553.5

GAS, WATER & MULTIUTILITIES

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Centrica	65.5	0.1	155.6	64.0
National Grid	842.8	5.7	889.2	748.7
Pennon Group	707.4	2.4	792.8	684.2
Severn Trent	1978.0	17.5	2153.0	1770.0
United Utilities	774.2	9.0	873.6	682.4

GENERAL INDUSTRIALS

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Smith (DS)	320.8	-12.2	510.6	292.2
Smiths Group	1545.5	-24.0	1666.0	1279.5
Smurfit Kappa Gro	2428.0	-50.0	3292.0	1934.0
Vesuvius	458.0	-9.0	662.0	458.0

GENERAL RETAILERS

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Auto Trader Group	520.6	-3.4	606.0	388.5
B&M European Valu	344.0	-2.0	426.3	278.6
Card Factory	155.9	-0.3	209.0	152.0
Dixons Carphone	104.9	-5.1	178.6	103.9
Dunelm Group	862.0	-29.5	981.0	482.8
Inchcape	554.0	-12.5	705.0	486.6
JD Sports Fashion	598.2	-10.4	649.8	318.5
Just Eat	808.8	-3.2	818.8	533.8
Kingfisher	199.0	-3.9	290.6	198.3
Marks & Spencer G	183.0	-1.2	299.1	182.0
Next	5700.0	-148.0	6064.0	3991.0
Pets at Home Grou	225.4	-1.8	231.8	110.0
Sports Direct Int	214.0	-23.8	395.0	206.4
Ted Baker	905.0	-18.0	2378.0	800.0
Vivo Energy	115.8	-1.2	148.6	96.0
WH Smith	1942.0	-40.0	2186.0	1697.0

HEALTH CARE EQUIPMETN & S.

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Assura	66.1	0.6	66.4	52.4
Convatec Group	179.5	-3.6	239.0	118.6
Medidinic Intern	309.5	-2.4	498.7	293.4
NMC Health	1801.5	-92.5	4120.0	1797.0
Smith & Nephew	1891.5	-3.5	1924.5	1258.0

HHOLD GDS & HOME CONSTR.

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Barratt Developme	623.0	-14.6	663.0	434.0
Bellway	2802.0	-24.0	3226.0	2419.0
Berkeley Group Ho	3835.0	-26.0	3981.0	3226.0
Bovis Homes Group	1025.0	-17.0	1177.0	828.0
Countryside Prope	280.0	-4.8	353.2	270.0
Crest Nicholson H	337.8	-7.6	404.8	296.4
McCarthy & Stone	135.7	2.8	142.7	108.8
Persimmon	1860.0	-47.0	2489.0	1854.0
Reckitt Benckiser	6124.0	-4.0	7155.0	5593.0
Redrow	544.0	-10.0	674.6	460.8
Taylor Wimpey	144.4	-2.9	192.3	129.3

INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Bodycote	660.5	-12.5	1017.0	653.6
Hill & Smith Hold	1133.0	12.0	1306.0	902.5
IMI	927.0	-28.4	1227.0	870.0
Melrose Industrie	163.0	-10.0	233.9	146.3
RHI Magnesita N.V	4128.0	14.0	5085.0	3318.0
Rotork	299.3	-6.5	342.8	235.7
Spirax-Sarco Engi	7735.0	-120.0	9400.0	5900.0
Weir Group	1287.5	-62.5	1920.0	1240.0

INDUSTRIAL METALS & MINING

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Evraz	527.4	-29.0	709.4	442.1
Ferrexpo	230.2	-3.6	301.3	143.5

INDUSTRIAL TRANSPORTATION

	Price	Chg	High	Low
BBA Aviation	296.0	-5.4	324.8	207.0
Clarkson	2390.0	40.0	2900.0	1878.0
Fisher (James) &	2020.0	30.0	2260.0	1600.0
Royal Mail	194.9	-10.5	489.0	192.5

NON LIFE INSURANCE

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Admiral Group	2115.0	83.0	2300.0	1932.5
Beazley	587.5	0.5	599.0	492.6
Direct Line Insur	296.2	3.6	366.5	292.4
Hastings Group Ho	183.9	-1.6	274.2	174.0
Hiscox Limited (D	1580.0	-2.0	1777.0	1418.0
Lancashire Holdin	701.0	6.0	725.5	530.0
RSA Insurance Gro	515.8	-7.4	641.0	496.6
Sabre Insurance G	262.5	1.0	294.0	249.0

LIFE INSURANCE

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Aviva	371.0	-9.2	497.0	364.6
Legal & General G	229.5	-6.6	291.2	223.7
Phoenix Group Hol	678.7	-14.3	724.8	544.0
Prudential	1434.0	-61.5	1814.5	1340.0
St James's Place	914.2	-18.8	1164.5	912.4

MEDIA

	Price	Chg	High	Low
4imprint Group	2900.0	10.0	2940.0	1800.0
Ascential	356.6	-6.4	434.8	337.2
Bloomsbury Publis	226.0	-4.0	243.0	190.5
Centaur Media	41.5	0.0	56.5	34.7
Entertainment One	408.6	-6.0	483.4	336.4
Euromoney Institu	1300.0	-20.0	1412.0	1132.0
Future	967.0	-27.0	1248.0	375.0
Goco Group	78.7	-2.3	116.0	64.6
Haynes Publishing	221.0	0.0	227.0	160.0
Huntsworth	99.0	3.0	125.0	81.0
Informa	836.6	-7.6	892.0	605.8
ITE Group	70.0	0.0	83.7	56.3
ITV	105.3	-2.1	167.5	104.7
Moneysupermarket.	353.0	-2.2	417.7	264.0
Pearson	813.6	-3.8	1027.5	769.2
Reach	90.4	0.0	91.2	54.6
Relx plc	1912.5	-25.5	1978.0	1491.5
Rightmove	515.6	-3.4	585.1	420.9
STV Group	374.0	12.0	430.0	318.0
Tarsus Group	424.0	0.0	438.0	243.0
WPP	955.0	-21.0	1301.0	800.4

MAIN CHANGES UK 350

Risers ↑		%	Fallers ↓		%
Balfour Beatty	220.6	9.3	Sports Direct Inte	214.0	-10.0
Avast	356.0	8.7	Premier Oil	67.2	-9.6
Intu Properties	39.4	8.4	Wood Group (John)	438.8	-7.3
Admiral Group	2115.0	4.1	Cairn Energy	158.7	-7.0
Funding Circle Hol	119.6	3.6	Sirius Minerals	8.9	-6.9
Woodford Patient C	45.0	2.4	Melrose Industries	163.0	-5.8
McCarthy & Stone	135.7	2.1	Polypipe Group	374.6	-5.6
Man Group	161.2	2.0	Elementis	133.2	-5.5
Oxford Instruments	1312.0	1.7	Evraz	527.4	-5.2
Clarkson	2390.0	1.7	Royal Mail	194.9	-5.1

MINING

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Acacia Mining	251.2	1.6	256.6	96.1
Anglo American	1789.0	-75.0	2266.0	1464.6
Antofagasta	819.8	-25.0	1022.5	727.2
BHP Group	1782.8	-33.2	2049.0	1490.6
Centamin (DI)	137.6	-0.9	141.6	79.8
Fresnillo	684.2	2.0	1027.5	601.0
Glencore	230.5	-5.7	341.5	228.5
Hochschild Mining	213.2	-8.8	226.0	149.1
Kaz Minerals	494.7	-11.5	738.4	436.7
Polymetal Interna	1078.0	14.5	1087.5	597.2
Rio Tinto	4061.5	-56.0	4976.5	3486.0

MOBILE TELECOMS

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Inmarsat	576.2	-1.8	583.2	362.8
Vodafone Group	149.0	-0.7	178.8	123.3

OIL & GAS PRODUCERS

	Price	Chg	High	Low
BP	498.0	-8.9	598.3	485.9
Cairn Energy	158.7	-11.9	244.0	140.0
Energean Oil & Ga	1036.0	-24.0	1082.0	510.0
Premier Oil	67.2	-7.1	143.6	55.6
Royal Dutch Shell	2344.5	-53.5	2666.0	2213.0
Royal Dutch Shell	2332.5	-48.0	2705.5	2227.0
Tullow Oil	204.0	-8.8	266.3	165.2

OIL EQUIPMENT & SERVICES

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Hunting	422.0	-20.0	849.0	419.6
Petrofac Ltd.	387.5	-12.3	663.4	381.5
Wood Group (John)	438.8	-34.6	796.4	389.9

PERSONAL GOODS

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Burberry Group	2095.0	-44.0	2345.0	1623.5
PZ Cussons	206.5	-3.0	244.0	178.6

PHARMACEUTICALS & BIOTECH

	Price	Chg	High	Low
AstraZeneca	7269.0	-73.0	7475.2	5325.0
BTG	839.5	0.5	853.0	508.5
Dechra Pharmaceut	2902.0	-2.0	3154.0	2014.0
Genus	2570.0	-20.0	2884.0	2098.0
GlaxoSmithKline	1659.6	-24.4	1730.0	1418.0
Hikma Pharmaceuti	1987.0	-15.0	2025.0	1510.5

REAL ESTATE INVEST. & SERV.

