Social news

Today's birthdays

Baroness Butler-Sloss, President of the Family Division, 1999-2005, is 93; **Ms Anita Lonsbrough**, former swimmer; Olympic gold medallist, 200m breaststroke, Rome 1960, 85; **Maj Gen Jonathan Hall**, Lieutenant Governor, Royal Hospital Chelsea, 1997-2005; Governor, Edinburgh Castle, 1995-97. 82; **Prof Dame Jenifer Wilson-Barnett**, Professor of Nursing, 1986-2004, and Head, Florence Nightingale School of Nursing and Midwifery, King's College London, 1999-2004, 82; **Mr Ian Anderson**, singer and songwriter (Jethro Tull), 79; **Mr John Spencer**, former England and Lions rugby union player; president, RFU, 2017-18, 79; **Mr Juan Manuel Santos**, Nobel Peace Prize winner, 2016; president of Colombia, 2010-18, 75; **Ms Perween Warsi**, Founder, S&A Foods, 70; **Baroness Winterton of Doncaster**, former Labour government minister, 68; **Mr Antonio Banderas**, actor and director, 66; **Ms Suzanne Collins**, novelist and screenwriter, 64; **Ms Charlie Dimmock**, television gardening expert, 60; **Mr Roy Keane**, former Republic of Ireland footballer; manager and pundit, 55; **Mr Lawrence Dallaglio**, former England and Lions rugby union player, 54; **Mr Ian Murray**, minister in the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport; Secretary of State for Scotland, 2024-25, 50; and **Mr Shaun Murphy**, snooker player; World Champion, 2005, 44.

Forthcoming marriage

Mr J.E. Murton and Miss O.A. Browne
The engagement is announced between Joshua, only son of Francis and Shân Murton, of St Helier, Jersey, and Ophelia, elder daughter of Shaun and Elizabeth Browne, of Castle Camps, Cambridgeshire.
Online ref: WO051489

Bridge news

The Northern Ireland Bridge Union holds national online matchpoint pairs events on Thursdays and Sundays, **writes Julian Pottage, Bridge Correspondent**. During July the highest scores on these two days of the week were as follows:

Thursday – 67.50% achieved by Ken and Norma Irwin on the 30th
Sunday – 65.71% achieved by Ronnie Morrow and Maureen Murray on the 5th

The NIBU and the Contract Bridge association have, at their respective Annual General Meetings, agreed to merge. The Irish Bridge Union already exists for the administration of bridge on an all-Ireland basis. We await details of how the merger will affect the three organisations.

Prize-winners of crossword 31,307

Three first-prize winners: Thomas McNie, Ipswich, Suffolk; David Griffiths, Alderney, Guernsey; Philip Burrows, Badminton, Gloucestershire. Five runners-up: Reginald Sanderson, Ambleside, Cumbria; David Buttfield, Amersham, Buckinghamshire; Tony Graydon, Oldham, Greater Manchester; Michael Killen, Bottesford, Nottinghamshire; S Oakey, Dunmow, Essex.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

The Daily Telegraph.

LONDON, TUESDAY AUGUST 10, 1926

MYSTERIOUS DISASTER TO SUBMARINE.

H 29 SINKS IN HARBOUR.

FIVE DROWNED AT DEVONPORT.

A mysterious submarine disaster, involving the loss of five lives, occurred yesterday at Devonport Dockyard.

While undergoing repair, the H 29 submerged, without warning, with engineers and other workmen on board. Several succeeded in saving themselves, but five failed to do so.

First intimation that another addition had to be made to the already long list of disasters which have attended under-water craft was contained in the following statement issued last night:

The Secretary of the Admiralty regrets to announce that a report has been received from the Commander-in-Chief at Devonport to the effect that Submarine H 29 sank today in Devonport Basin while undergoing refit.

It is feared that one chief engine-room artificer and four civilian dockyard workmen have lost their lives.

Hopes were at first entertained that it might be possible to save the imprisoned men, but this was found to be impossible.

Salvage operations were commenced immediately after the accident and are proceeding.

