# Blind North Staffordshire Couple Shines in Britain's Got Talent Semi-Final



**North Staffordshire Couple in Britain's Got Talent Semi-Final**

A blind North Staffordshire couple, Denise Leigh and Stefan Andrusyschyn, have made it to the semi-finals of Britain's Got Talent. The duo impressed judges and audiences with their performance of "Climb Ev'ry Mountain" from The Sound of Music, leading judge Bruno Tonioli to tears.

40-year-old Stefan was born without eyes, while 53-year-old Denise has lost her vision due to retinitis pigmentosa, exacerbated by breast cancer chemotherapy. Their son, Dimitri, also suffers from the same eye condition. Despite these challenges, they have persevered, hoping to secure a spot in the BGT finals.

**Life Sentence for Northamptonshire Teacher Fiona Beal**

Fiona Beal, a 50-year-old primary school teacher, has been sentenced to life in prison with a minimum of 20 years for the murder of her partner, Nicholas Billingham. Beal stabbed 42-year-old Billingham and buried his body in their Northampton garden. The crime was discovered four-and-a-half months later. Prosecutors described the murder as a "carefully planned domestic execution."

**Bristol Knife Incidents Lead to Arrest and Police Action**

Two 17-year-old boys were stabbed on Stapleton Road, Bristol, on consecutive nights this week. A 21-year-old man has been arrested in connection with the incidents. Dispersal orders have been issued, and police are investigating potential links between the two stabbings. Increased patrols are planned to ensure public safety.

**Spudman’s Tips for Perfect Jacket Potatoes**

Ben Newman, known as Spudman, has become a TikTok sensation with his tips for making perfect jacket potatoes. He advises using the right type of potato, opting for two small potatoes over one large one for even cooking, and not wrapping them in foil. Newman runs a thriving jacket potato van in Tamworth and has amassed over 3.1 million followers on TikTok.

**Men Jailed for Stoke Cannabis Farm Operation**

Three Albanian men have been sentenced to 27 months each in Stoke-on-Trent Crown Court for cultivating a cannabis farm in Stoke. Ilir Gjidiaj, 30, Kejdis Hasmegaj, 21, and Afrem Oka, 34, were arrested after attempting to flee from police. The farm contained 66 cannabis plants worth up to £66,150. Judge Robert Smith emphasized the seriousness of the offense and the defendants' roles in the operation.

**Judgement Day: Final Audition for Welsh Rugby Players**

Judgement Day at Cardiff City Stadium will serve as the final audition for Welsh rugby players vying for a spot in Warren Gatland's summer squad for tests against South Africa and Australia. Players like Keelan Giles and Theo Cabango, as well as several midfield contenders, have much at stake as they aim to impress ahead of the squad announcement.