	Price	Chg	High	Low
BMO Commercial Pr	110.0	0.0	149.4	106.0
Capital & Countie	187.0	-0.4	279.5	184.8
CLS Holdings	220.5	-1.5	255.0	195.4
Daejan Holdings	5480.0	-10.0	6190.0	5420.0
Grainger	230.2	3.6	278.5	205.8
NewRiver REIT	157.6	0.0	265.5	155.2
Safestore Holding	587.0	-4.5	658.5	499.4
Savills	826.5	-13.5	957.0	678.5
St. Modwen Proper	380.0	0.0	441.5	365.0
UK Commercial Pro	84.8	0.1	92.7	80.2

REAL ESTATE INVEST. TRUSTS

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Big Yellow Group	956.0	-2.0	1062.0	852.5
British Land Comp	472.7	-4.8	641.8	472.5
Derwent London	2984.0	42.0	3328.0	2761.0
Great Portland Es	660.2	5.0	773.6	649.4
Hammerson	207.7	-8.4	493.1	206.5
Intu Properties	39.4	3.1	201.5	34.4
Land Securities G	746.0	-9.4	939.5	745.4
LondonMetric Prop	199.2	-0.2	215.2	172.7
Primary Health Pr	129.6	0.4	139.0	106.4
SEGRO	751.0	-0.4	789.0	585.2
Shaftesbury	743.0	3.5	928.5	734.0
Tritax Big Box Re	141.6	-1.0	159.7	129.0
Unite Group	1031.0	0.0	1076.0	797.5
Workspace Group	815.0	9.0	1075.0	789.5

SOFTWARE & COMPUTER SERV.

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Avast	356.0	28.4	362.0	229.6
Aveva Group	3788.0	-14.0	4170.0	2284.0
Computacenter	1400.0	-7.0	1554.0	952.0
FDM Group (Holdin	767.0	-3.0	1000.0	734.0
Funding Circle Ho	119.6	4.2	440.0	99.0
Kainos Group	494.0	-24.0	676.0	354.0
Micro Focus Inter	1558.0	-57.0	2491.6	1434.4
Playtech	394.2	-8.6	547.0	361.8
Sage Group	691.6	-15.2	820.4	525.6
Softcat	924.0	-2.0	993.5	565.0
Sophos Group	382.9	-4.7	539.5	298.2

SUPPORT SERVICES

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Aggreko	811.0	-29.8	882.0	691.8
Ashtead Group	2071.0	-99.0	2438.0	1586.5
BCA Marketplace	241.4	-0.4	247.0	178.5
Bunzl	2038.0	-52.0	2551.0	2034.0
Capita	125.3	-4.8	150.2	99.9
DCC	6458.0	-124.0	7390.0	5555.0
Diploma	1423.0	-19.0	1634.0	1150.0
Electrocomponents	544.2	-8.8	761.6	480.0
Equiniti Group	199.8	-4.2	266.0	186.2
Essentra	402.2	-3.4	473.8	325.4
Experian	2500.0	-33.0	2558.0	1728.5
Ferguson	6000.0	-60.0	6556.0	4749.0
G4S	174.9	1.5	252.4	172.1
Grafton Group Uni	666.5	-29.0	937.0	630.0
Hays	144.9	-5.9	212.0	135.7
Homeserve	1097.0	-11.0	1263.0	849.0
Howden Joinery Gr	518.6	-11.6	573.4	416.4
Intertek Group	5494.0	-66.0	5962.0	4387.0
Network Internati	581.0	-14.0	628.0	500.0
Pagegroup	441.0	-9.4	623.5	415.0
PayPoint	899.0	-18.0	1118.0	748.0
Rentokil Initial	446.9	-5.0	456.9	284.8
Robert Walters	540.0	-6.0	475.0	814.0
Serco Group	139.2	-3.1	147.4	84.1
SIG	114.6	-2.5	153.0	102.2
Travis Perkins	1179.5	-25.5	1465.0	970.0

TOBACCO

	Price	Chg	High	Low
British American	3008.5	-24.5	4222.5	2375.0
Imperial Brands	2089.0	-10.5	2987.5	1846.8

TRAVEL & LEISURE

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Carnival	3539.0	-70.0	5000.0	3412.0
Cineworld Group	220.4	-11.2	323.6	219.6
Compass Group	2020.0	-30.0	2110.0	1483.0
Domino's Pizza Gr	225.7	-7.2	297.2	224.4
EI Group	280.6	-0.6	285.0	155.8
FirstGroup	114.6	-0.4	117.9	79.3
Flutter Entertain	6502.0	-138.0	7290.0	5525.0
Go-Ahead Group	1988.0	-44.0	2200.0	1480.0
Greene King	564.8	-16.2	704.4	472.8
GVC Holdings	546.8	-10.6	1115.0	507.5
InterContinental	5193.0	-110.0	5738.0	3958.4
International Con	425.1	-19.3	711.4	413.5
Marston's	105.7	-1.3	124.7	89.9
Merlin Entertainm	451.0	-0.5	454.0	307.1
Millennium & Copt	680.0	0.0	685.0	436.0
Mitchells & Butle	304.0	-5.5	320.0	238.0
National Express	418.6	-4.0	438.4	361.4
PPHE Hotel Group	1760.0	-60.0	1990.0	1495.0
Rank Group	153.8	-3.4	183.6	135.0
Restaurant Group	134.8	-3.3	221.9	111.9
Stagecoach Group	126.5	-1.7	177.0	115.5
TUI AG Reg Shs (D	775.0	-35.2	1481.5	698.0
Wetherspoon (J.D.	1465.0	-35.0	1581.0	1066.0
Whitbread	4169.0	-46.0	5114.0	3929.0
William Hill	149.2	-6.2	265.5	132.3
Wizz Air Holdings	3339.0	-121.0	3769.0	2329.0

