Radio 4 TODAY JUNE 2011

Wednesday 1st June

**Four people have been arrested on suspicion of mistreating patients at a private hospital, following a BBC investigation. There is little sign that Fifa will postpone the re-election of Sepp Blatter. Also on today's programme, the man who has been presented with an £11,000 bill for Olympic tickets.**

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**0615**
Business news with Adam Shaw: The Financial Services Authority is considering whether it should "constrain future interest-only mortgages". David Blanchflower, formerly of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee reflects on the proposals. White House spokesman Jay Carney considers whether Republicans will accept President Obama's bid to raise the US debt limit. And Tom Broughton of Building Magazine talks about recent activity in the construction sector. [Download the podcast.](http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/today)

**0650**
[Southern Cross,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9501000/9501738.stm) a company that runs care homes for 31,000 people across Britain, has announced it is in financial trouble and cannot afford to pay its rents. Conservative MP Stephen Dorrell, who chairs the Commons Health Select Committee, looks at the decision to cut its rents.

**0709**
Some 300,000 Britons have switched the terms of their [mortgage to interest-only](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9501000/9501749.stm) repayments since the credit crunch began. Zubeida Malik reports on fears that even a modest rise in interest rates could spell financial disaster for many.

**0712**
The international team inspecting [the nuclear accident in Japan](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9501000/9501761.stm) have concluded that the danger from the tsunami was underestimated, and lessons must be learned by nuclear plant designers and operators around the world. Dr Richard Wakeford, visiting professor of epidemiology at Dalton Nuclear Institute at Manchester University, assesses the warning.

**0716**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0720**
[Sepp Blatter will today be re-elected to the most powerful job in world football.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9501000/9501762.stm) Sports editor David Bond is at Fifa headquarters in Zurich.

**0723**
We are being warned that it is a very bad year for [clothes moths.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9501000/9501763.stm) Rachel Simhon, the author of The Housewife's Handbook, explains what can you do to protect your favourite woollies.

**0727**
Sports news with Garry Richardson.

**0733**
[A report by BBC's Panorama](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9501000/9501775.stm) has shocked psychologists after it revealed the appalling treatment of some people with learning difficulties in hospitals. Mark Goldring, chief executive of the learning disability charity Mencap, reacts to the story of Simone, one young victim of abuse.

**0738**
Paper review.

**0741**
Stephen Hunt, the man who applied for £36,000 worth of tickets for the Olympics, [has finally found out what he received.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9501000/9501788.stm) He returns to the Today programme to reveal all.

**0747**
Thought for the day with Vishvapani, who is an ordained Buddhist.

**0750**
The care home operator Southern Cross has announced it is in a critical financial position and has done a deal with the banks to borrow more money. William Laing, health economist at Laing and Buisson, and Peter Hay, president of the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services, discuss [what the future may hold for the company and those in its care.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9501000/9501789.stm)

**0810**
Record numbers of families struggling under financial strain have moved their mortgages into risky interest-only schemes, according to statistics from the Financial Services Authority. Terry Smith, chief executive of fund managers Fundsmith, and Deanne Julius, former member of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee, [debate the dangers of an interest rate rise.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9501000/9501821.stm)

**0818**
Apache helicopters are expected to launch their first strikes against Gaddafi's forces near the eastern Libyan city of Misrata, the only coastal town between Tripoli and Benghazi left in rebel hands. David Loyn reports from Misrata, [where a major clean-up is just beginning.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9501000/9501790.stm)

**0822**
A few weeks ago the Today programme's James Naughtie gave [a DNA sample to find out his genetic heritage.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9501000/9501822.stm) Scottish historian Alistair Moffat and social anthropologist Kate Fox, author of Watching the English: The Hidden Rules of English Behaviour, prepare him for the moment of truth.

**0828**
Sports news with Garry Richardson.

**0836**
One thousand more migrants from north Africa landed in Sicily yesterday, arriving by boat from the island of Lampedusa. Italian authorities say 40,000 have arrived this year, Europe editor Gavin Hewitt reports on the growing problem. EU Home Affairs Commissioner Cecilia Malmstrom considers [if other European countries should help with the influx.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9501000/9501825.stm)

**0842**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0848**
It is being claimed that [the prominent Pakistani journalist Syed Saleem Shahzad,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9501000/9501836.stm) who has been found dead, was in the custody of the Pakistan intelligence organisation, the ISI, before he died. Nasim Zehra, a presenter at Dunya TV in Pakistan, and Ali Dayan Hasan of Human Rights Watch, analyse the situation.

**0851**
A series of earthquakes near Blackpool [have been blamed on the drilling of shale gas,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9501000/9501838.stm) which is also accused of polluting water supplies and accelerating climate change. The BBC's environment analyst Roger Harrabin explains.

**0854**
After 15 years on the run, Ratko Mladic spent last night in a cell in The Hague, waiting to go on trial for crimes against humanity during the Bosnian war. The Guardian's Simon Jenkins and Geoffrey Robertson QC, author of Crimes Against Humanity, [debate if Mladic's victims have been denied real justice after all these years.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9501000/9501850.stm)

Thursday 2nd June

**The government's immigration policy is effectively introducing an amnesty according to a Commons committee. Has the war on drugs failed? And also on the programme, DJ Annie Nightingale on why pop culture should stop recycling and embrace the new.**

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**0615**
Business news with Adam Shaw: Figures out this morning show that public sector pay growth ground to a halt in April. Ken Mulkearn, editor of the report from Income Data Services, explains the gap between public and private sector salaries. And John B Taylor, professor of economics at Stanford University, outlines why President Obama and leading Republicans have reached a deadlock over US debt. [Download the podcast.](http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/today)

**0650**
A pressure group report claims there is evidence that [GP commissioning,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9502000/9502625.stm) a controversial part of the government's planned changes to the NHS, is already improving patient care in some places. Dr Michael Dixon, chairs of the NHS Alliance, and Dr John Lister, director of the London Health Emergency campaign group, which says it is committed to defending the NHS, go head to head over the findings.

**0709**
The German agency in charge of trying to trace the E. coli outbreak that has killed at least 17 people says it may continue for months, and that [its source may never be discovered.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9502000/9502659.stm) Berlin correspondent Steve Evans has been speaking to the head of the agency.

**0712**
[Can you put a price tag on nature?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9502000/9502645.stm) Stephen Tapper, president of the Planning Officers Society, reviews the government's new plan to put monetary values on the natural environment.

**0716**
The Commons Home Affairs Select Committee says the government has given [an effective amnesty to more than 160,000 asylum seekers](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9502000/9502647.stm) , and its asylum policy is still "unfit for purpose". Keith Best of Freedom From Torture, and former chief executive of the Immigration Advisory Service, reacts to the criticism.

**0719**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0722**
[Mitt Romney,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9502000/9502605.stm) former governor of the US state of Massachusetts, is later expected to declare his candidacy for the republican nomination for the presidency. Washington correspondent Jonny Dymond reports on the serious hurdles ahead in his run for the White House.

**0727**
Sports news with Garry Richardson.

**0731**
[Serious concerns were raised over the care industry yesterday,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9502000/9502672.stm) as abuse at the Winterbourne View home for people with learning disabilities and the financial problems at Southern Cross care homes came to light. Nadra Ahmed, chair of the National Care Association, considers its uncertain future.

**0736**
Sepp Blatter has promised to put the ship of Fifa "back on course", as he begins his new term as president, despite the best efforts of the English and Scottish Football Associations, the British press and parliamentarians. Sports editor David Bond [reflects on the events in Zurich over the past few days.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9502000/9502658.stm)

**0740**
Paper review.

**0743**
The war on drugs, as it used to be called by governments around the world, has failed, [according to a Global Commission on Drug Policy.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9502000/9502660.stm) Former president of Colombia, Cesar Gaviria, who is one of the members of the commission, reflects on the scale of the problem.

**0747**
Thought for the day with Anne Atkins, novelist and columnist.

**0750**
A [cyber attack uncovered by Google](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9502000/9502671.stm) appears to have been aimed at a large number of government officials and journalists, mainly, but not exclusively, in the United States, and to have originated in China. The BBC's Gordon Corera examines the "offence and defence" of cyber security. Lt Gen Harry Raduege, of the chairs the Deloitte Centre for Cyber Innovation in Washington DC, and who has written reports on cyber security, analyses the threat of further attacks.

**0810**
The government immigration policy is not working and is effectively introducing an amnesty by failing to clear a backlog of illegal immigrants, according to the Commons Home Affairs Select Committee. Keith Vaz, chairman of the committee, and immigration minister Damian Green [debate the best way to deal with asylum seekers.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9502000/9502673.stm)

**0819**
Is the world of popular music obsessed with the past? Simon Reynolds, author of Retromania, and Annie Nightingale, Radio 1 DJ and the station's longest-serving presenter, [discuss if today's pop stars are stuck on rewind.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9502000/9502674.stm)

**0825**
Sports news with Garry Richardson.

**0832**
Hundreds of environmental scientists and economists have been trying to put a price on nature in [the UK's first ecosystem assessment report.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9502000/9502689.stm) Environment correspondent Tom Feilden reports on how much a walk in the countryside is really worth. And Environment Secretary Caroline Spelman runs through the aims of the scheme.

**0841**
Government forces in Libya have been accused of war crimes and crimes against humanity by UN investigators. Wyre Davis reports from Tripoli on [concerns that both sides are breaking the rules of war.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9502000/9502690.stm)

**0843**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0846**
The evidence of abuse at the care home in Bristol run by Castlebeck has reawakened the concerns of a family in Nottingham, whose son died after being restrained in a home run by the same company. Paul Balen is the family solicitor of Derek Lovegrove, the [38-year-old man with learning difficulties who died while in care.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9502000/9502713.stm)

**0849**
[The Kinks' frontman Ray Davies](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9502000/9502606.stm) has been curating this year's Meltdown Festival at the Southbank Centre in London. Evan Davis spoke to him at his north London studio about many years of memories and music.

**0854**
One of Labour's serial rebels, former MP for Medway Bob Marshall-Andrews, has written a memoir called Off Message: The Complete Answer to Political Humbug. His former long-suffering chief whip, Nick Brown, MP for Newcastle upon Tyne East, joins him [to debate the benefits of parliamentary dissent.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9502000/9502724.stm)

Friday 3th June

**Concerns have been raised over private involvement in the health service, following the care home scandal uncovered by Panorama and the financial crisis at Britain's largest care home provider, Southern Cross. The World Health Organisation is warning that the E. Coli outbreak in Germany is an entirely new strain of the bacteria. And should we be making a greater effort to look after the vulnerable by ourselves?**

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**0615**
Business news with Dominic Laurie: A second financial bailout of Greece could be signed off later today, in a bid to stop it defaulting on its mountain of debt. Professor of economics at University College London, Costas Meghir, analyses what sort of a deal could be reached. And [chief executive of Diageo Paul Walsh,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9503000/9503717.stm) one of the FTSE 100's longest serving CEOs, is our Friday boss. [Download the podcast.](http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/today)

**0640**
With rocketing property prices, many of those on the economic margins in [Beijing](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9503000/9503776.stm) have been forced literally underground, living in the city's thousands of air-raid shelters, basements and tunnels. Martin Patience reports.

**0650**
MPs have criticised the way [EU fishing quotas](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9503000/9503586.stm) are being applied in the UK. Conservative MP Anne McIntosh, chair of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Select Committee, and Barrie Deas, chief executive of the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations, debate whether limits are leading to a lot of dead fish.

**0709**
The outbreak of [E. coli](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9503000/9503595.stm) in Germany, which has killed 17 people so far, has now infected seven people in the UK. Berlin correspondent Steve Evans reports on what the World Health Organisation is calling a completely new strain of the bacteria. And Professor Gad Frankel, an expert in E.coli at Imperial College London, assesses the risk.

**0712**
The future of the controversial chief executive of [Suffolk County Council,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9503000/9503575.stm) Andrea Hill, is to be decided by a disciplinary committee, after complaints by whistle-blowers and the death of a senior colleague. Local government correspondent Mike Sergeant reports.

**0716**
Business news with Dominic Laurie.

**0720**
Family, friends, and some of the most influential voices in black America came together yesterday to remember [Gil Scott-Heron,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9503000/9503585.stm) the musician and poet who always contested his honorary title, Godfather of Rap. Matt Wells went to Riverside Church in Manhattan to hear some of the tributes.

**0727**
Sports news with Garry Richardson.

**0732**
[Four people have been killed in an explosion and fire at an oil refinery in west Wales,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9503000/9503628.stm) Dyfed Powys Police have said. Former chief fire officer at Mid and West Wales fire service Arwel Fowler and Welsh Assembly Member Angela Burns discuss the incident.

**0739**
Paper review.

**0742**
Scientists in Britain have discovered a new variant of the superbug [MRSA,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9503000/9503607.stm) and say it is possible that cows could be a source of the human strain. Dr Mark Holmes of Cambridge University outlines the findings.

**0747**
Thought for the day with Akhandadhi Das, a Vaishnav Hindu teacher and theologian..

**0750**
The former Bosnian Serb leader [Ratko Mladic](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9503000/9503629.stm) will make his first appearance in court today at the war crimes tribunal in the Hague, charged with 11 counts of genocide and crimes against humanity. Europe correspondent Chris Morris reports from the Hague and correspondent Allan Little reflects on the case to come.

**0810**
Serious concerns have been raised over [the private sector's role in Britain's health service,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9503000/9503641.stm) after appalling abuse was exposed at an institution in Bristol, and a financial crisis took hold of Britain's largest care home provider, Southern Cross. The BBC's Ben Wright reflects on the politics at play. Colin Ellis, chief economist at the British Private Equity and Venture Capital Association, considers the impact of financial engineering on private care operators. And Lib Dem MP Norman Lamb analyses the future of NHS reform.

**0820**
A new film is out today on the life of [Ayrton Senna,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9503000/9503665.stm) the Brazilian Formula One racing driver and three-times world champion who was killed after crashing at the San Marino Grand Prix at Imola in 1994. Retired Formula One driver Damon Hill and Sid Watkins, former Formula One safety and medical delegate and a friend of Senna, discuss this crucial turning point in F1 racing.

**0825**
Sports news with Garry Richardson.

**0834**
Israel's ambassador to Britain has written an article reflecting on a growing feeling in his country that [the UK is too hostile towards Israel,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9503000/9503666.stm) particularly on the subject of Palestine. Ron Prosor explains his concerns.

**0841**
Business news with Dominic Laurie.

**0845**
The first exhibition of [the government's extensive art collection,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9503000/9503707.stm) used mostly for offices and embassies, will be opened to the public today. Daniel Herrmann, curator of the collection at the Whitechapel Gallery in East London, and Kim Howells, former culture minister in the last government, look forward to the show.

