

MAIN EVENTS

Geranium Day for the blind: Prime Minister buys a flag

Prime Minister opens CSCE London Information Forum, QEII Centre; later visits Luxembourg for 150th anniversary celebrations and has bilaterals with Perez de Cuellar, Ryzkov and Vranitsky

London Transport publish report on safety standards in Lambeth and Southwark Tube stations

Statement on Toyota investment

STATISTICS

HMT/CSO: Public sector borrowing requirement (Mar)

OPCS: Infectious diseases (March qtr 1988 prov)

OPCS: Census newsletter number nine

OPCS: International migration: UK, England and Wales 1987

PUBLICATIONS

DEM/HSE: Risk of criteria for land use planning in the vicinity of major industrial hazards

NAO: Monitoring and Control of BNFL (11.00)

Law Commission: A criminal code for England and Wales

Maunsell Report on the Safety of Concrete Bridges

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Employment; Health; Prime Minister

Business: 10 Minute Rule Bill: Football Spectators (No 2)
Opposition Day (7th allotted day, 1st half)
There will be a debate on the National Health Service on a
Social Democratic Party Motion
Motion to take note of EC Documents on the Single Market

18 April 1989

PARLIAMENT (Cont'd)

Adjournment Debate: Private investment in transport infrastructure (Mr P Fry)

Select Committees: TRANSPORT
Subject: Public Expenditure White Paper
Witness: Department of Transport

Lords: Starred Questions
Official Secrets Bill: Report
Brunei (Appeals) Bill (HL): Second Reading
Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations
1989: Motion for Approval
Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1989:
Motion for Approval

Guardian says Conservatives are strongly placed to hold the county council elections challenge.

Foreign Secretary indicates in Washington Britain will not press for an immediate decision on modernisation of NATO short range missiles.

Football terraces to be barred - seating only grounds planned - Sun says you have revolutionised soccer safety at a stroke.

Pressure on Government to drop or postpone plans for national membership card scheme.

Lots of pictures of Prince and Princess of Wales at Sheffield hospitals.

Much coverage of Supt Roger Marshall who it is said gave the order to open gates - he is described as a broken man.

Express leads with an "exposure" of the fatal blunders and says policemen rounded on senior officers yesterday, accusing them of causing the tragedy.

Team of 150 police officers under West Midlands Chief Constable to investigate policing at Hillsborough.

Speculation that Liverpool will pull out of the Cup competition; Notts Forest agree to play.

Big row over remarks by UEFA president, Jacques Georges, for calling Liverpool fans beasts. Liverpool chief executive calls on him to resign.

Independent criticism of how much clubs spend on safety compared with buying footballers. £70million has been spent on improvements since the 1975 Safety of Sports Grounds Act - the same amount has been spent trading footballers this season.

Beatles to take part in charity record to raise money for disaster victims.

Mirror report that cages are being torn down at Derby, Spurs, Newcastle, Liverpool, Sheffield Wed, Norwich and Wimbledon.

Times claims that a five-point plan which could have prevented the tragedy was presented to the FA by the London chairman of the supporters' association two years ago but largely ignored.

Times under heading "Medical cover on the cheap" says the St John Ambulance Brigade is to be paid £35 for attending Saturday's game.

Times - Press Council to inquire into press use of photographs of disaster after people flood switchboard complaining. Daily Mirror picture was the one people mostly spoke about.

A single EC currency proposed as part of a programme to achieve economic union produced by Delors group.

Chancellor says UK Government cannot accept transfer of sovereignty implied by report.

Times - Chancellor denounces proposal for European economic and monetary union because it would in effect bring about the United States of Europe, which was simply not on the agenda for the moment.

FT says that in Luxembourg the Chancellor makes clear that the UK will seek to block any proposal for an inter-governmental conference to amend EC treaties and to allow transfer of economic and monetary sovereignty. Leader argues that you should pick up the European monetary gauntlet, at last.

Guardian says if we are serious about monetary union it is high time we showed our good intent by joining the EMS.

