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ON THEIR MARRIAGE
'We've been through difficult moments but we love each other'

ON THEIR SONS
'They're all characters – it can be mayhem'

ON THEIR LIFESTYLE
'We don't need luxuries – as long as we've got each other that's what matters'



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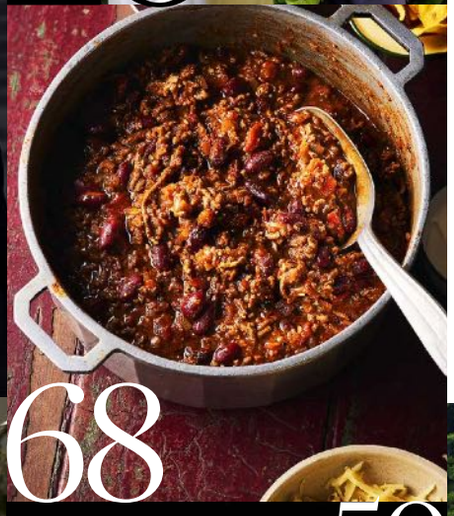
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THE ROONEYS: 'WE'VE WORKED THINGS OUT'

Ex-footballer *Wayne Rooney* and his TV star wife *Coleen* wanted their new docuseries to be as "raw as possible"

With sex scandals and booze binges dogging their 18-year marriage, Coleen Rooney might be the most forgiving wife on the planet.

However, a new 10-part Disney+ documentary proves that Coleen is no pushover, as the mum-of-four lays down the law when Wayne stays out late with his mates on a family holiday to Portugal, booked to celebrate their eldest son Kai's Manchester United scholarship.

"We wanted it to be as raw as possible," says Coleen. "There were mornings when we woke up and weren't actually speaking to each other. But the film crew was there. We could have easily said, 'We're not filming today,' but it was in my diary and I wasn't taking another day out to reschedule, so we went ahead. If we're not talking, it's a natural thing. Maybe it was a bit frosty but it's what life is. Couples go through that... We didn't want to create moments that were fake."

Coleen and Wayne married in 2008 in Portofino in Italy. They first met aged 12 and started dating at 16. Together they share sons Kai, 16, Klay, 13, Kit, 10, and eight-year-old Cass.

Not long after the incident in Portugal, which saw Coleen question whether things need to change, Wayne opened up to former teammate Rio Ferdinand on his *Presents* podcast to reveal just how Coleen has steered him through his battle with binge drinking, admitting, "I honestly believe if she weren't there I'd be dead."

Now Wayne wants people to see just how strong their marriage is. "That's a big part of doing the show," he says. "People have got their opinions of me, of Coleen, as individuals, but actually we hope this show gives people an opportunity to see *us*. You can see that we love each other. Even though we have tough moments you can see there's a love there, you can see we're a good family, a caring family and that ▸







CLOCKWISE, FROM LEFT: Coleen and Wayne's 18th wedding anniversary in June; at London's Royal Courts of Justice in May 2022 during the 'Wagatha Christie' trial; Kai Rooney signed a Manchester United scholarship in July; Coleen and Wayne married in 2008; *The Real Rooneys* is a new 10-part series









we have fun. I hope people will watch this and think, 'We're happy they've stayed together, we're happy they're still a couple and part of a good family.'"

Coleen is proud the couple has worked through their problems together and created an unbreakable family unit. "The main thing is love's always been there," she says. "People are too quick to give up on working at things, too vocal in the moment and saying, 'Right, that's enough.' What we've done is we've actually talked and tried to work things out."

The power couple's 24-year relationship was first rocked in 2004 when it emerged that Wayne had visited a brothel aged 16. Later, in 2010, there was another sex scandal, this time involving two prostitutes, and, in 2017, Wayne was arrested for drink-driving a car belonging to a woman called Laura Simpson, who he'd met in a bar earlier that evening. Just five years ago, in 2021, another scandal rocked the pair when photos of Wayne asleep in a hotel room with three women went viral.

For each transgression, Wayne has apologised and Coleen has forgiven him. "We still love each other, we've still got a connection, we've still got feelings," says Coleen. "We've done well, I think. And the biggest thing we've done well is actually dealing with our relationship with the world looking in on us. People have been so vocal about our marriage and we've dealt with it behind closed doors."

Despite the low points, Wayne insists they've shared incredible highs, too, and he looks forward to him and Coleen becoming grandparents. "We have known each other since we were kids, haven't we?" he says. "As a couple, we've been through difficult moments. We've had some amazing times together as well. We love each other and we care for each other. Are we going to have tough moments in the future? Of course, every married couple has that. But I think most importantly, when you sit down and you look back, we've had great moments and we've still got so much of our life to live together with our children, hopefully with their children, and us as grandparents as well. We want to look to the future. We want to look to the future and realise there's great moments for us to come."

During much of their marriage, Coleen and Wayne have been intensely private and protected their family. However, after the success of Wayne's Prime Video documentary *Rooney* then Disney+'s 2023 show *Coleen Rooney: The Real Wagatha Story* they have decided to open up once more. "Our wedding got shown in Wayne's documentary and people were saying, ▸



The family seen in a trailer for the new docuseries

'I HAVE CRINGED A FEW TIMES AT THINGS WAYNE HAS SAID'

'We could have just sat and watched the wedding all day... can we see a bit more of you as a family?'" says Coleen. "In general now, people see things firsthand through social media and there's so many more people opening up in documentaries we felt more comfortable doing it. Plus, we know we've got a fanbase that has supported us through the other projects we've done: they're the ones that have asked to see a little bit more of our life. Finally, we agreed to do it on the basis it would be a series of events in our life, so it's not just a camera set up in a home documenting everything 24/7. Yes, you see our general, everyday life but I think it's nice because there's a story that gets told throughout as well. We take the viewers on a journey with us."

Wayne, who is now a pundit on *Match Of The Day*, is hoping viewers find there is more to him than football and scandal. "That's a stigma that has probably stuck for a long time," he says. "People know me as a footballer or as a manager, but they don't get to see me as a person, as a human being. I actually do like to joke around and have fun. But then there's moments where Coleen's being mum, I'm being dad, we're talking to the kids about life and their futures."

"We have four boys with big personalities," says Coleen proudly. "They're all characters and I think that comes across: it can be mayhem. They love each other but they don't always get along."

Of course, Wayne had another reason to do the show; he was sacked from his job as Plymouth Argyle manager in December 2024 after a disastrous seven months, and decided to pursue a TV career instead. "When I got sacked I was at a crossroads," says Wayne. "As we started filming, I was looking for a new career."

Wayne has since signed a two-year £800,000 deal with the BBC, but some of his TV appearances have left Coleen red-faced. "I have cringed a few times at things he's said," she admits. "When he used to play and a pundit said something about him that he didn't agree with, he'd say 'Cheeky git, why are they saying that?' Whereas now, it's, 'What are they going to think about what *you* said about *them*?' And we know them."

Fans will be amazed by the Rooneys' extravagant lifestyle and the new series features seven holidays in just 10 episodes to destinations like Barbados and Poland. But Coleen insists the family doesn't obsess about luxury. "We like the simple things in life," she says. "It's nice to have luxuries, but we don't need them – as long as we've got each other and our family and friends that's what matters." OK!

***The Real Rooneys*, from Thursday 24 September on Disney+**

WORDS: JEN PHARO

PHOTOS: TONY WARD/ABY WYLES, GETTY IMAGES



KATE'S HEARTFELT THANK YOU

The Princess of Wales made an impromptu visit to the Chelsea hospital where she was treated for cancer

The Princess of Wales shone a light on a cause close to her heart as she paid a surprise visit to the Royal Marsden hospital, where she received treatment for cancer.

Along with her husband, Prince William, Kate is joint patron of the Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust, and in June this year she completed the famous National Three Peaks Challenge to raise funds for the specialist cancer charity.

During last Friday's visit, the princess met with patients currently undergoing treatment and heard first-hand how the money she raised will help transform holistic care for patients across the UK.

The royal looked elegant in an emerald green dress by Suzannah London teamed with black slingback heels as she toured the facility in Chelsea.

Speaking with Sir Douglas Flint, chair of The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust and The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity, she said, "This was my small way of being able to give back and say thank you to you."

She also praised the "incredible care" she received at the hospital following her own diagnosis in 2024 and spoke of the importance of "holistic care", which she ▸









CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP: Kate met with several patients being treated at the hospital; chatting to members of the Royal Marsden staff; discussing the importance of holistic care; looking chic in an emerald dress by Suzannah London





The Prince and Princess of Wales with Gabby Logan at Hill Dickinson Stadium in Liverpool

'THE ROYAL MARSDEN IS A PLACE THAT HOLDS GREAT MEANING FOR ME'

said had a hugely positive impact on her recovery.

"The treatments and therapeutic support on the outside is so important," she added. "It makes a big difference, the impact of nature, the impact of good nutrition, good ongoing support around you when it's really difficult to manage the trials and tribulations of medical treatments.

"It made a big difference to me and it made a huge difference to lots of patients who I've spoken to."

In June, Kate, 44, scaled the highest mountains in the UK - Mount Snowdon, Scafell Pike and Ben Nevis - in just 24 hours. She said at the time, "I have taken on the National Three Peaks Challenge, not simply as a physical endeavour, but as a chance to explore life beyond diagnosis and to give something back."

