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Cover picture: Tanker off the Scottish Coast



By Paul G Bazeley for Government World

### **April News Review**

A suspected chemical weapons attack took place in Douma, Svria. Douma is controlled by Syria and Russia, both of which denied the allegations. A joint military response by the US, UK and France took place a few days later with the countries targeting suspected chemical weapons bases and Syrian military sites. Tensions grew as a war of words between the three

## Paul's News Roundup

Summary of the main news and sports events over the last three months

countries and Russia, Syria's ally, ensued following the retaliation. International chemical experts eventually arrived and took samples from the site to test.

A report revealed extremists are using Bitcoin, the darknet and encrypted communications apps to avoid detection. The research claimed the Government needs to be aware that extremists are 'hiding in the shadows' of the darknet. The evidence

raised awareness that while it may be hard for extremists to build safe havens in the real world, they are now building them online.

The retailer Conviviality, which owns the Bargain Booze chain, stated it intending to appoint administrators. The group was bought out by Bestway for £7 million in a last-minute deal which should save 2,000 jobs.

Kleeneze fell into administration after 95 years of trading. The announcement meant 140 jobs were at risk, however, the news raised questions over the future of the 5,000 independent distributors that sell the products.

The Official Receiver announced that more

than half of the employees from Carillion, which declared bankruptcy earlier in the year, had found new jobs.

Germany's rivers were stated as 'bordering on critical' by the WWF after it was revealed more than 90% do not meet the EU standards for cleanliness and ecological quality. It emerged that just 6.6% of the countries river were in 'good ecological condition'.

Yulia Skripal, the daughter of former Russian military officer and British spy, Sergei Skirpal, was released from hospital following her poisoning five weeks prior. It is thought that Ms Skripal was taken into hiding, an act which Russia claimed would 'be seen as an abduction'.

A team researching a plasticconsuming bacteria announced they had accidentally created an enzyme that breaks down plastics more efficiently. It is hoped the molecule can be used to help with the disposal of plastics.

Peter Madsen, the Danish inventor and submariner, was convicted of the murder of Swedish journalist Kim Wall. He was sentenced to life in prison.

SpaceX announced they would build a rocket called BFR which will be capable of sending humans to Mars.

Avicii, the Swedish DJ, committed suicide while on holiday in Oman. The DJ, whose real name was Tim Bergling, was 28 and had been struggling with health issues.

### **April Sports Review**

Manchester City won the Premier League title after Manchester United lost 1-0 at home to West Bromwich Albion. The surprise loss gifted their close rivals with another Premier League title and Pep Guardiola's first. The manager's old team Bayern Munich also won it sixth Bundesliga title in a row.

An arrest warrant was issued for the UFC lightweight Champion Conor McGregor after he was involved in a melee at a press conference in New York. Footage appeared to show McGregor throwing things at a fellow fighters team bus. He later appeared in court, where he was released on bail and charged with assault and criminal mischief.

Patrick Reid won the 2018 Masters at Augusta. The American finished on 15 under, beating Rickie Fowler who finished second by one shot to claim his prestigious green jacket.

The Brazilian surfer, Rodrigo Koxa, broke the record for the largest wave ever surfed. The wave, from off the coast of Nazaré, Portugal, was measured at 24.4 metres high.

### **May News Review**

The Royal wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle took place at St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle. The pair received the titles the Duke and Duchess of Sussex. The wedding was estimated to have cost £32million and it is thought hundreds of millions watched the wedding around the world.

Vladimir Putin was inaugurated at the Grand Kremlin Palace for his fourth term as President of Russia. The inauguration followed his March victory in the presidential election. The President later stated that he will step down when his term expires in 2024 as is dictated by the Russian constitution.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) rules came into effect in the EU. The rules meant certain websites such as the Los Angeles Times were not available online. It is thought many smaller companies were not sufficiently prepared for the regulations. The regulations mean individuals have more power to find out what information companies hold about them and to request it be deleted. Companies can face fines of up to £17.5million or 4% of annual turnover by not adhering to the new law.

Eight students and two teachers were killed and over 10 more injured in a school shooting at the

Santa Fe High School in Texas, USA. Another shooting took place on the same day at the Mt. Zion High School in Jonesboro, Georgia leaving one person dead and another injured. Later in the month, a shooting at the Noblesville West Middle School in Indiana leaves two people injured.

Harvey Weinstein was formally charged with rape and other sexual abuse offences involving two women. The film producer had handed himself into the NYPD.

The iconic guitar manufacturer Gibson filed for bankruptcy. The brand is favoured by many and anyone who's anyone has played a Gibson guitar some point, however, escalating debt and poor performance

of its electronics side left the company with \$500 million in debt. Gibson Brand Inc. received \$135 million from the lender so it could continue operations.

Cambridge Analytica announced it would close down after the Facebook data harvesting scandal. The company continued to deny any wrongdoing, stating that negative press had left them with no clients and large legal fees.

Sergei Skripal was discharged from hospital over ten weeks after being poisoned with the novichok nerve agent. The Russian Ambassador to London stated that the UK would break international law if they did not allow them access to the former spy and his daughter Yulia.

Neeta Barzilai won the Eurovision song contest for Israel with the song Toy.

### May Sports Review

Manchester City beat Southampton 1-0 to set a record 100 points total in the Premier League. The record had previously been set by Jose Mourinho's Chelsea side from the 2004-05 season with 95 points. Guardiola's side also broke a host of other records during the season including biggest winning margin (19 points), most goals (106) and earliest title success (5 games remaining).

Chelsea beat Manchester United 1-0 in the FA Cup Final in Wembley. Phil Jones gave away a penalty in the 22nd minute by taking Eden Hazard down in the box, the Belgian then hit the back of the net to clinch the win for the blues.

Real Madrid claimed their third Champions League trophy in a row after beating Liverpool 3-1. It is the first time a team has won the trophy three times in a row since Bayern Munich in the 1970s.

#### **June News Review**

US President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un meet for a summit in Singapore. The two leaders signed a statement that states North Korea will work to denuclearise the Korean peninsula and that the US will provide security guarantees. Donald Trump and South Korea also agreed to stop any joint military exercises.

A third runway at London's Heathrow Airport was approved by the Cabinet. Many environmental groups are opposed to the plan, while it is thought if the plan goes ahead it will cost over £2billion in compensation for residents and noise abatement measures.

MPs will vote on the proposal in July.

Greater Manchester
Police declared a major
incident after wildfires
continued to spread
across Saddleworth
Moor. Some homes had
been evacuated and the
Army was brought in to
help tackle the blaze.

House of Fraser announced it plans to close 31 out of its 59 stores, including its flagship store on London's Oxford Street. The stores will close in 2019 and will affect up to 6,000 jobs. The company had been struggling for a while and began with the pressures being faced on the UK high street.

The company Poundworld collapsed into administration after talks to rescue the company failed. It means 5,000 jobs are now at risk and its 335 stores may close.

Ikea announced it intends to phase out single-use plastic by 2020. The company also revealed its plans to move toward sustainability in its product design.

Volkswagen was fined €1billion (£880million) by German prosecutors after cheating on its diesel emissions testing. VW was found to have sold over 10,000 million cars between 2007 and 2015 which had the software

installed to cheat the emissions test. VW is not expected to appeal the fine.

Canada legalised cannabis for recreational use to over 18s. The news means Canada is the first G7 country to legalise the drug. Legal sales of cannabis will not be available for another 2-3 months.

Saudi Arabia lifted its ban on women driving. In a well-staged affair, a small number of women who were already granted a license were gifted flowers by police while others cheered.

### **June Sports Review**

The FIFA World Cup begins with the hosts Russia beating Saudi Arabia 5-0. The tournament involves 32 countries and will finish the following month.

Rafael Nadal wins his 11th French Open title after beating Dominic Thiem in three sets. In the women's draw, Simona Halep beat Sloane Stephens 2-1 after being a set down.

Brooks Koepka wins his second consecutive US Open at Shinnecock Hills in New York finishing 1 over par. The Englishman Tommy Fleetwood finished second on 2 over after a fourth round where he finished 7 under par.

The Golden State Warriors beat the Cleveland Cavalier in four games to win the NBA Championship.

**END** 

## Iconic Spaghetti Junction featured on big screen



Aerial view of Gravelly Hill Interchange, w:Birmingham a.k.a. Spaghetti Junction, by Highways Agency photo

It's stood tall above the city of Birmingham for the past 50 years – and now the foundations of Spaghetti Junction have played a part in Steven Spielberg's new big-screen adventure Ready Player One, now in

cinemas.

Highways England facilitated filming for Ready Player One underneath the iconic structure – known officially as Gravelly Hill interchange - in August and September 2016. The towering concrete columns, some reaching to 80 feet high, formed the ideal backdrop to the film, which is in cinemas now.

Special templates featuring graffiti were stuck to the concrete structures and various props added into the set, including cars and tyres, with a 'camp' constructed for the new film.

The crew took considerable effort to protect the structure and ensure nothing was damaged during filming. Emergency planning officer for Highways England, Frank Bird, said:

"see the structure on the big screen and we were more than happy to facilitate filming for the staff and crew that were down on-site. "We spent considerable weeks working with the film company and producers and they were really pleased to be allowed access underneath the road. It's not something that we do every day, but as it was a new Steven Spielberg film, it was an opportunity we couldn't refuse. Those travelling on the road had no idea what was taking place underneath and that is testament to the hard work and organisation that went into this facilitating this project.

"Work started on Spaghetti Junction some 50 years ago this year and it's great to see that the road continues to hold international acclaim."

The structure continues to carry more than 220,000 vehicles every day and is subject to regular maintenance projects, many of which go unseen by the travelling public.

# Soft Drinks Industry Levy comes into effect



The 'Sugar Tax' will help to reduce sugar in soft drinks and tackle childhood obesity.

Millions of children across the UK will benefit from the government's key milestone in tackling childhood obesity, as the Soft Drinks Industry Levy comes into effect.

The tax on soft drinks, commonly referred to as the 'Sugar Tax', has already resulted in over 50% of manufacturers reducing the sugar content of drinks since it was announced in March 2016 – the equivalent of 45 million kg of sugar every year.

Soft drinks manufacturers who don't reformulate will pay the levy, which is expected to raise £240 million each year. This money will go towards doubling the Primary Sports Premium, the creation of a Healthy Pupils Capital Fund to help schools upgrade their sports facilities, and give children access to top quality PE equipment.

The levy will also give a funding boost for healthy school breakfast clubs.

Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury, Robert Jenrick MP visited the Lucozade Ribena Suntory factory, which has led the way in reformulating its drinks alongside the likes of Tesco and Irn Bru.

He commented:

"The Soft Drinks Levy is one part of our plan to tackle childhood obesity. From Friday, soft drinks which contain too much added sugar will need to pay a fee.

"All revenues raised through the levy will directly fund new sports facilities in schools as well as healthy breakfast clubs, ensuring children lead healthier lives.

"We want to persuade manufacturers to reformulate their drinks and lower the sugar content. In the time between announcing this policy and it taking effect, more

than half of all soft drinks have been reformulated to lower the sugar content, including many of the best known soft drinks. We hope that will continue in the months and years to come."

In England alone, a third of children are obese or overweight when they leave primary school, and evidence shows that 80% of kids who are obese in their early teens will go on to be obese adults.

Public Health Minister, Steve Brine MP remarked:

"Our teenagers consume nearly a bathtub of sugary drinks each year on average, fuelling a worrying obesity trend in this country. The Soft Drinks Industry Levy is ground-breaking policy that will help to reduce sugar intake, whilst funding sports programmes and nutritious breakfast clubs for children.

"The progress made so far on our obesity plan is promising—but with one in three children still leaving primary school overweight or obese, we have not ruled out doing more in future."

## Trade rises on one year to go until Brexit milestone



New figures confirm exports of UK goods and services at a record high.

- exports rise faster than imports
- trade deficit significantly narrows by £12.1 billion
- overall, UK exports of goods and services have increased by 12.1% to £622.1 billion.

With one year to go until the UK's departure from the European Union, new trade figures released (Thursday, 29 March) reveal exports of UK goods and services is at a record high.

UK exporters received a significant boost as the

latest figures confirm global demand for UK goods and services is growing.

Data released from the Office for National Statistics shows in 2017, UK goods and services exports increased faster than imports - up 12.1% and 9.3%.

A drive in goods exports - up 13.4% - was due largely to demand for manufactured goods, and a rise in services exports - up 10.7% - was mainly driven for demand in UK business services. As a result the trade deficit narrowed significantly by £12.1 billion to £28.6 billion from £40.7 billion.

Non-EU countries continue to be the main destination for services exports (£171.4 billion), making up 61.3% of all services exports.

Overall, UK exports of goods

and services have increased by 12.1% to £622.1 billion.

Annually, the UK's current account deficit was £82.9 billion (4.1% of GDP) in 2017, a narrowing of £30.7 billion from a deficit of £113.6 billion in 2016; this is the narrowest deficit as a percentage of GDP since 2011 when it was 2.4%.

International Trade Secretary, Dr Liam Fox said:

More than one year on since the EU referendum, there are strong reasons for the UK to be optimistic. UK exports of goods and services have increased over the year and the UK deficit on trade in goods and services narrowed significantly.

It's clear evidence that UK companies are succeeding on the world stage, and as an international economic department we are banging the drum for the growing demand for our goods and services.

## BCC comments on inflation statistics for March 2018

Commenting on the inflation statistics for March 2018, Suren Thiru, Head of Economics at the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC), said:

"Inflation slowed again in March, confirming its downward trajectory. The largest downward pressure came from clothing and footwear prices which rose by less than a year ago. The latest figures also provide further confirmation that real wage growth has returned to positive territory.

"While interest rates are expected to rise next month, with UK economic growth likely to have slowed in the first quarter and inflation easing, the case for tightening monetary policy remains relatively weak. We'd caution against a sustained increase in interest rates as it could dampen confidence and weaken overall economic activity. More must also be done to lift confidence and growth, including addressing the escalating burden of up-front business costs."

# Government rudderless over murder wave



Leader of the UK Independence Party, Gerard Batten

The Home Secretary Amber Rudd is utterly out of her depth over the crime wave that has seen over 50 murders in London this year alone.

A leaked Home Office report said that government cuts to the police had "likely contributed" to a rise in serious violent crime. In an interview with BBC Radio 4 this morning, the Home Secretary admitted that she had not seen the report, while stating that "it is not all about police numbers."

UKIP Leader Gerard Batten commented:

"The first response of the authorities is to increase the number of police on patrols by 300, yet the Home Secretary claims that cutting 20,000 police officers has no impact on the crime rate. Either more police work or they do not. Rudd cannot have it both ways.

"Rudd admits that she failed to read the recent Home Office briefing on the impact of reduced police numbers before traipsing around the radio and television studios this morning. This underlines the point that neither she, nor the Government led by Theresa May, who as Home Secretary reduced stop and search and cut those police numbers in the first place, are fit for purpose.

"Every week reveals a new failure by the Home Secretary. Last week I called for her to step down over the Home Office losing track of 600,000 foreign visitors. I repeat my call for Amber Rudd to resign over this fresh fiasco."



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## Salisbury incident: Foreign Secretary statement on OPCW report



Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) Headquarters, The Hague, Netherlands

Boris Johnson has commented on the report issued by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) following the Salisbury attack.

Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson said:

"The international chemical weapons watchdog have confirmed the findings of the United Kingdom relating to the identity of the toxic chemical used in the attempted assassination of Mr Skripal and his daughter, and which also resulted in the hospitalisation of a British police officer. That was a military grade nerve agent – a Novichok.

"This is based on testing in four independent, highly reputable laboratories around the world. All returned the same conclusive results.

"There can be no doubt what was used and there remains no alternative explanation about who was responsible – only Russia has the means, motive and record.

"We invited the OPCW to test these samples to ensure strict adherence to international chemical weapons protocols. We have never doubted the analysis of our scientists at Porton Down.

"In the interest of transparency, and because unlike the Russians we have nothing to hide, we have asked the OPCW to publish the executive summary for all to see and to circulate the full report to all state parties of the OPCW, including Russia.

"We will now work tirelessly with our partners to help stamp out the grotesque use of weapons of this kind and we have called a session of the OPCW Executive Council next Wednesday to discuss next steps. The Kremlin must give answers.

"We must, as a world community, stand up for the rules based order which keeps us all safe. The use of weapons of this kind can never be justified, and must be ended."



## Country in full swing to party for the royal wedding



Pubs Minister Jake
Berry MP is encouraging
people to celebrate
the big day with their
community first at a
street party and later at
their local.

With just over 1 month to go until the royal wedding, Pubs Minister Jake Berry MP is encouraging people to celebrate the big day with their community first at a street party and later at their local.

Pub opening hours have been extended for the special occasion and the industry stands to get a £10 million boost from celebrations.

As well as heading to their local community pub, people are also being

urged to not leave it too late to plan a street party. Ahead of these royal celebrations we've updated our online guidance for those wishing to throw a street party and are providing a handy checklist and practical advice for what is needed.

Across the country councils are receiving hundreds of applications from residents wanting to hold a street party and while most councils are still accepting applications, people need to be quick if they haven't yet sent theirs in.

To date, Reading has received 12 applications for street parties, Richmond 54 and Bromley around 60, to name just a few, and with many councils waiving fees for street party road closures, the minister is also encouraging people to get their applications in on time.

To help these street parties be the best ever, we're encouraging people to share their top tips using the hashtag #StreetPartyTips. Recipes, costume ideas, decorations – we want to see the different ways in which people are planning to celebrate.

Pubs Minister Jake Berry MP said:

"Pubs are a cornerstone of many communities and I'm encouraging people to raise a glass to the happy couple in their local on May 19th.

"Up and down the country, councils have answered our call to make it easy for people to throw a street party fit for a prince and his bride."

National Chairman of the

Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA)
Colin Valentine said:

"CAMRA is not just raising a glass to the royal couple, but also to the government for their decision to extend pub opening hours during the Royal Wedding celebration.

"Pubs play a hugely important role in landmark days in peoples' lives, including weddings.

"Extending opening hours will provide a welcome boost to the industry and help ensure the public can celebrate, hopefully by toasting to the happy couple with a pint of traditional real ale."

Many councils, such as Salford, are screening the royal wedding in local parks, providing yet another way for people to celebrate the day.

For those living in areas where the deadline for submitting applications has already passed there are other ways in which you can celebrate. It is still possible to arrange a street meet on a driveway, parking area, front garden or end of a cul-de-sac.

The department's guidance includes a simple form people can use to let their local council know about their plans and information on how to apply for a road closure as well as information on playing music, insurance and fund raising.

## Foreign Secretary announces £9m to save our oceans



Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson commits £9 million to protect the marine environment and drive economic development in Commonwealth small island states.

Britain will use its position as a leading maritime nation to help Commonwealth Small Island Developing states (SIDS) drive economic development and make the most of their marine environments.

Foreign Secretary Boris

Johnson, will announce £9 million over two years to help Commonwealth Small Island Developing states (SIDS) use their marine resources to sustainably grow their economies. The funding which will be delivered through the Commonwealth Marine Economies programme will also safeguard healthy seas and build resilience against environmental disasters.

Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson said:

"Britain is using its seafaring prowess to help reverse the decline of our oceans.

"Our oceans are the largest living space on Earth with a delicate and complex biodiversity. They are not only integral to the economy, but crucial to supporting the cultures, food and security of the world.

"We must as a Commonwealth protect our marine inheritance. That's why this £9 million will help Commonwealth small island states sustainably develop their maritime environment to create jobs and drive growth."

The Foreign Office is on course to safeguard over four million square kilometres of ocean by 2020 through its Overseas Territories Blue Belt programme. The programme's scientific expeditions around St Helena have discovered a potential new species of octopus. Evidence is now being put to the international scientific community for formal validation.

Through projects in the SIDS such as seabed mapping, sustainable tourism and identifying marine pollution hotspots, the UK will share its world-renowned expertise to help SIDS tackle climate change, reduce poverty and boost the blue economy.

Many Commonwealth countries are at the coalface of climate change, even though their populations account for a tiny fraction of the world's greenhouse emissions. Mr Johnson wants to build global political momentum to ensure that this generation leaves the environment in a better state than we found it.

### Asian hornet identified in Lancashire



An example of an Asian hornet

# An Asian hornet has been found in Lancashire and surveillance activity is underway.

The National Bee Unit has confirmed a sighting of the Asian hornet in the Bury area of Lancashire. It was spotted by a member of the public in a cauliflower, which has since been traced back to Boston, Lincolnshire.

The Asian hornet is smaller than our native hornet and poses no greater risk to human health than a bee. However, they do pose a risk to honey bees and work is already underway to identify any nests,

which includes setting up a surveillance zone and traps in the two identified locations and deploying bee inspectors to visit local beekeepers.

