



FREE EVERY SATURDAY IN Sun
25 SEPTEMBER - 4 OCTOBER 2015

STRICTLY!
HAIRY BIKER
DAVE MYERS'
BALLROOM
SECRETS

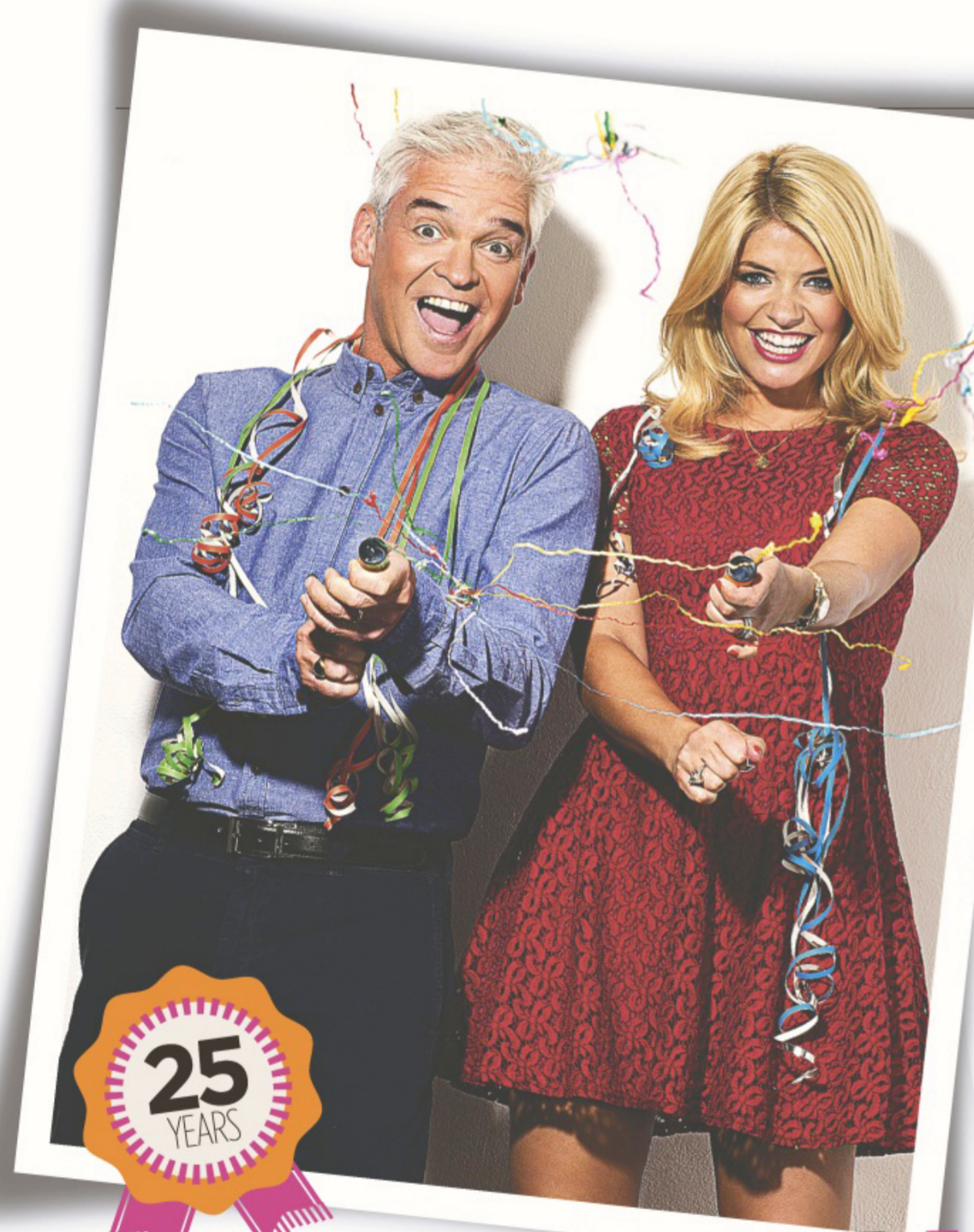
SOAP DRAMA!
EASTENDERS
ROXY BETRAYS ALFIE
CORONATION STREET
NICK WAKES UP!
EMMERDALE
MARLON PROPOSES

