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Autumn 2019 Edition

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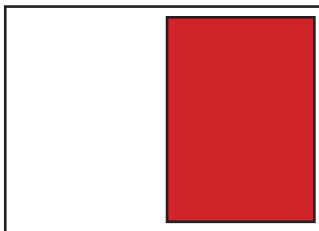
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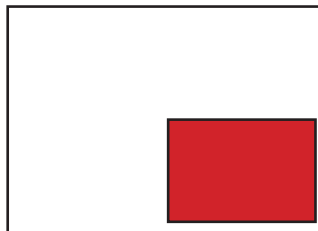
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Contents

News & Sports Roundup _____	4
Jodrell Bank added to UNESCO World Heritage List _____	8
New noise systems to stop 'silent' electric cars and improve safety _____	10
Homeowners could cut mortgage rates, bills and emissions with new green mortgages _____	12
Wildlife Fact: Female Wasp Spider _____	14
Highways England goes multilingual with roadworks signs _____	15
Prime Minister opens first meeting of National Policing Board _____	17
Glasgow's bid to host major climate summit another 'union dividend' _____	18
Illegal migrants and the Irish border _____	19
Demand for interment and memorial products on the rise _____	20
Arts Minister stops export of Pre-Raphaelite work _____	21
Brexit Secretary signs order to scrap 1972 Brussels Act - ending all EU law in the UK _____	22
British built Mars rover gets the gift of sight _____	23
Sellafield's tallest stack cut down to size _____	25
Prime Minister boosts schools with £14 billion package _____	26
Red admiral numbers rise in 2019 _____	27
Environmental Issues: Air Pollution _____	28
£1 million to help NHS reclaim debts from overseas visitors _____	31
Bell from American ship destroyed in Second World War going home _____	32
Wages outpace inflation for the 18th consecutive month _____	33
Clean energy to power over seven million homes by 2025 at record low prices _____	34
UK aid to help protect one billion people from impact of extreme weather _____	35
New design guide to deliver beautifully designed homes _____	36
Tens of thousands unaware they have deadly hepatitis C _____	37
Public concern for nature reaches all-time high _____	38

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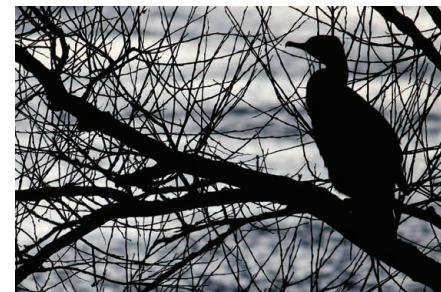
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Cormorant in silhouette



News & Sports Roundup

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

By Paul G Bazeley for
Government World

July News Review

Boris Johnson is elected as the new leader of the Conservative party and becomes the new Prime Minister the day after. Several cabinet members resign after Johnson's premiership due to his politics and views on Brexit.

The Iranian Navy captured a British tanker in the Persian Gulf, Iran stated the

ship had collided with an Iranian vessel after ignoring warnings by their authorities; at the time of writing it is unclear whether this is true. It is thought the act was a retaliation to British forces boarding and detaining an Iranian owned oil tanker as it was thought it was on its way to Syria.

Joaquin Guzman, the Mexican drug lord also known as El Chapo, was sentenced to life

in prison plus 30 years and was made to forfeit 12.6 billion dollars. It is believed he will spend his time in a maximum-security prison in Florence, Atlanta having escaped prison in Mexico twice before.

Japan began commercial whaling for the first time in 30 years, it came after the country withdrew from the International Whaling Commission. It is believed over 200 whales will be killed by the end of December.

A heatwave sweeps across Europe, with national maximum temperatures being broken in several countries. In the UK, a temperature of 38.7

degrees Celsius is recorded in Cambridge beating the previous record of 38.5 set in Kent in 2003. Other European countries such as Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands and France saw temperatures exceed 40 degrees.

Thousands of protestors gather in Hong Kong to demand the resignation of Chief Executive of Hong Kong Carrie Lam who is seen as pro-China. Protestors also put pressure on the UK to uphold the city-state's legal rights.

Jeffery Epstein, the American financier, was arrested and faces being charged due to alleged sex crimes involving minors.

The R&B singer R.Kelly is arrested on sex crime charges.

Avengers: Endgame became the highest-grossing film of all time after surpassing Avatar.

July Sports Review

At Wimbledon, Simona Halep beat Serena Williams 6-2, 6-2 in the Women's final. In the Men's final Novak Djokovic beat Roger Federer in five sets, it was the longest ever men's final with the match lasting a few minutes short of 5 hours.

The cricket concluded with a final which saw England beat New Zealand after a super-over tiebreak. It is the first time England have won the Cricket World Cup having come runner up on three occasions.

America beat the Netherlands 2-0 in the Women's World Cup.

Rose Lavelle and golden boot winner Megan Rapinoe scored the two goals to secure a fourth Women's World Cup win for the USA.

In golf, Shane Lowry won the Open Championship beating Tommy Fleetwood by six shots to finish 15 under par.

The 22-year-old Egan Bernal won the Tour de France beating his teammate Geraint Thomas. Bernal is the first Colombian and first Latin-American winner of the Tour.

August News Review

In protest to the anti-extradition bill, Hong Kong citizens called for a city-wide general strike.

Thousands of workers participated leading to over 200 flights being cancelled, MTR lines being stopped and the Hang Seng Index dropping. Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam accused protestors of 'destroying Hong Kong'. During the month Hong Kong airport is placed on lockdown due to ongoing protests. China's Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office released a statement accusing protestors that threw petrol bombs at the police of being 'terrorists'. It also stated that the violent minority of protestors were posing 'serious challenge to Hong Kong's prosperity and stability'. Organisers of a rally later in the

month claim 1.7million people took part.

The billionaire Jeffery Epstein was found dead in his jail cell in Manhattan the death is later ruled a suicide by a Chief Medical Examiner, Epstein's attorneys say they will conduct their own investigation. The FBI raid his private Caribbean Island just days after his death due to an ongoing investigation into sex trafficking.

Approximately 50,000 people took part in protests in Moscow, Russia after authorities prevented some opposition candidates running in an election. It is suggested the protests later became protests against the government in general. It is the largest Russian protest since 2011.

American President Donald Trump indicates he would be

interested in buying Greenland. This is quickly opposed by Greenland and they indicate they hope to build stronger ties with Denmark.

Franky Zapata, a French inventor, successfully crosses the English Channel on a jet-powered hoverboard known as the Flyboard Air. Zapata crossed the 22-mile channel route in 22-minutes with one refuelling stop.

Large fires ravaged parts of the Amazon rainforest, the fires are thought to have been started deliberately. Brazil was criticised for not taking further action sooner and for refusing help from the EU. By the end of

the month, the fires were reported to be under control.

The UK released the Iranian oil tanker named Grace 1 after receiving written assurance that the oil would not be sent to Syria.

A dam at the Toddbrook Reservoir was severely damaged after heavy rain causing the Derbyshire Town of Whaley Bridge to be evacuated.

A large power failure affected large parts of the north-western and south-eastern UK leaving thousands of homes, Newcastle International Airport and several train lines without power.

August Sports Review

Hinako Shibuno won the Women's Open Championship beating Lizette Salas by one shot. Shibuno was a 20-year-old rookie playing in the LPGA Tour in Japan, it was the first time she was playing outside of her home country.

Bury Football Club, who were in the League One, are expelled from the English Football League after a takeover bid to save the club collapsed. Bolton Wanderers, also from league one, were given two more weeks to avoid being expelled from the EFL.

The football leagues

got underway for the 2019/2020 seasons. Notable Premier League scores were Liverpool 4 Norwich 1 on the opening day of the season as well as Man City winning by 5 goals to nil against West Ham and Man Utd beating Chelsea 4-0 on the opening weekend.

September News Review

The House of Commons voted to approve a bill blocking a no-deal Brexit from taking place, the bill was later approved by the House of Lords. The House of Commons also rejected Boris Johnson's motion to hold a general election in October.

The World Meteorological Organisation published a report that stated 2015-2019 was the hottest 5-year period since measurements began. It also stated that sea levels are rising, global carbon dioxide levels

are rising and that the melting of icecaps is accelerating.

The tour operator Thomas Cook collapsed after last-minute negotiations failed. The 178-year-old firm had posted a 1.5billion loss in May and many believe it never recovered from its 2007 merger with MyTravel. The collapse meant approximately 9,000 lost their job in the UK alone plus thousands of others. It also caused the largest ever peacetime repatriation as 150,000 tourists had to be brought home.

Scientists claim the largest iceberg in 50-years has broken away from Antarctica's

Amery Ice Shelf. The iceberg is said to be 1,636 sq km and was monitored for safety reasons.

A woman who accused Jeffery Epstein of sexually abusing her when she was a teenager claimed she was 'trafficked' to London where she was abused by Prince Andrew. Prince Andrew denies the allegations.

John Bercow announced he would retire as Speaker of the House of Commons on October 31. He will have been Speaker for ten years.

Iran released the oil tanker that was seized in July in response

to the release of the Iranian oil tanker from Gibraltar.

The former president of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe died at the age of 95.

At the Emmy awards, Fleabag wins the Outstanding Comedy Series award and Game of Thrones wins Outstanding Drama Series.

September Sports Review

September was a relatively quiet month for sport. In formula one Charles LeClerc won the Belgian and Italian races respectively while Sebastien Vettel managed to seal a win at the Singapore race.

In the premier league, notable results were Norwich 3 Man City 2, Wolves 2 Chelsea 5, Man City 8 Watford 0 and Leicester 5 Newcastle 0.

END

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Jodrell Bank added to UNESCO World Heritage List

Jodrell Bank Observatory in Cheshire has been named as the UK's newest UNESCO World Heritage Site, becoming the UK's 32nd site to be added to the prestigious list



Mike Peel; Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics, University of Manchester.

Jodrell Bank Observatory in Cheshire has been added to the UNESCO World Heritage List.

The observatory becomes the 32nd UNESCO World Heritage Site in the UK and joins the prestigious list alongside international sites such as Machu Picchu, the Great Wall of China and the Taj Mahal.

Jodrell Bank, owned by the University of Manchester, is famous as the home of the Lovell Telescope, the world's third largest steerable radio telescope. Completed in 1957, the dish was the largest of its kind anywhere in the world until 1973 and was the catalyst for the construction of many other large scale satellite dishes.