**0850**
[Who should be looking after us in our old age?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9503000/9503712.stm) AA Gill of the Sunday Times and Katharine Whitehorn, who is now agony aunt for Saga Magazine, debate what works best.

Saturday 4th June

**A report on the sexualisation of children is calling for explicit adverts to be banned near schools, and for shops to stop selling provocative clothes to pre-teens. Plus is a mastery of mathematics the secret to sporting success?**

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**0709**
There are increasing concerns about the over-sexualisation of young children, with a new report calling for more measures to protect them from sexualised imagery. Education correspondent Gillian Hargreaves reports on the [proposals for TV, billboards and magazines.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9504000/9504446.stm)

**0712**
After a week of relatively bad news on the economic front, is the economy now in its darkest hour? James Ramsbotham, chief executive of the Chamber of Commerce, gives us [a taste of business opinion from the north east of England.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9504000/9504447.stm)

**0715**
Paper review.

**0718**
First there was Tony Blair's "sofa" government, and, according to new research, now there's the Cameron and Clegg show. Professor Robert Hazell, of University College London, explains [why he believes the dominance of informal chats over cabinet meetings has continued](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9504000/9504458.stm)

**0722**
Have the older generation of world leaders, such as Bill Clinton and Mikhail Gorbachev, handed a better world over to the younger generation? Brian Till (aged 25), author of a new book Conversations with Power, has met many of them in an attempt to answer this, and [shares his findings with Evan Davis.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9504000/9504459.stm)

**0725**
Sports news with Garry Richardson at Epsom.

**0733**
Two British Apache helicopters, deployed from HMS Ocean, were used in an attack on Libyan targets last night. Defence correspondent Jonathan Beale [reports from onboard the carrier.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9504000/9504470.stm)

**0736**
The president of Yemen Ali Abdullah Saleh has been injured in a rocket attack by rebels trying to force him out of office. Former US ambassador to Yemen, David Newton, assesses recent happenings in the country and [how longer President Saleh can cling on to power.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9504000/9504471.stm)

**0739**
Paper review.

**0742**
The writer Josephine Hart, author of Damage and a major figure on the literary scene, has died. The actor Charles Dance, who worked extensively with her, [pays tribute to his friend and mentor.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9504000/9504472.stm)

**0745**
Thought for the day with the Reverend Rob Marshall, an Anglican Priest.

**0749**
With a second bailout on the cards, [what's next for Greece's crippled economy?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9504000/9504474.stm) The BBC's Hugh Pym reports on the problems still facing the nation's finances, and Constantine Papadopoulos, secretary-general for international economic relations at the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs, reflects Greek opinion.

**0810**
Amid fears that young children are becoming sexualised far too much and far too young, a government-commissioned report will recommend stricter controls on what our children are exposed to. Conservative MP Nadine Dorries and broadcasting executive Stephen Price [debate the necessity and effectiveness of the proposed measures.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9504000/9504473.stm)

**0817**
Could being good at maths improve your sporting prowess? A new book, The Hidden Mathematics of Sport, suggests that the best sportspeople are guided by some subliminal maths intuition. Its co-author Rob Eastaway and Claire Taylor, a member of England's women's cricket team, [discuss if matrices can help win matches.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9504000/9504476.stm)

**0822**
Nato has confirmed that two British Apache helicopters were used in attacks in Libya overnight for the first time. Lord Richard Dannatt, former chief of the general staff, and Labour MP Graham Allen, who voted against the intervention in Libya, [analyse if this supposed escalation in the offensive is justified.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9504000/9504487.stm)

**0832**
Sports news with Garry Richardson.

**0832**
With yet more challenges facing the economy, should the government hold its course in its austerity measures or is it time to ease off the throttle? Former chancellors Lord Lamont and Alistair Darling debate [whether the government must be firm or flexible.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9504000/9504498.stm)

**0847**
Paper review.

**0849**
[Cyber crime is becoming cheaper and easier,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9504000/9504509.stm) with credit card details now being bought online for as little as five pence. Security correspondent Gordon Corera investigates the commercialisation of online crime.

**0853**
[A new Playboy club opens in London tonight,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9504000/9504526.stm) 27 years after the capital's last one closed. Director of UK Feminista Kat Banyard explains why she's planning to protest at the opening, and Michael Winner puts the case for it all being just a bit of fun.

Monday 6th June

**The business secretary, Vince Cable, is to warn unions they could face tougher laws on industrial action, if strikes damage the economy. Home Secretary Theresa May has accused universities of being complacent about the threat posed by Islamic extremism. Also on today's programme, Plan B or not Plan B - that is the question. We talk to Chancellor George Osborne about the economy.**

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**0615**
Business news with Adam Shaw: Portugal's government is now paying the price for the country's economic downturn. Norval Loftus, chief investment officer at Allegra Asset Management, considers whether a change of leadership will improve the situation. Giovanni Bisignani, IATA's director general, talks about the challenge facing Europe's airlines. And Stephen King, chief economist at HSBC, explains the new Southern Silk Road phenomenon emerging in the banking sector. [Download the podcast.](http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/today)

**0650**
[Women should not be sent to prison](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9505000/9505438.stm) and should instead serve community sentences, according to a new report by the Women's Justice Taskforce. Chief constable of Devon and Cornwall police Stephen Otter, a member of the Prison Reform Trust which lead the taskforce, puts forward their case.

**0709**
An increasing number of economists are suggesting [the chancellor should be thinking again](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9505000/9505439.stm) about the speed at which he plans to cut the budget deficit. Economics editor Stephanie Flanders reports. And general secretary of the GMB union, Paul Kenny, reacts to Vince Cable's warning that union militancy could lead to stringent strike legislation.

**0715**
President Ali Abdullah Saleh has left [Yemen](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9505000/9505426.stm) and is now receiving medical treatment in Saudi Arabia. Lina Sinjab reports on the power vacuum now looming in the country.

**0719**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0721**
[A dubstep symphony](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9505000/9505437.stm) combining classical music and modern electronica is being performed tonight by the BBC Philharmonic and the electronic duo Nero. Nicola Stanbridge reports on the concert which may or may not take the world by storm.

**0727**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0733**
[Should we protect children from growing up too fast and becoming over-sexualised?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9505000/9505455.stm) Reg Bailey, chief executive of the Mother's Union, who was asked by the government to look at what should be done, explains the findings of his report. And Rachel Russell, senior lecturer in sociology at Glasgow Caledonian University, questions whether we are overreacting.

**0740**
Paper review.

**0743**
Scientists in Geneva have been able to trap [anti-matter,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9505000/9505456.stm) the invisible force with enormous explosive power that disappeared after the moment of the Big Bang. Professor Jeffrey Hangst, leader of the project at the European particle physics lab, outlines the experiment.

**0747**
Thought for the day with the Rabbi Lionel Blue.

**0750**
The [hypnosis](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9505000/9505458.stm) section of the Royal Society of Medicine says the NHS could save money and serve patients better by treating some serious conditions with hypnosis. Dr Peter Naish, president of the RSM's hypnosis section, and Dr Clare Gerada, chair of the Royal College of GPs, debate mind over medicine.

**0810**
A number of leading economists have voiced their disapproval of the speed of government spending cuts, claiming that the chancellor's economic policies are not working. [Chancellor George Osborne](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9505000/9505478.stm) responds to the criticisms that he is in need of a Plan B. And Nick Robinson reflects on Britain's economy ahead of the IMF's annual health check, which will be delivered later today.

**0820**
[The classic Ealing comedy Ladykillers has been adapted for the stage](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9505000/9505477.stm) and will return starring Peter Capaldi of the Thick of It. The man behind the move, Graham Linehan, who also brought us the Father Ted series, and Michael Billington, the Guardian's theatre critic, discuss whether great films can ever be made to work on the stage.

**0825**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0830**
The British pharmaceutical company GlaxoSmithKleine has announced plans to [supply the expensive rotavirus vaccine, used for prevention of severe diarrhoea in children, at cost price](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9505000/9505492.stm) to developing countries. Its chief executive Andrew Witty outlines the company's change of business strategy.

**0837**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0840**
[Are our universities being complacent in their treatment of Islamic extremism?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9505000/9505496.stm) James Brandon, head of research at the Quilliam Foundation, and Nicola Dandridge, of Universities UK, respond to concerns raised by the home secretary.

**0852**
A [new university](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9505000/9505555.stm) being set up by some of the most famous names in the academic world will charge £18,000 a year, and is planning to rival Oxford and Cambridge. The master of the New College of the Humanities, AC Grayling, currently professor of philosophy at Birkbeck College, and Baroness Blackstone, vice chancellor of the University of Greenwich and a former education minister, debate the benefits of such a scheme.

**A report by MPs has accused ministers of significantly underestimating the number of universities in England that that will charge maximum tuition fees. The government's revised strategy for tackling Islamic terrorism is expected to include tighter restrictions on websites that promote extremism. Also on today's programme, the Blur front man Damon Albarn on breathing new life into the story of Renaissance polymath John Dee.**

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**0615**
Business news with Adam Shaw: The US treasury secretary has warned regulators against the UK's "tragic" light touch oversight, just as a new trade body is launched to defend the interests of high-frequency traders. Richard Balarkas, chief executive of trading firm Instinet Europe, considers the need to regulate high-frequency trading. Henry Dixon of Matterley Asset Management looks at the markets. Director general of the British Retail Consortium, Stephen Robertson, analyses the dip in UK consumer spending. And chief executive of the Jockey Club, Simon Bazalgette, reflects on the company's profits. [Download the podcast.](http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/today)

**0650**
We are being warned that [the great British cuckoo is in significant decline.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9506000/9506369.stm) Graham Appleton of the British Trust for Ornithology explains why numbers are dropping.

**0709**
MPs will raise concerns today that [more universities have chosen to charge the maximum tuition fee of £9,000 than previously expected.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9506000/9506380.stm) Chair of the Commons Public Accounts Committee, the Labour MP Margaret Hodge, examines the effect on British students, and looks at wider changes planned in higher education.

**0713**
Authorities in [Syria](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9506000/9506381.stm) say 120 security personnel have died in battles with gunmen in the north-west of the country. Jim Muir reports from Beirut on the government's apparent loss of control.

**0715**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0718**
A new system to [reduce the pain of an injection when visiting the dentist](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9506000/9506382.stm) has won an award for innovation in healthcare and life science. John Meechan, senior lecturer at Newcastle University, explains his discovery.

**0722**
While the conflict in Libya shows no sign of an imminent conclusion, the bombing is costly for UK taxpayers and for the people of Libya. Foreign correspondents in Tripoli work under strict government restrictions, so [judging the effectiveness and impact of the bombing campaign is not easy,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9506000/9506393.stm) as Wyre Davies reports.

**0728**
Sports news with Garry Richardson.

**0733**
The prime minister will set out his dedication to the NHS today in a speech establishing five pledges on the health service. Political editor Nick Robinson reflects on his aims. And Chris Ham, chief executive of the Kings Fund, considers [if the pause on NHS reforms in England is nearing completion.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9506000/9506395.stm)

**0738**
Paper review.

**0742**
The Ministry of Defence has released [remarkable footage shot by soldiers in Helmand Province](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9506000/9506396.stm) for a new BBC Three documentary series on Afghanistan. Defence correspondent Caroline Wyatt has been watching the footage, which was filmed using a helmet camera.

**0747**
Thought for the day with the Bishop Tom Butler.

**0750**
[A revised Prevent strategy which will aim to tackle extremism as well as terrorism](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9506000/9506417.stm) is being launched by the British government. Former security minister Baroness Neville-Jones and Azad Ali, chair of the Muslim Safety Forum and an adviser to the previous Labour government, debate whether the scheme will be effective.

**0810**
The decision [to hold the Bahrain Formula One Grand Prix on 30 October](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9506000/9506428.stm) has been criticised by F1 teams and human rights groups. Former motorsport supremo Max Mosley explains why he thinks the event will not go ahead and Sheikh Mohammed bin Isa Al Khalifa, head of the Bahraini Economic Development Board, outlines why it should.

**0820**
Naval sources [say Royal Marines are on standby off the coast of Yemen,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9506000/9506429.stm) waiting to assist with the evacuation of British civilians. Foreign affairs correspondent Nick Childs reports.

**0822**
[Secret World War II tunnels beneath Dover Castle,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9506000/9506431.stm) which were used for the evacuation of Dunkirk in 1940, are about to be reopened to the public. Nick Higham reports on the plucky British defiance which kept the tunnels running.

**0826**
Sports news with Garry Richardson.

**0832**
Questions over the future and financial health of higher education institutions are being raised by the Commons Public Accounts Committee today. Steve Smith, president of Universities UK and the vice chancellor of Exeter University, and Neil O'Brien, director of the think tank Policy Exchange, [debate the impact of increasing tuition fees.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9506000/9506443.stm)

**0837**
The Syrian authorities claim that 120 security personnel have died in battles with gunmen in the north-west of the country. Reem Haddad, head of Syrian state television and spokeswoman for the Syrian Information Ministry, [discusses the ongoing conflict in the country.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9506000/9506444.stm)

**0843**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0846**
Blur frontman Damon Albarn, one of the more musically adventurous people in pop, has created a new opera about the 16th century scientist and magician Dr John Dee. Radio 4's John Wilson spoke to Damon Albarn about [his fascination with this "complicated character".](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9505000/9505475.stm)

**0851**
The Nobel Prize winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu has announced [his intention to start an alliance against child marriage,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9506000/9506366.stm) after spending time in Ethiopia where many young girls leave school to get married. East Africa correspondent Will Ross reports on the practice that can be "shattering" for young girls.

**0855**
David Cameron will deliver five pledges on the NHS today. Andrew Porter, political editor of the Telegraph, and Lorraine Davidson, Times journalist and former Labour adviser, [debate the current state of the prime minister's health reforms.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9506000/9506445.stm)

Wednesday 8th June

**Are energy prices set for steep increases? Plans to halve the sentences of offenders in England and Wales who plead guilty early could be scrapped. Also on today's programme, the bin camera designed to shame you into recycling.**

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**0615**
Business news with Adam Shaw: The 12 member nations of the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries are gathering in Vienna. Julian Lee, senior energy analyst at the Centre for Global Energy Studies, explains why the oil cartel is now facing deep divisions. And Tom Hadley of the Recruitment and Employment Confederation examines Britain's job sector. [Download the podcast](http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/today)

**0650**
Home Secretary Theresa May is announcing plans to create a [National Crime Agency,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9507000/9507619.stm) a new organisation to tackle serious and organised crime in the UK. Home affairs correspondent Danny Shaw considers whether it really will reduce the threat from drug gangs, fraudsters and human trafficking. And Peter Neyroud, former head of the National Police Improvement Agency, explains whether this is Britain's answer to the FBI.

