BORIS JOHNSON IS SET FOR AN ALMIGHTY POLITICAL FIGHT WHEN MPs RETURN TO WESTMINSTER TOMORROW AMID FRANTIC DEBATE OVER THE PROSPECT OF A NO-DEAL BREXIT

ALEXANDRA ROGERS
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REBEL MPs are set to launch their last-ditch bid to stop a no-deal Brexit tomorrow, using the few remaining days ahead of the formal suspension of parliament next week.

Boris Johnson is facing a dramatic battle to ward off MPs’ attempts to make it impossible for him to honour his pledge to leave the EU on 31 October. A group of cross-party MPs opposed to a no-deal exit are expected to try to seize the parliamentary agenda from the government, with the help of Speaker John Bercow, and launch a bill that would force the Prime Minister to seek an extension to Article 50 – the mechanism that allows the UK to leave the bloc – beyond the end of October.

Yesterday, Johnson warned Tory rebels “intent on parliamentary shenanigans” that they risked scuppering his chances of securing a new deal with Brussels, thereby making their most feared outcome “more likely”.

“The one thing that could undermine the UK’s ability to negotiate would be Brussels thinking that there’s a chance that the referendum could be cancelled, and that Brexit could be blocked,” he said in an interview with the Sunday Times. “The people who claim to be campaigning against no deal are making no deal more likely.”

Those on Johnson’s own benches who will set themselves against a no-deal scenario, including former chancellor Philip Hammond and former justice secretary David Gauke, face being thrown out of the Tory party and barred from standing as Conservative candidates at the next election as Downing Street adopts a hardline stance towards anti-government MPs.

However, Gauke signalled he would rather be expelled than allow a no-deal Brexit. “Sometimes there is a point where you have to judge between your own personal interests and the national interests, and the national interests have to come first,” he told Sky News.

A meeting that Johnson had planned today to dissuade more than 20 Tory rebels, including Hammond and Gauke, from backing legislative attempts to block no deal was cancelled last night. Hammond was invited to attend on his own, but has since pulled out.

Across the channel, the EU’s chief Brexit negotiator, Michel Barnier, warned he was “not optimistic” that a no-deal Brexit could be prevented due to the ongoing wrangling over the Irish backstop, the insurance policy designed to prevent a hard border in Northern Ireland.

He maintained the plan represented the “maximum amount of flexibility” the EU could offer a non-member state.

In a controversial move, MPs have been warned that even if they succeed in forcing through new legislation, the government could be prepared to ignore or frustrate it.

Michael Gove, the cabinet minister in charge of the government’s no-deal Brexit preparations, told the BBC yesterday the government would wait to see what the legislation said before deciding any response.

International development secretary Alok Sharma defended the government’s decision to suspend parliament, telling Sky News there was “plenty of time” for debate before the 31 October deadline.
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“Therefore, some things that come first,” he said Sky News. “The people who claim to be campaigning against no deal are making no deal more likely.”

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No-deal threat is key to Johnson’s strategy

THOUGH it has been said many times during the UK’s ongoing Brexit drama, this week really is shaping up to be the most tumultuous we have seen in recent years. Boris Johnson’s lawful but controversial decision to suspend parliament during the run-up to 31 October has thrown rebel MPs’ plans to thwart a no-deal Brexit into disarray. Far from being eased gently back into the parliamentary session – the longest without prorogation since the Civil War – MPs determined to stop the Prime Minister in his no-deal tracks will have to think quickly. Tomorrow, when they return from recess, they have two options before parliament is prorogued to block the possibility that the UK leaves the EU without a deal. They could seize control of the parliamentary agenda and ram through legislation that could force the Prime Minister to seek an extension to the Brexit deadline beyond 31 October, but the timeframe is punishingly tight and the government could find ways to derail it. Alternatively, the Labour party could finally try to bring down the government with a vote of no confidence in Johnson, but this plan is fraught with difficulty because it would mean installing Jeremy Corbyn as the head of a temporary government – a justifiably unpalatable prospect for Tory MPs and many on the Labour benches, too. If legislative attempts to block a no-deal exit are successful, Johnson could call a General Election. However, he would need two-thirds of the House of Commons to approve this plan and Labour has signalled it won’t support such a move if it triggered a no-deal exit by default during the campaign period. For all the hysterical shrieking about coups and constitutional outrages, it is hard to argue with Johnson’s position that the EU will not take seriously the threat of a no-deal exit. For all the hysterical shrieking about coups and constitutional outrages, it is hard to argue with Johnson’s position that the EU will not take seriously the threat of a no-deal exit during the campaign period. For all the hysterical shrieking about coups and constitutional outrages, it is hard to argue with Johnson’s position that the EU will not take seriously the threat of a no-deal exit during the campaign period. For all the hysterical shrieking about coups and constitutional outrages, it is hard to argue with Johnson’s position that the EU will not take seriously the threat of a no-deal exit during the campaign period. For all the hysterical shrieking about coups and constitutional outrages, it is hard to argue with Johnson’s position that the EU will not take seriously the threat of a no-deal exit during the campaign period.

Javid to woo City bosses in Brexit preparation bid

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SAJID Javid will meet key City figures today in a bid to persuade them that a no-deal Brexit could provide opportunities for businesses. The chancellor is to hold a meeting with the bosses of financial powerhouses such as Barclays, Goldman Sachs and the London Stock Exchange Group. City minister John Glen will also be in attendance. Sky News reported that the chancellor will attempt to make the case that a no-deal Brexit could present opportunities for the business community. Other invitees include Santander UK chair Baroness Vadera, Lloyd’s of London chair Bruce Carnegie-Brown and Sir Howard Davies, chairman of the Royal Bank of Scotland. Antonio Horta-Osorio, chief executive of Lloyds Banking Group, is also expected to attend, as is Paul Manduca, the chairman of insurance firm Prudential. Business groups have hitherto been vocal in their opposition to a no-deal Brexit, with the CBI warning last week that fears about a no-deal Brexit were “clearly weighing down the economy” and “affecting businesses both big and small”. The City meeting comes ahead of Javid’s fast-tracked spending review on Wednesday. Sajid Javid will present his spending review this week in which the chancellor is expected to announce an increase in defence spending above the current 2.1 per cent level, as well as a £50bn cash injection. Yesterday, Javid revealed that a £40bn funding boost for further education in England for the year 2020 to 2021 would also form part of Wednesday’s spending review. The Treasury declined to comment yesterday ahead of the meeting.

The City View

Wash Out

Cricketers brave the cold Solent water for nearly 70-year-old annual match held on rarely sighted Bramble Bank

MEMBERS of the Island Sailing Yacht Club and the Royal Southern Yacht Club played their annual cricket match in the Solent near Southampton yesterday. In a long-standing tradition begun in the 1950s by the Duke of Edinburgh’s late sailing pal Uffa Fox, the two sides play on Bramble Bank, a piece of land only visible for around half an hour each year.

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Debbie's on standby as Debenhams fights fresh restructuring challenge

In May the retailer secured the backing of its creditors to push ahead with a company voluntary arrangement (CVA) restructuring plan, which earmarked 50 stores for closure and approved rent reductions at more than 100.

