

Court & Social



BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 19th
The King spoke to Mr Narendra Modi (Prime Minister of India) via telephone this morning.

Today's birthdays

Mr Douglas F Gardner, company chairman, is 81; **Sir Anthony Galsworthy**, former diplomat, 80; **Sir John Griffith Williams**, a former High Court Judge, 80; **Lord Brabazon of Tara**, 78; **Dame Mitsuko Uchida**, pianist, 76; **Mr Abdulrazzak Gurnah**, novelist; winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature, 2021, 76; **Prof Geoffrey Grimmott**, Master of Downing College, Cambridge, 2003-18, 74; **Baroness Featherstone**, former Liberal Democrat MP, 73; **Sir Christopher Floyd**, a former Lord Justice of Appeal, 73; **Prof Sir Christopher Le Brun**, artist; President, Royal Academy, 2011-19, 73; **Miss Jenny Agutter**, actress, 72; **Mr David Fursdon**, Lord-Lieutenant of Devon, 72; **Ms Ros Hepplewhite**, Chief Executive and Registrar, General Dental Council, 1996-2000, 72; **Ald Sir Nicholas Lyons**, Lord Mayor of London, 2022-23, 66; **Mr James Wolfe**, KC, Lord Advocate in Scotland, 1996-21, 62; **Prof Kathy Sykes**, physicist, academic and broadcaster, 58; and **Mr Ashley Cole**, former England football international, 44.

Today is the anniversary of the birth of Sir Robert Menzies in 1894 and of Sir Geoffrey Howe in 1926.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.C. Walton and Miss E.A. Streatfield-James
The engagement is announced between Adam Christopher Walton, of St Oswald's, Northumberland, and Elizabeth Anne Streatfield-James, of Queen Charlton, Somerset.
Online ref: W0031712

Mr H.W.D. Whitrow and Miss H. Cameron Little
The engagement is announced between Hector, elder son of the late Mr Robert Whitrow and of Mrs Lucinda Whitrow, of Kilvert's Parsonage, Wiltshire, and Harriet, younger daughter of Mr Colin Little, of East Keswick, and Mrs Carole Cameron, of Whitley, North Yorkshire.
Online ref: W0031725

Senior legal news

Richard Harrison, KC, has been appointed a Judge of the High Court, assigned to the Family Division, with effect from December 2 2024. He will be known as The Honourable Mr Justice Harrison.

Bridge news

The Winter Midweek Congress has taken place at the London RealBridge, writes **Julian Potridge, Bridge Correspondent**. The winners are as follows:

Championship Pairs
1st Adrian La Chapelle and Bogdan Drobný 59.56%,
2nd Clive Owen and Nick Stevens 55.51%,
3rd Julian Gibson and Denis Murphy 54.78%.

Swiss Pairs
1st Andy Cope and Giles Ip 108 VPs,
2nd Diana Nettleton and Michael Hemming 103 VPs,
3rd Alan Wearmouth and Martyn Harris 100 VPs.

Swiss Teams
1st Andy Cope, Giles Ip, Steve Green and Roger Bryant 101 VPs,
2nd Tim Stanley-Clamp, John Wilmoth, Maryn Harris and Alan Wearmouth 93 VPs,
3rd- Harry Smith, Roy Bennett, Mike Asch and Miro Dragić 87 VPs,
3rd- Celia Oram, Derek Oram, Peter Lindon and Dee Lindon 87 VPs.

Bridge Hand
In Dickie's meadow

By Tom Townsend
Dealer West
Vulnerability North-South

♠ Q 7 6 5
♥ 4 3
♦ Q 8 6 4
♣ K 5 3

♠ K J 10 9 4
♥ 8 2
♦ J 10
♣ Q 10 6 4

♠ A 3 2
♥ A K Q J 10 6 5
♦ A 3
♣ A

West North East South
pass pass 4= (1)
pass 4= (2) pass 5= (1)
pass 5 (3) pass 6NT
pass pass pass

(1) Gerber convention
(2) No ace (3) One King

Contract 6NT
Declarer South
Opening Lead ♠ 5

IT MUST have been England Open Trials night at the Seaton and Axe Vale Bridge Club, where there were only three tables in play. The boards were hand dealt. East was Richard Fleet, the Sage of Sidmouth. Fleet notched up eight Camrose cards in his day, partnering John Pottage and Steve Lodge. A man of principle and stickler for detail, he was an invaluable member of the EBU Selection Committee for 23 years, and of the Laws and Ethics Committee for 14.