**0709**
Plans to halve the sentences of offenders in England and Wales who plead guilty early could be scrapped. Juliet Lyon, director of the Prison Reform Trust, gives her analysis of the [changes to the justice system.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9507000/9507620.stm)

**0712**
There are reports that [the Syrian army is preparing to attack the town of Jisr al-Shughour,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9507000/9507621.stm) following the deaths of a number of soldiers and police in recent days. One resident of the town describes the situation.

**0716**
[CCTV cameras are being placed in student bins](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9507000/9507622.stm) in a drive to change young peoples' attitudes towards recycling. Fiona Trott reports from Newcastle, where researchers have been installing cameras and uploading pictures of bad bin habits to social networking sites.

**0719**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0723**
A new campaign being launched this morning will aim to help doctors and parents [spot the symptoms of brain tumours in children,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9507000/9507607.stm) the leading cause of cancer death in youngsters. Science correspondent Tom Feilden reports on why the signs are sometimes difficult to spot.

**0727**
Sports news with Garry Richardson.

**0733**
Nato defence ministers are meeting in Brussels to decide [what more can be done to remove Colonel Gaddafi from power](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9507000/9507633.stm) in Libya. David Loyn speaks to the head of rebel intelligence. And Professor Julian Lindley-French of the Netherlands Defence Academy, also an adviser to Nato, assesses the current state of the Libyan conflict.

**0738**
Paper review.

**0742**
Why do sensible people sometimes [believe the most unlikely conspiracy theories?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9506000/9506368.stm) The columnist Jonathan Kay, author of Among the Truthers: A Journey Through America's Growing Conspiracist Underground, explains this growing political and social phenomenon.

**0747**
Thought for the day with the Reverend Dr Michael Banner, Dean and Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge.

**0750**
The government is setting out plans to create a new body called the National Crime Agency, designed to fight serious and organised crime in Britain. [Home Secretary Theresa May responds to criticisms](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9507000/9507645.stm) that there will be no change of direction from the Serious Organised Crime Agency, which she plans to abolish.

**0811**
The government appears to be [retreating on some of its plans to change sentencing policy in England and Wales.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9507000/9507657.stm) Former Conservative leader Lord Howard outlines whether this potential u-turn marks a significant setback for Justice Secretary Ken Clarke's liberal thinking.

**0817**
We are being warned that [a hike in energy prices](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9507000/9507658.stm) by Scottish Power is expected to be the first of many to hit Britain this year. The BBC's Robert Peston analyses if power companies are playing fair. And the MP Tim Yeo, chair of the Energy and Climate Change Select Committee, looks at whether Britain's commitment to carbon reduction is driving high prices.

**0824**
The design of [the torch for the London Olympics will be unveiled today.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9507000/9507659.stm) Michael Czerwinski, public programme manager at the Design Museum, and Mary Beard, professor of classics at the University of Cambridge, debate the best way to represent sporting glory.

**0829**
Sports news with Garry Richardson.

**0836**
New research from the Institute for Fiscal Studies suggests that [the name of a benefit has a significant effect on how it is spent.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9507000/9507664.stm) Its director Paul Johnson looks at the example of how pensioners spend their Winter Fuel Allowance. And Gerry Stoker, author of Nudge, Nudge, Think, Think, reflects on whether this information could help governments influence our behaviour.

**0842**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0845**
Once at the forefront of British culture, the Institute of Contemporary Arts has floundered financially in the last decade, only narrowly escaping a collapse of funding. Will Gompertz has been speaking to its new director, Gregor Muir, who promises [to re-position the ICA once more at the centre of the arts community.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9507000/9507662.stm)

**0848**
The world's [largest submarine rescue exercise is underway off the coast of Spain,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9507000/9507665.stm) with a Russian submarine taking part for the first time. The BBC's Sarah Rainsford was given rare access to ride an American rescue vehicle to the bottom of the Mediterranean Sea.

**0851**
Is it sensible for the prime minister to side with critics when government policies get shot down?Times columnist Rachel Sylvester and Tim Montgomerie, editor of the ConservativeHome website, discuss [whether David Cameron has been hanging people out to dry.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9507000/9507679.stm)

Thursday 9th June

**The International Criminal Court's chief prosecutor has suggested that Colonel Gaddafi is using rape as a weapon of war. Also on today's programme, Tony Blair on Arab Spring intervention.**

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**0615**
Business news with Adam Shaw: The German car maker BMW has announced it is investing £500m in its UK Mini plants over the next three years. Paul Everitt, chief executive of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, assesses the impact on UK jobs. And Dan Jones, partner at the sports business group at Deloitte, examines football's rising wage bill.

**0652**
After the success of his documentary film, Mugabe and the White African, [British-born Ben Freeth has become one of Zimbabwe's best-known white farmers.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9508000/9508666.stm) He has now published a book of the same name, chronicling his family's fight, in the face of violent attacks, to keep hold of their farm after it was claimed by the government. He tells correspondent Mike Thomson why he felt the need to write the book. *This is an extended version of the broadcast interview.*

**0709**
The chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court has said there is [evidence that Libya's leader Colonel Gadaffi authorised his soldiers to rape women in battles with rebels.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9508000/9508606.stm) Professor Edward Luck, special adviser to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, explores the claims.

**0713**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0717**
Confidence in the justice system in England and Wales is being [undermined by processes used to dispose of offences out of court,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9508000/9508607.stm) according to the Inspectorate of Constabulary and the Crown Prosecution Service. Dru Sharpling from the Inspectorate explains the findings.

**0720**
GPs will be debating the government's plans for changing the NHS when they meet for [a BMA conference](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9508000/9508608.stm) today. Dr Richard Vautrey, Deputy Chair of the BMA's GP Committee, discusses whether the proposed reforms could lead to the privatisation of the NHS.

**0724**
The Attorney General, Dominic Grieve, will tell the Commons today whether or not he believes the High Court should [consider ordering a full inquest into the death of Dr David Kelly.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9508000/9508609.stm) Home affairs correspondent Danny Shaw looks at the campaign waged against the Hutton inquiry's conclusion that Dr Kelly committed suicide.

**0726**
Sports news with Jonathan Legard.

**0733**
Parts of the US economy [appear to be slowing down rather than moving towards a quicker recovery,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9508000/9508611.stm) according to the latest figures from the the Federal Reserve. Economics editor Stephanie Flanders examines the figures and Dr Charles Plosser, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, considers the state of the US economy.

**0741**
Paper review.

**0744**
Scientists have [discovered that our hearts can repair themselves,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9508000/9508642.stm) raising hopes of more effective treatments for heart attack sufferers. Professor Peter Weissberg, medical director of the British Heart Foundation, which funded the research, analyses this potentially life-saving discovery.

**0749**
Thought for the Day with the Mona Siddiqui, Professor of Islamic Studies at the University of Glasgow.

**0752**
The Archbishop of Canterbury has used his guest editorship of the New Statesman [to attack the economic policies of the coalition,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9508000/9508665.stm) saying they are causing "bafflement and indignation" and that "no one voted for them". Former Conservative cabinet minister Lord Tebbit and the Bishop of Oxford, the Rt Rev John Pritchard, debate Dr Williams' outspoken criticism of the government.

**0810**
"Inaction is a decision" and a decision that "has consequences" according to the Middle East envoy. [Tony Blair discusses intervention in the Arab spring.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9508000/9508645.stm)

**0825**
The head of England's exam regulator has issued a warning to awarding bodies [amid rising concerns about mistakes in this summer's exam papers.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9508000/9508667.stm) Rebecca Deery, a school pupil from Leeds who sat a faulty Business Studies AS level paper, shares her experience. And Glenys Stacey, chief executive of the exam regulator Ofqual, discusses what can be done to avoid future errors.

**0829**
Sports news with Jonathan Legard.

**0835**
Is there [enough control over the prescription of anti-psychotic drugs to people who have dementia?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9508000/9508690.stm) Shadia Ousta, whose late father was treated for the condition, says there is not. And Andrew Chidgey, head of policy at the Alzheimer's Society, considers the effectiveness of current dementia treatment. *Contrary to the suggestion of one of the guests in this discussion, zopiclone and lorazepam are not anti-psychotic drugs.*

**0838**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0841**
The Algerian War film Battle of Algiers is regarded not just as a piece of classic filmmaking, but a vivid and compelling study of insurrection and counter-insurgency. The BBC's Kevin Connolly has been to Algiers [to meet the revolutionary whose story inspired the film.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9508000/9508701.stm)

**0849**
The most trivial of happenings around us have a much bigger impact than we imagine on our decisions and thought processes, claims a piece in The Economist's Intelligent Life. Its author Bill Ridgers shares some of his findings, and Dr Shree Datta, co-chair of the BMA's junior doctors' committee, gives a medical take on the issue.

**0854**
The recent "slutwalk" phenomenon, which sees women march for their rights in provocative clothing, has begged analysis of contrasts between today's feminists and those of older generations. Writer Bea Campbell and Vicky Simister, who will be speaking at a march in London on Saturday, consider the changing face of feminism.

Friday 10th June

**An official drought order has been imposed in parts of eastern England after one of the driest springs on record. And also in the programme, the story of a British-born Bahraini woman whose husband has been placed under arrest.**

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**0615**
Business news with Dominic Laurie: Today is the last day to apply to be the new head of the IMF. Stephanie Rickard from the London School of Economics considers the runners and riders. And the [Friday boss](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9509000/9509793.stm) is Paul Hearn, chief executive of Mizuho International.

**0649**
[Bordeaux wine producers](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9509000/9509658.stm) are claiming that this year's crop is a "vintage of the century". Tim Atkin, Master of Wine and wine critic, deciphers whether, with four vintages in the last eleven years, growers are overdoing the hype.

**0709**
[Letters from Ed Balls,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9509000/9509669.stm) published by the Telegraph, reveal how Gordon Brown's allies led what the paper describes as a "brutal" plot to remove Tony Blair from office. Deputy political editor James Landale looks at what the letters contain.

**0712**
[A drought has been officially declared in parts of England.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9509000/9509670.stm) Peter Kendall, president of the National Farmers Union, explains the frustration this dry weather causes for farmers.

**0716**
Business news with Dominic Laurie.

**0720**
About two and half thousand [Syrian citizens have fled across the border into Turkey](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9509000/9509671.stm) from the violent disturbances in the north west of the country, after government repression the UN human rights commissioner has described as "atrocious". The BBC's Jim Muir gives the latest picture, and Turkish foreign ministry spokesman Selcuk Unal presents his country's perspective.

**0725**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0732**
The government is launching its [Work Programme,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9509000/9509683.stm) paying companies and charities to create jobs. Home editor Mark Easton examines the scheme, and employment minister Chris Grayling explains how it will get people off benefits and into a career.

**0739**
Paper review.

**0744**
A team of archaeologists is about to begin one of [the largest investigations ever mounted on the battlefields of World War I.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9509000/9509684.stm) The BBC's Robert Hall reports from the section of trenches know as the Lochnagar Crater.

**0746**
Thought for the Day with Lord Harries of Pentregarth, Gresham Professor of Divinity.

**0750**
Authorities in Bahrain are continuing to suppress pro-democracy protestors. [Ala'a Shehabi, a British-born woman whose husband has been arrested and is awaiting sentence in Bahrain,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9509000/9509715.stm) shares her story.

**0810**
The government has declared that [some areas of England now are officially in a state of drought.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9509000/9509716.stm) Environment Secretary Caroline Spelman and Craig Bennett of Friends of the Earth debate what measures need to be taken.

**0820**
A collection of [private memos belonging to Shadow Chancellor Ed Balls,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9509000/9509720.stm) published by The Daily Telegraph, reveal how he, Gordon Brown and their allies began what the paper describes as a "brutal" plot to remove Tony Blair from office after 2007. Blair's biographer Anthony Seldon and Observer columnist Andrew Rawnsley, author of The End of the Party, consider the latest revelations of New Labour infighting.

**0825**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0833**
Britain's biggest care home provider [Southern Cross](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9509000/9509731.stm) is planning to surrender control of 132 of its 752 properties in a bid to stay solvent, according to reports in the Financial Times today. Business editor Robert Peston responds to more bad news for the troubled company.

**0836**
[The Duke of Edinburgh](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9509000/9509733.stm) is ninety today. His cousin Lady Butter and biographer Philip Eade look back at the life of a man celebrated both for his sense of duty and habit of speaking his mind.

**0841**
Business news with Dominic Laurie.

**0844**
It is 44 years to the day since the guns fell silent in the six day war between Israel and its Arab enemies, with the consequences of that conflict rarely out of the news ever since. The BBC's Kevin Connolly has been on the ground in Israel to assess the likelihood of a [border agreement.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9509000/9509734.stm)

**0850**
The government's radical plan for transferring up to a million people from benefits to work, the [Work Programme,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9509000/9509748.stm) is launched today. Senior economist at The Work Foundation Neil Lee and Roy O'Shaughnessey, chief executive of the Careers Development Group, try and answer the big question: will it work?

**0855**
With Fifa mired in controversy and corruption, has the time come for [tennis to steal football's crown as the "beautiful game"?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9509000/9509770.stm) Writer Geoff Dyer, whose piece in Prospect magazine claims just this, and writer Hunter Davies, debate whether the baton of beauty must be passed.

**The United States has strongly condemned Syria for its violent crackdown on anti-government protesters -- and has called for an immediate end to the brutality. And also in the programme, as the UK's main care home provider, Southern Cross, struggles to stay solvent, we'll hear the concerns of carers and relatives.**

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**0709**
More of Ed Balls' private papers are being published today, with the new leaks concerning the issue of public spending. Political correspondent Louise Stewart [analyses the latest revelations.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9510000/9510587.stm)

**0712**
Syrian activists are claiming that the regime is using air power against pro-democracy protesters for the first time, whilst the White House has accused President Assad's forces of using "appalling violence" against citizens. The BBC's Owen Bennett Jones [reports from just over the border in Turkey.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9510000/9510588.stm)

**0714**
Paper review.

**0717**
In another perceived U-turn, [it seems the government is set to change its policy on academy schools and their funding, albeit modestly.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9510000/9510589.stm) Chief political correspondent Norman Smith explains.