The foundering of the H 29 was not, as in so many previous cases, due to a collision, or to any failure during exercise on the high seas. The vessel was undergoing refit and tilting tests in No. 2 Basin. Within a few minutes of the disaster the chief officers of the port arrived on the scene, and under the direction of the Commander-in-Chief (Admiral Sir R. F. Phillimore) special equipment was rushed to the quayside to facilitate the release of the men and the raising of the ship.

One of the officers rescued from the water only recovered consciousness after artificial respiration had been resorted to for a considerable time.

The H 29 belongs to the Third Submarine Flotilla and is a tender to the Maidstone, the depot ship at Devonport. She was commissioned in May, 1922. She belongs to the 21 H class, all of which were built under the war emergency programme. She was one of six vessels of the H class built by Vickers and launched in 1918.

"WITHIN TWO MINUTES."

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.
DEVONPORT, Monday Night.

The mishap occurred shortly after the resumption of work. Dockyard employees had just commenced their usual tasks when suddenly an alarm was raised that H29 was sinking. Immediately large crowds of workmen ran to the quayside of No. 2 Basin and endeavoured to rescue some of their comrades who were engaged in the work of refitting. Two or three of the dockyard workmen on board were able to release themselves from the shell of the submarine and dive overboard. Within a few minutes these men were got ashore and removed to a surgery.

According to a story of eye-witnesses, the submarine hatches were open at the time of the foundering. Her propeller had not stopped when she came alongside. She suddenly tilted and went down within a minute and a half. The basin is comparatively small, and it was considered that pumping operations would not occupy many hours.

An eye-witness gave me the following description of the disaster:

The submarine had just finished a trial of her engines in the middle of the basin. She was brought alongside the wall again. Suddenly I saw her heel right over on to her starboard side. She sank within two minutes. I saw several men swimming in the water, and boats put out from the dockside and from ships in the basin, and brought them ashore. Artificial respiration had to be resorted to in several cases, and most of the survivors were taken to hospital. There were about a dozen naval ratings and dockyard workmen on board.

One of the dockyardmen who was actually in the ill-fated ship said that at the time of the disaster they were "commencing to fill." He added:

Suddenly an officer walked quietly towards us, and in a matter-of-fact tone announced that there was "something wrong." He told us not to get in a panic, but to get out as quickly and as calmly as possible. Most of us then walked over the gangway on to the wharf, but a number of men were thrown into the basin through the submarine tilting.

While we were on the quay, we saw a man struggling out of the hatch. He was under water, and immediately five men who had themselves been out of the water only a few minutes dived in again and rescued him.

Another man who was working on the submarine stated that when she got alongside her berth after carrying out exercises in the basin an officer came from aft to the men in the forward part of the craft and shouted to them, "For God's sake clear off the boat at once. There is something wrong aft."

Immediately the men ran along the gangway leading from the submarine to the quayside. Among them were five of the crew, who, after they had got clear, found that one of their comrades had been ejected from the conning tower by the inrush or water through the open hatch, and was in danger of drowning. With typical naval precision the five sailors dived into the basin and brought him safely ashore.

The basin, which is a closed dock and is quite small, was emptied of water as far as possible in order that the submarine might be placed on an even keel.

RAISING THE SHIP.

The first step towards the raising of the submarine was for divers to close all the apertures on the craft. Cranes then got into touch with her, and powerful pumps, including those of the dockyard fire and salvage corps, were requisitioned. It was seen from the start that several hours must elapse before the H 29 could be raised.

Owing to the fact that half the crew are on leave, and also that the submarine was in the hands of the dockyard, it is difficult to state how many men were on board at the time.

H BOATS "FOR SAFETY."

There are fifty-two submarines of the H class in the British Navy, the earliest ones of the type having been laid down towards the close of the Great War, while the programme of construction was completed in the year after the signing of the Armistice. They are comparatively small submarines, but they are of a design of which officers who have served in them have always spoken well. They are armed with four 21-inch torpedo tubes. The H 29 was built by Vickers Ltd., who have been largely responsible for the gradual development of the various types of British submarines which have been built since the first Holland boat was bought in the United States upwards of a quarter of a century ago. The H boats have the reputation of being the fastest divers and safest boats in the Service.

