

THE WORD

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JEREMY HUNT PLOTS WITH 211 MPS TO REPLACE JOHNSON



TERRIBLE

TEPID

TORIES

TORN

**IT'S STILL
ONE TORY**

**HUNT OR
ANOTHER**

Starting With The Second Amendment

"A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a Free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

In the USA the minimum age for being served alcohol is 21. By then a young person could have purchased several guns and loads of ammunition.

But do they have to be a member of a "well-regulated Militia" in order to keep and bear arms? Those words continue to be part of the Second Amendment: an ignored part.

In 2008 the Supreme Court of the USA ruled that the meaning of the Second Amendment could apply to self rather than community defence. How easy is it to define self-defence?

"I was certain that the old lady was about to attack me with her walking stick so I pointed my ArmaLite AR-15 at her and discharged it." Not guilty.

Of the nine members of that particular Supreme Court seven had been appointed by Republican Presidents. It may be an over simplification but might that 2008 decision indicate a drift by that Party not merely rightwards but eventually to the demotion and discarding of community values?

Make your choice, community or self? And while making that choice it might be worth considering how the word 'defence' has morphed into 'offence'. Murderers excuse their attacks upon others by telling themselves and the World that they are defending, for example, the White Race.

If we change perspective a little are we seeing people that own many more guns than they can use typifying the USA itself? The country is nearly always at war. The fact that it usually loses does not stop it. The USA not only has more bombs and bullets than any other country but also an economy closely linked to both their production and their use.

In 1944 Walter Lippmann's book on US foreign policy called for its notion of self-interest to be rational. Was the Korean War rational? How about Vietnam or



Cliff Jones column

Afghanistan or Iraq or Libya? Or even that war against an abstract noun, Terror?

I propose that we are seeing a hugely powerful state not only self-harming domestically but also internationally. When community values become less important than selfish values then we are, I suggest, looking at eventual disintegration.

In 1962 CB Macpherson the Canadian political scientist wrote a book on the Political Theory of Possessive Individualism. In 1987 Margaret Thatcher articulated her political philosophy, "There is no such thing as society". She saw only individuals and perhaps families.

In 2002 Greg Palast published The Best Democracy That Money Can Buy. Today we see, for example, how the National Rifle Association (NRA) buys and owns members of the Republican Party.

If I am right about self-harming leading to disintegration then I believe that we are witnessing what Marx and Engels in 1848 predicted that capitalism would bring about. They wrote that in The Communist Manifesto. That word 'communist' shares a lot of letters with the word 'community'. Their meanings might not be so far apart as we are led to believe.

Welcome to the World of Chaos. Shall any kind of Order emerge?

Go on Supreme Court, re-read the actual words of the Second amendment.

IT IS THE BEST OF TIMES, IT IS THE WORST OF TIMES

Historians and social commentators will often say that we are at a crossroads. Like many of us they probably had school history lessons that were divided into periods. It is as though, as the clock struck midnight we were no longer Tudors but Stuarts. Perhaps things are really a bit more complicated than that. Ill-defined trends, themes and pressures are possibly better descriptors.

We look at the election results in Australia and,

as we did on May 2nd. 1997, assume that all that right-wing stuff is now in the dustbin of history with the lid nailed down. Such a let-down that was. Perhaps, instead, Australian voters were rejecting a specific person rather than switching to a different set of social values. We can hope but we shall see.

If we look at the UK, specifically England, what might be the political trend?

We have an unfunny joke of a Prime Minister leading a shambolic and unpleasant government picking fights with former friends while making clear that it will not tolerate dissent and

protest. The worse things get for this government the more suppression seems to be their response. But supposing that by some means Johnson is made to walk the plank, what can we expect from his successor?

This is not the Tory Party of Rab Butler or of Harold Macmillan. This, in the words of Theresa May, is the Nasty Party. My guess is that simply changing the leader shall not rid us of corrupt capitalism. The Tories are owned by their donors and greed is their shared philosophy. The greed of one means the impoverishment of another.

Ah but, New Management Labour is waiting in the wings. If they come into power what might we expect? The re-nationalisation of privatised profit-making public services? The return of schools to democratically elected local authorities? A foreign policy that does less sabre rattling? A closing of the gap between rich and poor? Support for indigenous people who are having their houses, land and lives taken from them by invaders? I am afraid that





Starmer, just like Cameron, believes that the route to power means turning to the right.

It is where he feels comfortable. Following Blair he refers to the right as the middle. I wonder how he would describe the administrations of Attlee, Far Left. Not his cup of tea. Even when Labour lost power in 1951 the party broke the record for the number of votes cast. Their values were not suddenly unpopular. It was the First Past the Post system and the drawing of constituency boundaries that caused them to lose power.



Real politics is about the inclusive discussion of and consensual arrival at public values. Instead we have sound bites tested on the voters by means of focus groups. You want power? Choose a good advertising agency.

Before Thatcher we had what was known as the 'post-war consensus'. This maintained the progress made by Labour when it established a Welfare State. We grew up knowing that it was there: that we were supported even if the government changed. All, all is gone. In 1987 Thatcher announced on Woman's Own that there is "No such thing as society". We are all individuals out for ourselves.

I am afraid that since 1979 Thatcherism has dominated discourse. We non-billionaires have had The Worst of Times. The Best of Times? Who will bring them about? Simply

swapping
political
parties
and
trying
o u t

different leaders will not do the job.

I believe that positive change will come from many small groups and individuals exchanging and discussing their interests, concerns and anxieties. Can we have a bloodless revolution? Having our social values dictated to us from the top is not the way. Subscribing to The Word would be a good start.



When politics was treated as serious LABOUR'S FIRST YEAR

J.E.D. Hall PENGUIN BOOKS (1947). My somewhat battered copy of this 213 page book has scrawled on the front its second hand price of 3d. Now 10p from Amazon, 10p.

Reading it, what came across was the contrast between the seriousness of politicians in that immediate post war period and those of today.

The book covers the significant events and issues of the time: establishment of the Welfare State and the NHS; the American Loan that, demonstrated the post-war selfish behaviour of a country realising that it had new exploitative powers; and how the money was to be found for the country not only to survive but also to make massive changes that would establish a post-war consensus that survived until Thatcher.

We also learn of the impact of terrorism in Palestine by Zionists. Certainly the government of the day not only had to bring about long-lasting domestic changes but also to deal with huge post imperial pressure. Mistakes were made.

The author gives us a comprehensive set of chapters based upon Parliamentary discussion of domestic and foreign affairs. The repeal of the 1927 Trade Disputes Act meant so much to Ernie Bevin who had been General Secretary of the TUC. That Act had been passed the year after the General Strike and had suppressed Trade Unions. Suddenly it seems that we are hearing Bevin, a young again Trade Union activist, speak on a subject he holds dear.

I admit that the significance of the repeal of that Act had passed me by. Now it adds perspective about later governmental suppression of trade unions.

Aneurin Bevan is more rumbustious, but clever. Opposed by Churchill's Tory Party which was unwilling to support the establishment of the NHS.

Today we might think that the NHS provided

us with a service free at the point of use, but Bevan also rationalised a variable system of local authority and private hospitals, big and small. He created a single service. Until then so many hospitals had depended upon tax exempt contributions from wealthy donors.

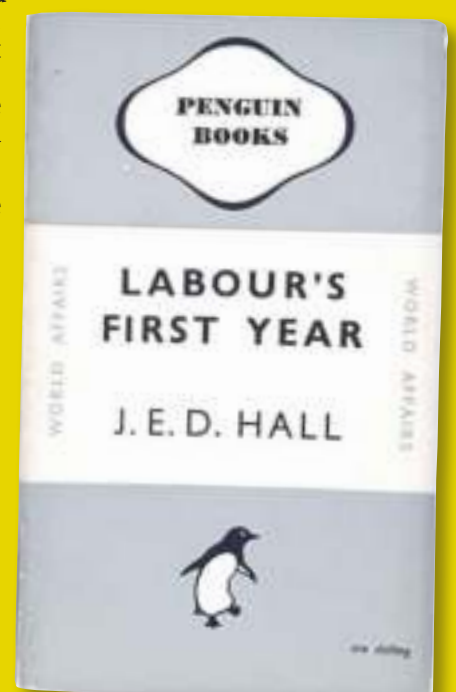
It is repugnant to a civilised community for hospitals to have to rely on private charity. -Aneurin Bevan.

My admiration for Attlee is confirmed. In 1945 we told ourselves that we had won the war. I remember first the VE (Victory in Europe) signs and later the VJ (Victory in Japan) signs appearing on walls.

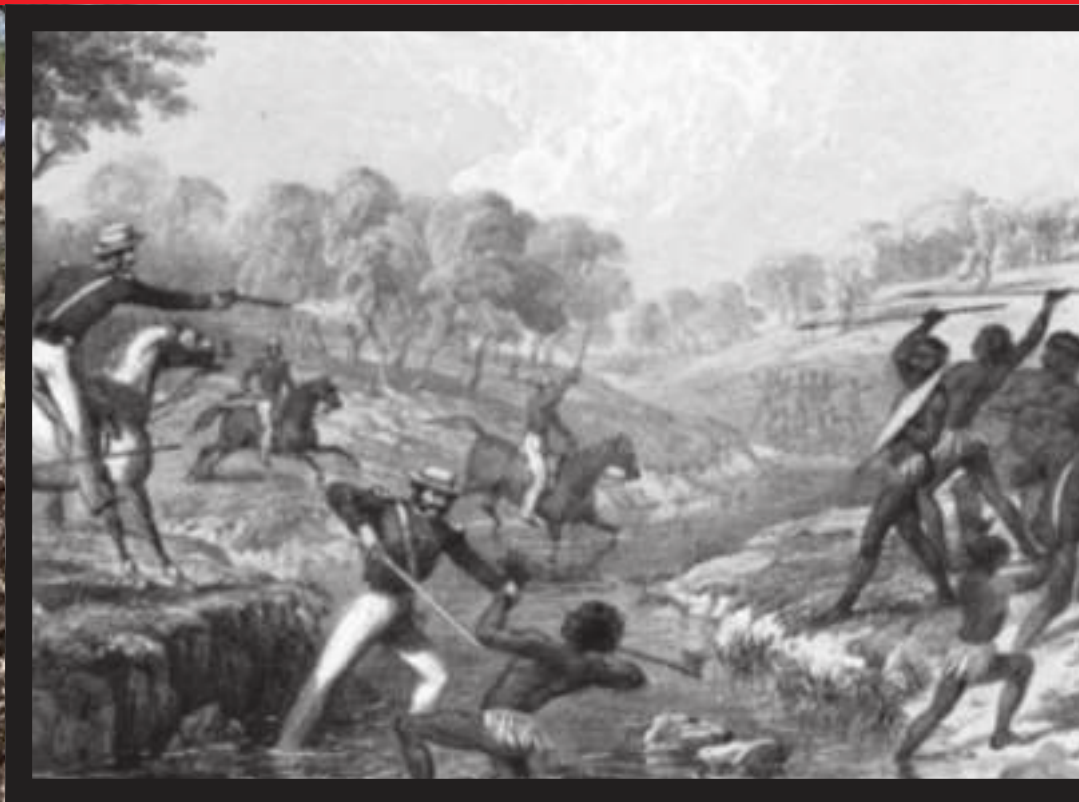
So, we'd won, but won what? A bankrupt country with so much to fix. Only the government could have done that, a bit of fixing. In that first year there were 78 Bills, many of which required a lot of homework. What the government did was to declare war, once again but this time on WANT, DISEASE, IGNORANCE, SQUALOR, IDLENESS.

The values of Corbyn's 2019 Party Manifesto are similar to those of the 1929 Liberal Party's. In between comes the Labour Party of 1945. They would, I suggest, be happy in each other's company. If, today, Corbyn is labelled Far Left what on earth would New Management Labour have called Attlee?

By Cliff Jones



THE MURDER OF INNOCENT UNARMED ABORIGINALS



IN MEMORY OF THE WIRRAYARAAY PEOPLE WHO WERE MURDERED ON THE SLOPES OF THIS RIDGE IN AN UNPROVOKED BUT PREMEDITATED ACT IN THE LATE AFTERNOON OF 10 JUNE, 1838

ERECTED ON 10 JUNE 2000 BY A GROUP OF ABORIGINAL AND NON-ABORIGINAL AUSTRALIANS IN AN ACT OF RECONCILIATION, AND IN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRUTH OF OUR SHARED HISTORY.

WE REMEMBER THEM
NGIYANT WINANGAY GANUNGA.

THEY TIED THE WIRRAYARAAY PEOPLE UP AND TOOK THEM AWAY, EXCEPT FOR TWO WOMEN AND TWO GIRLS, THE WIRRAYARAAY PEOPLE WERE SLAUGHTERED, THEN PILED HIGH AND BURNT. THEY FOUND THE REMAINS OF AT LEAST 28 BODIES BUT THERE COULD HAVE BEEN MORE.

Myall Creek Massacre

On the 10th of June 1838 at least 28 unarmed Aboriginal people were murdered. Prior to this there had been many murders of Aboriginal. This seemed to be the norm and usually the people guilty of it, British Colonial stockmen, settlers and convicts got away with it.

By the 1830's with to the constant violent attacks and murders of their people, The Wirrayaraay tribe, a tribal clan of the Gamilaraay nation, decided to leave their homeland and seek sanctuary by camping on Henry

Dangar's property at Myall Creek Station. This was a beneficial agreement to all involved.