However, Combined Property Control Group (CPC), which is the landlord of six Debenhams stores, has launched a legal challenge against the CVA. If CPC wins the case, which begins at London’s High Court today the department store’s restructuring plan could unravel.

Sports Direct, which was Debenhams’ largest shareholder, withdrew its own legal challenge July. However, the retailer is backing CPC’s case.

“We remain extremely confident this challenge is without merit and expect it to fail,” a spokesperson for Debenhams said.

WOODFORD WOES

Former star investor blames market conditions for fund trouble

NEIL Woodford defended his under-fire investment strategy over the weekend, citing “unfavourable conditions and a momentum-driven market for the recent failures within his flagship fund. The former star stockpicker blamed “a narrow fixation” with global growth for woes in his Equity Income fund.

This isn’t just any FTSE reshuffle: M&S about to drop out of index

SEBASTIAN MCCARTHY

MARKS & Spencer (M&S) is poised to drop out of the FTSE 100 tomorrow in a market reshuffle that sheds light on the troubled British retailer’s falling share price.

One of 28 original constituents still in the FTSE 100, M&S is expected to be relegated to the FTSE 250 later this week following a sharp drop in the value of its share price after several tough years of trading on the high street.

Centrica and Direct Line are also among the FTSE 100 companies that could be relegated.

Meanwhile Polymetal, Hikma and Meggitt are all tipped for an automatic promotion.

“Marks & Spencer’s modest £3.5bn stock market valuation means it looks doomed to automatic relegation and that would end the retailer’s membership of the index, which dates right back to the launch of the FTSE 100 in 1984,” said Russ Mould, investment director at AJ Bell.

Deloitte on standby as Debenhams fights fresh restructuring challenge

DEBENHAMS has lined up advisers from professional services giant Deloitte as it prepares to fight a legal challenge to its restructuring plan.

Deloitte is on standby in the event that Debenhams loses the case and fails to secure an appeal, which could tip the embattled department store into administration.

In June, the retail group narrowly secured approval from creditors to implement a company voluntary arrangement (CVA) restructuring plan, giving Arcadia the green light to close 23 stores and secure rent reductions at nearly 200 stores.

The plan was delayed after Vornado, which owns two Topshop stores in New York, and Californian property firm Caruso filed a legal challenge against the CVA.

Both US landlords withdrew their challenges last week, allowing Arcadia to push ahead with implementing the plan.

“Following the formal completion of the CVA process last week, the board is now fully focused on implementing its turnaround plan across all its brands,” an Arcadia spokesperson said in response to reports of a possible split.

The retail group, which also owns brands including Wallis and Miss Selfridge, could have collapsed into administration if creditors had opposed the CVA proposals, which would have put 17,000 jobs at risk.

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No-deal Brexit to drive London house price fall

JESS CLARK
@jclarkjourno

LONDON house prices could sink up to seven per cent next year if no Brexit deal is reached by the 31 October deadline date, according to the latest research.

If the UK exits the European Union with a deal, London house prices will fall by a smaller 4.7 per cent, continuing the trend of declining property prices in the capital.

Research by accountancy firm KPMG published this morning showed that the average property in the capital would cost £453,000 in 2020 following a smooth exit. However, after a no-deal Brexit the average London house price would drop to £422,000.

A no-deal Brexit would trigger a drop in house prices in every region of the UK, with the sharpest fall of 7.5 per cent seen in Northern Ireland.

The latest research showed that a nationwide drop of 10 to 20 per cent is “not out of the question” if markets react “stronger than anticipated”. KPMG chief economist Yael Selfin said: “The housing market has been stuck in the slow lane since 2016 – with the changes to stamp duty and the uncertainties of Brexit putting the market on the back foot.”

“As our forecasts show, a no-deal Brexit will see house prices decline significantly across the UK in 2020 by an average of 6.2 per cent, with more severe falls of around 10 to 20 per cent also possible if we look at historic precedents.”

Last month, the Bank of England’s monetary policy committee said that if the UK’s departure from the EU is smooth and some recovery in global growth is seen, it could raise interest rates “at a gradual pace and to a limited extent”, as it unanimously chose to hold the main interest rate at 0.75 per cent, where it has stood since August last year.

The committee said under no deal, the “interest rate decision would need to balance the upward pressure on inflation, from the likely fall in sterling and any reduction in supply capacity, with the downward pressure from any reduction in demand”.

Sky said to be in talks about full-fibre network with Liberty Global

HARRY ROBERTSON
@henrygrobertson

Sky is said to have entered talks with Liberty Global about a new full-fibre network to be built in the UK in a development that could see competition intensify over Britain’s broadband.

Multinational telecoms company Liberty Global would make Virgin Media, which it owns, the central player in the business, according to people with knowledge of the possible deal, the Financial Times reported late last night.

Liberty Global has picked New York investment bank Liontree to create a new group that will build full-fibre broadband networks for areas outside the most well-serviced in the country.

The group, called Liberty Fibre Limited, was created last week. Filings on Companies House show Virgin Media chief financial officer Robert Dunn as a director.

Neither Sky nor Liberty Global could be reached for comment last night.
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BLACK BAY BRONZE

TUDOR
Protests continue to rock Hong Kong

HARRY ROBERTSON
@harryrobertson

Police and protesters clashed again in Hong Kong yesterday as activists blocked roads and transport links to the semi-autonomous city’s airport. The protests were the culmination of another fractious weekend that saw marchers and police exchanging petrol bombs and bricks for tear gas and water cannon.

Activists grow quiet in first half of the year

AUGUST GRAHAM
@AugustGraham

European businesses could breathe a sigh of relief as activist investors opened fewer campaigns in the first half of 2019.

The number of demands made by activist shareholders in Europe was more than 14 per cent lower over the period compared to last year, according to figures published today by Activistmonitor.

Over the half-year period, 24 new shareholder activist campaigns were launched, down from 35 the year before. Meanwhile, the number of demands made by activists dropped from 77 to 66.

The investor intelligence unit attributed the drop to a more unstable political climate, underperforming stock markets and an increase in private negotiations between different parties. “Overall, we have registered a decrease in new live and potential campaigns compared to the first half of 2018,” said William Mace, Activistmonitor’s assistant editor.

“Activists are therefore increasingly taking stakes in less risky companies in which they are more certain to not lose money, but still can generate upside,” Mace said.

But chief executives and boards will be holding their breath as the data showed that six out of seven campaigns launched in the first half were started in the second quarter.

Elliott Management was the most busy, launching four new campaigns. Meanwhile, Petrus Advisers made more demands than any other activist in its quest to change practices at Ophir Energy, CA Immobilen, Immofinanz and Wienerberger.

Cat Rock Capital put pressure on Just Eat to consider combining with a “well-run industry peer”, leading to the £9bn merger with Takeaway.com earlier this year.

CBI: Business should show its local benefits

AUGUST GRAHAM
@AugustGraham

The CBI has called on businesses to do more to show their impact on the local community.

Only two in five people in the UK believe that businesses are working to improve people’s lives locally, according to a new study published today by the CBI.

“There is a clear opportunity for businesses to amplify the good they do in their communities by creating jobs and supporting public service,” it said in a statement.

It comes as more people said they think that business reputation is good, rising four points to 60 per cent in the most recent survey.

Nearly four-fifths of those asked said they were less likely to buy from a company with a poor reputation, while three quarters would be less likely to work for one.