The Lovell Telescope's first act was to track the Soviet Union's Sputnik, the world's first artificial satellite. Today, Jodrell operates the UK's national e-MERLIN radio telescope

and hosts the global headquarters of the Square Kilometre Array, a radio telescope project that will build the world's largest telescope, comprised of a network of instruments sited in South Africa and Australia.

The addition of Jodrell Bank to the UNESCO World Heritage List is in recognition of its outstanding scientific heritage including its pioneering role in the development of radio astronomy and its work in tracking spacecraft in the early space race, and its research into quasars, pulsars and gravitational lenses. The site has evidence of every stage of the history of radio astronomy, from its emergence as a new science in the 1940s through to the present day.

Heritage Minister Rebecca Pow said:

"I am delighted that Jodrell

Bank has become the UK's 32nd UNESCO World Heritage Site. The research completed here has transformed our understanding of the Universe and it is right that this is recognised."

Teresa Anderson, Director of the Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre said:

"This is wonderful news and a great day in the history of Jodrell Bank. It honours the pioneering work of Sir Bernard Lovell and the early scientists here, together with the world leading research that continues to this day.

"Receiving this recognition will help us tell their story and the story of the communities connected to the site both across the UK and worldwide."

In 2017 the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) increased the Observatory's recognition in the National

Heritage List for England. The Mark II Telescope joined the Lovell Telescope in being listed at Grade I, the highest form of protection, with a further five buildings listed at Grade II. Together, these listings recognised the pivotal role played by the Observatory in the development of the science of radio astronomy, revolutionising our understanding of the universe.

The decision to add Jodrell Bank Observatory to the UNESCO World Heritage List was taken at the 43rd session of the World Heritage Committee in Baku, Azerbaijan.

Minister and Ambassador of United Kingdom of Great-Britain and Northern Ireland to UNESCO, Matthew Lodge, said:

"Congratulations to the Jodrell Bank Observatory for becoming a UNESCO World Heritage Site. UNESCO World Heritage Sites celebrate and safeguard our shared past. They are places of distinct cultural and natural significance for the development of human history. I am delighted that Jodrell Bank Observatory is becoming one of them."

New noise systems to stop 'silent' electric cars and improve safety



From 1 July 2019 all manufacturers must install an acoustic sound system in new types of quiet electric and hybrid electric vehicles to improve road safety.

From 1 July 2019, all manufacturers must install a system in new types of quiet electric and hybrid electric vehicles. Sound generators will produce a specified level of noise when they are reversing or running below 20 km/h (about 12mph). The sound generated will be similar to that made by a conventional engine and can be temporarily deactivated by the driver if judged necessary.

The new regulation to make acoustic systems within

electric vehicles compulsory will allow those who are visually impaired to hear vehicles more easily. The news comes ahead of the one year anniversary of the government's Road to Zero strategy, which has helped to achieve record levels of ultra-low emission vehicles on UK roads.

Michael Ellis, Roads Minister, said:

"The government wants the benefits of green transport to be felt by everyone, and understands the concerns of

the visually impaired about the possible hazards posed by quiet electric vehicles.

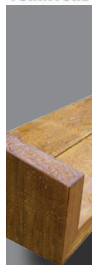
"This new requirement will give pedestrians added confidence when crossing the road."

The regulation will apply to all new types of 'quiet' electric and hybrid vehicles from 1 July 2019, and to all new quiet electric and hybrid vehicles registered from July 2021.

In March 2019 the government outlined the

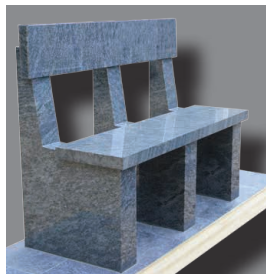
ambition for all future transport to be safer and more accessible in the Future of Mobility: urban strategy. The Department for Transport will convene a roundtable with accessibility groups to discuss the government's commitment to making transport accessible for all, including the requirement as announced 1 July 2019.

- **from 1 July 2019, manufacturers must fit acoustic sound systems to new types of quiet electric vehicles to prevent them being too silent, improving safety**
- **vehicles will now have systems to produce a sound when they are reversing or driving below 20 kilometres per hour (km/h, about 12mph) providing greater confidence to vulnerable road users**
- **new regulations will help ensure future transport is safe and accessible for everyone, a key Future of Mobility: Urban Strategy pledge**



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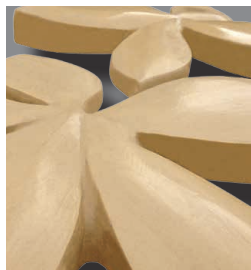
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Homeowners could cut mortgage rates, bills and emissions with new green mortgages

Households could cut mortgage rates, save money on their energy bills and reduce emissions from their homes under plans to roll out green mortgages.



Ahead of the launch of the Green Finance Strategy, the government has announced a £5 million fund to help the financial sector develop green home finance products, like green mortgages. Green mortgages give customers discounted mortgage rates once they have upgraded the

energy rating of their home.

The government has also announced it would offer industry the chance to win a share of a £10 million innovation fund if companies design innovative ways of reducing the cost of retrofitting the UK's old housing stock. This could

include assembling parts of buildings like pre-fabricated roofs or facades off-site and quickly fitting them to homes, minimising disruption for homeowners.

It comes just days after the government became the first major economy in the world to pass laws committing the UK to net zero emissions by 2050. Tackling domestic emissions by improving the efficiency of the 17 million homes in the UK with an EPC below Band C will be essential to achieving this.

Energy and Clean Growth Minister Chris Skidmore said:

“To fulfil our world-leading commitment to reach net zero emissions by 2050, we need an overhaul of our housing stock to tackle the disproportionate amount of carbon emissions from buildings.

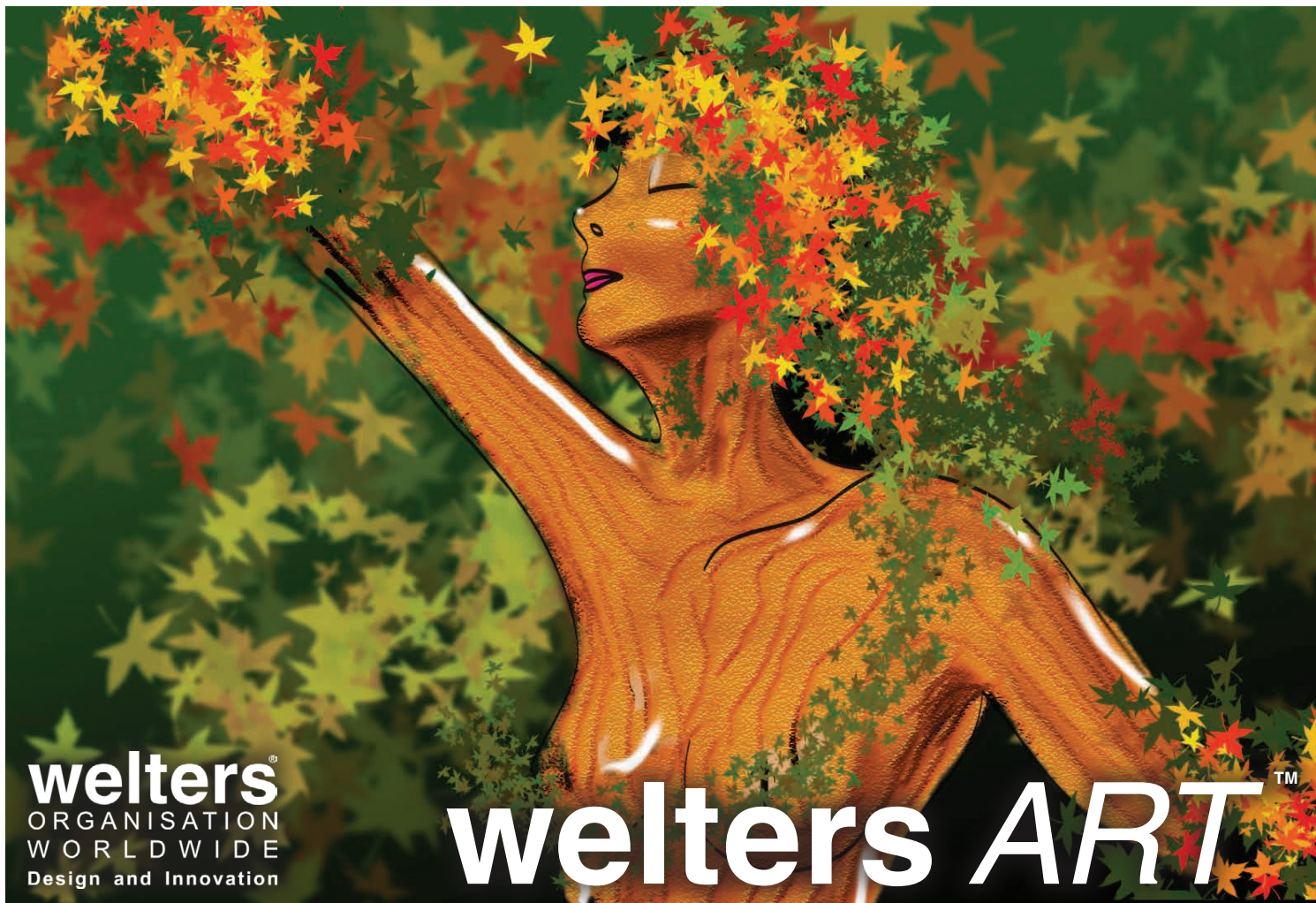
“By rolling out more green mortgages and reducing the costs of retrofitting older homes we’re encouraging homeowners to improve the

efficiency of their homes and save money on their energy bills, helping to ensure everyone has access to a warm and comfortable home.”

Currently homes are responsible for 15% of the UK's carbon emissions, and as the UK moves to a net zero economy, the government has committed to making more buildings cleaner, greener and fit for the future.

The modern Industrial Strategy set out a vision to make the UK a global-standard setter for finance that supports clean growth. Through the Green Finance Strategy, the government has committed to accelerate the development of green financial products. Funding will be awarded to innovative projects that incentivise energy efficiency retrofitting through the Green Home Finance Innovation Fund (GHFIF).

The GHFIF will support the development of lending products like equity loans and home improvement loans that will help homeowners make upgrades, for example offering energy efficiency advice, access to trusted installers and preferential mortgage interest rates to support them in making energy improvements to their homes.



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Wildlife Fact: Female Wasp Spider

Originally from the Mediterranean the Wasp Spider has now taken up residence in the UK, particularly in the South of the country and was first recorded in England in the 1920's.

This picture was taken on the South Coast when the erection of the Welters Organisation Worldwide maiden standing stone development was being undertaken.

