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Williams, Oundle

Follow-up
I ALSO did my National Service on Salisbury Plain. I was a clerk in the RA attached to the Royal Signals at the School of Artillery at Larkhill in 1957. The RSM was of the type who believed in the Army tradition of 'Salute it if it moves, paint it if it doesn't'. We had a lecture room that was used only on a Monday. During the winter we used a stove to heat the otherwise freezing room. My job every Tuesday was to repaint the stove that had had all the paint burnt off the day before. Naturally the smell was so bad while the stove was alight that all the windows had to be opened!
Brian Booth, East Sussex

Babes
she said. 'You etc.'
'I said again, 'Other six inches. moment was: ng funny, but you ly see REALLY', dressed like that. n to earth with
Ibot, Darwen, Lancs

Nursery Rhyme Of Our Times
Incy wincy spider,
Hanging by a thread,
He looked in every corner
But couldn't find his web.
Incy wincy spider,
I see you every day.
Should I leave you resting
Or Hoover you away?
Incy wincy spider,
You've made a friend, I see.
Are you going to
hang around
Or invite her home
for tea?
Incy wincy spider,
How many more will come?
I can't leave you in
the church —
They'll say my work's
not done.
Incy wincy spider,
Go and hide, I pray.
If they see you
hanging around
They'll make me
brush you away.
Mrs M. Tovey, Swansea

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I READ in your article on Keely Hodgkinson (Mail) that she nearly became 'the first known athlete to miss their own [medal] ceremony'. In 1958 I was a member of the team representing Great Britain at the world shooting championships in Moscow. I won an individual gold medal but communication with the participants left something to be desired, and I was surprised to hear our National Anthem being played while I was cleaning my rifle.
Looking out across a muddy patch of grass to the podiums, I noticed the top place was empty. I thought it would be undignified to try to make it before the music stopped (not being able to run as fast as Keely), so I continued what I was doing.
I was embarrassed to hear that in some quarters, it was thought my absence was a political gesture.
NIGEL OAKLEY, London SW13

In the swing
FURTHER to Ian Duckworth's suggestions for new Olympic events (Letters), many years ago when I attended Leominster Grammar School, a list of sports day events pupils posted on the noticeboard and pupils would append their names to enter.
One year, a teacher added 'swinging the lead' to the list and there were several entrants. I wonder if they ended up in the Civil Service.
BRIAN LANGRIDGE, Stramshall, Staffs

Decline and fall
IT TOOK the Conservative Party 14 years to self-destruct. Judging by current events, I predict Labour should achieve this by Christmas.
DEREK INNES, Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex

Beauty parade
INTERESTING article (Mail) on computerised beauty scores for female writers — every one a peach.
TINA KANE, Weeting, Suffolk

Extraordinary!
MY BROTHER ALEX
by Juli Fejér
PEOPLE with learning disabilities are often seen as unfortunate to be pitied, but Alex — my younger brother by four years — was a remarkable, cheerful character who showed us how to live in the moment and find joy in even the worst situations.
His disability was complex. While he could tell you the capital of Japan and had an encyclopaedic knowledge of the cinema, there were big gaps in his understanding of the world. He also had compulsions which could cause him great anxiety, so he relied on

General Election, please?
F. MASON, Sutton Coldfield, W. Mids
■ **RATHER** than talk about the Army on the streets, how about the Navy in the Channel?
W. GOODY, Chelmsford, Essex
■ **JUST** rename it Allianz
G. ANDREWS, Bideford, Devon
■ **WHOSE** turn is it to be First Minister of Wales this week?
J. WHAPSHOTT, Westbury, Wilts
■ **I FIND** the Olympics a welcome distraction in this unpleasant world.
M. BUSBY, Birchington, Kent

War on retirees
SO ECONOMIST Andrew Dilnot thinks those who have paid National Insurance all their working lives, with few benefits, should pay it again in retirement. Rachel Reeves wants to kill off pensioners by taking away their winter fuel payment, and some bureaucratic nerd wants all drivers born before 1964 to take an older-driver test.
Are we seeing a theme here? If you're over 65, you are surplus to society's requirements.
RICHARD WILMOTT, Fareham, Hants

Birth pain myth
THE notion that the Christian Church opposed anaesthesia for childbirth on biblical grounds (Letters) is a piece of fake news that originated with the atheist Andrew Dickson White.
In his 1896 book *History of The Warfare of Science With Theology In Christendom*, he claimed that Scottish Calvinists denounced the use of chloroform to relieve childbirth pain as 'impious and contrary to Holy Writ'.
He invented the story. There was no significant opposition