The Wirrayaraay people had escaped violence for the time being, and their men helped the stockmen at nearby stations with

their work. They built up a friendly relationship with the station hands and stockmen, even singing and dancing with them at campfires in the evenings.

On the evening of the 10th of June 1838, just before sunset,

» **The Wirrayaraay people had escaped violence for the time being, and their men helped the stockmen at nearby stations with their work. They built up a friendly relationship with the station hands and stockmen, even singing and dancing with them at campfires in the evenings.**

the Wirrayaraay people were getting ready for their evening meal when a group of fully armed British people arrived at the station. They tied the Wirrayaraay people up and took them away, except for two women and two girls, one of the girls was given to an aboriginal stockman, the others were set aside, and two boys managed to escape by jumping into the creek.

George Anderson the hut keeper at Myall Creek station, tells of how the Wirrayaraay people were slaughtered, then piled high and burnt. They found the

remains of at least 28 bodies but there could have been more.

After these murders, there were two trials, the first was a sham, where intimidation took place of the jury by the defence team. All eleven were found not guilty.

The second trial was split in two, and from this, seven British subjects were found guilty and hanged at Sydney Gaol. This was very unusual as people normally kept silent about Aboriginal murders, so the culprits always got away with it.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY



10TH JUNE

1838- Myall Creek Massacre
Twenty-eight Australian Aborigines were murdered

1991- An American 11year old from California called Jaycee Lee Dugard is kidnapped and remained so until 2009.

11th June

1381- The Peasants Revolt.
Wat Tyler leads a march in the south of England to London by the peasants who were protesting at the harsh taxes on the poor.

1776- birth of Landscape artist, John Constable

1997- In a free vote in the house of commons, a complete ban on hand guns was agreed

2012- David Cameron leaves his child behind in the pub after a family lunch

12th June

1922- George Leigh Mallory and two British climbers managed to climb to a height of 25,800 feet without the aid of Oxygen. This was the first time it was ever achieved

1989- MP's voted to allow parliament proceedings to be televised

12th June

1930- 22 people were killed in Greece by hailstorms

13th June

1950- South Africa brings in the Group Areas Act. This was an act where non whites were forbidden from large areas of developed land. Apartheid and segregation and oppression

1917- 162 deaths including children and 432 injured in London during the 1st World War.

This was the deadliest air raid carried out by Gotha G Bombers

14th June

1928- The death of Suffragette Emmeline Pankhurst

1946- Scottish inventor John Logie Baird, responsible for the development of television dies.

2017- The Horrific Grenfell tragedy kills 72 people including

children.

15th June

1971- Opposition grows as Margaret Thatcher as education secretary wants to end free school milk to the over sevens. With some Labour controlled councils threatening to put the rates up to pay for it.

1998- The British £2.00 coin is introduced

16th June

1930 For the first time in Hyde Park, London, Mixed bathing was allowed

1958- The yellow no waiting lines on the streets were introduced in Britain

1982- South Wales miners come out in solidarity with the health workers who were demanding a 12% pay rise. The coalfield came to a standstill.

17th June

1704- The birth of John Kay, who patented the 'Flying Shuttle' to operate on Arkwright's cotton spinning frame

1867- Pioneer doctor Joseph Lister performs the first operation under antiseptic conditions at Glasgow Royal Infirmary, on his sister Isabella, using carbolic acid as antiseptic

1945- Birth of Ken Livingstone, former Labour politician and the first Mayor of London

BEST OF THE WEB

USA GUN ATTACKS

US authorities have warned of possible copycat mass shootings after an 18-year-old gunman killed 19 children and two teachers at a primary school in Texas two weeks ago.

In an updated advisory, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) also highlighted the risk of violence tied to upcoming events, including a Supreme Court ruling on abortion rights, the loosening of border controls, and the November Congressional elections.

"The United States remains in a heightened threat environment," the DHS advisory stated.

"In the coming months, we expect the threat environment to become more dynamic as several high-profile events could be exploited to justify acts of violence against a range of possible targets." It stated that targets of attack could include public gatherings, religious institutions, minority groups and ideological opponents.



IRISH BILL

The UK government will introduce a bill that will allow future ministers to fundamentally override the Northern Ireland Protocol by emphasising the UK internal market over the EU single market, RTÉ News understands.

If it became law the bill would overturn many of the principles of the Protocol, in that it would potentially do away with any checks on goods entering Northern Ireland from Great Britain and instead favour in-market surveillance.

The centre piece of the bill is expected to be focused on a "dual regulatory regime" where goods produced in Great Britain would be free to circulate in Northern Ireland, and goods produced in Northern Ireland would be free to circu-

late in Great Britain.

It is understood the UK would seek ways to provide "robust" surveillance that would do away with the need for an Irish Sea border.



RYANAIR

Ryanair is requiring South African passengers to prove their nationality before travelling by completing a test in Afrikaans.

The language is used by just 12% of the population and

has long been identified with apartheid and the white minority.

Europe's largest airline by passenger numbers does not operate flights to and from South Africa.

But it said that it required any UK-bound passengers from the country to fill in the "simple questionnaire" due to what it described as a high prevalence of fraudulent South African passports.

"If they are unable to com-



plete this questionnaire, they will be refused travel and issued with a full refund," a spokesman for the airline said.

Russian MPs vote to quit European Court of Human Rights

The Russian parliament has passed a pair of bills ending the jurisdiction of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) in the country.

Tuesday's move formalised the broken ties between Russia and the Council of Europe, the continent's foremost human rights body.

The Russian parliament approved two bills, one removing the country from the court's jurisdiction and a second setting March 15 as the cut-off point, with rulings against Russia made after that date not to be implemented.

The bills were passed nearly unanimously, with only one deputy from the opposition Communist Party voting against them. They must now be signed by President Vladimir Putin before becoming law.

On March 15, Russia withdrew from the organisation, of which the ECHR is part. The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe had planned to vote to expel Russia on March 16, in response to Putin's deployment of troops to Ukraine in February.

Russia has said that it independently decided to leave the Council of Europe, with former President Dmitry Medvedev saying that Russia's exit from the organisation represented an opportunity to restore the death penalty, which the Council of Europe's rules prohibit.



I HOPE this action is the beginning of a wider movement of the working class standing together in solidarity and working towards a general strike against this tyrannical government,' said striking Tube worker and RMT member Robert Jones.

He was speaking on the picket line outside Amos Grove Station in north London yesterday morning as the RMT's 4,000 striking station and revenue control staff shut down London Underground in a massive show of strength to oppose pension attacks and job cuts.

Trains remained in depots across the network and RMT members reported huge attendances at picket lines despite heavy rain across the capital.

600 station staff jobs will be lost if TfL (Transport for London) plans go through and RMT members face huge detrimental changes to their pensions and working conditions.

RMT general secretary Mick Lynch said: 'I congratulate our station grade and revenue control

staff members on London Underground for taking strike action in defence of their pensions and jobs.'

TORY PM Boris Johnson was mortally wounded

TORY PM Boris Johnson was mortally wounded in the no confidence vote in parliament last night, with 40% of Tory MPs voting against his leadership of the party. Yesterday morning, Sir Graham Brady, Chairman of the 1922 Committee of backbench MPs announced that he had received more than the required 54 letters calling for a vote of confidence, with the vote taking place between 6pm and 8pm. At 9pm Brady announced that Johnson had won by 211 votes to 148 and therefore: 'I can announce that the parliamentary party does have confidence in the prime minister.' Before the vote, former Tory cabinet minister David Gauke said: 'If more than 100 vote against him it's bad news for Boris Johnson. If it gets to 133, comparing it with Theresa May, then that's a very uncomfortable result for him.' May was forced to resign as PM shortly after 133 Tory MPs voted against her in a confidence vote in 2018. Johnson claimed after the result: 'A very good result, a convincing result, a decisive result. I've got a far bigger mandate and I'm grateful to colleagues for the support they have given me. We must come together as a party and put behind us all the stuff the media want us to focus on. I am pleased because we have the chance to talk exclusively about these things.' On 23rd June, there are by-elections in two Tory-held seats, in Wakefield and Tiverton, which the Tories are expected to lose.



Speaking on the picket line at Brixton Station in South London, South West London RMT Industrial rep Paul Murphy spoke enthusiastically about yesterday's strike and called for the TUC's 18th June march on parliament to become the beginning of a general strike to bring the Tories down.

Murphy told News Line: 'There are 600 job cuts on the whole of the Underground.'

'These changes, or attacks, to call them by the right name, on our terms and conditions will obviously make working on the Underground worse, for employees and passengers alike.

'I will be on the TUC march on 18th April. It is the right thing for the trades unions to call it. We need a big turnout and mass participation from all unions and all workers and the communities. We need to start building up with coordinated action for a General Strike.'

At Greenford Station in West

London, RMT member Mark Simon told News Line: 'They want to slash our pensions. They know our pension pot is in a really good place and they want part of it. But it's my pension, it's what I have for my old age. I don't own my house.

'I've paid into my pension for 23 years and it belongs to me. They can't be allowed to move the goalposts and pick my pocket, no way!'

At Shepherd's Bush station in west London, supervisor Kieran said: 'Management are trying to tear up our work agreements regarding station cover for the future. At present I can cover any station up to Marble Arch, but in the future they could ask me to cover as far away as Epping Forest.'

At Notting Hill Gate Station, picket supervisor Danny, said: 'We've had a lot of good support from the public today. We want a fully funded Tube network. A managed decline is underway and it is not acceptable to us.

TOP 5 NOT INBRED HEREDITARY THIEVES AS HEAD OF STATE AS VOTED

Ex leader of the Labour party driven out by the plotting of the establishment in the form of Keir Starmer and the fake claims of anti-Semitism by the media. Corbyn was the most popular choice by far. This mild mannered slightly left social democrat would probably be very good at it.

JEREMY CORBYN

Chosen by random ballot like jury service

This would enable anyone to have a go at being head of state and have the added advantage of getting rid of most career politicians.



Zara Sultana

The current MP. For Coventry South. She has already got the surname for the job. Also has an advantage that her Pakistani heritage would really irritate the establishment.



Andy Burnham

Surprise choice by our voters. The former Blairite who helped to privatise the health service and voted for the Iraq war. Burnham is currently Mayor of Greater Manchester.



Denis Skinner

Nearly as old as the Queen but would sort out the American Empire in an instant. Denis is never afraid to say what he thinks and with him as head of state it would be the first time we had one who was used to doing proper manual work.

THE SECRET SOCIETY



The secretive Bilderberg Group gathered for its annual meeting.. The 68th Bilderberg meeting took place 2 - 5 June 2022 in Washington, D.C., USA.

120 participants from 21 countries have confirmed their attendance. As ever, a diverse group of political leaders and experts from industry, finance, academia, labour and the media has been invited. The list of participants is available on bilderbergmeetings.org.

Typically, one-third of participants come from the U.S. with the rest from Europe.

Amongst the British contingent, we get a crossparty appearance including Tory minister Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Levelling Up and the now prominent Labour front bencher, Shadow



Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs David Lammy. Tory MP Tom Tugendhat, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee. They are backed up by Jeremy Fleming - Director of GCHQ, John Sawers - MI6 Chief, Bernard Looney - CEO of BP, Mark Sedwill, Chairman, Atlantic Futures Forum, Mustafa Suleyman, CEO, Inflection AI, Gideon Rachman, Chief Foreign

Affairs Commentator, The Financial Times, Zanny Minton Beddoes, Editor-in-Chief, The Economist, Bernard Looney, CEO, BP plc, Shashank Joshi, Defence Editor, The Economist, Demis Hassabis, CEO and Founder, DeepMind, Emma Walmsley, CEO, GlaxoSmithKline plc, I'm sure she will have a lot to talk about with her US counterpart, Albert Bourla, Chairman and CEO, Pfizer Inc. who will also be attending on behalf of the US deli-



The key topics for discussion this year are:

1. Geopolitical Realignments
2. NATO Challenges
3. China
4. Indo-Pacific Realignment
5. Sino-US Tech Competition
6. Russia
7. Continuity of Government and the Economy
8. Disruption of the Global Financial System
9. Disinformation
10. Energy Security and Sustainability
11. Post Pandemic Health
12. Fragmentation of Democratic Societies
13. Trade and De-globalisation
14. Ukraine

But of course, we will never know what has been said and agreed on during these meetings even though the agenda concerns everyone.

Ever since the controversial collective of elite North American and European politicians, business leaders, financiers and academics, have been meeting the group has attracted a good deal of suspicion over the last half-century, and for good reason too.

In the 1950s sociologist, C. Wright Mills wrote a best-seller, "The Power Elite," his book describing how interlocked networks of business, military, and political elites created a small but influential class that made democracy as learned in civics class mostly an illusion.

By the 1970s, many conspiracies were naturally built up around groups like the Bilderbergs, the

Trilateral Commission and the Council on Foreign Relations, and other NGOs that consolidate a disproportionate amount of power and influence outside the traditional political structures with no accountability.

In fact, with the Bilderbergs there is no reference to anything said or agreed on. No minutes are taken and the outcome of their discussions is never made public.

The groups have some very notable characters both past and present, Sir Keir Starmer, leader of the Labour party is a member of the elitist Trilateral Commission a very small powerful globalist group. The Trilateral Commission was created by David Rockefeller who so happened to be a member of the Council on Foreign Relations too. Crossover doesn't seem to be an issue, Starmer's right-hand man Lord Peter Mandelson also happens to be a member of the Bilderberg group.