July weather

July was a hot and dry month for many, with high-pressure conditions dominating for most of the month.

The month opened with some rain across Scotland and western areas, while the south of the UK saw more settled conditions. Temperatures soon began to rise in the south, and heatwave conditions were met across England and Wales as high pressure settled over the UK. This resulted in nearly two weeks of temperatures above 25°C, and often above 30°C, in many areas.

Although temperatures then decreased to average or below average for some areas around the 18th/19th, especially eastern areas, this cooler weather did not last and temperatures soon increased to above average again across most of the UK, although not quite as hot as in the beginning of the month.

July ended with a north/south divide as temperatures remained above average in the south, especially the southeast, but dropped to below average in the north, which also saw some more rainfall. Rain was in short supply in the south of the UK, with some areas seeing little to no rain across the entire month. In combination with the heat and abundant sunshine, this led to drought conditions affecting the whole of Wales and around half of England.

The month saw above-average temperatures and sunshine but below-average rainfall for the UK. This was the sixth consecutive month where the UK mean temperature was over 1°C above the long-term average: the month closed with the UK seeing its second warmest July on record, with a provisional anomaly of 2.1°C above the 1991-2020 average. It was England's second warmest July as well, and Wales's joint warmest on record.

Rainfall was particularly scarce, with the UK overall provisionally seeing just 35 per cent of the long-term average, the third driest July on record. England and Wales both recorded their driest Julys, seeing less than 10mm of rainfall over the entire month. Nineteen counties, including Berkshire and Surrey, recorded less than 1mm of rainfall in July.

Although Scotland saw more rain than other parts of the UK, it still recorded below-average rainfall, provisionally just 69 per cent of the long-term average. Northern Ireland was also very dry, with Co Down and Co Armagh both recording their driest Julys on record.

Sunshine hours were well above average in July, leading to the sunniest July on record for the UK, England and Wales. Scotland and Northern Ireland also saw well-above-average sunshine in July.

The UK provisional monthly extremes were as follows. A maximum temperature of 35.5°C was recorded at Wisley (Surrey) on the 9th. A minimum temperature of 0.3°C was recorded at Tomintoul No. 6 (Banffshire) on the 27th. In the 24 hours ending at 0900 UTC on the 6th, 66.2mm of rain fell at Loch Shiel, Polloch (Argyll). A wind gust of 53 knots (61 mph) was recorded at Brizlee Wood (Northumberland) on the 2nd.

Bridge Hand

Last chance

By **Brian Senior**

NOTHING broke kindly for declarer on this deal, but his last chance came in for him, and the contract was just made.

Dealer North N/S vulnerable

♠ A K 7 5 2
♥ Q 5 4 3
♦ A 10
♣ 6 4

N / W E / S

♠ Q
♥ A K 7
♦ 9 7 5 4 2
♣ K Q 7 3

West	North	East	South
	1♠	pass	2♦
pass	2♥	pass	3NT
pass	pass	pass	

West led the 10 of clubs, promising at least one card higher than the Jack. It didn't take a genius to work out that West was leading from AJ10(xx), so that declarer would be getting only the one club trick. However, there were chances of an even split of either red suit while, if there were not too many losers elsewhere, a four-three spade split might also provide the required ninth trick.

Declarer won the King of clubs, East playing the five, and decided to duck a diamond, which might eventually lead to a squeeze ending. ♦10 lost to East's Jack, and back came the eight of clubs, which was allowed to hold the trick. Now East switched to a low spade.

Clearly, clubs were five-two, as otherwise East would have continued the suit, and the defence would have collected its three club tricks. That was good news for declarer. As he had hoped would happen, East had wasted no time in returning a club at trick three, but now the defensive communications had been cut, and declarer could afford to lose the lead to either defender as he set about finding a ninth trick.

If hearts were three-three, there were already nine tricks to be cashed, while playing for an even diamond split would also provide an extra trick if it succeeded. However, a four-three split is much more likely than a three-three split, so spades was the most likely suit to provide that extra trick.