Josh Hardie, the deputy director general of the CBI said that schemes to give employees shares in the business and similar schemes is helping to improve public perception.

“There is no question that more can be done, as 70 per cent of the public say they would want to work for a business with a good reputation, the benefits of demonstrating firms positive impact can affect everything from a company’s bottom line to the talent it attracts,” he said.

He highlighted companies such as Richer Sounds and BT as taking new initiatives to “ensure the UK’s prosperity is inclusive”.

Adam Wilson at Opinion, a collaborator on the survey, said: “In recent years we have seen the emergence of the ‘conscious consumer’. It’s almost a given that people want businesses to meet their expectations when it comes to their more tangible needs such as excellent customer service and good value for money.”

Planes were delayed and trains were suspended yesterday as protesters put up barricades on key transport routes, and smashed CCTV cameras and took apart turnstiles at an underground station near the airport.

On Saturday, violent clashes between demonstrators and policy saw the latter fire tear gas towards crowds, who took shelter behind umbrellas. They answered the fire with bricks thrown in the police’s direction.

The protests started three months ago in response to a bill that would have allowed extraditions to mainland China.

But once the bill was delayed, the movement turned into an outright anti-government protest. “We have to keep protesting, we cannot let China take back Hong Kong now,” Evelyn, 25, an asset manager, told Reuters. She was part of a group chanting “gangster” at local police.

The protests were the culmination of the emergence of the ‘conscious consumer’. It’s almost a given that people want businesses to meet their expectations when it comes to their more tangible needs such as excellent customer service and good value for money.”

‘Catastrophic’ Hurricane Dorian to land in US

HARRY ROBERTSON
@harryrobertson

Hurricane Dorian yesterday intensified into a “catastrophic” category five-storm and the second strongest Atlantic hurricane on record as it hit the Bahamas, which it is expected to batter with heavy rain, winds and waves for two days. The storm is then forecast to head towards Florida on the US east coast, where several counties issued evacuation orders yesterday, although experts say it is likely to narrowly miss the country.

Dorian hit Abaco, a northern island of the Bahamas around 190 miles east of the southern tip of Florida, yesterday with winds of up to 220mph, the US’ National Hurricane Center (NHC) said. The Miami-based NHC said yesterday that lives were at risk as flooding could reach seven feet. “The hurricane should move closer to the Florida east coast late Monday through Tuesday night.” Dorian grew larger and more severe yesterday and was upgraded to a category five hurricane, which brings with it “a prolonged period of catastrophic winds and storm surge”, the NHC said.

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Plants capture CO$_2$. We’re finding ways industry can too.

Scientists believe that carbon capture is a critical technology to help meet the world’s ambitious goals for reducing CO$_2$ emissions. We do too. As a leader in both research and deployment of carbon capture technology, we’re working on ways to make it scalable and more affordable. This includes new approaches, like using fuel cells that could capture up to 90% of the CO$_2$ from large industrial sites and capturing CO$_2$ directly from the air. Learn more about the potential of carbon capture at EnergyFactor.uk.
IRBUS will tomorrow urge London authorities to plan for a future in which electric air taxis roam the skies and drones carry cargo a few thousand feet above the city.

The aviation juggernaut has already built a prototype air taxi, as have arch-rivals Boeing, Uber and several other manufacturers.

Airbus will put pressure on city planners not to fall behind in building transport systems to accommodate London’s fast-swelling population.

Operational and research drone-based services are already running in 64 cities around the world, and Morgan Stanley has predicted the air-taxi market will be worth $1.5 trillion (£1.2 trillion) per year by 2040, with passenger traffic making up $853bn of that.

Furthermore, Airbus already has an agreement with Parisian authorities to bring flying taxis to the French capital as soon as 2024, when it hosts the Olympic Games.

And it “is not a concept that’s too farfetched” for London either, according to Airbus’ unmanned aerial mobility head Harini Kalatunga, who will address the inaugural Global Urban Air Summit in Farnborough tomorrow.

“If you look at geography and demographics, our prediction is that by 2030, 60 per cent of the world’s population will migrate towards urban hubs, and London will expand. And as London expands, they will need to consider how their transport network will expand and still have a minimum impact on the environment and congestion,” she says.

Airbus has held early-stage talks on the matter with local authorities including policy officials at the Greater London Authority (GLA), but plans in London are nascent at best, she said.

Kulatunga explains: “The challenges for the city would be what are the routes, and other challenges… like noise. We might have to do trials to understand how noise impacts a city like this. Also electrification: how do we provide the charging infrastructure?”

Another hurdle would be public acceptance, she adds, as well as regulation. Britain would need to decide whether the Civil Aviation Authority would control urban airspace, or whether that would fall to local authorities.

The company has trialled a taxi service from airport-to-city centre in Sao Paulo and Mexico City using helicopters, and found that the demand was there.

“The problem we are solving is that for a trip that [normally] takes two hours from the airport to the city centre, you can do it within 10 minutes by using an air vehicle, and at the cost of maybe three times the taxi fare,” she says.

“Plans in London are nascent at best… but it’s not a concept that’s too farfetched for the UK’s capital city

Alex Daniel reports on plans by Airbus to bring flying taxis to London’s skies

URBAN AViators
Auditor ranking narrows as FTSE firms spread out

SEBASTIAN MCCARTHY
@SebMcCarthy

PRIZED FTSE 100 clients are now more evenly spread out among the so-called Big Four accountancy giants than at any time in almost 15 years, with some of the UK’s top auditors losing out to their rivals after an intense year of scrutiny and high-profile failures.

The blue-chip client league table for auditors has “never been closer”, according to the latest report from Adviser Rankings, which found that frontrunners PwC and KPMG both shed FTSE 100 clients in the last quarter.

EY was the chief beneficiary of the twin declines, hoovering up audit duties from the likes of BHP Group, Vodafone and SSE.

With the regulatory requirement for FTSE 100 and FTSE 250 companies to change their auditor at least every 10 years, the majority of tenders have led to a change in auditor over recent years, consequently spreading the accounts of top-tier clients more evenly among the Big Four.

In 2005, the range of FTSE 100 clients for the Big Four was from 19 to 41 clients for EY and PwC respectively, but that range has narrowed to 22 clients for EY and 27 for PwC.

UK flights hit by ‘outage’ from French air traffic control system

SEBASTIAN MCCARTHY
@SebMcCarthy

An “OUTAGE” in the French air traffic control system prompted fears of major delays for holidaymakers on Saturday morning had now been resolved.

British Airways said flights in French and Spanish airspace had been impacted on Saturday morning had now been resolved.

American cuts 737 Max planes until December

TRACY RUCINSKI

AMERICAN Airlines said yesterday it is extending cancellations of Boeing 737 Max flights through to 3 December, but remains confident that the aircraft will be approved to fly again this year following new software and pilot training.

The fast-selling 737 Max has been grounded worldwide since mid-March while Boeing updates flight control software at the centre of two fatal crashes in Indonesia and Ethiopia that together killed 346 people within a span of five months.

Boeing is targeting regulatory approval in October, though the US Federal Aviation Administration has said it does not have a firm timeline to put the jets back in the air.

