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# The Daily Telegraph

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## Security threat to millions on eBay

Account holders using online auction site told to change all their passwords as hackers gain access to their personal details

**By Matthew Sparkes, Gordon Rayner and Steven Swinford**

MORE THAN 15 million British users of eBay could be at risk of identity theft after their personal details were stolen in the world's biggest online security breach, the auction website warned last night.

The company told all of its customers urgently to change not only their eBay passwords but also those for any other accounts with the same password.

It admitted that the names, address, date of birth, telephone number, email address and password of every eBay account holder - 233 million people worldwide - were in the hands of the hackers.

After the announcement, MPs accused

the US-based firm of an "inexcusable" delay in admitting that its servers had been accessed by hackers up to three months ago. Security experts warned that the delay greatly increased the risk of criminals using the information to break into bank and other online accounts, particularly in cases where people use their eBay password for several websites.

The danger goes beyond the internet, because some telephone banking services accept a date of birth and address to verify the identity of a customer.

The auction site admitted that it discovered two weeks ago that the personal information had been stolen. Between late February and early March hackers gained access to eBay's servers through

an employee's login credentials and used his or her internal passwords to find and download the information.

The Commons home affairs select committee, which published a report on cyber crime last year, will write to eBay demanding an explanation.

Paul Martin, the chief executive at iBoss Network Security, described eBay as the "golden goose of hacking targets" because of the vast amount of information it holds. He said: "The damage could well have already been done, as the time lag between the cyber breach and the discovery of the breach is in the months. Cyber hackers may not hit the obvious target of siphoning money or goods out of eBay; they may take the personal information

gained from the database and target other popular sites."

Although all of the passwords were encrypted, computer expert said that in the three months since obtaining them the hackers could have deciphered them and used them to commit fraud. Other details, such as names, addresses and dates of birth, were not encrypted. Last night, eBay, which also owns the online payment service PayPal, insisted that no financial data were stolen and that PayPal's servers had not been compromised.

However, David Emu, a senior security researcher at Kaspersky Lab, said: "The worrying thing is that many people use a single password for more than one internet site and so if the passwords are

compromised, they could be at further risk from cybercriminal activity."

Alan Woodward, an independent security consultant, added: "The hackers have a nice neat pile of personal information which can be used to steal identities or even help them get around other systems through password reset scans."

Keith Vaz, the chairman of the Commons home affairs select committee, said: "I am very concerned. The issue of cybersecurity is now considered to be one of the main areas of fraud and crime. We have urged companies to take much more seriously the threat of hacking. It is inexcusable that a company as important as eBay has failed to inform its customers immediately that this has occurred. We

need a full explanation. We will be writing to them to ask how this happened and whether this problem has been resolved."

The company refused to say why it had waited two weeks to tell customers about the security breach. It said "extensive tests" on its networks had found "no evidence" of unauthorised accessing of eBay accounts. However, users who do not change their passwords in the coming days will be forced to do so when they next log on.

The theft of 223 million eBay users' details makes it the most widespread computer hack in history. The previous record was a long-term hack of 169 million credit card numbers through various US businesses from 2008 to 2013.

## £25 charge to see GP opposed by top doctors

**By Rebecca Smith, Medical Editor**

DOCTORS will today debate the introduction of a £25 charge for patients to see their GP.

A doctors' conference will be told that general practice is under such pressure that fees should be considered. However, a group of senior doctors has written to *The Daily Telegraph*, saying that the proposals would harm the nation's health.

Clara Gerada, the immediate previous chairman of the Royal College of General Practitioners, is lead signatory together with Dr Clive Pevelco, joint leader of the National Health Action Party.

The letter, signed by 459 other doctors and medical students, is in response to a motion at the British Medical Association conference calling for a fee in order to bolster critical shortages in GP funding.

The doctors' letter says: "We categorically oppose the introduction of user charges for NHS GP services.

"User fees are a disincentive to accessing health care, and target the poorest disproportionately. They lead to worsening care for chronic conditions and to more people seeking treatment at A&E."

The Royal College of GPs has warned of a crisis facing general practice, with increasing workload and a lack of funding leading to lengthening waiting times. Some GPs report that patients now have to wait more than two weeks for a routine appointment.

However, the College has stopped short of calling for charges on patients.

