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THE SUNDAY TIMES

Holocaust denial books sold on Amazon

**Justin Stoneman
and Robin Henry**

AMAZON has been criticised for selling books promoting Holocaust denial and fascist propaganda.

The Sunday Times has found dozens of books on the online retailer's UK site promoting the false assertions that the Holocaust was exaggerated or completely fabricated.

They include such titles as *The Myth of Extremism of the Jews: Holocaust: The Greatest Lie Ever Told* and *The Hoax of the 20th Century: The Case Against the Presumed Extremism of European Jewry*, which "are notable, despite Amazon's terms of service, for their deal and had been given an average four stars by readers.

One Amazon seller is advertising the notorious Holocaust denial pamphlet *Did Six Million Really Die?*, which was written in 1974 by a member of the British National Front.

Until this weekend some of the titles were still available to buy via Amazon in countries where Holocaust denial is illegal.

In the book *The Six Million: Fact or Fiction*, author Peter Winter disputes the existence of the Auschwitz gas chambers and accuses Jews who survived the atrocity of "outright lies and forgery". The book was on sale via Amazon in Germany, where Holocaust denial can carry a prison sentence.

Further examples were found for sale in Italy and France, where there are similar restrictions. Amazon removed the titles listed in these countries after being informed on Friday about the Sunday Times's findings.

In the UK, however, where the Continued on page 2 ▶▶



ENGLAND STEAL IT AGAIN

Elliot Daly, right, and teammates celebrate after he scored England's winning try in their 23-16 victory over Wales in Cardiff, stretching the side's winning streak to 16 matches. Ireland beat Italy 63-10 in Rome. *Daily star, Sp*

Secret Labour search for Corbyn heir

Leaked report shows party faces poll disaster

James Lyons
DEPUTY POLITICAL EDITOR

LABOUR is conducting secret "succession planning" for Jeremy Corbyn's departure, according to leaked documents that warn the party is facing meltdown under his leadership.

The public appeal of two rising stars, Angela Rayner and Rebecca Long-Bailey, has been tested by a focus group as the hard left looks for potential successors to Corbyn.

The group, organised by Labour's pollster BMG Research, delivered a damning verdict on Corbyn himself with participants saying he was "boring", appeared "fed up" and "looks like a scruffy school kid".

The research also found that Corbyn is Britain's most unpopular party leader, behind Ukip's Paul Nuttall and Nicola Sturgeon of the Scottish National Party, as well as Theresa May and Tim Farron, the Liberal Democrat leader. It showed Labour heading for its worst election defeat in 30 years with only 198 seats to the Tories' 361.

The devastating internal findings, leaked to The Sunday Times, will fuel mounting speculation at Westminster that Corbyn could face another contest for the top job or stand down voluntarily as the party is torn apart by Brexit.

The pressure will increase if the

party loses one or both of its seats in the forthcoming by-elections in Copeland and Stoke-on-Trent Central on February 23.

This weekend one shadow cabinet ally suggested the "exhausted" leader would like to give up and "pass the Corbynite flame" to Long-Bailey or Rayner, but is carrying on from a sense of duty.

Although a Labour source claimed that the focus group carried out in Manchester last month was routine, one shadow minister said: "They have been focus grouping who could replace him and gone for Becky - it is succession planning."

BMG Research gave Corbyn an approval rating of "22. Nuttall was on -9, Farron on -5, Sturgeon on 0 and May on -8. Members of the public were asked by BMG for their views on Long-Bailey, the new shadow business secretary, and Rayner, the shadow education secretary, along with Corbyn and his closest ally John McDonnell, the shadow chancellor.

Rayner had been considered to be the more likely hard-left candidate in a leadership contest, but the responses to her were "overwhelmingly negative".

The MP for Ashton-under-Lyne was judged to be "not likeable", a "bit charity shop-looking" and "weird", with one participant

suggesting voters would not take her seriously.

Long-Bailey, a former lawyer and the MP for Salford and Eccles, emerged as the most credible figure, with voters describing her as "passionate", "genuine", "sincere" and "very smart", although some saw her as "aggressive" and "rough".

The group were divided on McDonnell, who has long been said to eye the top job himself. Some said he looked "poor" and "confident", others thought he looked "timid" and "nervous".

The findings come as Corbyn's authority has been shattered by Brexit votes in the Commons, only months after he was re-elected leader with an increased mandate in a contest with Owen Smith.