AIM 50

	Price	Chg	High	Low
Abcam	1207.0	0.0	1539.0	1017.0
Advanced Medical	300.0	5.0	370.0	260.0
Alliance Pharma	73.0	-0.2	95.0	60.0
ASOS	2300.0	-70.0	6192.0	2107.0
Blue Prism Group	906.0	-119.0	2575.0	883.0
Camellia	10100.0	100.0	11750.0	9100.0
CareTech Holding	357.0	-10.0	406.0	325.0
Central Asia Meta	189.8	-4.8	266.5	186.7
Clinigen Group	901.5	-26.0	1069.0	721.0
CVS Group	878.0	-10.0	1023.0	395.0
Dart Group	716.5	-36.0	1017.0	714.0
Diversified Gas &	99.8	1.8	134.0	97.7
Draper Esprit	471.0	-21.0	645.0	458.0
Eland Oil & Gas	121.0	-4.0	134.0	97.0
EMIS Group	1124.0	-44.0	1242.0	864.0
Fevertree Drinks	2092.0	-118.0	3956.0	2070.0
First Derivatives	2590.0	-50.0	4360.0	2050.0
Frontier Developm	919.0	-6.0	1385.0	740.0
Gamma Communicati	1055.0	-40.0	1195.0	688.0
GB Group	562.0	-3.0	631.0	410.5
Gooch & Housego	1060.0	-85.0	1880.0	954.0
Hurricane Energy	40.3	-0.5	60.8	39.0
Impax Asset Manag	241.0	-3.5	295.0	184.0
Iomart Group	321.5	-6.5	475.0	308.0
IQE	55.9	-1.7	104.0	51.6
James Halstead	524.0	-4.0	532.0	367.0
Johnson Service G	173.4	-2.6	176.1	113.6
Keywords Studios	1490.0	-52.0	2065.0	900.0
Learning Technolo	111.0	0.8	166.5	62.2
M&C Saatchi	245.0	-15.0	394.0	240.0
M. P. Evans Group	671.0	-6.0	800.0	637.0
Midwich Group	530.0	10.0	685.0	491.5
Mortgage Advice B	580.0	-10.0	720.0	490.0
Naked Wines	275.5	-2.5	420.5	219.0
Next Fifteen Comm	576.0	-2.0	658.0	469.0
Nichols	1800.0	-80.0	1880.0	1240.0
Numis Corporation	227.5	-1.0	422.0	221.5
Polar Capital Hol	530.0	-20.0	644.0	448.0
Purplebricks Grou	120.2	1.6	300.0	90.0
Redde	109.2	-1.8	196.0	90.0
Renew Holdings	393.0	3.0	436.5	333.0
RWS Holdings	576.0	-13.0	652.0	415.5
Scapa Group	215.5	-1.5	473.4	157.0
Secure Income Rei	422.0	-1.0	424.0	371.0
Serica Energy	104.8	-5.0	142.0	74.9
Smart Metering Sy	463.0	1.2	665.0	451.0
Telford Homes	348.5	0.5	430.0	267.0
Thorpe (F.W.)	330.0	3.0	340.0	248.0
Watkin Jones	216.0	3.0	232.5	192.2
Young & Co's Brew	1635.0	-10.0	1885.0	1322.5
Young & Co's Brew	1130.0	-20.0	1275.0	1030.0

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EU SHARES

	Price	Chg	High	Low
AB INBEV	84.20	-1.53	92.71	56.32
ADIDAS N	255.65	-6.40	297.95	178.30
AIR LIQUIDE	121.50	-3.50	127.20	101.85
AIRBUS BR	121.84	-4.74	133.86	77.50
ALLIANZ	196.02	-6.18	218.70	170.50
AMADEUS IT GRP BR-A	66.24	-1.70	82.20	58.06
ASML HLDG	187.30	-8.20	211.50	130.12
AXA	21.31	-0.32	23.99	18.40
BANCO SANTANDER	3.47	-0.12	4.68	3.46
BASF N	57.20	-1.64	81.73	56.20
BAYER N	64.16	-0.96	85.08	52.00
BBVA	4.24	-0.11	5.79	4.22
BMW	59.48	-1.77	86.71	59.17
BNP PARIBAS A	39.32	-1.05	55.34	38.14
CRH PLC	28.59	-0.56	34.87	26.53
DAIMLER N	41.54	-1.57	59.90	41.34
DANONE	78.80	0.94	79.48	59.72
DEUTSCHE POST N	28.34	-0.83	32.20	23.43
DEUTSCHE TELEKOM N	14.41	-0.18	15.88	13.36
ENEL N	6.01	-0.07	6.62	4.22
ENGIE	13.32	-0.16	14.39	11.31
ENI N	13.10	-0.32	16.67	13.03
ESSILORLUXOTT	128.25	-2.85	131.80	95.50
FRESENIUS	42.00	-1.21	69.76	38.50
IBERDROLA	8.93	-0.01	9.02	5.68
INDITEX	25.82	-0.42	28.86	21.85
ING GROUP	8.40	-0.25	12.14	8.34
INTESA SANPAOLO N	1.85	-0.04	2.47	1.80
KERING	428.45	-11.50	539.80	351.70
KON AH DEL BR	20.14	-0.17	24.01	18.60
L'OREAL	230.10	-3.40	257.80	182.00
LINDE	168.15	-5.50	0.00	0.00
LVMH	348.15	-11.40	392.65	242.30
MUENCHENER RUECKV N	213.50	-4.70	228.70	180.50
NOKIA	4.62	-0.16	5.76	4.17
ORANGE	13.27	-0.20	15.25	13.08
ROY.PHILIPS	40.82	-0.78	43.67	29.05
SAFRAN	124.00	-3.90	137.20	99.98
SANOFI	75.43	0.03	80.44	71.32
SAP I	104.66	-3.66	125.00	84.02
SCHNEIDER EL	72.12	-2.18	81.36	57.54
SIEMENS N	86.20	-3.26	114.10	85.90
SOCIETE GENERALE	21.47	-0.92	35.01	20.81
TELEFONICA	5.99	-0.26	8.06	5.98
TOTAL	43.64	-0.58	55.39	42.65
UNILEVER	52.18	0.91	55.40	45.30
VINCI	92.92	-2.04	95.38	69.98
VIVENDI	25.06	-0.32	26.69	20.80
VOLKSWAGEN VZ I	138.28	-5.32	163.70	131.02

COMMODITIES

Gold	1498.40	-6.30		
Silver	17.44	0.49		
Brent Crude	57.38	1.15		
Krugerrand	1498.60	34.15		
Palladium	1440.00	16.00		
Platinum	865.00	10.00		
Tin Cash Official	17025.00	-100.00		
Lead Cash Official	2103.50	-59.50		
Zinc Cash Official	2238.00	25.00		

Copper Cash Official	5744.00	-48.00
Aluminium Cash Official	1742.50	-11.50
Nickel Cash Official	15630.00	95.00
Aluminium Alloy Cash Official	1250.00	16.00
Cocoa Futures	2156.00	-36.00
Coffee 'C' Futures	94.85	-1.50
Feed Wheat Futures	140.50	-1.30
Soybeans Futures Continuation Contract	869.40	-2.40

CREDIT & RATES

BoE IR Overnight	0.750	0.00
BoE IR 7 days	0.750	0.00
BoE IR 1 month	0.750	0.00
BoE IR 3 months	0.750	0.00
BoE IR 6 months	0.750	0.00
LIBOR Euro - overnight	-0.467	0.00
LIBOR Euro - 12 months	-0.392	0.01
LIBOR USD - overnight	2.098	0.00
LIBOR USD - 12 months	1.970	-0.02
Halifax mortgage rate	3.990	0.00

Euro Base Rate	0.000	0.00
Finance house base rate	1.000	0.00
US Fed funds	2.50	0.00
US long bond yield	2.03	-0.12
Euro Euribor	-0.408	0.00
The vix index	22.10	4.58
The baltic dry index	1864.00	90.00
Markit iBoxx EUR	249.28	0.97
Markit iBoxx GBP	358.55	2.52
Markit iBoxx USD	261.17	-0.62

WORLD INDICES

	Price	Chg	%chg
FTSE 100	7147.88	-103.02	-1.42
FTSE 250	18731.05	-277.13	-1.46
FTSE All-Share	3905.59	-55.57	-1.40
FTSE AIM All-Share	865.29	-11.70	-1.33
S&P 500	2840.60	-85.72	-2.93
Dow Jones I.A.	25479.42	-800.49	-3.05
Nasdaq Composite	7773.94	-242.42	-3.02
Xetra DAX	11492.66	-257.47	-2.19
CAC 40	5251.30	-111.77	-2.08
Swiss Market Index	9628.48	-157.76	-1.61
ISEQ Overall Index	5748.13	-102.95	-1.76
FTSEurofirst 300	1442.44	-23.82	-1.62
Hang Seng	25302.28	20.98	0.08
Shanghai Composite	2808.91	11.66	0.42
STI Index	3145.42	7.39	0.24
ASX All Ordinaries	6677.50	29.40	0.44