Joe Biden's playbook is practically taken from the Council on Foreign Relations he's been a member for most of his political career. Jeffrey Epstein was a member of both the Trilateral Commission and Council on Foreign Relations, and of course, Henry Kissinger is a member of all three and remarkably will be attending the meetings this weekend at 99 years old.

LETTER FROM AMERICA



There is an insidious and unspoken connection between our gun culture at home and abroad. U.S. politicians and pundits believe that huge defence budgets provide international security for the United States, and many Americans believe that personal weapons provide safety at home. We don't question the use of deadly weaponry in unnecessary wars overseas; Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan are the most recent examples. At home, there are more guns than people – 120 guns for every 100 people. The United States is exceptional because some of the same weapons designed for war are available to teenagers fighting their personal demons.

Campaigns for greater defence spending accompany every international crisis. David Ignatius, the Washington Post's leading apologist for the Pentagon and the Central Intelligence Agency, is currently beating the drums for a new generation of nuclear-armed bombers, missiles, and submarines that would cost more than \$2 trillion over the next two decades and would increase the risk of nuclear war. In April, Ignatius argued that the "risks of nuclear war" created "extra urgency in developing a new generation of doomsday weapons that could maintain

deterrence." He praised the Pentagon's budget request for 2023, which emphasized "stronger nuclear weapons," including a new-generation intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) known as the Sentinel, a new B-21 manned bomber, and an exotic mix of drones and manned fighters known as Next Generation Air Dominance, or NGAD." The fact that nuclear weapons have no utilitarian value is completely lost on Ignatius and others.

Ignatius' case for greater defence spending echoes the case made by Secretary of Defence Lloyd J. Austin III. Austin spoke at the U.S. Indo-Pacific Com-

mand in Hawaii in April and summarized his views in a Post last month. Austin wants greater funding in order to expand U.S. security "not just through air, land and sea but also space and cyberspace." His inexplicable label for this approach is "integrated deterrence," designed to address the changing nature of warfare "that stretches from the heavens to cyberspace and far into the oceans' depths." Austin wants to invest in quantum computing and artificial intelligence to "enable us to find not just one needle in one haystack but ten needles in ten haystacks." I have no idea what the Secretary of Defence is talking about, but Ignatius proclaims his support for all of it.

Tom Nichols, a former professor at the Naval War College who currently writes for The Atlantic, bemoans the fact that we have "no nuclear strategy" as if there were political and military objectives that could justify the wanton and indiscriminate use of nuclear weapons. In the 1980s, Robert Jervis argued that a "rational strategy for the employment of nuclear weapons is a contradiction in terms. What is missing from the writings of Nichols and others is the necessity of restoring the dialogue on arms control and disarmament. Nichols employs the canard that nuclear weapons are a "battlefield equalizer" and would allow significant reduction in U.S. conventional weaponry. In the 1950s, nuclear weapons were sold to the American public as a

way to reduce spending on conventional arms. Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose.

The United States is exceptional because we are unable to learn from experience. Decades of losing efforts in such far-flung places as Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan haven't led to a reassessment of

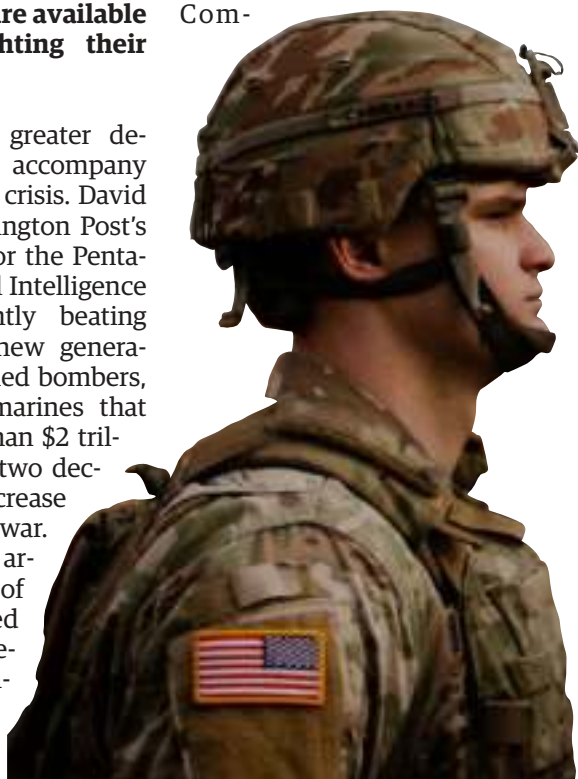
Only the United States pursues national security on a global basis. With over 700 military bases and facilities the world over, the United States can project power into every corner of the globe. Russia has access to naval and air facilities in Syria on the Mediterranean Sea, but its other facilities are located in the space of the former Soviet Union. China has a naval facility in Djibouti in the Horn of Africa, and has signed an undefined security deal with the Solomon Islands for naval access. This very limited expansion, nevertheless, has caused the New York Times to warn that Chinese facilities in the Pacific Islands would allow Beijing to "intercept communications, block shipping lanes and engage in space combat."

Domestically, campaigns for greater personal weaponry accompany every domestic crisis. The domestic gun culture has used the fractured syntax of the Second Amendment to argue that there are no limits to gun ownership, including the military-style assault weapons with high-capacity magazines designed for warfare. The Unit-

ed States is exceptional because it alone allows young people to purchase these weapons and even carry them in public without training or a permit. While the United States wastes time focusing on "motives" of mass murderers and seeking other fixes (hardening schools), other countries have moved quickly to ban assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, and to create databases that track all gun sales. Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Norway and others have made sure that weapons of war are not going to be easily available.

The right to gun ownership is in the Constitution, but even Justice Antonin Scalia wrote in 2008 that "Nothing in our Constitution...should be taken to cast doubt...on laws imposing conditions and qualifications on the commercial sale of arms." Justice Scalia's majority opinion in the District of Columbia v. Heller allowed the government to restrict the kinds of firearms that can be purchased, and endorsed the "historical tradition of prohibiting the carrying of 'dangerous and unusual weapons.'"

It is unlikely that the Second Amendment, which deals with arms for a "well-regulated Militia," was designed to permit the two most recent massacres (Buffalo and Uvalde), where law enforcement was outgunned and out armoured by mentally ill teenagers with instruments of war. Then again, the United States is exceptional.



BLAIR JUNIOR



Euan Blair (38), the eldest son of the former British Prime Minister, Tony Blair, has been awarded an MBE for services to education in the Queen's Birthday Honours list.

As a teenager, Euan Blair was once found by the police "drunk and incapable" in Leicester Square, after celebrating the end of his GCSE's in 2000.

After graduating from Bristol University, where he studied Ancient History, he completed a master's degree in International Relations at Yale, and then served as an intern in the U.S. Congress. In 2008, he joined Morgan Stanley's graduate programme.

His father, Tony Blair, earned £2m a year as a part-time adviser to JP Morgan. Euan Blair recently bought a £22m home in West London.

Working class jobs

Today, only 6 or 7% of Labour MPs have done working class jobs. In 1979, 40% of the Parliamentary Labour Party had done working class jobs.

The American empire

America stole their country from the native people. Stole people to use as slaves to work the country. They then used that stolen wealth to invade and steal from other countries. They go round the world using divide and rule to enable more theft from the poor. They see themselves as above the law. Their military has bases in most countries in the world. If Russia loses in Ukraine then the USA will take on China. If they win that the world will be one huge concentration camp.

Look at how Israel controls Gaza! That, is your future. A dystopia of divide and rule. No families. No places we can mingle and exchange views. Monitored everywhere. Cash will be banned. All will be digital. You will be turned off for dissent. See through the propaganda. Think why they have banned Rt news? Understand why the police bill has banned vocal dissent? Look around you and understand why there is always money for weapons of war and to pay the politicians multinational business friends?

The war in Ukraine will, like covid, be used to syphon money from poor to rich. The USA will pay to finance the war until the last European. Once Russia and Europe are broken then it will be the end of any way of fighting back. Wars are always between bad and worse. The USA are the worse.

Tory conundrum

Interesting discussion that acknowledges the central ideological conundrum of the Tories - between the idea of the minimal state market libertarians and the decidedly more traditional Conservative Hobbesian state of authority and nation.

Given the recalibration of social class, where does that leave today's working class and the anti (welfare) state politicians?

"...a glaring mismatch. On the one hand, there's what the zeitgeist seems

to demand, namely a more engaged and enabling state willing to accept both that the present needs to be paid for and the future needs to be planned. On the other is a party obsessed with restoring what many of its parliamentary and grassroots members regard as the eternal verities of its glorious Thatcherite past: low tax, low spend, deregulation and as little welfare state as the electorate will let the government get away with."

"Attempting to ensure that they didn't gravitate to the populist-radical right involved mainstream-right politicians feeling they had to talk

tougher (particularly on immigration and in more nationalistic terms) than their more liberal, cosmopolitan voters felt comfortable with. That has led some of those voters to desert, leaving those politicians relying on often less well-heeled voters who tend to expect more from the state than mainstream right parties are inclined to provide."

We've always known that the working classes are hardly the natural ideological devotees of doctrinal laissez-faire or the latter-day cult like devotees of Ayn Rand.

Yes that doesn't easily translate into an easy rapport with statism or collectivism. There is a tenacious strain of individualism that runs throughout our history and a corresponding resistance and cynicism about measures of state welfare especially as perceived as unwarranted intrusions by busy body middle class paternalists.

There has always been a certain proud disdain and stigma associated with what were seen as illegitimate state largesse and handouts. The Social Darwinism of sink or swim complimented a worldview in the ongoing tensions between

contributory and means tested benefits. Likewise a number of working class folk didn't appreciate the universality of child benefits and were perceptive to the economics of moral hazard, anomalies and disincentives and perverse outcomes aplenty.

Perhaps working class statism is on a more assured footing when it comes to the attractions of authoritarianism as per Lipset.

This has been caricatured as something of the 'hug the NHS, hang the pedos' outlook. Given the proximity and salience of law and order issues in working class neighborhoods and all the attendant problems of drug abuse and urban malaise, then the Hobbesian Leviathan is somewhat more attractive than the dystopian reality of free market anarchy - more Mad Max than sunny uplands.

As far as working class radicalism takes form on an economic platform then whilst there is no real appetite for the nationalisation of private industry (with the exception of certain public utilities and the NHS of course) global free trade gets a thump down.

There is no doubt that protectionist sentiments enjoy deep roots. The proles are far less enamoured of the cosmopolitanism of the political class and they are also at odds with much of the heavy handed multicultural engineering of our politically correct liberals.

There does seem a distinct limit to how far the Tories are willing to go to curry favour with their new working class supporters.



FRANK TURNER – THATCHER F**KED THE KIDS

LEFT LEANINGS



Francis Edward Turner, born 28th December 1981 in Bahrain to Jane Cartwright, a primary school head teacher, and Miranda Turner, an investment banker, who came out as a trans woman in 2015.

An English Punk/Folk/Alternative Country/Acoustic and Alternative Rock singer songwriter, Frank grew up in Meonstoke, Hampshire and began his career as the vocalist of the band 'Million Dead', before setting off on a primarily acoustic-based solo career in 2005. In the studio and during live performances, he is accompanied by his backing band, The Sleeping Souls, which consists of Ben Lloyd on Guitar and Mandolin, Tarrant Anderson on Bass, Matt Nasir on Piano and mandolin, and Callum Green on Drums.

To date, Frank has released nine well received solo albums, his ninth and most recent studio album, FTHC released on

» WE'RE ALL WONDERING HOW WE ENDED UP SO SCARED, WE SPENT TEN LONG YEARS TEACHING OUR KIDS NOT TO CARE

11 February 2022 and reaching number 1 in the UK album chart in the week following its release. About the song...

'Thatcher F**ked the Kids' from the 2006 album 'Campfire Punkrock' is predictably a song about how 10 years of Margaret Thatcher, complete with the 'No Society' ideology that she loved to pedal to the masses, screwed with the minds of an entire generation of young teens and led them on a predictable path of negativity and destruction, neutering their potential in the process and turning a great many of them into violent street thugs whose only means of survival was robbery and aggression. The song asks the question 'Why did our kids turn out like this?', and provides the answer in lines such as 'We spent ten long years

teaching our kids not to care, and that there's no such thing as society anyway'.

The song goes on to relay how the rich in their arrogance place more importance on the charity system than in actually directly helping the poor themselves. Indeed, anything but having to put their hands into their well-lined, taxpayer assisted pockets to help out.

And there it is - The epitome of Thatcherism, right there...

You can find the song on YouTube if you wish to give it a worthwhile revisit. Or perhaps it's in your collection already. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B1NyWbhCxZE>

By Adrian Angel

FRANK TURNER - THATCHER F**KED THE KIDS

Whatever happened to childhood?
We're all scared of the kids in our neighbourhood;
They're not small, charming and harmless,
They're a violent bunch of bastard little shits.
And anyone who looks younger than me
Makes me check for my wallet, my phone and my keys,
And I'm tired of being tired out
Always being on the lookout for thieving gits.

We spent ten long years teaching our kids not to care
And that there's no such thing as society anyway,
And all the rich folks act surprised
When all sense of community dies,
But you just closed your eyes to the other side of all the things that she did.

Thatcher f**ked the kids.