Discipline has broken down with 14 frontbenchers, including three whip, who defied the Labour leader and refused to vote to leave the European Union, being given written warnings instead of being sacked.

Clive Lewis, a former Corbyn ally who resigned from the shadow cabinet rather than back Brexit, is the bookmakers' favourite to succeed him. Yesterday Ladbrokes cut the odds of the Labour leader being replaced this year to 11-8.

MPs have suggested that Lewis, a former army reservist who served Continued on page 2 ▶▶

Russia steps up cyber-attacks on UK

Richard Kerby
SECURITY CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN is being hit by 60 significant cyber-attacks a month, including attempts by Russian state-sponsored hackers to steal defence and foreign policy secrets from government departments, the new cyber-security bill has revealed.

In his first key interview, Claran Martin, head of GCHQ's new National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), warned there had been a "step change" in Russia's online

aggression against the West as well as more attacks on "soft targets" such as local councils and charities to steal personal data, and universities to steal research secrets. The Queen will open the new cyber-centre on Tuesday.

Concern is also growing at the emergence of Russian media outlets that are accused of disseminating fake news as part of a Kremlin "disinformation" campaign. The Russian-funded site Sputnik, which has a bureau in Edinburgh, has published 124 "false reality" stories since

November 2015, according to a European study. Martin suggested it was only a matter of time before Britain was hit by a "category 1" cyber-attack of the scale of the 2015 hack against the US office of personnel management. That incident alone compromised the personal details of 25m current and former government employees.

The NCSC chief revealed that, in the past three months, there had been 188 "category 2 and 3" cyber-attacks, "many of which threatened national security". Each one

could entail "hundreds of the sands" of simultaneous attacks such as phishing emails to government departments and business.

"In the case of government departments, [it is] getting into system to extract information UK government policy on anything from energy to diplomacy to information on a particular sector. V companies, it could be to steal intellectual property and so on times you would get states in it business," said Martin, who is deputy director of GCHQ.

Continued on page 2 ▶▶

Revealed: Tara's £200,000 debt

Josh Boswell

TARA PALMER-TOMKINSON, the former It girl found dead in her London flat last week, was trying to "reinvent" herself as a businesswoman, but her high-end fashion company was almost £200,000 in debt, according to the firm's accounts.

A friend of the socialite said Palmer-Tomkinson, who had battled cocaine and alcohol addiction, had "needed something to go right in her life mentally".

"Unfortunately she'd probably

invested quite a lot of her hopes for the future [in her business], and it was just a bit of a damp squib."

Palmer-Tomkinson, a friend of the royal family and a former columnist for The Sunday Times, launched her Desiderata label last year. By last October she had ploughed more than £380,000 into her company, but the accounts show a £193,000 deficit.

Her family told friends she drifted away in her sleep at her west London flat.

Tara: crazy queen of the party scene, page 7

LOTTERY DRAW 2

WEATHER DRAW 28

LETTERS DRAW 22

SUDOKU DRAW 4

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Next arrival on the HS2 line: a brand new city

Mark Hookham
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

WITH its bleak industrial landscape of crisscrossing rail tracks and long lines of parked freight trains, Toton Sidings is unlikely to win a "Beautiful Britain" contest.

However, the rail depot in the East Midlands is set to be transformed into the site of Britain's next city, Sir David Higgins, chairman of the HS2 rail project, said this weekend.

In an interview with The Sunday Times, Higgins predicted that plans to make Toton a station on the £56bn rail network will spark a wave of commercial activity and housebuilding that could ultimately result in the creation of a city sandwiched between Nottingham and Derby.

It will be one of the best-connected sites in England: 20 minutes by 225mph high-speed train to Birmingham, 27 minutes to Leeds and 52 minutes to London.

Local authority leaders are considering forming a development body similar to the London Docklands Development Corporation that kick-started Canary Wharf in east London in the 1980s or the Milton Keynes Development Corporation that masterminded the new city in Buckinghamshire in the 1960s.

"If you look at the vacant land around there, there's a big rail siding beside the line for the station... you're right next to the M1," Higgins said. "You've got two big cities either side of it. You've got a big university within a very short distance. It will be well under an hour to both London and Leeds. So this is a city."

Some are sceptical that it

will ever get off the ground. John Disney, a lecturer at Nottingham Business School, said: "It would need a lot of political changes to get a new city around Toton. I think the development corporation would probably be welcomed by Nottingham city [but] I can see resistance from some of the other councils."