Independent leader says the danger for Britain in standing aside from EMU is that we will find ourselves on the outside with diminished influence on the community's economic evolution. The attractiveness of the goal of a common EC currency should not be underestimated.

BP raises price of petrol by another 7.7p a gallon - nudging £2 after fourth rise this year.

French allow Nissan cars in without restriction - a victory, the Mail says, for other foreign companies wanting to set up in Britain.

Bosch development in South Wales will bring nearly 3,000 jobs to Britain.

Another 3,000 expected to flow from today's announcement of Toyota's decision to manufacture in the UK.

Universities refuse to raise 7% pay offer to lecturers (FT).

Vice Chancellors may seek 6.5% pay award for individual universities where the majority of lecturers are working normally (Independent).

Threat of 24-hour BBC strike over pay next Monday.

TV viewers much more concerned about bad language and violence on screen than sex (Times).

Arrangements for the disposal of household and hazardous waste are inadequate according to the pollution inspectorate (Independent).

Scotland Yard detectives still waiting as Egyptians thwart inquiry on Al-Fayeds (Times).

Bar Council's fighting fund to oppose reforms of legal profession tops £1million in less than 12 weeks (Times).

Lord Havers says he will vote against Government for first time if Lord Chancellor's proposed reforms are incorporated in a Bill.

Robert Alexander QC argues Law Reform will make justice more expensive and less accessible to the consumer (Independent).

London School of Economics report says livestock killing, human injuries and road accidents caused by stray dogs cost the nation £70million a year (Times).

Amnesty International report claims Gibraltar inquest did not answer the fundamental question of whether the IRA terrorists were killed deliberately rather than arrested (FT).

Women receive more than 8 million obscene/threatening phone calls a year according to Gallup Poll for Channel 4 (Independent)

Harriet Harman yesterday claimed the Government was allowing community care for the elderly to drift into chaos (Independent).

GPs overwhelmingly rejected NHS proposals yesterday - fearing that there are no safeguards for them to continue to prescribe as they see fit rather than offering simply the cheapest treatment (Independent).

Seven year ban on Solidarity lifted yesterday.

President Bush immediately offers one billion dollars worth of aid.

John McCarthy begins his fourth year as a hostage in Lebanon.

Speaker of US House of Representatives, Democrat James Wright, looks to have the skids under him on "ethical violations" charges involving £100,000.

HILLSBOROUGH COMMENT

Star says there is little point in sounding off until it is known for certain who is responsible. But people can do something useful - buy a charity record.

Brian Hitchens, Star editor in his column, attacks idea of completing this year's FA Cup competition and likens the greed for money behind the decision to go ahead to "the stench of decay wafting from under the doors of the FA".

Sun asks if it is fair to make the police scapegoats. Why were they placed in their dilemma? Because thousands of fans, many without tickets, tried to get into the ground just before the kick-off either by forcing their way in or by blackmailing the police into opening the gates. So far we have heard not a word of criticism of these fans in Liverpool.

Jimmy Reid, in Sun, says let's not forget the dead and injured are the victims of the mindless hooliganism that has defiled English football.

Mirror attempts to justify its use of horrific pictures of the disaster as it happened.

Today says silence is the refuge of the guilty and South Yorkshire police's descent into muteness is hardly surprising. They are unable to summon up the courage to defend themselves. They allowed themselves to be used by the football authorities who are ultimately responsible for the carnage.

Express leader says it is not unfair that the South Yorkshire police have become the main target of recriminations. It is vital to examine ruthlessly the way the police planned for Saturday's match and their actions at the time. It welcomes decision to go for all-seat grounds.

Mail leader says the national membership card measure should not be scrapped. It may well still be needed but its passage through the Commons should be delayed until the preliminary findings from the Hillsborough inquiry. All-seat stadiums are fundamental to football safety.

Guardian leader says the Home Secretary pitched it sensibly and sensitively yesterday. We have reached a point where the surging kops culture of football has to be changed. Football, with a positive Government lead, now has to make sure fans are cared for when alive and not merely lamented in death.