American, with 24 Max jets at the time of the grounding and dozens more on order, said it will cancel about 140 daily flights through to 3 December, more than the 115 daily cancellations it was making through the summer. It had previously pulled its 737 Max jets from its flight schedule through to 2 November.

Among other US airlines that operate the Max, Southwest Airlines has cancelled flights into early January.
A 2.9 magnitude tremor shook the area around Cuadrilla’s site last Monday. The firm will repair any damage it believes was caused by last Monday's quake. "When it happened you could see a lot of the stuff in the bathroom moving, shaking the sink and mirror," Nick Bell, a local resident, told City A.M. at the time. Fracking is still indefinitely suspended at the site, after the Oil and Gas Authority ordered work to stop last week.

"We don’t have a date for operations to restart but it won’t be until both the regulator and ourselves are confident that the technical questions have been satisfactorily answered and the risk of a repeat occurrence has been properly mitigated," the company said in a statement. "We are sorry for any concern this [tremor] has caused," it said.

Salvini keeping up pressure on migrant ships

ITALY’s deputy prime minister Matteo Salvini yesterday banned a migrant-rescue-ship from entering the country’s waters, as he seeks to use the issue to add pressure to coalition talks that would push him from government.

Salvini, leader of the far right League party, has cracked down on illegal immigration and repeatedly banned migrant ships from docking in the country. The League leader’s political career hangs in the balance, however, after he last month called an end to the coalition between his party and the 5-Star Movement that has ruled Italy for just over a year.

Salvini was previously angling for new elections, which he would likely win due to the popularity of his policies of tax cuts and opposition to immigration. But bitter rivals 5-Star and the centre-left Democratic Party (PD) last week agreed to put aside their differences to try to form a coalition, sidelining Salvini.

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Partnerships at legal firms are less common

JAMES BOOTH
@Jamesbooth1

FORTY-SEVEN per cent (4,890) of UK law firms are now incorporated businesses, up from 32 per cent five years ago, according to analysis from accountancy firm Hazlewoods.

The increase has been driven by sole practitioners and traditional partnerships changing structures. The number of sole practitioners has fallen 22 per cent and the number of traditional partnerships 35 per cent over the past five years.

In an incorporated business, partners’ personal exposure can be limited if a firm goes bust. And with corporation tax rates at a low, incorporation can be more tax efficient.

Andy Harris of Hazlewoods said: “Over the past five years there has been a huge shift in how law firms are structured. Some would say the ‘traditional’ partnership structure is fast becoming out of date.”

Crackdown on late payment contracts begins

SEBASTIAN MCCARTHY
@SebMcCarthy

THE GOVERNMENT is rolling out new rules that aim to prevent businesses with poor payment practices from winning taxpayer-funded contracts.

The new prompt payment rules came into effect yesterday. The new prompt payment rules come in the wake of late-payment scandals such as the collapse of Carillion, which sparked calls for new laws from small businesses after the group went under owing £2bn to thousands of suppliers.

“We welcome the new administration taking ownership of the late payment crisis with this crucial step, sending a message that late payments will not be tolerated within government contracts,” said Mike Cherry, Federation of Small Businesses national chairman.

SPORT

A result that both teams would have taken but truly satisfied no one

FRANK DALLERES

ON ARSENAL’S 2-2 DRAW WITH RIVALS TOTTENHAM

PAGE 24
Andrew Boff who leads the attacks. It is his colleague few public arenas in which  Bailey can Federation. He claims he does not “move any part of London forward by doing so”. “Andrew Boff is a very different character to me,” he says. “I am not a belligerent political operator. I’m a pragmatist. I am not interested in the Punch and Judy politics that Khan has been able to turn Mayor’s Question Time into.” “Andrew likes that, and he fights with him, and sees it as his job. I see my job as providing answers for London’s challenges.” Khan’s record so far provides Bailey with rich pickings. The London mayor will find it hard to campaign on transport at next year’s election, as vital Tube upgrades have been shelved and Crossrail still fails to be delivered. Then there has been a surge in knife crime, an issue Bailey cares strongly about, an acute housing shortage and divisions over the UK’s upcoming exit from the EU. What are Bailey’s solutions to these challenges? He says he would crack on with building more homes and would lift what he says is an effective ban on building on London’s industrial land. He says this would remove the need to build on the green belt. Bailey is keen to move the conversation away from Brexit, saying it is not the greatest challenge facing ordinary Londoners or businesses. When asked if he is worried about a no-deal Brexit, he replies: “Yes, I’m not naive. This level of change will bring some change, so the smoother that change the better. But when I speak to businesses, they don’t talk to me about Brexit, What they are most concerned about is the cost of living in London and the cost of rent.” “I saw the [chief executive] of Citibank who said to me that his biggest challenge isn’t Brexit... but staff demanding bigger pay packets, and it’s not because they’re greedy, it’s because it’s so expensive to live here.” To ease the strain on businesses he says he would campaign to slash corporation tax to levels that “Boris can stomach” – perhaps to 15 per cent. He would also work with central government to either lower business rates or raise the threshold at which they apply. The problem Bailey has encountered is that his ideas rarely get aired. “Khan’s biggest strength is his incumbency,” he says. “He is the mayor, you can’t get around that. If I issue a press release I have to beg you to pay attention, let’s be frank about that.” Another factor is that Conservative headquarters (CCHQ) is distracted by Brexit and the fact that a General Election is, more likely than not, right around the corner. When asked whether this has blocked his campaign from receiving funding from CCHQ, a member of Bailey’s team says there is an election spending cap of £13m that is counted 12 months before a General Election. “It is not that they’ve stopped, but they’ve just become cautious,” they add. “It will be the same for them [Labour] as well,” Bailey interjects. According to a source close to Khan, this is not the case. “The Tories don’t need to do well in London to win a General Election, whereas Labour does,” they say. There have been rumblings from some Conservatives that the mayoral bid is part of a bigger strategy to build a public profile and aim for a Westminster seat. Bailey’s team insists there is nothing to such rumours. “His focus is 100 per cent on London and the mayoralty,” they say. Another source close to Khan, ex-Prime Minister David Cameron, has been told about it, and that earned him a rebuke from the Met Police if they had advised him against, if they had been get off to a flying start. The seasoned activist and campaigner faced a barrage of criticism from his political opponents after some tactless comments he once made about multiculturalism resurfaced and were widely shared across social media. More recently, he suggested that all police leave should be cancelled to deal with the ongoing knife crime epidemic – an idea that his fellow Tories in the London Assembly would have shelved and Crossrail still fails to be delivered. Then there has been a surge in knife crime, an issue Kahn’s biggest strength is his incumbency... I have to beg you to pay attention, let’s be frank about that...
FTSE 100 pulled up by miners as results beckon

GAINS in mining companies after nickel prices hit an all-time high and signs of a resumption of US-China trade talks lifted London’s FTSE 100 on Friday, as the index added a fourth weekly gain.

The main index added 0.32 per cent to 7,207.18 points, but still posted its sharpest monthly fall since October in a month ravaged by escalating trade disputes and fears of a recession. The mid-cap FTSE 250 gained 0.52 per cent to close at 19,393.63.

Heavyweight mining stocks such as Rio Tinto, BHP and Glencore rose more than two per cent each and boosted the blue-chip index as a waste spill at a nickel plant in Papua New Guinea raised supply fears.