The mum-of-three added, "The Royal Marsden is a place that holds great meaning for me and whose care and expertise are life-changing for so many people."

To the relief of millions, in January 2025 Kate announced that she was in remission from the disease.

Her visit came at the end of a busy week, as the previous day she had supported her husband at Hill Dickinson Stadium in Liverpool - the new home of Everton FC - to mark World Suicide Prevention Day.

Kate, who attended the event alongside TV presenter Gabby Logan, Olympians Dame Kelly Holmes, Sir Jason and Dame Laura Kenny and Jill Scott, wore a teal trouser suit from Edeline Lee teamed with the same Laura Lombardi necklace she wore for Prince George's first day at Eton College on Tuesday.

She previously wore the suit during her solo trip to Italy in May - her first overseas engagement since being treated for cancer. OK!

WORDS: LEO ROBERTS

PHOTOS: IAN VOGLER, DAVID CLIFF/KENSINGTON PALACE, PA

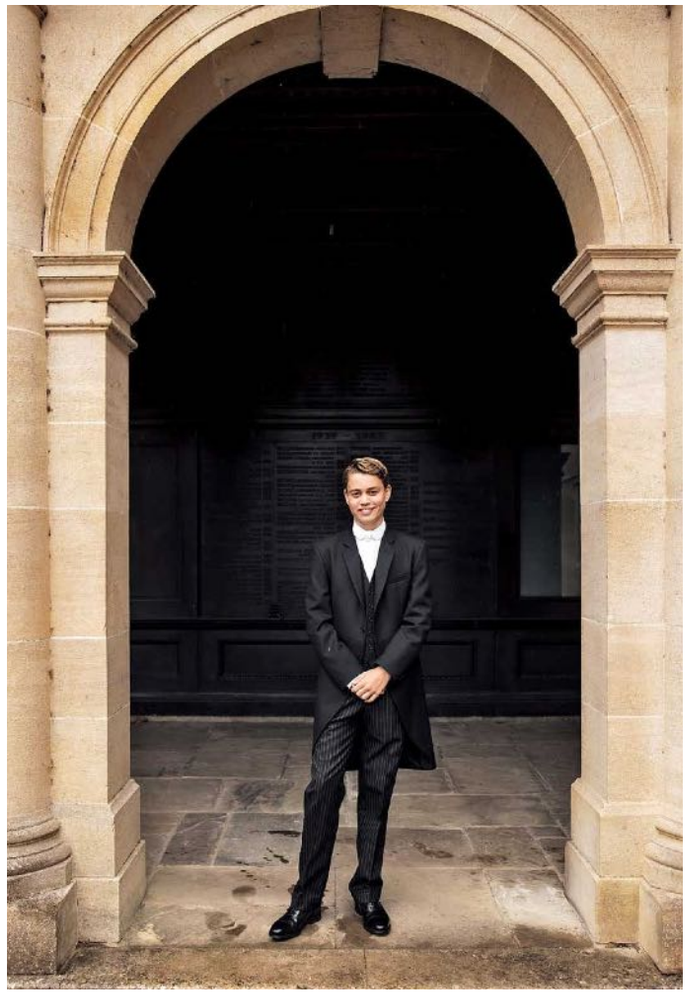


PRINCE GEORGE STARTS HIS FIRST YEAR AT ETON

The young royal's new school will deliver incredible opportunities, but it's a bittersweet time for the *Prince and Princess Of Wales*



CLOCKWISE, FROM LEFT: Kate and William said goodbye to George last week; the young prince started at Eton College on Tuesday 8 September



As devoted parents who never like to be far from their brood, William and Kate faced a mighty shake-up in family life last week when their eldest son George started boarding full-time at Eton.

Proudly accompanying their son for his first day last Tuesday morning, the royal trio battled the rainy conditions to be welcomed by head teacher, Simon Henderson, and provost Sir Nicholas Coleridge, in the school's courtyard.

The reality of the young prince taking his first major steps towards independence has no doubt led to a host of complex feelings.

"I'm sure Kate will have felt emotional to see her little boy go off to Eton," says Kate Mansey, host of *The Royals* podcast and Royal Editor of *The Times*. "He's 13 now and she can probably see the man he's going to become, but, as a mother, it will have been a real wrench for her - and William, too."

Although there was much speculation over whether George would be a day pupil or a boarder, the family decided to ▸





continue a long-held royal tradition. Both William and Prince Harry boarded at the elite boys' college in Windsor, as did Prince Michael of Kent, the Duke of Kent and the Duke of Gloucester before them.

Kensington Palace released official photos of George, taken by Matt Porteous, to mark the occasion. They are uncannily similar to those taken of William when he became an elected prefect at the school.

While at Eton, George is said to have his own room in one of 25 separate boarding houses, each with around 55 pupils who are supervised by a house master. To get ready for the change, he tried out weekly boarding at his former school, Lambrook, earlier this year. But the shift in his daily routine is still likely to be challenging.

"If George does get homesick, his mum and dad are just down the road, and I think that's a deliberate ploy," says royal author Duncan Larcombe. "King Charles had a terrible time at Gordonstoun school in Scotland and looks back on those days as some of the worst of his life. Kate and William would not have wanted that for George, so Eton was the obvious choice."

Founded in 1440, Eton has educated 20 former prime ministers, including David Cameron and Boris Johnson. Actors Hugh Laurie, Damian Lewis, Eddie Redmayne and Tom Hiddleston are also alumni.

According to sources, George will be able to leave school on weekends, returning home for Sunday lunch or Saturday evening suppers. "When William was at Eton he used to walk over to his grandmother the late Queen's for tea," says Kate Mansey. "He famously said she gave him a love of afternoon tea he didn't know he needed, and I think those are very fond memories. In the same way, he wants to make sure he and Kate will always be close by for George."

The young royal now has a wealth of subjects at his fingertips, including modern and classical languages - from French and German to Russian, Mandarin and Arabic. And as well as core subjects such as English, maths and sciences, George will be able to opt for extra-curricular courses in entrepreneurship, creative problem solving and critical thinking, while there is also a professional music recording studio.

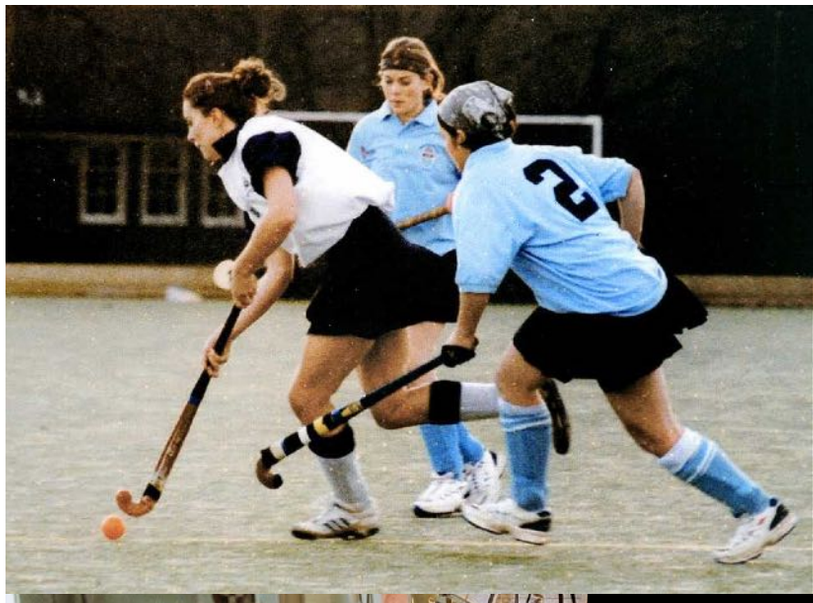
Sports facilities include an aquatic centre with a 25m indoor pool, a state-of-the-art martial arts studio, a 2km rowing lake, plus 50 tennis courts and 40 rugby and football pitches. In addition, there are some 80 clubs and societies, including debating, bell-ringing and even a model United Nations for discussing global issues such as climate change and economic policy.

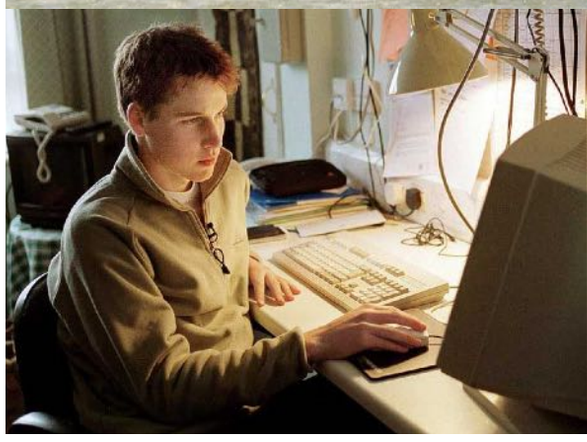
"It will also be interesting to see if George takes up any military opportunities at Eton like Prince Harry did with the cadets," says Duncan. "It's almost inevitable he will join the military once he finishes his education because it's one of the few jobs he can actually do as the heir to the throne." ▸



CLOCKWISE, FROM LEFT: The family meet headmaster Simon Henderson and provost Nicholas Coleridge; William at Eton in 2000; George adopts a similar pose to his father in the famous Eton uniform









CLOCKWISE, FROM ABOVE: Kate excelled at hockey when she was a boarder at Marlborough College; George on his first day at secondary school; William using a computer during his time at Eton College

The opportunities offered by Eton do not come cheap though, and fees are said to be over £63,000 annually, with the Prince and Princess picking up the eye-watering tab themselves. "That kind of money is really not an issue at all," says Duncan. "It wouldn't matter if it was five times that."