And it seems a little bit rich to me,
The way the rich only ever talk of charity
In times like the seventies, the broken down economy
Meant even the upper tier was needing some help.
But as soon as things look brighter,
Yeah the grin gets wider and the grip gets tighter,
And for every teenage tracksuit mugger
There's a guy in a suit who wouldn't lift a finger for anybody else.

(Chorus)

You've got a generation raised on the welfare state,
Enjoyed all its benefits and did just great,
But as soon as they were settled as the richest of the rich,
They kicked away the ladder, told the rest of us that life's a bitch.
And it's no surprise that all the f**k-ups
Didn't show up until the kids had grown up.
But when no one ever smiles or ever helps a stranger,
Is it any f**king wonder our society's in danger of collapse?

So all the kids are bastards,
But don't blame them, yeah, they learn by example.
Blame the folks who sold the future for the highest bid:
That's right, Thatcher f**ked the kids.

FORGOTTEN CLASSICS

By Chris Bainbridge, Wild Words Collective.

Eddy Grant

Singer, songwriter, musician and music producer Eddy Grant was born in Plaisance, Guyana on 5th March 1948. Eddy's parents moved to live and work in England while he was a child, but Eddy continued at school in Guyana for a while, his family sending back money for his upkeep. In 1960 Eddy moved to London to join his mother and father.

Eddy was a big fan of Rock and Roll pioneer Chuck Berry and after seeing Berry at a concert at the Astoria in Finsbury Park, Eddy decided music would be the life for him. By 1965 Eddy had formed pop group The Equals, a band which was immediately notable as one of the first (and certainly the most prominent) racially-integrated bands on the pop music scene.

The Equals

After some minor album and singles chart success, in 1968 The Equals hit Number One in the UK singles chart with their smash hit record "Baby Come Back", a staple of jukeboxes, playlists, party discos



and exercise classes to this day! The song features the strong vocals and irresistible guitar riffs and simple, repetitive hooks that went on to characterise the band's best subsequent work, and indeed the most successful of Eddy Grant's later output as a solo artiste. A cover version in a more mainstream Reggae style of "Baby Come Back" was released by Pato Banton and the Campbell brothers from UB40 in 1994, which also reached Number One in the UK.

Other chart singles followed - the more pop-orientated, slightly bubble-gum "Viva Bobby-Joe" in 1969; and then the piece of their work which I feel is a true forgotten masterpiece, "Black Skin, Blue-

Eyed Boys", unleashed on an unsuspecting world in 1970.

Black Skin Blue-Eyed Boys

I was one of those fortunate individuals who was musically aware from a very young age, thanks to the influence of an older sibling, in my case my sister Mary, to whom I am eternally grateful for my comprehensive musical education. For example by the age of four I was listening to the newly-released Beatles' first LP. By 1967 I was a fully-paid-up Hippy - although it was not particularly easy to put flowers in your hair on South Tyneside. In 1970, aged 11, I was into all manner of pop music and had established the eclectic tastes I retain to this day.

I remember being very taken with The Equals' record Black Skin Blue-Eyed Boys - it was somehow "heavier" than their previous and very well-known hit "Baby Come Back". I had liked that too - fantastic guitar hook, just six notes repeated over and over, very danceable...but a bit lightweight, in my juvenile opinion of course! What made BSBEB stand out for me were two main factors - the strong political message in the lyrics, and the sheer, insistent power of the melo-

and exercise classes to this day!

Lyrical, the overall message of this song is one of racial equality and integration. The title itself is a reference to a future where all people will be one race. The song's compelling chorus is "You see, the black skin, blue-eyed boys, Ain't gonna fight no wars!". Other references include a call to peaceful rebellion - for instance, by being spiritually and intellectually able to rise above school discipline ("...But the teachers beat you, When they see that they can't reach you..."). Pacifism and the ideal of a peaceful future for the world are further emphasised in the outro, repeated ad lib: "Baby, you know that we hate fighting...".



If a song is a poem set to music, then the music is - or can be - as important as the words. To convey the message most effectively a compelling tune will be best, and in the case of BSBEB the music achieves its task admirably. The constantly-repeated five-note lead guitar hook may at first have echoes of the heavy rock idiom which was gaining popularity at the time, but after a short while it becomes more obviously tribal and hypnotic, offering a timeless connection to African roots. The use of fuzz guitar later in the song is just one of the aspects of this piece which places it well ahead of its time. It is perhaps fitting that the next chart records to offer anything similar came years later in Grant's solo work.

In 1971 Eddy suffered a health problem - heart attack and collapsed lung - which may have been a factor in his decision to quit the band and pursue a solo career. He opened a night club and a recording studio, and spent time and energy promoting the SoCa musical genre (Soul Calypso), as well as inventing an entirely new genre (Ringbang) as well as producing albums for other artistes.

In 1979 Eddy returned to the public eye with the hit single "Walking On Sunshine", which certainly has more of SoCa about it than straightforward Reggae. In the same year, the powerful "Living On The Front Line" also scored very well, and was a powerful return to

Reggae and Dub idioms. "Do You Feel My Love" peaked at number 8 in the UK charts in 1981, then in 1982 Eddy consolidated his burgeoning reputation with the ironically very danceable Reggae tune "I Don't Wanna Dance", as well as the monumental hit "Electric Avenue", which went platinum and won a Grammy award. In 1982 Eddy moved his base to Barbados and concentrated on his Blue Wave recording studio.

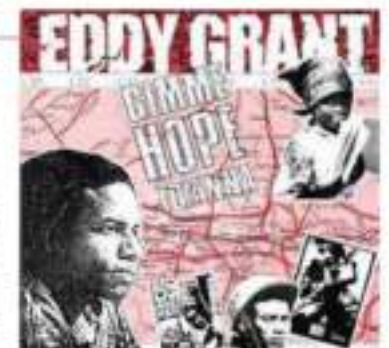
Eddy's last big hit single came in 1988, the overtly political "Gimme Hope, Jo'Anna", which was an obvious swipe at the appalling and murderous South African Apartheid regime, and all those who supported it - for example musicians who took bloodstained gold to play concerts in Sun City -

"She got supporters in high-up places,

Who turn their heads to the city sun,

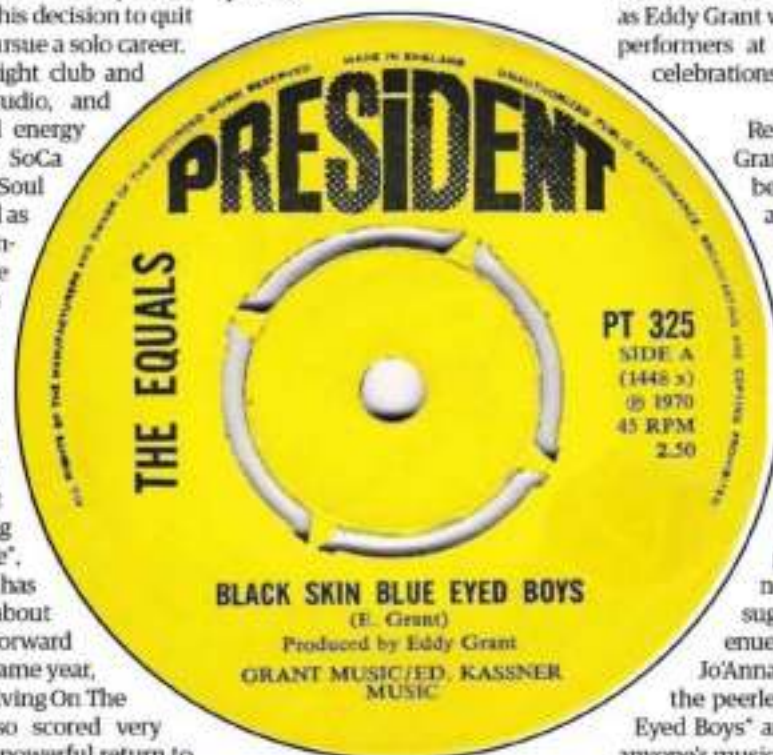
Jo'anna give them fancy money
Oh to tempt anyone who'd
come"...

The impact of this song was huge - well, apartheid fell short-



ly afterwards, so never underestimate the power of music and words to change the world! Nelson Mandela was suitably impressed, as Eddy Grant was one of the guest performers at his 90th birthday celebrations.

Rediscovering Eddy Grant and his work has been very enjoyable and refreshing for me personally, and I hope it has encouraged you to look into this. I believe, somewhat under-appreciated artist. I hope that you will take a few minutes to look his work up and give it a listen - if nothing else, I would suggest "Electric Avenue", "Gimme Hope Jo'Anna" and of course the peerless "Black Skin Blue Eyed Boys" are essential parts of anyone's musical education.



SCIENCE PAGE

HOW LONG DO STARS LIVE?

Stars are born amid turbulent clouds, and their deaths can be just as explosive. But how long do stars actually live? The short answer is: It depends on the size of the star.

For most of its life, a star exists in a delicately balanced state called hydrostatic equilibrium, in which gravity pulling in on the star is balanced by the outward push created by nuclear reactions in the star's core. That outward push happens as a star fuses hydrogen nuclei to form helium nuclei, which results in a burst of energy that maintains the star's shape and brightness.

Once all the hydrogen is used up, the star embarks on an irreversible path toward its demise. The star will burn helium for a time, and the biggest stars will continue burning chemical elements up to iron, but it's a fleeting stay of execution. Stars come in a range of sizes, from just 7% of the sun's mass all the way up to 250 solar masses. So which

Three galaxies are tearing each other apart

Corkscrewing through the cosmos, three distant galaxies collide in a stunning new image captured by NASA's Hubble Space Telescope.

This cosmic crash is known as a triple galaxy merger, when three galaxies slowly draw each other nearer and tear each other apart with their competing gravitational forces. Mergers like these are common throughout the universe, and all large galaxies — including our own, the Milky Way — owe their size to violent mergers like this one.

As chaotic as they seem, mergers like these are more about creation than destruction. As gas from the three neighbouring galaxies collides and condenses, a vast sea of material from which new stars will emerge is assembled at the centre of the newly unified galaxy.

Existing stars, meanwhile, will survive the crash mostly unscathed; while the gravitational tug-of-war among the three galaxies will warp the orbital paths of many existing stars, so much space exists between those stars that relatively few of them are likely to collide.

The galaxy cluster is called IC 2431, located about 681 million light-years from Earth in the constellation Cancer, according to NASA. Astronomers detected the merger thanks to a citizen science project called Galaxy Zoo, which invited more than 100,000 volunteers to classify images of 900,000 galaxies captured by the Hubble telescope that were never thoroughly examined. The crowdsourced project accomplished in 175 days what would have taken astronomers years to achieve, according to NASA, and the initiative has already resulted in a number of strange and exciting discoveries, like this one.

ones die the fastest?

"Bigger stars have more fuel

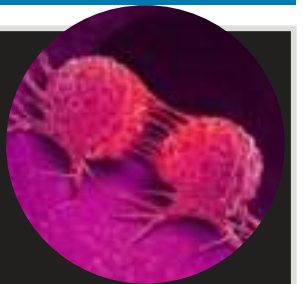
to burn," Ryan French, a solar physicist at University College London, U.K., told us. "But they

NEW CANCER TREATMENT

In an unprecedented clinical trial, a dozen rectal cancer patients saw their tumours disappear after they received an experimental drug called dostarlimab, and none of the patients experienced significant side effects from the treatment.

"I believe this is the first time this has happened in the history of cancer," in that this is the first cancer trial in which every patient entered remission, Dr. Luis Alberto Diaz, Jr., one of the trial leaders and a medical oncologist at Memorial Sloan Kettering (MSK) Cancer Centre, told The New York Times (opens in new tab).

It's too soon to say whether the patients will all remain in remission or if the drug will work for others with different types of rectal cancer; but the results are "cause for great optimism," an expert said. Details of the small trial, conducted at the MSK Cancer Centre in New York City, were published Sunday (June 5) in the New England Journal of Medicine (opens in new tab) (NEJM).



also burn much harder and brighter," French said. Their huge size means that gravity is crushing material down into their cores more intensely than in smaller stars, so their nuclear reactions proceed at an elevated rate.

"Bigger stars actually exhaust the fuel available to them much

faster than smaller stars," French said. The most massive stars live for a cosmically brief hundreds of millions of years. They live fast and die young. The smallest stars that are less than about 10% of the sun's mass have far less fuel to begin with; even so, they can eke out a living from their fuel supply for hundreds of billions of years.

**MAGGIE THATCHER, MORE
AGONY AUNT ANSWERS
FROM THE OTHER SIDE**

Mad Madge Talks Across Oceans Of Time



The World View Of DAISY MAIL

In the interest of balance, a mainstream view....

Hello again readers, it's Daisy here with another well judged, MSM informed, slice of good old British common sense in your Far Left Snowflake Rag.

I see that all those child Refugees with beards and Masters Degrees in Astronautics are going to be shipped off to Rwanda by Priti Patel this week. Quite right too, I'm sure their barbed wire compounds are far cheaper than ex-Army bases in Kent, value for money for us taxpayers.

I can't believe all the hoo-ha over whether or not you can have a meal for 30p, of course you can! Roadkill is free and I'm sure a Badger or Fox could feed a family of four for a week. You just need to be resourceful and live near the Motorway. That Isabelle Oakeshott says it as it is and she's part Wasp.

Noted that the Met Police have thoroughly investigated Boris and his 12 or 13 Party gate cases and decided not to fine him more than the once after several months. I'm sure Sue Grey will issue a report he can also ignore publishing until everyone moves on. That 'Korma' Keith on the other hand, I'm hoping Durham Police still Hang, Draw and Quarter traitors!