Investors also took heart from signals emanating from Washington and Beijing overnight that they would continue talks to try and end their protracted trade war, which broadly supported global stock markets.

The more measured tone in deciding to focus on next month’s meeting to discuss removing the extra duties has seen some optimism start to creep back in,” said CMC Markets analyst Michael Hewson. “This week there will be results from Barratt, Berkeley, Redrow, Melrose, Restaurant Group, Dunelm, Dechra, McBride, Go-Ahead and Ashmore. Tom Low sees the Restaurant Group publish its first results under new boss, Andy Hornby. Barratt reports on Wednesday. The company expects total pre-tax profit for the year of £910m, up from £835.5m in 2018. “We expect sales per site per week over July/August to be broadly flat year on year and thus the stable trend of the first half of 2019 to be prolonged,” analysts at UBS said. On Thursday, Redrow, which has not provided an update since its half-year numbers in February, will report. Also that morning, transport operator Go-Ahead will publish its full-year results, which may include some information on forecasts following the latest extension to its Southend rail franchise to 1 April 2020.

FTSE 100

TOP RISERS

1. BMC Health Up 7.47 per cent
2. Micro Focus Up 5.46 per cent
3. Rio Tinto Up 2.63 per cent

TOP FALLERS

1. Sainsbury’s Down 1.25 per cent
2. Direct Line Down 1.19 per cent
3. Hargreaves Lans. Down 1.03 per cent

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Britain must try to sail beyond Brexit in order to find the stars

One of the challenges that we face today is how to navigate the challenges of our time in a way that allows us to move forward. As we look to the future, we must consider the opportunities that exist and be willing to take risks in order to seize those opportunities. This is especially true as we consider the impact of Brexit on the UK and how we can work together to create a successful future.

As others look inward, the spirit of global collaboration is alive and well in the City

Even as we face challenges, there is still a spirit of collaboration and cooperation that exists in the City of London. This spirit is evident in the work that is being done to support small businesses and entrepreneurs. Through this collaboration, we can work together to create a brighter future.

If in three to five years the UK has inked free trade deals with the major Angola players, it was worth it; if not, it was a mistake

In recent years, there has been a focus on the importance of trade deals and how they can benefit the UK. However, it is important to consider whether these deals are truly beneficial or if they are simply a means to an end. As we look to the future, we must consider the impact of these deals on our society and economy.

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Letters to the editor

Humans vs. machines

The recurring narrative used by Elon Musk in Shanghai last week – pitting man against machine and warning of a battle with artificial intelligence (AI) for our very existence – is getting old. All new technologies can be approached with a level of caution, but I do take issue with these doom-laden-like scenarios that Musk champions. First, if machines are going to eradicate jobs, who built them and prioritised convenience, speed and low prices? We did. Across the globe, many businesses are struggling to compete with the popularity of online counterparts using algorithms and automation to serve customers. We can’t blame machines – we’ve designed ourselves and enjoy the benefits of improved experiences and services.

Second, could we not imagine there are huge benefits we can gain through the automation of our lives? It’s true that machines have reduced staff requirements in some instances, but that’s just one side of the story. AI can make decisions faster than any human can, and it can be a terrible waste to only apply it to low-skill jobs and ignore our ability to have a greater focus on what’s important: bringing the emotion back to business.

In our desire for speed and convenience, we’ve sacrificed businesses’ ability to be empathetic. AI gives organisations the chance to bridge that back, to act fast and decisively with emotion.

We are coming to the limit of our capacity to manage the data being produced. We should use AI to augment our basic humanity to create commercial value. I like Musk, but I think he’s got this one very wrong.

Joe Baguley, vice president and chief technology officer EMEA, VMware

Best of Twitter

Lord, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change. The courage to change the things I can. And the wisdom not to tweet about how wrong Chelsea is.

The courage to change the things I can. And the wisdom not to tweet about how wrong Chelsea is.

The courage to change the things I can. And the wisdom not to tweet about how wrong Chelsea is.

My favourite punctuation is the semi-colon because it’s about interpretation; it can literally go anywhere. With other punctuations there are right ways and wrong ways but with a semi-colon the only way you can mess it up is by not being brave enough to try; which is beautiful.

@imteddyflesh

I place “Per my Last Email” in attack anywhere. With other punctuations there are right ways and wrong ways but with a semi-colon the only way you can mess it up is by not being brave enough to try; which is beautiful.

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The determination to win at any cost is an assault on democracy

Following the Prime Minister’s decision to prorogue parliament, we have seen a tsunami of outrage that British democracy is effectively dead. Accusations and counter accusations are flying. Each side blames the other for undemocratic behaviour.

There is no doubt that the Brexit process is putting British democracy under strain. It might therefore be appropriate to reflect on what constitutes the essence of a functioning democracy, and why it is going wrong.

The fundamental strength of a democracy is that it encourages the flourishing of competing ideas. These are freely debated in the public sphere. Some carry the public with them; some do not. Others become modified through debate and discussion until something new that draws from all sides emerges.

It is tempting to believe that the most important characteristic of a democracy is the desire and determination to win both the battle of ideas and elections. The reality is exactly the opposite. What makes democracy thrive is the acceptance by all parties that their ideas may not prevail. It is the determination by both sides, needs to reverse the damage that they have done.

On the opposite side are those who sweep away the result of a referendum that they consider either illegitimate or a big mistake. In spite of the result, they are determined that the Brexit process is putting our democracy under strain because both sides are determined to get their way, with the ends justifying any means.

The Brexit process is putting our democracy under strain because both sides are determined to get their way, with the ends justifying any means. Encouraged by the now three-year old referendum, those who support Brexit are set on pushing their own particular version of it. They will brook no discussion. They will not compromise to take into account the fact that 48 per cent of those who voted never wanted to leave the EU. They will not accommodate putting back to the people the reality of what Brexit means in practice. And they are now trying to hobble parliament in case it should interfere with their plans.

On the opposite side are those who will descend into civil war and have emerged from it as totalitarian states at least for a significant period. I do not believe that British society will descend into civil violence. Those who suggest otherwise in order to further their own aims are despicably irresponsible. But our political class, on all sides, needs to reverse the damage they are doing. To recapture the fundamental essence of democracy – discussion, debate, argue; but accept, and even celebrate, the fact that you will not always get your own way.

It is possible that things have already gone too far; that neither side feels able to compromise, and that everyone will continue to hide behind the unreasonableness of the other as the only reason they are compelled to dig their heels in. But we should all remember that those who remain doggedly determined to get their way at any cost are no democrats – whichever side of the debate they happen to be on.

Dr Joe Zammit Lucia is a co-founder of Radix, the think tank for the radical centre.

Gender discrimination remains rife within society and our political system. Politics fails not only new mothers like Ruth Davidson, but also those with a range of caring responsibilities.

Parliament has failed to adapt to the reality that women carry the burden of these responsibilities. According to Unison, nearly half of British women believe that they must reduce working hours to meet their caring duties, compared to just under a third of men.

This imbalance is compounded by the tens of thousands of abusive tweets and emails sent to female politicians every single day.

In Westminster, late sitting hours aren’t conducive for new mothers. And it remains staggering that there was no brake on unbridled power.

Politics fails not only new mothers like Ruth Davidson, but also those with a range of caring responsibilities.