Kate and William are said to have had a tough time picking their son's new school, and it was claimed they held several places open for him while they made up their minds. Many believe Kate favoured the more informal Marlborough College in Wiltshire, where she and her siblings, James and Pippa, went. Former teachers have said she thrived at the co-educational school, also attended by Princess Eugenie.

"When she arrived she was very quiet," Kate's former house tutor, Joan Gall once recalled. "Coming to a big school like Marlborough was difficult, but she settled in quickly." Kate was an active member of the school's hockey team, and she was later dubbed 'Person most likely to be loved by everybody' in her graduation yearbook.

Despite her happy times at Marlborough, it seems Eton eventually won out - not least because the 400-acre campus has a 24-strong security team and CCTV monitoring, plus checkpoint kiosks for its 1,350 students. "It's so well set up for safety and privacy, and to allow George to grow up out of the public eye for as long as possible," says Kate Mansey.

A strict rule even forbids first-year pupils from having smartphones, with only old-style 'brick' phones permitted for emergency use. William has previously told how they do not allow their children to have smartphones, while last year Kate co-authored an essay arguing that phones and other tech played a "troubling role" in an "epidemic of disconnection."

While George is following his father by donning Eton's black morning coat and pinstripe trousers, his experience will be quite different. "It is draped in tradition and ceremony, but even Eton moves with the times," says Duncan. "The rules won't be as rigid as they were in William's day."

Another key difference is that, for William, Eton provided a refuge from home as his parents Charles and Diana's marriage imploded in the mid-1990s. "Eton was his happy place," says Duncan. "He made friends he's still very close to today. He and Kate will be hoping George makes friends for life, too, and that they will be loyal, trustworthy, and see their son simply for being George, rather than as a future king."

Still, the couple will no doubt find George's absence from Forest Lodge unnerving for these first few weeks of term. "There will definitely be quite a long period of adjustment," Duncan says. "It's obvious he's very close to his siblings, too, and I think they'll be missing him badly."

But will that make holidays even more precious for the famous five? "Absolutely. They'll all cherish the time they are together again." OK!

WORDS: ANNA POINTER

PHOTOS: MATT PORTEOUS/KENSINGTON PALACE, GETTY IMAGES, PA

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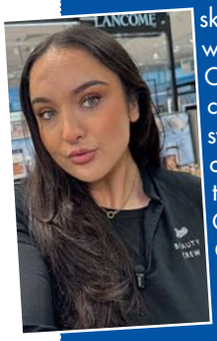
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Emily Davies from Boots Beauty Crew on shaking up your skincare routine for autumn



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THE ROYAL WEEK



Representing the family in Oslo, promoting sustainable farming and visiting a much-loved day centre were on the agenda













THE DUCHESS OF EDINBURGH

Sophie, the Duchess of Edinburgh, got her steps in during a tour of some of Cumbria's farms on Tuesday and Wednesday, where she helped to promote sustainable methods of agriculture.

Wearing a smart tweed jacket and brown flares, the duchess – who was sporting a new bob – also opened the first farm in the Addington Fund's New Entrant Scheme, of which she is Patron.

As well as greeting a horse during her visit to Seatoller Farm in Keswick, she showed off her impressive pizza-slicing skills.



KING HARALD V

Prince William and his aunt, Princess Anne, were in Oslo on Wednesday to attend the funeral of King Harald V of Norway, who died last month aged 89.

PRINCESS DIANA

The late Diana, Princess of Wales's famous 'revenge dress' is set to be auctioned off at Sotheby's later this year.

Designed by Christina Stambolian, the off-the-shoulder number earned its moniker in 1994 after Diana wore it to a *Vanity Fair* party in London – the same night her then-husband, Charles, admitted on TV to cheating on her.







THE PRINCESS ROYAL

On Tuesday, Princess Anne visited The Nicky day centre in Crumpsall, Manchester, as the charity Manchester Jewish Community Care (MJCC) marked its 75th anniversary. She was welcomed by the Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester and spoke to more than 50 members, volunteers and staff.



WORDS: LEO ROBERTS PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES, PA



‘You would be mad not to feel pressure taking over Strictly’

Hosts *Emma Willis*, *Johannes Radebe* and *Josh Widdicombe* on their three-mendous debut

Strictly Come Dancing is the nation’s favourite show – so it’s no wonder new hosts Emma Willis, Josh Widdicombe and Johannes Radebe are feeling the weight of expectation.

The trio are taking over from Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman, who stepped down last year, after impressing producers with their chemistry.

Emma has previously hosted live shows including *Big Brother*, *The Voice UK* and *The Brits*. However, she admits she was full of nerves during the *Strictly* auditions.

“It was terrifying,” confides Emma. “I had a script read-through the week before the chemistry test and I couldn’t read the script! I was so nervous. I’ve read hundreds of scripts but I could barely speak. I felt like a beginner again. It was weird. Then going into the chemistry test, it was really exciting, but really nerve-wracking.”

It was at the chemistry test that Emma discovered bosses wanted her to try out with two co-stars. “When we went in, they were like, ‘We’ve gone a bit rogue here because a three was not something we’d ever really thought of, but seeing what we’ve seen, we just wondered if you three might work quite well together,’” explains Emma. “And it turns out, we did.”

At the chemistry test the trio recreated the *Strictly* formula, aided by judges Motsi Mabuse and Anton Du Beke, with production staff standing in for Craig Revel Horwood and Shirley Ballas.

Josh explains, “It was a room with a table with a sparkly cloth, with Motsi and Anton sitting behind it playing themselves, and the producer doing an impeccable impression of Craig Revel Horwood next to them, and a great Shirley impression, and we did a fake show. They’d show the video of the dance, and then the floor manager from *Strictly* would pretend to be a contestant and we’d interview him ▸









CLOCKWISE, FROM LEFT: Judges Craig Revel Horwood, Shirley Ballas, Motsi Mabuse and Anton Du Beke; the new celebrity line-up; Emma Willis hosting *The Brits*



'I FEEL LIKE EVERY YEAR WE HAVE TWISTS AND TURNS AND SURPRISES'

as if he was Ed Balls. It was like *Strictly* made on a budget of six pounds."

Emma agrees laughing, "It was like a *Blue Peter* version of *Strictly*. We walked in really nervous but actually, the minute we got in there we just had loads of fun."

This year the celebrities taking part are Lacey Turner, Dame Sarah Storey, Jaime Winstone, Shaun Wright-Phillips, Melanie Walters, Chris Appleton, Graeme Hall, Will Best, Tabby Stoecker, Dani Dyer, Cach Mercer, John Nellis, Bethany Antonia, Lawrence Robb and Delta Goodrem.

Former professional dancer Johannes is delighted to be elevated to the role of host but admits he'll miss waltzing on the show. When he saw this year's stars arrive for their first day of rehearsals, he was stricken with jealousy, especially as he'd always wanted to dance with *EastEnders* star Lacey. "I would have loved to dance with Lacey but now I'll be able to rest my bunions and my back," grins Johannes. "I will definitely miss that part of the show. It keeps me fit... but I'm honestly excited."

Viewers are braced to see whether the show retains its magic without its two much-loved hosts, but Johannes is confident they'll pull it off. "*Strictly* is never the same, is it?" he reasons. "I feel like every year we have twists and turns and surprises. The cake is still the same, but the icing is different."

Comedian Josh doesn't have as much experience of hosting prime-time TV as Emma, but he's cut his teeth on live shows such as Channel 4's *The Last Leg* and Radio 5 Live's *Fighting Talk*.

"You'd be mad not to feel pressure taking over *Strictly* because it's a British ▸



Johannes Radebe, Emma Willis and Josh Widdicombe

'IT'S LIKE BECOMING THE ENGLAND MANAGER OR THE PRIME MINISTER'

institution," he says. "It's like becoming the England manager or the prime minister, isn't it? Only I'd say it's more important. Tess and Claudia were legends. You're following people that literally got MBEs for doing it. But *Strictly* is about the show, right? We're just holding it together."

Emma has previously considered being a contestant and even attended a dance trial for the show.

"Being a contestant has been on my mind for about seven years," she admits. "Every year I go, 'Oh, I really want to do it,' and it's never worked out. A few years ago, I actually went and had a dance day where you go and feel it and see if you want to kind of give it a go and Johannes was my partner. It just didn't work out, diary-wise. So I was absolutely gutted but now I get to dance with Jojo in a different way. So it was all meant to be, wasn't it?"

When Josh and Johannes told their families about their new roles, they were delighted. But mum-of-three Emma had a bit of a misunderstanding with her daughter Trixie, 10. "One of my kids cried, the other one told me how proud they were of me... my youngest was slightly gutted because she thought my news was going to be that I was pregnant!" laughs Emma. "So I had to let her down with the fact that I'm not but I am going to work on *Strictly*, and she was quite happy! OK!