The letter says: "The poorest and sickest in society must not foot the bill for the lack of political commitment to sustainable funding for GP services. The BMA must side with patients, and oppose any charging people for using the NHS."

The aim of a charge would be to deter people from missing appointments, which costs the NHS £160 million a year, and pump money into general practice.

However, it is feared a charge would force people into already overstretched A&E departments and that any extra revenue would be swallowed up by increased paperwork and administration.

Nigel Watson, of Wessex Local Medical Committees, will propose the motion at the conference in York. It does not stipulate the level of charge, but previous suggestions have ranged from £10 to £25.

Dr Watson said: "This is about a broader debate on how we fund general practice. It is increasingly difficult to recruit new GPs and retain older ones, practices are close to collapse, workload increases and retain older ones."

*Continued on Page 2*

## Sixty years at Cannes: not bad for 'ugly' Sophia



SIXTY years after her first appearance at the Cannes Film Festival, right, Sophia Loren was still stealing the limelight yesterday as she promoted a film directed by her son, in which she stars.

Loren, 79, first appeared on the Croisette in 1955, before winning the best performance award for *Ten Women* in 1961.

always been greeted so warmly by the industry, nearly giving up acting when told she was not beautiful enough.

Loren claimed she had been accused of having a mouth too big, a nose too short and teeth too wacky, before a director took her under his wing.

"Beauty is not important," she said yesterday. "You have to

be interesting, someone who is different to other people. Otherwise you just turn up and look beautiful, and there's nothing more to you."

She argued that actresses who rely on their beauty will never make it in the industry, being "dolls" without any substance to back it up.

*Hannah Furness in Cannes*

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*Hannah Furness in Cannes*

## Cameron: Trust me, no need to vote UKIP

**By James Kirkup and Steven Swinford**

DAVID CAMERON has appealed to "trustees" voters not to back UKIP today, promising to salvage Britain's relationship with the European Union just as he has reorganised the UK economy.

As Britain votes in European elections, the Prime Minister made a last-ditch attempt to stop voters deserting his Conservatives for Nigel Farage and the United Kingdom Independence Party.

The Conservatives face finishing third in the European elections when results are declared late on Sunday. Mr Farage said yesterday that his party would win the vote to elect MEPs.

The Tories also face losing scores of councillors in elections to more than 160 councils across England, with results declared tonight and tomorrow.

In his last public remarks before the polls open, Mr Cameron conceded that voters, including some who previously supported the Tories, would back UKIP.

"I would accept that in an election like the European election, people use that as an opportunity to send a message and make a protest. I understand that," he told *Channel Four News* last night. "People have had a difficult economic time in our country. They are frustrated about some of the issues they want gripped and dealt with, like immigration, welfare and Europe."

However, he insisted that only he and the Conservatives could deliver real change in the European Union. "Just as we've turned the economy around, we can do this in Europe."

Mr Cameron has promised to renegotiate Britain's EU membership deal and - if he is re-elected as Prime Minister next year - put the new arrangements to the British people in a referendum.

Critics in other parties, and some Conservatives, have questioned whether Mr Cameron will be able to deliver substantial changes in the EU, but the Prime Minister insisted his reforms can be accomplished.

"These things are doable. It will be tough," he said. "Top of my reform agenda was ending 'Brexit' tourism" and tightening rules on EU migrants' access to British welfare payments.

● VAT could remain at 20 per cent beyond the next election, after Mr Cameron said he could not promise to cut it.

The Prime Minister was urged to reduce the tax by a market trader on a campaign visit to Newark, Nottingham.

VAT was cut from 17.5 per cent to 15 per cent as a stimulus measure by Labour after the financial crash, but raised to 20 per cent by the Coalition as an emergency measure in order to reduce the deficit.

Mr Cameron said: "We haven't dealt with the deficit yet."

Asked what tax would be cut if he was returned to Government, he said: "I can't make that promise. We'll set out all our promises in our manifesto."

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## Three lions? No, three layers for Cup warm-up

**By Matt Law**

ENGLAND football fans will be hoping the team comes through most of its World Cup fixtures without breaking sweat.

But manager Roy Hodgson is taking no chances. Yesterday he made the squad train wearing three layers of clothing to replicate the conditions they will face in Brazil. The team play their first match against Italy on June 14 in Manaus, where temperatures are likely to touch 90F.