EXCLUSIVE
DOWNTON ABBEY'S
ELIZABETH MCGOVERN
REVEALS HER
SECRET WILD SIDE

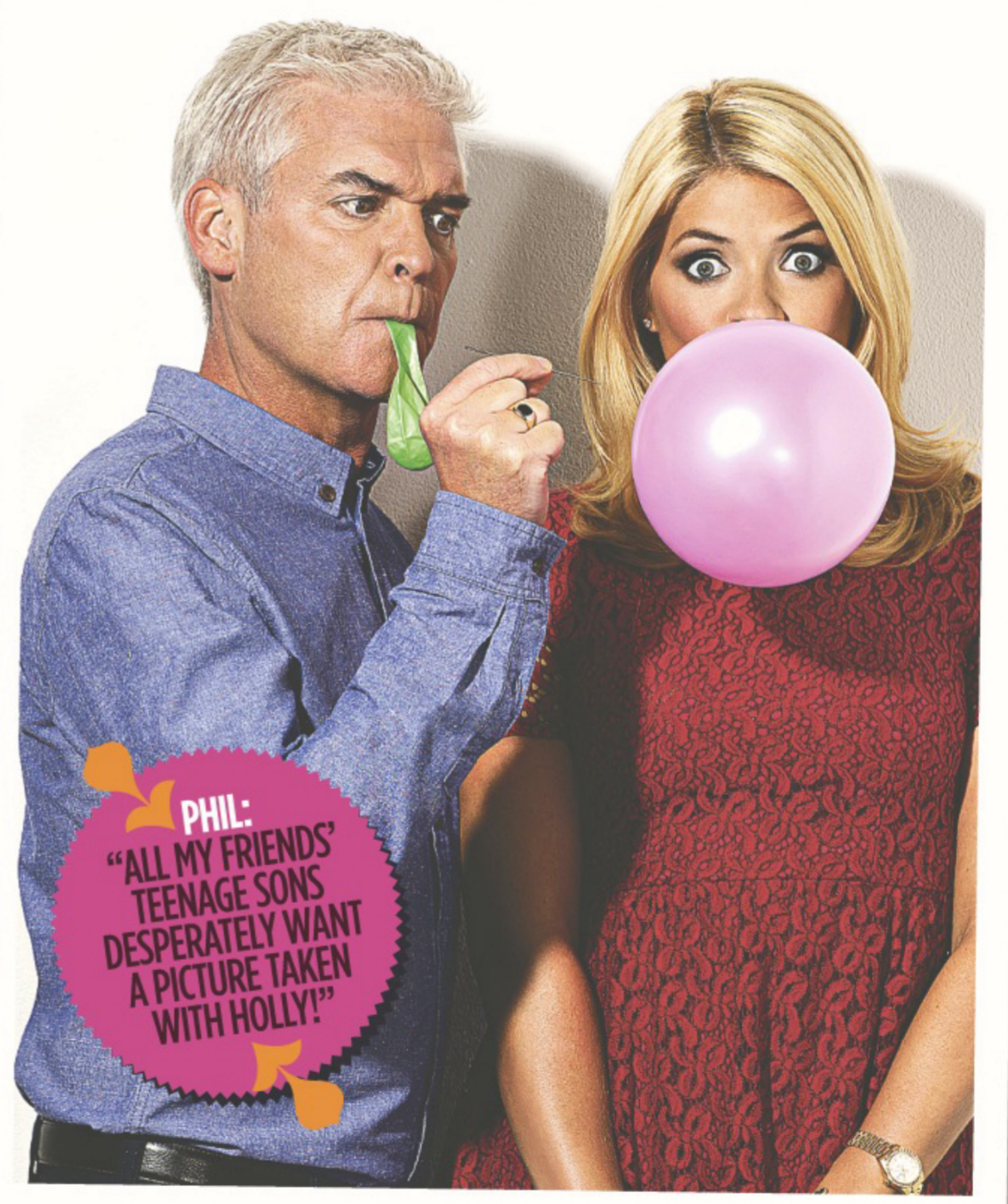