**0720**
President Obama is expected to announce later this month how many American troops will leave Afghanistan in July, but so far he has yet to decide. North America editor Mark Mardell [reports on a tense situation in Washington.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9509000/9509657.stm)

**0725**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0733**
In the midst of a bad time for the economy, the labour market has been performing better than expected. Chief economics correspondent Hugh Pym shares the, relative, good news. Nicola Smith, head of economics and social affairs at the TUC, and John Philpott, Chief economics adviser at the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development, [debate how bright the future of the job market really is.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9510000/9510590.stm)

**0739**
Paper review.

**0742**
The European Commission says it has completed membership negotiations with Croatia, clearing the way for the EU to welcome its 28th member state. Europe Correspondent Chris Morris charts the bumpy journey towards [what David Cameron has described as "a historic day" for Croatia.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9510000/9510591.stm)

**0746**
Thought for the Day with The Reverend Rob Marshall, an Anglican priest.

**0749**
The Obama administration is deciding how fast to start pulling troops out of Afghanistan, with perceived differences between President Obama and the Pentagon. Lucy Morgan Edwards, former political adviser to the EU ambassador in Kabul and author of The Afghan Solution, joins Sir Sherard Cowper-Coles, former British ambassador and author of Cables from Kabul, to consider [a significant moment for the Afghan campaign.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9510000/9510592.stm)

**0810**
The troubled care home provider Southern Cross says it has not made any final decisions yet to close care homes, but it seems clear that some of the 750 they run will have a change of ownership or will close. But how is the current unclear situation [affecting staff, residents and their relatives?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9510000/9510593.stm) A care worker at a Southern Cross home in the Midlands, and Beverley Taylor, whose mother lives in a Southern Cross home, outline their fears.

**0818**
It looks certain that the Bahrain Grand Prix will now not go ahead, despite the hopes of some that it would succeed in uniting Bahrainis. Sports correspondent Tim Franks considers [whether sport can be used as an instrument of peace.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9510000/9510594.stm)

**0821**
The Queen's Birthday Honours have been announced, recognising nearly a thousand people from all walks of life. The BBC's David Sillito reports on [an honourable day for Sir Bruce Forsyth, Dame Jenni Murray and many others.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9510000/9510595.stm)

**0825**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0832**
Colonel Gaddafi's forces have been [targeting the outskirts of Misrata,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9510000/9510596.stm) the rebel-controlled port in the West of Libya, with one doctor in the city saying 31 people were killed in the assault yesterday. The BBC's David Loyn reports from the city.

**0834**
Paper review.

**0837**
It's [unclear what exactly is happening in Syria,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9510000/9510608.stm) with foreign journalists being banned from the country and forced to rely on the reports of those involved in the violence. The BBC's Owen Bennett-Jones and Malik al-Abdeh, chief editor of Syrian opposition satellite channel Barada TV, try to decipher recent events in the troubled nation.

**0844**
Indian surgeon Dr Devi Shetty is called "the Henry Ford of heart surgery", having made complicated operations more affordable and more available. Today's Sanchia Berg has been to meet him to find out how. And Stephen Dorrell, chair of the Health Select Committee, [assesses how Dr Shetty's work could impact on the NHS.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9510000/9510619.stm)

**0851**
Voters will go to the polls in Turkey tomorrow, with the ruling conservative Islamist party likely to win. In a week when the country has faced an influx of Syrian refugees, the Turkish writer and journalist Kaya Genc and Dr Gulnur Aybet, from the University of Kent, discuss [the future for a nation caught between Europe and the Arab world.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9510000/9510620.stm)

**0857**
Amongst those featured in the Queen's Birthday Honours, Graeme Garden and Tim Brooke-Taylor, of the much loved comedy troop The Goodies and I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue, have been made OBEs. Garden [reveals what it means to be recognised by Her Majesty.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9510000/9510621.stm)

Monday 13th June

**A review of the government's controversial plans for the health service in England is expected to recommend significant changes. Also in today's programme, Sir Stirling Moss explains why he's hanging up his driving gloves at the age of 81.**

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**0615**
Adam Shaw is joined by Sir Nigel Knowles, joint CEO of the world's largest law firm DLA Piper, as their results are published. The markets guest is Richard Dunbar, investment director at Scottish Widows Investment Partnership, and Charles Champion, vice president of engineering for Airbus is in to discuss the company's latest cabin concept.

**0650**
Children who are read to when they are young are [much less likely to develop social and emotional problems in later life,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9511000/9511307.stm) according to the latest study from Essex University. Professor Yvonne Kelly, who led the study, explains the findings.

**0709**
MPs are to hold an inquiry into [why help is not provided when people go missing.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9511000/9511329.stm) Rachel Elias, whose brother Richey Edwards was in the Manic Street Preachers and went missing in 1995, now represents the Missing People charity and argues the case for the state getting involved.

**0713**
All humans are mutants to a certain degree, and more is being discovered about the mutations we receive from our parents. Our science correspondent Tom Feilden looks at the latest findings, and Dr Matt Hurles, human geneticist at the Wellcome Trust's Sanger Institute, [examines the differences between mothers' and fathers' genes.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9511000/9511341.stm)

**0718**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0720**
An international summit is taking place in London today aimed at raising money to pay for new vaccines, as [26 countries in need could miss out due to insufficient funding.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9511000/9511330.stm) Our correspondent Mike Thomson reports from Liberia, a country which is yet to hear whether they will be helped.

**0726**
Sport news with Garry Richardson.

**0733**
Differing reports are coming in on [how many people have been killed in Syria, as thousands flee across the border into Turkey.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9511000/9511362.stm) BBC correspondent Owen Bennett-Jones reports from the border.

**0737**
Paper review.

**0740**
[Sir Stirling Moss](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9511000/9511363.stm) - widely regarded as the greatest racing driver never to win the world championship - has retired at the age of 81. He explains why he has kept going for so long.

**0744**
Thought for The Day with Reverend Professor David Wilkinson, Principal of St John's College, Durham University.

**0748**
The NHS Future Forum, which has been listening to opinions on how the service should be reformed, is to set out their recommendations on how these should be modified. Nick Robinson examines the political impact these could have, and Norman Lamb, political adviser to Nick Clegg, and Conservative MP John Redwood, [debate the different opinions within the coalition.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9511000/9511385.stm)

**0810**
Southern Cross, the biggest care homes company in the UK, is on the brink of collapse after selling its buildings and is now struggling to pay the rent. Its chairman, Christopher Fisher, [defends the company's actions.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9511000/9511417.stm)

**0818**
A new exhibition of the early 20th century avant-garde art movement known as the Vorticists opens at the Tate Britain on Tuesday, with the gallery making a particular effort to make sure the collection includes [works by women in the movement](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9511000/9511406.stm) who have often been overlooked by art historians. The BBCs arts editor Will Gompertz, and head of collections at the Tate Modern Frances Morris, look at this trend in the museum world.

**0824**
Sport news with Garry Richardson.

**0835**
Ed Miliband is to make a speech later outlining Labour's new direction, amid speculation there is growing unrest about his leadership. Labour MP Liam Byrne, who is coordinating the party's policy review, [outlines the task facing the party and its leader.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9511000/9511421.stm)

**0843**
The BBC has learnt that Libyan rebels are [smuggling weapons through Tunisia to fight Colonel Gaddafi's forces](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9511000/9511468.stm) in western Libya. The BBC's Pascale Harter reports from the Tunisian border, where she has been speaking to one Libyan who has been organising the smuggling.

**0848**
The National Theatre's Broadway production of War Horse won five awards including best play at the Tony Awards in New York last night, whilst Mark Rylance won the top acting award for his performance in Jerusalem and [treated the audience to a piece of cryptic poetry.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9511000/9511466.stm)

**0849**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0851**
A group of doctors are on trial in Bahrain, charged with treating alleged protesters against the country's regime, which is forbidden. Prof Kevin Burnand, of St Thomas's hospital in London, [has been getting regular updates from his contacts there and explains the current situation.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9511000/9511470.stm)

**0855**
A copy of the Duchess of Cambridge's Reiss dress is being rushed out and sold by Tesco. David Shaw, who teaches fashion management in both London and Dublin, and the Times fashion editor Lisa Armstrong, [examine the impact of the new royal on the world of fashion.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9511000/9511522.stm)





Tuesday 14th June

**The government will announce changes to its shake-up of the NHS in England today, including concessions over the pace of change and the powers given to GPs. Also in today's programme, the Bahrain Government responds to accusations about torture of medical staff accused of helping protesters**

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**0615**
Business news with Adam Shaw. David Kuo, from financial website The Motley Fool on research suggesting poorer households - as well as pensioners - have been much harder hit by inflation since the financial crisis. And Andrew Smith, from the Debt Resolution Forum, on the expected OFT clampdown on debt management companies.

**0653**
A report has raised [concerns that pharmaceutical companies have abandoned research into new drugs to deal with mental health issues.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9512000/9512287.stm) Professor David Nutt, of Imperial College London, explains whether there is any truth behind the claims.

**0709**
Ministers will seek to reinvigorate [plans to change the NHS in England after an independent review](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9512000/9512298.stm) recommended a major rewrite of the proposals. Shadow health secretary John Healey discusses the reform.

**0713**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0717**
With the latest inflation figures looming, the Institute for Fiscal Studies say the poorer have been suffering much higher inflation than the rest of the UK. Paul Johnson, director of the IFS, and Allister Heath, editor of City AM, debate [inflation.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9512000/9512299.stm)

**0721**
Today spoke to a British doctor on Monday who raised [concerns about a group of doctors and nurses who are on trial in Bahrain](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9512000/9512300.stm) charged with treating protesters, who alleged that the detainees had been psychologically and physically tortured. The Bahrain government's Maysoon Sabkar responds to the claims.

**0725**
Sport news with Garry Richardson.

**0731**
The government have scrapped plans to enforce [weekly household rubbish collections](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9512000/9512311.stm) in England. Conservative Councillor Bryn Morgan, of Waverly Borough Council in Surrey, and Matthew Sinclair, director of campaigning group the TaxPayers' Alliance, debate how often our rubbish should be picked up.

**0736**
A review of the papers.

**0739**
The head of the Royal Navy has appeared to suggest there may come a point when the Libya campaign could stretch the UK's resources to breaking point. Former Navy officer Rear Admiral Chris Parry, [estimates how stretched UK forces in Libya are.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9512000/9512323.stm)

**0743**
This programme has learned that [the police team set up last year to investigate allegations that British troops abused Iraqi civilians](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9512000/9512345.stm) , at an expected cost of £7.5m over two years, has so far only completed one interview with an alleged victim. Angus Crawford reports. *You may find parts of his report disturbing.*

**0748**
Thought for The Day with the Reverend Dr Michael Banner, Dean and Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge.

**0751**
[Terry Pratchett presented a programme last night investigating assisted suicide,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9512000/9512367.stm) following a sufferer of motor neurone disease's final moments . The Right Reverend Michael Nazir-Ali and Christine Jackson, who suffers from terminal cancer, debate whether these programmes help inform the debate.

**0810**
The coalition is to scale back on its plans to reform the NHS in England. Lord Warner, a former minister in the Department of Health, and Dr Hamish Meldrum, chairman of the BMA, [debate whether the government is doing the right thing.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9512000/9512366.stm)

**0819**
There has been a 20% drop in the number of [young blood donors](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9512000/9512380.stm) over the last decade - prompting fears of an "alarming generation gap" in blood donation. Assistant director of NHS blood and transplant Jon Latham, and mail columnist Peter Hitchens, a lifelong blood donor, look at why young people are not donating.

**0824**
Sport news with Garry Richardson.

**0832**
With inflation well above average wage rises and the trend expected to continue, [some families on low incomes are struggling to feed themselves.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9512000/9512393.stm) The BBC's business correspondent Emma Simpson reports from Bournemouth.

**0838**
[Ed Miliband ended his speech yesterday by aiming to stand up for the so-called 'squeezed middle',](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9512000/9512405.stm) in response to criticism he has not given his party a sense of direction. Chief political correspondent Norman Smith assesses whether Labour sceptics will be convinced by the keynote speech.

**0842**
[Seven Republican presidential hopefuls](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9512000/9512407.stm) have attacked President Barack Obama's economic record in the first major debate of the 2012 campaign. Mark Mardell judges how the candidates fared.

**0845**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0848**
Dave Prentis, general secretary of Unison, [has warned the union movement is on a "collision course" with the coalition](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9512000/9512460.stm) and that more than one million public sector workers will be balloted on a "sustained" programme of strikes to take place this autumn unless the coalition backs down on its controversial pension changes.

**0853**
The BBC's Television Centre in White City, West London is up for sale, the very building in which our studio sits. Ex-Newsround presenter John Craven, and the official historian of the BBC, Professor Jean Seaton, [reflect on the on the building and its role in broadcasting history.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9512000/9512418.stm)

Wednesday 15th June

**Britain's banks are to be ordered to ring-fence their high street branches to give them greater protection in a crisis. Civil servants belonging to the PCS union are expected to join other public sector workers in staging co-ordinated strikes. Also on today's programme, the cultural life of a prisoner of war.**

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**0615**
Business news with Adam Shaw: The Chancellor George Osborne is expected to give the green light to radical changes in the way our biggest banks are organised and regulated. Alistair Milne of Cass Business School, and author of the Fall of the House of Credit, considers how the proposals will impact British banking. Tim May of the Association of Private Client Investment Managers and Stockbrokers analyses the FSA's warning that we are receiving poor financial advice. And health economist at Laing and Buisson, William Laing, talks about the future of the struggling care home provider Southern Cross. [Download the podcast](http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/today)

**0650**
[An ancient Buddhist site discovered near Kabul in Afghanistan,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9513000/9513216.stm) which dates back to a time before Islam arrived in the country, is under threat from a Chinese mining venture. Kabul correspondent Quentin Sommerville was given rare access to the site.

**0709**
In his annual Mansion House speech, the Chancellor George Osborne is to say that [banks should ring-fence their retail operations](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9513000/9513229.stm) in order to keep them separate from the riskier investment side of their business. Business editor Robert Peston previews the strategy.

**0712**
New research suggests that more [children are streamed by ability in British primary schools](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9513000/9513240.stm) than previously thought. Professor Susan Hallam of the Institute for Education at the University of London who lead the research, and former chief inspector of schools Sir Chris Woodhead, now chairman of Cognita, debate the benefits of streaming.

**0715**
The familiar refrains of the early morning [shipping forecast](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9513000/9513241.stm) has been put to music by composer Cecilia McDowall.

**0718**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0720**
Patients are dying and remaining ill unnecessarily because not enough funds are being spent on [surgical research,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9513000/9513252.stm) according to the Royal College of Surgeons. Professor Norman Williams, president elect of the RCS, explains why Britain is lagging behind in surgical techniques.