This is the first confirmed sighting since last year, when a nest was discovered in Woolacombe in North Devon. That Asian hornet incursion was successfully contained by bee inspectors who promptly tracked down and destroyed the nest.

Nicola Spence, Defra Deputy Director for Plant and Bee Health, said:

"While the Asian Hornet poses no greater risk to human health than a bee, we recognise the damage they can cause to honey bee colonies. That's why we are taking swift and robust action to locate and investigate any nests in the Bury and Boston areas following this confirmed

sighting.

"Following the successful containment of the Asian hornet incursion in North Devon last year, we have a well-established protocol in place to eradicate them and control any potential spread.

"We remain vigilant across the country, working closely with the National Bee Unit and their nationwide network of bee inspectors."

Bee inspectors from APHA National Bee Unit will be carrying out surveillance and monitoring in a 1-2 km radius around the initial sighting. Additional monitoring and surveillance will be carried out in the Boston area where the cauliflower was grown.

If you suspect you have seen an Asian hornet you can report this using the iPhone and Android app 'Asian Hornet Watch' or by emailing alertnonnative@ ceh.ac.uk. Identification guides and more information are available.

## UKIP: Lords betray the common people

An amendment in the House of Lords calling for the UK to continue in a customs union with the EU passed by a majority of 123 votes. The vote, tabled by crossbencher Lord Kerr was backed by several senior Tories, as well as Labour and the Lib Dems.

UKIP Leader Gerard Batten is outraged by the result of the vote, describing it as a betrayal of the people.

Mr Batten said:

"The vote by the House of Lords to remain in the Customs Union is a clear betrayal of the 17.4 million people who voted Leave. Those people did not vote to be half in, half out of the EU.

"The Commons must reject the Kerr Amendment or put itself in opposition to the people.

"Lord Kerr was the man who drafted Article 50 in such a way that EU exit can be delayed, impeded and overturned. Acting true to form he is now trying to carry it through to its purpose.

"UKIP will continue to fight for a complete and clean exit from the EU."

### Call for more farming support after year of 'brutal' weather



Scottish Shadow rural affairs secretary Peter Chapman

Farmers need increased financial support following 12 months of "brutal" weather for the industry, the Scottish Conservatives have said.

Shadow rural affairs secretary Peter Chapman called on the Scottish Government to provide farmers across the country with additional help amid rising death rates of cattle and sheep.

He said the 'Beast from the East' has led to more fatalities of cows and sheep, while the poor weather across the previous summer and autumn reduced the quality of feed, leaving stock in poor condition. Silage quality is also very poor, he added, with feed and straw stock scarce and expensive.

That comes on the back of farmers already struggling to cope with the SNP's farm payments fiasco, which starved rural Scotland of hundreds of millions of pounds in recent years.

Farming income across Scotland has almost halved in the past six years.

Scottish Conservative shadow rural affairs secretary Peter Chapman said:

"The farming sector has been struggling for some time and it's due to a range of factors.

"It's nobody's fault the weather has been so terrible, and of course there's very little that can be done to mitigate the impact at the time.

"But it's not just the 'Beast from the East' that's hurt farmers – the weather across the whole year has been very poor.

"There has been a big rise in deaths of cattle and sheep, and the quality of silage has been very poor – this all has a cost to an industry already struggling to get by.

"This is where the Scottish Government should step in to help.

"Our hill farmers in particular need some extra help at this time.

"Assistance with the lifting of fallen stock would be one thing that could be easily done.

"Getting rid of the hated three-crop rule for this year would also be warmly received.

"And it would all go some way to reversing the damage caused by the SNP's shambolic handling of vital CAP payments in recent years."

# Carillion: Official Receiver's update



A spokesperson for the Official Receiver said:

11,450 employees have been found secure ongoing

employment as a further 357 jobs have now been saved with employees transferring to new suppliers who have picked up contracts Carillion had been delivering.

2,257 jobs have been made redundant through the liquidation.

Regretably 36 employees, whose positions are no longer required as Carillion's business transfers to new suppliers, will leave the business later this week. Jobcentre Plus' Rapid Response Service will provide them with every support to find new work.

I continue to talk with potential purchasers for Carillion's remaining contracts and will keep staff, elected employee representatives and unions to keep them informed as these arrangements are confirmed.

# Wright of Derby masterpiece at risk of leaving the UK



Arts minister steps in to prevent An Academy by Lamplight by Joseph Wright of Derby from export

Arts Minister Michael Ellis has placed a temporary export bar on An Academy by Lamplight by Joseph Wright to provide an opportunity to keep it in the country.

An Academy by Lamplight is one of the most ambitious and earliest paintings by Joseph Wright and is at risk of being exported from the

UK unless a buyer can be found to match the asking price of £7,456,440.

Joseph Wright (1734 - 1797) was one of the most distinctive and gifted British painters of the eighteenth century. Nicknamed the 'Painter of Light' for the candle lit scenes he produced early in his career, Wright was a frequent contributor to the exhibitions of the Society of Artists, and to those of the Royal Academy. Wright's works record the struggles of the

development of science against traditional religious values during the age of enlightenment.

Wright's works are most famous for his exceptional use of the chiaroscuro effect, which emphasises the contrast of light and dark. An Academy in Lamplight was probably completed in 1769 and is generally considered to be the first of two versions of this subject. The other version of this work is now held at the Yale Centre for British Art in New Haven, USA.

Arts Minister Michael Ellis said:

"Wright is one of the most preeminent painters of the Age of Enlightenment. His works help us to better understand the mix of religion and science in this period of huge industrial development. I hope that a buyer can be found to keep this extraordinary painting in the country so that it can be enjoyed by future generations."

The decision to defer the export licence follows a recommendation by the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art and Objects of Cultural Interest (RCEWA), administered by The Arts Council.

Art Historian and former RCEWA Member Philippa Glanville said:

"Educating and enlightening young people was a constant theme in Wright's paintings; in this vivid depiction of a drawing class, he has captured the varied responses of boys and youths to a female statue, typically bathed in light. Accurate observation and recording was an essential life skill, both for artisans and for privileged children, as these silk-clad youths appear to be."

The RCEWA made its recommendation on the grounds of the paintings outstanding significance for the study of art education and its representation of the early history of the Society of Artists of Great Britain. The technical ability of the painter was also noted.

The decision on the export licence application for the painting will be deferred until 31 July 2018. This may be extended until 31 January 2019 if a serious intention to raise funds to purchase it is made at the recommended price of £7,456,440.

# CCTV becomes mandatory in all abattoirs in England

Legislation requiring CCTV in all abattoirs in England comes into force.

In the latest move to cement the UK's position as a global leader in animal welfare standards, legislation requiring CCTV in all abattoirs in England comes into force 4th May.

This follows a consultation by the Secretary of State last August on plans to deliver the government's manifesto commitment for cameras in every abattoir in England in all areas where live animals are present. Other recent reforms to improve animal welfare include: the maximum sentence for animal cruelty tenfold to 5 years

- launching a call for evidence on the live export of animals
- banning back street puppy breeders
- ending the third party sales of puppies
- publishing updated animal welfare codes

Official Veterinarians will have unrestricted access to footage to reassure consumers that high welfare standards are being effectively enforced.

All slaughterhouses will be required to comply in full

by 5 November, following an adjustment period of 6 months to enable businesses to install a suitable CCTV system.

Animal Welfare Minister Lord Gardiner said:

"The government shares the public's high regard for animal welfare and we are proud to have some of the highest standards in the world. We welcome the new law which requires mandatory CCTV in all abattoirs in England.

"We are a nation that cares about animals and these strong measures will ensure all animals are treated with the utmost respect at all stages of life allows us to continue to lead the way to raise the bar in high welfare standards."

# BCC: Evidence of need for Apprenticeship reform mounting

Commenting on the Apprenticeship statistics released by the Department of Education, Jane Gratton, Head of Skills at the British Chambers of Commerce said:

"Since the introduction of the apprenticeship reforms, the statistics have shown a marked decline in the number of apprenticeship starts and, sadly, the latest numbers are no different.

"There is consensus across the UK business community that the Levy needs reform, yet our calls continue to go unanswered. We are not asking for a complete overhauleveryone wants this system to work better. Each month the number of apprenticeships is falling, so now has to be the time for government to work with business and training providers to sort things out."

• proposals to increase

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### **Earthquakes on Mars**

A new mission to Mars involving UK science will be the first to study the heart of the Red Planet and measure 'Marsquakes' from its surface.

The NASA InSight mission, which stands for Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport, is due to launch from California aboard a United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket at 12.05pm (BST) 5th May.

The InSight Lander will use cutting-edge instruments to delve beneath the surface and investigate the interior of Mars to improve our understanding of how such planets formed. It will also study tectonic activity and meteorite impacts, both of which could provide valuable knowledge about these events on Earth.

The UK Space Agency has invested £4 million in one of the key instruments onboard; the short period Seismometer (SEIS-SP). This will be on the surface of Mars to measure seismic waves from Marsquakes. Scientists expect to detect anywhere between a dozen and a hundred of these tremors up to 6.0 on the Richter scale over the course of two years.

Sam Gyimah, Science Minister, said:

"The UK is playing an important role in this exciting mission to unlock the deepest secrets of our nearest neighbour in the solar system. An instrument that started life in a London university laboratory will end it on the surface of Mars detecting quakes and meteor strikes for the first time.

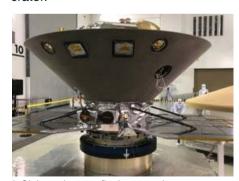
"It's a great example of the importance of international collaboration and our work with the space sector as part of our Industrial Strategy, to ensure the UK remains at the forefront of pioneering science and exploration.

The spacecraft is due to arrive on the surface of Mars on 26 November. The mission will conduct six science investigations on and below the surface of Mars to uncover the evolutionary history that shaped all of the rocky planets in the inner solar system.

The UK instrument will work together with seismometers from France, as well as major contributions from Switzerland, Germany and the US. Other instruments on board include RISE, a precision radio tracking of the lander that can determine the direction and motion of the rotation

of Mars and the HP3 (Heat Flow and Physical Properties Probe) which will study heat flow by embedding a temperature sensor under the surface of Mars.

The UK space sector is playing a leading role in efforts to explore the solar system with additional collaborative projects including the ExoMars mission which will search for evidence of life on Mars using a rover on the surface and a spacecraft in orbit above it. The rover is designed and built in Britain by Airbus for launch in 2020 and the spacecraft recently returned the first photos from its new orbit showing an ice-filled, Martian crater.