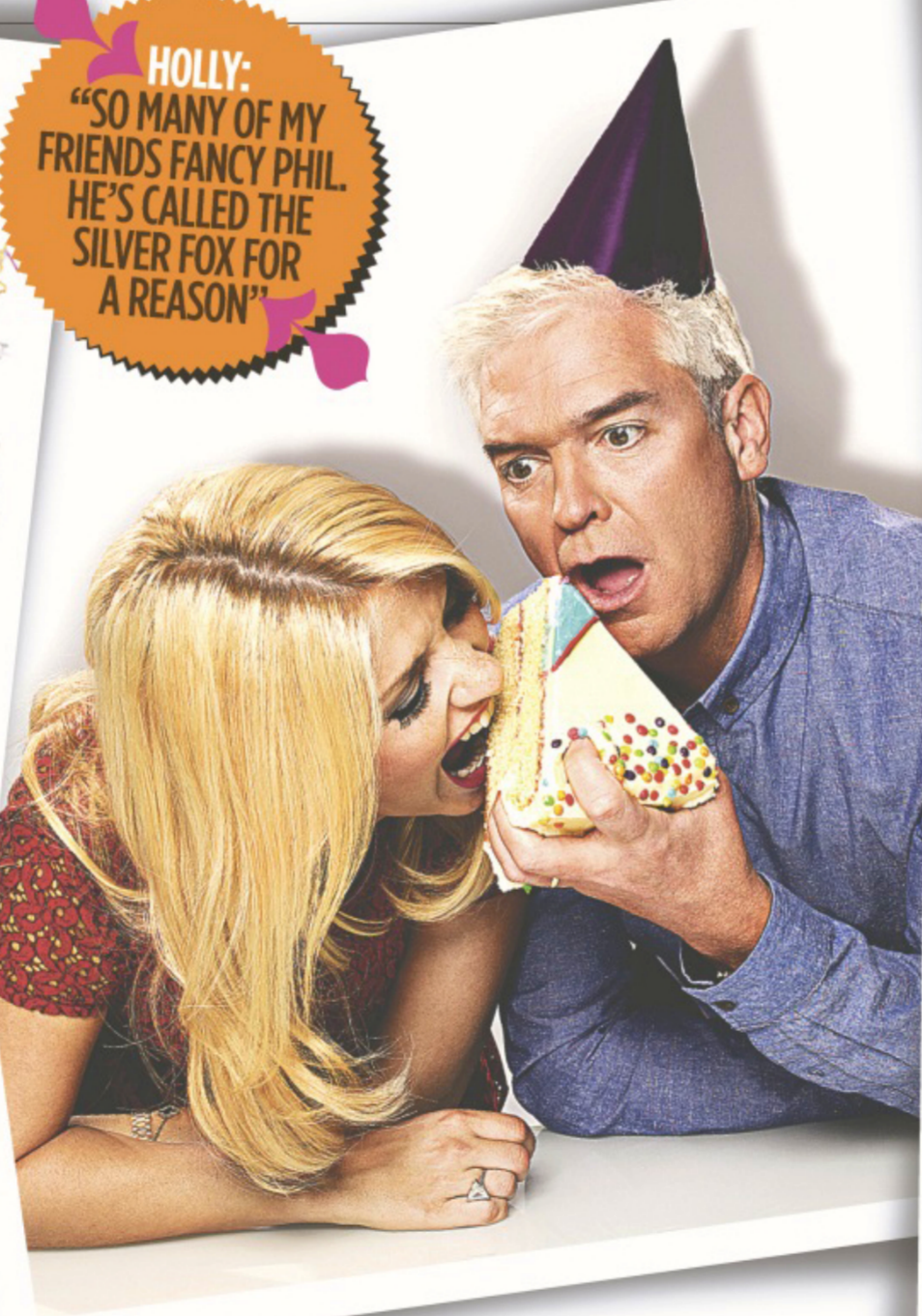
PLUS!
RICHARD & JUDY
RETURN TO HOST
THIS MORNING