**0727**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0733**
A crisis meeting between government officials, banks and landlords will be held today to decide the future of the struggling care home provider [Southern Cross.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9513000/9513263.stm) Andrew Hosken reports on the possibility of a solution. And Keith Lewin of Brunswick LLP Solicitors assesses the risks involved in slashing rents.

**0738**
Paper review.

**0741**
A photo session held at a hospital yesterday for David Cameron and Nick Clegg was disturbed by a shouting man, who turned out to be an angry surgeon. John Major's press officer, Sheila Gunn, looks at [the problems and pitfalls of political photo ops.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9513000/9513268.stm)

**0747**
Thought for the day with Mona Siddiqui, professor of Islamic Studies at the University of Glasgow.

**0750**
The Chancellor George Osborne will tonight [propose the separation of the retail and investment arms of British banks.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9513000/9513268.stm) Former chancellor Lord Lawson and Angela Knight, chief executive of the British Bankers' Association, assesses whether ring-fencing high street branches will protect the sector from further crisis.

**0810**
Civil servants from the PCS union look certain to vote in favour of a strike today, potentially joining two other teaching unions who are promising to walk out over public sector pensions. Mark Serwotka, general secretary of the PCS, and Cabinet Office minister Francis Maude debate [why a momentum for industrial action appears to be building.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9513000/9513267.stm)

**0819**
A new book sheds light on [the creativity of Allied POWs during WWII.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9513000/9513279.stm) The author Midge Gillies and John Lowe, who was a prisoner of war in Singapore, Taiwan and Japan, discuss a new view of POWs that provides a rare picture of life behind barbed wire.

**0825**
Pakistan [has arrested five people suspected of being informants](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9513000/9513304.stm) who who fed intelligence about Osama Bin Laden to the CIA. Aleem Maqbool reports.

**0828**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0833**
US President Barack Obama has [called on the leaders of northern and southern Sudan to stop fighting,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9513000/9513302.stm) as conflict in disputed border areas threatens the peace agreement. Kouider Zerrouk, spokesperson for the UN mission in Sudan, who is based in Khartoum, describes the "ongoing bombardments." And Sudan expert Douglas Johnson, author of The Root Causes of Sudan's Civil Wars, looks at the crisis unfolding in the region, which has now forced thousands of people to flee.

**0840**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0843**
The composer Cecilia McDowall has [set the shipping forecast to music.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9513000/9513241.stm) But it is not the first time this has been done. [Listen to a short medley of past tunes.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9513000/9513306.stm)

**0844**
Over the weekend, hundreds of migrant workers rioted close to the southern Chinese city of Guangzhou. Beijing correspondent Martin Patience [reports on the thousands of mass incidents breaking out as the pressure builds across China.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9513000/9513205.stm)

**0847**
Egypt's largest Islamist movement, the Muslim Brotherhood, announced this week that it is forming an alliance with one of the country's oldest liberal groups, the Wafd Party, a union that could prove to be a powerful force in the September election. Dr Abdel-Moneim Aboul-Fotouh, a senior figure in the Brotherhood who has declared himself a presidential candidate, [describes what an Egyptian parliament could look like.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9513000/9513318.stm)

**0852**
The international T2K neutrino experiment, based in Japan, will announce findings this morning that could bring scientists closer to resolving where matter in the universe really came from. David Wark, a professor of physics at Imperial College who lead the UK side of the experiment, outlines [one of the biggest mysteries in fundamental physics.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9513000/9513351.stm)

**0855**
Andy Murray won the Aegon Championships at Queen's Tennis Club this week, despite being in pain during his last few matches. Former England fast bowler Angus Fraser, director of cricket at Middlesex, and Dr Tom Crisp, a sports physician and former member of the British Olympic medical team, discuss [whether pain is merely a part of sport, and how much is too much.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9513000/9513352.stm)

Thursday 16th June

**Two-hundred failing primary schools in England are to be turned into academies. The Greek prime minister is trying to form a new cabinet, after violent street protests against his austerity programme. Also on today's programme, what happened to hot-wiring? Why it is no longer possible to steal a car.**

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**0615**
Business news with Adam Shaw: The government publishes its white paper on financial regulation today. David Kenmir, partner in the financial services regulatory practice of PriceWaterhouseCoopers and a former chief operating officer at the FSA, analyses George Osborne's proposals. Chief investment officer at CCLA, James Bevan, looks at the markets. And Mark Taber, who runs the website Fixedincomeinvestments.org.uk, talks about the UK pensioners who are in line to share the Bank of Ireland's financial burdens.

**0649**
One of Russia's richest men is [planning to invest billions of dollars in a scheme to sell electricity to China.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9514000/9514179.stm) Moscow correspondent Daniel Sandford has been talking to Oleg Deripaska, and has flown to Siberia's frozen wilderness, which is turning into "a giant construction site".

**0709**
With a debt default looming and demonstrators taking to the streets of Athens, the [Greek Prime Minister George Papandreou is trying to form a new government](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9514000/9514182.stm) and seeking a vote of confidence from his Pasok party. Anni Podimata, a Pasok party MEP who sits on the EU Parliament's Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee, considers Mr Papandreou's position. And Jan Randolph, director of sovereign risk at IHS Global Insight, assesses the possibility of a new austerity package.

**0714**
The 200 worst performing primary schools in England [are to be turned into academies next year,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9514000/9514183.stm) under new government proposals. Tony Draper of the National Executive of the National Association of Head Teachers, who is also head of an occasionally underperforming primary school in Milton Keynes, responds to the move.

**0717**
The newly formed Financial Policy Committee of the Bank of England holds its first meeting today. Tim Harford, presenter of Radio 4's More or Less and author of Adapt: Why Success Always Starts With Failure, [examines its role in spotting financial bubbles and why experts have had such trouble in the past.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9514000/9514181.stm)

**0721**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0723**
Unemployment in Britain fell by 88,000 in the three months to April, but the number of people claiming jobseekers' allowance rose to 1.49m, the worst figure for more than a year. The BBC's Nick Ravenscroft visited one conservatory-making company in Clitheroe, Lancashire to see if flexible working could help to keep people in a job. And Professor Christopher Pissarides, the Nobel Prize-winning economist who specialises in labour market theory at the London School of Economics, [examines its role in spotting financial bubbles and why experts have had such trouble in the past.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9514000/9514184.stm) outlines the best way to bolster the job market.

**0727**
Sports news with Garry Richardson.

**0733**
The failing care home provider Southern Cross has reached a deal with its landlords and creditors that gives it four months to fix its financial problems. Peter Hay, president of the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services, reacts to the news that 31,000 residents of its homes have been assured continuity and quality of care.

**0738**
Paper review.

**0742**
How do you put the Dalai Lama at ease? Karl Stefanovic, of Australia's Today show on Channel 9 TV, thought he could warm things up by telling him a Buddhist joke before an interview.

**0743**
People who design cars say they are now impossible to steal, and the only way a vehicle can be taken now is if the thief has the key. Transport correspondent Richard Scott reports on [new figures suggesting that the motor industry is winning the battle against car thieves.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9514000/9514186.stm)

**0747**
Thought for the day with the Reverend Roy Jenkins, a Baptist minister in Cardiff.

**0750**
The education secretary is expected to announce that the 200 worst performing primary schools in England will be converted into academies by 2012/2013. Michael Gove [defends his plans and reacts to claims that the underlying funding system is in a mess.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9514000/9514221.stm)

**0810**
Greece's prime minister, George Papandreou, is attempting to form a new government in order to impose an austerity regime and avoid defaulting on the country's massive debt. Economics editor Stephanie Flanders [analyses the fear that financial contagion is spreading from Athens.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9514000/9514264.stm)

**0816**
For ten weeks now, Nato has been carrying out airstrikes on Libya and yet Colonel Gaddafi still controls most of the west of the country. Middle East editor Jeremy Bowen [assesses the impact of the ongoing military campaign.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9514000/9514243.stm)

**0820**
A new collection of private letters written by Queen Victoria to her eldest daughter Vicky have been published. The historian Andrew Roberts of the Folio Society [reveals some of her most surprising thoughts.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9514000/9514199.stm)

**0825**
Sports news with Garry Richardson.

**0834**
[Al-Qaeda has named Ayman al-Zawahiri as its new chief,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9514000/9514267.stm) following the killing in Pakistan of its long-time leader Osama bin Laden by US commandos. Jon Leyne reports from Cairo. And Jason Burke, author of Al-Qaeda: The True Story of Radical Islam, talks about the "two main splits" occurring in the group.

**0838**
In his first major policy speech, Shadow Chancellor [Ed Balls will today argue for an emergency tax cut](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9514000/9514266.stm) to stimulate the economy, and accuse the government of "ploughing on and hoping for the best". Political editor Nick Robinson examines his position.

**0841**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0845**
Ireland's government is setting up an inquiry into [the reported abuse of young women who worked in a network of ten laundry workhouses between the 1920s and the mid-1990s.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9514000/9514320.stm) Ellen Murphy, a survivor of the Magdalene Laundries, and Sally Mulready, founder of Irish Women's Survivors Group, discuss the case.

**0848**
The £40m restoration of St Paul's Cathedral is complete, the first time in its 300 year history that the building has been cleaned inside and out. Religious affairs correspondent Robert Piggott reports on its remarkable transformation.

**0855**
The Financial Policy Committee of the Bank of England, which meets for the first time today, has been [set up to spot and deal with dangerous bubbles in the financial system.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9514000/9514309.stm) Andrew Tyrie MP, who chairs the Commons Treasury Select Committee, and Sir Howard Davies, former deputy governor of the Bank of England, who was also the first chairman of the Financial Services Authority, discuss how it will work.

Friday 17th June

**The government will confirm today that the retirement age of most public sector workers will rise from 60 to 66 within a decade. Also on today's programme, should you stop drinking in front of the children? New research says if you do not, they will end up as boozers too. And, the Hollywood eccentric John Malkovich on murder, redemption and retribution.**

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**0615**
Business news with Dominic Laurie: Prada may sell fancy shoes, but its stock market listing has not come in at the top of the range. Jim Wickenden, global head of capital markets at the law firm Herbert Smith, considers whether this is a sign of concern over European debt. And our Friday Boss is David Palmer-Jones, chief executive of the recycling and waste management company Sita UK. [Download the podcast](http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/today)

**0650**
The largest exhibition ever staged in Britain to be dedicated to the work of the surrealist painter Rene Magritte opens at Tate Liverpool next week. Arts correspondent Rebecca Jones reports on the unusual exhibition and [why Magritte's work still strikes an important chord.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9515000/9515147.stm)

**0709**
The government will today announce its [plans to raise the retirement age for public sector workers,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9515000/9515161.stm) as hundreds of thousands of people prepare to strike over pay and pensions. Brian Strutton of the GMB union reacts to the news.

**0712**
Young teenagers who see their parents drunk, even if only a few times, are twice as likely to get drunk regularly than those who do not, according to a survey by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. Its alcohol programme manager, Claire Turner, [explains why looking can lead to drinking.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9515000/9515160.stm)

**0717**
Business news with Dominic Laurie.

**0718**
Women in Saudi Arabia, who are forbidden to drive, are being encouraged to take to the roads in mass protest against the law. Professor Madawi Al-Rasheed of Kings College London, who is from Saudi, describes [why the move is so important for women in her country.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9515000/9515172.stm)

**0721**
Once rumoured to be the favourite drink of the Russian empress, Catherine the Great, a group of British brewers are now trying [to reintroduce Imperial Russian Stout, brewed here, to Russia.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9515000/9515158.stm) Steve Rosenberg reports on the team who have sailed across the Baltic Sea to St Petersburg with a cargo of stout.

**0727**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0733**
The leaders of France and Germany are meeting in Berlin today to talk about the crisis in Greece and what effect it is having on the eurozone. [Former chancellor Lord Lamont,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9515000/9515203.stm) a fierce eurosceptic, gives his reaction to the unfolding political problem.

**0741**
Paper review.

**0741**
The actor [John Malkovich](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9515000/9515159.stm) has played a long list of unusual, funny and even disturbing characters, but his latest play at London's Barbican, The Infernal Comedy: Confessions of a Serial Killer, is the real life story of the Australian murderer Jack Unterweger. Nicola Stanbridge spoke to him about redemption and the death penalty.

**0747**
Thought for the day with Lord Harries of Pentregarth, Gresham Professor of Divinity.

**0750**
The chances of young teenagers drinking to excess [is more than doubled if they see their parents drunk,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9515000/9515224.stm) according to a report by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. The BBC's Bob Walker heard from parents at a coffee shop in Nottingham. Dr Aric Sigman, fellow of the Royal Society of Biology and author of Alcohol Nation, and the Telegraph columnist Cassandra Jardine debate the best way to better attitudes towards booze.

**0810**
Public sector workers will soon have to pay more for their pensions and they will be linked to a raised state retirement age, the government is set to announce. Treasury Secretary Danny Alexander [outlines the argument behind the proposals.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9515000/9515277.stm)

**0820**
[The Best of Everything,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9515000/9515332.stm) a novel about women's lives and loves in New York during the 1950s, is being republished after many years. The author Fay Weldon, who worked in advertising in the 60s, and Lucy Kellaway, associate editor of the Financial Times, discuss whether the once-popular book will have any relevance for ladies today.

**0825**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0832**
Scotland's government is [publishing new legislation to tackle sectarian hatred in football.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9515000/9515276.stm) The Right Reverend David Arnott, moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and Roseanna Cunningham, minister for community safety and legal affairs in the Scottish government, debate whether new legislation will "help to change attitudes".

**0838**
Business news with Dominic Laurie.

**0841**
In the US, 2,000 faithful members of the Republican Party are gathering in New Orleans for their leadership conference, [waiting to hear from potential presidential nominees.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9515000/9515290.stm) North America correspondent Mark Mardell reports on the race.

**0846**
Art historians are using [the latest 3D scanning technology to recreate the tombs of Tudor aristocrats.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9515000/9515331.stm) The lead researcher on the project Dr Phillip Lindley of Leicester University explains what they would have looked like.

**0848**
[Should the Greeks be bailed out again and what would happen if they were not?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9515000/9515333.stm) Andrew Lilico of Europe Economics and Roland Rudd, chairman of business for New Europe, which campaigns for reform in the European Union, debate the political fallout of Greek's debt problems.