***Strictly Come Dancing*, Saturday 19 September, 7.25pm, BBC One**

WORDS: JEN PHARO
PHOTOS: SHUTTERSTOCK



‘My character wants justice and she will go out of her way to get it’

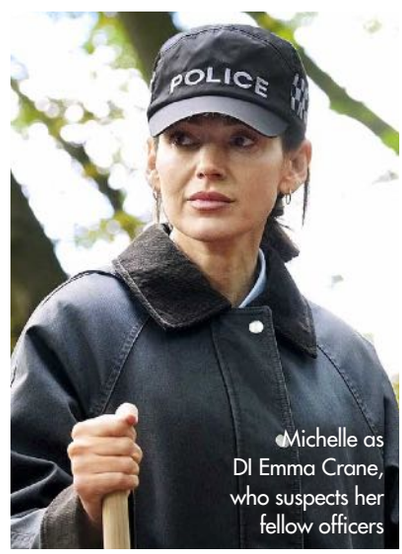
Actress *Michelle Keegan* talks about timely new ITV police thriller *The Blame*, reveals which family member she went to for advice about her role as a detective and how true to life the drama really is

When Michelle Keegan signed up to play DI Emma Crane in ITV’s new crime thriller *The Blame*, she knew just who to ask for advice – her dad.

Michelle’s father Mike was a police inspector just like her character Emma, so when she started filming scenes investigating the murder of a teenage girl, it was her dad who coached her performance.

“My dad was in the police force from when he was 17,” says Michelle. “He was an inspector so I used to go to him and ask, ‘Dad, what do you think about this?’ and when I was doing certain scenes I’d be like, ‘How would you talk to people in the police force and how was your body language?’ I used to go to him quite a lot actually. He was a good resource.”

The Blame is based on the novel of the same name by Charlotte Langley and follows Emma’s investigation into the death of a beautiful teenage figure skater. At the same time, she’s disgusted by the misogyny of her male police officers who constantly snigger at jokes on a secretive WhatsApp group.



Michelle as DI Emma Crane, who suspects her fellow officers

But when Emma sees the messages, they’re worse than she could have imagined – with degrading pictures of victims and cruel jokes that lead her to realise that her colleagues could be involved in the murder. Determined to speak up, Michelle asks partner DI Tom Radley (Douglas Booth) to help her expose her colleagues.

Now Michelle hopes her character’s bravery inspires men and women to speak up against the workplace sexism that’s too often dressed up as harmless banter.

“I feel a responsibility, definitely,” says Michelle, 39. “We want to start a conversation that people can relate to in their workplace, and speak up – and feel comfortable to speak up.”

The series boasts a stellar line-up alongside Michelle and Douglas, with Ian Hart, Nathan Mensah, Gavin Spokes and Josh Bolt all playing police officers.

The corrupt coppers’ WhatsApp group is central to the plot of the thriller and executive producer Nicola Shindler reveals that the scripts used real-life messages from recent cases where police officers have been found guilty of misconduct in a public office. ▸











CLOCKWISE, FROM LEFT: Michelle and Douglas; behind the pair are Gavin Spokes, Josh Bolt, Nathan Mensah, Ian Hart, Ceallach Spellman and Joe Armstrong; with dad Mike

'WE WATCHED A LOT OF 24 HOURS IN POLICE CUSTODY – IT'S QUITE ADDICTIVE'

Just this year, ex-police sergeant Paul Street, who enjoyed fame on shows including *Britain's Teenage Drug Runners*, asked a colleague to send him a sex video of a female suspect. He was later found guilty of two charges of misconduct in a public office, in a case that saw a total of 12 officers investigated.

"We did a lot of work on the cases that are out there," says Nicola. "We had access to the text messages that real police officers have sent to other officers. They become increasingly important in the story and we wanted to keep it as close to that as possible. If we'd made up those messages, you wouldn't believe it, so we chose not to make it up."

Michelle's dad confirmed that "banter" had always had a presence in the police force.

"He was a police officer in the 1970s and the 1980s," explains Michelle. "And he said there were hardly any women in the force, but they were treated equally. He said there might have been lad banter, that's never changed, that has been there always."

While Michelle's father was her first port of call, the team also had a police advisor on set and watched countless episodes of popular police documentaries. "We watched a lot of *24 Hours In Police Custody* - it's quite addictive - and we had a female officer called Lisa, who was fantastic, especially when advising on interview scenes. She was very black and white."

The Blame is packed with twists and turns as Emma tries to work out who she can and cannot trust. For Michelle, the opportunity to play such a strong female lead character was an instant draw.

"Emma is a very strong female in a male-dominated environment," says Michelle. "I feel like she holds her own. She's one of those girls who'll take no nonsense and I found that really exciting. We love to see it on screen and there's not enough of it, so I was excited."

Michelle became firm friends with co-star Douglas, which is lucky as their characters Emma and Tom share a sizzling sex scene in episode one. "We bonded quite quickly," says Michelle. "I like quizzes and we started playing quizzes early on in the make-up chair."

As episode one opens, it's clear that Emma and Tom are extremely close. "He's the yin to her yang, so anything she lacks, he's got," explains Michelle. "She can spiral a lot of the time and he pulls her back and puts her back on the straight and narrow and refocuses her. She needs that sometimes because she wants justice and she will go out of her way to get it." OK!

***The Blame*, Sunday 20 and Monday 21 September, 9pm, ITV1**

WORD: JEN PHARO

PHOTOS: GETTY, SHUTTERSTOCK



STARS OF THE SMALL SCREEN LIGHT UP THE O2

The celebs were out in force at the National Television Awards, where *Cat Deeley* and *Ben Shephard* won big





FROM FAR LEFT: Cat Deeley and Ben Shephard; Amanda Holden; Joe Swash and Stacey Solomon

It was gongs, glamour and gossip aplenty at the star-studded National Television Awards, at London's 02. And, despite horrendous downpours earlier in the day, the sun came out just in time to greet our favourite stars, as they walked the red carpet for the biggest TV bash of the year.

Hosted for the sixth year in a row by a dashing Joel Dommett, the ceremony saw *Emmerdale* win big for best Serial Drama, while *The Celebrity Traitors* champion Alan Carr choked back tears when he received a Special Recognition Award.

Alan's telly partner-in-crime Amanda Holden performed a surprise rendition of *I Know Him So Well* with Paloma Faith before her bestie took to the stage.

And mum-of-two Amanda also made sure she was one of the most talked-about ▸







CLOCKWISE, FROM LEFT: Paris Fury; Tana and Gordon Ramsay; Kéllé Bryan, Coleen Nolan, Kaye Adams, Christine Lampard, Katie Piper and Myleene Klass; Alan Carr





stars of the night, wearing a typically daring bubblegum-pink ballgown with risqué cut-outs.

However, she was upstaged in the shock factor stakes by Katie Price, who took to the red carpet in a crisp white shirt, tiny lacy shorts, black tights and heels. Her daughter, reality star Princess, 19, posed beside her, living up to her name in a tulle Cinderella-style powder blue gown.

Elsewhere, beaming after winning the Daytime category were *This Morning* co-hosts Ben Shephard and Cat Deeley. On stage, Ben admitted to feeling incredibly emotional, while Cat – who struck a chic note in a vintage red and purple Giambattista Valli maxi gown – described the *This Morning* team as "a family".

Fans were delighted when *Line Of Duty* trio Vicky McClure, Martin Compston and Adrian Dunbar enjoyed a surprise reunion on the red carpet – as series seven is confirmed – and, looking striking with her new red hair, actress Sheridan Smith couldn't have looked happier as she clung on to her NTA gong for best New Drama, which she won for the gripping true-crime drama *I Fought The Law*.

Loose Women may have lost out on the Daytime award, but its stars such as Coleen Nolan, Christine Lampard and Myleene Klass certainly won in the glamour stakes in their sparkly evening gowns, while loved-up new couple, red-carpet host Pete Wicks and Olivia Attwood – stunning in white satin – were the talk of the evening.

Together, the lovebirds presented the best Daytime award, with 35-year-old Olivia joking, "This is a good category for us to present. Everybody knows Pete Wicks loves a loose woman." ▸







CLOCKWISE, FROM LEFT: Pete Wicks and Olivia Attwood; Tina O'Brien; Adrian Dunbar, Vicky McClure and Martin Compston; Sheridan Smith; Jacqueline Jossa





'WE HAD AN AMAZING EVENING... CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL'

Pete, 37, quipped, "I love them so much that I got my very own."

Sort Your Life Out's Stacey Solomon, who recently revealed her family had moved out of Pickle Cottage, was nominated in three categories but went home without a gong. It didn't seem to dampen her or husband Joe Swash's spirits, though – and Stacey was sensational in a strapless black gown with a leather-look top and thigh-high split.

Another star who looked a knockout was Paris Fury, the wife of boxer Tyson, who rocked a red satin gown with a train. She missed out on the Reality Docuseries prize for *At Home With The Furys* – that went to Jeremy Clarkson for *Clarkson's Farm* – but she was gracious in defeat. Reflecting on Instagram, she wrote, "Well, we had an amazing evening... congratulations to all especially Jeremy Clarkson.

Corrie actress Tina O'Brien's soap didn't win big, but she made sure to dazzle in a nude-coloured gown featuring floral appliqué detailing. And *EastEnders* favourite Jacqueline Jossa, who split from husband Dan Osborne in March, also turned heads in a maroon strapless gown, custom made by designer Josh Birch Jones.