Accordingly, declarer won the Queen of spades and cashed three rounds of hearts, ending in dummy. Had hearts divided evenly, that would have been that, but East showed out on the second round.

So, declarer moved on to his second chance, one which, to be fair, was beginning to look rather an unlikely one, with West known to have nine cards between hearts and clubs. He cashed the ace and King of spades, throwing diamonds from hand and, sure enough, this time it was West who showed out on the third round, so establishing a fourth spade trick was not an option. The E/W hands:

♠ 10 4
♥ 10 8 6 2
♦ Q 6
♣ A J 10 9 2

N / W E / S

♠ J 9 8 6 3
♥ J 9
♦ K J 8 3
♣ 8 5

Declarer continued by cashing the ace of diamonds and both defenders followed. He simply exited with the fourth heart to West, who was down to ♣AJ and was obliged to give a trick to declarer's Queen at trick 13. Declarer's last chance, the endplay, had saved the day.

Chess

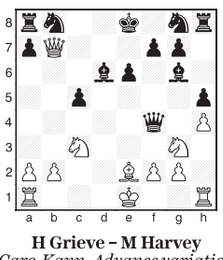
Grieve joins lead

By **Malcolm Pein**

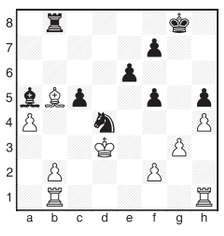
UKRAINIAN IM Svyatoslav Bazakutsa, 18, was joined in the lead by 2022 Champion Harry Grieve after an absorbing fifth round of the British Championship at the University of Warwick.

Bazakutsa drew solidly as Black against GM Shreyas Royal, while Grieve out-prepared and crushed IM Marcus Harvey, as we'll see below. FM Bodhana Sivanandan, 11, continued to impress, drawing with IM Han Yichen, while top seeds Michael Adams and Luke McShane got back into contention, grinding down FM Sam Chow and IM Richard Pert, respectively.

Leading scores: 1-2 Bazakutsa, Grieve 4.5/5, 3-8 Adams, McShane, Royal, Waldhausen Gordon, H Yichen, Sivanandan 4.



H Grieve – M Harvey
Caro-Kann, Advance variation
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Ne2 e6 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.h4 h5 7.c4!? (A topical line) **7...c5** (Critical, but safer is 7...Ne7, as in So – Duda, Zagreb Blitz 2026) **8.cxd5 Qxd5 9.Nc3! Qxd4 10.Qb3!? Qxe5+!?** (Black took 15 minutes on this. Previously, 10...Qb4 11.Qxb4 cxb4 12.Nb5 Kd7 13.Be3 had given White full compensation in Brunke – Gallasch, Werther 2024) **11.Be2 Qc7?!** (The much more active 11...Nd7! 12.Qxb7 Rb8 13.Qxa7 c4 is roughly level) **12.Bf4! Qxf4?** (12...Qb6 13.Nb5 Na6 14.Qa4 0-0-0 was risky, but necessary) **13.Qxb7 Bd6** See board left. **14.Rd1** (Good enough, but 14.Bb5+! Kf8 15.Nge2! Qb4 16.Rd1 would already have forced resignation) **14...a6 15.Nge4! Bxe4 16.Nxe4 Bc7 17.g3 Ba5+ 18.Kf1 Qc7 19.Qxa8** (The queen can't be trapped, leaving White a clear exchange up) **19...Nf6 20.Nxf6+ gxf6 21.Bxa6 Qb6 22.Be2 0-0 23.Bf3!** (Good technique, preparing Qb7 and forcing simplification) **23...Nd7 24.Qc6 Qxc6 25.Bxc6 Ne5 26.Bb5!** (Blocking the b-file and so containing any counterplay) **26...Rb8 27.a4 Nf3 28.Rc1 Nd2+ 29.Ke2** (29.Kg2 Nb3 30.Rc4! was much simpler) **29...Nb3 30.Rb1 Nd4+ 31.Kd3 f5?** (31...Rd8 32.Kc4 Bb4 was one way to fight on) How did White now powerfully realise his advantage?