Richard excelled as non-playing captain. He negotiated the customary range of large player egos unfazed, and delighted in maximum scores at the Camrose.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO
The Daily Telegraph
LONDON, SATURDAY DECEMBER 20, 1924
DEATH SENTENCE ON GERMAN VAMPIRE.
24 MURDERS PROVED.
FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT. BERLIN, FRIDAY.

Sentence of death was passed twenty-four times this morning on the Hanover vampire, Fritz Haarmann. He was charged with twenty-seven murders, but the court decided that in three cases the evidence was not absolutely conclusive. Some alienists hold that even the larger number cannot possibly exhaust the full toll of his atrocious and loathsome crimes, and estimate the total as high as fifty. With the exception of a few counts, Haarmann made minutely detailed confessions, and for days the court listened to his grim narrative of how he cut up the bodies of his victims, and disposed of the fragments in various ways.

He consistently repudiated the imputation of insanity, but at the same time he maintained unhesitatingly that all the murders were committed when he was in a state of trance, and unaware of what he was doing. This trance, and was specifically brushed aside by the bench, which in its judgment pointed out that, according to his own account of what happened, it was necessary for him to hold down his victims by hand in a peculiar way before it was possible for him to inflict the fatal bite on their throats. Such action necessarily involved some degree of deliberation and conscious purpose.

Judgment was pronounced amid a scene such as is seldom witnessed in a court of law. The police had received news that a notorious fanatic had left another town with the avowed intention of shooting Haarmann after sentence had been pronounced, so rendering impossible a change of decision through an appeal or the prerogative of mercy. In consequence of this warning the members of the public who crowded into the court were searched for arms before being admitted. But not even this precaution was considered sufficient. When the judges returned to their places to pass sentence a dozen gendarmes entered the court and took up positions in a line separating the bench and dock from the public area,

and facing the latter, so that no threatening movement on the part of a spectator could pass unnoticed.

PRISONER'S STATEMENT.

Haarmann listened to the sentence without wincing. When asked if he had anything to say, he replied: "I accept the judgment fully and without reservation, though I, have been charged with several cases of which I am not guilty." The presiding judge advised him to consider carefully before he committed himself to such a declaration. To this Haarmann replied: "That has long ago been well considered." He had said very much the same in a lengthy speech which he made before the Court retired to consider its judgment. In this address he implored his judges not to send him to an asylum, of which he had had experience in his earlier days.

"Condemn me to death (he said). I only ask for justice. I am not mad. It is true that I often get into a state of which I know nothing, but that is not madness. Make it short, make it soon. Deliver me from this life which is a torment. I will not petition for mercy, nor will I appeal. I have made things easy for you, gentlemen; make them all, also, easy for me. I should only like to add that the police have done everything possible to clear up the affair.

"At first I denied, but they started rather roughly with me and that I cannot bear. Afterwards the situation became clear to me, and it is still absolutely clear. I thank you, gentlemen."

CONUNDRUM FOR CRIMINAL PSYCHOLOGISTS.

Haarmann will long present a problem for criminal psychologists. His case is not one which can be discussed in a daily paper, but it contains many very curious features. A good deal of the evidence indicated that in the ordinary affairs of life the murderer passed for a good-natured and obliging man. His relations with the Hanover police were quite intimate. Two or three members of the force had to admit that he had accepted his presents or hospitality. The greater part of his grisly narrative was delivered to the Court in a tone of cheerful complaisance. He spoke for hours of the foulest and most atrocious things without revealing the faintest trace of moral consciousness, but when he mentioned his mother his voice faltered.