As ever, the biggest night in British TV did not disappoint. Let's do it all over again next year, please! OK!

WORDS: SHELLEY SPADONI

PHOTOS: GETTY, PA WIRE, SHUTTERSTOCK



The young Gallaghers Lennon, Donovan, Anais, Molly, Sonny and Gene at the UK film premiere

NOEL AND LIAM'S MOVIE NIGHT

Oasis legends *Noel and Liam Gallagher* and their children attend the star-studded London premiere of the rock band's new film documentary

After reigniting Oasis-mania at the Venice Film Festival, Manchester's finest Noel and Liam Gallagher were back on home soil for the British premiere of their new documentary.

The siblings' offspring also had their moment in the spotlight last Monday. Noel's children Anais, 26, Donovan, who turns 19 next week, and Sonny, 15, posed with Liam's brood Molly, 28, Lennon, 26, and Gene, 25, on the black carpet at Cineworld Leicester Square in London.

The other Oasis band members – Paul "Bonehead" Arthurs, Gem Archer, Andy Bell and Joey Waronker – joined them too.

Also in attendance to watch the hugely anticipated film were a host of celebrity fans including actress Sienna Miller, Radio 2 DJ Vernon Kay and new *Strictly Come Dancing* co-host Josh Widdicombe.

Oasis: Don't Look Back In Anger charts the ▸







Noel and Liam Gallagher on the red carpet at the Venice Film Festival

'I STILL CAN'T GET MY HEAD AROUND IT... IT'S QUITE EMOTIONAL'

band's historic 2025 global reunion tour – and features the first joint interview with the once-warring brothers in decades.

While fans flocked in their thousands for a glimpse of the Gallaghers, former Smiths guitarist Johnny Marr led the rock royalty on the red carpet, bringing a touch of Manchester swagger to the south.

Ex-Manchester City footballer Jack Grealish, who caught the band in their hometown last year, was also in attendance, making a red carpet appearance with his glamorous girlfriend, influencer Sasha Attwood.

In the documentary, Noel and Liam are at pains to stress the importance of their supporters who backed them even during the split when they went solo before reuniting again almost two decades later.

Noel says, "I still can't get my head around it if I'm being honest. The Oasis thing never really went away, but I didn't think it would be this enormous. I didn't think we would be looking at stadiums all over the world. It's quite emotional."

Liam adds, "For them to keep the faith that long. I would be like, 'F**k off... you are doing our heads in.' The love for it has been amazing."

Noel then concludes, "Most of the press has never really understood what Oasis stood for, I don't half the f**king time. All are welcome. It's about we, and us."

Hours before the latest screening, a mischievous Liam teased fans by calling for new tour dates to be announced, posting on X. "DO IT NOW DO IT NOW."

In recent days, the band have released cryptic videos – potentially about their heavily rumoured 2027 concerts – for their army of followers to decipher.

Eagle-eyed fans have guessed the band will play at Knebworth, the Etihad Stadium and Celtic Park, though it's expected that an official announcement will be confirmed imminently with, no doubt, another ticket frenzy looming. OK!

Oasis: Don't Look Back In Anger is in IMAX and UK cinemas now

WORDS: LUCY NEEDHAM
PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES



CLOCKWISE, FROM ABOVE: Liam and Noel Gallagher at the London premiere of *Oasis: Don't Look Back in Anger*; other celebrity fans at the event included Radio 2's Vernon Kay; comedians Rob Beckett and Josh Widdicombe; footballer Jack Grealish and his girlfriend Sasha Attwood; actress Sienna Miller









‘There’s so much ego that can exist in this industry’

Actress *Daisy Edgar-Jones* on her latest role in Jane Austen’s *Sense And Sensibility*, finding time for her boyfriend in her busy work schedule and being ready to take on a big “villainous” character

Six years on from being made a star at just 21 years old thanks to hit BBC show *Normal People*, Daisy Edgar-Jones is set to take on one of literature’s most beloved heroines in the latest adaptation of Jane Austen’s *Sense And Sensibility*.

The actress, 28, plays the level-headed and caring Elinor Dashwood and says she was thrilled to bag the role as the much-loved 1995 version, starring Kate Winslet and Emma Thompson, is one of her “favourite movies of all time”.

Daisy says the remake, directed by Georgia Oakley and due out on 25 September, is “modern and distinctive” - much like the BBC drama that originally made her name.

Normal People burst onto our television screens in 2020 and left some viewers clutching their pearls thanks to love-struck Marianne (Daisy) and Connell’s (Paul Mescal) passionate sex scenes. It was quickly dubbed the BBC’s raunchiest ever show, with no less than 41 minutes and 15 seconds of bedroom action over the course of its 12 half-hour episodes.

Daisy, who worked with an intimacy coordinator for the role, said of the racy scenes at the time, “They are integral to telling the story of a relationship between two people as they grow up. The physical side of things is an incredibly important part of that.”

And she said that rather than making it awkward, having the steamy moments between her and Irish heartthrob Paul choreographed made it surprisingly easy.

“Weirdly, we were kind of more free because of the structure that was put in place,” she said. “Strangely, those scenes were some of the least challenging once you got the first few under your belt.”

Normal People may have been the first time viewers became aware of Daisy’s acting prowess (she perfected her Irish accent in just two weeks), but she already had an impressive CV, having starred in TV hits *Cold Feet* and *Gentleman Jack* as well as indie movie *Pond Life* - the project where she first met her *Sense And Sensibility* co-star Esmé Creed-Miles. Not bad for an actress who says she faced “so much rejection” at the start of her career.



Daisy as Elinor in *Sense And Sensibility*

The only child of Sky TV executive Philip Edgar-Jones and TV editor Wendy, Daisy grew up in Muswell Hill in north London. She caught the acting bug after starring in a school play and won a place at the National Youth Theatre at 14.

For someone who described herself as a “quiet and polite” teenager, the sudden attention triggered by *Normal People* came as a huge shock.

“It was definitely a very strange experience,” she told *Vogue*. “I was only 21 when it came out. The public nature of it I found very scary.”

The role of bookish loner Marianne in the adaptation of Sally Rooney’s novel brought her a nomination for Best Actress in a Limited Series or TV Film at the Golden Globes - and unsurprisingly Hollywood soon came knocking.

In 2022, Daisy played the leads in the ▸





Reese Witherspoon-produced movie *Where The Crawdads Sing* and horror flick *Fresh*, while in 2024 she starred in Hollywood blockbuster *Twisters*, opposite *Top Gun: Maverick* hunk Glen Powell.

She then turned things on their head by taking on the role of an unconventional 50s housewife in historical drama *On Swift Horses*, alongside dashing *Euphoria* and *Wuthering Heights* star, Jacob Elordi.

Acknowledging her reputation for starring opposite some of film and TV's most handsome leading men, she joked last year that she has "worked with basically all of the internet's boyfriends", but added that male pride - perhaps surprisingly - has never interfered with on-set dynamics.

"I'm lucky that every actor has been incredibly supportive of me being the lead," she said. "I'm nervous for the point that it comes to working with someone who might not be so chill with it. There's so much ego that can exist in this industry."

Off-screen, the star leads a relatively low-key life in east London, where she lives with her fashion photographer boyfriend, Ben Seed. The pair have been together for four years after meeting on a blind date. Daisy, who was previously in a two-year relationship with *Ridley Road* actor Tom Varey, couldn't be more complimentary about Ben.

"He's so supportive and really champions me in a way that is so magic," she said recently. "I feel safe and happy."

With Daisy jetting around the globe on film shoots and Ben also away a lot with his work, finding time together is a challenge, but Daisy says they make it work by not going "longer than three weeks without seeing each other" where possible.

"We're intensely together and then intensely apart, but somehow it works," she said. "It can be hard when I'm so far away, it can be really tough, but thank goodness for FaceTime."

It's a miracle the pair manage to spend any time together at all, given Daisy's intense filming schedule. After *Sense And Sensibility* comes the legal thriller *A Place In Hell* - scheduled to hit screens this Christmas - in which a cut-throat young lawyer (Daisy) clashes with a senior colleague (Michelle Williams). Then there's the Disney+ comedy *Mosquito*, co-starring Nicholas Hoult, and heist movie *Here Comes The Flood*, in which she'll star opposite Hollywood heavyweights Denzel Washington and Robert Pattinson.

While both her personal and professional lives might seem enviably charmed, Daisy recently opened up about her private battle with endometriosis, a condition where cells similar to those in the lining of the womb grow in other parts of the body, causing severe pelvic pain and bleeding. It has affected her since her late teens and although she says it is "far less painful" now she's learned how to manage her symptoms, it clearly still worries her - not least because it can affect fertility.







CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP: Daisy with Will Poulter and Jacob Elordi in *On Swift Horses*; in *Normal People* with Paul Mescal; with her boyfriend Ben Seed

'I WOULD RATHER TAKE A BOLD SWING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION THAN PLAY IT SAFE'

"A big thing [with endometriosis] is struggling to have kids and I definitely don't want it to get in the way of that," she said. "There is always a worry."

For now though, there is no stopping her. *Sense And Sensibility* and *Normal People* might be set more than 200 years apart, but fans of the latter will likely find much to admire in Austen's tale of two wildly different sisters as they navigate romance, heartbreak and sibling dynamics.