"We did sweat testing today,"

said Hodgson. "We have a T-shirt, a lightweight training tracksuit and on top of that the wet top on. Three layers. The players went through today's session with sweat pads on and they are being analysed. Because there are going to be uncomfortable moments and you've got to learn to get comfortable with that."

"When the word came 'okay boys you can take your tops off' so they were quick to whip them off, so it is obviously working."

**SPORT 51-3**

## Extradition couple 'treated like Hamza'

**By Patrick Sawyer and David Barrett**

THE retired couple who tried to kill themselves to avoid being sent to the US on fraud and money-laundering charges have accused the Government of treating them like the Islamist terrorist leader Abu Hamza.

Paul and Sandra Dunham, both 58, said that while the fraud charges they face in the US are minor compared with those faced by Hamza, they are being treated in the same way. Earlier this

week Hamza was convicted of a series of terrorist charges by a New York court after being extradited from the UK. Last night the Dunhams' lawyer, Karen Fodner, accused David Cameron and Theresa May, the Home Secretary, of allowing the US to treat them in a similar manner.

"Mr and Mrs Dunham are a hard-working couple from Northamptonshire who strenuously deny the allegations against them," she said. "Nevertheless this country is forcibly sending them to a country where they will be treated in the same way. Earlier this

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# End of lecture as students study professors' notes online

By Graeme Paton, Education Editor

TRADITIONAL university lectures are being consigned to history because students are reading professors' notes online without turning up in person, research suggests.

Undergraduates are skipping almost 10 per cent of teaching time – more than an hour every week – despite a sharp rise in tuition fees.

The study by two leading higher education think tanks, found that large numbers of students who missed time-tabled lessons cited "availability of lecture notes online" as a reason.

David Willetts, the Universities Minister, said the findings undermined the need for academics to invest more time in giving students proper feedback.

He said the days of an "academic experience" that involved "simply sitting in rows with 500 other people taking notes from slides on a screen" were over.

The comments were made as the research found widespread concerns over poor value for money in the higher education system following the introduction of tuition fees of up to £9,000 a year in 2012.

Research by the Higher Education Policy Institute and the Higher Education Academy revealed that the average first and second year student gets just 14 hours and nine minutes of "contact time" – lectures, tutorials or seminars – each week.

It also emerged that:   
□ The amount of teaching time varies significantly between subjects, with fewer than 10 hours a week in history and phi-

losophy degrees, rising to more than 20 for medicine and dentistry;

□ When independent study is added, students work an average of 28 and a half hours each week, well below the recommended 40 hours set out by the university standards watchdog;

□ Seventy per cent of students in Scotland – who get free university education – believe the system provides good value for money, compared with 41 per cent of undergraduates in England who are charged the highest fees in the UK;

□ The overall proportion of English students claiming they get "good value for money" has dropped from 41 per cent before the tuition fee increase to just 28 per cent this year.

Mr Willetts said the findings posed a "real challenge for universities", adding: "They need to improve the quality of the student experience and they also need to provide more information about where the money goes."

The research, which was based on a survey of more than 15,000 undergraduates, found that all students missed 9 per cent of contact time – one hour 12 minutes – every week.

The most common reason given was that students "didn't find these lectures very useful", but 40 per cent of undergraduates cited the "availability of lecture notes online".

Mr Willetts said universities "do need to think that, increasingly, students will have got the raw material already from online study and the lecture, or the small seminar, is an opportunity to check they have understood it, to answer their questions and to engage with them."



### Caught behind Boycott and Perry backstage

Geoffrey Boycott, the former England batsman, meets his favourite singer Katy Perry two years after confessing his admiration.

The cricketer ruefully admitted in 2012: "I don't think I'll ever meet her." But he got his way

when the American star invited him and his wife Rachael into her dressing rooms.

Boycott, who disclosed on the BBC's Test Match Special that Perry was "tops for me", met the singer before she played the Phone-A-Rama

Manchester. "He just loves her," Rachael said. "We went in and she was ready, but obviously in her dressing gown."

He asked her where she got the inspiration for her songs and she asked him about cricket. She is just a super young lady."

# Mandrake Tim Walker



### Sir John takes an extended break at his country home

With Sir John Madejski reported to have lost more than £300million in the past six years, the 73-year-old businessman is adopting cost-cutting measures in an attempt to preserve his remaining £100million fortune.