**0852**
Broadcasters are being asked to toughen up their standards on raunchiness, after on 80s musician criticised today's pop music as being on a "slow but unmistakable descent into pornography". Mike Stock of the pop factory Stock, Aitken and Waterman, and the London-based music producer OD Hunte discuss [the preponderance of sexual imagery in today's pop music.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9515000/9515334.stm)

Saturday 18th June

**The leader of one of Britain's biggest unions has warned that industrial action by public sector workers over pensions could rival the General Strike of 1926. Figures show twice as many soldiers have applied for voluntary redundancy as the army was expecting. And later on the programme, the former chancellor Alistair Darling on the financial crisis in Greece.**

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**0709**
[At least 18 people in Syria are reported to be dead](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516207.stm) following violent demonstrations on Friday. Kim Sengupta of The Independent managed to get into Syria three times during the past week and describes the situation.

**0712**
Paper review.

**0715**
The [backbench MP Philip Davies](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516208.stm) sparked outcry yesterday, after he told the House of Commons that the minimum wage may be a hindrance to disabled job seekers. The BBC's Mark D'Arcy examines his comments.

**0720**
The [script of the first-ever episode of BBC Radio 4's The Archers](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516209.stm) will later be auctioned off by Charles Collingwood, better known as Brian Aldridge. He explains why it is so important to fans, more than 60 years on.

**0724**
Next week, Brits who missed out on Olympic tickets, two thirds of those who tried, will get a second chance with another round of sales. David Spiegelhalter, professor of the public understanding of risk at Cambridge University, [suggests how future ticketing could be improved.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516210.stm)

**0727**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0733**
[How close is Greece to total collapse, or even revolution?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516211.stm) Chris Morris reports from Athens on the feeling among the Greek people.

**0738**
Paper review.

**0742**
In 1941 [Hitler's deputy Rudolf Hess parachuted into Scotland,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516222.stm) apparently on a mission to try to end the war, where he was caught and questioned. Stephen McGinty, author of a new book on that interrogation called Camp Z: The Secret Life of Rudolph Hess, and Clive Fairweather, who was second-in-command of the SAS squad who guarded Hess in Berlin's Spandau Prison, discuss the significance of those events.

**0747**
Thought for the day with Brian Draper, associate lecturer at the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity.

**0750**
With the news of impending strikes in the public sector this summer and autumn, questions have been raised about how unions can best achieve their aims. Richard Balfe, former Labour MEP who defected to the Tories and was appointed by David Cameron to liaise with the unions a few years ago, and Roger Seifert, professor of industrial relations at Wolverhampton Business School, [discuss whether walking out really works.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516223.stm)

**0810**
[Greece's national debt is going to be rolled over,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516224.stm) requiring holders of Greek bonds to keep holding them for slightly longer, and avoiding a default that could damage Europe's banks. Business editor Robert Peston analyses the position for Greek investors. And former chancellor, Alistair Darling, who signed the first emergency euro bailout for Greece, examines whether this is the right decision.

**0818**
The first minister of Scotland Alex Salmond is furious that the relatively new UK Supreme Court has the power to deal with human rights cases north of the border. Cameron Ritchie, the president of the Law Society of Scotland, and BBC's Scotland political editor Brian Taylor [outline Mr Salmond's objections.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516225.stm)

**0823**
Later today, President Obama will take on the Republican Speaker of the House John Boehner in a golf match. BBC Radio's John Murray reports from the Congressional Country Club in Washington, on [why golf is the game of American politics.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516226.stm)

**0828**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0834**
The leader of the biggest public sector union, Dave Prentis, says Britain should prepare itself for the biggest strike since the General Strike of 1926 if the government fails to back down over its cuts in the public sector, specifically to pensions. Brendan Barber, general secretary of the TUC, [considers if Mr Prentis speaks for the union movement as a whole.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516238.stm)

**0842**
Paper review.

**0844**
The author Sir Terry Pratchett, who has Alzheimer's, has said that he wants assisted suicide to be made legal in Britain. Professor Baroness Finlay of Llandaff, who is a harsh critic of the method, [gives her reaction to the recent debate.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516237.stm)

**0849**
[How do you turn around a failing school?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516239.stm) Professor Bernard Barker of Leicester University, and Trevor Averre Beeson, a former head who runs a private company that specialises in turning around schools, debate Education Secretary Michael Gove's plan to convert 200 under-performing schools into academies.

**0853**
The political week has been fraught with questions over the leadership of Ed Miliband and David Cameron, suggestions that Nick Clegg is on the up, and the return of figures such as Tony Blair. Peter Oborne, chief political commentator at the Daily Telegraph, and Mehdi Hasan, senior editor of the New Statesman and co-author of a new book entitled Ed: The Milibands and the Making of a Labour Leader, [discuss where the week has left us.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516240.stm)

Monday 20th June

**A report into home care provided to elderly people in England suggests that there is widespread suffering because the system is overstretched. The government says it intends to stick to its timetable for raising the state pension age, despite opposition from MPs. Also on today's programme, he was the face of modern day protest - but was Brian Haw's ten-year vigil outside Parliament really worth it?**

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**0615**
Business news with Adam Shaw: The first signs of agreement on a second package of measures to support debt-ridden Greece appeared early this morning. Dimitri Vayanos, professor of finance at the London School of Economics, considers how it will be pushed through. Justin Urquhart-Stewart of Seven Investment Management looks at the markets. And Mark Elbourne of GE UK talks about how to improve the state of manufacturing in the Britain. [Download the podcast](http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/today)

**0650**
A public consultation on plans for a huge expansion of wind farms in mid Wales ends today. Environment analyst Roger Harrabin reports on [why increasing onshore wind may be a challenge.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516878.stm) ***Clarification***: The Welsh government says it supports increased wind power but has asked us to make clear that it also wants a top limit on the amount generated from mid Wales. In particular, it wants to keep large pylons out of the region.

**0709**
Libya's opposition leadership [says it has no money left to pay salaries](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516912.stm) and that none of the bilateral financial assistance promised by foreign governments, including Britain, has been received. Diplomatic correspondent Bridget Kendall reports from Benghazi.

**0714**
MPs will today debate whether the age at which men and women receive the state pension should be equalised to 65 by 2018, before raising it to 66 two years later. Sarah Harper, professor of gerontology at Oxford University and director of the Oxford Institute of Population Ageing, explains [why she believes the retirement age should be abolished.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516913.stm)

**0717**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0720**
[Clarence Clemons, the saxophone player in Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516914.stm) has died at the age of 69. Veteran Radio 2 DJ Johnnie Walker talks about the joys of sax and why it has been so important to pop music through the decades.

**0727**
Sports news with Garry Richardson.

**0733**
Thousands of people protested against austerity measures outside the Greek parliament last night, as [more Greeks are said to be considering whether to simply refuse to pay their debts.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516946.stm) From Athens, Europe correspondent Chris Morris reports on the impact this could have. And Peter Hahn of the Cass Business School assesses how European finance ministers meeting in Luxembourg will tackle the situation.

**0738**
Paper review.

**0741**
Why does the Wimbledon tennis championship, which starts today, tend to be the one event enjoyed by women who do not like sport? The [author Lynne Truss explains her theory.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516879.stm)

**0747**
Thought for the day with the Reverend Professor David Wilkinson, Principal of St John's College, Durham University.

**0750**
Nato has said it deeply regrets the civilian deaths it appears to have caused in Tripoli over the weekend, where two babies were among those killed. Wing Commander Mike Bracken, the military spokesman for the operation, describes why something "went amiss". And Middle East editor Jeremy Bowen analyses [what the alliance says seems to have been a weapons systems failure.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516945.stm)

**0810**
[Older people's basic human rights are being overlooked](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516978.stm) when they are cared for at home in England, according to an interim report by the Equality and Human rights commission. Peter Hay, president of the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services, explains why their findings make grim reading.

**0821**
The Syrian president [Bashar al-Assad will reportedly speak to the public today,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516890.stm) following mass arrests by the military which has been combing through villages near the Turkish border. The BBC's Matthew Price reports from northern Syria.

**0825**
Sports news with Garry Richardson.

**0833**
[Tributes are being paid to Brian Haw](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9516000/9516989.stm) who died of lung cancer yesterday, the man who set up camp outside parliament in 2001 in protest against UK foreign policy. David Tredinnick, one of the MPs who has campaigned to clear the square, and Bruce Kent, vice president of Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, look back at his tenacity and what it achieved.

**0838**
[Burma's democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9517000/9517000.stm) celebrated her 66th birthday on Sunday, her first as a free woman for almost a decade. The BBC's John Simpson has been to see her.

**0841**
Tonight's memorial concert to John Barry at the Royal Albert Hall will celebrate one of the most noted film composers of his generation. Lyricist Don Black, who worked with John Barry for 50 years, and Jason Solomons, film critic at the observer, discuss [why "there just isn't room in today's films to write a score... or establish a melody".](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9517000/9517033.stm)

**0847**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0851**
[Is Afghanistan a war without end?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9517000/9517105.stm) John Ware, reporter for the BBC series on the conflict which starts on Wednesday, questions the point of the fighting. And Colonel Richard Kemp, who commanded British forces in Afghanistan, looks at how the war might one day end.

Tuesday 21th June

**Government plans to halve the sentences of offenders who admit their crimes early are to be scrapped. The head of combat operations in the RAF has warned that airmen are over-stretched by the campaigns in Afghanistan and Libya. Also on today's programme, Sir Salman Rushdie on the dark side of childhood.**

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**0615**
Business news with Adam Shaw: Austerity measures and privatisations will be top of the agenda for Greece today. Dr Michael Arghyrou, senior lecturer in economics at Cardiff Business School, analyses the Greek government's position. Chris Cooke, of the music industry bulletin CMU Daily, explains what would be at stake if the music group EMI is put up for sale. And Jane Sydenham, of Rathbone Investment Management, looks at the markets. [Download the podcast](http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/today)

**0650**
This week, MPs in the House of Commons will go head-to-head in a debate on [whether wild animals, such as tigers, lions and elephants, should be banned from the circus.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9518000/9518190.stm) Chris Barltrop of the Classical Circus Association, outlines why the coalition faces a rebellion over its decision to block the ban.

**0709**
Over the last week, there have been an increasing number of calls from some commentators [for Greece to withdraw from the euro,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9518000/9518191.stm) rather than be granted more bail-out funds. Daniel Hannan, a Conservative MEP, examines whether this would be a suitable solution to its growing debt crisis.

**0714**
Academics are warning that [current government policies on immigration will not achieve David Cameron's goal of reducing net migration to tens of thousands](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9518000/9518193.stm) by the end of the parliament. Dr Scott Blinder, senior researcher at Oxford's University Migration Observatory, sets out the reasons.

**0717**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0720**
Rebel fighters in Libya [are continuing to suffer heavy losses as they try to gain ground](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9518000/9518187.stm) in their battle against Colonel Gaddafi's forces. Andrew Harding reports on rebels trying to liberate the town of Zliten, where a gun battle has "barely shifted for weeks".

**0724**
Those who missed out on tickets for the 2012 Olympics can be comforted by the news that the Cultural Olympiad, which has already started, will reach its peak during the games next year. Arts editor Will Gompertz describes how it could rival Olympic events, but [explains why it has made "so little impact".](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9518000/9518204.stm) And Tony Hall, who is chairing events, describes how great it will be.

**0729**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0736**
The Sun newspaper is taking credit for the government's decision to scrap plans to allow some criminals in England and Wales to halve their sentences if they plead guilty early. Deputy political editor James Landale reports [on what the paper is calling its "crusade against soft justice".](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9518000/9518205.stm)

**0739**
Paper review.

**0741**
Burma's pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi has revealed that [she used to listen to Dave Lee Travis](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9518000/9518206.stm) during her time under house arrest, and that his World Service request show made her "world much more complete". Dave Lee Travis gives his reaction to the news.

**0747**
Thought for the day with the Right Reverend Graham James, Bishop of Norwich.

**0750**
Legislation to boost the powers of the Scottish parliament is expected to be passed in the House of Commons later. First Minister Alex Salmond [describes the potential impact of the new bill.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9518000/9518230.stm)

**0810**
The Greek prime minister will find out later today whether he retains a majority in parliament, as the country struggles with huge debts. Europe correspondent Chris Morris reports from Athens on the new government, which now faces a vote of confidence. Business editor Robert Peston and VTB Capital's Neil Mackinnon [analyse the prospect, and effect, of a Greek default.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9518000/9518233.stm)

**0823**
The government is today expected to announce reforms of sentencing in England and Wales, as well as plans to cut the legal aid budget by £350m. Legal affairs correspondent Clive Coleman reports on the controversial bill. Des Hudson, chief executive of the Law Society, and Ben Gummer, a Conservative member of the Justice Committee, [debate if cutting legal aid will really help the tax payer.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9518000/9518231.stm)

**0834**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0838**
[Riots broke out in east Belfast last night,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9518000/9518232.stm) with reports of paint, bottles, and petrol bombs being thrown at houses belonging to Catholics. Police vans were also attacked and more than 100 people were thought to be involved. Reverend Mervyn Gibson, a Presbyterian minister who witnessed some of the trouble, describes what he saw.

**0841**
How difficult is it to write a children's book? The [author Sir Salman Rushdie explains why he believes young readers are "very, very tough to please",](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9518000/9518188.stm) and why his most recent book, Luka and the Fire of Life, which is a gift for his younger son, tackles some dark and difficult subjects.

**0847**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0850**
While all eyes will be glued to the grass courts of Wimbledon in the coming weeks, it seems that lawns are no longer in fashion, according to Gardener's World presenter Carol Klein. Gardening writer Sally Nex and Colin Crosbie, curator of the Royal Horticultural Society's garden at Wisley, [debate how anyone could dislike a lawn.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9518000/9518234.stm)

**0856**
The Justice Secretary Ken Clarke has been undone over his unpopular plans to change sentencing in England and Wales. Peter Neyroud, former chief constable and member of the Sentencing Guidelines Council, looks at [how difficult policy gets when public opinion, and tabloid papers, throw a spanner in the works.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9518000/9518235.stm)

Wednesday 22th June

**The Greek prime minister has won a confidence vote as he struggles to raise support for further austerity measures. A press photographer has been shot and wounded during a second night of rioting in east Belfast. Also on today's programme, what does your favourite number say about you?**

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**0615**
Business news with Adam Shaw: The Greek government won a crucial vote of confidence late last night. Danny Gabay, director of Fathom Financial Consulting, considers how far the Greek people are behind plans for austerity. Standard Life Investments' Euan Stirling looks at the markets. And Otto Thoresen, director general of the Association of British Insurers, discusses the need to improve the insurance sector. [Download the podcast](http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/today)

**0650**
[Elderly patients with broken hips are not getting an acceptable level of treatment,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9519000/9519389.stm) according to the NHS watchdog Nice. Professor Peter Littlejohns, clinical and public health director at Nice, lays out the findings.

