



## Dispatch from Auschwitz

Kayla Livingstone and Svetlana De Melo in Poland

A special report from the concentration camps where over a million people were killed, as *The Stag* recognises Holocaust Memorial Day.

### Also inside:

the usual great mix of news and sport, plus reviews and more.



## Horse Passed Off As Beef



Chloe Banks and  
Sam Kohn

In January, food safety officials in the Republic of Ireland found that some beef burgers on sale in various UK supermarkets were tainted with horsemeat. The Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) said that contaminated meat had come from

two processing plants – Liffey Meats and Silvercrest Foods in Ireland, and the Yorkshire Dalepak Hambleton plant. In a sample of frozen burgers from Tesco, a shocking 29 per cent of the meat content was from horsemeat. More shocking, though, were the tests at UK food supplier Findus, where their ready-

made beef lasagnes were found to contain a staggering 100 per cent horse meat.

The chief executive of the FSAI, Professor Alan Reilly said: "In Ireland, it is not in our culture to eat horsemeat and therefore we do not expect to find it in a burger". In response to traces of pig meat also found in the burgers,

Prof Reilly said: "For some religious groups or people who abstain from eating pig meat, the presence of traces of pig DNA is unacceptable."

Although it was initially believed that there was no risk to human health, many supermarkets such as Tesco,

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## THE STAG



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# Now Nationwide Horsemeat Scandal Grips the Continent

► continued from Page 1...

Sainsbury's, Aldi, and Iceland moved fast to remove the burgers suspected of containing horsemeat. In some cases, whole product ranges from identified suppliers were removed from shop shelves, following fears that the tainted products may be contaminated by disease.

The scandal developed when it was revealed on 24 January that five horses, which had tested positive for phenylbutazone, had been exported to France for food. Phenylbutazone is an anti-inflammatory drug given to horses to treat pain, fever, and lameness. It is thought that some horses have been moved illegally around the country without their passports, for the purpose of use in the food industry.

Speaking in the Commons on 24 January, Mary Creagh (Shadow Minister of Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs) said: "I am in receipt of evidence showing that several horses slaughtered in UK abattoirs last year tested positive for phenylbutazone, or bute, a drug which causes cancer in humans and is banned from the human food chain."

It is likely that those animals entered the human food chain. However there is no evidence that infected meat reached the UK market.

When this information was released, the fast food chain Burger King decided to stop serving beef burgers made at Silvercrest. Managers were told to place all produce in boxes marked with an 'X' to be kept clear of meat used for human consumption. The chain warns that some products may be unavailable from their outlets until further notice when an alternative supplier can be found.

As the scandal continues to dominate headlines, the disgraced companies have offered their apologies to the public. Tesco ran full-page adverts at the start of the fiasco, promising to "find out exactly what happened", followed a fortnight later by an explanation and apology, and Findus have issued a statement.

"At Findus UK our first priority is our customers and providing quality products they can trust," they said, going on to acknowledge that "we understand those concerns, and we are sorry that we have let people down."

# £1 Fish Man Storms Charts

Sophie Mahmud

Watch out PSY! A new song named *One Pound Fish* has hit the charts after becoming viral and now a YouTube sensation with well over 20,000,000 views. The novelty song performed by British-based Pakistani fish-seller Muhammad Shahid Nazir – who sells from London's Queens Market, Upton Park – has now got earned him the nickname of '£1 Fish Man'. The song, released on 7 December 2012, reached Number 28 in the UK Singles Charts and became Number 1 in the UK Asian



YouTube

Chart. The song is said to have come about when the fish-seller's employer told him to use a catchy song to attract customers to his fish stall in London. The original video was released onto YouTube in early-December last year, and features Mr Nazir, alongside Bollywood dancers and former BBC weatherman Michael Fish!



# Cameron: "Wake Up and Smell the Coffee"

Prime Minister makes thinly-veiled attack on corporate tax-avoiding giants

Svetlana De Melo

Starbucks are thought to be angry at being singled-out by the UK government, because of the criticism of corporate tax avoidance.

There were reports that the US coffee giant had threatened to reduce its planned £100 million investment in the UK, unless government officials stopped 'singling the business out for cheap shots'. However, Starbucks responded denying such a threat ever existed, saying it

"remains fully committed to opening 300 new stores and creating 5,000 new jobs [in the UK] by 2016".

In January, David Cameron addressed the matter in the World Economic Forum in Davos, stating tax-avoiders "need to wake up and smell the coffee", thought to be a sly swipe at the company.