US SHARES

	Price	Chg	High	Low
3M	158.81	-6.07	219.75	158.04
ABBOTT LABORATOR	83.94	-2.95	88.76	63.07
ADOBE	283.66	-9.51	313.11	204.95
ALPHAB RG-C-NV	1164.29	-32.98	1289.27	970.11
ALPHABET-A	1164.25	-32.48	1296.98	977.66
AMAZON.COM	1762.96	-61.38	2050.50	1307.00
AMERICAN EXPRESS	122.65	-3.67	129.34	89.05
APPLE	202.75	-6.22	233.47	142.00
AT&T	34.09	-0.77	34.96	26.80
BANK OF AMERICA	26.42	-1.30	31.49	22.66
BERKSHIRE HATH RG-B	195.81	-2.97	224.07	186.10
BOEING CO	320.42	-12.44	446.01	292.47
CATERPILLAR	115.21	-3.80	159.37	112.06
CHEVRON	117.74	-4.65	127.60	100.22
CISCO SYSTEMS	50.61	-2.11	58.26	40.25
CITIGROUP	61.41	-3.42	75.24	48.42
COCA-COLA CO	52.99	-0.51	54.82	44.25
COMCAST-A	42.37	-1.09	45.30	32.61
DOW	44.08	-2.77	0.00	0.00
EXXON MOBIL	67.65	-2.84	87.36	64.65
FACEBOOK-A	179.71	-8.74	208.66	123.02
GOLDMAN SACHS GR	195.56	-8.55	245.08	151.70
HOME DEPOT	201.59	-6.74	219.30	158.09
IBM	131.25	-4.54	154.36	105.94
INTEL	45.87	-0.97	59.59	42.36
JOHNSON & JOHNSO	130.26	-3.16	148.99	121.00
JPMORGAN CHASE	104.80	-4.54	119.24	91.11
MASTERCARD RG-A	267.15	-7.38	283.33	171.89
MCDONALD'S	216.48	-3.25	221.93	156.56
MEDTRONIC	100.93	-1.47	103.95	81.66
MERCK	83.40	-2.68	87.07	66.10
MICROSOFT	133.98	-4.62	141.68	93.96
NETFLIX	299.11	-13.17	386.80	231.23
NIKE -B-	81.03	-2.29	90.00	66.53
ORACLE	52.32	-1.65	60.50	42.40
PEPSICO	118.61	0.56	119.74	101.06
PEPSICO	129.12	-0.81	135.24	104.53
PFIZER	34.24	-0.96	46.47	34.20
PHILIP MRRS INT	83.33	-0.62	92.74	64.67
PROCTER&GAMBLE	115.79	-1.46	121.76	78.49
SALESFORCE.COM	139.72	-4.16	167.56	113.60
TRAVELERS COS	143.48	-4.74	155.09	111.08
TWITTER	40.65	-1.16	43.48	26.19
UNITEDHEALTH GRO	243.20	-6.02	287.94	208.07
UTD TECHS	124.30	-4.65	144.40	100.48
VERIZON COMM	55.72	-0.65	61.58	52.28
VISA RG-A	173.51	-5.10	184.07	121.60
WALGREENS BOOTS	50.41	-2.66	86.31	49.31
WALMART	106.20	-1.21	115.49	85.78
WALT DISNEY	132.85	-4.16	147.15	100.35
WELLS FARGO	43.97	-1.99	59.53	43.02

OFFICE POLITICS

You don't have to be pale and male to have a career in money

On A-level results day, let's remember that university isn't a prerequisite for success...

It is not necessary to be a maths whizz to find a job in the investment sector

Karis Stander

TODAY, hearts will be pounding, as young people across the country receive their much anticipated A-level results. Many will be taking up university places, but others will be looking to take their first steps into full-time work.

Traineeships can offer school leavers the opportunity to gain paid experience that can lead them, debt-free, into full-time employment.

Sadly, too few young people know about the career opportunities that the investment management industry has to offer. Part of this is up to us to fix, by doing more to change perceptions about who we are and what we do as an industry.

When we've spoken to young people about how they view jobs in financial services, the words they often used included "stressful" and "stuffy".

Worryingly, a third said they felt they would not fit in, with the majority identifying the typical employee within financial services as a male, white graduate. Only a handful thought they could find a job in financial services straight from school.

Busting these myths and challenging perceptions is something the Investment Association is working hard to address through Investment20/20, our industry's grassroots careers service.

Over the past six years, the service has helped more than 1,400 trainees start their careers in investment management. Half of those have done so straight out of school.

It is not necessary to have gone to university or be a maths whizz to find a job in the investment sector. And you certainly don't need to be white, male or privately educated. In fact, half of the school leavers who took part in our traineeship programme last year were female, a third were black or from an ethnic minority background, and over 80 per cent were from state schools.

From a commercial perspective, we know that diversity of thought leads to better decisions from the investment floor and the way our businesses are run. It's also important that our industry looks more like the people we serve – Britain's savers.

That means spreading the net further to reach those young people from different backgrounds, who have the potential to flourish in financial services.

To hire for potential, firms need to examine the way they recruit. That means looking again at the language used in job adverts to ensure it is jargon-free. It also means going beyond the script in interviews to understand the skills a young person can bring to a role besides relying purely on their academic achievements.

Life experience can also be an indicator of future success, equivalent to grades. Young people who have managed to juggle a part-time job alongside their studies have the eagerness to learn and resilience to succeed in our industry.

A university degree is certainly not a prerequisite for business success.

As parents and employers watch images of young people up and down the country celebrate or commiserate their A-levels results, let us make sure that we are nurturing their talent in modern-day Britain by looking beyond perceived traditional routes into financial services.

And for students getting their results today, there is #NoWrongPath into your future career.

Karis Stander is managing director of Investment2020.

SHAUN OF THE DEAD

Jora Jobs
Free

You get home after a long day in the office to find your son Shaun shouting at the TV screen again. He has spent so many hours killing virtual zombies that he is starting to look like a zombie himself. "It's time for you to get a job," you declare, but he can't hear you because he's wearing his noise-cancelling headphones. You download a number of job vacancy apps onto his phone and sign him up. Jora is a good one.

COFFEE BREAK

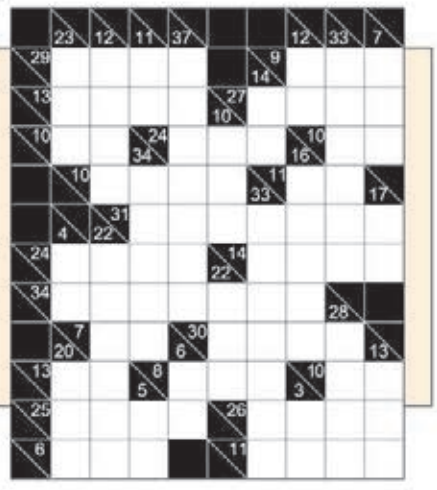
SUDOKU

Place the numbers from 1 to 9 in each empty cell so that each row, each column and each 3x3 block contains all the numbers from 1 to 9 to solve this tricky Sudoku puzzle.

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

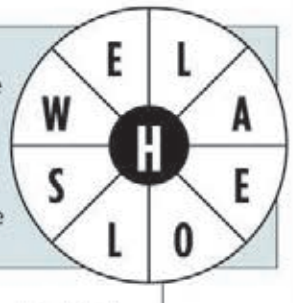
KAKURO

Fill the grid so that each block adds up to the total in the box above or to the left of it.
You can only use the digits 1-9 and you must not use the same digit twice in a block. The same digit may occur more than once in a row or column, but it must be in a separate block.

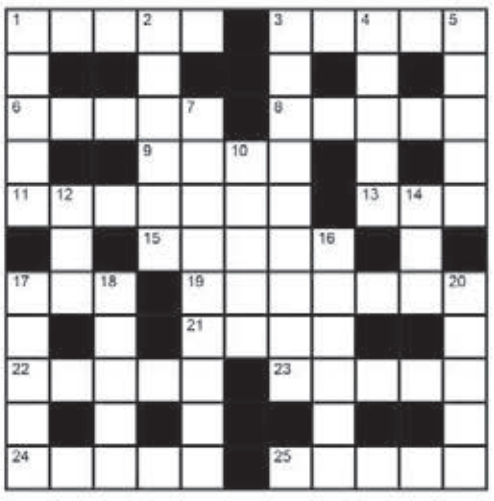


WORDWHEEL

Using only the letters in the Wordwheel, you have ten minutes to find as many words as possible, none of which may be plurals, foreign words or proper nouns. Each word must be of three letters or more, all must contain the central letter and letters can only be used once in every word. There is at least one nine-letter word in the wheel.



QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Auctioneer's hammer (5)
3 Coconut meat (5)
6 Native New Zealander (5)
8 Powerful herbivore (abbr) (5)
9 Arabian sultanate (4)
11 Associate authorship with (7)
13 H Rider Haggard novel (3)
15 Popular taste at a given time (5)
17 Metal ring that opens a can (3)
19 Inanely foolish (7)
21 Russian monarch (4)
22 Florida city (5)
23 Well-known (5)
24 Edge sideways (5)
25 Not as many (5)

DOWN

1 Third letter of the Greek alphabet (5)
2 Slips (6)
3 Semi-precious, dull red stone (9)
4 Causes acute discomfort (5)
5 Sprang up (5)
7 Given to copying (9)
10 Deep chasm (5)
12 Health resort (3)
14 Attila the ___ (3)
16 Provide with a coating (6)
17 Multiplication (5)
18 Name given to a product (5)
20 Common tree (5)

LAST ISSUE'S SOLUTIONS

QUICK CROSSWORD

KAKURO

SUDOKU

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

WORDWHEEL

The nine-letter word was CEASEFIRE

FORUM

EDITED BY RACHEL CUNLIFFE

WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR VIEWS › **E:** theforum@cityam.com **COMMENT AT:** cityam.com/forum

Got a Brexit plan? Good, now you need a Corbyn plan too

Bruce Dear

IN THE mid-1970s, when I was a 10-year-old in love with Choppers and Sherbet Fountains, the ideological war between Thatcherism and Bennism began: small versus big state, low versus high taxation, light versus tight regulation, and private versus public ownership.

Now, 45 years later, we have a neo-Thatcherite government facing a Bennite-controlled Labour party. And they are preparing for a fight to the political death.

Both sides are equally determined to revolutionise British society. Boris Johnson's government wants to deliver Brexit in a blond-welter of head-butting optimism and then complete the Thatcherite revolution. Jeremy Corbyn wants to create a "socialist society" by "an irreversible shift [of] wealth and power in favour of working people".

Our two largest political parties can no longer be accused of being two shades of grey.

On the Conservative side, we have heard much of Dominic "el Capo" Cummings and his plans to exit the EU "by any means necessary" on 31 October. Some may remain sceptical, but he's not bluffing.

This government's leading members believe in "creative crises" and view hard Brexit anxieties as Project Fear's second-rate sequel. No-deal does not faze them and Cummings (applying the Art of War strategies discussed in his blog) hopes that the threat of it will divide and disorientate his opponents.

But the Labour side – and the risk associated with it – has been relatively under-explored recently. It shouldn't be.

Take Labour's plan to unshackle the government's "incredible purchasing power" and use it as the cattle-prod of socialist change.

Everyone focuses on the slew of nationalisations Labour is proposing, but this policy is every bit as radical and far-reaching.

Each year, the government invites the private sector to tender for over £270bn of public sector contracts. Labour wants to use this financial leverage to revolutionise the economy. If your company doesn't reflect Labour's values, then you would be very unlikely to win public tenders under a Corbyn government.

Those values mean that all companies bidding for public contracts will have to recognise trade unions, comply with collective bargaining agreements, have acceptable diversity, equality, training and apprenticeship policies, pay their suppliers within 30 days, and demonstrate "decisive action" to combat climate change. This, Labour argues, is "putting people and the planet before profit".

There is also tricky news for chief executives. If they are paid more than 20 times the wage of the lowest-paid worker in their organisation, it will not win a public tender unless it can show "clear efforts to close" that pay gap.

And Labour wants to go further – much further. In a radical break with 40 years of policy, public bodies will be the "preferred option" for the provision of services and will only be able to outsource a service if it is "failing".

Even then, they will have a legal obligation to prepare their own "realistic [and well-resourced] in-house bid". A public values commissioner will "ensure any tender process is awarded on the basis of public value, rather than [to] the cheapest employer".

We should not be one-eyed; some of this is fair and just. For example, if your company doesn't have a diversity and equality policy, it obviously should have.

But we also shouldn't underestimate the potential impact of these proposals, which seek to impose Labour's version of business values onto the private sector in the most astonishingly wide-ranging way.

This is a New Socialist Labour. If you don't comply, we don't buy. Outside of wartime, this would be one of the biggest shake-ups of UK government tendering and purchasing policies ever undertaken.

It is also one reason why Corbyn's inner-circle wants a "left-wing Brexit". They believe that exiting the bloc will allow them to change the current EU procurement rules and write a new public tendering regime to create a socialist society. The new rules would be designed to support UK industry, workers, and products over those of other EU countries.

This may be easier to put in a manifesto than to deliver in practice. For example, countries whose companies feel excluded from UK tenders might well impose similar exclusions on British companies, and require the British tendering regime to mirror their own as the price of market access. But that uncertainty, and the complex impact of the UK's international legal obligations in this area, means that businesses must prepare for potential global and domestic fall-out.

By now, every sensible business knows that it should have a Brexit plan. But with the looming possibility of a "Do or Die" Brexit election, they also need a Corbyn plan.

The Conservatives are "turbo-charging" themselves for an election anchored along Thatcherite lines: free markets and low regulation, populist rhetoric on crime, and promises of investment in the NHS and the police. In response, Labour offers a high-speed Bennite revolution, launched with a first-100-day budget.

No one can predict how an angry, five-party (don't forget the SNP) country will vote at a General Election. But one thing is clear: Thatcher's political heirs and Benn's disciples are at war again, and the winners will decide the fate of UK business.

Every company must therefore be ready to survive, compete and tender in the regulatory landscape which a potential Labour victory would bring. The alternative could be a long spell in commercial Coventry, frozen out of public tenders.

Bruce Dear is head of London real estate at Eversheds Sutherland.

Big business is invading the co-working world and it's bad news for entrepreneurs

Jonathan Hausmann

IN RECENT years, the co-working market has exploded. It has become such big business that WeWork, one of the earlier entrants to the space, is now valued at $47bn and is preparing for an initial public offering. The total number of sites and seats available is estimated to have roughly doubled each year since 2005.

Co-working was designed to offer smaller businesses and entrepreneurs a less expensive and more flexible alternative to traditional long leases for commercial office space. So surely it is good news for this demographic that there are now so many spaces available?

Unfortunately, it is becoming increasingly apparent that this may not be the case.

In February, we launched The Coalface, a co-working space in Finsbury Park. It's perhaps not the most obvious location for a business hub, but the decision to base ourselves here stemmed from our understanding that co-working sites in more central locations were starting to become unaffordable for many.

Since we opened our doors, feedback from our members has shown that we were right. Most have previously worked in co-working offices in more central locations. The same stories keep coming back to us: "these places just aren't friendly to small businesses anymore", "we were priced out","they were full of corporates".

And herein lies a major issue. The people that you would imagine are filling the multitude of co-working sites across London – tech entrepreneurs, designers, freelancers – are being edged out by giant corporations.

Big companies have clocked the value of offering their staff a hip, trendy office as an alternative to the corporate, homogenous City sites they have occupied for decades. It's good for their image, it's good for recruitment, but it's bad for the people who truly rely on co-working spaces to run their businesses.

In June, it was announced that HSBC was to take 1,135 desks at WeWork's Two Southbank Place development in Waterloo. Of course, they are perfectly entitled to do so – but the result is that these desks are now not available to smaller businesses.

And that isn't the only issue. Many of our members want a co-working space not only because of the flexibility and affordability, but because they provide them with the opportunity to surround themselves with like-minded people. The influx of larger companies is making these spaces more corporate, and taking away the feeling of being part of a small business community.

It can be lonely and stressful starting a business. Co-working has offered a lifeline to many young creatives by providing them with an environment in which they can grow their company, create jobs, and ultimately move on to bigger and better things. I have worked in co-working for many years, and watching this happen has been one of the most satisfying parts of my job.

However, I fear that if current trends continue, many of the people co-working has previously supported will be forced back into coffee shops or their homes.

And at times of economic instability, when we need job creation more than ever, this would ultimately benefit no one.