The female Wasp Spider is double the size of the male and much more colourful with yellow and black stripes mimicking a wasp; the male is brown in colour. The male takes its 'life in its legs' when mating as many come to grief by being eaten by the female, hence it tends to mate when the female has just matured and when their jaws are

still soft! The spider is not dangerous to humans however.

The female spins an 'orb like' web in grassy areas or heathland and attaches its silk egg - sacs to the grasses. The webs have zig zag designs in them which is apparently 'created to reflect UV light and attract pollinating insects like flies, bees and moths!' (Ref: www.buglife.org.uk). Not only is it attractive to look at, as spiders go it is also one clever creature.



Highways England goes multilingual with roadworks signs

Highways England has started giving roadworks information in nine foreign languages on several of its portable electronic variable messages signs.

The system works with an automatic number plate reader in the side of the road warning the electronic sign that a foreign lorry is approaching and the sign then selecting an appropriate foreign language message such as 'M6 J.44 Cerrado' – 'closed' in Spanish.

The pilot is taking place in Cumbria where £7 million of improvements are taking place along the M6 north of Carlisle. The latest phase of the work is focused on the roundabout at busy junction 44 of the motorway and lorry drivers are being

warned in German, French, Polish, Romanian, Dutch, Spanish, Lithuanian, Slovak and Hungarian when the roundabout is closed for the overnight work.

It is believed to be the first time in the UK that electronic signs have been used in this way to get information to continental truckers.

Highways England senior project manager Steve Mason said:



Inspector Steve Minnikin (left) from Cumbria Police – which is backing the pilot project – is pictured with Highways England project manager Jobert Fermilan

We carried out major improvements along the A66 near Penrith last year and while the communications and diversion routes worked well, we had some feedback from Cumbria Police that foreign lorry drivers were missing some of the messaging. This not only inconvenienced the drivers but also local communities as we had lorries on inappropriate diversion routes.

The innovative multilingual signs have been placed along the A66 and A69

to warn drivers about the overnight junction closures.

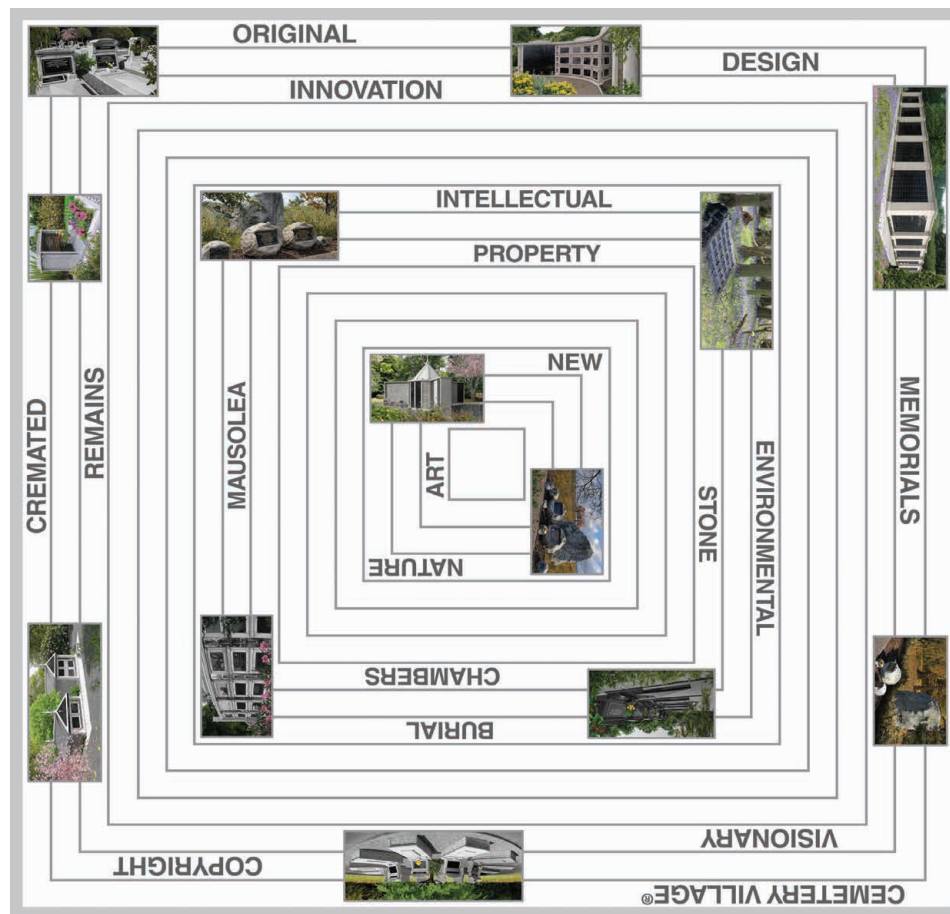
Inspector Steve Minnikin from Cumbria Police said:

“We provided a lot of support around the A66 closures last year and we’re delighted to see that Highways England has responded to our feedback by trialling this idea by being more aware of language differences and being considerate in meeting their needs.”

Road user watchdog Transport Focus worked closely with Highway England’s staff in Cumbria ahead of major work along the A66 last year – and the watchdog then used the A66 experience as a case study of how to better plan and communicate roadworks.

Highways England staff, specialists and contractors are being encouraged to try new ways of operating, maintaining, repairing and improving the country’s motorways and major A roads. A £150 million innovation fund has been set up to support new initiatives.

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Prime Minister opens first meeting of National Policing Board



The Prime Minister has opened the first meeting of the National Policing Board, which will drive forward the government's commitment to recruit 20,000 new police officers over the next 3 years.

The Board brings together senior police leaders and government. During the meeting the Home Secretary outlined plans to begin the unprecedented recruitment drive in September and hire up to 6,000 officers in the first year.

Opening the meeting, Prime Minister Boris Johnson said:

"This first meeting of the new National Policing Board marks the start of a new partnership between the police and the government.

"My pledge to recruit 20,000 police officers over the next 3 years is an absolute priority and it will begin within weeks.

"I am a Prime Minister who backs our police all the way and I am going to give them the resources and the confidence they need to get the job done."

The meeting was attended by senior policing figures, including Chair of the

National Police Chiefs' Council Martin Hewitt, Chair of the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners Katy Bourne, National Crime Agency Director General Lynne Owens and Metropolitan Police Deputy Commissioner Sir Stephen House, among others.

Speaking after the meeting, Home Secretary Priti Patel said:

"This government will not hesitate to act and give the police the support they need to protect the public.

"We have moved swiftly to set up this Board, provide strong leadership and deliver on our commitment to recruit 20,000 more police officers to crack down on crime and keep us all safe.

"Following this meeting, the government and police will move at pace to drive forward our plans to bolster the police's ranks."

The Board discussed the changing nature of crime and

the increasingly complex demand on the police, including from child sexual exploitation, serious and organised crime, and fraud.

They agreed that the Board would be a useful forum for improving collaboration and consistency across the 43 police forces in England and Wales.

The importance of police officer wellbeing and findings from the Home Office's Front Line Review were also discussed.

The National Policing Board will meet 4 times a year.

The Home Office is also considering how it can further support the police in the use of stop and search, including next steps on a pilot that has made it simpler for officers in 7 forces to use Section 60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act.

Section 60 powers allow police officers to stop and search anyone in a designated area, over a specific period of time, without reasonable grounds for suspicion if serious violence is anticipated.

Glasgow's bid to host major climate summit another 'union dividend'

Glasgow's bid to host a major summit on climate change next year is "more evidence of the union dividend", the Scottish Conservatives have said.

The UK Government has announced that Glasgow would host the UN's COP 26 event if its bid for presidency of the organisation is successful.

The event at the Scottish Events Campus by the Clyde would last for two weeks at the end of 2020, and attract 30,000 delegates.

Shadow environment secretary Maurice Golden said it was an opportunity for Scotland to lead the world on climate change, and showcase Glasgow as



Shadow Scottish environment secretary Maurice Golden

a major global conferences location.

He added that it was more evidence of the economic opportunities presented by Scotland remaining within the UK.

Scottish Conservative shadow environment secretary Maurice Golden said:

"This announcement is excellent news for Glasgow and Scotland.

"It would underline the city's reputation for hosting world-leading summits, and showcases Scotland's potential as a world-leader on climate change.

"It's also more evidence of the union dividend – an example of the UK Government placing Scotland's biggest city right at the heart of its future plans.

"We are much stronger when we work together and we will have more impact tackling climate change as part of the UK.

"Nicola Sturgeon's relentless drive to break up Britain would make bids like this considerably more difficult as well as weaken our efforts to tackle climate change."

Illegal migrants and the Irish border

By John Redwood MP

Before we entered the EU there was a common travel area with the Republic of Ireland, and after we leave there will also be a common travel area. The checks at the border for people will be the same before and after exit. There is substantial co-operation across the border over criminals today and this will remain.

After we leave the EU it will still be possible for a person from another EU member state to get into the Republic, subject to EU controls on criminals and

illegal migrants, and from there to cross into the UK in Northern Ireland. The UK system of control over migrant numbers will be exercised for the whole UK by the need for a work permit if someone wishes to get a job, by the need to establish entitlement if they want to receive a benefit, and the necessity to prove they are legal immigrants if they wish to open a bank account, rent or buy a property or get a car licence.

It is difficult to see therefore why an illegal migrant from the EU would bother to go through the tortuous journey via Dublin, only to find on arrival in the UK that their illegal status made it impossible to live a normal life or benefit from the good things that brought them to the UK.

Official portrait of John Redwood
[Photo by Chris McAndrew via Wikimedia Commons](#)

August

Demand for interment and memorial products on the rise

The popularity of welters® proprietary Stone Memorial Orbs continues with additional interests from multiple Burial Authorities.

The unique aspect of the orbs enables them to be offered in situ as a facility for cremated remains interment, with the option to renew or be removed by the family at the end of the leased term. This creates a sustainable perpetuation of new orb placements and a continuation of income generation over time. The Stone Orbs are equally suited to both formal and naturalised settings.

The company has recently completed the provision of 57 single interment burial chambers for the Muslim community in an East Midlands cemetery. This is but one of several

similarly large installations the company has provided elsewhere so far this year. The demand for burial chamber interment is increasing as is the

requirement to provide above-ground facilities such as sarcophagi and mausolea.

Planning is underway to provide additional phases across a number of welters® Cemetery Village installations where below ground burial chambers,

above ground mausolea, sarcophagi and cremated remains facilities are combined to create a harmonious integration of interment choices.