Yet Conservative Party Chairman Grant Shapps insisted that Starbucks are not being 'bullied' over its tax affairs, despite David Cameron's speech. He also stated that the government is not trying to "single out" any businesses over the speculation of tax avoidance issue.

Last year, major international companies including Amazon, Google, and Starbucks, faced public backlash over their tax-avoidance schemes. It was estimated that Starbucks had paid just £8.6 million in corporation tax in its fourteen years of trading in the UK, and paid nothing in the last three years. This was despite UK sales of nearly £400 million in 2011 alone.

However, in December 2012, Starbucks agreed to voluntarily pay extra tax over the next two years.

They said that in agreeing with David Cameron's argument that "companies should pay their fair tax" indicated an end to the speculations over the threat of investment.



David Cameron addressing the World Economic Forum in January.

## Pope Gives Final Sunday Angelus

Andrew Burdett

'WE WILL MISS YOU', their banners read, as some of the world's 1.2 billion Catholics gathered in St Peter's Square, Vatican City, to hear Benedict XVI deliver his final Sunday Angelus as Pope.

The Pontiff's surprise resignation is the first since 1415, when Gregory XII reluctantly gave up the role to help end a dispute between rival popes, known as the Great Western Schism. By contrast, Benedict XVI, 85, simply cites being "too old" as the reason for his departure.

Yet his papacy has not been without controversy. His comments on issues such as AIDs, Islam, and homosexuality have caused some people offence, and there is continued unease about the Church's handling of child abuse allegations.



# Conwoman Tricks Elderly Out of £20,000

Serial fraudster posing as police officer deceives pensioners

Erin Kyle-Davidson

Conwoman Derrol Flynn, 40, who posed as an undercover police officer to trick pensioners into giving her more than £20,000, has been sentenced to eight years in jail.

The fraudster, who hails from Bordesley Green, Birmingham, convinced one of her victims into thinking that she was being recruited for an undercover police investigation into banks, although this was just a scam to get the innocent Diane Baston to order and purchase electrical items, cash cheques, and take-out loans.

Flynn, who many believe was working as a part of a gang, was convicted on 24 January for conspiracy to burgle and for conspiracy to commit fraud. Her co-defendant, Sharon Harkin, 47, also of Bordesley Green, was also sentenced to two years in prison.

Judge Gregory Dickinson, who jailed Flynn, described the scam as "wicked" and "despicable", and went on to

add that she was "a menace to elderly members of the community". DCI Sarbjit Johal, the leader of the investigation into Ms Flynn's actions, said: "She was wicked and preyed on the most vulnerable members of our community."

Flynn also posed as a nurse and a variety of other respectable figures, all to dupe pensioners out of money. The fraudster's other nefarious activities included conning an 85-year-old woman out of the £3,000 she was saving for her funeral, and convincing a 68-year-old woman to hand over a recent cash withdrawal by claiming she may have been a victim of fraud.

After the investigation, it was reported that Flynn showed no sign of remorse throughout her police interviews, and had a history of offending against the old and infirm.

Investigators on the case made it quite clear that the victims were not at fault.

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# 'Super Bacteria' Used to Make Better Vaccines

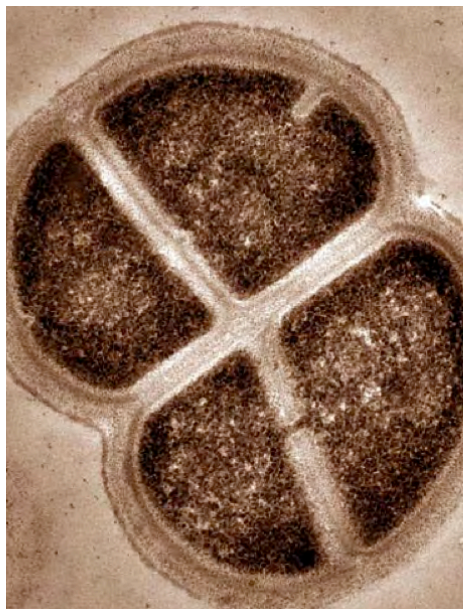
Jack Cooper

The process of vaccination is essential in the control and subjugation of disease, as it gives an individual immunity against it. Therefore that particular person will not fall ill, and neither will they infect others, dramatically slowing down the spread of that disease and saving many lives. New vaccinations are always being developed in order to improve on pre-existing ones, or combat newly prevalent diseases.