Answer:
32.b4! Rd8! (If 32...Bxb4? 33.Rxb4 cxb4 34.Rxd4) **33.bxa5 Nxb5+ 34.Kc4! Na3+ 35.Kxc5 Rc8+** (The a-pawns are too strong after 35...Nxb1 36.Rxb1) **36.Kb6 Nc4+ 37.Kb7 Nd6+ 38.Kb6 Nc4+ 39.Kb7 Nd6+ 40.Ka7 Rc7+ 41.Kb6 Rc4 42.Rhb1 1-0**

Announcements

Email: announcements.ads@telegraph.co.uk **Book online:** announcements.telegraph.co.uk

Deaths

CRAWFURD.—Peacefully at the Galloway Community Hospital, Stranraer, on Tuesday 4th August 2026, after a long illness bravely borne, Peter Crawfurd, aged 87 years, of Craigenholly, Glenluce. Beloved husband of Judy, dearly loved father and grandfather. Funeral service private.
Online Ref: WO051527

MARTIN.—Major Russell Lisle, Retd, late of RCT. Died peacefully on 14th July 2026 aged 92. Funeral at Mintlyn Crematorium, King's Lynn on Thursday 27th August at 1.45 p.m. Donations to SSAFA (Armed Forces Charity) via Co-op Funeral Home, Long Sutton. Tel: 01406 363648.
Online Ref: WO051546

MAXWELL.—Diane, formerly Hanbury-Williams (née Hartley), peacefully on 29th July 2026, aged 89. Beloved wife of the late Timothy Maxwell and previously of the late Anthony Hanbury-Williams. Much loved mother of Nicholas, Charles, Michael and Victoria and beloved grandmother and great grandmother. Service of Thanksgiving to be held at Chelsea Old Church, 64 Cheyne Walk, London SW3 5LT on 26th August 2026 at 2.30 p.m.
Online Ref: WO051524

STEAVENSON.—Howard Steavenson (Tynemouth), passed peacefully at home on 31st July aged 72 years. Beloved husband of 41 years to Val. Much loved dad of Tom and Philip. Sailing to the fullest, right up till the end. Family and friends please meet for Service at Tynemouth Crematorium on Friday 28th August at 11.15 a.m. Family flowers only by request c/o E Turnbull & Son Ltd, North Shields, NE29 0HE. Tel: 0191 257 1201.
Online Ref: WO051496

WILLIAMS.—Michael John (Lt Col Retd) died peacefully aged 90 on Tuesday 4th August 2026, leaving behind his daughters Sheenagh and Jane, grandchildren Daniel and Kate and sons-in-law Andrew and Jonathan. A true gentleman who lived a full life and leaves many happy memories. No funeral at his request.
Online Ref: WO051535

Personal

Text for the day

MY SHEEP hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.
John 10.27-28 (AV)

Messages

GRATEFUL THANKS to St Jude for prayers answered. EB.
Online Ref: WO051501

General personal

The Daily Telegraph and The Sunday Telegraph

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General personal

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Public notices

PUBLIC CONSULTATION NOTICE
Gas Field Development
THE OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION, PRODUCTION, UNLOADING AND STORAGE (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2020
Abbey and Baker Field Development

Petrogas North Sea Limited has made an application for consent to the Oil and Gas Authority ("the OGA") in relation to the above project. The OGA now operates under the business name of the North Sea Transition Authority (NSTA).

Summary of Project

Petrogas North Sea Limited, hereafter referred to as 'Petrogas', is planning to develop the Abbey & Baker gas fields in the Southern North Sea (SNS). Abbey sits within United Kingdom Continental Shelf (UKCS) Block 47/3i (Licence P.2582) in a water depth of 42.4 metres (m), approximately 40 kilometres (km) northeast of the Yorkshire coastline and 152 km southwest of the of the UK/Netherlands transboundary line at their closest points. Baker sits within UKCS Block 47/3f (Licence P.2433) in a water depth of 47.75 m and is located approximately 3.8 km to the northwest of Abbey.