Announcements

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

Births

JENKINSON.—On 4th November 2024, to Camilla Campion-Awwad and Oliver, a daughter, Calypso Skye Soleil, a sister for Phoenix and Jordi.
Online Ref: W0031788

WALTERS.—On 6th December, to Rebecca (née Kitchen) and Jamie, a son, Fitzwilliam Jack (known as Fitz).
Online Ref: W0031690

Deaths

CASELEY.—Geoffrey of Grange-over-Sands, formerly of Leeds, died on 10th December, aged 81 years. Dear husband of Margaret, he will be very sadly missed by all his family. Funeral Service to take place at St Paul's Church, Grange-over-Sands on Wednesday 8th January at 12 noon. Family flowers only please, but, donations if desired to Asthma • Lung UK, may be sent to Alan Postlethwaite Funeral Director, Windermere Road, Grange-over-Sands LA11 6EG. Tel: 015395 33040.
Online Ref: W0031748

ELVINS.—It is with great sadness we announce the death of Pamela Mary Leslie Elvins (née Mottram), who died on December 8th 2024, aged 95. Loving wife to George and devoted mother to Roger, now reunited with them both. Funeral to be held at the Worcester Crematorium on Friday January 24th at 1 p.m. Flowers only family, but charity donations in Pam's memory can be sent to the Worcestershire Animal Rescue Centre (WARS), either online to https://www.wars.org.uk or through F.W. Spilsbury, Funeral Directors, Malvern. Tel: 01684 892777.
Online Ref: W0031622

FORD.—Peter John. Passed away on 6th December 2024, aged 95. Beloved by his family. Formerly of NatWest Bank. Funeral to be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday 2nd January 2025 at St Laurence Church, Downton, Salisbury. Further enquiries c/o 1 N Newman Ltd. Tel: 01722 413136.
Online Ref: W0031791

Personal

Text for the day

BUT AFTER he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins".
Matthew 1:20-21 (NIV)

General personal

Data privacy

When you respond to Telegraph Media Group Holdings Limited's competitions, offers or promotions, we may use your information for marketing purposes.

* We will contact you by mail or telephone to let you know about any of our special offers, products and services which may be of interest to you unless you have asked us not to. We will only contact you by email, text message, or similar electronic means with your permission. We will only pass your name on to third parties if you have consented for us to do so.

* In some cases our special offers, products and services may be provided, on our behalf, by our partners. If you have agreed to be contacted by us, your personal information may be passed to our partners, however, in all such cases we remain a data controller of your personal information.

* When responding to competitions, offers or promotions by postcard, if you do not wish for your details to be used by us to send you special offers, please make this clear by stating "No Offers"

* We respect your data privacy. You may modify your preference or get further information by writing to us at Data Privacy, Telegraph Customer Service Victory House Meeting House Lane Chatham Kent ME4 4TT or by email to data.protection@telegraph.co.uk

The Daily Telegraph and The Sunday Telegraph

While we take reasonable steps to check our advertisers are bona fide, readers should carry out their own checks before entering into any contract or arrangement. Conditions for advertising: All advertisements are accepted subject to the publisher's standard conditions of insertion. All advertisements, promotions, announcements, references to insertion or to articles appearing in the respective magazines relate only to copies of the Telegraph distributed in the UK

The Daily Telegraph and Sunday Telegraph

Published by Telegraph Media Group Holdings Limited, 111 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0DT. Tel: 0207 931 2000. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. ♻️ Newspapers Support Recycling: The recycled paper content of UK newspapers in 2022 was 68%. Printed at **Newsprinters Ltd • Broxbourne**, Great Cambridge Road, Watton Cross, Hertfordshire EN8 5DQ. **Knowsley**, Killing Road, Prescot, Merseyside L34 9HN. **Eurocentral**, Byramsur Road, Holytown, Motherwell ML1 4WH. **Webring Cork**, Mahon Retail Park, Cork, Ireland T12 EK49. Printed by **Mediterranee Offset Press**, France. **Milko Digital Hellas** Ltd, Greece. **Milko Digital Cyprus** Ltd, Cyprus. **Miller Newsprint Ltd**, Malta. **International News**, Portugal. **Newsprint Italia** srl, Italy and **Eucles Daily**, France. To obtain permission to copy cuttings from this newspaper contact the NLA on 01892 525273 or email copy@nla.co.uk. For all other reproduction, copying and licensing inquiries email syndication@telegraph.co.uk.