Through extensive study of the bacterium *Deinococcus radiodurans*, a species that can survive 2,000 times more radiation than humans, scientists from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences have developed a new vaccine preparation technique that has the potential to improve the efficiency of all vaccines.

The importance of this discovery cannot be understated.

Currently, vaccines can be prepared in a number of ways. Organisms that cause disease, called pathogens, are usually treated with heat or chemicals to kill them. Since they have been killed they cannot cause disease, but because they still have 'antigens' on their surface, the body can recognise them and launch an immune response, re-



sulting in immunity. Antigens are structures on a cell, made of protein, that allow the immune system to recognise that pathogens are not supposed to be in the body. Without antigens, vaccines would not give immunity.

This is the main problem with preparing vaccines with radiation. High doses of radiation kill pathogens, but can also damage their antigens, rendering the vaccine less effective. Vaccines treated with radiation give better results than those treated with heat or chemicals, and if the antigens could be prevented from being damaged, irradiated vaccines would be even more effective.

Scientists have recently discovered that the bacterium *Deinococcus radiodurans* can resist high levels of radiation because it stores high amounts of

manganese and peptides, which it combines to create antioxidant complexes which protect proteins from damage. By using the complexes from *Deinococcus*, scientists have been able to protect antigens from radiation damage, therefore dramatically improving the results of vaccines.

This is just one of many examples of how microbiology can be used to save and improve lives in real life.



## Furze Platt Shake

Andrew Burdett

Furze Platt Sixth Form students made their own *Harlem Shake* video on the last day of Term 3.

The *Shake* craze has been likened to that of 2012's *Gangnam Style*, as the thousands of videos are logging millions of views.



Year 12 student Jay Brickell produced the 30-second video, which is online at [YouTube.com/FurzePlattShake](https://www.youtube.com/FurzePlattShake).

He said: "I don't remember much of the day because everything had to be done and put away so quickly, but staff and students enjoyed becoming part of this global phenomenon."

# Review: *Gangster Squad*

Director: Ruben Fleischer; Studio: Village Roadshow Pictures; Rating: 15



Morgan Miller

Based on real events in post-war Los Angeles in the late-1940s, Ruben Fleischer directs the story of the LAPD's attempts to stop Los Angeles being taken over by violent and, in particular, the ruthlessly violent Mickey Cohen (Sean Penn).

However, Police Chief Parker (Nick Nolte) is determined not to see LA fall into the hands of the mob, especially after

the terror of WWII. He recruits special operations veteran Sgt John O'Mara (Josh Brolin), and tells him to find a team of like-minded officers to take on Cohen and his men in an "off-the-books" war against mob-rule.

O'Mara's heavily-pregnant wife Connie (Mireille Enos) is scared for her husband's safety, but soon realises that there is nothing she can do to change his mind, and so helps him to find recruits. The crew they enlist includes Sgt Kenny Wooters (Ryan

Gosling); Detectives Coleman Harris (Anthony Macki), Conway Keeler (Giovanni Ribisi), and Navidad Ramirez (Michael Peña); and old-school gunslinger Officer Max Kennard (Robert Patrick). Together they become the Gangster Squad.

Director Ruben Fleischer (best known for *Zombieland*) achieves a heart-pounding modern gangster movie that hasn't been done for a while. With a fantastic cast and script, *Gangster Squad* takes the audience through a range of emotions, from excitement to disgust, laughter to heart-breaking sadness.



Village Roadshow Pictures / Warner Bros. Pictures

# Review: *The Impossible*

Director: Juan Antonio Bayona;  
Studio: Apaches Entertainment,  
Telecinco Cinema;  
Rating: 12A



Sophie Mahmud

*The Impossible*, a true story released into cinemas in December 2012, is an English film directed by Spanish director Juan Antonio Bayona and written by Sergio Sánchez. The film is based on a Spanish family's experience 26 December 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami.

Maria Bennett (Naomi Watts), her husband Henry (Ewan McGregor), and their three sons Lucas, Thomas, and Simon, spend their Christmas holidays in the tropical resort of Khao Lak, Thailand. However, on Boxing Day – as the family relax around the pool – the devastating tsunami occurs and destroys the land.



As the whole family go under with the water, they end up separated, until Maria and older son Lucas eventually find each other. Despite the struggle, the two try to find the rest of the family to see if they are alive, but are eventually taken to hospital by locals due to their deathly wounds.