InSight undergoes final preparations at the Vandenberg Air Force Base in Central California, ahead of its launch Credit: NASA

# "We must all work together to challenge ageist stereotypes" – Huw Irranca-Davies



Speaking at the Welsh Senate of Older People in Cardiff, the Minister will say he wants Wales to be a nation that recognises and values the many and varied contributions older people make to creating vibrant and supportive communities.

He will say he's committed to working with older people to "combat ageist stereotypes and to ensure people of all ages can work together to create the vibrant and supportive communities that we all want."

Minister for Children, Older People and Social Care, Huw Irranca-Davies will say:

"We all know that people in Wales are living longer and healthier lives, and this is to be celebrated. However, it does concern me many older people feel negative images of ageing in the media are creating conflict between the generations.

"In order to publicly demonstrate the Welsh Government's commitment to older people, last week the First Minister announced that my job title has been changed to include older people. I am delighted that this allows

me to more visibly act as a champion for older people's rights, something which is really important to me.

"Changing my job title is not merely a tokenistic gesture. It will be underpinned by a programme of work that will build on Phase 3 of the Strategy for Older People. We will focus on the key issues older people tell us matter to them and I will ensure you are involved at every stage of this process.

"As Minister for Older People, I will work with you to combat ageist stereotypes and to ensure people of all ages can work together to create the vibrant and supportive communities that we all want."

## Jim Carver MEP RESIGNS from UKIP

UKIP Leader Gerard Batten said: "I have just heard that Jim Carver MEP has resigned from UKIP. I immediately spoke to Jim on the telephone. He was unable or unwilling to give me a coherent reason for his resignation. I spoke to him earlier this week and he gave me no indication of his intentions.

"I asked him to do the decent and honourable thing and resign his MEP seat and make way for the next UKIP person on the Party List. He refused.

"I am sorry to say Jim has joined the ranks of those without honour who continue to take the salary, expenses and pension which they would never have had without the sacrifice of ordinary UKIP members.

"UKIP will continue its fight for a complete exit from the European Union."

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# First measure of industry progress to cut sugar unveiled



Public Health England (PHE) has published the first assessment of progress on the government's sugar reduction programme, measuring how far the food industry has gone towards reducing the sugar children consume through everyday foods.

As part of the government's plan to reduce childhood obesity, the food industry, including retailers, manufacturers, restaurants, cafés and pub chains, has

been challenged to cut 20% of sugar from a range of products by 2020, with a 5% reduction in the first year.

Progress towards meeting the 5% ambition is the focus of this report and is assessed against a 2015 baseline. The assessment shows an encouraging initial start from retailers and manufacturers, achieving a 2% reduction in both average sugar content and calories in products likely to be consumed in one go.

Whilst this doesn't meet the 5% ambition, PHE recognises there are more sugar reduction plans from the food industry in the pipeline – and some changes to products that are not yet captured in the data as they took effect after the first year cut-off point. For the 8 food categories where progress has been measured, the assessment also shows:

- there have been reductions in sugar levels across 5 categories
- yoghurts and fromage frais, breakfast cereals, and sweet spreads and sauces have all met or exceeded the initial 5% sugar reduction ambition
- sugar levels are generally the same across all sectors, however for the eating out of home sector, portion sizes in products likely to be consumed in one go are substantially larger – on average more than double – those of retailers and manufacturers

Retailers and manufacturers have also reduced calories in products likely to be consumed in one go in 4 categories, for example by reducing the size of the product. Of these, ice cream, lollies and sorbets, and yoghurts and fromage frais have reduced average calories by more than 5%.

As part of the programme, businesses are encouraged to focus efforts on their top selling products within 10 categories that contribute the most sugar to the diets of children up to 18 years of age. They have 3 options to help them do this – reduce sugar levels (reformulation), provide smaller portions, or encourage consumers to purchase lower or no sugar products.

Progress is also reported on the drinks covered by the government's Soft Drinks Industry Levy (SDIL). Sugar has been reduced by 11% and average calories per portion by 6% by retailers and manufacturers in response to the SDIL. Data also shows people are buying more drinks that have sugar levels below the SDIL cut-off of 5g per 100g.

With a third of children leaving primary school overweight or obese, PHE continues to call for increased action from all sectors of the food industry to achieve the 20% reduction ambition by 2020.

## Campaign branches out to protect UK's mighty oaks



Action Oak contributes to the Government's 25-year Environment Plan by helping to protect the country's 121 million precious oak trees for future generations

A major new campaign to protect the UK's mighty oak trees from threats including pests and diseases has been officially launched at the 2018 Chelsea Flower Show by Lord Gardiner, Defra's Biosecurity Minister.

The Action Oak Partnership - made up of charities, environmental organisations and landowners – is seeking to raise £15 million for research and monitoring to help safeguard the

121 million oaks in UK woodlands.

Work will include capturing the first detailed picture of the current health of oaks trees, helping to gain a greater understanding of how to preserve their iconic position in our landscape for generations to come.

The campaign contributes to the Government's 25-year Environment Plan, which was launched by the Prime Minister in January, by helping to strengthen biosecurity and build resilience to protect oaks for future generations. It also builds on the £37 million the Government is already investing in tree and plant health research.

Action Oak is supported by The Prince of Wales, who convened a cross-sector meeting on the issue of plant health and biosecurity at Highgrove, his residence in Gloucestershire, in February. HRH is also the Patron of Woodland Heritage, the charity that will be administering funds raised by the campaign.

Defra Biosecurity Minister Lord Gardiner said:

"Protecting our country from pests and diseases, so our trees and plants can thrive in the future, is a priority for this Government and we are proud to be backing this campaign.

"The Action Oak Partnership provides a one-off opportunity to shape the future of our oak trees and make sure they continue to have a place in our landscape.

"The combined knowledge of all the organisations involved will be vital in protecting these majestic trees, contributing to help us be the first generation to leave the environment in a better state than we found it.

The Action Oak Partnership includes The Woodland

Trust, Woodland Heritage, National Trust, The Duchy of Cornwall, Forest Research, Royal Botanical Gardens Kew, the Forestry Commission and the Northern Ireland Forest Service, and is supported by Defra, Scottish, Wales and Northern Ireland governments.

Action Oak has already attracted support from foundations, businesses, artists and celebrities including:

- Dame Judi Dench, a well-known tree lover – a 3D scan of her favourite oak tree will be displayed on the Action Oak stand at Chelsea
- •British ceramicist Emma Bridgewater

   has created a bespoke Action Oak
  mug which will go on sale later in
  the year in support of Partnership,
  with a portion of the proceeds going
  towards Action Oak research
- •The Monument Trust, one of the Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts – has donated a further £500,000 towards research into Acute Oak Decline (AOD)
- •The JABBS Foundation, a private family charitable foundation based in Birmingham has pledged over £565,000 towards research examining oak tree defences at the University of Birmingham for Forest Research

# Scientists tracking the 'life signature' of Britain

The British Geological
Survey has released
a new interactive
web tool that maps
out the geographical
variation in the isotope
signatures of Britain.
This map, which includes
strontium, oxygen and
sulphur data, enables
the determination of the
provenance of food and
drink or archaeological
remains.

The fruit and vegetables we eat contain signatures or patterns depending on the type of ground in which they were grown. Britain has a very diverse but well-understood range of rock types, all with particular signatures, and so it is possible to match the composition of food to the geology on which it would have grown. This exciting



Figure showing the base maps for strontium, oxygen and sulphur isotope distribution in the biosphere across Great Britain.

method of analysing food can help us understand more about the provenance of the food on our plate or the grapes in our wine.

These signatures can also be passed on to humans when they eat the food, and are preserved in teeth as we grow from child to adult. By applying the same theory to archaeological remains, scientists can analyse the

signatures in our ancestors' teeth to begin to understand where they may have lived. For instance, the analysis may result in identifying that someone spent their childhood eating food from the eastern, coastal regions of Britain, or from granite highlands.

The Biosphere Isotopes Domains Map (GBV1), which is available via an interactive website, presents layers of information including strontium (Sr), oxygen (O) and sulphur (S) isotope compositions. These data can be viewed as an individual map layer, or together to determine the provenance of your fruit and veg. Using the different layers on the map it is possible to define a number of factors that characterise a geographical location. For example, it is possible to identify sparkling white wine that comes from grapes grown on the Chalk Downs near the sea.

Another major use for the website is in archaeology. Elements ingested during childhood often have their 'fingerprint' preserved in the teeth of our ancestors. Following analysis of the teeth, users can input their data and the website will produce a map (that can be downloaded) showing the areas in Britain that best match the measurement. This could narrow down the geographical location much in the same way that the game 'Guess Who' identifies your opponent's character.

The aim is to continue to develop this map, and add information as it becomes available to further improve the precision of the website.







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# Tougher regulation for funeral plan providers



The government will consult on tougher regulation for the prepaid funeral plan sector to protect the elderly and their families.

New plans to stop grieving families from being ripped off have been announced. The government will consult on tougher regulation for the pre-paid funeral plan sector, and propose bringing the market into the supervision of the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

People at their most vulnerable are being pressured, harassed and misled by some pre-paid funeral plan providers, according to research conducted by Citizens Advice Scotland and Fairer Finance. Approximately 95% of the funeral plan sector is voluntarily regulated by the Funeral Planning Authority (FPA), a self-regulatory body.

The FPA does not have the power to prevent pre-paid

funeral plan providers from trading, and while it does have a code of practice for its members, this code is not legally binding.

John Glen, Economic Secretary to the Treasury said:

"I'm appalled by the lengths that some dishonest salesmen have gone to in order to sell a funeral plan. It breaks my heart to think that our oldest and most vulnerable are being pressured into funeral plans that leaves their grieving families out of pocket.

"There are thousands of pre-paid funeral plans bought each year, and most providers are fair and legitimate. But tougher regulation will ensure robust standards are enforced for all plan providers, and protect individuals and their families if things go wrong."

Demand for funeral plans

has grown significantly in recent years, with annual sales up roughly 245% between 2006 and 2017, but the regulations have remained unchanged since 2001.

James Daley, Managing Director of Fairer Finance, said:

"Funeral plans are an important and valuable product, and we hope regulation of this sector will give responsible companies the chance to thrive, and give consumers the necessary reassurances they need to buy in confidence.

"People who buy funeral plans are not around to measure delivery against their expectations, which is why it's so important there are clear rules around how companies must behave. And with most plans costing over £3,000 – it's important that customers can have total confidence that their money is safe.

In parallel to this call for evidence, the Competition and Markets Authority has launched a market study into the supply of funerals in the United Kingdom.