General personal

Announcements Team

Christmas and New Year 2024/2025 Opening Hours and Deadline

Monday 23rd December - 9am - 5pm
Notices sent by email after 11.30 am or booked online after 2 p.m. will not be published in the paper until Thursday 26th December at the earliest (subject to space available)

Tuesday 24th December - 9am - 1pm
Notices sent by email after 11 am or booked online after 12pm will not be published in the paper until Saturday 28th December at the earliest (subject to space available)

Wednesday 25th December 2024 - CLOSED
Thursday 26th December 2024 - CLOSED

Friday 27th December 2024 - 9am - 5pm
Notices sent by email after 11.30 a.m. or booked online after 2 p.m. will not be published in the paper until Monday 30th December at the earliest (subject to space available)

Saturday 28th December 2024 - 9am - 1pm
Notices sent by email after 11 am or booked online after 12pm will not be published in the paper until Tuesday 31st December at the earliest (subject to space available)

Sunday 29th December 2024 - CLOSED

Monday 30th December - 9am - 5pm
Notices sent by email after 11.30 a.m. or booked online after 2pm will not be published in the paper until Wednesday 1st January 2025 at the earliest (subject to space available)

Tuesday 31st December - 9am - 5pm
Notices sent by email after 11.30 a.m. or booked online after 12pm will not be published in the paper until Thursday 2nd January 2025 at the earliest (subject to space available)

Wednesday 1st January - 9am - 2pm
Notices sent by email after 11 am or booked online after 12.30 p.m. will not be published in the paper until Friday 3rd January 2025 at the earliest (subject to space available)

Court and Social Notices Deadlines

The deadline for booked and paid for notices to be published in the paper on Monday 23rd December, will need to be finalised before 11 a.m. on Friday 20th December.

The deadline for booked and paid for notices to be published in the paper on Tuesday 24th December, will need to be finalised before 10 a.m. on Saturday 21st December.

The deadline for booked and paid for notices to be published in the paper on Thursday 26th December, will need to be finalised before 11 a.m. on Monday 23rd December.

The deadline for booked and paid for notices to be published in the paper on Friday 27th and Saturday 28th December, will need to be finalised before 11 a.m. on Tuesday 24th December.

The deadline for booked and paid for notices to be published in the paper on Monday 30th December, will need to be finalised before 11 a.m. on Friday 27th December.

The deadline for booked and paid for notices to be published in the paper on Tuesday 31st December, will need to be finalised before 10 a.m. on Saturday 28th December.

The deadline for booked and paid for notices to be published in the paper on Wednesday 1st January 2025, will need to be finalised before 11 a.m. on Monday 30th December.

The deadline for booked and paid for notices to be published in the paper on Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd January 2025, will need to be finalised before 11 a.m. on Monday 31st December.

To book your notice please email announcements.ads@telegraph.co.uk or go online to announcement.telegraph.co.uk

All notices sent are subject to space available

READER SOLUTIONS BY TELEGRAPH MEDIA GROUP

Garden offers provided by hayloft

Save £30

Cercis canadensis
Loved by pollinators

A prolific display of deep pink, nectar-filled flowers appears in spring on the bare branches of this small tree – and these are highly popular with bees and butterflies. The blooms are then followed by flat, woody seed pods that hang in clusters. Heart-shaped, blue-green foliage first emerges as bronze when young, before changing to yellow in the autumn. **Supplied as two-litre pots, with delivery in January. P&P £4.95 per order.**

K36407	Cercis canadensis x 1	£24
K36280	Cercis canadensis x 3	£42

0333 772 0325 quote RODU24
telegraph.co.uk/ls-cercis-can

Calls will cost a maximum of 5p per minute from a BT line. Mobile and other service providers' rates may vary. Lines open seven days a week, 8am-8pm. P&P £4.95 per order. Delivery in January, subject to availability. Please send cheques and postal orders, made payable to Hayloft Plants Limited. Send to: Hayloft Plants Limited, FREEPOST RUHB-AKRA-ZXBK, Pershore Road, Little Comberton, Pershore, WR10 3HF, and clearly state your name and address. All products are purchased from, and your resulting contract will be with, Hayloft Plants Limited (registered no. 15804285), a company independent of Telegraph Media Group Holdings Limited.