I hear the Reading FC chairman is letting his Chelsea property out. The close friend of the Duchess of Cambridge's parents has indeed taken residence at his country pile Howe Grove Park. The three-storey Berkshire property is valued at more than £4million.

The move comes as Madejski continues to seek buyers for his businesses. "I am getting rid of my juggals," he tells.

Mandrake at the Bell Pottinger summer party at Spencer House. "I am trying to sell my hotel in

the Galapagos and I am trying to find an oligarch who will buy my football club. You don't know any, do you?"

The required "oligarch" must have several million pounds spare. "They need about 20 million, I don't

Zingarevich bought the club in 2012 and was meant to complete a full takeover from Madejski last year but the Russian businessman has failed to pay the further £25million required to do this.

He is now seeking a new owner for the club alongside Madejski. Last season the team missed out on promotion to the Premier League. Last week the club parted company with its commercial director in an attempt to cut costs.

Madejski, who made his fortune in printing, is thought to have lost more than £100million through his printing business. Goodhead, which collapsed in 2012.

Happy, he is throwing himself into his new passion for radio. "I have a show on local radio, I am a natural," he says modestly.

### Curtain call

Nancy Dell'Olio's hopes of bringing a show to the West End are coming closer to fruition. The former girlfriend of Sven-Olov Eriksson will debut her one woman show Rainbows From Diamonds at this year's Edinburgh Fringe.

The confectioner's hour-length piece, written by Diane Spencer, tells Nancy's life story. Last year reports that a show about her life would run at the Arts Theatre proved false. The play was never going to be shown here, "a spokesman said.

Prince sum With Philip Womack's wedding to Princess Tatiana von Preussen, granddaughter of the late Prince Friedrich Georg of Prussia, in June, the children's author has some royal business of his own to attend to ahead of their nuptials.

The second instalment of my The Broken King trilogy is due soon after

### Jo's boys stop her online dating

LONELY HEART Celeste reports that Jo Wood, left, is in a relationship with Ray Winsters, the former wife of Ronnie Wood says she is still single.

"He's just a friend of mine," she says at a charity lunch for African Solutions with La Paterson Des Hayes. "I would get married again but there aren't any men on the horizon."

Unfortunately it may stay this way after Jo's sons banned her from using dating sites. "Everyone says, 'Go on a dating app but my boys say I'm not allowed!'"

the wedding," he says at the first book's launch at Daunt Books Marylebone. "I have written 37,564 words and I have 13,000 left to write which I hope I won't be doing on my honeymoon in Greece."

Snap happy While Prince Charles, Ed

Milliband and Brad Pitt have all appeared in selfies, the latest photo means Jade Law refuses to jump on the bandwagon. "I'm sorry, I just don't do selfies," the actor was overheard talking a disappointed fan in Notting Hill.

Edited by Katy Balts

# 'One in five teenagers self-harms when distressed'

By Laura Donnelly, Health Editor

ONE in five English teenagers reports self-harming, a study has found, with numbers trebling in a decade amid rising concern about "toxic childhoods" exacerbated by increased internet use.

Experts said children – especially girls – are turning to self-destructive behaviours to cope with pressures from social media sites, cyberbullying and an increasingly sexualised teen culture. Young peo-

ple turned to self-harm as a "short-term coping mechanism" in an attempt to manage high levels of distress, they said.

The research by the World Health Organisation found that 20 per cent of 15-year-olds in England said they had self-harmed – compared with less than 7 per cent when the last major study was done in 2002.

The authors said the behaviour was far more common among teenage girls than boys. Levels of unhappiness among girls

in this country appear to be far higher than in many other countries, with research finding that, by the age of 15, 45 per cent reported feeling "low" once a week, compared with 23 per cent of boys.

Lucie Russell, the director of campaigns at the Young Minds charity, said many children felt under increasing pressure from a pernicious "online culture" from which they found hard to escape.

"Today's children and teenagers are living their whole lives online, in a 24/7 cul-

ture which is relentless, and creates an environment in which they are constantly insecure," she said. "Add to that bullying on and offline, the stresses of school and exams, uncertainty about their futures, and increasing sexual pressures, and it is a very bleak picture," she said.

The preliminary data comes from a study, due to appear in the autumn, that examines self-harming among 15-year olds and will also explore links between heavy computer use and mental distress.

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