## CMA investigates funerals sector



The CMA is launching a review into the £2 billion funerals market to ensure that people are not getting a bad deal.

The Competition and Markets Authority's (CMA) market study will examine whether the information provided by funeral directors on prices and services is clear enough for people to be able to choose the best option for them.

It will also look at how prices have changed over time and the factors that affect them.

The average cost of a funeral was nearly £3,800

in 2017 – not counting extras that can add another £2000 to the total bill.

Affordability and debt can therefore be a real concern to many people, with those on the lowest incomes potentially spending up to one third of their annual income on a funeral.

The rising level of cremation fees will be considered as part of the review, with cremations now estimated to account for around 75% of all funerals.

In parallel to the CMA's market study, HM Treasury is launching a separate Call for Evidence on regulation in the pre-paid funerals sector. The CMA therefore does not intend to examine the pre-paid sector within its market study.

Daniel Gordon, Senior Director of Markets at the CMA, said:

"People can understandably be very emotionally vulnerable when planning a funeral. We therefore think it is important that – at what can be a particularly challenging time – the process is made as easy as possible.

"As part of this study, we want to ensure that people can at least receive clear information on prices and the services making up a funeral, and that people get a fair deal on the cremation fees charged."

An interim report, presenting initial findings and views on potential remedies, will be published in 6 months, ahead of the final report in a year's time.

If it finds issues of particular concern, the CMA could take further action, such as opening consumer or competition enforcement cases or launching a full market investigation.

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The company is celebrating its return to the 'of the moment' Windsor Chair design with a comprehensive and all embracing range of furniture elements.





### Hooligans blocked from going to World Cup

More than 1,200 troublemakers with a history of football-related disorder have been blocked from going to the World Cup after a joint operation by police and the Home Office.

The Football Banning Orders Authority (FBOA) – part of the Home Office – ordered 1,312 banned individuals who hold a passport to surrender it to police on Monday 4 and Tuesday 5 June.

The latest figures released show that forces in England and Wales have accounted for 1,254 passports.

This represents 96% of the people currently subject to football banning orders who hold a passport. Police will continue to root out the small number of outstanding passports throughout the tournament.

Police will hold the passports until the World

Cup final on 15 July.

Forces throughout England and Wales have carried out enforcement action against banned individuals who failed to surrender their passports. This will continue throughout the tournament.

Minister for Policing and the Fire Service Nick Hurd said:

"The World Cup is a festival

of football and is no place for violence or disorder. The UK's system of football banning orders is unique and means that people intent on causing trouble in Russia will instead be staying at home. I'm grateful to police forces for taking the necessary enforcement action to ensure that these

thugs won't be able to ruin the tournament for real fans."

Football-related arrests have fallen to an all-time low since the introduction of football banning orders in 2000.

Football banning orders are imposed by courts and can last for up to 10 years. Breaching a banning order is a criminal offence and can result in a fine of

up to £5,000 and a six-month prison sentence.

In addition to the banning orders, police will be deployed at major UK ports during the World Cup to stop known troublemakers from travelling to Russia before and during the tournament.

Officers will identify

people likely to become involved in football-related disorder and stop them from travelling to Russia.

A UK policing delegation will travel to Russia, at the host country's request, to work with their local counterparts to assist in ensuring a safe and troublefree tournament for England fans.

Deputy Chief Constable Mark Roberts, the National Lead for football policing, said:

"Over the past 30 years the UK has made steady progress in eradicating the behaviour of those intent on engaging in football-related violence and disorder. Ahead of the World Cup. a comprehensive policing operation has been in place across the country to account for passports of those on banning orders, which has once again seen only a handful of those outstanding. The legislation used for banning orders is the most effective of its kind, and affords us the ability to ensure the vast majority of England supporters travelling to Russia are genuine fans who simply want to enjoy the tournament."

Around 10,000 people are expected to travel from the UK to Russia to attend the World Cup.

RUSSIA 2018

### Design Icon: The Jaguar E-Type

By Paul Bazeley

The Jaguar E-Type is often named in peoples top 5 cars of all time and is often hailed as the best looking car ever produced. Since the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, the E-Type is finding itself in the spotlight once again as the newlyweds were seen in a special, one of a kind Jaguar E-Type Concept Zero, which is an electric version of the classic as they were taken from Windsor Castle to Frogmore House for their evening reception.

It was the 15 March 1961 when the Jaguar E-Type was first unveiled to the world at the Geneva Auto Salon. The car was an instant success with Enzo Ferrari claiming it to be 'the most beautiful car in the world.'

There is the famous story that Jaguar had lent the

E-Type to a couple of journalists meaning they didn't get the car back until the last minute, Bob Berry, a Jaguar executive, then drove to Geneva and arrived with 20 minutes to spare. Demand was so great for test drives that Sir William Lvons, the founder and boss of Jaguar, decided to order another one to the show. It was the now legendary, Norman Dewis, Jaguar's test driver, who was tasked with getting the car from Coventry to Geneva overnight, he arrived to applause and the story is now part of Jaguar folklore.

Before the E-Type was unveiled at Geneva there had been a lot of work gone into the car. Using the D-Type as a starting point it was Malcolm Sayer that created the E1A prototype in 1957. The E1A was smaller in size and had a smaller 2.4-litre engine. An



A 1961 Jaguar E-Type Series 1 3.8 Litre. This one is the first production open two-seater an Museum. By DeFacto from Wikimedia Commons



d is on permanent loan to the Jaguar Heritage Collection at the British Motor

E2A prototype was also made in 1960 before the E-Type was finally released the following year.

When the E-Type was finally finished the shape had been refined and the car made larger, it is believed by some that this was so the car would also appeal to the American market. and the engine had gone up to a 3.8-litre engine. The car boasted 265bhp and a four-speed manual gearbox, 0-60 in around seven seconds and Jaquar claimed the car could reach 150mph, although this is probably not correct for the E-Types sold on the market it was still a very quick car at a time when some cars struggled to reach 70mph.

Not only did the car have the looks and the speed, Jaguar retailed the car at approximately £2100 for the Roadster and £2200 for the Coupe (that is roughly £39,000 today), it was about half the price of its rivals. The car also featured an

independent rear suspension, which would be used on Jaguars for about 40 years, and all-around disc brakes. It was not only fast, good-looking and relatively affordable it was also advanced for the time.

The car was a huge success and went on to sell 70,000 units in 14 years. Some say the later Series 2 and Series 3 models lost some of the magic, however, the car remained popular with anyone and everyone seemingly wanting a Jaguar E-Type.

In 1975 Jaguar ceased manufacturing the E-Type. Nevertheless, the car had left its mark on not only the car world but the design world too. In 1996 a blue E-Type Roadster was put on permanent display in the New York City Museum of Modern Art, it is one of six cars to receive the honour.

Jaguar released the F-Type Jaguar in 2013, a car which is certainly a homage to the E-Type. While many were excited by the prospect of an electric E-Type maybe coming to the market it is thought the car used at the Royal Wedding was a one-off. It looks like we'll have to settle for the F-Type or pay for the classic, for now anyway.

# Focus on brisk walking, not just 10,000 steps, say health experts

With an estimated 3 million middle-aged adults physically inactive across the country, Public Health England (PHE) and the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) are encouraging adults to incorporate brisk walking into their days as a way to improve their general health and wellbeing.

As part of the push to get adults doing more moderate intensity physical activity each day, health experts are encouraging people to increase the intensity of their walking, rather than just focus on the distance or number of steps.

Moderate intensity physical activity means getting the heart rate up and breathing faster. Just 10 minutes of brisk walking a day is an easy way for adults to introduce more moderate

intensity physical activity into their day and reduce their risk of early death by up to 15%.

Taking a 10 minute brisk walk each day can help build up towards the UK Chief Medical Officers' (CMO) recommendation of at least 150 minutes per week of moderate to vigorous physical activity. This has been linked to health benefits including a lowered risk of type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease and some cancers.

A new survey by PHE looking at people's perceptions of physical activity found that:

 many adults struggle to fit in exercise. Not having enough time (31%) was the main reason cited, followed by not feeling motivated (27%) and being too tired (25%)

- half of these adults (50%) think more than 240 minutes of exercise per week is required to see general health benefits, nearly double the recommended guidance of at least 150 minutes and 1 in 7 (15%) think that more than 420 minutes per week is required (an hour per day)
- nearly nine in 10 (87%) say they walk more than 10 minutes per day, however, this drops to just over half (54%) who say they walk briskly for this amount of time

The current physical inactivity crisis also has a societal impact. In adults, physical inactivity contributes to 1 in 6 deaths in the UK and costs the NHS over £0.5 billion per year.

Professor Sir Muir Gray, Clinical Adviser for the Active 10 app and One You campaign, said:

"The additional health benefits that can be achieved by walking at a brisk pace for periods of 10 minutes or more – as opposed to totting up a certain number of steps throughout the day – are undeniable.

"I'd advise anyone of any age and activity level to start to fit in at least one 10 minute brisk walk a day as a simple way to get more active, especially those who may be taking medication for a long term health condition – you will receive even more benefits from walking briskly for 10 minutes or more a day."

Already 600,000 people have downloaded the 'Active 10' app. In a single month, approximately 2 million 'Active 10s' (10-minute brisk walks) were completed by Active 10 users.

Search 'Active 10' to download the app for free.



# New power to target hostile state activity

As part of the Counter-Terrorism and Border Security Bill, the government will create a new power to investigate hostile state activity.

The government has introduced new legislation to Parliament to give police new powers to investigate hostile state activity at the border.

The measure, announced by the Prime Minister following the attack in Salisbury, forms part of the Counter-Terrorism and Border Security Bill.

Using the new power, the police or dedicated immigration or customs officers will be able to stop, question, search and detain an individual at a port, airport or border area to determine whether he or she is, or has been, engaged in hostile activity.



Secretary of State for the Home Department, The Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP

Home Secretary, Sajid Javid said:

"We judge that it was highly likely that the Russian state carried out the appalling attack in Salisbury which demonstrates why the police need robust powers to investigate, identify and challenge those acting against our interests.

"This is a necessary and proportionate response to the threat and will, of course, be subject to strict safeguards and robust oversight to assure its proper use."

The power will be subject to robust oversight by the Investigatory Powers Commissioner Sir Adrian Fulford and the bill includes provisions for safeguards to protect legally privileged and journalistic material.

The UK faces a sustained threat from hostile state actors seeking to undermine national security in a variety of ways, including espionage and, as the attack in Salisbury made clear, violence against individuals.