Ogling ethics
SORRY, Sally Jones (Mail), it's hypocritical to say you think it's OK for women to oggle men, when women complain if men oggle them. Personally, I'll take any compliment going, even a wolf whistle. Although they're thin on the ground these days.
JOYCE CROSS, Isleworth, Middx

Testing time: Sir Keir Starmer
acknowledge the underlying reason why indigenous people are unhappy. There is no excuse for these riots, but for decades millions have been aware of a growing problem that those in power have consistently ignored.
PETER RICKABY, Selby, N. Yorks

Printer pix
THIS week's winner is Grace Humphries, of Brighton, who wrote about 'words of wisdom' in an old autograph book. She wins our Letter Of The Week Magic Mug, courtesy of Printer Pix. These reveal our Daily Mail Letter Of The Week design when hot. For personalised photo gifts (right), visit printerpix.co.uk. The Letter Of The Week is announced on Friday. Write to: Daily Mail, Letters, 9 Derry Street, London W8 5HY or email letters@daily@mail.co.uk, including your address and phone number.

LETTER OF THE WEEK
HAVE you lost a relative or friend in recent months whose life you'd like to celebrate? Our Friday column tells the stories of ordinary people who lived extraordinary lives. Email your 450-word tribute and a favourite photo to: lives@daily@mail.co.uk or write to: *Extraordinary Lives, Daily Mail, 9 Derry Street, London W8 5HY. Please include a contact phone number.*

so members present know the exact moment 'enough is enough' was born.
PHILIP BRADLEY, Manchester
WHETHER or not you agree with Elon Musk's opinion, Starmer will find 'Two-Tier Keir' even harder to shake off than 'Captain Snoozefest'.
B. MEECHAN, Bovey Tracey, Devon
IF THERE is no two-tier policing system, why are people involved in the riots being convicted swiftly and handed longer sentences, when it normally takes months to process criminals through the justice system?
ROBERT DEWAR, Beeford, E. Yorks
THE Government is letting hundreds of criminals out of prison due to overcrowding, yet can suddenly find hundreds of spaces for rioters who will 'face the full force of the law'.
TOM CORAM, Lyme Regis, Dorset

they are practically accused of being a pervert.
Women like to be admired but then kick up a faux fuss when they are. We can't have it both ways.
Personally, I'll take any compliment going, even a wolf whistle. Although they're thin on the ground these days.
JOYCE CROSS, Isleworth, Middx

joined charity or council-run clubs where he could do crafts, cooking or drama, and went to church. He was popular in the town and people often stopped to say hello when we went shopping together. All were charmed by his kindness, concern for others and lovely manners. Last October he began to have problems swallowing and the diagnosis was brutal: an advanced and inoperable oesophageal cancer. After our meeting with the doctors, Alex said simply, 'I know I'm

going to die. Let's get carrot cake.' He never complained or asked 'why me?', but endured the pain and fear with calm poise. He knew what was happening to him but chose not to dwell on his illness, instead facing each day with a positivity that inspired us all.
Alex didn't want to die in a hospice but to be at home with me and my partner, Geoff, so I became his carer, which was a challenge but also a privilege. For the last month of his life, he

survived on Lucozade and jelly, and we giggled our way through an entire collection of Dad's Army DVDs. He also walked me down the aisle to marry Geoff. Conducting the music with one finger and grinning, he gave a cheeky thumbs-up to the guests. Those of us left behind are heartbroken. But when we want to encourage each other, we say: 'Be more Alex.'
ALEXANDER GEORGE FEJÉR, born September 25, 1965; died February 29, 2024, aged 58.

IN SCRAPPING the Rwanda deal, Sir YET again, Keir Starmer fails to

THE U.S. General George Armstrong Custer didn't listen to concerns about the Native Americans. He had his own agenda. Sir Keir is not listening to ordinary people's concerns about unsustainable migration.
J. LONSDALE, Robin Hood's Bay, N. Yorks
THE PM is in denial that his lack of political leadership on illegal arrivals is the cause of the general unrest.
PAUL BRAZIER, Bristol
WHOEVER is orchestrating this recent spate of nationwide riots is running rings around Sir Keir Starmer and his COBRA committee.
NORRIE MCGEACHIE, Corby, Northants
FOUR weeks into the job and he wants a holiday. Must be stressful.
DIXON J. DAGG, Cowbridge, Vale of Glamorgan

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Public Notice to Creditors Notice is hereby given that the following persons are entitled to date the Scheme of members' defined. The following individuals are administrators. Bar months of the date: any employee (or a trustee) carried on by a member of the Scheme; any other person in respect of whom the Scheme is being carried on by a member of the Scheme; any person who is the widow, or and any other person who is the Scheme's insurance number. After 8th October Scheme among the distribution of the assets which it does not already in contact from them or are your interests has for and on beh

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