Ruth Davidson’s resignation citing shifting family priorities is a reminder of one of the most under-reported factors behind the gender pay gap: that of the choice of many highly paid career women to “step back” during precious years of motherhood, away from stressful, masochistic working lifestyles.

Yes, employers should, if they can, find ways to better accommodate part-time talent, but this has to be balanced against the disruptive and potentially financial impact to the organisation (in this case, the government). It also needs to be fair, so as not to penalise those who don’t make these choices or deter employers from employing women around this life stage.

The reality of a parliamentary career is that it’s an all-consuming, stressful life of public service, and one that voters rightly expect full-time commitment to. This shouldn’t actually be a gendered debate, as men should equally have the right to reclaim more balance across their lives, but as long as women continue to make such decisions in greater numbers, it will remain so.

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JESS BUTCHER

TULIP SIDDIQ

YES

NO

JESS BUTCHER

17

DEBATE

Does Ruth Davidson’s resignation show that politics needs to change to better support women?

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17
MARKETING

THE NEXT DIMENSION

Luke Graham finds out how one creative studio is bringing 3D advertising graphics to the masses

Five or 10 years ago, you’d sweat for a month to get something to look like that – now we can do it instantly.

The comparison that springs to mind is Microsoft’s Powerpoint, which enables people to make presentations quickly and efficiently. The pair plan to add more features in the future, but also want to keep it simple to use, and not overwhelm users with options.

“There are restrictions,” admits Cyzer. “It’s designed to not allow you to mess it up – so you can’t move the camera outside of the environment or through the product. There are limitations, but that’s intentional.”

The pair are also excited about how 3dctrl can be used to visually showcase products in a way that companies have never done before. “The animations and camera settings, meaning a brand can quickly create videos for a whole range of products,” says Phillips.

“Five or 10 years ago, you’d sweat for a month to get something to look like that – and now we can do it instantly,” says Phillips proudly.

The program itself appears easy to use, but the pair expect high demand from agencies and brands who want to produce content themselves. “Brands that want to do more content production in-house are doing so because they need to be quicker. The approval chain is slowing things down. Today, it’s all about being responsive and being in control,” Cyzer adds.

Eventually, they intend to release a version that allows users to create videos for a YouTube spec, an Instagram feed, and a Facebook feed – all from the same tool,” Phillips adds.

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The pair are also excited about how 3dctrl can be used to visually showcase products in a way that companies have never done before. “The animations and camera settings, meaning a brand can quickly create videos for a whole range of products,” says Phillips.

“Five or 10 years ago, you’d sweat for a month to get something to look like that – and now we can do it instantly,” says Phillips proudly.

The program itself appears easy to use, but the pair expect high demand from agencies and brands who want to produce content themselves. “Brands that want to do more content production in-house are doing so because they need to be quicker. The approval chain is slowing things down. Today, it’s all about being responsive and being in control,” Cyzer adds.

Eventually, they intend to release a version that allows users to create videos for a YouTube spec, an Instagram feed, and a Facebook feed – all from the same tool,” Phillips adds.

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OFFICE POLITICS

When partners behave badly: How to rein in a shady coworker

Management can no longer turn a blind eye to misbehaviour, even by ‘rainmakers’

In the wake of the #MeToo movement, there has been a great deal of focus on how to tackle the toxic work culture that exists in some industries and businesses. Many companies have been pushing for cultural change, motivated by the desire to create inclusive work environments, and limit the reputational and financial damage that can incur as a result of employee bad behaviour.

Take, for example, the decision by Lloyd’s of London to ban people who are under the influence of alcohol or drugs from its premises on Lime Street, as a way of tackling the boozy lunch culture that is rife across the insurance industry.

Cultural shifts like these are usually dictated from above. However, in the professional services industry – where companies often operate through a partnership model – implementing cultural change can be more challenging, largely because of the lack of a hierarchical relationship that typically exists between an employer and employee.

The high-profile resignations of two senior female KPMG partners following the firm’s investigation of alleged bullying by a senior male partner illustrates the potential reputational fallout and consequences for firms that do not actively manage partner conduct and hold partners accountable.

Common forms of partner misconduct include sexual harassment, bullying, diversion of business opportunities, breach of confidentiality, and financial misconduct. While no firm can completely inoculate itself from misconduct, there need to be clear expectations on behaviour – putting in place rules and policies that are applicable and tailored to partners, specifying what the firm regards as appropriate and inappropriate conduct.

Some high-flying partners who bring in lots of money to a business may feel like they are above the rules and immune from being sacked. So in order for these policies to be effective, partners need to understand that a breach of their obligations can have detrimental consequences on their careers, regardless of their position in the firm.

This is why it’s important for everyone in a business to undergo training on the expectations of their role, so that they understand the consequences of misconduct, both for themselves personally and for the firm. Behavioural expectations should also ideally be hardwired into partner incentivisation and progression. For example, rather than just rewarding partners for hitting financial performance targets, consider giving partners an incentive to modify their attitudes and behaviour to align with the firm’s culture.

And yet, policies, training and incentivisation will only go so far – inevitably, there will be some partners who just do not get the message. So dealing with problem behaviour by partners who are resistant to change is an absolute imperative for businesses that genuinely wish to foster an inclusive workplace culture.

In the not too distant past, there was a tendency by management to turn a blind eye to misbehaviour by high-billing “rainmakers”. In the #MeToo era, that is no longer a luxury that professional services firms can afford.

Zulon Begum is a partner at employment and partnership specialist law firm CM Murray.

COFFEE BREAK

SUDOKU

Copyright Puzzle Press Ltd, www.puzzlepress.co.uk

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.

KAKURO

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 names. 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.

LAST ISSUE’S SOLUTIONS

QUICK CROSSWORD

KAKURO

Quick crossword

Sudoku

wordwheel

THE nine-letter word was EXTRAVAGANCE

Quick crossword

Across
1 Art of reasoning accurately (5)
2 Utter monotonously and repetitively (5)
3 Hassle (5)
4 Young male horses (5)
5 Variety (3)
6 Affirm by oath (6)
7 Prospect (5)
8 Synthetic fabric (5)
9 Pierced with a drill (5)
10 Foyer (5)
11 Sports studio (6)
12 Pertinent (3)
13 Machine for bundling hay (5)
14 Signal for action (5)
15 Run off to wed (5)
16 Deposits of valuable ore (5)

Down
1 Scottish lakes (5)
2 Mousse (3)
3 Hindu social class (5)
4 Conceal (5)
5 Cordiality (5)
6 Souvenir (5)
7 Nickname for the old sixpence (6)
8 Triangular Indian snack (6)
9 Make the sound of a dove (5)
10 Sphere (3)
11 Slow a vehicle (5)
12 Proportion (5)
13 The two in a pack of playing cards (5)
14 A lot (6)
15 Back gardens (5)
16 Went in advance of others (3)
Malta: The Med’s Paradise Island

With its glorious sandy beaches, magnificent historical landmarks, award-winning wines and pretty cobbled streets, Malta really does have it all. Just a three-hour flight from the UK, the Mediterranean island is perfect for anyone seeking a short sunny getaway, chic city break or action-packed family escape. Predominantly English-speaking, the island is surrounded by sparkling Mediterranean Sea with over 300 days of dazzling sunshine a year. Malta’s year-round warm climate allows visitors to truly make the most of its renowned festivals and special events, thrilling land and watersports and charming alfresco restaurants.