Independent leader welcomes decision to go for all seater stadia but says the Government are unwise to pre-empt Lord Justice Taylor in the matter of ID cards.

FT - Parliamentary debate started in respectful silence but ended in angry accusations over Government intransigence about national membership scheme proposals.

Times leader says it has been a consistent supporter of membership scheme and that it is easy to understand your irritation and that of your colleagues, but irritation is a poor servant of policy. By misreading the mood of the House the Government risks permanently reducing the memorial to the Hillsborough dead. The game of football is in a state of shock. There is a chance now that the football business will, at last, show a willingness to put its ramshackle house in order.

YOUR TEN YEARS

Lord Home pays an anniversary tribute to you in the Times under the heading "Britain's Counter Revolution". He ends by saying Thatcherism has more to prove, but the first 10 years have not been a bad start.

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DES: Mr Baker attends the official opening of the newly constituted Teeside Polytechnic; later visits Middlesborough City Technology College sites
- DOE: Mr Ridley addresses Water Research Centre lunch, London
- DTI: Lord Young hosts lunch for Mr Lukanov, Lancaster House; later addresses London Docklands Business Exhibition, London City Airport
- DTI: Mr Newton addresses conference for launch of "Materials Matter" campaign, London
- HMT: Mr Major addresses the Association of American Correspondents, London
- HO: Mr Hurd hosts dinner for delegates to London Information Forum conference on "Security and Co-operation in Europe"; later presents British Regional Press Awards, London
- WO: Mr Walker opens new BRS Western Branch, Swansea; later visits Trinity College, Carmarthen; also opens Special Care Baby Unit, Carmarthen and visits St Davids University College, Lampeter
- CO: Mr Luce addresses Equal Opportunities Officers conference, Windsor
- DEM: Mr Lee attends media launch of BTEC Travel and Tourism course in London
- DES: Mrs Rumbold visits Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School, Hertfordshire and speaks on "Women into Work"
- DH: Mr Mellor attends Child Care/ACC/AMA conference on Provision For Under 5s, Great Ormond Street Hospital, London; later dines with Citizen's Action AIDS policy unit, London
- DH: Mr Freeman visits Haringay Health Authority and addresses British Industrial Biological Research Association annual symposium, Regents Park, London
- DOE: Mr Howard visits Clean Kent campaign at Brands Hatch
- DOE: Mr Moynihan meets Robert Banks MP and delegation from Norton Opax on ID system presentation
- DOE: Lord Caithness, Lord Hesketh and Lord Arran attend Water Authority Chairmans dinner; Lord Caithness later has drinks with COI
- DOE: Mr Chope addresses Association of District Council lunch on "Future Development Plans"
- DOE: Mrs Bottomley meets delegation from West Midlands MPs re shipments of hazardous waste

ANNEX

- DTp: Mr Bottomley attends launch of Bike '89 Exhibition, Hyde Park, London
- DTp: Lord Brabazon opens Expoship London exhibition, Barbican Centre, London; later attends Royal Institute of Naval Architects annual dinner
- HMT: Mr Lamont addresses Unitary Tax Campaign annual meeting, London
- MAFF: Mr Thompson addresses North Sea Scientific Task Force, Plymouth
- ODA: Mr Patten addresses Open University, Milton Keynes
- WO: Mr Roberts attends Enterprise Workshops lunch, Lords Cricket Ground, London

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- MOD: Mr Younger attends Nuclear Planning Group, Brussels (to 20 April)

MINISTERS (PRESS INTERVIEWS)

- DOE: Mr Moynihan has lunch with Robin Oakley, political editor of The Times

TV AND RADIO

'The Thatcher Decade: The Most Important Man': BBC Radio 4 (19.20) In the second of three programmes about Mrs Thatcher's ten years in power, Nicholas Jones examines the role of Bernard Ingham

'After Dread and Anger': BBC Radio 4 (20.30) One of six documentaries on the State and race relations

'Taking Liberties': BBC 2 (21.50) looks at discrimination against people with AIDS