Daisy even believes her character Elinor's relationship with Edward Ferrars, played by *1917* star George MacKay, has "a real Connell and Marianne feel to it".

But while she might claim to "relate" to rational, responsible Elinor, as far as her career is concerned, Daisy won't be taking the easy option any time soon.

"I'm very interested in playing someone big, arch and villainous," she said. "I would rather, as I'm getting older, take a really bold swing in the wrong direction than play it too safe." OK!

***Sense And Sensibility* is out on 25 September**

WORDS: LEO ROBERTS

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES, PA, SHUTTERSTOCK

HOW BRAD FOUND HAPPINESS AGAIN

His turbulent love life made headlines for years, but *Brad Pitt* has now settled down – and it's rumoured he's married

Brad Pitt has called his latest film character a "haunted soul", but off-screen the actor seems more at ease than he has in years. The 62-year-old, whose latest movie *Heart Of The Beast* hits cinemas this month, has been dating Ines de Ramon since 2022, and fans believe the pair may even have secretly tied the knot.

In a recent interview with *Esquire*, Brad appeared to drop a big clue when the journalist visiting his Los Angeles home commented on being given a very warm welcome. "Just another day at the Pitts,'" the actor said, suggesting that Ines may now share his surname.

The couple were first spotted backstage at a Bono concert in late 2022, with sources at the time saying Brad was "smitten" with jewellery exec Ines - who was previously married to *The Vampire Diaries* actor Paul Wesley. But she and Brad didn't make their public debut together until July 2024, when they were snapped holding hands at the British Grand Prix. Brad was later asked if it had been a publicity stunt to help promote his *F1* film, and he said, "No, dude, it's not that calculated. How exhausting would that be? If you're living with making those kinds of calculations? No, life just evolves. Relationships evolve."

Brad's romance with Ines, 33, has followed a tumultuous chapter in his personal life. In the early 2000s, he was one half of Hollywood's most celebrated golden couple, marrying *Friends* star Jennifer Aniston ▸



Brad posing with jewellery executive partner Ines de Ramon at the London premiere of *F1* in June 2025









CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT: In *Heart Of The Beast*; at the 2024 Venice Film Festival; with George Clooney in *Wolfs*

in 2000 before their shock split five years later. He then embarked on a relationship with his *Mr & Mrs Smith* co-star Angelina Jolie, who he married in 2014. But the couple separated in 2016, sparking a bitter divorce battle that dragged on for eight years.

Despite not speaking publicly about his relationship with Ines, Brad has given an indication about his newfound contentment. “My life is fairly contained. It feels pretty warm and secure with my friends, with my loves, with my fam, with my knowledge of who I am,” he said in 2025.

Though the couple have maintained a fairly low profile during their time together, they finally went Instagram official this July when Ines’s stylist Laurie Zanoletti shared a series of snaps of them getting ready for Taylor Swift’s New York wedding to Travis Kelce. “My favorite lovers @inesdrmn & Brad Pitt for an incredible moment in NYC,” Laurie captioned her photos.

However, Ines, who was previously vice president of jewellery brand Anita Ko, has reportedly not met Brad’s six children - Maddox, Pax, Zahara, Shiloh, Knox and Vivienne - who he shares with Angelina. It has been claimed that the youngsters are estranged from their father and have now dropped his last name. Meanwhile, Angelina previously stated that she was keeping her primary residence in California due to custody arrangements, but that she hoped to move away, possibly to Cambodia, once twins Knox and Vivienne turned 18. “I am here because I have to be here from a divorce, but as soon as they’re 18, I’ll be able to leave,” she said in 2024.

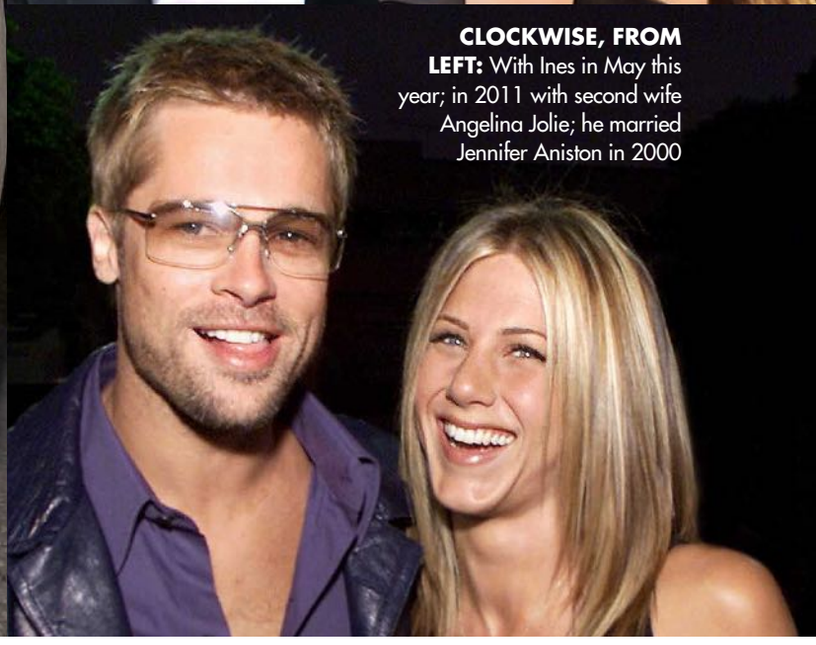
While the exes, formerly dubbed ‘Brangelina’, both appear to have moved on from their acrimonious spat, it has clearly taken a toll, and Brad recently admitted that “family stuff” once left him in a dark place where he “just didn’t see a way out”.

Now in a far happier stage of life, showbiz insiders believe Ines has contributed to a major overhaul in Brad’s image. Fashion experts have noted he has been dressing more youthfully, as seen at the World Cup this summer when he wore a back-to-front baseball cap while watching a match in LA. He has also been experimenting with oversized suits, tie-dye T-shirts and acid-wash jeans, as well as silk shirts and chunky footwear. “I just feel like, we’ve gotta have fun, let’s have fun,” Brad said of his style shake-up last year.

Born William Bradley Pitt in Oklahoma in December 1963, Brad grew up in Missouri, the eldest of three children. His father William ran a trucking company, while his mother Jane worked as a school counsellor.







CLOCKWISE, FROM LEFT: With Ines in May this year; in 2011 with second wife Angelina Jolie; he married Jennifer Aniston in 2000

Raised in a conservative and religious household, Brad later studied journalism at the University of Missouri before heading to LA to pursue acting.

His career first took off in 1991, when a small role as a handsome criminal in *Thelma & Louise* turned him into a movie heartthrob overnight. Since then, Brad has played everything from a serial-killer-hunting detective in *Se7en* to a Nazi-hunting commander in *Inglourious Basterds* and a rebellious soap salesman in *Fight Club*. But it was his role as a stuntman in *Once Upon A Time In Hollywood* that earned Brad long-overdue recognition in 2020, when he won the Best Supporting Actor Oscar.

In more recent times, Brad reunited with his long-time pal and *Ocean's Eleven* co-star George Clooney in 2024 action caper *Wolfs*, and then starred as a veteran racing driver in the hugely successful *F1*. In *Heart Of The Beast*, Brad plays former Special Forces officer James Belmont, who takes a camping trip in Alaska with his retired combat dog, Odin. However, their plane crashes into icy water, leaving the duo to fend for themselves in the wild. "I see James as a haunted soul," Brad has said. "Committed to quieting his mind and opening his heart. Nature is a salve for him, and Odin his greatest love and friend left on this earth."

For most of the film Brad only had his canine co-star to interact with, which he found "challenging". But as he says, spending so much time with the dog, whose real name is Uber, was also a delight. He said, "I really got to know our hero dog. I would have to have dog treats with me, and in the middle of the scene, say it's an emotional scene, then the dog would start wandering off. I'd have to break and go, 'Uber, here, buddy. Here you go,' then fall right back into the emotion of it all."

Having just completed the longest movie-making streak of his life so far, it seems Brad is in no mood to slow down. Later this year, he will appear in *Once Upon A Time In Hollywood* spin-off *The Further Mis-Adventures Of Cliff Booth*. Written by Quentin Tarantino, it is due to hit cinemas in November before landing on Netflix in December.

It appears that getting older has also made Brad determined to enjoy every single moment. "I don't know how to not sound cheesy about it," he has said. "But just the air is fresh and grass is green and I've just kind of become that guy." OK!

