

FREE INSIDE
Mary Berry's
Cosy Classics
8 pages of light bites, hearty mains and iconic desserts
RECIPE PULLOUT

KEIR 'EDGING US BACK INTO THE EU'

Fears PM will discuss 'major concessions' when he meets Brussels chiefs

EXCLUSIVE

By **David Williamson**
CHIEF POLITICAL COMMENTATOR

BRITAIN is in danger of being plunged into the "worst of all worlds" if Sir Keir Starmer gives up our Brexit freedoms and alienates Donald Trump at the same time.

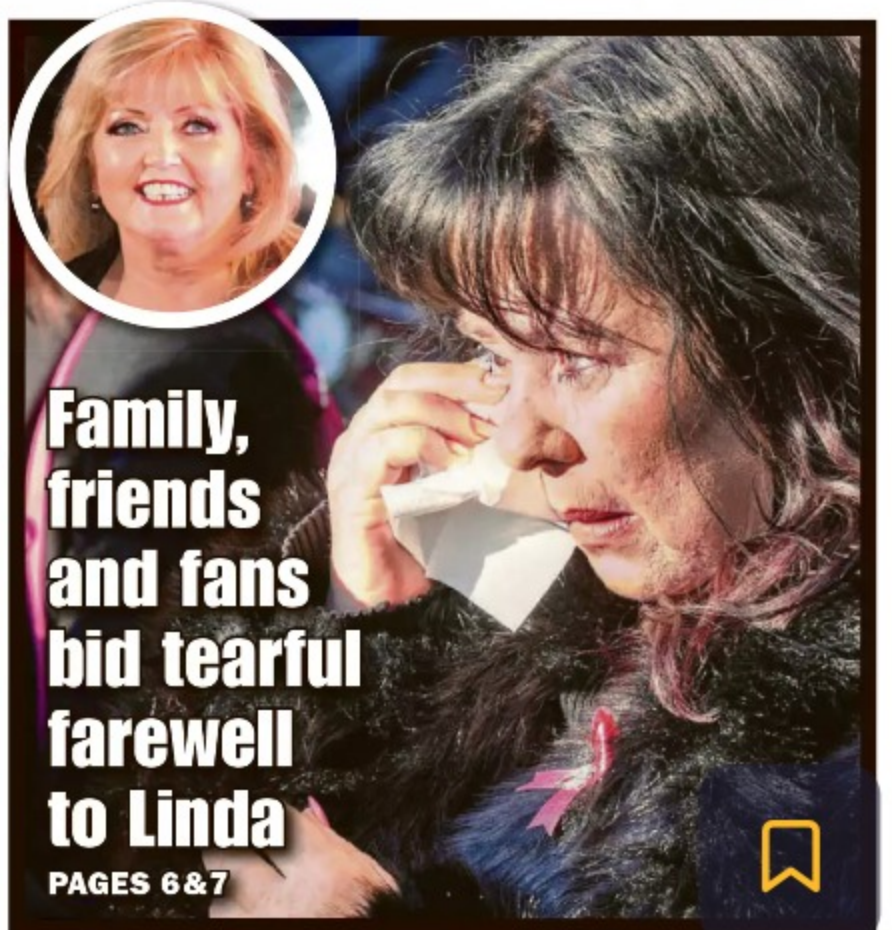
The PM is to meet with European leaders to forge a new relationship with Brussels.

But leading Brexiters fear the UK will end up as a "serf of the EU" while also being hit with tariffs by a combative US President.

Sir Keir will tomorrow become the first Prime Minister to attend a dinner with European Union leaders since Brexit.

But Conservative leader Kemi Badenoch has accused him of trying to "reopen the

TURN TO PAGE FOUR



Family, friends and fans bid tearful farewell to Linda

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time to

Hotel of the week

BY BERTIE ADAM



Page8 hotel, Central London
WHERE AND WHY

Staying at a hotel in Central London is often reserved for truly special occasions – and this was certainly one of those.

From our deluxe double room, we were able to look down towards the Edith Cavell Memorial and up along St Martin's Lane, a street flecked with theatres and almost no traffic.

The room was bathed in natural light, with white walls featuring wainscot panelling and subtle lighting. The ensuite, finished in imitation marble with discreet gold accents, paired well with the room's blue leather furniture, detailed with gold tacks. The minibar was kitted out with suitably high-end snacks and a Marshall Bluetooth speaker was the cherry on top.

Meals are served at the Kitty Hawk Rooftop Bar & Restaurant, offering guests unparalleled views across the city. In summer, I imagine the al fresco terrace would be an absolute delight.

ON THE MENU

The menu offered a wonderful array of fresh, vibrant dishes. I started with the yellowfin tuna carpaccio (£16), delicately flavoured with sesame, wasabi, and a mango and ginger dressing. For the main, I chose the salt-marsh lamb rack (£38), served with creamed potatoes, an anchovy-crusted heritage carrot, and mint jus which was so excellent I dreamt about it.

My partner began with the courgette, feta, and pea tart (£12), a light dish accompanied by summer leaves and herb oil. Next up was the roast heritage summer squash (£19), beautifully paired with beetroot, macadamia cheese and a hazelnut dressing.

We savoured a melt-in-the-mouth sticky toffee pudding, but their signature cocktails were equally enticing.

WHILE YOU'RE THERE

Take a wander across Trafalgar Square and make your way towards Regent Street.

Unfortunately our trip was just before the Christmas lights had made their arrival, but being slap bang in the middle of London's theatre district, there is no shortage of entertainment, from the Royal Opera House to the Adelphi Theatre. The Freemasons' Hall provides an excellent guided tour starting from £12.50 per person.

Of course, nearby Covent Garden can provide some of the country's best retail therapy, too. For the more cost-conscious, there is also some fantastic street entertainment on display. If history is your thing, Buckingham Palace is a mere 20 minutes walk away through the marvellous St James's Park.

WAKE-UP CALL

Rooms start at £225 a night, pagehotels.com/en/page8



PICTURE PERFECT
Pikes Peak Cog Railway



HIGH THERE
Stuart at 14,000ft



FAMOUS
Garden of the Gods



FEARSOME
A harem of elks

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

based Aspire Tours. Nothing was too much trouble and we could not have asked for a more friendly, down-to-earth guide.

Earlier we took in another of Colorado's famous attractions. The Garden of the Gods. These are giant red columns of sandstone rock shooting up into the sky, which are seriously impressive and make for a stunning vista.

We also spent another day in the Rocky Mountain National Park (nps.gov/romo), again with Jeff as our guide, starting off at Horseshoe Falls with its delightful streams and waterfalls. We also ventured up to the alpine tundra, which covers one third of the park and where winter lasts nine months a year.

It's a harsh, desolate environment that could be the backdrop for a post-apocalyptic film. We only managed a snapshot of the park, however, which is vast and receives more than four million visitors each year.

I'd packed binoculars hoping to catch a glimpse of some wildlife which was a largely fruitless venture, but – Jeff to the rescue – he'd received a tip-off on where elk could be found.

A short drive followed before we found ourselves in a valley peering at a male elk, complete with fearsome-looking antlers and his harem (the name of a group of female elks, who knew?)

The Maven, a boutique hotel on Wazee Street in downtown Denver, provided our accommodation while in Colorado. The standout

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