Have you seen Boris's Dad Stanley Johnson has become a French citizen to keep his EU rights? Isn't it Marvellous what a multicultural lot our ruling classes are when they selflessly commit to eating foreign muck, whilst maintaining low tax free status. It's Prudent that's all. Like that Rishi Sunak having a US Green Card, and his ¾ of a £Billion, it shows initiative doesn't it. He's only 4Ft6 you know and he can still get handmade Saville Row suits that are too small for him. Tiny feet too, bless him!

Have you seen the latest deadly plague is Monkey Pox! Well I mean to say, haven't we learned from COVID starting with them Chinamen in Wuhan, drinking Bat Soup and fiddling with Pangolins? And now some Perverts are Bumping Apes and getting Simian Syphilis! God help us.



Dear Maggie

Ave been in court, la with yer posh bird from Leicester. She's been lying er friggings head off to me other half. Should I dig er one and not worry bout the bizzies?

Wayne from Liverpool

MAGGIE SAYS: Wayne, the Boy Chimp, the fat Lee Evans tribute act, the Grannie bonker, the thinking woman's Gazza, Colleen's strangulated Haemorrhoid! How very nice to hear from such esteemed intellectuals. Where do I begin, how to phrase it in terms you will understand, here goes: Youse lot is liiiiike chattin' shit abaaaaht them from the rough end. They yard stinks o'weed, an' their kids is liiiiike ferrule, I'll f***ing shank ya!

So now we have established a rapport I could make a smart point about the fragility of celebrity and the Media's funding of the Shit-show that is your life! But it's far more fun to sit back and laugh at you all! You spoilt, Porsche owning, Ocado supplied, Tinselled Chav Bastards!

Dear Margaret

What is the problem with me cutting one of my exe's fingers off? I thought he was a big tough pirate?

Amber from L.A.

MAGGIE SAYS; Now then, You are a beautiful looking young woman, talented enough to have acted in literally several piss-poor Hollywood flops. What are you hoping to achieve, other than make some American Lawyers even richer. So Johnny got tanked on Wine and called you a slag for nobbing the Wizard of Oz, are you really sure you aren't an Arsehole. Save your money, accept you married a shithead, move on and die alone! See you soon.

Dear Margaret

Is where you are worse than Rwanda and if so can we send our refugees there?

P Patel from London

MAGGIE SAYS: At last a letter from an enlightened Tory Sociopath. Rwanda is nothing like the Inferno of Eternal

Suffering, in that Hell hasn't sponsored Arsenal Football Club for several decades, to my knowledge. As a tourist destination and Concentration Camp provider Rwanda can boast several options, with the choice at the Breakfast Buffet being the obvious difference. Surely it would be cheaper to gas the Refugees in Kent.

Dear Mrs Thatcher.

Just because we wear SS insignia and admire the third Reich does not make us Nazi's like those inferior, non-Aryan Russians. Please tell this to the world that we will fight to the last civilian to protect our beloved Fatherland.

Yours A Hitler, Azov Brigade.

MAGGIE SAYS: War is a fantastic opportunity to further a good, strong Nationalist agenda politically speaking, like the Falklands. And all for the cost of a few million Proles lives. All the best pitching yourself as the saviours of democracy and well done for Eurovision.

BIZARRE NEWS

EGG HEADS CLAIM SEXISM

Calling a man bald is sexual harassment

A tribunal panel has decided that it infringes human rights and even compared it to commenting on the size of a woman's breasts. Baldness relates to gender as men are more likely to lose their hair than women. The panel - which was made up of three follically challenged men made the ruling came in the case of Tony Finn, who was called a "bald c***" by his boss Jamie King. Finn claimed that the comment amounted to sexual harassment under the Equality Act 2010 because it targeted his gender.

The panel said: "There is a connection between the word 'bald' on the one hand and the protected characteristic of sex on the other. "Women may as well be bald." However, the panel judged baldness is much more prevalent in men than women. "We find it

to be inherently related to sex."

WE'LL FIGHT THEM IN SPACE

Winston Churchill wanted the human race to search for aliens.

UFO nut Avi Loeb has discovered Churchill had promoted the search for extra-terrestrials in a 1939 essay before his plans were thwarted by the outbreak of World War II. Loeb a physicist, known for his views on aliens, told the Joe Rogan Podcast: "Winston Churchill in 1939, wrote an essay about the fact that there could be life around on other planets, around other stars and we should search for it. Now, he didn't have a chance to publish it because he became Prime Minister and then had to fight the Second World War against the Nazi regime."

WEIRD STUFF FROM THE INTERNET THAT YOU DIDN'T NEED TO KNOW

The paper was eventually unearthed in 2017 and Loeb thinks that money 'wasted' during the war could have been spent hunting for alien life. He said: "So much money was wasted in that war. If that money was allocated to the search for extraterrestrial life, the way that Churchill envisioned it before the war we might have, we might have known the answer by now." Loeb's views on the Holocaust were not reported.

HELLO, IS IT BRIE YOU'RE LOOKING FOR

A new app can help identify cheese.

Based on the popular music app Shazam, Cheezam can tell the difference between gouda and cheddar. Users take a photo of their mystery cheese be-

fore the app compares it against its database of 9,000 images of dairy comestibles. Cheezam is currently only available in France and looks at key features such as the size, shape and the way any spots are arranged in the cheese. Isabelle Mashola, the CEO of Isahit - the company that annotated thousands of cheeses for the app - revealed how the algorithm works. "Let's take a Fourme d'Ambert and a blue cheese. "For the algorithm to be able to determine the photo, it must be given indications which are supplied in the form of annotations. On a blue cheese for example, we will notice that the veining are arranged in such a way. The algorithm will then make the effort to recognise this feature by comparing it to other pre-annotated images. And this is how we manage to refine the calculation to the right cheese."

BOJO BOY'S SHAGGY LOCKS

Young Kohen Jax Ponsford has shaggy blonde hair like the Boris Johnson and the three-year-old has even been nicknamed Boris by his older siblings Harlie and Cayson. His mother Aimee told The Sun newspaper: "He was bald until one then he started growing white strands. His hair is like spun sugar. People are surprised by how soft it is. They think it will be coarse and wiry. They usually want to touch it and I'm happy to let them if he is." Kohen Jax does not have an official diagnosis but clinicians recognise uncontrollable hair syndrome, even though there are as few as 100 cases worldwide. Aimee, from Hampshire, added: "He's only had one haircut in his life - a friend of mine just took a bit off the top. Barbers won't touch his hair. They've never seen anything like it."

It isn't known whether Aimee has ever met the Prime Minister.

Mystic Mandy Horoscopes

Aquarius

Listen to your sixth sense today and follow what it tells you to the absolute letter. The planets warn if you deviate from what you know in your heart of hearts to be true then the consequences could be irritating. Lucky peccadillo Dwarf Porn. Avoid Chocolate Factories.

Pisces

An offer that comes out of the blue today will be tempting but you need to be aware there are going to be major strings attached. Weigh up the pros and cons and don't let anyone pressure you into doing what you can't lie your way out of. Lucky food Charcuterie.

Aries

Some thoughts and ideas can

be shared with family and friends but others must be kept to yourself and the planets warn that one particular thought or idea is so controversial it can never be aired in public. Avoid Brown Corduroy and the Welsh.

Taurus

The time to pay back a favour is now while you are in a position to do so. Find out what a friend or loved one needs then find a practical way to give it to them. Even if they say they don't want it they will be secretly delighted. Avoid getting 'Handsy' with the Au Pair.

Gemini

Don't agree to take on chores and responsibilities that are best left to other people. You may think that your eagerness will get

you noticed by people in positions of power, and maybe it will, but you also run the risk of acting like a Nob. Lucky expectorant Fisherman's Friends.

Cancer

Call it as you see it and don't worry in the slightest that some people might be offended. You are in one of those moods when you really don't care what the world thinks about your beliefs. You know the truth and that's what matters. Avoid the Isle Of Man at all costs.

Leo

It's not like you to shut yourself away from the world but that may be the best option today, at least for an hour or two. You need to get your head around some weighty ideas and you can't do that with everyone breathing funny. Avoid St Johns Ambulance volunteers. Lucky food 'I Can't Believe It's Not Butter!'

Virgo

You like to be fair with the people you deal with, even those you don't much like, but it is becoming clear that one particular individual is going to have to be confronted directly and it won't be pretty. Sadly, it's the only language they understand, bloody Millennials! Avoid Dairy and Weed.

Libra

You have no problem with other people doing things differently - as a Libra you are well aware there are two sides to every story - but don't let someone's troublesome behaviour cost you emotionally or financially. Your needs must always come first. Lucky Hatchback VW Polo.

Scorpio

If you act on the assumption that everyone you deal with is going to be as honest as you are then you may lose out over the next 24 hours. Check everything you are told, then get a second opinion from someone at random. Lucky sweet Tangfastics.

Sagittarius

You may be tempted to give up on something that you can't seem to master but the planets indicate you must not be hasty. The Sun's change of signs at the weekend could lead to a change in your fortunes, so do f*** all! Avoid Sewage.

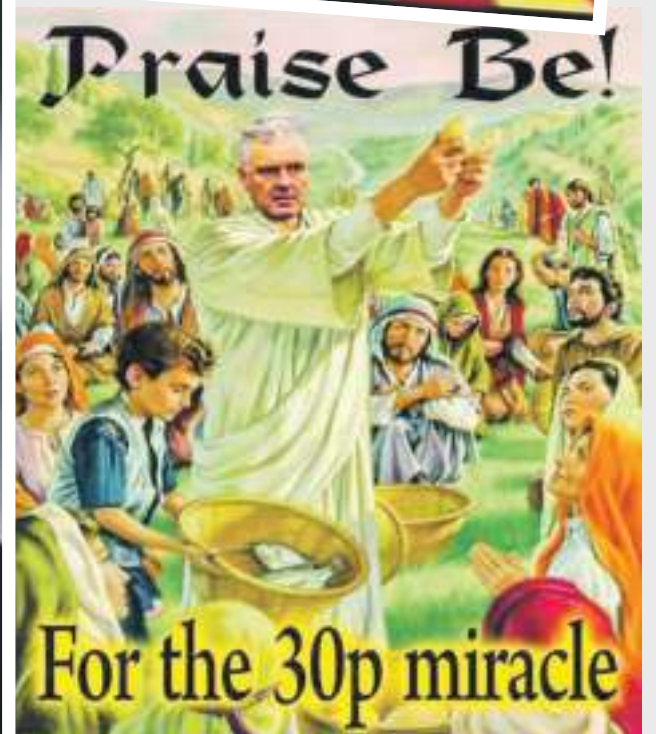
Capricorn

Although you may be in an adventurous mood at the moment you need to accept that not everyone will be happy to take the same kind of high-profile risks. You may have to go it alone today. Avoid the Chief Whip until the Court Hearing.

PETER MANDELSON'S ASTROLOGICAL SPIN DOCTORING AT ITS FINEST. YOUR STARS APPARENTLY EXPLAINED



SATIRE



Well, that's inflation for you"

Just off to Grantham to visit Margaret Thatcher's new statue



Hope and Good News

European Union: The EU hatched a plan to outlaw thousands of toxic chemicals which is being billed as the 'great detox'. It would outlaw thousands of potentially harmful chemicals that are found in food packaging, cosmetics, toys, building materials and more.

If implemented, it will be the largest ever regulatory removal of chemicals anywhere in the world. It would also represent a major victory for campaigners, who have fought for decades to have the chemicals outlawed.

"This 'great detox' promises to improve the safety of almost all manufactured products and rapidly lower the chemical intensity of our schools, homes and workplaces," said Tatiana Santos of the European Environmental Bureau. "It is high time for the EU to turn words into real and urgent action."

Japan: The world's third largest economy had fewer emissions in the last financial year than at any point since records began.

The 5.1 per cent contraction is the seventh consecutive year that the country's emissions have fallen. The increase of renewables and a pandemic-induced pause in heavy industry were attributed with the decline.

The figures are positive news, but Japan needs to ramp things up to meet its emissions targets. Last year, Tokyo pledged to almost halve emissions by 2030, compared to 2013 levels. However the latest figures represent an overall fall of 18 per cent.

London: London's Metropolitan police claimed this week to be succeeding in its aim of reducing gun crime.

According to figures released by the force on Monday, there have been no fatal shootings in the capital for six months. The number of recorded non-fatal shootings also fell; from 283 in the



financial year 2019/20, to 196 in 2021/22.

The Met added that convictions for shootings had gone in the other direction over the same period: from 20 per cent to 38 per cent. The force said the figures were proof that its tactics to disrupt the gun trade are working.

Mozambique: More than 40 years after they were wiped out in the country, rhinos are to be reintroduced to Mozambique.

Around 40 rhinos (black and white) are to be relocated from South Africa to Zinave national park, almost destroyed during the country's long civil war. The park is once again home to cheetahs, lions, elephants and buffalo.

"The rewilding of Zinave has been an extraordinary success story," said Werner Myburgh,

CEO of the Peace Parks Foundation, which works to restore depleted national parks.

Courtesy of 'Positive News. See more at <https://tinyurl.com/36afwccf>

Colombia: The country is the latest to join what is termed the 'green wave of Latin American

t o

decriminalise abortion on all grounds up to 24 weeks of pregnancy.