As announced in the government's strengthened counter-terrorism strategy, the legislation will also introduce a variety of new laws to respond to the unprecedented terrorist threat, allowing earlier intervention to disrupt

terrorism. These include:

- amending certain terrorism offences to update them for the digital age, to reflect contemporary patterns of radicalisation and to close gaps in their scope
- strengthening the sentencing framework for terrorism-related offences and the power for m a n a g i n g terrorist offenders following their release from custody, including by increasing the maximum penalty for certain offences, to ensure that the punishment properly reflects the crime and to better prevent re-offending
- strengthening the powers of the police to prevent terrorism and investigate terrorist offences

The bill will also amend the Reinsurance (Acts of Terrorism) Act 1993 so that the government-backed terrorism reinsurer, Pool Re, can extend its business interruption cover to include losses that are not contingent on physical damage to commercial property.

# Online dating giant vows clearer path to love



Venntro Media Group Ltd (Venntro), which has over 55 million users worldwide and supplies online dating services through just under 3,500 websites, has been investigated by the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) over concerns about misleading claims and how it used people's personal data.

Venntro operates dating sites on behalf of major media outlets and other organisations, including both general and specialist sites that were marketed to people looking for a partner with a specific hobby, interest, ethnicity, locality or religion.

The CMA discovered that people who signed up to Venntro's websites were often unaware their information would be stored in a central database and that their profiles might be visible on the company's other dating sites. It also saw complaints from people who said they had signed up for sites featuring explicit adult content without realising that they were doing so.

The CMA was therefore concerned people could have signed up for a specialist site, yet some of the profiles they saw and people they paid to interact with were not actually subscribers to that site and did not necessarily share their interests. It was also worried that in certain circumstances messages sent between these people would not be received.

As a result of the CMA's investigation, Venntro has made legally binding commitments to make it clear to people before they sign up that it will share their information on other sites and obtain their full agreement to do this. It must provide a list of these sites and will not place members' profiles on sites containing explicit adult material without their additional active consent.

Venntro must also make it easier for people to delete their profile when their subscription ends and not make misleading claims about the number of members on its sites, or the number of messages sent through those sites.

George Lusty, Senior Director for Consumer Protection at the CMA, said:

"With millions of people trusting dating sites to find their perfect match, it's important they fully understand how personal information will be used, before they sign up, and that sites tell the truth about what they can offer.

"We took action against Venntro because we were concerned people's profiles were being placed on sites without their knowledge or permission, and that they were being misled about how likely they were to meet someone with common ground. As a result of our investigation, Venntro has now pledged to be more upfront with its customers in future."

In addition to this action against Venntro, the CMA has sent warning letters to 14 other leading dating websites and app providers demanding they review their terms and practices to ensure they are fair and comply with consumer protection law.

Together with the UK's privacy regulator, the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), the CMA has published advice for online dating businesses to explain how to fully comply with both consumer and data protection laws. It has also published advice about what people should watch out for when using online dating services.

# Government sets out next steps for Heathrow expansion



MPs decisively backed plans for a new north-west runway at the airport – in a significant move for a global Britain.

In the House of Commons, MPs voted in favour of the Airports National Policy Statement (NPS) by 415 votes to 119.

Construction on a third runway at Heathrow could start within 3 years

following the historic vote in Parliament yesterday.

Transport Secretary
Chris Grayling formally
designated the Airports
NPS, paving the way for
Heathrow to now submit a
formal planning application.

It triggers the next step in a process that could see building work start in 2021 and the runway operational by 2026. Transport Secretary Chris Grayling said:

"This marks a critical step towards ensuring future generations have the international connections we need, as well as strengthening the links between all parts of the UK and our global hub.

"I have always been clear that this issue goes beyond party politics, and this result demonstrates the clear desire to get on with delivering this vital scheme.

"There is still much to be done, including defending this decision against the potential legal challenges, but we are absolutely committed to working closely with local communities and ensuring Heathrow stick to their promises on addressing the local and environmental impacts of expansion."

Following the designation of the NPS, the next stage of the process will see Heathrow bring forward detailed proposals for planning consent, which would be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate. As part of this, Heathrow will need to carry out further consultation with local communities on the finer details of their scheme design and the associated compensation and mitigation packages.

Alongside this Heathrow will continue to develop plans for the necessary airspace changes around the airport, including new flightpaths. These will also be subject to consultation with local communities, ahead of being submitted to the Civil Aviation Authority for approval.

Heathrow will also keep the Secretary of State and Parliament appraised of progress, in particular on how it will meet its commitments to the environment, communities, domestic connectivity and delivering a scheme in a timely manner that is cost efficient.

### Time for a digital detox?

By Paul Bazeley

Thanks to smartphones, tablets, laptops, computers, televisions and consoles it seems like the temptation to stare at screens all day is becoming greater and greater and now people are getting worried.

We now live in a world where we no longer 'go online', like we used to say 10 years ago, instead, we are now always online. In previous times you'd be told not to stare at the television too long because 'you'll get square eyes', but now it seems the problems we face from too much screen time are far more worrying.

Studies have shown that too much screen time actually restructures the brain. The research shows that the brain will suffer from grey matter shrinkage, reduced cortical thickness and cause fragility to the

white matter. After plenty of research what this means when put relatively simply is that changes in the brain will impact cognitive control, decision making, emotional processing and our attention span.

lethal combination that greatly increases the risk of many problems including heart disease and strokes. While this problem is more to do with the sedentary lifestyle screen time often creates and not the screen time per se research has shown strong links between the two.



As worrying as this seems, there is more. Other studies revealed that too much screen time will make you more vulnerable to metabolic syndrome which is the medical term for the combination of high blood pressure, obesity and diabetes. This is a pretty

It also appears your parents weren't completely wrong about the screen being bad for your eyes as evidence suggests eye strain is a very common occurrence. Not only does the blue light keep you awake later at night, it also damages the retina and can cause headaches in

some cases.

Overuse of social media has also been heavily linked to anxiety and depression. It seems there are several factors that can lead to the psychological issues; negative online attention, distractions from multiple social media outlets and feelings of inferiority - particularly when you've just seen someone post another picture of a beach, isn't that their seventh holiday this year? - can all combine to cause problems.

It seems that the overuse of screens will not only make us die earlier it will also make us unhappier while we are alive. The increasing concern is mainly for children who are now growing up in an age of screens and how this will affect their health, mental health and their social skills.

While some believe that gadgets such as iPads can help their child's development by giving them apps to help them learn others worry the ease of parents giving their child a tablet to keep them quiet is a major concern. In fact, recent evidence suggests by the age of seven a child will have spent a full year of their life in front of a screen. Further evidence showed that over-

#### June

consumption of screens saw a decline in children's school grades too.

The evidence seems pretty damning, however, it must be stated that most research is done on those who spend large amounts of time looking at screens or those that are judged to be addicted. Nevertheless, there is no arquing we all spend more time on screens. There are very few jobs that don't require looking at a screen and the majority of people spend large amounts of time binge-watching their favourite ty programme and playing on their phone.

It seems a digital detox won't be a bad thing for anyone. Coincidentally app developers have begun to think the same thing, although it seems counterintuitive, there are now several apps that will help you to see how much time you are spending on your tablet or phone. Some

will even limit the amount you can use your phone and charge you if you break your allotted time limit and others will even show how your screen time measures up to people of the same age and gender.

Let's face it, there isn't going to be any drastic change coming from the news that staring at screens is bad for you. I can't see many people giving up their mobiles and going back to using a home phone, nor can I see people giving up telly in this new golden era of TV shows. Nonetheless, maybe if we all make an effort to reduce our screen time and pay particular attention to how much children are spending in front of screens we might iust save ourselves from dying miserable and young. Maybe it's time for us all to go for a walk, just leave the phone behind, nobody on Instagram really needs to see that tree you thought looked 'nice'.

## Record number of fake HMRC websites deactivated

New figures show that HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) requested a record 20,750 malicious sites to be taken down in the past 12 months, an increase of 29% on the previous year.

Despite a record number of malicious sites being removed, HMRC is warning the public to stay alert as millions of taxpayers remain at risk of losing substantial amounts of money to online crooks. The warning comes as Scam Awareness month, run by Citizens Advice, draws to a close.

HMRC has brought in cutting edge technology to tackle cyber-crime and target fraudsters. However, the public needs to be aware and report phishing attempts to truly defeat the criminals. Ministers are urging people to take action to protect themselves as well.

Genuine organisations like banks and HMRC will never

contact people out of the blue to ask for their PIN, password or bank details. So people should never give out private information, download attachments, or click on links in emails and messages they weren't expecting.

The most common type of scam is the 'tax refund' email and SMS. HMRC does not offer tax refunds by text message or by email.

HMRC has also been trialling new technology which identifies phishing texts with 'tags' that suggest they are from HMRC, and stops them from being delivered. Since the pilot began in April 2017, there has been a 90% reduction in people reporting spoof HMRC-related texts.

This innovative approach netted the cyber security team with the Cyber Resilience Innovation of the Year Award in the Digital Leaders (DL100) Awards.

In November 2016, the department implemented a verification system, called DMARC, which allows emails to be verified to ensure they come from a genuine source. The system has successfully stopped half a billion phishing emails reaching customers.

## Inward investment brings 1,500 new jobs a week to the UK



Nearly 76,000 new jobs were created as a result of inward investment from foreign direct investment projects in 2017 / 18, more than the previous year.

Figures from the Department for International Trade published Tuesday 26 June show 2,072 projects recorded, 75,968 new jobs were created and that 15,063 were safeguarded, amounting to nearly 1,500 new jobs per week across the country.

Overall the UK remained

the number one destination for inward investment in Europe, with the wholesale, food and drink, electronics, and infrastructure sectors all seeing an increase in the number of new jobs.



The Rt Hon Liam Fox MP
International Trade
Secretary Dr Liam Fox said:

"Two years since the EU

referendum, the UK has record employment and seen an increase in new jobs as a result of inward investment.

"We remain the top destination in Europe and third in the world for foreign direct investment. As an international economic department, we continue to promote the strengths of the UK as a great inward investment destination, with an open, liberal economy, world-class talent and business-friendly environment."

The increase in new jobs result from investment from across the whole globe, with jobs from German investment up by over 60%, increasing to 9,357. New jobs from Indian investments increased from 3,999 to 5,659 and from US investment, jobs surged to 26,570 – an 8% increase on the previous year.