Petrogas is proposing to develop the Abbey & Baker fields via four subsea gas wells; three at Abbey, and one at Baker; with separate wellheads/trees. The Baker well will be tied into a production manifold at the Abbey location, via a ca. 3.8 km 8-inch diameter pipeline and an electro-hydraulic umbilical. The Abbey & Baker fluids will be commingled at the production manifold, with the combined Abbey & Baker production exported via a new 8 km 8-inch diameter production pipeline and electro-hydraulic umbilical to the York Not Permanently Attended Installation (NPAI) platform, located in UKCS Block 47/3. At York, Abbey & Baker will be tied into the existing 16-inch pipeline for export onshore to Perenco UK Limited's Dimlington Terminal via Centrica Energy Storage Limited's Easington Terminal for processing. First gas is currently targeted for 2029.

Petrogas is currently planning to undertake development drilling between Q4 of 2027 to Q3 of 2028, with installation of the subsea infrastructure between Q4 of 2028 and Q1 of 2029. First gas is targeted for Q2 2029.

Environmental Impact Assessment and Consent Process

In accordance with the above-mentioned Regulations, the project is subject to an environmental impact assessment procedure.

The OGA is responsible for deciding whether or not to grant consent for the project, but agreement to the grant of consent must be obtained from the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero ("the Secretary of State") prior to consent being granted. The Secretary of State's decision on whether to agree to the grant of consent is based on the environmental impact assessment for the project.

The range of possible decisions in response to the application of consent is:

(a) the Secretary of State agrees to the OGA's grant of consent following the Secretary of State's conclusion regarding the environmental effects of the project, and the OGA grants consent, so the project may proceed;
(b) the Secretary of State refuses to agree to the OGA's grant of consent following the Secretary of State's conclusion regarding the environmental effects of the project, so the project may not proceed; or
(c) the Secretary of State agrees to the OGA's grant of consent following the Secretary of State's conclusion regarding the environmental effects of the project, but the OGA does not grant consent, so the project may not proceed.

Where the Secretary of State agrees to the grant of consent, conditions that Petrogas North Sea Limited must comply with may be attached to the agreement, including environmental conditions to avoid, prevent, reduce or offset any significant adverse effects on the environment, and measure to monitor such conditions.

Notice of the decisions of the Secretary of State and OGA decisions for the project will be published at: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-2020-eia-regulations#environmental-impact-assessments-eia where information on the Secretary of State's decision to agree to or refuse to agree to the grant of consent will also be made available.

Access to Further Information

Copies of this notice, the summary of the project and the Environmental Statement can be viewed and downloaded at https://www.petrogasep.com/ and at https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-2020-eia-regulations#environmental-impact-assessments-eia. Access shall remain at least three months after the date on which the Secretary of State publishes the notice under Regulation 16(1) (publication of consent decisions).

A copy of the Environmental Statement and summary of the project may also be obtained by post or email. Requests should be made to Petrogas North Sea Limited, 18 Carden Place, Aberdeen, AB10 1UQ, by email to info-pns@petrogasep.com or by telephone 01224 945000 by 14/09/2026.

Public Consultation
Representations, comments or questions relating to the project may be made to the Secretary of State by 14/09/2026. All representations should quote reference number ES/2026/023 and may be made by letter or by email to:
Business Support Team
Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning
Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
AB1 Building
Crimon Place
Aberdeen
AB10 1BJ
OPRED@Energysecurity.gov.uk

Representations may be published on gov.uk. Any responses published will be redacted to remove individuals' names and personal information. Personal data of respondents is processed as for consultation responses. For further information please see the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero privacy notice DESNZ privacy notices - GOV.UK.

Judicial Review
A person aggrieved by the grant of consent for a project may apply to the Court for leave / permission to apply for judicial review of the relevant decision or decisions. The United Kingdom has three separate legal systems; one each for England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The rules for any application for leave / permission to apply for judicial review may vary depending on where that application is made, but it is important to note that there are time limits for making any application and judicial review may only be available if the applicant has standing / a sufficient interest in the subject matter of the application. Further information about the process for seeking judicial review can be obtained from the Administrative Court (for England and Wales), the Court of Session (for Scotland) or the Judicial Review Office (Northern Ireland).