Lucas fights to find his dad and two brothers while his mum is seriously ill. As Lucas becomes the big hero trying to hold every last bit of his family together audiences wonder: will Lucas find the rest of his family?

This heart-gripping film leaves you asking questions and brings out all your emotions, leaving you feeling the raw heartache from the family.

# McFly's Tom Sings His Wedding Speech

Cherrie Ip

On the day of his marriage to Giovanna Falcone in April 2012, McFly frontman Tom Fletcher celebrated the day with his family and friends in a picture-perfect location.

Recently, though, the singer uploaded a video of the unconventional wedding 'speech' he delivered that day to his YouTube account.

Tom decided to create his wedding speech based on iconic McFly songs, and put it together with the alteration of words to fit in with the wedding.

The fifteen-minute video begins with Tom at the top table, explaining: "Me and public-speaking are not compatible at all, mainly because I don't know how to write a good speech," he confesses.

"But I do know how to write a good song."

He performed the special medley of McFly hits, which thanks his ushers, best men, his wife's parents, bridesmaids, his own parents, and of course his new wife.

Giovanna, Tom's childhood sweetheart, smiled throughout the song, while other guests are heard laughing.

Emotionally, he sings *It's All About You* to her, as a choir of children from the Sylvia Young Theatre Choir appears and accompanies him.

The top table of family are seen to well up at the end of the song, as the room full of guests erupts into a round of applause.

The video has clocked up over 9 million hits, and has received huge amounts of praise from fans. Tom has also gained a lot of media attention, tweeting: "I'm on my way to do an interview with CNN about my wedding speech. Crazy!"







# Coffee Break

Puzzles and brainteasers from *The Stag*.

Puzzles created by: Sophie Mahmud and Jemima Coulson



## Sudoku

Standard rules apply.

Each sub 3×3 box has to contain all the numbers 1 to 9 (inclusive). Each row and column also have to contain all the numbers from 1 to 9 (inclusive).

	5			7	2			6
7		4	5					
	8	6	9		3			
		5		8			6	
	6		7	5	1		3	
	7			4		5		
			1		5	8	7	
					7	4		9
3			8	2			5	

## Worldwide Wordsearch

Words to find: AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, BANGLADESH, BRAZIL, CHINA, CYPRUS, EGYPT, FINLAND, FRANCE, GREECE, ICELAND, INDIA, IRELAND, ITALY, JAPAN, MEXICO, NEWZEALAND, PAKISTAN, PERU, POLAND, SPAIN, TURKEY, UNITEDKINGDOM, USA

U	G	Z	A	L	M	S	D	L	N	Y	B	N	G	S
T	N	W	I	E	I	N	P	E	H	Y	A	A	R	I
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A	A	I	T	L	E	Z	A	K	I	R	G	A	E	J
Z	C	I	E	E	E	L	R	R	C	N	L	J	C	W
O	I	C	D	A	D	U	A	H	B	A	A	S	E	N
Z	I	X	L	N	T	K	I	N	V	T	D	U	S	A
Y	S	A	T	F	I	N	I	D	D	N	E	R	D	G
B	N	N	R	C	A	R	A	N	I	M	S	P	N	I
D	A	U	S	T	R	I	A	T	G	P	H	Y	A	I
A	I	L	A	R	T	S	U	A	S	D	I	C	L	T
E	C	N	A	R	F	Q	L	U	P	I	O	F	N	A
G	C	T	P	Y	G	E	R	N	E	S	K	M	I	L
P	O	L	A	N	D	E	T	M	W	H	R	A	F	Y
F	K	K	F	D	P	A	Q	M	T	L	V	U	P	K



## A Winter Wonderland

We took these photos as snow fell on Maidenhead in January.

The snow became so heavy that, despite the site team's best efforts, the school was eventually forced to close its doors on the afternoon of Friday, 18 January.

# THE HOLOCAUST ISSUE

Kayla Livingstone and Svetlana De Melo

It's over half a century since the first concentration camps were liberated in 1945.

Now, on 27 January (the day the Auschwitz concentration camp was freed by the Soviet Union) every year, we commemorate the lives that were lost by the horrific actions of the Nazi Party during The Holocaust.

In this period of the year we are asking you to remember those who were forced to live



through such shocking experiences and fight against such prejudices.