Previously access to safe and legal abortions had been very unequal with poor rural women more likely to face criminal penalties. They also faced more complications needing medical care than their wealthier urban counterparts.

UK: The UK approved its first drugs testing service

Drugs. The west has been fighting a war against them for decades, with scant evidence of success. A new approach is emerging, one that places the emphasis on harm reduction over criminality.

The government granted a licence for a service that will anonymously test people's illegal substances for strength and purity - information that could save lives. It comes amid a record rise in drug-related deaths in the UK.

The facility will open in Bristol this month following successful trials in city centres and at festivals. Those accessing the service will be able to deposit a sample of their drugs into an amnesty box; the drugs will then be assessed and the results presented to them an hour later during a consultation with a medical professional.

The service is run by The Loop, a non-profit harm-reduction organisation. Similar projects already operate in some European countries.

Bristol city councillor Ellie King said the service "will empower people to make safer, informed decisions and access drug treatment and further support".



Women who made a Difference

As an introduction to this lady evidence shows it was Dora Taylor who coined this comment " When the white man arrived, he had the bible and we had the land; now we have the bible and he has the land." It has been repeated many times by such people as Jomo Kenyatta in Kenya and Archbishop Tutu in S. Africa but She published it under the African pseudonym of Nosepho Majeke.

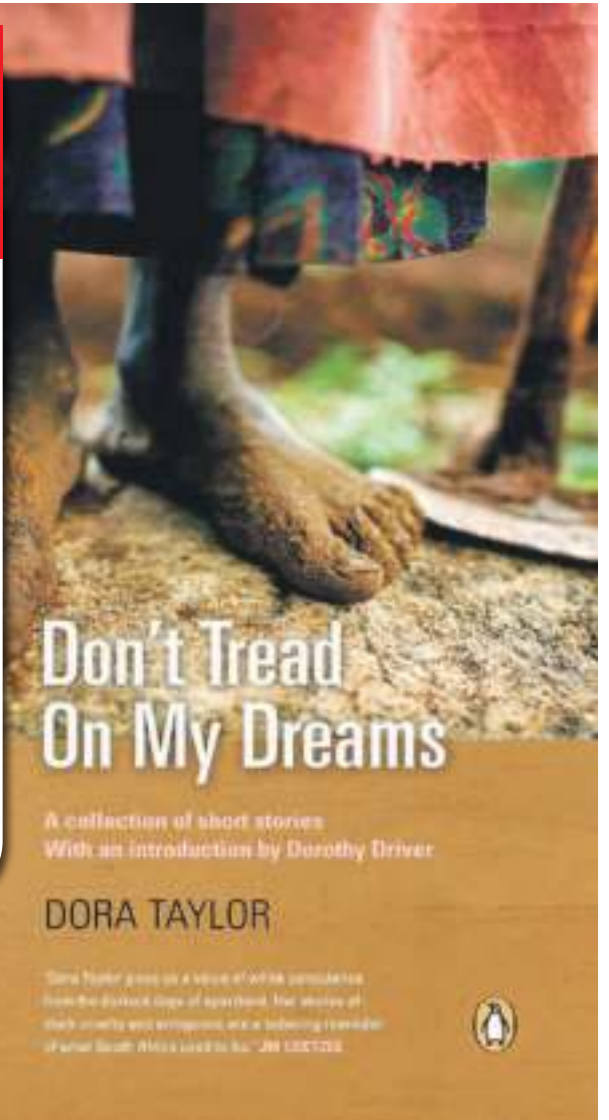
Born in Scotland in 1899 she had lost her mother to tuberculosis aged 6 and disowned by her father as illegitimate. She suffered years of neglect and abuse from various relatives before being adopted by Mary-Ann Brown Craig, principal of a school in Aberdeen. Whilst receiving little love or affection Craig imbued in Dora a thirst for knowledge leading to her getting a MA for literature in 1922.

She met and later married Jim Taylor, a psychologist. Dora became an inspirational teacher of Literature teacher but her life took a different path when she joined Jim in South Africa in 1926, when he took a post as lecturer at the University of Cape Town.

Here she enjoyed the privileges accorded to white, middle class immigrants. Both she and her husband



Her recognition has been long overdue and she is now at last being appreciated.



became engaged in radical politics and joined a Trotskyist discussion group in the early 1930s. Here she came into contact with I. B. Tabata, a foremost black intellectual and founding member of the All African Convention.*1 He played an influential role in the political and intellectual development of Dora.

She began to write about racial inequality and oppression but often used a number of pseudonyms to keep a low profile as her writings often seemed radical and revolutionary. She envisioned a non-racial democratic society in South Africa.

As a journalist she wrote for a range of newspapers and magazines. Her controversial account of the missionaries part in the colonial conquest in South

Africa was published as Role of Missionaries in Conquest in 1952 under the name Nosepho Majeke in 1952.*2 Her view of how religion was used to help subjugate the indigenous peoples of the country caused many white liberals to resent her.

Her husband, in the early 1960s, was invited to lecture at Harvard University and when Dora visited him in Boston she was advised not to return home because of a spate of arrests by the Apartheid Government. She never returned to her beloved adopted country and died in England in 1976.

Aside from her political activities though Dora was a playwright, short story writer, essayist, novelist, philosopher, literary critic, teacher and lecturer. She was a lover of the arts and thirsty for knowledge in every sphere. This passion she imparted to her three daughters and anyone young or old she came into contact with.

As Literary Adviser to the Junior Literary Society she compiled, edited and wrote introductions to The Treasure Casket of 8 volumes of selected works for children. Sadly for her none of her prose fiction was published in her lifetime but in 2008 Penguin published Don't Tread on my Dream. Part of a revue of the stories in it follows:

"Taylor's powers of observation enable her to conjure up the peace of the veld or the squalor of a shanty town. Although the stories are often heart-rendingly tragic, there is always an underlying quality of hope, springing from the author's intense desire that things should improve, an objective to which she devoted her life."

Although a small, graceful woman, she gave the appearance of being shy and reserved, but had

great hidden strengths. Her deep concern, her pity and her empathy for all disadvantaged people, no matter who they were or where in the world they were, or how they came to be in a state of desperation, was the stimulus for all her writing. She was honoured with the Literary Posthumous Award by the South African Literary Awards.

Her recognition has been long overdue and she is now at last being appreciated. People like Dora Taylor is why I have wanted to do this series of articles on 'Women who Made a Difference'. I salute the legacy of Dora Taylor and others like her.

*1 See more on I. B. Tabata at <https://tinyurl.com/yn66tffe>

*2 Fuller discussion of missionaries in S. Africa <https://tinyurl.com/29d4dnf7>

WORLD VIEW

WOMEN IN JAPAN

a series by Yukiko Watanabe

Iwent to vote in a polling station on 5th May in Scotland. Thanks to the Scottish Government's change of franchise, asylum seekers and non-EU immigrants of Scotland have been granted the right to vote in Scottish parliamentary and local elections. Many democracies have granted the right to vote to foreign residents, at least in local elections. In the U.K., Wales became such a democracy in 2019, followed by Scotland in 2020.

In Japan, there have been mounting calls for the right to vote for the foreign residents there, especially among ethnic Korean residents, whose origin is in the Korean Peninsula and who have been granted permanent residency. They are still discriminated against in Japanese communities and have no voice in the Japanese political arena. In

2003, South Korea revised their laws to grant foreign residents a vote in local elections. Nevertheless, Japanese persons abroad enjoy the right to vote in a large number of states.

Granting voting rights to immigrants in Japan has been demanded and discussed for more than four decades. In 1995, the Japanese supreme court dismissed the right to vote for foreign residents, yet it also ruled that granting the right to vote in local elections is not prohibited by the Japanese constitution. In 2010, the then government had to abandon a plan to submit a bill to grant the right to vote to foreign residents. A small

Voting Rights, not always a 'given'!

number of local municipalities have granted their foreign residents voting. Thus, for many years, voting rights for immigrants failed to command public attention or interest in the Japanese political arena. The struggle was virtually invisible and unheard.

The first to cast a spotlight on this stagnated struggle has been the female mayor of Musashino city in western Tokyo, Ms Reiko Matsushita, who has been in office since 2017, having previously served two terms as a member of Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly.

As an independent mayoral candidate supported widely by the opposition camp, Ms Matsushita called for the continuation of her predecessor's liberal and progressive municipal administration. She defeated her opponent supported by the conservative ruling party, the LDP, twice in a row.

When she first proposed her electorally inclusive policy to the

council committee in December 2021, the Foreign Resident Inclusive Bill drew massive media attention and a subsequent onslaught from the right wingers and xenophobic groups. The proposal caused massive and violent protest in front of the Musashino municipal office, after the panel approved the proposal by a narrow margin of one vote to send to the municipal assembly.

Her proposal, in fact, was not the first attempt at electoral inclusiveness in Japan. Two other municipalities, Toyonaka city in Osaka and Zushi city in Kanagawa, have implemented a similar bill granting voting rights in referendums without any stringent requirements of resident status. However, they still precluded foreign resident voting in local elections. Yet, no massive protest against their ordinance was heard. What, therefore, caused this public outcry in Musashino city?

In a regular press conference, prior to resolution in a council session and in response to protest,

Ms Matsushita explained that the aim of the bill was to boost civic participation in politics and that there was no rational reason to exclude foreign residents from participation in a referendum that holds no legally binding power.

On 21st December 2021, fourteen councillors voted against the bill, while eleven voted in favour. The bill was rejected. Considering the other municipalities that had successfully passed and implemented such an ordinance to allow their foreign residents to vote, the Musashino resolution was uniquely and deplorably xenophobic.

After defeat, Ms. Matsushita remains positive and keen to submit a fresh proposal for facilitating foreign residents' participation in politics. She says she has taken the result seriously and admits that further public debate will be needed to encompass views both in favour and against to find a better way for the proposal. She hasn't given up.



Growing Goodness

Everyone can do it!



Whether you live in a high rise flat with no outdoor space at all, live on a farm, or anything between the two, you can join us in Growing Goodness. To show just one of the possibilities, I'm having really good fun growing my first cardboard box garden.

I started out in late April with a cardboard box measuring 38 x 28 x 15cm (15 x 11 x 6"), some compost, some seeds, and some old lolly sticks for labels. I also had an ice cream tub

up with 3 tiny growing lettuces I'd been given.

I could have, like many do apparently, sown just one sort of seed but I wanted to have some fun learning what could be done and which things I liked. So I sowed 5 different sorts of seeds with the attitude that if one lot grew, I'd be happy. The seeds sown were Mizuna (for salad leaves) a white



spring onion, to use firstly like chives and eventually as salad onions, radishes, using both leaves and radishes for salads, some red spring onions and some catalagna lettuce.

4 weeks later and I took my first mini harvest from my mini gardens and I couldn't be more chuffed. We enjoyed a lovely mix of salad leaves with dinner that day and they'll be lots more to come too.

Now I'm fortunate to have a smallish garden to grow things in but I would encourage absolutely everyone

to grow a cardboard box garden, yes even those with allotments or farms! The fun factor is huge and it has many practicalities too.

It'd be a great way to try out a new salad variety before sowing a shed load, only to discover you're not keen on it. It'd also be great for herbs such as cilantro (coriander) or dill which can be cut and regrown 2 or 3 times for their wonderful leaves before letting them flower, which the pollinators will very much thank you for. After that, they'll run to seed which can be used in recipes. On top of which, you

get to save some for the next time you want to sow them.

It would be a fantastic way to introduce children to growing food, and it's normally found they are far more receptive to the idea of eating 'good for you' veg they have grown themselves. You could even include some little ornaments for them such as mini gnomes or fairies.

I've got 3 or 4 harvests still to come from this tiny box garden but I'm already planning more, I love it so much and I can't deny it, I'm hooked.



CHESS



1 W
Black's king can hardly move; how can this be exploited?



3 B
Here it is the white king that is being harried by several enemy pieces; how can Black mate quickly?



2 W
Black is threatening to queen, but White has the upper hand and can simultaneously create two winning threats. How?



4 W
If 24 ♖g8+, the black king escapes via the d-file; how can the king's escape be cut off?



1. Founded by author J. M. Barrie in 1890 and active to 1913, what was Allahakbarries?
2. Who wrote *Magnificent Desolation*, the second of two autobiographies?
3. In 1816, Harriet Westbrook, the pregnant wife of the poet Percy Shelley, was found drowned in which body of water?
4. Dom Mintoff was Prime Minister of which country in the 1950s?
5. Whose ashes were fired out of a cannon in 2005 in a ceremony attended by Johnny Depp and Jack Nicholson?
6. Which phrase from a Latin poem by Horace is popularly translated as 'Seize the day'?
7. Precisely, where would you find Hurst Street £400, and Bickenhill £350?
8. Which sportswoman was opening flag bearer for the UK team at the 1984 Summer Olympics?
9. Harrison Ford, Walt Disney and Hillary Clinton were all born in the same city - name the city?
10. His first name is Edward and his father was the MP for North West Surrey from 1974 to 1997 - who is he?
11. Which comedian devised the 1980s television game show *Bullseye*?
12. Dame Shirley Bassey has sung the theme songs to how many James Bond films?
13. In 2016, which country was estimated to have approximately 3.5% of the world population?

