

PRIME MINISTER

HIGHLIGHTS

The Weekend

Your speech at the Central Council in Felixstowe will command media attention, as will the French National Assembly Election. GCHQ may re-emerge as an issue. The first Aids advertisements are due to appear in the Sunday papers. Lord Whitelaw attends Mr Palme's funeral on Saturday.

On television, "This Week, Next Week" looks at "Caring Capitalism", including City salaries and issues affecting pensions, and "Weekend World" looks at "People's Capitalism", including wider share ownership. Mr Baker is interviewed about water privatisation on "The Money Programme".

Main Events

Monday is St Patrick's Day. You hold a reception for the Commonwealth Games.

Tuesday is Budget Day. OPEC meet in Geneva.

On Wednesday Messrs Fowler, Hayhoe and Whitney attend a conference on drug misuse; you look in at the reception in the evening. There is a lobby of Parliament on youth opportunities.

On Thursday you attend a memorial service for Mr Palme. The Queen opens the new head office of the Standard Chartered Group.

On Friday you visit the Board of Trade to commemorate their bicentenary. The Queen visits Wigan and Manchester. The RPI is published.

Parliament

Besides the Budget and the ensuing debate on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday the main business in the Commons is the Remaining Stages of the Gas Bill on Monday.

In the Lords, the Local Government Bill receives its Third Reading on Tuesday. On Wednesday there is a debate on the needs of voluntary organisations following the abolition of the GLC and Metropolitan Counties.

Other Events

- Monday: Retail sales for February published. Sir Geoffrey Howe addresses Foreign Press Association's lunch.
- "World in Action" interviews Clive Ponting on "Whitehall politics". "Panorama" interviews Mr Christopher Patten.
- Tuesday: BBC TV, BBC Radio 2 (Jimmy Young), BBC Radio 4 and ITN have Budget Special programmes. The Chancellor's Budget Message is transmitted on BBC TV1 (9.30 pm), BBC Radio 2 (10.35 pm), BBC Radio 4 (10.40 pm) and ITV (10.30 pm).
- Wednesday: Mr Channon, Mr Bristow and British Aerospace officials give evidence on Westland to the Trade and Industry Committee.
- "Money Box" has a phone-in on the Budget. Mr Hattersley's Budget broadcast is transmitted in the evening.
- Thursday: Sir Geoffrey Howe begins visit to Greece and Yugoslavia.
- Mr Lawson is interviewed on the "Jimmy Young Show". Mr R Jenkin's Budget Broadcast is transmitted in the evening. Mr J MacGregor appears on "Question Time". "TV Eye" looks at Sellafield.
- Friday: GDP (1985 Q4) figures published.
- Mr Tebbit appears on a BBC Radio 4 programme about the political interview, and also on "A Week in Politics". Mr John Moore appears on "Any Questions".

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14 March 1986