For those craving culture, Malta is a Baroque paradise waiting to be discovered. Stunning capital Valletta is the ultimate open-air museum, built by the Knights of St. John and now a European Art City and UNESCO World Heritage Site. Its distinctive honey-coloured city walls reveal a treasure trove of perfectly preserved historical monuments, fairy-tale palaces, romantic fountains and sunlit squares built around the largest natural harbour in the world. Easily walkable, Valletta’s bewitching charms extend to its Baroque waterfront, impressive City Gate and the command ing Fort St Elmo, alongside stylish eateries, elegant hotels and world-class shopping for a city break with a difference.

History abounds beyond Valletta too, with two further UNESCO World Heritage sites on the Maltese Islands. In Malta itself, the Hal Saflieni Hypogeum is considered one of the most important prehistoric monuments in the world and dates from around 3600 to 2400 BC. A rock-cut underground complex, it was used both as a sanctuary and for burial purposes and is one of Malta’s most fascinating sights. The island is also home to several of the archipelago’s seven Megalithic Temples, listed as a group on the World Heritage List and showcasing a unique architectural tradition that flourished on the Maltese Islands between 4000 and 2500 BC. The group comprises the astonishing Ġgantija Temples on the island of Gozo, the oldest free-standing monuments in the world, notable for their huge Bronze Age structures.

A further insight into Malta’s intriguing history and maritime fortunes can be found in The Three Cities. Harbour inlets used since Phoenician times, Victoriosa, Senglea and Cospicua represent the cradle of Maltese history and were the first home of the Knights of St. John, with palaces, churches, forts and bastions far older than those in Valletta. Today, the towns are renowned for their lively local celebrations of holy days and festivals and offer an authentic glimpse of real Maltese life.

The fortified medieval town of Mdina is another must-visit: the former capital of Malta has unforgettable views of the island from its hill-top location. Enclosed by bastions, visitors can wander its enchanting narrow streets to discover striking palaces, eerie underground passages, extraordinary museums and the 17th century St. Paul’s Cathedral, built on the site St. Paul himself converted Roman governor Publius to Christianity. More recently, the magical town has served as a regular filming location for ‘Game of Thrones’, with Mesquita Square, Mdina Gate and Magazines’ Street all used in scenes for the iconic TV series. Malta’s striking architecture and rich history have made the island a star of the big screen too, with film buffs able to visit the locations used for blockbuster films including ‘The Mercy’, ‘Murder on the Orient Express’, ‘Gladiator’ and ‘Captain Phillips’.

With so much to see, do and discover year-round, Malta’s jam-packed calendar of cultural, gastronomic and sporting events means visitors always have the chance to celebrate alongside locals too. In October alone, highlights include Notte Bianca (5th) when Valletta’s historical buildings, while January’s Valletta International Baroque Festival (10th – 25th) should not be missed. The festival features over ten different musical programmes including operas, concerts, drama and a children’s event held in the city’s finest historical venues. In fact whenever you choose to go, it’s always the perfect time to visit Malta.

For more information

Visit www.maltauk.com

Limited availability (correct at 07/08/19) From £34.99
Laura Millar is seduced by one of the most idyllic spots in Europe (though not by its hundreds of steps).

**WHERE TO STAY**
The Culloden Estate & Spa is a prestigious five-star hotel located near Belfast City Centre. Once the official palace for the Bishops of Down, it stands in 12 acres of secluded gardens and woodland. Visit hostinghotels.com

**WHERE TO EAT**
Taste the Island, a celebration of Ireland's food and drink is on from 6 September to 30 November. We suggest dining at Mourne Seafood Bar to try local seafood such as aromatic pots of Mourne mussels. Visit ireland.com

**WHERE TO DRINK**
Bootleggers is a prohibition-themed bar with energy. The cocktail menu is vast with two pages of specialised gin and whiskey cocktails, plus the bar carries an extensive range of American craft beers. Visit bootleggersbelfast.com

**THE WEEKEND:** If you’re a sucker for sunsets, and an old romantic at heart, Santorini is the place for you. The island is what’s left of a volcanic eruption that occurred 3,000 years ago – most of it sank into the sea, leaving only a rough semi-circle of land. As a result, the towns built along the top of this elongated ‘C’ shape (300ft above sea level) have an unparalleled view across the horizon, and of the dramatic moments that occur when the sun sinks into it. One of the main towns, Oia, is a smart little enclave with somewhat slippery, polished marble pavements, which are lined with the requisite souvenir shops, concept stores and clothing boutiques. It’s also lined with dozens of people brandishing selfie sticks, and you’ll probably witness at least one proposal while you’re here.

**THE STAY:** The only place to locate yourself is in a hotel built into the side of the caldera, which gives you immediate sunset bragging rights and also means you avoid the throngs of not-so-lucky people who turn up in their hundreds from around 5pm to see it. Thankfully, Katikies Santorini, in Oia, delivers. With 34 elegant, spacious rooms, three infinity pools, and two restaurants, all with the same jaw-dropping view across the Aegean. Of course, being built into what is basically a cliff means that reception is at street level – ie, at the top of the caldera – while the second restaurant is many, many feet below. There is an elevator – but if you want to stratopherically boost your heart rate, as well as your step count, just take the (rather steep) stairs.

**HOW the affable staff manage to do this on a regular basis, often while wielding large, heavy trays of cocktails, is a mystery.**

**WHO GOES:** Lots of couples, of course. Newly married ones. Newly engaged ones. Ones who have been together for years. And that new scourge of international travel, the influencer, whom you’ll find blocking your view at breakfast together for years. And that new scourge of international travel, the influencer, whom you’ll find blocking your view at breakfast. While they pose by the pool in a ridiculous kaftan.

**THE FOOD:** You can dine all day at chic Seltz bar, where they serve anything from oysters and caviar to lobster with fennel or yellowtail tartare, in a romantic space which feels like an Arabian tent.

**THE WEEKEND:**

**THE FOOD:**

**THE WeekEnD:**

**THE LONG WEEKEND:**

**KATIKIES SANTORINI, CYCLADES, GREECE**

**THE WEEKEND:** A boat trip around the volcano; you can plan it for daytime, when you’ll be served lunch on board and stop off at various points for a swim, or for sunset, to see those incredible shades of lilac, orange and scarlet from a unique vantage point.

**DRINK WINE:** There are fourteen vineyards on Santorini, most of which offer tours and tastings. Venetsanos (venetsanoswinery.com), uses local grapes such as assyrtiko and mandilaria. Sit by the water at a seafront tavern like Sunset by Paraskvias in picture-perfect Ammoudi bay (sunset-ammoudi.gr), devouring freshly grilled octopus, or lobster spaghetti.

**FUN FIERY FACT:** As a volcano, Santorini is still actually live; parts of it last erupted in 1950.

**NEED TO KNOW**

© Rooms at Katikies Santorini start from around €405 per night, including breakfast; book via katikies.com
© Easyjet flies direct to Santorini from around £232 return; easyjet.com
W ith Mugabe’s fall from grace, tourism in Victoria Falls was booming, the spectacle of the falls proving a stronger draw than political misgivings. But with his presence lifted, Zimbabwe is poised to really fly as a destination for adventurous travellers. There’s been a sudden influx of investment, with two new luxury openings — Mpala Jena Boutique Hotel — in 2018. There’s an expectation that the new visitors will be on their way.