Answers

1. An amateur cricket team (notable figures to have played for the side included Rudyard Kipling, H. G. Wells, Arthur Conan Doyle, P. G. Wodehouse)
2. Buzz Aldrin
3. Serpentine
4. Malta
5. Hunter S. Thompson
6. *Carpe Diem*
7. On a Birmingham monopoly board
8. Lucinda Green
9. Chicago
10. Bear Grylls (British adventurer, writer and TV presenter)
11. Norman Vaughan
12. Three (*Goldfinger* (1964), *Diamonds Are Forever* (1971), and *Moonraker* (1979))
13. Indonesia



MICHAEL DOVE DOES HARRY ENFIELD'S SCOURER - *Graphic 12*

AVEY
COST OF LIVING CRISIS - CALM DOWN!
MASSIVE INFLATION - CALM DOWN!
PARTY GATE - CALM DOWN!
FOOD BANKS - CALM DOWN!
IRISH PROTOCOL - CALM DOWN!

CALM DOWN! CALM DOWN! CALM FUCKING DOWN YOU FLESH!



ADJECTIVES



CLUE LIST:

BEAUTIFUL	COLORFUL	FAST	MEAN	SLY
BETTER	DEAR	FAT	OPEN	SMART
BIG	DELICATE	FRIENDLY	POWERFUL	SMELLY
BLACK	DELIGHTFUL	HAPPY	RED	SMOOTH
BLAND	DIFFICULT	HARD	ROUGH	SOFT
BLUE	DIRTY	HOT	SAD	STRONG
BRIGHT	DUMB	LATE	SHADY	TALL
CHEAP	EARLY	LITTLE	SHALLOW	THIN
CLEAN	EASY	LONG	SHARP	TIGHT
CLOSE	EXPENSIVE	LOOSE	SHORT	TINY
COLD	FAR	LOUD	SLOW	UGLY

Racism is alive and flourishing

I realised, when the Black Lives Matter was in full swing over the George Floyd's brutal murder by US police, even people I thought were reasonable could not comprehend why in the UK there were demonstrations as what happened in the US did not affect us here. I tried to explain that there are legitimate concerns about racism here, including institutionalised racism. Like covid and other contagious diseases racism can spread when not faced up to, and understood by the general public.

This is why I have selected just a few stories I came across inside a week which were underreported but show racism is still affecting all ages and sections of the community.

The first concerns a 17-year-old black British boy was found at an immigration detention centre after going missing while being treated for psychosis.

The boy, who is non-verbal, disappeared from a hospital in Kent, where he had been sectioned under the Mental Health Act. Two days later, he was arrested by British Transport Police on suspicion of fare evasion, before being detained by Immigration Enforcement near Gatwick, despite being British.

"It's just horrific," the boy's mother claimed as he was black they just assumed he is illegal and put him in a deportation centre'.

When the boy returned to the hospital, his clothes contained Home Office documents that incorrectly stated his name and date of birth, and recorded

his nationality as Nigerian.

"How do they know he's from Nigeria, when he doesn't even speak to them?" the woman said of her son.

See more at <https://tinyurl.com/4rtevave>

The next concerns an even younger boy who allegedly beaten by a group of children at his school in Wales and broke his finger while climbing a fence to escape his mother states. The finger had to be amputated later.

The mother claimed her son had faced "racial and physical abuse" since he started secondary school in South Wales in September.

Police are now investigating a report of an assault on Raheem at the secondary school, and the school trust closed all of its campuses on Monday.

Let us look at how some police address white and black boys differently. An East London mum felt 'heartbroken' after her son was stopped and searched by police. He was with 4 friends he had known from Primary School. The boy claimed he was 'toy fighting' with his white friend with the other three black friends watching.

Whether they were fighting for real

or not is irrelevant as the heavy handed, biased way the police dealt with the situation was wrong.

The Met Police reported that officers were of the view that the four boys that stopped and handcuffed were assaulting the fifth boy

The mother's version differs as she says "... some of the boys told me that it was actually one black boy and one white boy who was messing around. If that was the case, why have they only stopped and searched the black boys in the group and left the white boy alone?"

A video of the arrest shows one officer talking to the white boy and being sympathetic and asking him whether he's got any injuries. Yet, the four black boys were thrown to the ground and handcuffed. The mother asks "The question is you either saw the white boy play fighting and decided not to arrest him or you decided that the white boy was the victim in the case no matter what."

A different slant is the latest On-Line abuse suffered by MP, David Lammy. He received a tweet asking him "Are you hanging from a tree monkey boy.

You will hang from a lamppost if you are not careful.

When the racist tweet was first sent, it took several days for the account to be

suspended and the messages removed.

The Met Police appear to have dropped the case. Mr. Lammy stated 'You should not be able to push race hate and send death threats with impunity online. Shame on Twitter for failing to act with the Metropolitan Police to identify who sent this threat.'

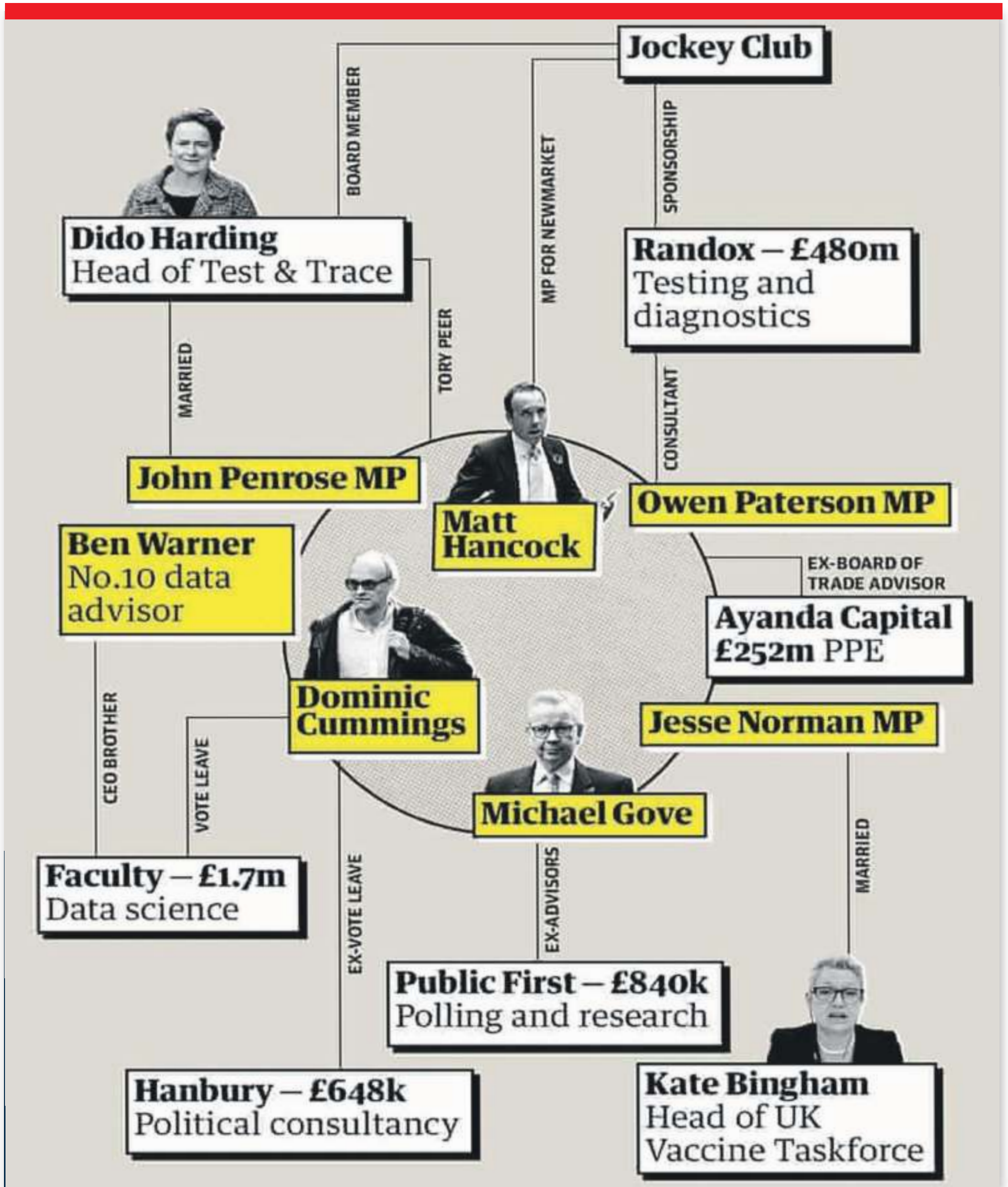
Women are not exempt from racist violence as only last week Yasmin Evans, a 31 year old former Radio DJ was viciously assaulted walking to Liverpool Street Station in London. She was grabbed by the arm and punched in the face when she re-sisted. She says the rest of the group the man was with "all punched and kicked me while I was on the ground, knocked me out twice whilst saying, 'Just because you are a woman doesn't mean we won't beat you up.'

However for the worst story I have to go to Brazil. Here 38 year old mentally ill Geivaldo de Jesus Santos was stopped by police whilst riding his motorbike. They found pills on him, medication for his Schizophrenia. When he was arrested he was immobilised because the police claimed he became aggressive.

What happened next was murder. He was shut in the smoke filled boot of a patrol car which people appeared to be tear gas. He is heard screaming with his legs still sticking out of the boot until he passes out and dies of what the post mortem says is 'mechanical asphyxia'.

For the last word on this, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/yc5m66uk> Racism and inequality 'permeate all public institutions' including police, says Merseyside Police and Crime Commissioner





VEGAN COOKING WITH CHRIS WILLIAMSON

ICE CREAM BISCUITS

Ingredients

- 4 cups (360g) rolled oats
- 2/3 cup (70g) coconut flour
- 2/3 cup (160ml) maple syrup
- 2 tsp vanilla bean paste
- 1/3 cup (90g) tahini
- 1/2 tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 2 tbs coconut oil
- 1 cup (70g) shredded coconut

METHOD

Preheat oven to 160°C. Line 2 large baking trays with baking paper. Whiz the oats, flour, maple syrup, vanilla, tahini, bicarb, oil, 1/2 cup (35g) shredded coconut and 1/3 cup (80ml) water in a food processor to combine. Transfer to a bowl and add remaining 1/2 cup (35g) shredded coconut, and combine well with your hands. Roll into 20 equal-sized balls. Flatten biscuits, then divide among trays. Bake, swapping the trays halfway, for 22-24 minutes until golden. Remove from oven and cool completely on a wire rack.5

Chris Williamson is the ex Member of Parliament for Derby North.

He has had a varied career having been both a bricklayer and a social worker as well as a politician.

Chris was unfairly purged from the Labour party for simply being on the left. He has been a vegan for many years and is also strongly anti hunting.



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					6		7	
		4				1	5	
		9		7	8			4
		5	2					

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

Sudoku

ENGLAND VERSUS GERMANY



At times England treated the ball like it had monkey pox but were lucky to come away with an undeserved draw. A great many of the England team were not even worth a mention but for good and bad here are the ones that were.

Not the first case of a performance by Sterling that was devalued. His crosses of the ball were dire.

If Maguire plays for England so can I. If Maguire plays for England...

Ineffective.

Always very competent and can only get better.

Harry Kane



If he had played any deeper he would have needed a submarine but he was by far the countries best player.

Jordan Pickford



Played well but it always seems that his inner psychopath was wanting to come out. Was at fault for the goal.

Jack Grealish



As always he made things happen when he came on but why would you leave Manchester Cities most expensive signing on the bench?

Kyle Walker



The best of our defence.

Declan Rice



Maybe a level too far. Played like a rice pudding.

Jude Bellingham



The rest of the team were hardly worth a mention for good or bad.