These types of schemes are now well established and a proven model to achieve not only a respectful and meaningful place of interment and commemoration, but also the economic advancement of the Burial Authority going forward.



August

Arts Minister stops export of Pre-Raphaelite work

£9.5 million work by founder of Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood John Everett Millais is now at risk of permanently leaving the UK



Arts Minister Rebecca Pow has placed a temporary export bar on Millais' 'Ferdinand Lured by Ariel' to provide an opportunity to keep the painting in the country.

Valued at £9,500,000 the painting was completed by John Everett Millais, the father of the Pre-Raphaelite movement. The work is at risk of export unless a UK buyer can be found to keep it in the UK where it would be put on public display.

The painting shows the character of Ferdinand from William Shakespeare's 'The Tempest'. Having been shipwrecked on Prospero's enchanted island, Ferdinand is lured by Ariel, the magician's servant, towards his master by whispering that the prince's father has been drowned.

Arts Minister Rebecca Pow said:

"Millais is one of the most famous and recognisable members of the Pre-

Raphaelite Brotherhood with his work still aweing audiences hundreds of years later.

"This artistic movement is a key part of British history and this is why we must keep this important work in the country."

John Everett Millais (1829 - 1896) was an English painter and one of the founders of the influential Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood. A child prodigy, Millais entered the Royal Academy at the age of 11, their youngest ever student, and went on to become one of the foremost artists of his day.

Founded in 1848, the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood was made up of English painters, poets and art critics.

Millais went on to have a successful career and became one of the most celebrated and wealthiest artists of his day. He died in 1896, shortly after he was elected President of the Royal Society.

The decision on the export licence applications for the painting will be deferred until 15 November 2019. This may be extended until 15 May 2020 if a serious intention to raise funds to purchase it is made at the recommended price of £9,500,000.

Brexit Secretary signs order to scrap 1972 Brussels Act - ending all EU law in the UK



The Government has signed into law legislation to repeal the Act of Parliament which set in stone Britain's EU (EEC) membership in 1972.

The 1972 Act is the vehicle that sees

regulations flow into UK law directly from the EU's lawmaking bodies in Brussels.

The announcement of the Act's repeal marks a historic step in returning lawmaking powers from Brussels to the UK. We

are taking back control of our laws, as the public voted for in 2016.

The repeal of the European Communities Act 1972 will take effect when Britain formally leaves the EU on October 31.

Speaking after signing the legislation that will crystallise in law the upcoming repeal of the ECA, the Secretary of State for Exiting the EU Steve Barclay said:

"This is a clear signal to the people of this country that there is no turning back - we are leaving the EU as promised on October 31, whatever the circumstances - delivering on the instructions given to us in 2016.

"The votes of 17.4 million people deciding to leave the EU is the greatest democratic mandate ever given to any UK Government. Politicians cannot choose which public votes they wish to respect. Parliament has already voted to leave on 31 October. The signing of this legislation ensures that the EU Withdrawal Act will repeal the European Communities Act 1972 on exit day.

"The ECA saw countless EU regulations flowing directly into UK law for decades, and any government serious about leaving should show their commitment to repealing it.

"That is what we are doing by setting in motion that repeal. This is a landmark moment in taking back control of our laws from Brussels."

August

British built Mars rover gets the gift of sight



An ExoMars prototype rover at the Royal Astronomical Society National Annual Meeting 2009 in Hatfield, England. Photograph by Mike Peel (www.mikepeel.net).

The panoramic camera system which will allow the UK-built Rosalind Franklin Mars rover to examine the Red Planet and search for signs of life has been installed

The 'PanCam' apparatus is the scientific 'eyes' of the rover, which will give scientists a view of the Martian terrain and

geological features so that they can drive the rover named after the British scientist Rosalind Franklin who co-discovered the structure of DNA.

The rover will be able to observe Martian atmospheric phenomena like its fierce dust storms that cover the entire planet lasting for many months and

water in the atmosphere.

The UK is taking a leading role in the Rosalind Franklin Mars rover, part of the European Space Agency's (ESA) ExoMars mission to examine the geological environment on Mars, which is 140 million miles on average away from Earth, and search for evidence of environments that may have once, and perhaps could still support life.

With funding and support from the UK Space Agency and European Space Agency (ESA), PanCam was developed in Britain by scientists from UCL's Mullard Space Science Laboratory (MSSL), working with the University of Aberystwyth and dozens of other experts across the UK in partnership with colleagues in Switzerland, Germany, Austria and scientists from 9 nations.

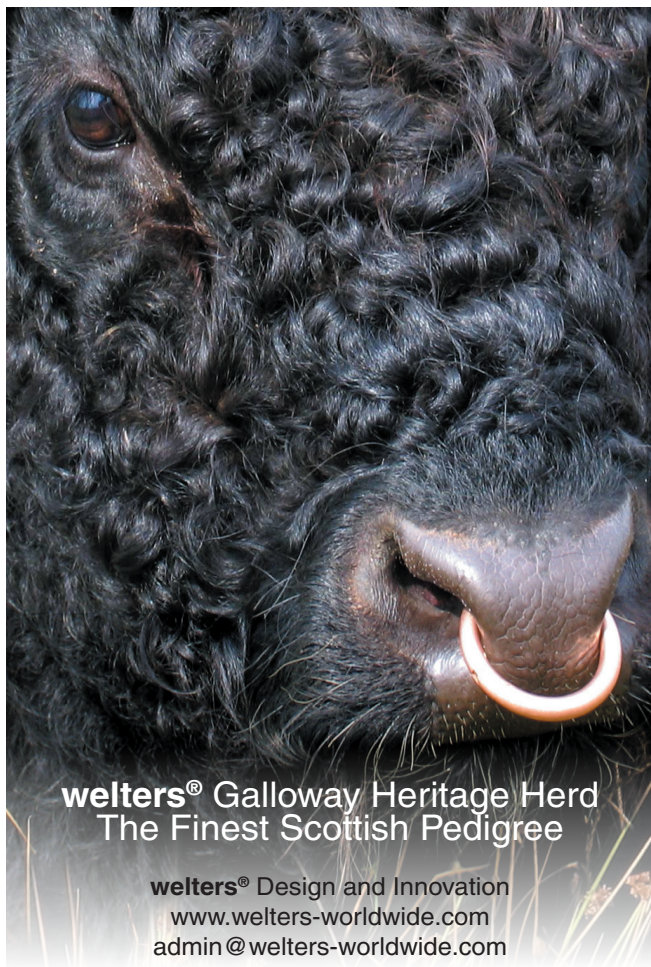
The camera system

was fitted to the rover at Airbus Defence and Space in Stevenage, Hertfordshire, which is building Rosalind Franklin.

UK scientists from the University of Leicester and Teledyne e2v are also working on the rover's Raman Spectrometer, a powerful tool for the identification and characterisation of Martian minerals. The UK Science and Technology Facilities Council is providing some of the electronics, including the data processing board.

Later this month Rosalind Franklin will begin its long journey to Mars - leaving the UK for testing in Toulouse before launching to the red planet next summer (2020).

The UK is a leading member of ESA. In June the UK led Comet Interceptor mission, proposed and led by UCL researchers, was selected by ESA. This mission will send a spacecraft to chase down, observe and study a comet which has never previously encountered the inner Solar System giving us vital information about the conditions of the early Solar System and understand its formation.



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August

Sellafield's tallest stack cut down to size

The demolition of Sellafield's tallest stack is almost complete

All that remains of the First Generation Reprocessing Plant stack is a 9 metre stub.

A painstaking 30-month project has removed 52 metres of the structure.

The stack had to be demolished by hand because of its proximity to hazardous nuclear buildings on the Sellafield site.

That meant traditional explosive techniques were out of the question.

Instead, workers cut away the concrete and steel stack using hand tools.

They did it while standing on a platform which clung to the chimney using friction alone.

Before demolition could start, the platform had

to climb to the top of the chimney, like a monkey shinning up a tree.

It took 10 months to inch its way to the peak: 122 metres above the ground.

Then, metre by metre, teams standing on its 3 storeys cut away the stack.

Every time the platform needed to move down, it took an entire day to loosen, readjust, and then reattach the 84 pads that kept it in place.

The project is part of the 100-year Sellafield decommissioning programme being carried out by Sellafield Ltd on behalf of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA.)

It's a collaboration between Sellafield Ltd, demolition partner Nuvia, steeplejacks



Delta International, and lift operator Alimak.

Another dozen or so companies have provided specialist skills and equipment.

Having done its job, the climbing platform will now be dismantled. A decision will be taken soon on whether to remove the final few metres of the stack or whether to focus on other priorities and come back to job later.

Explosive, compressed air, or water-related demolition techniques are usually used

to remove chimneys.

When the 4 Calder Hall cooling towers were demolished in 2007, in a less built-up area of the Sellafield site, it took about 2 minutes.

But those options weren't available this time.

And the tricky nature of the job wasn't the only complicating factor.

Because the chimney provided ventilation to other buildings, a new stack had to be built elsewhere on the site and those ventilation lines re-routed.

The new chimney – known as the Separation Area Ventilation project – began operating in 2016.



Schools across England are set for a giant cash boost as the Prime Minister announces he will invest over £14 billion in primary and secondary education between now and 2022/23.

The funding package for 5-16 schools includes £2.6 billion for 2020/21, £4.8 billion for 21/22, and £7.1 billion for 22/23 compared to 19/20. This will bring the schools budget to £52.2bn in 22/23.

This delivers on the Prime Minister's pledge when entering Downing Street to increase school funding by £4.6bn above inflation, levelling up education. As part of this, every secondary school will receive a minimum of £5,000 per pupil next year, with every primary school getting a minimum of £4,000 from 2021/22.

The deal includes £700 million extra for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in

2020/21, so every pupil can access the education that is right for them, and none are held back from reaching their potential.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson said:

"When I became Prime Minister at the start of the summer, I promised to make sure every child receives a superb education - regardless of which school they attend, or where they grew up.

"Today I can announce the first step in delivering on that pledge – funding per pupil in primary and secondary schools will increase, and be levelled up across the entire country.

"My government will ensure all young people get the best possible start in life. That means the right funding, but also giving schools the powers they need to deal with bad behaviour and bullying so pupils continue to learn effectively.

The additional funding is ahead of next week's Spending Round, and gives schools the certainty they need to plan their budgets.

This funding boost comes on top of a near £1.5 billion each year to continue to fund additional pension costs for teachers.