The tourists are on their way. This new era of optimism, hope for a panacea to all the country’s ills, has heralded a new era of optimism, hope for what the future of Zimbabwe might be. The tourists are on their way.

Sophie Ibbotson on how this landlocked African nation has unlocked a new tourism boom
NEW-LOOK ENGLAND

Gareth Southgate has tactical decisions to make after picking a young Three Lions squad. By **Michael Searles**

It will come as no surprise to see that Gareth Southgate’s latest England squad contains some fresh and exciting faces and the emphasis firmly fixed on youth. During his tenure in charge of the Three Lions he has never shied away from selecting youngsters and in his latest squad a number of the country’s best and brightest talents have been rewarded for starting the new season well.

But while that has been part of the England DNA under Southgate’s regime, so has the constant evolution of personnel and tactics. With Euro 2020 qualifiers against Bulgaria and Kosovo this weekend, and the tournament itself less than 10 months away, now is the time for Southgate to establish the winning formula he has set for this side and himself.

For these two qualifiers, Southgate has called up Aaron Wan-Bissaka and himself. With Euro 2020 qualifiers against Bulgaria and Kosovo this weekend, and the tournament itself less than 10 months away, now is the time for Southgate to establish the winning formula he has set for this side and himself.

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ArSENAL TRIP TO LEICESTER

ON THE ROAD TO TOTTENHAM

FEARLESS WOLVES WIN

HONORABLE EVEN

SPORT DIGEST

RICHARDSON DOWNS WOLVES WITH A DOUBBLE FOR EVERTON

Richardson scored twice as Everton beat Wolves 3-2 at Goodison Park in the Premier League yesterday. The Brazilian opened the scoring early on after a defensive mix-up but Romain Saiss strolled in an equaliser soon after. Alex Iwobi headed in Gylfi Sigurdsson’s cross to give Everton a 2-1 lead before Raul Jimenez got Wolves level again. But Richardson ultimately made the difference, heading in Lucas Digne’s cross to make it a successful home league win for the Toffees. “We started well and I didn’t like the way we conceded, but we always showed a fantastic reaction,” said Everton manager Marco Silva.

KONTA BEATS PLISKOVA TO REACH US OPEN LAST EIGHT

Johanna Konta is through to the quarter-finals of the US Open after coming from a set behind to beat Karolina Pliskova yesterday. The British No1 lost a first set tie-break to the Czech third seed but fought back strongly to win 6-7, 6-3, 7-5 at Flushing Meadows. Konta will play Ukraine’s Elina Svitolina or America’s Madison Keys in the next eight after becoming the first British woman to reach the last eight at the US Open. “I think I had to do everything I could to win that match,” the 28-year-old said. “I had to work hard and find a way to adapt and be effective. I’ve been in this position twice before so to go one step further is a massive achievement for me. I’m hoping to go on, two or even three steps further.”

KNIGHT HELPS STORM WIN THE LAST SUPER LEAGUE FINAL

England captain Heather Knight helped Western Storm past Southern Vipers to win the Women’s Super League yesterday. Knight scored an unbeaten 78 from 53 balls as she and Deepthi Sharma (39 not out) passed the target of 173 with an over to spare to win by six wickets in Vipps. Vipers had looked favourites to claim the trophy at the halfway stage, with Danni Wyatt’s 73 off 42 balls seeing them lead by 17 when Olivia Harbottle (39 not out) walked off to leave Sharma to make it a comfortable win for the Toffees.

INJURED LOCK HILL MAKES WALES’ WORLD CUP SQUAD

Cory Hill has been named in Wales’ 31-man squad for the Rugby World Cup despite being currently unavailable with a fractured leg. The Dragons lock made Warren Gatland’s squad even though he has not played since scoring a try against France in England in February. Rhys Patchell will be the back-up fly-half for Dan Biggar after making the cut, but props Samson Lee and Rob Evans and centre Scott Williams have been left out for the tournament, which starts on 20 September in Japan. “Selection is always the toughest part of the job and that is especially true come RWC time,” said Gatland. “Reducing the squad down to 31 has been extremely hard especially when you look at the depth we have created and the amount of work the training squad have put in.”

SPORT

Arsenal come from behind to draw with Spurs in frenetic derby. By Frank Dalleres

T HIS was a result that both teams would probably have taken beforehand but truly satisfied no one – except perhaps the neutrals. There were flashes of promise, but no one could treat the encounter as an early contender for most breathless, frenetic and combustible Premier League match of the season. Arsenal would have settled for a point and improvements in all departments on last week’s schooling at Liverpools, while Spurs came within 19 minutes of all three points until Arsenal’s pressure told just as they seemed to be running out of ideas and Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang added to Alexandre Lacazette’s first-half strike.

SPURS MAKE CHANCES COUNT

Arsenal carried the fight to Spurs and dominated the numbers, but only as many shots (26), more possession (55 per cent), greater pass success rate (85-79 per cent), twice as many tackles (14) and corners (11-6). What they lacked in statistical superiority Tottenham made up for in quality in both penalty boxes, for the first 40 minutes at least.

When they attacked they did so with greater cutting edge. Son Heung-Min and Erik Lamela sliced through Arsenal’s defence for the opening goal on 10 minutes, when the Argentinian’s shot was parried by Bernd Leno to the feet of Eriksen. And when they defended they did so resolutely. Danny Rose throwing himself in the way of Nicolas Pepe’s back-post header. The hosts were guilty of the opposite, in particular Granit Xhaka, whose senseless tackle on Son brought the penalty.

FRONT THREE YET TO CLICK

As the other two forwards. became anywhere near as influential as the other two forwards. Pepe has been eased into the spotlight since his club record £72m summer transfer, and his own shots, hitting the target with just one of seven attempts.

If a pacy attacking trident is to work at home when opponents sit deep they may need one of the midfield three to play further forward. Matteo Guendouzi, whose ball led up Aubameyang’s equaliser, seemed to act on this in the second half.

Wayward Pepe

Pepe has been praised into the spotlight since his club record £72m summer transfer from Lille and, while he again showed flashes of promise, he is yet to become anywhere near as influential as the other two forwards.

The right winger did set up Lacazette to thump past Hugo Lloris in first-half stoppage time with a nonchalant waltz of the outside of his boot, but he was wayward with his own shots, hitting the target with just one of seven attempts.

Worst of those was a wild slice which presented with a chance to volley the winner 13 minutes from time. For a gifted dribbler he also seemed reluctant to try to go past Rose.

Eriksen Lifts Tottenham

One man who showed his value was Eriksen, who shone in only his second start after a summer in which he appeared closer than ever to leaving Tottenham. Aside from his goal, the Danish was involved in most of his team’s good work in the first half. He whipped a fierce strike that needed, a smart stop from Leno, as did his free-kick later in the period.

With his immediate future seemingly at Spurs after all, it looks best for all concerned if Eriksen can resume his role as chief creator. All concerned – apart from their opponents – will be better off for it.
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