In April 2012, we were given the opportunity to work with the Holocaust Educational Trust, attending two seminar sessions in London, and embarking on a trip to Poland. There, we would visit the Auschwitz concentration camp ourselves. Auschwitz was

the largest of the German concentration camps, consisting of Auschwitz I (the base camp), Auschwitz II - Birkenau (the extermination camp), and Auschwitz III - Monowitz (a labour camp). The Holocaust Educational Trust works with schools, colleges, and communities across the UK, to educate about the Holocaust and its contemporary relevance. We were extremely privileged to be given the opportunity to take part in the experience, and consequently become the first school ambassadors for Furze Platt.

The Trust and its ambassadors play a central role in combating anti-Semitism, racism, and prejudice within our society today. By partnering with schools, universities, Local Education Authorities, and other institutions, our work ensures the Holocaust has a permanent place in our nation's collective memory.



However, one significant memory for us from the seminars was the privilege to meet Susan Pollack, a young survivor of Auschwitz - Birkenau. She gave a testimony of her life during The Holocaust, discussing the loss of her family members and friends; memories of her hometown; and the atrocities imposed on her and others. Yet Susan's story was inspiring, telling us of her "sparkle of hope" at re-gaining her freedom, and more importantly of her 'hope and wish' that we - as future generations - will learn from history and pass on the message of 'equality': a moving sentiment, and something we as ambassadors hope to spread.

First, we visited an old pre-war Jewish town, Oswiecim, giving us an insight into life before Auschwitz and its evident normality. From here we boarded the coach and arrived at Auschwitz I, with the famous sign 'ARBEIT MACHT FREI' looming ahead of us. Once inside the camp, we saw numerous artifacts with our tour guide, huge brick buildings, and prison cells. Most memorable was the hair, the shoes, and the suitcases still imprinted with the names of prisoners which had once held the last remnants of their belongings.

The message of individuals was emphasised throughout our trip, as we were given countless reminders of the inmates as we walked past their numerous photos hung on the walls within the buildings, a haunting memory and an emotional part of our day. After seeing Auschwitz I we were then moved to Auschwitz II, famously seen in films such



as *Schindler's List*. We were guided down the railway path, as well as viewing the wooden barracks and the remnants of the crematoria. The most poignant memories are of Auschwitz - Birkenau; the long and continuous rows of barbed wire; the camp's sheer size; and the Memorial Wall filled with family photographs of inmates who had died at Auschwitz. After a very moving day, a prayer was read in Hebrew and memorial candles were lit. These were spread along the length of the railway tracks, which we followed while walking back to the coach marking our respect in remembrance.

Although the figures and statistics are astonishing, we need to remember each person as an individual and not just get consumed by the vast number stated in our history textbooks. Throughout our journey, we learnt that we need to remember that these people were just like you and me, trying to live their lives, but unfortunately got denied a future. We need to remember them as people and by their stories, instead of the cruel atrocities they were faced with. As Susan Pollack said in her testimonies, we as future generations should not forget what happened in the past, and should pass on the message so that those who were lost will never be forgotten.

Our duty now is to pass on the history and memory of the Holocaust. It is certainly an experience that we will never forget. We are appreciative to not only Mrs James and Mr Shire, but also The Holocaust Educational Trust and the Lessons from Auschwitz Project.



# Back of the Net: England Beat Australia

The England national netball squad completes a historic win over the Australia Diamonds.

Andrea Reive

It has been a wonderfully triumphant time for British sport as of late. With the Olympics, Andy Murray's first Grand Slam Win, and England's even more recent victory over the All Blacks, it didn't seem as though the British sporting community had any more to give. And yet, despite all expectations, the England Netball team has done just that.

Anna Mayes's side, ranked third in the world, had only beaten the Diamonds twice in Test matches before now, once in 1981 and once in 2010. But a 58–53 win at Bath and a 51–49 victory at Wembley Arena saw them beat the Australians twice in four days, clinching the series before the third game was even played.

Despite having been thrashed by Australia in the past, the English side went into the first match with confidence. This was aided by the knowledge that Australia captain Natalie von Bertouch was ruled out through injury. And watched by a sell-out crowd, they dominated the first quarter, winning it 17–12.

It wasn't all smooth sailing however, as Australia Coach Lisa Alexander made a few crucial changes that led to her team clawing their way back in the second and third quarters. Showing great resilience, England rose to the challenge and ended up going into the final fifteen minutes leading 43–39. And, even though the Aussies

continued to pressure the home side, England kept their composure to achieve a record goal haul against the Diamonds and win the match.

