

I'll be back
Gerrard pledge as
Liverpool farewell looms

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Geoffrey Lean
The Prince, the albatross
and a story of salvation

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Free inside tomorrow
Rachel Khoo's
Kitchen Notebook

32-page booklet. See pages 21 and 28



The Daily Telegraph

telegraph.co.uk

Farage clings to Ukip leadership

Civil war in party as former allies call for his resignation, but embattled leader insists his grassroots support is 'phenomenal'

By Christopher Hope
Chief Political Correspondent

NIGEL FARAGE last night insisted he had "phenomenal" support within Ukip even as a bitter civil war over his leadership threatened to tear the party apart.

Several of Mr Farage's former allies publicly questioned his leadership, with eight calling for his resignation. The party has split into two factions, with some of the most senior figures now backing Douglas Carswell, their only rival and the man seen as the obvious replacement for Mr Farage.

The row centres on Mr Farage's decision earlier this week to return as Ukip leader, just three days after

his failed attempt to become an MP. The proposal is said to have opposed Mr Carswell who "took it completely badly" and "got his resignation", according to a Ukip donor. Mr Carswell denies the claim.

Mr Farage yesterday admitted that he was facing a rebellion from members of the party who "wanted to be leader" and were left "sadly disappointed" when they early on in the campaign.

A changing of the guard would mean Mr Farage's leadership would be at an end, with the party releasing a series of supportive statements from donors. However, on May 12, The Daily Telegraph said Mr Farage, only had

the support of around a third of the party's membership of 180,000 from a poll. Mr Farage's supporters have attempted to force Mr Farage to resign, but the party's support is still strong.

In an interview with The Daily Telegraph Mr Farage insisted he would remain as leader, but stated of his appearance on BBC One's *Question Time* last night he admitted he had lost the faith of his party. Asked by ITV News if he had lost the confidence of his party, Mr Farage said: "Yes, I have".

Speaking on the programme, Mr Farage admitted that he had "fallen" but said Ukip members wanted "leadership that have actually had a job in the real world and have some experience of life".



He attempted to downplay the news, saying: "The election's over, people are getting off steam, and we've seen one or two people lighting petrol bombs against each other". When asked whether he would resign to stand in a leadership vote, Mr Farage said a majority of his party would not do so. He said he would not be "a massive, massive mistake".

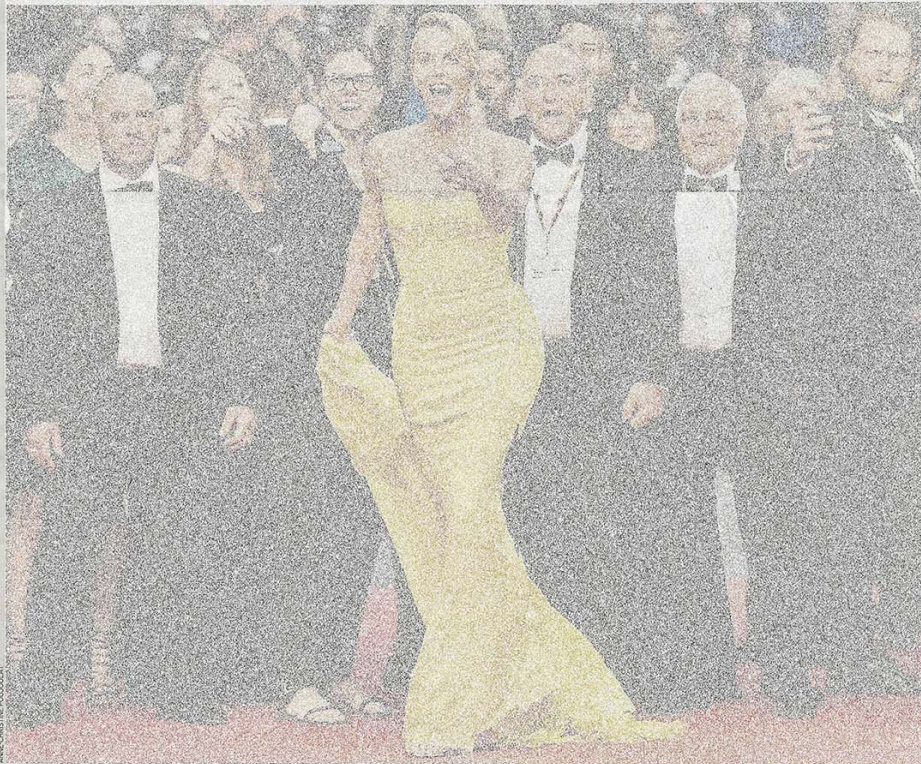
Speaking yesterday, Patrick O'Connell, Ukip's general election campaign director, denounced Mr Farage's leadership in an interview. He said Mr Farage had become a "reckless, thin-skinned aggressive" man who was turning Ukip into a "sensationalist" party.

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Charlize at Cannes: here's looking at you, Sean



Charlize Theron gazes to her boyfriend Sean Penn from the red carpet at the 68th International Film Festival, where she was attending the Cannes premiere of Mad Max: Fury Road. [Photo: Page 7](#)

Respect my position as PM, Cameron will tell Sturgeon

By Peter Dominiczak and Simon Johnson

DAVID CAMERON will today warn Nicola Sturgeon that he must "respect" his role as Prime Minister when he travels to Scotland for his first meeting with her.

It is what is expected to be a tense encounter. Mr Cameron will meet Mr Sturgeon in Edinburgh a day after signing the new independence bill. The two leaders will meet in person for the first time since the referendum.

Mr Sturgeon, who also worked at Conservative Party HQ when the poll was introduced, will meet Mr Cameron in Downing Street before her own independence referendum campaign.

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BBC sport chief: Cut fee and we'll lose Olympics

By Ruth Atkinson

THE BBC could lose the broadcast rights to the Olympics and other high-profile sporting events if the Corporation slashes the fee it pays the broadcaster's director of sport, according to a report in the *Financial Times*.

One of David Cameron's first pledges following the Conservative

Longest-serving poppy seller dies after charity blitz

By Ruth Atkinson

BRITAIN'S longest serving Poppy Seller has been found dead and it is believed she was struggling to manage her business after being besieged with begging letters from dozens of charities.

She is being to raise a funding total of £100,000 for the charity.

Freud's 'Fat Sue' nude sells for record £35m

By Ruth Atkinson

A LIFE-SIZE nude by Lucian Freud of an obese benefits supervisor named "Fat Sue" has sold at auction in New York for more than £35 million, setting a new record for the late British painter.

The work was one of four portraits Freud made of the woman, who he met through Leigh Bowery, the performance artist, in the early Nineties.

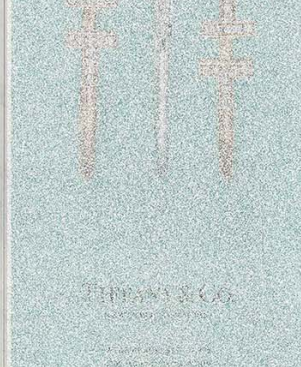
Freud's 'Fat Sue' nude sells for record £35m

By Ruth Atkinson

Freud, who died in 2011, painted the work, which he called "Fat Sue", four times and paid her £20 a day for it. He said it is now launching



Freud's Benefits Supervisor Resting



Another nude, by Freud's contemporary Francis Bacon, sold for \$44.7 million (£28.3 million).