Jonathan Hausmann is chief operating officer at The Coalface.

LETTERS
TO THE EDITOR

Joke's on you

The Advertising Standards Authority (ASA) just tried out its new shiny rule: banning two TV adverts which contained gender stereotypes (think bumbling fathers and pram-wheeling mothers). The moral argument against gender generalisations is obvious, and there's a business argument too: Nina Åkestam's Stockholm School of Economics research shows stereotypical ads don't perform any better. But does that mean we should ban them? I would argue no. Prohibition only fuels the fire. These actions by the ASA will only encourage the keyboard warriors who liken everything to 1984, despite having never read the book. In my native Sweden, we take a different approach. Our ombudsman of industry heavyweights vets complained-about ads, and publicly names and shames those that aren't appropriate. Rather than banning them, it's much more effective to laugh them back to the 1970s.

Petronella Panérus, Åkestam Holst

BEST OF TWITTER

The weather forecast looks good, we are due to leave Plymouth as planned, at 15.00 GMT.
@GretaThunberg

I appreciate the fix Greta Thunberg is in with her travel but I can't help but think the yacht fandango is counterproductive as almost none of us can charter boats to meet our travel commitments.
@make_trouble

Economic data releases should be covered like A-level results: pictures of a tearful Merkel opening an A4 envelope outside a school gym, central bankers awkwardly jumping in the air not quite simultaneously, a pair of twins grinning and holding up a graph of steel exports
@cinemashoebox

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Boris isn't tough on crime – he's making us less safe


Charlotte Pickles

BORIS Johnson's criminal justice announcements this week are red meat for disillusioned voters. Having fallen off the radar in the past five years, people are now more concerned by crime than any issue other than Brexit – and it happened on the Tories' watch. Bad news for the party of law and order.

Ever the people pleaser, the new Prime Minister is seeking to rapidly reposition his government. He wants "tougher sentencing laws", ensuring more offenders go to prison, for longer.

After a succession of reforming (Conservative) justice secretaries, the new proposals are a return to the "prison works" philosophy of Michael Howard. "My job," Boris declared outside Downing Street, "is to make your streets safer."

And what could make the streets safer than locking up all the criminals? Many things, actually.

It's a myth that Britain has become "soft" on crime. The prison population is barely below its 2011 peak, and is projected to increase over the next few years. The UK has the highest prison population in western Europe – and it has risen steadily since Howard's misguided mid-90s speech.

We've also become far tougher sentencers. Prisoners serving life on average now spend 17 years in custody, a 31 per cent increase since 2001, while the average minimum sentence for murder has increased by almost nine years since 2003. In 2017, more than three times as many people were sentenced to 10 years or more compared to a decade earlier.

The justice system is not giving criminals an easy ride – particularly when 62 per cent of prisons are overcrowded and violence is at record levels.

And the issue isn't just the impact on criminals – it's about the public too. In some instances, looking tough has trumped making us safer.

Evidence clearly shows that short prison sentences of 12 months or less lead to higher reoffending rates than community sentences. Yet despite this, use of the latter has halved over the past decade. More offenders have gone to jail, but in the process we've created more victims.

The former justice secretary David Gauke understood this and was intending to end short sentences. In true populist fashion, Boris is considering scrapping that evidence-based reform.

The Prime Minister's enthusiasm for even longer sentences is also ill-considered. There is little evidence that making already lengthy sentences longer or more punitive deters criminals.

What could make the streets safer than locking up criminals? Many things, actually

That shouldn't be all that surprising given that offenders tend to value the short term more than the long term. Ignoring this logic, Boris has called specifically for tougher sentences for those who carry knives.

He might want to consider what one young Londoner once told me: "I wouldn't be thinking about six years in prison, I'd be thinking about being six feet under."

Boris could also look at evidence from across the pond. In America, the capital of lock-'em-up-and-throw-away-the-key prison policy, significant reductions in incarceration have occurred at the same time as the crime rate has declined. New York is a case in point: the prison population has been declining for a decade, and crime is at its lowest level since the mid-1970s.

That's not to say that prison doesn't have an important role to play in punishing offenders – some people should clearly be behind bars, and some of those probably shouldn't ever be released. But a general policy approach centred around the notion that prison works is a nonsense.

It's also an unforgivable waste of taxpayers' money. The direct cost of a prison place is over £26,000 per year. Prisons are crying out for investment to tackle overcrowding and improve safety among the current – high – population. Local services like children's mental health, alternative school provision, women's refuges, and targeted youth programmes are all in desperate need of funding.

Investment in any of these would help prevent offending and be cheaper than locking more people up.

So, which is it Mr Johnson: do you want to look like you're being tough on crime, or actually be tough on crime? If it's the latter (and it should be), a change of tack is needed.

Charlotte Pickles is director of the think tank Reform.

DEBATE

In the midst of commuter outrage over fare hikes, is rail nationalisation the answer?

YES


CAT HOBBS

Another year, another eye-watering rail fare hike, with the annual cost of getting to work likely to rise by over £100 for many commuters. And it's no wonder passengers are angry. We're being ripped off for the luxury of travelling on packed, delayed trains – if they even turn up at all.

It's not rocket science to figure out what's broken. Private companies have been paying out millions to shareholders while rail fares have risen twice as fast as wages.

But it doesn't have to be like this. According to a Transport for Quality of Life report, if the railway was in public ownership, we'd save around £1.2bn of public funds a year, which could be ploughed into fare reductions, increased capacity, or proper investment.

We've seen with the East Coast Main Line that publicly owned rail is far more effective. That's why 76 per cent of people support it.

And in the context of climate crisis, we need a railway fit for the twenty-first century to take cars off the road and planes out of the sky. Privatisation can't deliver that – only public ownership can.

Cat Hobbs is director of We Own It.

NO


MATTHEW LESH

Rail nationalisation should be kept where it belongs: in the dustbin of history. It was an absolute disaster: passenger journeys declined from one billion to 750m under nationalisation between 1948 and 1995.

Since privatisation, they have more than doubled to 1.76bn. Trains are newer and faster. Billions have been spent upgrading infrastructure. Train companies have innovated, adopting new technologies like wifi and online ticket purchases.

The monopoly franchise system is not perfect, and means that most train companies will increase their fares by the maximum allowed (2.8 per cent next year following the RPI inflation rate) without consequence. We should therefore allow rail companies to compete on the same line (running trains at different times), in a system of open access.

Competition, unlike monopoly public or private ownership, drives down prices and pushes up quality. An Adam Smith Institute report found that where open access currently exists, fares are up to 55 per cent cheaper and have the highest passenger satisfaction rates.

There are smarter solutions than a clumsy, bureaucratic, and stagnant nationalised railway system.

Matthew Lesh is head of research at the Adam Smith Institute.

SUMMER QUIZ 2019

Our summer quiz offers a test of your knowledge of holiday-related trivia through an economics lens

1 **Which of the following cities is the most popular destination for international travellers?**
A) Paris
B) Bangkok
C) London
D) New York

2 **Where is the cheapest place to buy a Big Mac for a traveller carrying dollars?**
A) Russia
B) Romania
C) Argentina
D) Vietnam

3 **The Romans were early pioneers of tourism. If an occupant of Londinium (now called London) in the Roman period wished to escape the stresses and strains of city life and travel to Malaca (now called Malaga) in the south of Spain for a summer break, how long would the journey take?**
A) 9 days
B) 17 days
C) 24 days
D) 62 days

4 **In which of the following European beach resorts is a basket of nine typical tourist items, including sun cream, an evening meal and a bottle of lager, cheapest?**
A) Algarve, Portugal
B) Marmaris, Turkey
C) Sunny Beach, Bulgaria
D) Benidorm, Spain

5 **A number of companies such as Virgin Galactic and Blue Origin are developing a space tourism offering. How much did the first self-funded space tourist, Dennis Tito, pay for his eight days on the International Space Station in 2001?**
A) $20m
B) $51m
C) $134m
D) $941m

6 **In 2017, $68.5bn of duty-free goods were sold around the world, according to figures compiled by the World Duty Free Council. According to price comparison website PriceSpy, what percentage of products sold**

by duty-free shops could be purchased more cheaply online?
A) 15 per cent
B) 30 per cent
C) 60 per cent
D) 90 per cent

7 **With recent sterling weakness, taking a staycation has never been a more attractive option. Which of the following is the sunniest holiday destination in the UK?**
A) Isle of Wight
B) Penzance
C) Bognor Regis
D) Poole

8 **What is the busiest airport in the world?**
A) Atlanta-Hartsfield-Jackson, USA
B) London Heathrow, UK
C) Paris-Charles de Gaulle, France
D) Beijing Capital International, China

9 **Which of the following countries' passports allows visa-free access to the most countries?**
A) Japan
B) South Korea
C) Switzerland
D) Finland

10 **In which of the following travel destinations do British visitors spend the most during a single visit?**
A) Australia
B) New Zealand
C) Thailand
D) South Africa

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS PROVIDED BY DELOITTE

ANSWERS

1. Which of the following cities is the most popular destination for international travellers?
B: Bangkok. According to the MasterCard Global Destination Cities Index, the Thai city of Bangkok is the most visited city in the world with 20.1m international visitors in 2017. London, Paris and Dubai followed with 19.8m, 17.4m, and 15.8m visitors respectively.