The second match was an already familiar story. Although Australia showed time and time again that they would not go down without a fight, inevitably England gained the upper hand, winning the match 51–49.

Head coach Anna Mayes said: "This can only build confidence, beating the World No 1s. It's really important we are building for 2014 and the World Championships in 2015."

This is the first time in the sport's history that England has beaten Australia in a series, and it was evident just how much of an impact this victory is going to have on netball in this country.

"The sport is growing. This week has been amazing. We're glad we can put a performance in to keep building the sport," said Captain Pamela Cookey.

"They have their professional league over there [in Australia and New Zealand]. Our Superleague is getting bigger and bigger and the more players we can get playing the sport, the more competition we have."

The icing on the cake, of course, was winning in a clean sweep (3–0). Beating the Australians 58–51 in the third match, it was clear that this would be a series the England squad — and the sport — will never forget.



England Netball



# Robson and Watson: the New Faces of GB Tennis



Words: James Ashe

Women's tennis is on the rise, and these ladies are here to pave the way.

For many years now, it is fair to say that British women's tennis has seen many lows and certainly not enough highs. Limited grand slam appearances (let alone wins) and few tournament victories have been the norm in recent years amongst British tennis. And yet, with the emergence of both Londoner Laura Robson and Guernsey-born Heather Watson, women's tennis in Britain is reaching unprecedented heights. Such success as has not been witnessed since Virginia Wade and Sue Barker graced the

tennis scene in the 1970s.

Aged 18 and 20 respectively, today, Britain finally has two female tennis players reaching the top 50 in the world rankings. And, being only at the beginning of their fledgling careers, they are set firmly to rise. Not only does this show very exciting promise for the future, but at the first grand slam of 2013 both players certainly did their upward trajectory great favours, with extremely promising performances for the future of British tennis.

In Melbourne, at the first grand slam of the year, Robson had one of the shocks of the tournament with her win over Czech Petra Kvitová, ranked

No 8 in the world. Her win over the former Wimbledon champion with her big-hitting, aggressive style of tennis shows not just great promise for future years, but also for the rest of this year. Alongside her, Heather Watson should definitely not be discounted. Her tactically mature, highly consistent tennis meant she delivered two highly impressive wins, suggesting what a bright future these two women have on the global tennis scene.

Despite both losing out in the third round, this was a very impressive and fruitful tournament for both women, suggesting that this could be a catalyst for an excellent year ahead.



# Eden Hazard Apologises to Ball Boy He Kicked

Lewis Baker

Chelsea midfielder Eden Hazard has apologised after he was sent off for violent conduct against a ball boy.

During Chelsea's semi-final draw with Swansea in the Capital One Cup, the Belgian was shown a straight red-card from referee Chris Foy in the 80th minute, after going over to the corner of the pitch to collect the ball from the 17-year-old ball boy. As the player went to collect the ball, the ball boy landed on it, shielding it with his body and refusing to hand it over to Eden Hazard. This then frustrated the player who attempted to kick the ball out from underneath the ball boy.

Hazard has accepted he was in the wrong, however he insists he thought that he had in fact kicked the ball and not the 17-year-old, who was taken off the pitch after the incident. Hazard commented later that night on Chelsea's TV channel, insisting that the ball boy put his whole body on top of the ball. The Chelsea midfielder has yet to find out if there will be any further punishment from the FA following the red-card. His spokesman added that the ball boy did not sustain any injuries from the incident.

The ball boy had been seen to boast on Twitter before the match, stating that he was going to time-waste during the game. However, Swansea City have insisted that their ball boys were under no instruction to do so during the match.

There has been mixed views from current and past players of the game, who have been expressing their views on the decision of Chris Foy. Many players, such as Michael Owen, believe that the ball boy was in the wrong, with former Chelsea striker Pat Nevin stating that he would have done the same had he been in Hazard's position. However Manchester United defender Rio Ferdinand and Everton midfielder Phil Neville both agree that Hazard deserved to be sent off. Many also believe that both the ball boy and Eden Hazard were equally at fault.

Chelsea interim manager Rafa Benitez has said that Hazard accidentally kicked the boy in frustration as he tried to retrieve the ball from underneath the youngster, however he believes that they were both "wrong" in their actions and have apologised to each other.



REUTERS



*Not all condemned Hazard, with midfielder Joey Barton tweeting his views on the incident.*



Carl Recine / Action Images