Chess

Spectacular draw

By Malcolm Pein

RUSSIAN GM Andrey Esipenko held off Indian world number four Arjun Erigaisi in the final round to triumph at the Qatar Masters, which was a very strong Open. That meant there was no double Indian success on the day that D Gukesh became World Champion, as Erigaisi tied for second alongside Nodirbek Abdusattorov.

A truly remarkable game from the last round:

S Ganguly - P Shuvalova
Ruy Lopez
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 b6 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.a4 Bb7 9.d3 d6 10.Nbd2 Re8 11.Nf1 h6 12.Ne3 Bf8 13.Bd2 Ne7 14.g4? Nf7 15.h4 Ng6 16.Nf5 c5 17.g5 e4! (A deep pawn sacrifice) 18.dxc4 bxc4 19.Bxc4 d5 20.exd5? (20.Bxd5 Bxd5 21.exd5 Qd7 22.Ng3 b5! maintains the rough balance, unless 23.Nxb5? e4) 20...Qc8 21.Ne3 e4 22.h5? exf3 23.hxg6

A crazy position, where 23...fxg6 24.Qxf3 Nxc5 was simple and strong, or even 23...Rxc3! 24.gxf7+ Kxf7 25.g6!? Kxg6 26.Rxc3 Qg4-27.Kf1 Qc4-28.Kel Bxd5 when Black is winning. 23...Nxc6? 24.gxf7 Kxf7 25.d6-! Kg6! 26.Ba5 Qh3 27.Bf1 Qh4 28.d7 Re4! 29.d8Q

Rxd8 30.Qxd8 Bc5 (White is a rook up. Black threatens to force mate with Rg4+) 31.Be7! (The best move, although, if 31...Bxc3 32.Qd6- Ne6 33.Rxc3 Rg4- 34.Qx3 Nxc7 on 31...Nh3- 32.Bxb3 Qxb3 33.Qc3 Bxc3 34.Qd6- Kf7 35.Qh2 Rg4+ 36.Kh1 Qxh2- 37.Bxb2 Bxf2 wins)

31...Rg4-?? 32.Nxg4 Qxg4+ 33.Kh1 Qh4- 34.Bh2! (White is even winning!) 34...Qx2 35.Qe8+ Kf6 36.Qe5- Kg6 37.Qe8- Kf6 38.Be5-! Kf5 39.Bd3- Kg4? 40.Rg1-?? (40.Qd7-! Kh4 41.Rg1! wins, and if 41...Qg2- 42.Rxg2 fxg2+ 43.Kh2 Nf3+ 44.Kxg2 Nd2+ 45.Qxb7) For today's puzzle, how did Black now force a spectacular draw?

Answer: 41.Rg1-?? 42.Qd7-! Kh4 41.Rg1! wins, and if 41...Qg2- 42.Rxg2 fxg2+ 43.Kh2 Nf3+ 44.Kxg2 Nd2+ 45.Qxb7) For today's puzzle, how did Black now force a spectacular draw?

READER SOLUTIONS BY TELEGRAPH MEDIA GROUP

A *bespoke* gift brought to you by The Telegraph

The Telegraph Custom Book

From £60

Green textured (£60) • Blue leatherette (£70) • Navy premium leather (£80)

Treat your family, friends and loved ones to our Custom Gift Book. Containing every front page of The Telegraph from a special date in the recipient's life and every year following until today.

- ◆ Your name embossed on the cover
- ◆ Coffee-table-sized format of 15in x 12in
- ◆ Available with gift box
- ◆ Made in the UK

telegraph.co.uk/ls-specialdate **Call 0330 029 4085**

Terms and conditions: If for any reason a newspaper does not exist for a particular date (it's a day on which newspapers weren't published or it occurred during a strike) the following day's front page will be used. We cannot guarantee the quality of every page of the book due to the nature of the product and its historic content. Supplied by Historic Newspapers. Because this is a personalised gift, all sales are final and this product cannot be returned, refunded or exchanged. This product is for personal use only. Publication, reproduction, use in advertising or for purposes of trade is strictly prohibited without written permission. Please allow up to 3 business days for production, plus shipping time.