Looking across the UK, inward investment continues to spread to the regions and nations:

- Wales attracted 57 projects with 3,107 new jobs created
- in Scotland 4,148 jobs were created as a result of 141 projects
- Northern Ireland secured 28 projects, which created a total of 1,251 jobs
- the Northern Powerhouse attracted 315 projects, creating 10, 691 new jobs
- the Midlands Engine attracted 243 projects which resulted in 13,138 new jobs being created
- in the South, 487 FDI projects created 11,126 new jobs
- in London, there were 740 new projects, resulting in 17,478 new jobs

# A furniture making legacy

# Cabinet Maker & Retail Furnisher

Incorporating FURNITURE RECORD FOUNDED 1880 BY JOHN WILLIAMS BENN

14 JUNE 1968

#### New Materials and **Designs at Contract** Exhibition

ABOUT 12.000 INVITA-TIONS were sent out to contract buyers, architects, interior decorators and others likely to be interested in the International Decor Exhibition sponsored by the Westbourne Publishing Group and held at Olympia Exhibition Centre, London. Exhibits at the show included hotels from the just ordinary to everything from floor and wall the most luxurious. coverings to seating of every de-



scription and cabinet furniture and tables to fit into offices and

One of the main exhibitors was Wel-

Perspex-top table with Perspex supports, Perspex chairs by Welters Organisation Worldwide



ters Organisation Worldwide who were showcasing their capability with new materials design. Most notably on display was the Perspex chairs and a table with Perspex supports and glass top which form part of a range called 'Imagery'.

Renowned furniture designer and owner of the company. Keith Welters explained: "New technologies are coming online enabling the production of exciting man-made materials for furniture manufacturing. Using modern techniques we are able to produce high quality furniture for both domestic and corporate markets in a range of high-concept design."

#### Contract Designs

The 'Imagery' range of furniture exhibited by Welters Organisation Worldwide at the Olympia was extremely well received and there is much to be admired. The use of curved Perspex provided an attractively lightweight yet strong structure for both seating and table top support. The clean almost invisible design would lend itself to any modern office or reception area.

Furniture designer Keith Welters created and manufactured a breathtaking range of quality furniture which was aligned toward both the domestic and corporate markets. Beautiful furniture as created in stainless steel, glass and acrylic and the use of Polyurethane and Polypropylene was routine for the company at the time.

One such example is the 'Imagery' range of furniture pictured here and formed part of the company's display at the International Decor Exhibition held at the Olympia Exhibition Centre, London. The furniture and the event was featured in June 1968 edition of Cabinet Maker Magazine, an interpretation of which has been reproduced opposite.

Perspex-top table with Perspex supports. Perspex chairs by Welters Organisation Worldwide

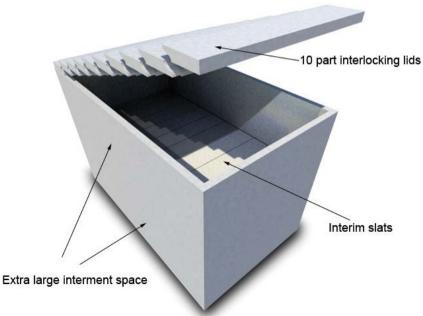


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Comparison between a standard Grande double interment chamber and the new Super Grande

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# Welsh ban on microbeads comes into force



A ban on plastic microbeads in 'rinse-off' personal care products comes into force in Wales.

The ban will make it an offence to manufacture or supply any rinse-off personal care product which contain the microbeads.

A microbead is a waterinsoluble solid plastic particle of up to 5mm in size, too small to be filtered out in sewage treatment systems. An estimated 680 tonnes of plastic microbeads have been used in personal care products in the UK every year, billions of which end up in the sea. The tiny beads accumulate because they do not biodegrade and are considered impossible to recover once released.

Plastic microbeads have been added to a variety of personal care products for many years, including hand cleansers, face scrubs, toothpastes, shower gels and cosmetics.

The policy to ban microbeads in cosmetic products has gained support from the general public, as well as from the cosmetics industry itself. The legislative ban will ensure a level playing field and consistency in the definition of a "microbead", so that all relevant products are free from microbeads.

The Minister for Environment, Hannah Blythyn, said:

"i'm pleased to introduce this ban in Wales, which will reduce the amount of plastics entering our seas and prevent further harm to our marine life.

"Microbeads in rinse-off products are unnecessary and there are suitable alternatives which do not have negative impacts on the environment. The ban will provide confidence to consumers that the products they buy will not endanger sea life.

"2018 is Wales' Year Of The Sea and earlier this month I signed the UN Clean Seas pledge. We're taking action to reduce plastic pollution in Wales, such as developing water refill points at key communities along our Wales Coast Path.

"We want to be an example to other countries around the World so that together we can reduce the dangers of plastic to sea life."

Peter Davies, Chair of the Wales Marine Action and Advisory Group, said:

"Evidence shows the damage plastic microbeads can cause the marine environment, as well as their potential risk to food security and human health.

"I'm delighted to see this legislation come into force, which is an important step towards eliminating the danger to sea life from plastic pollution." A versatile selection of geometric shapes manufactured from the finest marble, creating stunning design possibilities for indoor and outdoor furniture arrangements.



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#### 1st April

- Leading Jewish donor ditches Labour over antisemitism
- Industry planning major jobs cull post-Brexit
- Election watchdogs face calls to resign over Brexit 'bias'

#### 2nd April

- Hospitals face 'summer crisis'
- Melrose could be forced to protect GKN defence arm
- Child poverty: Pale and hungry pupils 'fill pockets with school food'

#### 3rd April

- Fresh hope in battle to keep our passport made in Britain
- Labour anti-Semitism row: Corbyn faces criticism over Jewdas event
- Steel barriers and rooftop snipers to protect royal celebration at Windsor

#### 4th April

- Anger at Remainer MPs' ploy to keep us shackled to Brussels
- UK experts cannot prove Salisbury nerve agent came from Russia, MoD says
- 'Smoke-free Scotland' goal stalls as one in five fail to quit

#### 5th April

- Now 10 million expect to work till they drop in pensions crisis
- GKN sell-off 'will leave us relying on other nations for defence'
- Russia gloats after Porton Down says it can't pin down nerve agent source

- Car theft epidemic as just 1 in 50 faces court
- London violence: Seven more hurt in attacks around city
- Spy poisoning: Russia says UK is 'playing with fire'



#### 7th April

- Corbyn is siding with Russians over poisoned spy case, says Rifkind
- London violence: Mayor urges 'targeted' stop and search
- Diplomatic row intensifies as ex-spy 'rapidly improves'

#### 8th April

- £50m backing for new party to 'break mould' of UK politics
- Violent youths 'should face social media ban'
- Rudd: Police have enough bobbies to tackle crime

#### 9th April

- Fury at foreign grab for UK rail network
- Crackdown on City profiteers after hijacking of GKN deal
- Police cuts 'likely contributed' to violence rise, document says

#### 10th April

- Russian spy: Daughter discharged from hospital
- Corbyn sets his sights on toppling Tories in Kensington
- Brexit risks Good Friday deal, Hillary Clinton says

#### 11th April

- Police fury at axing of the beat bobbies
- Clinton pleads for compromise in Ulster
- UK manufacturing output falls 0.2% in February

- Crackdown on the evil gangs who prowl dark and dangerous web
- Now Airbus refuses to back sale of GKN to City vultures
- Theresa May summons cabinet to discuss Syria action



#### 13th April

- Jeremy Corbyn: May waiting for Trump instructions on Syria
- EU turns blind eye to Russia's gas bullying
- Path clear for military action as cabinet backs May over Syria crisis

#### 14th April

- BBC film of police raid left me tainted for ever says Sir Cliff
- Syria air strikes: UK confident of successful mission, says PM
- Thousands in rush-hour chaos as Tube staff walk out over 'red light' driver

#### 15th April

- May faces anger over Syria raids
- After a power struggle in the White House, Putin gets away with it again
- May's first military strike hailed as a resounding success

#### 16th April

- Snub to Windrush generation over UK rights betrayal
- Windrush cases must be dealt with better, says minister
- May hits back at critics: bombing Syria was 'in our national interest'

#### 17th April

- Pound remains close to post-Brexit high
- Rudd: I'll sort out status of Windrush kids
- Syria strikes morally right and legal, May to tell MPs

- Huge mission to wipe all traces of deadly nerve agent from city
- Now Cameron urges poor countries: Don't take our aid, raise tax instead!
- UK 'ready to support' reform of anti-gay laws



#### 19th April

- North and South Korea in talks to officially end six-decade war
- India PM: Brexit is boost for trade deals
- Dale Winton, Supermarket Sweep presenter, dies aged 62

#### 20th April

- Alarm at fear British passports could be made in the Far East or Eastern Europe
- We're the EU's most migrant-friendly country because of Brexit, says Gove
- Skripal poisoning: Salisbury residents told area is safe

#### 21st April

- Brexit talks halted as EU digs in over Irish border
- UK 'can't do deals with Commonwealth' if we stay in customs union
- Brussels warns on risks of failure in Brexit deadlock

#### 22nd April

- UK trip on the cards for Trump
- Hunt: I'll punish web giants for harming a generation of children
- Tories in new race row over identity checks for elections

#### 23rd April

- Don't cheat Brexit voters by staying in customs union
- Aid millions for foreign fishermen as ours struggle
- Elderly put at risk by 'severe shortage' of accessible housing

- Little Prince Perfect: Bouncing in at 8lb 7oz, he's already set a record
- New ban on epilepsy drug in pregnancy
- Royal baby: Gun salutes to mark the prince's arrival



#### 25th April

- Jewish leaders blast Corbyn for failing to act on anti-Semitism
- MPs call for rule change to prevent another GKN
- Labour vows to settle anti-Semitism complaints by July

#### 26th April

- Union fury at MPs behind Labour's anti-Semitism row
- So why does Britain still give £47m aid to China?
- Elderly 'put at risk' as thousands of care providers fail inspections

#### 27th April

- Rudd in firing line over customs union blunder
- British banks won't get any special Brexit deals, says EU
- Royal baby named Prince Louis

#### 28th April

- Amber Rudd 'made a mistake but didn't mislead'
- New prince named in honour of war hero and royal mentor
- UN criticises 'racism' of British police forces

#### 29th April

- Back May or see Corbyn in No 10'
- Scots set for 20mph limit in ALL towns
- Sajid Javid's Windrush fury: 'It could have been me, my mum or my dad'

- Trump to meet Kim as Korea closes nuke site
- Merger of supermarkets sparks job and price fears
- Rudd quits as she admits misleading Parliament on migration