The Chancellor Sajid Javid said:

"We said our priorities were police, healthcare and education, and that's what we are delivering at next week's Spending Round. Because of the hard work of the British people to put our finances in order, we can now invest in their priorities.

"As I know from my own experience, nothing is more important to a child's future than their education. That's why we are putting in place the funding that helps them realise their potential, to the benefit of us all."

Since 2010, education standards in England have rocketed. Government reforms have seen more primary school children on track to become fluent readers, more 19-year-olds leaving education with English and Maths GCSEs, and almost one million school places created.

Red admiral numbers rise in 2019

According to this years annual Big Butterfly Count, the red admiral population rose by 75% compared to last year, which is good news for one of the UK's most popular butterflies.

The red admiral is a familiar site across the country and

can be found in all habitats.

The species migrates from North Africa and continental Europe during the spring months. The females will lay their eggs upon arrival which produces a fresh emergence of butterflies which can be seen from mid summer through to November.



Environmental Issues: Air Pollution

By Paul Bazeley

In the previous Government World, we looked at common causes of pollution and had a brief look at how these impact our planet. In the second of the series, we will take a closer look at air pollution and how it is affecting us.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) estimates that over seven million people are killed each year from air pollution and their data suggests that 9 out of 10 people breathe in air containing high levels of pollutants. This data now suggests that toxic air is responsible for one in nine deaths and over 90% of the world population lives somewhere where the air pollution is above WHO guidelines.

Many still believe that it is only poorer nations that suffer from poor air pollution, however, even here in Europe, it is estimated 500,000

people die every year. Nevertheless, it does tend to be poorer nations that suffer the most. Research shows that South and East Asia are the biggest problem areas with India having almost half of the top 50 most polluted cities.

Before we look at causes and potential solutions we

should take a minute to understand the types of air pollution. The World Health Organisation identifies two main types of air pollution: ambient (outdoor) air pollution and household air pollution.

Ambient air pollution or outdoor air pollution can be caused by a wide variety of things. The main causes are fuel combustion, oil and coal power plants, manufacturing processes, mines, oil refineries, waste incineration and outside cooking and heating. For household air pollution the main factors are using

polluting fuels such as coal, wood, kerosene and dung which may be used to cook, heat and light a home.

While there are two different classifications of air pollution they both are major problems and one should not be seen as less of a concern than the other. 4.2million people die from ambient air pollution each year, while 3.8million people die prematurely from illnesses which can be linked to household air pollution.

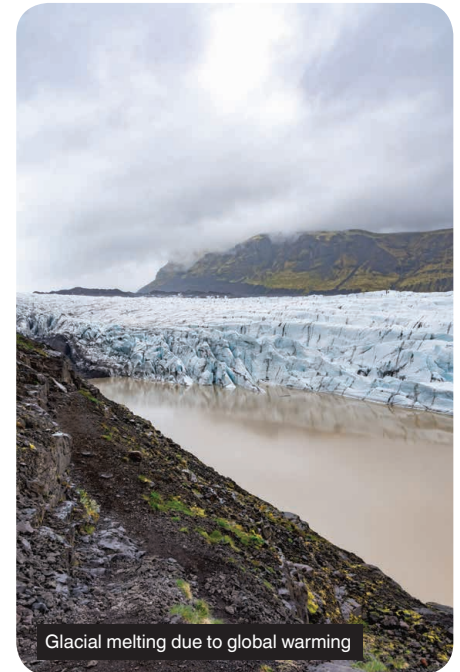
Air pollution has been found to have serious health consequences. A study from Harvard way back in 1993 linked air pollution to lung disease, heart attacks and strokes and since this study further research not only links air pollution to these



Air pollution over Mumbai, India.

three conditions but also diabetes, kidney disease, Alzheimer's, asthma, premature births and birth defects and skin ageing more rapidly among others.

Air pollution is not just a factor for humans; if we as humans feel the consequences then it goes without saying that other animals can feel these consequences too. Also, the other major issue here is the planet, most, if not all, of the gasses associated with air pollution are seen as causes of climate change. While climate change is a whole other beast to get into we need to consider it as the main issue when discussing air pollution. Not only is air pollution damaging our health, our friends and family's health and our animal's health it is also contributing to rising sea levels, rising temperatures and all the



other associated issues we face by climate change.

It seems undeniable that there is a problem, so the big question is what can be done about it? In terms of some simple things, planting more trees or adding living walls to areas can help filter dirty air, walking a different way to avoid busy roads,

using a monitoring app to avoid peak times and certain areas, using a mask (although studies show unless the mask is airtight it makes little difference), using air purifiers and having a healthy diet with plenty of vitamins and minerals are all ways to help ourselves and make small changes to our daily life.

Nevertheless, while we can all take measures the real problems lie at the source of the pollution and more drastic changes need to be done over time to see a noticeable impact. A shift towards renewable energy sources such as wind, solar and hydropower, using cleaner transport such as bicycles and electric or hybrid vehicles, cutting down on wastes that cannot be reused or recycled, improving recycling and waste processing and

creating biogas where available and creating more energy-efficient buildings are all ways we can cut down air pollution and are things that can be done now.

While this is not something that can be fixed overnight if these changes are slowly implemented they could have a huge impact across the world and save millions of lives. Air pollution has long been regarded as something that only causing a problem for a select few and while that still shouldn't be a reason to dismiss it now the evidence clearly shows it is a worldwide problem which impacts almost everyone and the planet. If steps aren't taken to reverse the problem air pollution is going to become a silent killer that will cause tens of millions of deaths and have enormous consequences on our planet.



Solar panels producing renewable energy



Zero emissions electric public transport



Waste reduction and recycling

£1 million to help NHS reclaim debts from overseas visitors

Plans to expand the team of cost-recovery experts will help recover millions of pounds in costs for treating overseas visitors in the NHS.

Health and Social Care Secretary Matt Hancock has announced plans to expand the NHS's existing team of cost-recovery experts, backed by £1 million.

Since 2018, a dedicated team of cost-recovery experts has been established to work with trusts. The expansion of this team will help the NHS to reclaim outstanding debts from overseas visitors who are required to pay for their care. These experts will work with existing cost-recovery managers in NHS trusts to:

- provide additional time and human resource to help identify patients who should be charged, easing the administrative burden and speeding up the process
- ensure the rules and exemptions are universally understood and consistently implemented in hospitals across the country, including making clear that urgent treatment should never be withheld
- help improve the reporting of income and debt collection, ensuring chargeable tourists pay debts in full

The team will also help the NHS understand and implement the charging rules and processes for EEA visitors and migrants as part

of preparations for leaving the EU. After Brexit, EEA nationals living lawfully in the UK can continue to use the NHS as they do now.

Only people who are ordinarily resident in the UK are eligible for free care, with non-EEA visitors required to pay a health surcharge when they apply for a visa to live temporarily in the UK.

NHS rules state that trusts must never withhold treatment from patients who require urgent healthcare while they are in the UK, even if they cannot afford to pay. This means any care clinicians say should not wait until a visitor's departure from the UK, and recovery of charges can take place after the care has been provided. Where treatment is non-urgent and it can wait until they leave the UK, it must not be provided unless fully paid for in advance.



Bell from American ship destroyed in Second World War going home



The bell from a United States Navy ship sunk the night before Operation Overlord began is to be returned to the American authorities.

USS Osprey was lost on 5 June 1944 when she hit a mine around 5pm and sank with the loss of six men, south of the Isle of Wight.

Now more than 70 years on, the ship's bell which has been handed over to Heloise Warner, the acting Receiver of Wreck based at the Maritime & Coastguard Agency in Southampton, is going home.

Heloise said: 'We need to remember that whilst this bell is an important artefact and historically significant in terms of Operation Overlord, it also represents the tragedy of loss. It will be a symbolic moment when the bell is returned to US soil.'

Families and friends would have grieved the loss of the six service men believed to have perished: Lieutenant Van Hamilton, seaman 2nd class John Medvic, fireman 1st class Walter O'Bryan, quartermaster 2nd class Emery Parichy, motor machinist's mate 2nd class Joseph Vanasky, Jr and motor machinist's mate 3rd

class Cleo Whitschell.

USS Osprey was a raven-class minesweeper of the United States Navy. Commissioned on 16 December, 1940, she later saw service in North Africa as part of Operation Torch, the Anglo-American invasion of French North Africa (November 1942).

On 3 April 1944, she travelled to England to be part of Operation Overlord, successfully taking part in sweeping operations off the south west coast. She is thought to have been the first casualty of D-Day operations when she hit a mine which

blew a large hole in the engine room. A fire broke out and just 45 minutes later, the ship had to be abandoned.

There are thousands of wrecked vessels and aircraft around the UK coast and many are protected sites. Any recovered wreck material must be reported to the receiver of wreck.



Heloise Warner, the acting Receiver of Wreck based at the Maritime & Coastguard Agency in Southampton

Wages outpace inflation for the 18th consecutive month

Wages for UK workers have continued to grow, as new figures released show wages have been rising faster than inflation for a year and a half, growing by 1.9% in real terms on last year. As the number of people in work is up 369,000 on last year. This means more workers across the UK are benefiting from greater financial security and increased spending power than a year ago.

The government continues

to support families with the cost of living, ensuring they can keep more of what they earn. This includes raising the personal tax allowance and increasing the National Living Wage – which has boosted earnings for 2.4 million workers since 1 April.

Job opportunities for UK workers also continue to grow as we have seen 292,000 more people employed in the private sector in the last year.

The UK labour market has seen over 1.8 million more women in employment since 2010, a testament to the government's dedication to tackling potential barriers to work for women in search of a new career – including those who need to work flexibly to fit around family life.

Minister for Employment, Mims Davies said:

“Wages are consistently rising faster than inflation – now for over a year and a half – meaning we're seeing a sustained boost in pay, supporting consumer confidence and giving a vital lift to millions of households

who gain from greater financial security.

“This joint record employment rate and decades-low unemployment shows our labour market is booming. It's especially pleasing to see continued record female employment at 72.1%, signalling the great strides we've made in empowering women in the workplace, whatever their background.

“There is still more to do. But these positive figures again show a thriving, diverse and resilient labour market to be proud of, and we are in great shape for Brexit.”

The figures from the Office for National Statistics also show that the number of people in employment has risen on the year with the South East and the East Midlands seeing the biggest rise in employment at 148,000 and 74,000 respectively; evidence that workers up and down the country are able to pursue employment, regardless of background.

Since 2010, we have seen 2.8 million more people employed in higher skilled roles, which generally command a higher wage. The UK labour market remains in a strong position as the UK prepares to leave the EU.