**0709**
The [Greek Prime Minister George Papandreou won a confidence vote last night,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9519000/9519435.stm) a vital yet insufficient condition to solving the country's massive debt problem. Elena Panaritis, an MP from the ruling Pasok party, and Jim O'Neill of Goldman Sachs Asset Management look forward to the next step.

**0714**
Outbreaks of violence involving around 700 people tore through the streets of Belfast again last night. Ireland correspondent Mark Simpson reports on what residents say is [the worst trouble they have seen in years.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9519000/9519447.stm)

**0716**
With a summer of strikes looming, there has been speculation that the government will respond [by changing the laws surrounding strike ballots.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9519000/9519468.stm) The BBC's political editor Nick Robinson, who will investigate the issue on Radio 4's Decision Time programme this evening, weighs up the possibilities.

**0717**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0722**
The science of the brain seems to be making dramatic advances, using functional MRI scans to uncover secrets about how we love and even patterns of antisocial behaviour in teens. Science correspondent Tom Feilden asks [if there is more to the mind than neural connections.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9519000/9519479.stm)

**0727**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0733**
A report called Invisible Addicts that is published today will reveal that safe drinking limits for older people are in fact lower than those for the young. Dr Tony Rao, a member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists' working group which carried out the research, and Emma Soames, editor-at-large of Saga magazine, [debate how much is too much for vintage boozers.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9519000/9519482.stm)

**0738**
Paper review.

**0741**
Astronauts at Kennedy Space Centre in Florida are preparing for the last ever shuttle flight. Science correspondent Pallab Ghosh reports on the end of an era for Nasa. And Andrew Smith, author of Moondust: In Search of the Men Who Fell to Earth, [reflects on a sad day for space travel.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9519000/9519483.stm)

**0747**
Thought for the day with the Reverend Roy Jenkins, the Baptist Minister in Cardiff.

**0750**
A committee of MPs and peers have called on the government [to renegotiate the European arrest warrant,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9519000/9519494.stm) claiming it is not working properly. The committee's chair, Dr Hywel Francis, and Michael Turner, who was passed over to Hungary by UK authorities without being charged, discuss the plight of hundreds of British people extradited to the continent every year.

**0810**
Having won a confidence motion last night, Greece's socialist prime minister George Papandreou must now convince parliament to approve an austerity bill. The BBC's Chris Morris was in and outside the Greek parliament yesterday, where thousands of people have been protesting against spending cuts. And Sir Leon Brittan, former vice president of the European Commission, [examines if the eurozone is unraveling.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9519000/9519518.stm)

**0818**
There was another [night of rioting in Belfast last night](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9519000/9519519.stm) involving around 700 people. Dr Peter Shirlow of the University of Ulster, who has studied the impact of violent political groups in Northern Ireland, examines the cause of the tensions.

**0822**
Do you have a favourite number? The maths writer Alex Bellos, author of Alex's Adventures in Numberland, explains [why he started an online survey asking people about their choices,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9519000/9519378.stm) and reveals what he has found so far.

**0825**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0830**
Recent advances in neuroscience have given fresh information about debilitating disorders like Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease, as well as new insights into the neural activity underpinning everything from love and wisdom to bad behaviour. Tom Feilden reports on what this golden age of brain science is really telling us about humanity. And neurobiologist Colin Blakemore [explains why the latest discoveries are "absolutely essential".](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9519000/9519556.stm)

**0840**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0843**
[What is the reason behind the coalition's spate of u-turns?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9519000/9519555.stm) James Forsyth, political editor of the Spectator, and Anne McElvoy, policy editor of the Economist, examine the signs.

**0849**
[A new trend of modest fashion is catching on in Britain,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9515000/9515265.stm) as a demand for clothes which cover rather than reveal parts of the body become popular among Christian, Jewish and Muslim women. Zubeida Malik reports on the "rapidly expanding" market for modesty. *This is an extended version of the broadcast item.*

**0854**
With today's abundance of technology, the days of the old fashioned phone number appear to be in decline. Ian Pearson, a futurologist at the technology consultants Futurizon, and Ben Hammersley, editor-at-large of Wired UK, [debate the legacy of the telephone.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9519000/9519582.stm)

**President Obama has announced that 33,000 US troops will leave Afghanistan by the end of next summer. The Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg has backed a proposal to offer free shares to the public in the state-owned banks, RBS and Lloyds. Also on today's programme, how one commuter turned his daily train journey to London into art.**

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**0615**
Business news with Adam Shaw: Growth in the United States, the world's largest economy, is slowing down. Chief economist at Investec, Philip Shaw, considers how serious it could be. And Pierre De Villemejane, chief executive of WWRD Holdings, the company that owns Waterford Wedgwood along with Royal Doulton china, speaks about the struggling pottery industry. [Download the podcast](http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/today)

**0650**
US politicians often accuse Beijing of going against US trade interests, but [a booming China could be the key to the economic success of west-coast Americans.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9520000/9520537.stm) Claire Bolderson reports from the state of Oregon.

**0709**
Leaders from the EU are gathering in Brussels to discuss [how to avoid the economic collapse of Greece and a banking crisis throughout the European Union.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9520000/9520538.stm) Former Belgian prime minister, Guy Verhofstadt, who leads the alliance of liberals and democrats in the European parliament, explains why he believes more integration between euro economies is the best solution.

**0714**
US President Barack Obama has announced that the war in Afghanistan is ending, pledging to withdraw 10,000 US troops this year, with more to follow next summer. North American editor [Mark Mardell watched his speech.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9520000/9520570.stm) And [Foreign Secretary William Hague](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9520000/9520581.stm) gives his reaction to the announcement.

**0717**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0720**
The compulsory tests in English and Maths at the end of primary school in England should include more teacher assessment and provide a rounder picture of pupils, according to a new report. Independent peer Lord Bew, who lead the review, sets out his suggestions on [primary school Sats.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9520000/9520582.stm)

**0727**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0733**
How should the rest of Europe act if the Greek government fails in its promise to push through a rigorous programme of austerity measures by next week? Today presenter James Naughtie reports from Brussels, where [a profound argument about the nature and future of the eurozone](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9520000/9520583.stm) lies at the heart of the answer.

**0738**
Paper review.

**0741**
President Barack Obama has announced that the war in Afghanistan is winding down, promising the withdrawal of 10,000 US troops this year, and another 23,000 by September 2012. [Watch Obama's full speech](http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2011/06/22/president-obama-way-forward-afghanistan)

**0745**
The first [photo of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9520000/9520539.stm) to be commissioned by the National Portrait Gallery is to go on show in Edinburgh. Arts editor Will Gompertz had a sneak preview and spoke to the German photographer Thomas Struth, who took the portrait, about his exploration of human relationships.

**0747**
Thought for the day with Reverend Lucy Winkett, Rector of St James Piccadilly.

**0750**
A leading member of the House of Lords has spoken out against the coalition's plan to change the upper house, arguing that making it 80% elected will destroy its important role as a revising chamber which checks the Commons. The former Commons speaker [Lady Boothroyd](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9520000/9520595.stm) outlines her concern that the balance between the two houses, on which British democracy and law depends, could be lost forever.

**0810**
President Obama has pledged to withdraw 10,000 US surge troops from Afghanistan by the end of the year, and more by next summer. Michael Semple, former deputy to the EU special representative to Afghanistan, looks at how British and US strategy has changed. And Lord Dannatt, the former head of the army, [analyses Obama's plan.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9520000/9520619.stm)

**0820**
In an attempt to break the drudge of the daily commute, one man has [turned his journey into an album.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9520000/9520596.stm) Nicola Stanbridge joined Steve Spiro on his journey between West Sussex and London.

**0825**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0830**
The prospect of Greek's financial collapse has stirred a [deep-rooted debate in Brussels](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9520000/9520636.stm) over the fundamental nature of the eurozone and how integrated its economies should be. Swedish liberal MEP Olle Schmidt and Jens-Peter Bonde, who was an MEP for 29 years and founded the eurosceptic June Movement party in Denmark, go head-to-head on the best way forward for Europe.

**0836**
[The controversial project to put trams through the centre of Edinburgh,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9520000/9520637.stm) which has already used up 80% of its £545m budget and faced chronic delays, will be debated by the city's council next week. Edinburgh-based author Alexander McCall Smith reflects on its rocky past. And Gordon Mackenzie, transport councillor in the capital, considers continuing.

**0840**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0843**
Colonel Gaddafi issued a defiant audio message in Libya last night, saying he had his "back to the wall" but did not fear death, and that the battle against the western "crusaders" would continue "to the beyond". Middle east editor Jeremy Bowen reports from Tripoli [on the people's continuing fear of the Libyan leader.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9520000/9520598.stm)

**0849**
The Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg has thrown his weight behind a proposal to offer people [free shares in taxpayer-funded banks when they are being sold off.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9520000/9520658.stm) Banking analyst at SRN Ralph Silva examines the idea.

**0854**
President Obama has announced that 33,000 US troops will leave Afghanistan by the end of next summer. Sir Rodric Braithwaite, former ambassador of Moscow and author of the book Afghansty: The Russians in Afghanistan, and Brigadier Ben Barry, senior fellow for land warfare at the International Institute for Strategic Studies, discuss [whether sophisticated armies are ever able to win wars like that in Afghanistan.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9520000/9520659.stm)

Friday 24th June

**David Cameron has won his battle to limit the amount of money the UK will have to contribute towards a second financial bailout for Greece. Medical researchers say commonly used drugs may be dangerous for older people. Also on today's programme, the computer hackers known as Lulzsec are the latest to hit the headlines - but what is their ultimate aim?**

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**0615**
Business news with Dominic Laurie: European leaders meeting in Brussels last night pledged further support for Greece. Eurozone economist Megan Greene explains the deal. And [Today's Friday boss](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9521000/9521738.stm) Paul Moody, chief executive of the Britvic, speaks about the company's expansion oversees. [Download the podcast](http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/today)

**0650**
In the next few days, MPs are expected to set out their vision for [the future of universities](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9521000/9521628.stm) from 2012, as well as pushing through changes in higher education funding. Education correspondent Gillian Hargreaves reports from Leicester University.

**0709**
Teachers' groups are warning that the amount of [religious education](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9521000/9521641.stm) taught in schools has dropped, with one in four state comprehensives failing to give GCSE students adequate tutoring in RE. Keith Porteous Wood, who runs the National Secular Society, and John Pritchard, the Bishop of Oxford and chair of the Church of England's board of education, debate the importance of religion in the curriculum.

**0714**
EU leaders and the IMF have agreed to give Greece £100m if its prime minister can drive austerity measures through parliament next week. Elmar Brok, a prominent member of Angela Merkel's CDU party in Germany, discusses [the existential crisis in the EU.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9521000/9521642.stm)

**0717**
Business news with Dominic Laurie.

**0720**
Hackers from the online gang Lulzsec have recently gained notoriety for their [cyber attacks](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9521000/9521644.stm) on state security organisations and big companies. Professor Peter Sommer, who specialises in cyber security and author of The Hackers' Handbook, looks at the best way to protect your internet interests.

**0727**
Sports news with Jonathan Legard.

**0733**
While talks on the Greek crisis are reaching a conclusion, the [asylum and immigration EU policy](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9521000/9521643.stm) is still causing tension. Today's James Naughtie reports on "shortcomings" of the Schengen Agreement.

**0738**
Paper review.

**0741**
The British Museum's new summer exhibition will showcase [religious relics](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9521000/9521655.stm) from mediaeval Europe, including three thorns said to come from the crown of thorns that Jesus was forced to wear and the breast milk of the Virgin Mary. Curator James Robinson describes the unusual collection.

**0747**
Thought for the day with Lord Harries of Pentregarth, Gresham Professor of Divinity.

**0750**
Labour leader Ed Miliband wants to change [the system by which members of the shadow cabinet are elected,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9521000/9521656.stm) so that the party leader appoints them. Shadow foreign secretary Douglas Alexander and John McDonnell, who ran for the Labour leadership himself, debate the best way to choose shadow ministers.

**0810**
Older people are damaging their health when they take common over-the-counter medicines, because the [combination of drugs](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9521000/9521689.stm) they use may be dangerous, according to new research. Dr Chris Fox, who lead the research at the University of East Anglia, and Dr Clare Gerada, who chairs the Royal College of GPs, discuss the risks.

**0817**
The private sector must [share the burden in the latest bailout for Greece,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9521000/9521668.stm) EU negotiators have said. Business reporter Dominic Laurie explains how "voluntary involvement" will work.

**0822**
The [musician Paul Simon,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9521000/9521639.stm) who has released 12 solo albums, including his latest So Beautiful or So What, will this weekend be headlining at Glastonbury music festival. Justin Webb spoke to him about life and his long career.

**0825**
Sports news with Jonathan Legard.

**0830**
The newly formed [think tank Google Ideas is hosting a summit to address the question of violent extremism,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9521000/9521712.stm) and how to stop young people joining right-wing groups. Its director Jared Cohen, who was on the policy planning staff of two US secretaries of state, and security correspondent Frank Gardner examine the role being played by Google, and how far it must go to tackle extremism online.

**0840**
Business news with Dominic Laurie.

**0843**
The [bullfighting season has begun in Barcelona, possibly the last fights in Catalonia](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9521000/9521640.stm) before they are banned at the end of this year. Tim Franks reports on the sport that the poet Federico Garcia Lorca described as "probably Spain's greatest poetic and life-sustaining wealth".

**0849**
Yesterday, Conservative MP Mark Pritchard openly accused Tory [whips](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9521000/9521723.stm) working for the prime minister's office of threatening him on the issue of the circus animal ban. Gyles Brandreth, former whip for John Major's government, reflects on the changing nature of whipping.

**0854**
Does the Greek crisis present an opportunity for any particular country? Dr Linda Yueh, economics correspondent for Bloomberg TV, and Professor Timothy Garton Ash, professor of European studies at the University of Oxford, discuss [what China has to gain in the eurozone.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9521000/9521724.stm)

Saturday 25th June

**The head of the police force which investigated the murder of Milly Dowler has called changes to the way trial witnesses are treated. Also in the programme, the creator of the rumpled TV detective, Columbo, on the death of the Peter Falk, the man who brought him to life.**

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**0709**
The gender imbalance in parts of Asia and Eastern Europe is stark, with men outnumbering women and the discrepancy growing. Mara Hvistendahl, author of Unnatural Selection: Choosing Boys over Girls, and the Consequences of a World Full of Men, [explains why many parents prefer sons to daughters.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9522000/9522576.stm)

**0712**
The Labour leader Ed Miliband is promising today to [try to re-engage his party with its supporters and the wider public,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9522000/9522577.stm) a relationship that he admits has been getting weaker. Political correspondent Chris Mason considers what Miliband should do next.

