

## GAME CHANGER WILLIAMS SISTERS' NEW SPORT



THE Williams sisters swapped tennis balls for shuttlecocks as they showed off their badminton skills in New York. Posing with a young fan, Serena, left, and Venus joined the Lotte New York

Palace badminton tournament in Manhattan. They could have their earliest tennis grand slam meeting in 20 years if they reach the third round of the US Open, starting next week.

## Bumper harvest after heatwave

Ben Morgan

THE scorching heatwave has produced the best late summer harvest of fruit by British farmers in years.

The bumper crop is the result of the cold weather earlier in the year holding back blossom, followed by weeks of hot, sunny conditions, experts said today.

RHS chief horticulturist Guy Barter said: "After a disappointing 2017, this year everything has come together to produce an incredible bounty of pears, plums, apples, tomatoes, grapes, berries, olives and all sorts of delicious edibles. The Beast from the East actually

helped by holding back the blossom and there were no late frosts, which meant we had an explosion of spring flowers.

"Since then, the heat and sunlight has furnished energy for the extraordinary abundance of crops. We would strongly urge people to get gathering and enjoy the best harvest we've seen in years." He said fruit "will have soaked up the sun and be all the juicier and tastier for it".

The RHS garden in Hyde Hall, Essex, boasts exotic produce such as cucumber and wonderberries, and the society's Wisley gardens in Surrey have seen their "best ever" summer apple harvest.

The Met Office warned of a potentially

rainy bank holiday. Wet weather will move to the South-East tonight with scattered showers expected tomorrow. Sunday is set to be windy with heavy showers and highs of about 17C. Monday is set to be drier with sunshine and temperatures in the low twenties.

Drivers should expect delays as more than 14 million cars take to the roads, the RAC said. The M1 is set to be badly affected tomorrow from junctions 22 to 25. Network Rail is urging passengers not to travel on the West Coast Main Line from tomorrow to Monday, with Euston station closed as work to replace a junction in Wembley continues.

standard.co.uk



### A rewarding

## A LEVEL RETAKES

- Beautiful location close to Kensington Gardens