#### 1st May

- Brexit sabotage! Peers vote to stop us leaving the EU without a deal
- Trump should get the Nobel peace prize, says South Korea
- Nuclear deal was based on deception, claims Israel

#### 2nd May

- 50 UK towns and cities at risk from killer air pollution
- Brexiteers tell Theresa May to drop customs partnership plan
- UK warns of Mid-East conflict over Iran nukes

#### 3rd May

- Brussels budget seeks billions more euros to plug blackhole
- Javid joins Brexiters to derail May on customs
- Plan to scrap standard cancer wait time branded 'shameful'

#### 4th May

- I'm 100% sure we will quit customs union, says Davis
- Local election results 2018: Parties fail to make decisive gains
- Hottest early May Bank Holiday Monday expected

#### 5th May

- May in new migration row as £60k minimum salary keeps out skilled workers
- Royal welcome awaits Meghan's parents
- New migrant clampdown will be 'next Windrush'

- Revealed: Trump team hired spy firm for 'dirty ops' on Iran arms deal
- Labour peers accuse Corbyn of Brexit cowardice
- Britain warned over Iran nuclear deal 'folly'



#### 7th May

- Anger at tax on working beyond the pension age
- Now record number are shunning retirement
- Record-breaking temperatures forecast to end bank holiday weekend

#### 8th May

- Tory civil war over customs union 'will spell the end of May'
- Train tickets: Rail industry plans fares shake-up
- Immigrants exploited by rogue solicitors

#### 9th May

- Iran nuclear deal: UK says it remains committed despite US exit
- Fears of new Gulf crisis as Trump pulls US out of Iran nuclear deal
- May urges Iran to show restraint after Trump quits deal

#### 10th May

- Fining parents 'has no effect on school absence in Wales'
- Medics to assess 999 patients by video
- U-turn on forcing NHS to hand patients' data to Home Office

#### 11th May

- PM orders Davis to find third way on customs deal
- 13,000 jobs axed as BT announces closure of its City headquarters
- Green light for grammar expansion

- Support for Tories rising in latest poll
- Peers launch new bid to curb freedom of the Press
- Brexit: Jeremy Corbyn must change stance, says Lord Kinnock



#### 13th May

- Miliband launches UK comeback with war on the Hard Brexiteers
- Facebook faces fresh claims of misleading MPs on Russia ads
- Dozen ministers desert May on customs

#### 14th May

- Crack on! Gove is defiant on Brexit as he hammers May's trade plan
- MI5 chief lashes Putin for 'malign' Salisbury attack
- Prince William praises 'wonderful' NHS staff

#### 15th May

- Miliband tries to foil EU exit
- No10 admits that neither customs plan will work
- Warning over criminals trying to make 3D-printed guns

#### 16th May

- Brexodus? No, we have 2.37m EU workers!
- Carillion bosses drove construction firm off a cliff, say MPs
- North Korea threatens to cancel Trump summit over military drills

#### 17th May

- State takes back control of East Coast train line
- Job hopes of 4m hit by cheap EU labour
- Corbyn festival set to be a flop

- Meghan's sadness as she confirms father won't attend wedding
- Fracking may soon be as easy as building an extension, warn critics
- Ex-spy Sergei Skripal discharged after poisoning



#### 19th May

- Boris Johnson: First visit by foreign secretary to Argentina for 25 years
- Depression risk for bright girls and those in poor families
- World watches as Royals prepare to wed

#### 20th May

- Royal Wedding: The day the world came to Windsor
- The Happy Couple: A wedding to redefine Royalty
- 'Two people fell in love and we all showed up'

#### 21st May

- Plaudits for Charles after 'darling old Harry' speech
- Meghan to fight for feminism
- Abramovich visa delay amid oligarchs review

#### 22nd May

- At last! Red Ken quits Labour party over Hitler storm
- M&S to close 100 stores by 2022
- Germ-free homes may lead to childhood leukaemia

#### 23rd May

- Oxford University 'failing' on diversity, says Lammy
- Boris Johnson says he 'probably needs' a private plane
- Gove launches attack on Hammond

- Hope's rising of a good Brexit deal says Davis
- Interest rise fear fades as inflation falls
- Tax rises needed 'to prevent NHS misery'



#### 25th May

- Thousands flying home for Irish abortion vote
- Corbyn 'has snubbed IRA victims'
- Poor white schools 'destroyed' by rankings

#### 26th May

- Afghan interpreters 'should be allowed to find safety in Britain'
- Plot to fix England Test match
- Morbid obesity in Britain to double within 20 years

#### 27th May

- Brexit the biggest threat to car firms since Red Robbo, warns top boss
- Young and old, city and country: Ireland unites to end abortion ban
- May 'blocking' bid to stem acute shortage of fruit pickers

#### 28th May

- I'll close doctors' gender pay gap
- Abortion: Theresa May urged to act on NI's strict law
- WH Smith voted UK's worst High Street shop in Which? survey

#### 29th May

- Our tax burden is worst for 20 years
- NI abortion law: Reform 'a feminist test for May'
- Revealed: the £21bn wealth built up by Oxford and Cambridge

#### 30th May

- Grenfell authorities' response 'badly flawed', report says
- UK drone users face safety tests and flight restrictions
- Stop this Brexit border madness

#### 31st May

- Taxman ignores four million phone calls
- Rantzen: let OAPS donate fuel allowance to the NHS
- MPs demand ban on junk food adverts before 9pm



#### 1st June

- Crackdown on rip-off credit 'is not enough'
- Trade tariffs: UK must stand up to 'bully' Trump Labour
- 'Bonkers and barmy': PM's immigration cap under fire from health chiefs

#### 2nd June

- 'Rip-off' claims force inquiry into Britain's £2bn funeral industry
- Jeremy Thorpe 'hit-man might not be dead', police admit
- UK weather: May 2018 hottest since records began in UK

#### 3rd June

- New police powers and an extra 2,000 spies to fight terror
- Garden towns 'destroying countryside'
- Doreen Lawrence attacks Grenfell 'indifference'

#### 4th June

- Learners allowed to drive on motorways
- Windrush migrants deported for serious crimes should stay out of UK,says Javid
- Cambridge University asks for help attracting black students

#### 5th June

- May's Brexit day of destiny to see off Lords
- Go-ahead for third Heathrow runway
- No 10 may resist pleas to ease highly skilled visa cap

- Addiction 'fuelling shoplifting plague'
- European fruit pickers shun Britain
- TSB investigated over IT meltdown



#### 7th June

- Don't touch stranger's car abandoned on your drive, cops tell woman
- TSB is hit by 10,600 fraud attacks after IT meltdown
- House of Fraser to close 31 stores

#### 8th June

- House of Fraser and Poundworld mauled as High Streets die
- Police swoop on eight new Grenfell 'fraudsters'
- Failing high street chains leave 11,000 more jobs under threat

#### 9th June

- Drive more carefully... what council chief told victim of pothole crisis
- Confusion over costs of elderly residential care
- Trooping the Colour: Meghan and Harry join Queen at parade

#### 10th June

- First Bond girl dead at age 90
- Amazon admits illegal hiring at Chinese supplier
- Back May or Corbyn will get in, rebels told

#### 11th June

- Divorce? Not us! Beckhams' united front
- Harry and Meghan to visit Australia and New Zealand
- Marching to mark 100 years of the vote

- Poundworld is latest high street casualty
- Smiles and selfies before Trump and Kim summit
- The handshake that made history



#### 13th June

- 1,000 workers a day have got a job since the Brexit vote
- World Cup 2018: England 'thugs' stopped from going to Russia
- Trump and Kim show the world they are best of buddies

#### 14th June

- Plumber's victory for workers' rights 'will impact gig economy'
- Grenfell Tower fire: Minute's silence to mark one-year anniversary
- Immigration rules to be relaxed for non-EU doctors and nurses

#### 15th June

- Trump up for Nobel Peace Prize after Kim summit
- Then rude Robbie gives Vlad finger!
- From Russia with love: England

#### 16th June

- Ulster veterans bring their battle for justice to MPs' front doorstep
- Art school's Mackintosh building extensively damaged
- Upskirting law to be passed soon, says Theresa May

#### 17th June

- 'Heartbreaking' fire guts Glasgow School of Art
- May to unveil £20bn a year boost to NHS spending
- Government to review medical cannabis after Javid ruling

- NHS funding: Brexit 'won't save enough' to fund £20bn boost
- Alarm over suicides of teenage refugees
- Tory MPs urge May to tackle housing crisis



#### 19th June

- Trump blasts Europe's 'big migrant mistake'
- Gove praises Mail as toxic beads banned
- Working families 'will pay for NHS cash boost with £10bn worth of tax hikes'

#### 20th June

- Meghan channels Audrey at Ascot
- 'Confiscate children's phones at school gates'
- GCHQ chief warns Europe of need for Brexit security deal

#### 21st June

- Trump vows U-turn as world blasts 'disturbing treatment of migrants'
- Britain is terrorists' top European target
- Brexit: Theresa May vows 'smooth and orderly' EU exit

#### 22nd June

- Minister quits in protest over third Heathrow runway
- Airbus warns no-deal Brexit could see it leave UK
- Windrush anniversary celebrated at Westminster Abbey

#### 23rd June

- Sunshine all the way as heatwave hits 86F
- Brexit: March planned as Fox says PM not bluffing on no deal
- Two-thirds of drivers 'unaware of mobile penalties'

- Checkout 'candy canyons' banned in war on obesity
- War spirit needed to fix housing shortage'
- Restaurants must reveal calorie counts to fight child obesity



#### 25th June

- Heathrow Airport: MPs to vote on third runway
- Uber to begin appeal over London licence denial
- Is it time to legalise medicinal cannabis?

#### 26th June

- Boris: Quitting over Heathrow crunch vote would achieve nothing
- Higher taxes will crush us at the polls, says top Tory
- Johnson escapes to Afghanistan so he can dodge Heathrow vote

#### 27th June

- Peer calls for tax rises to pay for social care
- Bank of England officials ran up £1m expenses bill
- Saddleworth Moor fire: Homes evacuated as blaze continues to rage

#### 28th June

- May pledge to keep up funding as migration crisis engulfs leaders
- Soldiers to tackle fire near Saddleworth Moor
- China lifts ban on importing UK beef

#### 29th June

- WORLD CUP 2018: Keep calm... beer's still flowing in pubs
- Over-55s losing tens of thousands in rip-off pension drawdown deals
- Trump disputes Russian election meddling

- NHS England to stop 'ineffective' treatments
- UK heatwave: Lettuce growers warn of imminent shortage
- Southgate's message as World Cup crunch looms