The popularity of Bangkok has risen over the last two decades partly due to its close proximity to India and China where an emerging middle class has driven a boom in international travel.

When Bangkok became the most popular destination in 2012, its Suvarnabhumi airport and Siam Paragon shopping centre were the top two most photographed locations on Instagram. The rise in popularity of tourism among the residents of China has contributed to a dramatic fall in its trade surplus with the rest of the world.

2. Where is the cheapest place to buy a Big Mac for a traveller carrying dollars?
A: Russia. According to the long-running Big Mac Index compiled by The Economist magazine, a Big Mac can be bought for the modest sum of 120 roubles in Russia, equivalent to $2.03. By contrast, the same burger in Britain is $4.10 (£3.29) and $5.74 in the US. The index aims to capture succinctly the purchasing power of different currencies. Based on this calculation, the rouble – despite rising 6.3 per cent against the dollar so far this year – remains 65 per cent undervalued.

3. The Romans were early pioneers of tourism. If an occupant of Londinium (now called London) in the Roman period wished to escape the stresses and strains of city life and travel to Malaca (now called Malaga) in the south of Spain for a summer break, how long would the journey take?
C: According to Stanford university researchers, the journey, mostly by sea, would take 24 days and cost approximately 606 denarii, roughly equal to a year's salary for a foot soldier at the time. Today the three-hour one-way flight can be purchased for as little as £18, or 0.09 per cent of the salary of a British Army private. Spain is the most popular destination for British holidaymakers.

4. In which of the following European beach resorts is a basket of nine typical tourist items, including sun cream, an evening meal and a bottle of lager, cheapest?
C: Sunny Beach, Bulgaria. According to the most recent annual Post Office survey, prices are over a third lower in the Black Sea resort than in any of the resorts surveyed in the Eurozone. Algarve in Portugal and Marmaris in Turkey were runners up.

5. A number of companies such as Virgin Galactic and Blue Origin are developing a space tourism offering. How much did the first self-funded space tourist, Dennis Tito, pay for his eight days on the International Space Station in 2001?
A: $20m. Mr Tito, a wealthy financier, rode a Russian supply ship to the ISS – which orbits approximately 400km above the earth – becoming the 415th person to travel to space. For comparison, an off-peak return train ticket from London to Newcastle, a similar distance, costs £141. Travelling to Newcastle does not require attaining a velocity of 17,100 mph however, a speed at which you would travel from London to Newcastle in 52 seconds. According to UBS, Virgin Galactic and Blue Origin will likely launch commercial space tourism flights in the next two years, with tickets predicted to cost six figures.

6. In 2017, $68.5bn of duty-free goods were sold around the world according to figures compiled by the World Duty Free Council. According to price comparison website PriceSpy, what percentage of products sold by duty-free shops could be purchased more cheaply online?
D: 90 per cent. Fragrances and cosmetics are the highest grossing items sold by duty-free stores, comprising 35.8 per cent of sales, followed by wines and spirits, and then fashion and accessories.

7. With recent sterling weakness, taking a staycation has never been a more attractive option. Which of the following is the sunniest holiday destination in the UK?
C: Bognor Regis is the sunniest place in the UK, with an average of 1,920 hours of sunshine between 1981 and 2010, according to Met Office data.

8. What is the busiest airport in the world?
A: Atlanta-Hartsfield-Jackson Airport, USA. The airport handled over 107m passengers in 2018. Beijing, Dubai, Los Angeles and Tokyo are home to the remainder of the world's top five busiest airports.

9. Which of the following countries' passports allows visa-free access to the most countries?
A: Japan. Holders of Japanese passports have access to 189 countries without having to obtain a visa in advance, the joint highest along with Singaporean passports according to the Henley Passport Index.

10. In which of the following travel destinations do British visitors spend the most during a single visit?
D: South Africa. according to the Office for National Statistics, visitors to South Africa spent an average of £1,911 during a single trip in 2018. Visitors to New Zealand, Australia and Thailand spent an average of £1,815, £1,616, and £1,544 respectively.

The high spend per trip reflects that people are likely to stay longer in faraway destinations. The country identified as where UK residents spend the most per day is Luxembourg, not a common destination for your average holidaymaker.

HE'S A KEEPER

Adrian endears himself to his new club with decisive penalty save, writes **Felix Keith**

ADRIAN played just five times for West Ham last season – all cup games, the last of which was a miserable FA Cup defeat against AFC Wimbledon in January.

Over the summer he was without a contract, training alone. Fast-forward to just his second game for Liverpool, and his first start for his new club after an injury to Alisson, and he was the hero, saving the decisive penalty to win the European Super Cup 5-4 on spot-kicks.

Considering he'd had what he called a "crazy week" and had earlier conceded a penalty in extra-time to bring the score back to 2-2, forcing the shoot-out, it was a fitting end to a long night in Istanbul.

Tammy Abraham was the unfortunate Chelsea player to miss, but ultimately the story was of another trophy for Liverpool in the city of their most famous victory.

PULISIC IMPRESSIVE

Replacing Eden Hazard in a transfer window in which your new club could not sign any other new faces was a tough gig for Christian Pulisic to land.

But when you're a £58m wonder-kid you are used to coping with expectation, and judging by his competitive debut Pulisic is ready to accept the challenge.

Still only 20, the American attacking midfielder showed what he is all about in this game, buzzing around on the left of Chelsea's 4-3-3 formation and linking well with left-back Emerson Palmieri.

He showed his positional sense and skill to drag the Liverpool defence towards him before feeding Olivier Giroud with a reverse pass to score the opening goal.

Liverpool's high defensive line struggled to cope with Chelsea at times and it was frequently Pulisic causing the problems. A starting role in Frank Lampard's side now seems a given.

FIRMINO'S IMPACT

As good as Pulisic was, he didn't have the quickest impact on the game, with that accolade going to Roberto Firmino, who came off the Liverpool bench at half-time to great effect.

Chelsea had much the better of the first period but it was Firmino's introduction which tipped the scales straight after the break, the Brazilian striker latching onto Fabinho's pass in the build-up to Sadio Mane's bundled-in equaliser.

Firmino gave Jurgen Klopp's side a focal point they'd be missing, with the Reds fashioning several chances immediately following his arrival.

With Mohamed Salah and Mane generally grabbing most of the goals and the attention, it's easy to forget the vital role their central foil plays.

SUPER CUP

LIVERPOOL	CHELSEA
2	2
Mane (48', 95')	Giroud 36', Jorginho 101' pen

LIVERPOOL WIN 5-4 ON PENS

BLUES' MIDFIELD BALANCE

Under Maurizio Sarri much of the debate raged around the role of N'Golo Kante, whose familiar deeper position was instead handed to playmaker Jorginho.

Some Chelsea fans felt pushing Kante forward and asking him to do more than just win the ball wasn't an ideal compromise, but Lampard has followed in his predecessor's tactical footprints so far this season.

With Mateo Kovacic as the other central midfielder, it looked like Chelsea might lack attacking threat, but the balance worked nicely, with both Kante and Kovacic driving forward and using every opportunity to slide in through-balls.