Heart Of The Beast is in cinemas from Friday 25 September

WORDS: ANNA POINTER
PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

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Life & Style

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COBALT BLUE

CATHY WEARS:
Coat £48
Tu Clothing
Jumper £35
Tu Clothing
Hat £34
River Island

OLIVIA WEARS:
Coat £109
John Lewis
Jumper £79
John Lewis

THE AUTUMN EDIT

From rich textures to pops of electric blue, strike the perfect balance between timeless and new with this season's key trends



MOODY BLOOMS

CATHY WEARS:
Coat £75 JD Williams
Dress £89 John Lewis

OLIVIA WEARS:
Dress £99 Monsoon
Scarf £65 Hobbs



NEW SUEDE

Jacket £55 M&S
Jumper £65 French Connection
Skirt £26 M&S
Earrings £3.50 Primark
Bag £149 Hobbs
Tights £29 Falke



THE SCARF KNIT

Jumper £38 Next
Trousers £38 Next
Shoes £65.99 Zara
Bag £159 Zara


MONOTONE
Jacket £48 M&S
Dress £50 M&S
Bag £12 Primark



THE POWER JACKET

Jacket £85 ASOS
Trousers £50 ASOS
Earrings £12 ASOS



TIMELESS CHECKS

CATHY WEARS:
Jumper £59 FatFace
Shirt £49.50 FatFace
Skirt £55 FatFace
Tights £6 (two pack)
Primark

OLIVIA WEARS:
Coat £88 Next
Shirt £14 Primark
Skirt £28 Tu Clothing



EDITED BY: MICHELLE D'ARLOW PHOTOGRAPHY: CATHERINE HACK STYLING: LAUREN GOODWIN-GRAFTON ASSISTED BY: GRACE BELLAMY MODELS: CATHY B AT NEVS, OLIVIA GARSON AT MODELS1 MAKE-UP: KATRIN REES USING DIOR FOREVER FOUNDATION AND DIOR CAPTURE LE SERUM HAIR: COLOR WOW



DEER PRINT

CATHY (ABOVE) WEARS:
Coat £89 River Island
Shirt £119 Karen Millen
Trousers £99 Karen Millen
Bag £66 River Island

OPULENT EVENINGWEAR

OLIVIA (LEFT) WEARS:
Coat £499 Boden
Top £14 Primark
Trousers £20 Primark
Necklace £30 M&S
Bangle £18 Next



Bi-Liner in Rain or Shine, £14, Morphe



Summer Fridays Lip Butter Balm in Poppy, £23, Cult Beauty



Navy Wool Polo, £16, Marks & Spencer



Zebra Print Scarf, £20, River Island

OK! LOVES

Here are the best buys topping our wish list this week



Just Perfect Marc Jacobs EDP 50ml, £91, Boots



Balloon Fit Cargo Trousers, £35.99, Pull & Bear

SHOPPING WRITER LOVES



Vega Furry Cow-Print Zip-Around Pouch, £39, Charles & Keith



Blue Gradient Rounded Cat Eye Sunglasses, £50, Glassworks

COMPILED BY: GRACE SAUMON



Check Top, £24.99, Lindex

Check Skirt, £39.99, Lindex





Cobalt High Vamp Ballerina Pumps, £18, Tu Clothing

iO6 Grey Opal Electric Toothbrush, £130, Oral-B at Boots





Cream Blush in Rust, £18, REFY



Chill Bill Spritzy Red, £10.50, Ocado



Hair On Leather Pouch Grab Bag, £32, ASOS



Pro-Collagen Future Restore Eye Serum, £95, Elemis

Handmade Crochet Phone Strap, from £20, HOLEGN



SHOPPING WRITER LOVES



Silver Knot Stud Earrings, £12.99, Linzi

Beauty buzz

Octavia Lillywhite shares this week's must-haves, trends & tips



Down to a fine art

L'Oréal Paris Revitalift Filler Hyaluronic PDRN Serum, £31.99, is already one of the bestselling anti-ageing serums in the world. This month, it gets even better, with a revamped version including PDRN+.

PDRN (without the +) is usually derived from salmon sperm, but this is the brand's own exclusive version, with smaller, easier to absorb molecules. In a six-week trial it reduced fine lines by 60%.



MON CHERRY

So much fruity cuteness has just landed from Aussie body care brand Ciroa. The new Pomegranate & Cherry range includes a lovely sugar body scrub, £9.95, smoothing body butter, £11.95, and delightfully large shower gel, £7.95, which lasts ages because you only need one pump (though I do wish they'd do refills). There's also a three-step lipcare ritual, £18.95 – lip scrub, mask and oil.

LESS IS MORE

Cassie Lomas is a make-up artist I've known for decades, since we were both industry babies. She's worked her magic on everyone from Lady Gaga to Coleen Rooney, and runs her own academy. In short, she knows everything about make-up and won't launch anything unless she thinks it's perfect. That's why her new range is so teeny tiny. It's all about less doing more and the We Are One Colour Wand, £25, is a compact hero you can use on lips, cheeks and eyes to create the easiest, modern polished look in just three swipes.



TAKE NOTE

You'd be forgiven for thinking a fancy new fragrance brand has landed in Boots, but the Last Note collection is actually a Boots own brand, which explains why the six scents are such a bargain at £12.99 for 50ml. Each is inspired by base notes - the last ones to linger on your skin. My favourites are the jasmine-rich Velvet Bouquet and the warm cedarwood of Into The Orchard.





ALL MANOR OF TREATS

This limited edition *OK!* Beauty Box is curated by Lady of the Manor Hayley Karseras, with 10 products that follow her beauty philosophy: Prep. Target. Boost. Nourish. Perfect. Discover hardworking skincare, collagen favourites, targeted eye care and effortless make-up from luxury brands like Nuxe, Rodial and Gatineau. Worth over £250, it's available for just £49.99 (normally £59.99) using code OKMAG10 at the checkout. Only while limited stocks last. See okbeautybox.co.uk.

OK! BEAUTY BOX IMAGE: DENNIS PEDERSEN

Local heroes

Pub classics done properly by cook and content creator George Darbyshire



Stout chilli con carne

SERVES 6

Ingredients

2 tbsp olive oil
900g beef mince
Salt and black pepper
2 onions, diced
4 garlic cloves, finely chopped
2 fresh red chillies, finely chopped
4 tbsp ground cumin
2 tbsp smoked paprika
2 tbsp ground coriander
1 tbsp chipotle paste
440ml can of stout
2 × 400g tins chopped tomatoes
2 × 400g tins kidney beans, drained
2 beef stock cubes, crumbled
1 tbsp dark soy sauce
Juice of ½ orange and 1 lime
60g fresh coriander, roughly chopped
Rice or nachos, pickled onions, grated Cheddar, fresh chillies, soured cream and more coriander, to serve

1. Heat the oil in a large pan over a medium heat. Add the beef mince, season with salt and pepper and cook until browned all over, breaking it up as it cooks. Once it's coloured, lift it out of the pan and set aside. Add the onions to the same pan and cook until soft, then stir in the garlic and fresh chillies. Once that's all softened, return the browned mince to the pan.
2. Stir in the cumin, smoked paprika, ground coriander and chipotle paste and cook for a couple of minutes.
3. Pour in the stout to deglaze the pan, scraping up any bits from the bottom. Let it bubble for a minute or two, then add the chopped tomatoes, drained kidney beans and crumbled beef stock cubes. Bring it all to a gentle simmer and leave it bubbling away for 1 hour 45 minutes - remove the lid halfway through cooking and make sure to give it a stir occasionally so it doesn't catch. Near the end, add the soy sauce, orange juice and lime juice and stir through the fresh coriander. Taste and adjust the seasoning with more salt and pepper if needed.
4. Serve with rice or nachos and top with pickled onions, grated Cheddar, fresh chillies, soured cream and more coriander.

Pork belly bites with apple cider chutney

SERVES 4

Ingredients
1kg pork belly, skin removed, cut into bite-sized chunks
2 tbsp English mustard
1 tbsp Worcestershire sauce
1 tbsp olive oil
Salt and black pepper
For the apple cider chutney:
350g apples, peeled, cored and diced
½ onion, peeled and chopped
125g soft brown sugar
75g raisins
½ tsp mustard seeds
½ tsp ground ginger
¼ tsp chilli flakes
⅛ tsp salt
150ml cider vinegar

1. Rub the pork with the mustard, Worcestershire sauce, olive oil, a pinch of salt and a good grind of pepper. Leave it to marinate in the fridge for at least an hour.
2. When you are ready to cook, preheat the oven to 200°C/180°C fan/gas mark 6.
3. Spread the pork out on a wire rack set over a tray and roast for 50-55 minutes, flipping halfway, until golden and crisp all over.
4. Meanwhile, make the chutney. Combine the apples with the other chutney ingredients in a large saucepan. Set over a medium heat and bring to the boil, stirring occasionally to dissolve the sugar.
5. Once bubbling, reduce to low, cover and simmer for 10-15 minutes until the apples have softened. Remove the lid and continue cooking for another 15-20 minutes, stirring often, until the liquid has mostly evaporated and the chutney is thick and glossy. If you like it smoother, pulse it briefly in a blender until it reaches the desired texture.
6. Serve the hot pork belly bites with a big dollop of the apple chutney on the side.





Shepherd's pie with rosemary mash

SERVES 6-8

Ingredients
2 tbsp olive oil
1kg lamb mince
1 onion, carrot and celery, all diced
2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
2 tbsp Worcestershire sauce
1½ tbsp tomato purée
2 sprigs of fresh thyme, leaves finely chopped
1 sprig of fresh rosemary, leaves finely chopped
250ml red wine
250ml chicken stock
Salt and black pepper
For the rosemary mash:
2kg Maris Piper potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks
4 tbsp butter
100g Cheddar, grated
60ml double cream
2 egg yolks
2 sprigs of fresh rosemary, leaves finely chopped
7 tbsp grated Parmesan

1. Preheat the oven to 200°C/180°C fan/gas mark 6. Heat the oil in a large pan, season the lamb, and cook over a medium-high heat for 2-3 minutes until browned. Stir in the onion, carrot, celery and garlic, then mix in the Worcestershire sauce, tomato purée, thyme and rosemary and cook for another couple of minutes.
2. Pour in the red wine, let it reduce until almost gone, then add the stock. Simmer until thickened, then season.
3. Boil potatoes in salted water until tender, drain and return to the pan briefly to dry out. Mash with butter, Cheddar, cream, egg yolks and rosemary. Season to taste.
4. Spread the lamb mixture in an ovenproof dish. Top with the mash, fluffing with a fork. Top with Parmesan, season, bake for 20 minutes until golden.