BIRTHDAY BLOW OUT

HOLLY WILLOUGHBY AND PHILLIP SCHOFIELD CELEBRATE 25 YEARS OF THIS MORNING



HOLLY:
"SO MANY OF MY
FRIENDS FANCY PHIL.
HE'S CALLED THE
SILVER FOX FOR
A REASON!"



PHIL:
"ALL MY FRIENDS'
TEENAGE SONS
DESPERATELY WANT
A PICTURE TAKEN
WITH HOLLY!"

COVER FEATURE

says Phil of the heartbreaking chat. "I had a text that Lee had sent his mum on Mother's Day saying: 'You're the most fantastic, one in a million mum.' But I had to think twice about whether I could hold myself together to read it out. "It's good that the guests who come on trust us to tell their story. That is the greatest accolade."

RAISING EYEBROWS

As it's a live show, there has inevitably been moments of controversy. A debate with former *Apprentice* contestant Katie Hopkins in July, who declared she wouldn't allow her children to play with kids who had 'lower-class names', outraged viewers. And a lapse of judgment when Phillip confronted Prime Minister David Cameron with a partially visible list of prominent names linked to alleged sex offences prompted an investigation by TV watchdog Ofcom. "Katie Hopkins was all anyone wanted to talk to me about," says Phillip. "People asked if I'd wanted to slap her. But no, she was brilliant. You can't get angry with someone for great TV. It's got 12 million YouTube hits. The borders of what she said were offensive but as far as the show is concerned, she was great value." Katie has been invited back on *This Morning* since. The Cameron incident, on the other hand, doesn't look likely to be repeated. "In my 35 years of television that's the only storm that was difficult to weather," admits Phillip. "But we did, as a team." Most screen partnerships need a break from each other out of work, but not Phillip and Holly. "We met this summer," says Holly. "We went to Phil's place in Portugal to hang out round the pool with the kids for the day and then didn't leave. We didn't have the stress of going into work the next day so we just had fun." Holly admits she's a great admirer of the way Phillip handles his family life. "There are no secrets and I think that's really important to have that communication open all the time." The same goes for Phillip. "We share everything," he says. "We talk about our families, home and work." With such a close bond between them, could either imagine doing the show without the other? "I wouldn't like to," says Phillip. "I honestly don't think I could because I rely on him for an awful lot," adds Holly. "I know if he wasn't there I wouldn't enjoy it as much. And I definitely wouldn't feel as confident as I do." So, here's to the next 25 years? "Christ almighty, what a cantankerous old git I'll be in 25 years!" laughs Phillip. "I think I can guarantee we won't be here when they're celebrating the 50th anniversary of *This Morning*," chuckles Holly, "and if I am, tell me to go!"

WATCH IT! *This Morning*
Weekdays 10.30am ITV

TOP OF THE MORNING

To celebrate a quarter of a century of *This Morning*, Phillip Schofield and Holly Willoughby take *TV Magazine* back to the start

WORDS PAUL SIMPER PHOTOGRAPHY SIMON WEBB

Twenty five years have passed since husband-and-wife team Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan first presented a brand-new live TV show from Liverpool's Albert Dock. Both they and *This Morning* went on to become a national institution adored by students and housewives alike. Now, as the show's current dream team of Phillip Schofield and Holly Willoughby give admiring glances to the enormous birthday cake we've brought along to the studio for our exclusive shoot, it seems only right that they talk about their predecessors in reverential terms. "You always have to be respectful of the fact that Richard and Judy started all of this," says Phillip, 51, who co-presented the show with

Caron Keating in the late 1990s before forming classic screen partnerships with first Fern Britton and now Holly. "It'll be lovely having them back for our anniversary show, although Richard does sit with his legs very wide open and sprays testosterone around, marking his territory." Phillip grins: "It's too late now though - my spray's bigger!" As a treat for everyone who has watched the show's sometimes hilarious, often touching and on occasions jaw-dropping output (hello, *Sex Week*), for one morning only the programme will come live from its original home in Liverpool with Richard and Judy back on the sofa alongside Phillip and Holly.



Since Holly, 32, joined the show in September 2009, she and Phillip have proved to be a winning team. They love each other's company and are as loyal, protective and irreverent as you would expect bosom buddies to be. When Holly was criticised for the revealing dress she wore to host this year's final of *The Voice UK*, Phillip leapt to her defence on Twitter. "There have been some ridiculous things that people have said," says Phillip, who has two daughters, Ruby, 17, and Molly, 20, with his wife Stephanie Lowe. "Holly's terribly dignified so I just get angry on her behalf!"

Holly smiles at how defensive her pal is: "It's very nice to have a friend like that." That loyalty extends to covering each other's back if either of them is a little worse for wear - witness Holly the morning after she enthusiastically celebrated the show's triumph at the 2012 National Television Awards. "I didn't have a hangover that day because one of us always has to fly the show," says Phillip. "We compare it to driving a car; so long as someone's driving, the other can be looking out of the window. Then you swap over. Of course, occasionally the wheels come off." "The first NTAs I attended for *This Morning* I was pregnant, so I couldn't drink," explains Holly, who has a four-year-old son, Harry, and daughter

"GUESTS TRUST US TO TELL THEIR STORY. THAT IS THE GREATEST ACCOLADE"

Belle, two, with her *Celebrity Juice* producer husband Dan Baldwin. "The next year when we won I was celebrating for that time and the one before. You're allowed to do that because our win was down to viewers' votes. "It was almost like they were on our journey. They voted for us, I had all their drinks and then I had all their hangovers as well!" It's the connection with the viewers that makes Phillip and Holly most proud. Their shoot for *TV Magazine* is on their first day back after the summer break and on that morning's show they conducted a first interview with murdered soldier Lee Rigby's mother and stepfather. "When someone shares the absolutely worst experience you can ever imagine it is tough,"

UP WITH THE LARKS: REMEMBER THESE TOP MOMENTS?



CROSS-DRESSERS
In 1992, Richard and Judy swapped wardrobes and dressed up as each other, but it was Richard who stole the show.



UPS AND DOWNS
In 2009, Phil and Fern were in fits of giggles during Dr Chris Steele's health section as they discussed Viagra and erections.



A MEATY ROLE
Holly and Phil broke down with laughter in 2011 after she said: "I've got a mouthful of beef" during a cooking feature.