Legislation to secure the first phase of HS2, from London to Birmingham, is expected to gain parliamentary royal assent this week, allowing construction to start. It is due to be completed in 2026 but there are growing doubts over whether Euston station, in central London, will be redeveloped in time, raising the prospect that a station at Old Oak Common in west London will initially be the capital's terminus.

Higgins said Euston is "absolutely essential" for the first phase of the project but repeatedly declined to say whether it would be used as the HS2 terminus when the line opens. He said officials are still drawing up the network's "commissioning sequence", including how to extend the line from the West Midlands to Crewe in 2027.

Higgins suggested that HS2 could adopt budget airline-style ticketing with "everyday low prices" to persuade people to use the HS2 trains instead of driving on the motorways.

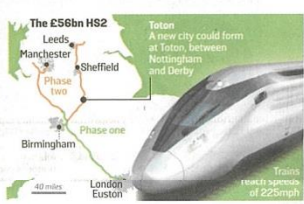
Check every Eurostar — it's always packed. You know why Eurostar is packed? It's because it's run on a Ryanair/easyJet model," he said. Boosting the economy of the so-called "Midlands Engine" has become a key plank of the government's industrial strategy under Theresa May, whose joint chief of staff, Nick Timothy, is from Birmingham.

Commuters travelling between Nottingham and Birmingham are forced either to endure the clogged A42 and M42 or travel for about 75 minutes by train, but Higgins believes that HS2 will see the two economic regions join together.

"We need to stop thinking of East Midlands and West Midlands," he said.

"If you are 19 minutes by high-capacity train between those two cities, then that's going to transform the way they operate."

@markhookham



Tom Isaacs, diagnosed with Parkinson's at 26, running at the London Olympics

The art on show includes designs by Peter Blake, left, Damien Hirst, top, and Grayson Perry, above

Top artists square up to Parkinson's disease

Richard Brooks
ARTS EDITOR

HE HAS walked from John o' Groats to Land's End as well as 4,500 miles of the British coastline, and in 2012 he was one of the torch bearers at the London Olympics. Not bad for any fortysomething but for someone who was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease at the age of 26.

Now Tom Isaacs has used his networking power to help persuade a stellar list of contemporary artists to raise money for his charity, which funds research into Parkinson's — a progressive brain disorder that mainly affects motor skills.

Leading artists, including Damien Hirst, Grayson Perry and Sir Peter Blake, have created unique works for a sale next month in aid of the Cure Parkinson's Trust. The only stipulation was that each

work should be housed in a 20cm perspex cube.

A mythological lion by the Scottish artist Peter Doig, whose paintings have sold for nearly £10m, will have a £40,000 price tag, at the top end of the works by 50 artists.

Hirst, who has not displayed a new work for several years, has put medical waste in his cube, which is priced at £20,000. The artist, one of the leading members of the Young British Art movement, was noted for his series Medicine Cabinets: vials full of bottles and packages of pills and tablets.

One of the artists involved, the abstract painter John McLean, has Parkinson's himself, as does the partner of another participant, the Dutch-born London-based ceramicist Bouke de Vries.

Isaacs, 47, who is married and lives in Kings Langley, Hertfordshire, is one of the 5% of Parkinson's sufferers who are diagnosed young.

"Having been diagnosed with Parkinson's at the age of 26, it took me at least three years to really accept the condition as part of who I am," Isaacs said.

"At the time I had no idea how the remorseless assault that Parkinson's has on mind and body would lead me to a place where [I]

embraces almost everything I do.

"At times now I can hardly move. I've also got coeliac disease, a gluten intolerant condition which affects the small intestine."

"For about 60 years the gold standard treatment [for Parkinson's] has been L-dopa, a drug which can alleviate symptoms, but there are side effects for me for which I then have to take pills. So this is why we want to find a cure."

He has spent the past 18 years raising about £10m for charity. "The task of finding better treatments for Parkinson's [has] made me more passionate, more determined and more fulfilled in my life than I ever thought possible," he said.

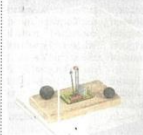
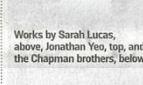
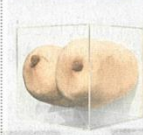
The idea for the art sale, which will be held online and start on March 13, came out of conversations between Isaacs and his oldest friend from school, Harvey Cammell, deputy chairman of the auction house Bonhams.

The artists were approached by Artwise, which organises exhibitions and other projects and worked with Bonhams.