Employment rate remains at a joint record high

76.1%

Department for Work and Pensions
Source: ONS, September 2019, stats relate to period May to July 2019

Female employment rate remains at a joint record high

72.1%

Department for Work and Pensions
Source: ONS, September 2019, stats relate to period May to July 2019

Clean energy to power over seven million homes by 2025 at record low prices

Twelve new renewable energy projects will be powering over seven million homes at record low prices thanks to the latest round of the government's flagship Contracts for Difference scheme.

The new projects will provide around 6GW of capacity – 2.4GW more than the last round. For the first time renewables are expected to come online below market prices and without additional subsidy on bills, meaning a better deal for consumers. The costs of offshore wind are now around 30% lower than the second auction held in 2017, with projects now being delivered for as low as £39.65/MWh.

The new projects and lower prices are another step toward decarbonising our energy system as we work toward net zero emissions by 2050, creating jobs and economic

opportunities across the UK. According to research by RenewableUK, the new projects could see 8,000 jobs created.

The Contracts for Difference (CfD) scheme is the government's primary method of supporting low-carbon electricity. It encourages investment in renewables by providing projects with a stable income while protecting consumers from paying increased support costs when electricity prices are high.

Renewables projects across the UK have been awarded CfDs – from Birmingham to Orkney. Successful technology types include:

- Offshore wind – wind projects off the UK coast delivering up to a third of our electricity coming from the technology by 2030;
- Advanced Conversion Technologies – converting



waste which would otherwise go to landfill into energy;

- Remote Island Wind – wind projects on the remote islands of the UK which can take advantage of strong winds.

These results are the latest stage of the government's support for renewable energy. In March 2019 we signed a ground-breaking £250 million sector deal with the offshore wind industry which committed us to maximising opportunities and sourcing up to a third of electricity from offshore wind by 2030.

The UK has the largest installed capacity of offshore wind in the world, with around

8GW installed at the end of 2018. This is expected to rise to 10GW by next year, and even further as more projects start contributing power to the grid into the 2020s.

In June the government committed to reaching net zero emissions by 2050 and ending the UK's contribution to global warming altogether. The UK has already made a strong start in decarbonising its energy system, with renewables generating a record 33% of the country's electricity last year.

It has been estimated that the low carbon economy in the UK could grow four times faster than rest of the economy out to 2030 and could deliver between £60 billion and £170 billion in exports by 2030. These results demonstrate the potential of renewables to create such 'green-collar' jobs.

UK aid to help protect one billion people from impact of extreme weather

New £175 million package will help make people safer and better prepared for disasters such as typhoons and hurricanes, as well as dealing with the aftermath.

The UK Government is co-creating a global partnership to help protect one billion people in developing countries from the impact of extreme weather events, International Development Secretary Alok Sharma has announced.

The Risk-Informed Early Action Partnership will help ensure the world's poorest people receive earlier warnings of potential disasters such as typhoon and hurricanes – and are better prepared to deal with their effects.

International Development Secretary Alok Sharma, announced £85 million in funding to the partnership.

Working with countries across the world and organisations like the UK Met Office and International Federation of the Red Cross and Crescent, the Partnership will improve the availability and quality of weather forecasting information available.

Better information and early warning systems will give people more time to adapt and prepare for extreme weather events, making them easier to predict.

The Partnership will also help the governments of developing countries to make detailed action plans for natural disasters, including ensuring survivors are safe and have access to food, water and shelter.

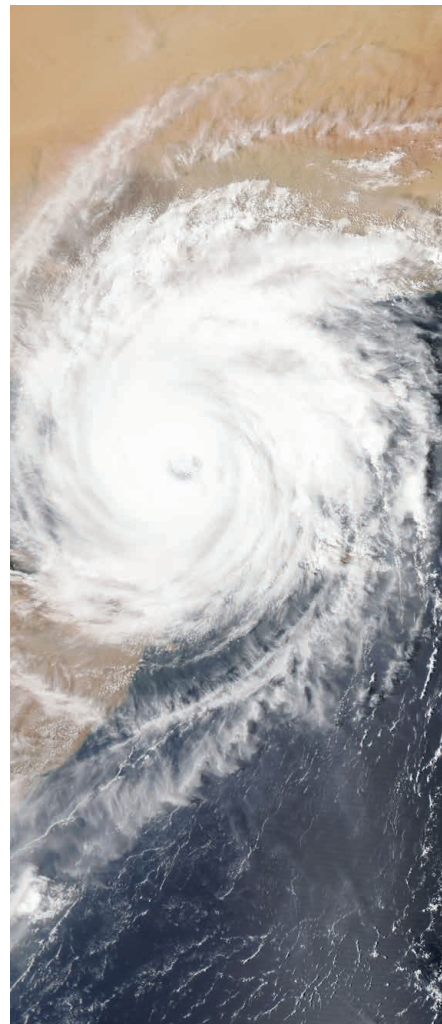
The UK, working with IFRC and Finland, has led on setting up the Partnership.

At the UN in New York, both

the UK and Egypt called for urgent global action to help the world adapt to the effects of climate change.

Speaking at the UN, The International Development Secretary also announced up to £90 million of support for the Global Risk Financing Facility, which will help cut the costs of disaster risk insurance. It will help governments and humanitarian agencies to access funding quicker, ensuring a faster and more effective response in emergencies.

The UK is also leading the charge to make infrastructure more resilient to climate change. Working with Jamaica, insurance company Willis Towers Watson, and the World Economic Forum the UK has brought together organisations to ensure that we work to make buildings, roads, bridges and transport networks fit to withstand climate shocks.



New design guide to deliver beautifully designed homes



Outdated guidance and unenforceable design ideas will be replaced with plans to deliver beautiful homes that families and communities are proud to call their own, through a brand-new building design guide launched by Housing Secretary Robert Jenrick.

Currently there is no accepted national standard for the development of homes, only vague documents with little enforceable power. This new design guide will introduce a national standard for local

authorities to adhere to, with the option of designing their own applicable guides reflecting local needs. Where possible emphasis will be placed on tree-lined streets and green infrastructure, in line with the government's broader environmental focus.

The design guide, published by the government, will have genuine clout and be capable of being a material consideration in planning applications and appeals, meaning that local planning authorities should take it into account when taking

decisions. Ministers will lay a Written Ministerial Statement setting out its purpose and how it is expected to be used, while the National Planning Policy Framework will be updated to reflect this at the first opportunity.

The government is determined to enhance the roles of local authorities, combined authorities and mayors in owning the aesthetics and development of their areas.

The new design guide is part of a broader commitment to localism. It will provide local residents with a greater say in the design of homes built in their own area, allowing them to take the key characteristics provided at a national level as a foundation and apply them in the most locally appropriate way.

This new vision will enhance the roles of local authorities, combined authorities and mayors in shaping the aesthetics and development

of their areas.

We will make the planning system work in support of better design and style, not against it. Robert Jenrick, the Housing Secretary, said:

"The government is committed to building the homes this country needs, but it is not all about bricks, mortar and numbers. Too often, new developments come at the expense of beauty, quality and design. This shouldn't be the case and the Conservatives are determined to deliver homes that families and communities are proud to call their own.

"As Housing Secretary, I am replacing the existing vague and outdated guidance with a brand-new national design guide. It will be produced with a more ambitious and firmer vision for better designed homes.

"I want to put people at the heart of the housing process and provide a strong blueprint for building homes that families are proud to live in, recognising beauty and design in the most locally appropriate way."

Tens of thousands unaware they have deadly hepatitis C

Report estimates that around two-thirds of people living with hepatitis C may not realise they have the virus, with PHE urging those at risk to get tested.

Public Health England (PHE) has estimated that up to 95,600 people in the UK could be unaware that they are infected with hepatitis C (HCV), which can kill if left untreated.

HCV is a bloodborne virus that can cause life-threatening liver disease,

including cancer. However, those infected often have no symptoms until decades later when their liver has been badly damaged. When symptoms do occur, they can often be mistaken for other conditions.

The virus is spread through blood-to-blood contact, most commonly in the UK by sharing needles - but even sharing razors or toothbrushes with an infected person could pass on the virus.

PHE is urging anyone who believes they may have been at risk of contracting hepatitis C, especially if they have ever injected drugs, to get tested. If people aren't sure about whether they are at risk, they can take a short quiz on the Hepatitis C Trust website to find out if they should take a test.

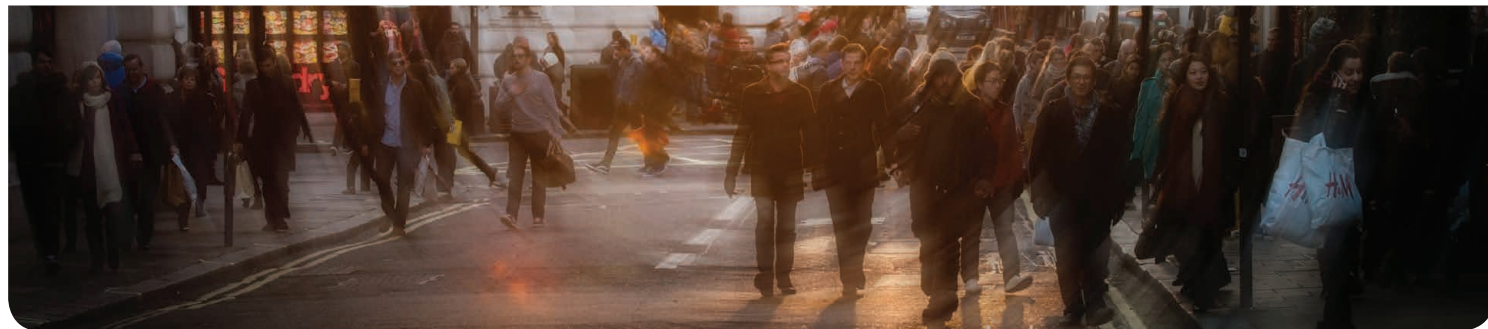
Latest estimates suggest that around 143,000 people in the UK were living with chronic HCV infection in 2018, yet up to two thirds of these (95,600) may not realise they have it, preventing them from getting

treatment which could save their life.

There are now a range of new treatments available to cure HCV and progress is being made to eliminate it as a major public health threat by 2030 at the latest, although challenges in doing so remain.

There has been a 19% fall in deaths reported from serious HCV-related liver disease between 2015 and 2018 (from 468 to 380), with a more than 20% drop in the number of people living with HCV infection within the same period.

While work must continue to identify those who are undiagnosed, it is also equally important to help those who are diagnosed but untreated to engage with treatment services. To achieve this there has been a rise in partnerships across the system, new resources and re-engagement exercises to help vulnerable people navigate the system.