Raheem Sterling



Harry Maguire



Bukayo Saka



GOOD AND BAD HERE ARE THE ONES THAT WERE

21/22 season summary, team-by-team, with marks out of 10

pt 1

Premier League round-up

Arsenal:

Massive improvement and under-achievement simultaneously this year. They played the worst football in the Premier League throughout the first month, looking genuine relegation candidates. They improved dramatically from there, catapulting up the league, and despite intermittent lapses in performance, they entered the final furlong looking odds-on for a Champions League spot. But Arsenal's final month of the season proved as awful as their first, and they were pipped, maddeningly, by their archenemies, and settled for fifth. Still a substantial improvement on a dismal mid-table finish last year, and on the hideous start they made, but it seems disappointing making do with a Europa League slot. 6/10



11 games - triggered the November dismissal of coach Dean Smith, and appointment of Steven Gerrard. Villa improved thereafter, especially after Gerrard lured his old Liverpool team-mate, Phillippe Coutinho, to become the team's new playmaker. However, the final position of 14th - 45 points from 38 games - is not much more impressive, and is a clear regression on 2021 (55 points and 11th spot). Gerrard needs time to put his mark on the team. 5/10

Brentford:

Not given enough credit, because of their direct, high-balls-into-the-box approach, but Brentford were a lungful of fresh air early on, due to the vibrant atmosphere their fans created at

home. The Bees' football is not to everyone's taste, but many individual stories are admirable. Ivan Toney proved something of a modern-era John Fashanu in attack, David Raya had some splendid matches in goal, Sergi Canos sometimes looked a model Premier League player, and of course the courage the club showed recruiting Christian Eriksen after his near-death experience at Euro2020 only months before, and his subsequent outstanding performances in midfield, was the season's most heart-warming story. Not only

did Brentford avoid relegation, they were never in serious danger. Plus the 3-3 draw with

Liverpool was one of the matches of the season. What is there not to like? 9/10

Brighton & Hove Albion

: Compared with expectations, not bad at all. Brighton hope to improve again next season, but this already was one of their best-ever, at least in league football. Their clever, crafty passing game is easy-on-the-eye, often revolving around Argentina's Alexis Mac Allister, and a defensive record of slightly above one-goal-conceded-per-game is solid enough - Dutch defender Joel Veltman is much under-rated. Full-back Marc Cucurella had a tremendous late-season, becoming a fan favourite. The urgent issue is definitely further forward -

not enough goals. Brighton's attack is often pedestrian, the finishing hesitant. A nippy, decisive centre-forward has to be top of the club's shopping list. Elsewhere though, they are sound, and have accomplished much. 7/10

Burnley:

Alas! The panic-button offload of Sean Dyche almost saved the day. With a couple of weeks left, Burnley had nearly crawled free of yet another relegation mire, but no. Burnley have been on borrowed time in the top flight for years, and with Dyche finally exhausted of ideas, his caretaker successor, Mike Jackson, could only briefly instil energy and enthusiasm before a couple of bad results drained it away. Turf Moor's future looks bleak. Alan Pace, Chairman, lacks the financial clout to compete; stars Nick Pope and James Tarkoski will be sold on to balance the books. Wout Weghorst proved a pricey luxury the team can ill-afford, and the sale of Chris Wood has been an armour-piercing bullet in the foot. A lousy year for Burnley. 3/10

by Martin Odoni



Arsenal's final month of the season proved as awful as their first, and they were pipped

21/22 season summary, team-by-team, with marks out of 10

pt 2

Premier League round-up

Chelsea:

Coach Thomas Tuchel has shown he is almost in the bracket of Pep Guardiola and Jurgen Klopp. His team started the season as early pace-setters, looking ready to mount a real title challenge. But by mid-season, not only had Chelsea's form faltered, they were stumbling in various winnable games. Ultimately, the 18-point gap between second and third devalues probably Chelsea's best season performance since winning the title in 2017. Reaching both domestic cup finals and losing almost identically to the same opponent was soul-destroying, but no disgrace. Having entered the season as European Champions, and ended it as World Champions, Chelsea's showing was no failure; they went deep on every front, and the ingredients appear there for more future success. They must offload expensive misfits like Romelu Lukaku though. 8/10

Crystal Palace:

Between a handsome FA Cup run to the semi-finals, and comfortably clinching Premier League survival, 2021/22 was healthy for Palace, if hardly something to write home about. Patrick Vieira looks well in place at Selhurst Park. His squad, with Conor Gallagher (they must hold onto him!), Wilfrid Zaha, Cheickou Kouyate, Odsonne Edouard and Marc Gueyhi, among others, definitely have talent a-plenty. Therefore, a bottom-half finish with just 11 EPL wins all season could be seen as disappointing. But in the context of Palace's history, the garden looks quite rosy. 7/10

Everton:

Consistently the Premier League's most under-achieving



club, this year Everton came dangerously close to suffering the greatest penalty; they are lucky to stay in the EPL for another year. The overpriced Everton squad still looks ill-motivated, temperamental, and choosy about in which games it will do its best. Add the problems of a decrepit stadium, slow progress on its replacement, possible Financial Fair Play rules violations, and a success-starved fanbase turning on its own team as quickly as it will pressurise an opponent, and Goodison Park is grim corner of football. Rafael Benitez was treated unfairly early in the season, and Frank Lampard only did just enough to avoid relegation. If the general pattern of results does not improve markedly, Lampard could be offloaded quickly too. Overall: Abysmal. 2/10

Leeds

United:

Long-term Premier League prospects for this club look poor, with so much interest from other teams in players like Raphinha and Calvin Phillips. Given Leeds are therefore probably in an "enjoy-it-while-it-lasts" experience, they should get applause for avoiding a relegation that looked imminent. The injury crises the team went through during both years in the EPL make their survival even sweeter, but it must be reiterated, Premier League survival beyond next season looks unlikely. Just surviving this year required devastating ruthlessness towards

avuncular coach Marcelo Bielsa. How many times that can work, we can only guess. 5/10

Leicester City:

As FA Cup holders, and frequent challengers for Champions League spots, the Foxes went into the season as some people's favourites to displace one of the top 4. Instead, Brendan Rogers' team fell away so badly and ended so far adrift that they muffed Europe altogether. A fine run in the (largely-immaterial) Europa Conference League at least gave Leicester fans

something to stick around for, but the limp ending against Roma probably made them feel even worse. Of most concern, beyond the age of star player Jamie Vardy, is Leicester's defensive weakness. They conceded over 80 goals this season, and while claiming the odd redeeming win here and there, 1-0 v Liverpool, 5-1 at Watford, and 4-2 over Manchester United among them, inexcusable defeats stand out rather more, the 2-1 home reverse by Everton probably the nadir. A big step back this year. 5/10

by Martin Odoni



21/22 season summary, team-by-team, with marks out of 10

pt 3

Premier League round-up

Liverpool:

Other teams' fans, even some media, always shift the goalposts for Liverpool. Despite The Word's warnings to the contrary, widespread assumption in August was Jurgen Klopp's side would struggle to stay top 4. We warned they were candidates for Champions, and so they proved, missing out for the second time in four seasons by a point to the mighty Manchester City. Liverpool had the seventh-highest points total ever in English league football. They came closer to a Quadruple than any team in English history - still in contention with just six days left in the season. And they became England's first club to win the domestic cup double twice (previously accomplished as part of a treble in 2001). Despite the impressiveness of all this, disappointment at missing out on the EPL and Champions League titles has led some to spin their season a 'failure.' This mistakes anti-climax for inadequacy. Objectively, Liverpool had a tremendous season, exceeded expectations, have several of the world's best players in Virgil van Dijk and Mohammed Salah, and remain one of the world's deadliest teams. 9/10



Manchester City:

Masters of English football, as ever under Pep Guardiola. Given they were seeking a Treble late in April, and came away with only one trophy, their season could be spun - like Liverpool's (see above) - as a disappointment. But that is unfairly selective analysis. Any trophy-winning season is a positive one. When that trophy is the Premier League trophy, the most demanding challenge of all, you are the best. The fact Liverpool pursued them in the second half of the season and ran them as close as one point underlines City's greatness - no other team could have coped. City are not flawless, but they are great in so many departments that they do not need completeness. Lacking out-and-out goalscorers, and slow pace in certain positions are immaterial, because they create chances with

such frequency and move the ball at such a range of tempos. Losing two semi-finals, especially in the much-craved Champions League, de-colourises the season for City, their loss of the League Cup after years of possession will hurt, and the margin between them and Liverpool remains wafer-thin. But bottom line; City's smooth quality is outstanding. From Ederson in goal, to Kevin de Bruyne in left-midfield, to Gabriel Jesus up front, City are the best. 9/10.

Manchester United:

Tipped by many for the title in August. Seriously. The easiest way to sum United's failure up is they are a side and not a team. They have talent, but on the pitch the

whole is much less than the sum. They never got close to winning anything. A year ago, they could at least point to a Europa League Final. This season United were eliminated early from every competition.

Scared,

toothless and confused, United were so disorganised, even the dismissal of Ole Gunnar-Solskjaer could not unshackle them. Ralf Ragnick wasted seven months as caretaker boss; Erik Ten Hag has a daunting job rebuilding from ground up. The removal of Paul Pogba alone will not repair the damage. United's dressing room has too many egos and too little courage, with even Bruno Fernandes degenerating into a vicious, surly hacker. Harry Maguire and Luke Shaw, so assured playing for England, are a car-crash in football shirts. The twin-drubbings by Liverpool are perhaps an all-time low for the club. By far their worst side since before the Premier League began, United are grossly flattered by sixth spot. 3/10.

by Martin Odoni

Champions League titles has led some to spin their season a 'failure.'



21/22 season summary, team-by-team, with marks out of 10

pt 4

Premier League round-up



Newcastle United:

The second half of the season was a mirror image of the first. By Christmas, Newcastle looked doomed. By May, they were slap-bang mid-table and had long escaped the relegation zone. The arrival of new, mega-billionaire owners to replace the stagnancy-personified Mike Ashley brought a welcome injection of funds for the New Year transfer window, and thus some handy new players, enough to lift the club to safety. This is still a season of mediocrity for Newcastle United, but one that has opened the door to an exciting, if utterly plutocratic future for the club. Expect a substantial turnover of ordinary players and recruitment of better over the summer. 5/10.

Norwich City:

Everybody wants to love Norwich City, a club with a worthy history and a culture of attractive football. But it is difficult to see the teams it fields as Premier League sides, as they always seem to be punching at least two levels above their

weight. Two years ago they were in relegation trouble just weeks into the season. This year, they were struggling when the fixtures were published. When your star player is Teemu Pukki, with respect, what else can one expect? Norwich need not change much to get promoted again, but some time soon they will have to get a new 'engine' put in to solidify the core of the side enough to cope with the standards of the EPL. 2/10.

Southampton:

The team who are just 'there' in the Premier League. It is all you can really say. They never get into much real danger of relegation, they never threaten the Champions' League spots. They take a painful share of thrashings most seasons, hand out the occasional embarrassing beating, but largely just... exist. This season was another example. The will to survive, but no will to succeed, which is why this season was much like any other at St. Mary's. Southampton last year - 15th. This year - 15th. Mediocrity fanatically perpetuating itself. 4/10.

Tottenham Hotspur:

It is debatable whether Spurs' squad, outside Harry Kane, Son Heung-Min (their real best player) and possibly



loanee Dejan Kulusevski, really has any noteworthy talent in it. But you cannot dispute coach Antonio Conte's knack of getting the maximum out of what he has. He has turned an indisciplined and petulant squad into an efficient machine that is both difficult to create chances against, and that can score in sudden, unpredictable avalanches on the break. That they

sneaked in to steal the fourth Champions' League spot is a reflection of this heightened efficiency, and turned an off-colour season into a real plus. Still no threat of winning a trophy though, a drought that has lasted well over ten years. Conte has to find water soon. 8/10.

by Martin Odoni

Still no threat of winning a trophy though, a drought that has lasted well over ten year



21/22 season summary, team-by-team, with marks out of 10

pt 5

Premier League round-up

Watford:

Quite the most cynical and unlikeable club in the modern Premier League, it is never a shame to see them getting relegated. It is what the board deserves for its ugly policy of always trying to 'sack-their-way-to-survival,' with coaches coming and going like Vicarage Road is a revolving door. Watford went through three managers just this season - Xisco Munoz, Claudio Ranieri and Roy Hodgson - but the real problem was a squad of past-it veterans and low-talent youngsters. In the end, they got exactly what they put into the season, and even the 4-1 humiliation of



Manchester United that severed Solskjaer's managerial head offered no hiding place. 3/10.

West Ham United:

Probably the 'nearly' team of the year. They played some outstanding football in patches, with Jarrod Bowen emerging as one of the best English centre-forwards, and were around the European places all season. A fine run in the Europa League to the semi-

finals is to be congratulated, but the defeat by Eintracht Frankfurt was cruel, while the energy the relatively small pool of players expended in Europe took its toll on their league form. West Ham ended the season weakly, and really should at least have dislodged Manchester United from the Europa League next year. So much promise, but in the end little delivery, and next season they will be making do with the Europa Conference League instead. Two steps forward, three steps back? And yet it certainly felt like a good season. 7/10.

Wolverhampton Wanderers:

The loss of coaching inspiration Nuno Espirito Santo and several of the talented players he brought in from Portugal was starting to leave the set-up at Molineux looking distinctly threadbare. It was therefore a relief to see them playing the early season pretty well under Bruno Lage, and getting themselves into a safe position nice

and quickly. They even looked good for another European spot. But the lack of squad depth took its toll, and mid-table was all they could manage. It is sad that Wolves, who had a really fine young team just three years ago and were developing into one of the best, are rotting away. They

still have some tremendous players, like Jose Sa, Conor Coady, Reuben Neves and Raul Jimenez, but the team has stopped developing, and the worry is that what is left of the 'Santo Project' might soon leave. That will leave a remnant ripe for relegation. 6/10.

by Martin Odoni

Watford went through three managers just this season



Welsh secure place at first World Cup Finals for over half a century

Wales make World Cup history

The match was dour and tense, but was ultimately decided by an own goal

The people of Wales at last saw something unseen in several generations at the start of June, as a Gareth Bale-led performance saw them edge past troubled Ukraine into the World Cup Finals.

Wales, who reached the Qualifier Play-off Final via a hard-earned win against Austria in the semi-

finals in March, faced war-ravaged Ukraine at Cardiff City Stadium on 5th June. The match was dour and tense, but was ultimately decided by an own goal shortly after the half-hour. The luckless Andriy Yarmolenko, trying to block a free kick from Bale, deflected the ball past goalkeeper Heorhiy Buschan and through his own net.

This decisive moment happened just a couple of minutes after Ukraine had spurned a great opening, when Viktor Tsigankov was denied by a well-timed smother by Wayne Hennessey. Ukraine also had rather weak claims for a penalty shortly before half-

time, over a possible handball.

Ukraine, who performed bravely against both Scotland and Wales in the space of three days while war against Russia continues to rage back home, had much worldwide sympathy. But, perhaps running low on nervous energy towards the end, they never quite had the ruthless edge in the box required to beat the ageing-but-still-nimble Hennessey. He produced a string of fine saves to keep the Ukrainians at arm's length, and so clinched Wales' first appearance at a World Cup since way back in 1958 in Sweden.

By Martin Odoni

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