Kante, in particular, looked unaffected by a recent knock and seems to be adding more strings to his bow.

TIRED LEGS

The importance of the Super Cup was called into question in the build-up to the match and after it drifted into extra-time, with the temperature and humidity still high past midnight in Turkey and players dropping to the turf with cramp, that debate became more understandable.

Istanbul is a fair distance to have to travel for a midweek game sandwiched in between the first two Premier League fixtures of the season and time will tell if the match has a fallout.

Liverpool captain Jordan Henderson was supposed to be rested, but an injury to Naby Keita on Tuesday meant he had to play all 120 gruelling minutes.

Although Chelsea have the luxury of a Sunday afternoon kick-off against Leicester, Klopp's side travel to St Mary's Stadium next to face Southampton at 3pm on Saturday.

Despite the exhilaration of victory, there will likely be some tired legs on show for the away team.

CONTINUED FROM BACK PAGE

leading sides are likely to increase in a post-Brexit environment.

Firstly, English teams are set to become more reliant on British talent as signing players from Europe becomes more complicated and expensive.

European Union nationals who until November enjoy freedom of movement to Britain will need a visa, while a weakening pound will make signing them more expensive.

As a result – and notwithstanding whether a quota system is introduced as well – English footballers are likely to become more useful and valuable, which in turn should incentivise clubs to run good academies.

Secondly, Premier League clubs will no longer be permitted to sign players aged 16-18 from within the EU, so the days of signing teenage talents such as Cesc Fabregas and Paul Pogba will be over.

There is therefore likely to be more space for English and British players in academies, while the current exodus of youngsters such as Sancho to the Bundesliga will probably slow.

Not only should those English youth products have more opportunity at home and therefore less need to leave, European teams will also find them more difficult to sign as they will not have EU-member status.

What this all means for Premier League clubs, which will find themselves restricted in the transfer market, and for the competition itself, which may see its international appeal dimmed if fewer global stars flock here, remains uncertain.

For Southgate, however, it will mean more options at his disposal and the chance to truly test his conviction that England's production line is now as good as any on the planet.

SPORT

MARATHON WIN Adrian the hero as Liverpool outlast Chelsea in Super Cup spot-kicks

Adrian saved Tammy Abraham's decisive spot-kick as Liverpool beat Chelsea on penalties to win the European Super Cup last night. The Spanish goalkeeper, who joined the club on a free transfer after being released by West Ham, kept out Abraham's strike after every other taker had scored to hand Liverpool a 5-4 win on penalties after a 2-2 draw in Istanbul. Olivier Giroud opened the scoring from Christian Pulisic's pass before Sadio Mane bundled in an equaliser to see the game finish 1-1 at full-time. Mane powered in a second in extra-time, but Adrian brought down Abraham to allow Jorginho to take the game to penalties. "What a story – he kept his nerves together," said Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp. "I don't think he's won a lot in his life so it's good for him to win it. He made some unbelievable saves. I'm really happy for him." SUPER CUP TALKING POINTS P19

SPORT DIGEST

ARCHER TO MAKE DEBUT AFTER DAY ONE WASHOUT

Day one of the second Ashes Test between England and Australia was abandoned yesterday without a ball being bowled at Lord's. Persistent rain prevented any play, or a toss from taking place in north London, although Jofra Archer was presented with his cap, confirming he will make his England debut. Australia coach Justin Langer said Josh Hazlewood is set to play ahead of fellow fast bowler Mitchell Starc when play gets under way at 11am this morning. Australia lead the series 1-0.

NOWELL: I RUSHED REHAB AFTER ANKLE SURGERY

England's Jack Nowell has admitted he rushed himself during rehab, but hopes to be fit in time for next month's Rugby World Cup. The winger, who was named in Eddie Jones's 31-man squad for the tournament, had surgery on an ankle injury at the start of June. "Maybe at the start of my rehab I may have pushed it a bit too much," the 26-year-old told the BBC. "That's probably down to me being a bit greedy and wanting to get back as quickly as I can." Nowell is unlikely to feature in any of England's remaining warm-up games ahead of their World Cup opener against Tonga in Japan on 22 September.

TAKEOVER FOR STRICKEN BOLTON CAN GO AHEAD

Financially-troubled Bolton Wanderers look set to be sold after a court order blocking a takeover was adjourned yesterday. The court order, which was issued by Laurence Bassini on 8 August after he tried to buy the club from former Bolton chairman Ken Anderson, has been amended to pave the way for Football Ventures to complete a deal. "Now we must progress to completion as quickly as possible in order to secure the future of the club," said Bolton's joint administrator Paul Appleton.

ENGLISH: BACK IN VOGUE?

More homegrown players in Premier League is a sign of what's to come. By **Frank Dalleres**

"THAT is a conundrum that we have to solve," said Gareth Southgate in December last year, addressing the increasingly marginal status of English footballers in the Premier League.

The England manager was speaking after the number of native players hit an all-time low, with just 54 of the 220 who had been named in starting line-ups the previous weekend being English or England-qualified.

That figure represented just 24.5 per cent of starters, a huge drop from 70 per cent in 1992-93, the first season of the Premier League era.

Southgate must have been encouraged, then, by last weekend's team-sheets for the opening matches of the new top-flight season.

The 83 Englishmen in starting XIs was the highest number for a first round of Premier League fixtures for nine years.

Particularly heartening was the picture at the so-called Big Six clubs, where competition for places is stiffest: 22 of the 66 starters were English, the highest proportion since the 2016-17 season.

PRODUCTION BOOM

Among a number of possible factors at play here is the now widely accepted improvement in quality of young English players.

That was in evidence in 2017, when England's age-group teams all but swept the board at international tournaments, winning the under-17 and under-20 World Cups and the under-19 European Championships.

This production boom has seen canny clubs in other European leagues, notably Germany, offer English youngsters such as Jadon Sancho, Ademola Lookman and Reiss Nelson the first-team chances so hard to come by at home.

Last week's selections are also the product of different circumstances at the individual clubs.

Chelsea have used a transfer ban to pivot towards youth and give academy products Tammy Abraham and Mason Mount – player of the tournament in the U19 Euro success – an opportunity to break through.

Manchester United have begun prioritising emerging domestic talent such as Aaron Wan Bissaka and Daniel James over big-name foreign signings, while Arsenal are turning to youngsters Nelson and Joe Willock to fill in during a spell when a number of their stars are unavailable.

NO-DEAL BREXIT

Encouraging signs these may be, but there is a long way until Southgate's conundrum has been solved.

If Frank Lampard's faith in Chelsea's youngsters is tested by a run of poor results the new manager may be tempted to lean on the club's more experienced overseas players.

United's transfer strategy could prove a fad at a club where money is no barrier to most signings, while the Englishman count will surely drop off again when Arsenal manager Unai Emery deems the likes of Mesut Ozil, Nicolas Pepe and David Luiz ready to start games in place of Willock, Nelson and Calum Chambers.

On the horizon and drawing ever closer, however, is the prospect of a no-deal Brexit likely to have a profound effect on how Premier League clubs do business and populate their squads.

The ramifications are many but neatly distilled in an article published this week by independent consultant Judith McMinn and lawyers Owen Jones and Daniel Geey, of the firm Sheridans.

It explains that for a number of reasons, described below, the opportunities for domestic players at England's

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ENGLISH STARTERS FOR THE PREMIER LEAGUE'S BIG SIX

- **ARSENAL** Ainsley Maitland-Niles (Aged 21), Calum Chambers (24), Reiss Nelson (19)
- **CHELSEA** Mason Mount (20), Ross Barkley (25), Tammy Abraham (21)
- **LIVERPOOL** Trent Alexander-Arnold (20), Joe Gomez (22), Jordan Henderson (29)
- **MAN CITY** Kyle Walker (29), John Stones (25), Raheem Sterling (24)
- **MAN UTD** Aaron Wan-Bissaka (21), Harry Maguire (26), Luke Shaw (24), Jesse Lingard (26), Marcus Rashford (21)
- **TOTTENHAM** Kyle Walker-Peters (22), Danny Rose (29), Harry Winks (23), Harry Kane (26)