Public concern for nature reaches all-time high

New national statistics show changes in how people use and relate to the natural environment.

More people than ever before are concerned about damage to nature, new national statistics published by Natural England show.

In the world's biggest scientific study of its kind, Natural England's 'Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment' (MENE) report shows that nine out of ten adults in England are concerned about increasing threats to

the natural environment, with nearly two-thirds specifically worried about biodiversity loss.

While more people are spending time in nature than ever before, the research indicates clear inequalities in opportunity for engagement.

Children from the most deprived areas are 20% less likely to spend time outside than those in affluent areas, while 70% of children from white backgrounds spend time outside once a week compared to 56% of children from black, Asian and ethnic

minority backgrounds.

The research also shows how important local parks and greenspaces are to the nation's mental and physical wellbeing, with health and exercise the main reason why adults spend time outside and green spaces in towns and cities the most frequently visited natural environments.

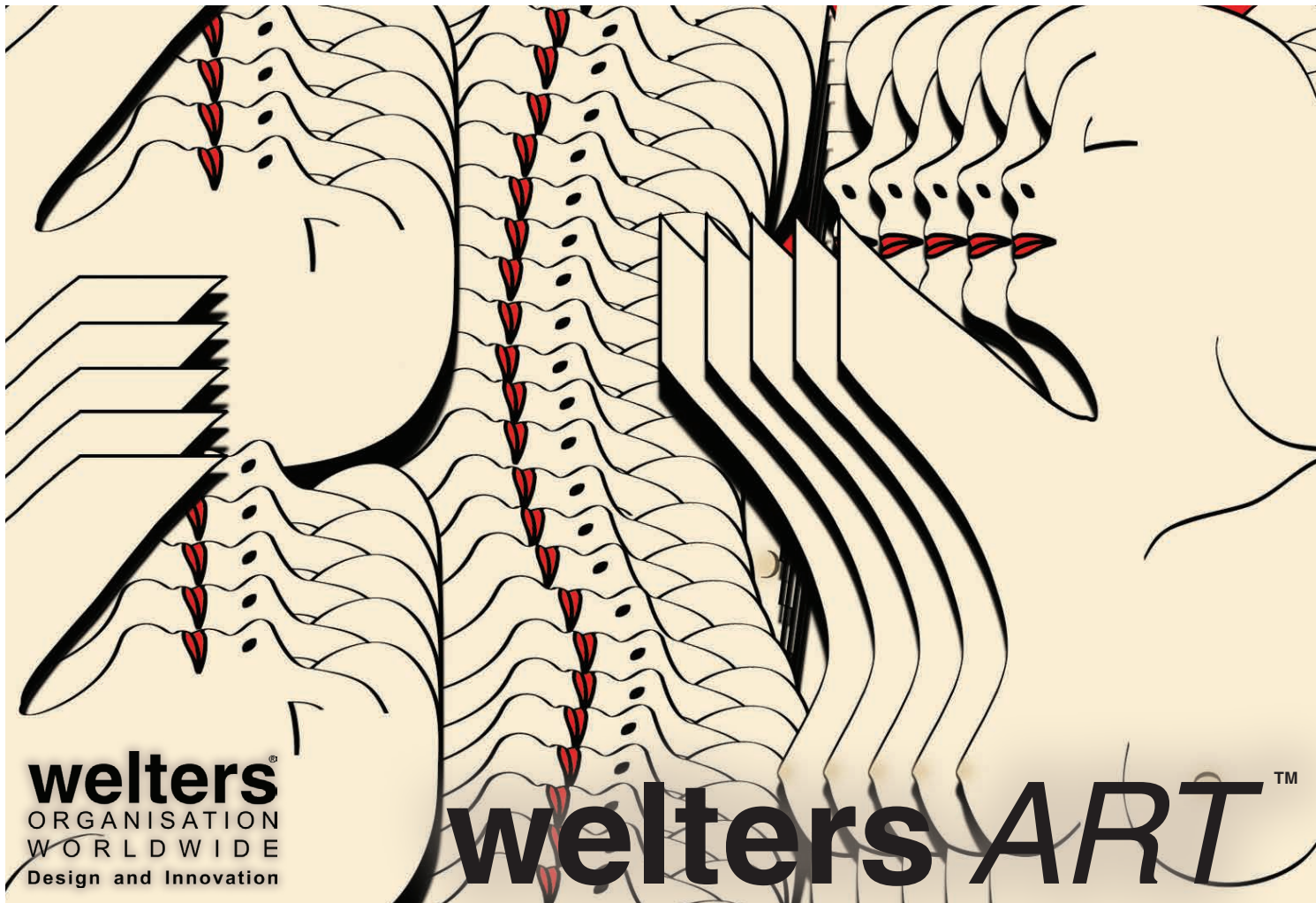
In its tenth year, MENE is the longest-running survey of its kind which tracks changes in how people use and relate to the natural environment. It comes during the Year of Green Action, a year-long drive to inspire and support people to connect with and

improve the natural environment.

The report also found:

- Use of our natural environment is the highest on record – with visits to the natural environment up from an estimated 2.9 billion visits in 2009/10 to almost 4 billion in 2018/19;
- Most people's experience of the natural environment is close to home, on their doorstep. This is especially key for people living in the most deprived areas. For example, children living in the 10% most deprived areas of England are most likely to visit urban greenspaces (62%) compared with only 30% who visit the countryside; and
- Most visits to nature are taken on foot and are increasingly close to home, with 44% of visits taken within 1 mile.





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1st July

- Another brick in its wall: Lego snaps up Madame Tussauds in £6bn deal
- Cliff Richard and Paul Gambaccini launch sex offence anonymity campaign
- Tears turn to joy as Kylie wows adoring fans at Glastonbury

2nd July

- Protesters storm Hong Kong parliament
- Whirlpool admit up to 800,000 faulty dryers exist
- 63% of Londoners think UK should follow Canada and make cannabis legal

3rd July

- May's veiled warning over No Deal threat to the Union
- Backlash as Boris pledges to axe 'sin tax' on sugary foods
- BBC gives stars £11m pay rise as it cuts free TV licences

4th July

- UK warns China over Hong Kong protests
- Corbyn in showdown over 'too frail' claims
- Warning of Brexit impact as economy 'shrinks for first time since EU vote'

5th July

- Iran's fury as British commandos seize oil tanker off Gibraltar
- UK slavery network 'had 400 victims'
- Boris Johnson: PM tried to restrict ex-minister's access to intelligence

6th July

- Conservative leadership race: Voters 'issued two ballots'
- Former MI6 head: UK in 'political nervous breakdown'
- Illegal immigrants in UK for 15 years could get amnesty



National News Headlines July 2019

7th July

- I'm not bluffing on no deal warns Boris
- Returning jihadists would face life in jail under Hunt's revamped treason laws
- Secret plan to use charities to help deport rough sleepers

8th July

- Theresa May has 'full faith' in UK ambassador who criticised Trump
- Labour must 'act more quickly' on anti-Semitism, says senior MP
- British Airways faces record £183m fine for data breach

9th July

- Deadly toll of toxic air in our poorest areas
- Hong Kong erupts in protest again
- Smoking must be stubbed out in 11 years, say ministers

10th July

- Major: I will seek a judicial review to stop Parliament shutdown
- Tory leadership: Johnson and Hunt trade blows over Brexit and Trump
- Johnson: I'll keep backing British Steel

11th July

- Iranian boats 'tried to intercept British tanker'
- Tommy Robinson jailed for contempt of court
- Outcry at red tape forcing terminally ill patients to worry about their finances

12th July

- Taxpayers hit with huge bill as climate protesters face court
- Boris Johnson vows to end 'unfair' prosecutions of Army veterans
- Catalogue of sex assaults, abuse and bullying at Westminster



National News Headlines July 2019

13th July

- Ketamine could transform treatment of depression
- War of words deepens as Iran hits back over tanker
- Labour civil war deepens with Abbott retweeting call for Watson to go

14th July

- Whistleblowers to sue Labour as antisemitism row deepens
- Kim Darroch affair 'is part of assault on civil service'
- May officials under fire over attack on the press

15th July

- Extinction Rebellion protesters block roads in UK cities
- New face of the Bank of England's £50 note is revealed
- Scandal of millions who are left with untrained carers

16th July

- May blasts Trump for 'racist' attack
- Hunt bid to defuse tensions and save Iran nuclear deal
- Scotland has highest drug death rate in EU

17th July

- Axeing free TV licences to cost Scots £41 million
- Sturgeon and May condemn Trump's 'go back' remark
- Islam kept Muslim world centuries behind the west, Johnson claimed

18th July

- Crimes solved by police in England and Wales at new low
- Brexit: MPs to vote on move to block Parliament shutdown
- Boris: We need to get brexit done by October 31



National News Headlines July 2019

19th July

- Hammond stirs up trouble for Boris in Brexit parting shot
- Plant-based milks on the rise: A quarter of Britons are drinking them
- Drivers face penalty points for not wearing seat belts

20th July

- Corbyn aide's 'plot to scupper probe on anti-Semitism'
- Met Police hacked with bizarre tweets and emails posted
- Labour wants to end outsourcing of council services

21st July

- Raised eyebrows as BoJo puts in hefty bill for furniture at No10
- Johnson warned: focus on Iran crisis or risk descent into war
- Cost of care for relatives doubles in decade

22nd July

- Three in four health tourists with biggest bills fail to pay NHS
- Families' care home costs double as council funding is falling short
- Tory leadership contest: Voting to close

23rd July

- Boris Johnson wins race to be Tory leader and PM
- Lancaster University students' data stolen by cyber-thieves
- Labour anti-Semitism: Corbyn's plan to go to ruling body

24th July

- Health chiefs: We'll kill off cigs by 2030
- BA strike threat grows as pilots win court battle
- Boris Johnson: May bidding farewell before new PM takes office



National News Headlines July 2019

25th July

- Boris Johnson: Premiership will be the start of a golden age
- UK heatwave: Country braces for hottest day on record
- London to swelter in 39C bake-off

26th July

- Boris storms into Brexit showdown with Brussels
- 100,000 net migration target is axed
- Johnson turns up the heat on Europe

27th July

- Clegg claims £113,000 from UK taxpayers despite earning £1m
- Boris on 'collision course' with EU over the backstop
- Boris Johnson backs high-speed Leeds to Manchester rail route