Pub Grub by George Darbyshire (Ebury Press, £22) Photography by Hannah Rose Hughes

COMPILED BY: OCTAVIA LILLYWHITE

TURKISH DELIGHT

OK!'s Rebecca Parkin discovered a luxurious break on Turkey's Turquoise Coast, where wellness and indulgence co-exist



This year, I set myself a new challenge: stop treating travel and wellness as competing things. I wanted the kind of holiday where I could keep some healthy habits without feeling as though I'd accidentally booked myself into a boot camp.

Turkey's Turquoise Coast seemed a good place to test the theory. There would be hiking, e-biking, boats, morning gym sessions and plenty of swimming, plus as much good Turkish food as I could responsibly fit in. Wellness with room for wine, pide and sun loungers. ▸











CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT: D-Resort Göcek has its own private beach; the resort sits next to the marina; e-bikes; a yoga session

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES, SHUTTERSTOCK

A QUIETER CORNER OF TURKEY

If you haven't heard of Göcek, you're not alone, and that's rather the point. Tucked into a pine-covered bay in Turkey's Mugla province, it has long been a favourite of the yachting crowd, with a marina filled with traditional wooden boats and superyachts set against a backdrop of islands and mountains.

It's polished without being flashy and, compared with busier resort towns such as Bodrum, has a much more low-key marina charm. Better still, it's 20 minutes from Dalaman Airport, with regular direct flights. The turquoise water and dramatic coves have even made it on to the big screen: yacht scenes from *Skyfall* were filmed here.

D-Resort Göcek sits between the mountains and the Aegean, with the harbour in one direction and its private beach in the other. It's a place where it's very easy to fill days doing not much at all – slightly inconvenient when you've arrived determined to be active – but luckily, there's plenty to coax you from your sunlounger. With cycling routes, guided hikes, spa treatments and seasonal experiences such as fruit picking, I was ready for adventures.

The hotel is modern and elegant. The pool sits just behind reception, setting an easy, unhurried tone with its yellow loungers and dappled light. Rooms and apartments are spread across multiple buildings, all sharing the same bright, spacious aesthetic: white interiors, large beds, sleek bathrooms stocked with Dyson hairdryers (yes, really). From the balcony I could look out over the water gardens and decompress after a day in the sun before the evening got going.

MOVE A LITTLE

My first ever electric bike ride took me through Göcek early in the morning, along the marina past still-shuttered boutiques and locals having coffee, then wound back towards the resort in the shade of a pine forest.

I'd been nervous about wobbling my way around town but, by 8am, I was happily pedalling, and I didn't need to test third power until the final hill. Forty minutes, mild leg-burn and a big appetite: exactly what I was after.

Another morning began with a 7.30am hike before the heat kicked in. It's a really nice time to be active, when the area is quiet and you can really get to know it. Our walk took us through town, then through the fishermen's quarter – a charming, less-polished glimpse of everyday Göcek – before climbing towards views across the islands.

This is the Turquoise Coast, so inevitably some exercise involved the sea. A three-hour trip on the resort's speedboat took us to Aquarium Bay and the surrounding islands, where we swam and snorkelled in crystal-clear water and stopped for fruit salad and wine between dips. No turtles appeared, though they can be found nearby, and dolphin sightings are also possible. Despite the boats dotted around the bay, we found parts that felt wonderfully secluded.

EXPLORE A LITTLE

The resort is a short walk from Göcek village, a compact harbour of palm trees and tumbling bougainvillea, with boutiques filled with clothes, gifts and local produce. The region is known for its olive oil, so naturally a bottle of that found its way into my suitcase.

Along the waterfront, traditional wooden gulets offer day trips and sunset cruises around



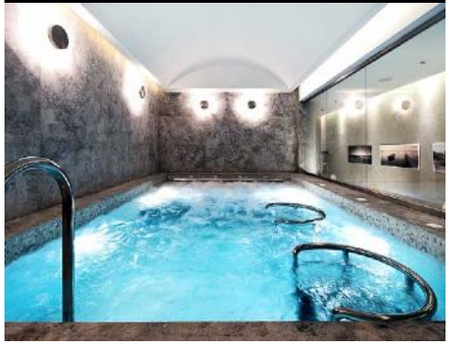


FROM TOP: The main street of Göcek Town; the meals at the hotel were delicious and memorable





FROM TOP: The hotel has comfortable rooms; the spa has a hydrotherapy pool



the bays, and bars, restaurants and ice cream parlours look out over the water. It's just perfect for a dinner by the harbour followed by a slow wander back along the water.

INDULGE A LOT

With exercise ticked off my list, it was time to do a little of the opposite. And this is where D-Resort's version of wellness suited me: there was always something good waiting at the end of an activity.

After all that cycling, the spa was my first stop. A full-body massage, followed by Turkish tea and an afternoon on the private beach felt like embracing the wellness plan in every sense.

Oh, and the food. The three restaurants each have a different vibe.

Breakfast at Olives – on the main hotel site – meant eating outside in the sun, in front of a buffet generous enough that indecision became part of the fun. I chose sweet mountain honey on clouds of white yoghurt, and fluffy pancakes with freshly squeezed fruit juices.

D'Breeze, reached by a 15-minute stroll along the coast past the harbour and shops – or by golf buggy if your commitment to movement has temporarily deserted you – is right on the water. Lunch was a shared spread of meze, dumplings, pide, lahmacun, strawberry salad and fried feta, accompanied by a basil cocktail made with herbs grown on site.

Dinner there was even more memorable. The restaurant stretches out over wooden decking and our table was at the end of the pier. We ate octopus, calamari and fresh fish while the sunset colours shifted, yacht lights appeared in the distance and waves lapped underneath.

My standout meal, though, was at Q Lounge, the resort's Japanese-Peruvian restaurant tucked into the pine forest above. There we had melt-in-the-mouth sushi and bright, fruity cocktails as the sun set. Later, the resident DJ nudged the restaurant into relaxed beach-club territory, with guests dancing as the yachts sparkled below.

HOW TO BOOK

Rooms at D-Resort Göcek start at 150€ (approx £135) on a bed and breakfast basis, see dresortgocek.com. Flights from across the UK fly direct to Dalaman daily.

HOROSCOPES *All you need to know about your week ahead*

ARIES
MARCH 21 – APRIL 20

Partnerships and shared matters are shifting and you'll need to be nimble. Roles may reverse in love, friendship or teamwork, bringing surprises you didn't quite see coming.

STARLINE: 0905 789 4001**

TAURUS
APRIL 21 – MAY 21

Someone seems set on ruffling your feathers, but there's value in asking whether this push is useful or simply unfair. Reflection will help you regain your calm and choose wisely.

STARLINE: 0905 789 4002**



GEMINI
MAY 22 – JUNE 21

Younger relatives take centre stage. It's a fine time to welcome others in. Routine health check-ups are worthwhile, and work linked to renovation looks promising.

STARLINE: 0905 789 4003**

CANCER
JUNE 22 – JULY 23

A reminder of past mistakes may sting, but it also invites some honest self-reflection. There is no point dodging the truth because facing things directly will clear the air.

STARLINE: 0905 789 4004**

LEO
JULY 24 – AUGUST 23

The effort you've poured into relationships is showing. Loved ones seem more settled and a kind act could leave you glowing. A message sparks thoughts of travel.

STARLINE: 0905 789 4005**

VIRGO
AUGUST 24 – SEPTEMBER 23

You yearn for something different, whether it's a break from routine or a full change of scene. But your heart wants meaning, not just movement. Follow what truly resonates.

STARLINE: 0905 789 4006**

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 24 – OCTOBER 23

It's time to refresh your approach to life and perhaps your image too. A new hairstyle or wardrobe update could boost confidence. Self-development ideas may be just as rewarding.

STARLINE: 0905 789 4007**

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 24 – NOVEMBER 22

Mid-September favours gentle self-reflection, not harsh self-judgement. Wise advice from a professional could be helpful too. Reviving underused skills may reap benefits.

STARLINE: 0905 789 4008**

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 23 – DECEMBER 21

Tension in friendships, groups or partnerships could make patience wear thin. If a child is acting up, remember this spiky mood won't last forever. Focus on holiday plans.

STARLINE: 0905 789 4009**

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22 – JANUARY 20

You may find it hard to ignore unfairness and feel compelled to act. Anger solves little, however justified it feels. Keep your eye on the prize and take the calmer road to success.

STARLINE: 0905 789 4010**

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21 – FEBRUARY 19

Getting ahead will help when your routine falters. A surprise expense may jolt your budget, while shared responsibilities could lead to rows. Speak clearly, because the right folk are listening.

STARLINE: 0905 789 4011**

PISCES
FEBRUARY 20 – MARCH 20

Your sights are set high and you long for more adventure and meaning. Whether your dreams involve travel, learning or spiritual growth, the urge to stretch beyond the familiar is strong.

STARLINE: 0905 789 4012**

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abc JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2024 37,615

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