"I'm absolutely delighted and frankly rather surprised at such a number of really well-known artists who have



Works by Sarah Lucas, above, Jonathan Yeo, top, and the Chapman brothers, below



made [these works]," said Isaacs, who founded his charity 12 years ago. "All the money raised will go for clinical trials for a cure."

Blake said he had relished the challenge of working within the constricted space of the cube: he has placed a model of Snow White standing in front of two tiny human figures. "For a long time I've been intrigued by scale," he said.

"By using two tiny figures as a human scale, the sculpture of Snow White, itself only a couple of inches high, becomes enormous."

For his cube, Jonathan Yeo, best known for paintings of stars such as Kevin Spacey and Dennis Hopper, has created a self-portrait.

"This idea of a cube appealed because it presented me with the opportunity to experiment by juxtaposing 2D media and 3D materials, something I don't normally do. But above all it's great to do something for a very worthwhile cause," he said.

Other artists have worked with familiar motifs. Perry putting a teddy bear in his cube while Sarah Lucas, well known for her bawdiness, has created a pair of breasts.

To see the art, go to cure3.co.uk

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Aid contractor is rapped for writing own testimonials

Jon Unged-Thomas
and James Lyons

ONE of the country's biggest international aid contractors has been found to have acted improperly after allegations that it "faked" glowing testimonials about its work overseas.

Adam Smith International (ASI) failed to disclose that it had helped orchestrate submissions for MPs from the beneficiaries of British aid about the value of its work.

A report published today by the Commons international development committee (IDC) — which was sent the material — concludes that ASI overstepped the mark in soliciting the written evidence from overseas politicians and other officials.

ASI said it regrets its error of judgment and has taken steps to ensure it does not happen again. However, it said the claim the testimonials had been faked was untrue and the committee found all of the testimonials had been signed off by the beneficiaries.

Stephen Twigg, the chairman of the international development committee, said: "The committee deplores the inappropriate conduct shown by Adam Smith International, the attempts to conceal their involvement in collecting beneficial testimonials about their work,

and the application of pressure on beneficiaries to submit evidence."

In the event, the committee rejected the submissions on the grounds of lack of relevance.

The Department for International Development (DfID) said that it was concerned by the committee's findings and separate allegations that ASI had obtained confidential government documents, which were widely shared within the company.

A DfID spokesman said: "We are deeply troubled about the culture and behaviour of

Twigg: MPs deplore conduct of Adam Smith International

Adam Smith International. Recent events and the committee's damning report have been highly damaging to our trust in ASI as a commercial partner."

"DfID has conducted its own forensic investigation into the allegations that ASI falsified submissions to the IDC and made use of improperly obtained DfID documents for commercial gain."

A spokesman for Adam Smith International said: "We asked for testimonials from our beneficiaries in good faith, believing they would help the IDC understand the impact and value of the work done by DfID's contractors."

Texts to warn of surge in smog

Jonathan Leake
ENVIRONMENT EDITOR

A SMOG early warning system could be created to alert people across the UK about indoor air quality or lung disease to stay indoors when air pollution is about to surge.

The scheme, similar to the existing one for flood alerts, would involve sending texts and emails and making automated phone calls to people who had signed up for the service.

It follows widespread criticism of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), which is meant to issue such warnings but offers little more than a website, plus tweets on a feed with only a few thousand followers.

Last week, however, Defra met with officials from Asthma UK, Age UK, the British Heart Foundation and other groups to discuss warning systems that could be included in a new air quality strategy to be published in April.

Under such schemes, people sign up for alerts that



are delivered by phone or electronically.

That strategy follows legal action by campaign group ClientEarth that ended in a judgment forcing ministers to improve pollution policies.

A survey by ClientEarth of 1,670 people showed 75% of them believed Theresa May had a moral obligation to improve air quality.

It comes as the UK faces another smog alert, with filthy air from Europe predicted to boost Britain's own high pollution in the middle of this week.

Andrea Leadsom, the environment secretary, has claimed air pollution is mainly a local authority issue but James Thornton, ClientEarth's chief executive, said: "Air pollution is a national problem that needs a national solution."

Separately, Chris Grayling, the transport secretary, has said he now accepts diesel should be driven out of Britain's cities.

Grayling told a meeting in Norwich he expected many cities to introduce charges for polluting vehicles. "There is no doubt that the use of diesel in urban areas is going to have to change."

He added the UK needed "to see a rapid migration of our car fleet... away from diesel in urban areas."



A cyclist in anti-pollution mask