28th July

- Ex-chancellor plots with Labour to kill Johnson's no-deal Brexit
- Sajid Javid's Brexit blitz to prepare for no deal
- Warning wind farm costs could double electricity bills

29th July

- In-store fridges 'use 1% of all UK power'
- Johnson in crunch No Deal talks with Scottish Tory chief
- Boris Johnson wants renewal of 'ties that bind UK'

30th July

- Corbyn's new low as Welsh desert Labour
- Pound falls lower on no-deal Brexit prospect
- Universities 'ignoring warnings' as unconditional offers hit record high



National News Headlines August 2019

1st August

- Savers cash in £30bn from pension pots
- Carney: Climate change will make firms go bust
- Brexit: £2.1bn extra for no-deal planning

2nd August

- Give 7m carers a break, MPs tell Whitehall benefit bullies
- PM 'to nominate Osborne for IMF'
- Belfast office bans pictures of Queen

3rd August

- Russia accused as US quits nuclear treaty
- Home Secretary Priti Patel: I want criminals to feel terror
- Painted lady butterflies emerge in once-a-decade phenomenon

4th August

- Secret report reveals government fear of schools chaos after no-deal Brexit
- MPs told: it's too late to stop no deal
- Heathrow urged to list cancelled flights

5th August

- Stop rip-off pension fund charges, MPs tell ministers
- Noel Gallagher on Liam: 'I can't stand his voice'
- Domestic abuse victims 'need more support to feel safe'

6th August

- Protests shut down Hong Kong
- Brexit: No 10 rejects EU's view of talks
- Hancock: General election? I don't want one, I don't think we need one



National News Headlines August 2019

7th August

- Iran threatens the 'mother of all wars' over Gulf stand-off
- Brexit: Food industry seeks no-deal competition waiver
- Extinction Rebellion protesters block A38 in Birmingham

8th August

- 3.8m over-65s live alone while young stay with parents
- 75% of us would pay more tax to fix social care crisis
- Royal Mint: No new 1p coins made for first time in decades

9th August

- Tax from non-doms falls by £2bn as wealthy flee over Corbyn fears
- We would back Corbyn if he allowed independence referendum, hints SNP
- UK economy shrinks for the first time since 2012

10th August

- UK power cut: National Grid promises to learn lessons from blackout
- Brexit: Email slip-up reveals no-deal fishing patrol 'uncertainty'
- Palace and No 10 hold talks to keep the Queen out of Brexit

11th August

- Cyber attackers 'far worse' than Blackout Friday
- Priti Patel is told: Make all migrants earn at least £36k
- Chinese fury as Raab calls for probe into Hong Kong police brutality

12th August

- Law and order: Extra £85m for CPS to tackle violent crime
- Time to make cannabis legal, says Lib-Dem mayoral hopeful
- Average wait for routine GP appointment passes two weeks for first time





National News Headlines August 2019

19th August

- Corbyn: I'll be new Thatcher
- £182bn economy boost if workers retire at 75
- Jeremy Corbyn: General election will stop Brexit 'crisis'

20th August

- Tories' £3k a day on Facebook adverts
- Boris Johnson says 'anti-democratic' backstop must be scrapped
- Brexit: Freedom of movement plan 'will create chaos' - Abbott

21st August

- Council tax band shake- up appeal to plug £ 5bn hole
- £ 25m Boris boost for end- of- life charities
- Ryanair pilots threaten bank holiday flights for 250,000

22nd August

- GCSE results: Pass rates and top grades edge upwards
- Brexit: Backstop indispensable, Macron tells Johnson
- Migration: UK cannot end freedom of movement on Brexit day, experts say

23rd August

- EU migrant numbers 'underestimated'
- EU citizens coming for jobs halves since 2016 Brexit vote
- Costa Coffee franchise workers 'not treated like humans'

24th August

- Carney hints at a No Deal rates cut
- British Airways strike causes five days of flight cancellations
- Brexit: EU 'willing to listen' to Boris Johnson's ideas, says Donald Tusk



25th August

- Troops tackle Amazon blaze as global pressure mounts
- MI6 orders more spies into the EU to help with Brexit
- Bercow had secret talks to become a Labour Minister

26th August

- Hong Kong police open fire during protest
- Plan to slash duty on fuel 'ahead of snap election'
- UK weather: Hottest late August Bank Holiday Monday on record

27th August

- Crackdown on tax loopholes rakes in an extra £1 billion
- BBC rejects PM's plea to 'cough up' on TV licences for over-75s
- Brexit: Opposition MPs agree strategy to block no deal

28th August

- Drivers pay £1bn too much for insurance
- Opposition leaders in pact to block our Brussels exit
- 'Migrant' boats intercepted along Channel

29th August

- Ruth Davidson quits as Scottish Conservative leader
- Tesco, Asda, Poundland and Home Bargains illegally sold knives to children
- Parliament suspension sparks furious backlash

30th August

- Now Boris steps up talks with EU
- Judge rejects temporary ban on Parliament shutdown ahead of full hearing
- Half of parents 'want mobile phones banned in schools'

31st August

- Get your jabs alert over mumps surge
- Govan clashes: Sturgeon condemns 'sectarian' disorder in Glasgow
- Sajid Javid pledges £400m further education funding



National News Headlines September 2019

1st September

- Trump's rise 'obscuring lessons of WWII': Khan
- It will take courage and unity to halt a no-deal Brexit
- Deadly toll of smart motorways puts nationwide rollout in doubt

2nd September

- Self-employed owe £1.6bn in late tax
- Brexit: No 10 'considering' election amid no-deal battle with MPs
- Corbyn 'wants' an election despite warning from Tony Blair

3rd September

- Brexit: Boris Johnson faces showdown in Parliament
- HS2 railway to be delayed by up to five years
- 'I don't want an election, you don't want an election...'

4th September

- BBC hands Sir Cliff Richard £2m to settle legal costs over raid coverage
- No-deal Brexit plan: EU nationals could stay three years
- Brexit: PM in new battle after Commons vote defeat

5th September

- PM refuses to apologise over veil jibes
- Commons shutdown is lawful
- Boris Johnson attacks Jeremy Corbyn for blocking a general election

6th September

- Boris sticks boot in again as Corbyn vows to block second bid for an election
- Jail every thug who assaults an officer to stem rise in attacks, says police chief
- Brexit: Opposition parties to reject PM election move



National News Headlines September 2019

7th September

- Where's your pluck, Jeremy? Tory ad attacks 'chicken' leader
- Brexit: Firms have 'no idea what's going on'
- Oxfam opens 'superstore' charity shop in Oxford

8th September

- £1m boost to beat health tourism
- Stunning new blow for Boris as Amber Rudd quits the Tories
- Mass tactical voting plan to win new referendum

9th September

- I want a deal – but we must be prepared to leave without one
- Parliament to be suspended later on Monday
- BA strike sees 'nearly 100%' of flights cancelled

10th September

- 75,000 unfilled posts in social care chaos
- Brexit: Protests as five-week Parliament suspension begins
- Labour's Harriet Harman to run for Commons Speaker

11th September

- Brexit: Scottish judges rule Parliament suspension is unlawful
- MPs demand Parliament be recalled after Scottish prorogation court ruling
- Brexit: Labour deputy Tom Watson calls for referendum ahead of election

12th September

- 105 detained for crossing Channel in just one day
- English denied cystic fibrosis drug to be given out in Scotland
- Brexit: Labour urges Parliament recall after no-deal Brexit papers released



National News Headlines September 2019

13th September

- More police officers to be Taser-trained
- Deja vu for the EU as central bank tries to avoid recession
- PM: I'll maximise power of the North – just like railways did 200 years ago

14th September

- Gold toilet stolen in Blenheim Palace burglary
- Loyalist protest over Glasgow marches ban
- David Cameron: Johnson and Gove behaved 'appallingly'

15th September

- New crackdown on anti-semitism
- Cameron slammed for 'horrendous mistake' over Brexit referendum
- Ex Tory minister slams 'populist Johnson' as he joins Lib Dems

16th September

- £2bn pension bill for Armed Forces
- Another 40 migrants try to cross Channel
- Sir Rod Stewart says he's 'in the clear' after cancer diagnosis

17th September

- 40,000 more nurses needed 'to cut risks'
- Supreme Court: Parliament suspended 'to stop MPs frustrating PM', judges told
- Lib Dem government to stop Brexit on day one - Swinson

18th September

- Watson 'target of Corbynites for tackling anti-Semitism'
- Brexit: Poles in UK should 'seriously consider' leaving, Polish ambassador says
- Brexit: Talks 'should not be a pretence' warns Barnier



National News Headlines September 2019

19th September

- Peers in fight to push through a law to keep TV free for over-75s
- Brexit: UK shares confidential documents with EU
- Boris told: Fix social care crisis or face election loss

20th September

- Brexit: UK in EU talks as Juncker says deal achievable
- RBS is first UK big four bank to be led by a woman
- Thomas Cook races to secure more rescue funds

21st September

- Failure of food firms to slash sugar 'woeful'
- Extinction Rebellion Dover: Climate activists glue themselves to road
- Thomas Cook asks government for bailout in funding race

22nd September

- Universal Credit loophole costing millions closed after MoS probe
- Labour plunges into Brexit chaos
- Hard Left plans for life after Corbyn

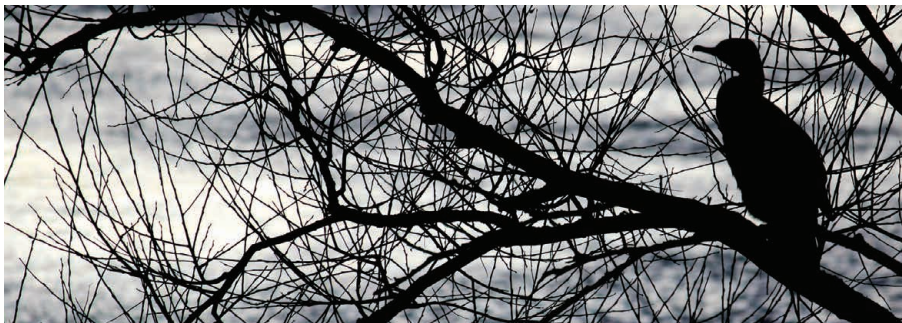
23rd September

- Thomas Cook customers to fly home after firm collapses
- Boris Johnson refuses to address conflict of interest claims
- Labour: Jeremy Corbyn faces battle with members over Brexit policy

24th September

- UK has lost a third of bank branches in just five years
- Are our aid millions being wasted? No one has got a clue, MPs admit
- I'm here as a wife, woman of colour and your sister, Meghan tells South Africa





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