**0715**
Several members of [Libya's national football team have defected to the rebels trying to depose Colonel Gaddafi.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9522000/9522578.stm) The BBC's Mark Doyle looks at this latest development in the Libyan conflict.

**0717**
Paper review.

**0720**
U2's headline set at Glastonbury last night [was interrupted by tax evasion protesters trying to let loose a giant balloon, accusing the band of dodging taxes.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9522000/9522579.stm) Philip Gough from Art Uncut explains why the protest was planned, and the BBC's Colin Paterson reports on a not-so "Beautiful Day" for the Irishmen.

**0723**
Polish underground fighter Jan Karski's memoirs have been published for the first time in Britain, and have raised the question of whether Britain could have done more to save the Jews from the Holocaust. Germany correspondent Stephen Evans [looks back at the life of an extraordinary man.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9522000/9522580.stm)

**0727**
Sports news with Garry Richardson.

**0735**
The Milly Dowler case has reopened debates surrounding the media's role in reporting court cases, and whether it is doing so irresponsibly. Peter Preston, of The Observer and The Guardian, and legal affairs correspondent Clive Coleman, contemplate [if proceedings against various newspapers for contempt of court would be justified.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9522000/9522582.stm)

**0741**
The British Library's project to create a Sound Map of the UK, asking people people to record the sounds they encounter in their everyday lives, received its final submission yesterday. Today has had [an exclusive listen to some of the snippets.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9522000/9522594.stm)

**0742**
Paper review.

**0745**
A television series which aired in Australia this week has sought to provoke debate on the thorny issue of boat people. The BBC's Nick Bryant reports on an experiment which saw [six Australians retread the footsteps of refugees,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9522000/9522595.stm) but in reverse.

**0749**
Thought for the day with Brian Draper, Associate lecturer at the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity.

**0753**
With Armed Forces Day today and Afghanistan troop withdrawal rarely out of the headlines, how exactly is the government here getting on with the Ministry of Defence and its top brass? The BBC's James Landale tries to [unpick the military's relationship with the coalition.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9522000/9522597.stm)

**0810**
Mark Rowley, the chief constable of Surrey, where Milly Dowler was murdered by Levi Bellfield, has taken the unusual step of attacking what he called the "disgraceful lack of humanity" of the justice system after the ordeal suffered by Milly's parents. [Mr Rowley elaborates on his comments.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9522000/9522581.stm)

**0821**
The [row about the origins of the human species](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9522000/9522608.stm) has raged ever since Charles Darwin first suggested we might have evolved in Africa. The Origin of Our Species, by human evolution expert Professor Chris Stringer, is the latest attempt to solve this controversial issue, as Today's Tom Feilden found out.

**0824**
Peter Falk, the actor who solved crimes on television for more than thirty years as the put-upon but brilliant detective Columbo, has died. William Link, who created the character, [explains the enduring appeal of the detective, and the actor who brought him to life.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9522000/9522621.stm)

**0828**
Sports news with Garry Richardson.

**0833**
The rioting in east Belfast in recent days has been the worst in the area for more than ten years. Henry McDonald, Ireland correspondent for The Guardian and Observer [explains why the violence has returned.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9522000/9522622.stm)

**0840**
Paper Review.

**0843**
A pilot has been suspended after an [expletive-laden rant about his flight crew was inadvertently broadcast over the entire Texas airspace](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9522000/9522624.stm) : he'd failed to realise his microphone was still on. Guy Hirst, retired British Airways training captain and co-founder of Atrainability, shares his tips on pilot-politeness and communication.

**0847**
[How "Greek" is the Greek crisis?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9522000/9522624.stm) Nikos Dimou, author of On the Unhappiness of Being Greek, and Nobel Prize winning economist Professor Christopher Pissarides of the London School of Economics, assess how the deficit fits into Greek culture, the Greek tradition of not paying taxes, and the history of Greece.

**0852**
Milly Dowler's family have strongly criticised their treatment during the trial of Levi Bellfield, the man convicted of the thirteen year old's murder. Leading criminal lawyer Baroness Helena Kennedy and leading criminal barrister John Cooper QC consider [whether the criminal justice system should change the way it deals with victims.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9522000/9522645.stm)

Monday 27th June

**The Defence Secretary Liam Fox is preparing to announce a radical restructuring of the MoD, aimed at making it "simpler and more cost-effective". The Nato bombing campaign in Libya has entered its 100th day as rebel fighters advance to within 30 miles of the capital, Tripoli. Also on today's programme, we speak to the Formula One driver Mark Webber about the Grand Prix, and politics in sport.**

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**0615**
Business news with Adam Shaw: Trade tops the agenda as the Chinese premier Wen Jiabao meets David Cameron at Downing Street. Matthew Idiens of Seamwell International considers the collaboration. Economist Michael Hughes outlines the challenge ahead as Greek politicians debate austerity plans. David Buik, senior strategist at BGC Partners, looks at the markets. And Ed Mayo, secretary general of Co-operatives UK, explains the company's remarkably stable growth. [Download the podcast](http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/today)

**0650**
Engineers working on the Newcastle Geothermal Borehole project have hit hot water, which will be used to heat the site surrounding city centre buildings. Fiona Trott reports on [their success after drilling to a depth of around a mile and a half.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9523000/9523259.stm)

**0709**
British businesses hope to sign deals worth more than £1bn when the Chinese premier Wen Jiabao meets David Cameron at Downing Street later. Business editor Robert Peston [analyses China's latest promise to invest in Europe.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9523000/9523261.stm)

**0714**
[It is 100 days since the military operation in Libya began.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9523000/9523237.stm) Colonel Gaddafi has not been toppled and his regime still has real support. Middle East editor Jeremy Bowen has had exclusive access to opposition sources in Tripoli, who say they are fighting fire with fire.

**0717**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0720**
Concern has been raised over insurance companies which [sell-on the personal information of drivers](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9523000/9523272.stm) to "no-win no-fee" lawyers, keeping insurance premiums high at a time when accident numbers are down. Former justice secretary Jack Straw, who has written a paper on the subject, and Nick Starling of the Association of British Insurers debate what has been described as a racket within the insurance industry.

**0727**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0733**
The head of the nursing union Dr Peter Carter has described [efficiency savings introduced to the NHS](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9523000/9523258.stm) as "hotch potch", highlighting the need to "reconfigure" services. Sanchia Berg reports from the BMA conference.

**0738**
Paper review.

**0741**
The body of [a man who fell to his death from a hotel balcony in Rhodes more than ten years ago](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9523000/9523283.stm) has been exhumed during the night, years after three doctors were convicted of manslaughter by negligence. Christopher Rochester's stepfather George Cummings explains why.

**0747**
Thought for the day with the Reverend Professor David Wilkinson, Principal of St John's College, Durham University.

**0750**
[Are talks between the government and the unions involved in Thursday's strikes likely to produce an agreement?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9523000/9523294.stm) Kevin Courtney, deputy general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, gives his predictions. And the Cabinet Office minister Francis Maude looks at the possibility of a compromise.

**0810**
As the military operation against Colonel Gaddafi in Libya reaches its 100th day, Britain's defence secretary is set to introduce far-reaching changes at the Ministry of Defence. Andrew Harding reports on rebel progress from Benghazi. And [Defence Secretary Liam Fox outlines his proposals.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9523000/9523414.stm)

**0820**
[Sales of brown shoes are soaring, as earthy tones become increasingly popular](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9523000/9523358.stm) among fashionable young men. Guardian writer Sarfraz Manzoor and Top Gear presenter James May discuss the unexpected trend.

**0825**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0835**
Health experts say cuts to the NHS are [uncoordinated and should be used to reconfigure services,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9523000/9523359.stm) an unpopular move that would see specialist units in hospitals closing down. Dr Mike Smith of the Patients Association and Dr Mark Porter, who chairs the consultants committee of the BMA, debate the best way forward.

**0841**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0845**
Formula One has been making headlines on and off the track. [Race car driver Mark Webber](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9523000/9523371.stm) provides an insider's view of the Grand Prix, politics and sport.

**0849**
People of Hispanic origin now make up [more than 15% of the US population,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9523000/9523260.stm) a figure expected to rise to just under a third by 2050. Jonny Dymond reports from Houston in Texas, where Hispanics make up almost half the population.

**0854**
[The Chinese premier Wen Jiabao](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9523000/9523403.stm) will meet David Cameron at the annual UK-China Strategic Summit in London today. Kerry Brown, of Chatham House's Asia programme and a former British diplomat in Beijing, and the Liberal Democrat MP Edward McMillan-Scott, the European parliament's vice-president for democracy and human rights, discuss China's agenda in Britain and beyond.

Tuesday 28th June

**The government is proposing to increase competition between universities in England. A two-day general strike against public spending cuts in Greece has begun, a day before the country's parliament votes on austerity plans. Also on today's programme, we ask the justice minister about what Jack Straw described as the "racket" in insurance claims.**

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**0615**
Business news with Adam Shaw: Ray Boulger of the mortgage advisers John Charcol analyses the threat of a "tsunami" of home repossessions as interest rates start to rise. Williams De Broe's Laura Lambie looks at the markets. Richard Parry Jones,of the Automotive Council, discusses the challenges and opportunities facing the UK car industry. And Carl Gilleard, of the Association of Graduate Recruiters, talks about how recent graduates have fared in the job market. [Download the podcast](http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/today)

**0650**
The BBC has learnt that [hospitals in the rebel-held area of eastern Libya are running short of medical supplies,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9524000/9524397.stm) with some patients dying from a lack of life-saving medicines. Diplomatic correspondent Bridget Kendall reports from Benghazi where a medical crisis is looming.

**0709**
Former Justice Secretary Jack Straw sparked outcry yesterday, when he revealed on the Today programme the enormous number of drivers encouraged to make phoney insurance claims for [whiplash injuries](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9524000/9524411.stm) each year. Stuart Matthews, a consultant trauma surgeon at the John Radcliffe Hospital, explains what whiplash really is, and why 1200 motorists claim to be suffering from it every day.

**0714**
A group of Welsh doctors has challenged the British Medical Association's proposal to move to a system of [presumed consent in organ donation,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9524000/9524422.stm) where people opt out rather than opt in. Dr Vivienne Nathanson, BMA director of professional activities, and Dr Sharon Blackford, a dermatologist who works in Swansea, debate the objection and why Welsh ministers are so keen to push forward presumed consent in Wales.

**0717**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0720**
With sales of ebooks, downloads and audio books on the rise, is the end of the traditional bookshop finally in sight? Arts editor Will Gompertz asks [what, dear reader, is the future of the book?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9524000/9524408.stm)

**0727**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0733**
The government is planning to increase competition between universities in England, in a bid to ensure students get value for money with the new fees regime. [David Willetts, minister for universities and science, explains the proposals.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9524000/9524433.stm)

**0738**
Paper review.

**0741**
A number of British cities have begun trialling a popular American system of dealing with alcoholics, in which [shelters called wet houses are set up for chronic users to live and carry on drinking.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9524000/9524409.stm) Correspondent Paul Adams reports on the controversial practice from Minneapolis, where the idea first emerged.

**0747**
Thought for the day with the Right Reverend Graham James, Bishop of Norwich.

**0750**
A two-day general strike will bring Greece to a standstill today, as people take to the streets in protest of austerity measures being debated in parliament. Europe editor Gavin Hewitt reports on the commotion. And Martin Wolf, chief economics commentator at the Financial Times, [examines the current options open to the Greek government.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9524000/9524434.stm)

**0810**
The information commissioner has promised to look into [the insurance industry's opaque trade in the personal data of motorists,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9524000/9524476.stm) after the former justice secretary Jack Straw yesterday revealed the sector's "dirty secret". Today reporter Andrew Hosken has been looking into the practice which has been the subject of two government inquiries. And Justice Minister Jonathan Djanogly considers the best way to sort the system out.

**0820**
Kevin Spacey will take to the stage as Richard, Duke of Gloucester, in a production of Shakespeare's Richard III which is directed by Sam Mendes at the Old Vic in London tomorrow night. Arts correspondent Rebecca Jones spoke to the pair, who are [working together for the first time since the Oscar-winning film American Beauty,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9524000/9524410.stm) 12 years ago.

**0825**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0832**
The government's higher education white paper is due to be published today, with plans to increase competition in the sector. Shadow business secretary [John Denham reacts to the proposals.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9524000/9524475.stm)

**0837**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0840**
[Blue Peter will be broadcast for the last time from Television Centre today](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9524000/9524479.stm) and its famous garden will have to be recreated on a studio roof at the BBC's new complex in Salford. Time for a quick pause for reflection on the passing of a little piece of history.

**0842**
A group of mathematicians are [campaigning for the constant, pi, to be replaced by something they are calling tau.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9524000/9524491.stm) Marcus Du Sautoy, mathematics professor at the University of Oxford, explains why.

**0846**
Doctors are [being urged not to protect the confidentiality of adult patients if it risks the welfare of a child,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9524000/9524492.stm) and to refer more cases of potential abuse to authorities. Joanna Nicolas, a child protection consultant, explains why doctors need to do more talking with parents themselves.

**0850**
[Can new technology and the internet eventually help prevent terrorism and gang violence?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9524000/9524524.stm) Security correspondent Frank Gardner reports from Dublin on Google Ideas' ground-breaking Summit Against Violent Extremism. *This item contains descriptions which some people may find disturbing.*

**0854**
More people from Britain and Ireland [fought in the Spanish Civil War than previously thought,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9524000/9524525.stm) according to documents at the National Archive. James Cronan of the National Archive and Ken Loach, director of Land and Freedom, discuss why Brits were so intent on fighting for the republic.

Wednesday 29th June

**Nato helicopters have been called in to end a sustained attack by militants on a big hotel in the Afghan capital. Air travellers could face delays tomorrow when immigration and customs officers take part in a strike against changes to public sector pensions. Also on today's programme, the Justice Secretary Ken Clarke.**

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**0615**
Business news with Adam Shaw: It is a crucial day for Greece as a knife-edge vote on sweeping austerity measures takes place. Simon Maughan, banking expert with the broker dealer MF Global, considers the importance of the vote for the banking world. George Godber of Matterley Asset Management looks at the markets. And Sir David Tweedie, who steps down this week as chairman of the International Accounting Standards Board, looks back on his ten years at the helm. [Download the podcast](http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/today)

**0650**
The number of young people getting [Type 2 diabetes in England and Wales is growing,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9525000/9525601.stm) according to the NHS Information Centre. Dr Bob Young, lead clinician in the audit, explains the concern that half a million youngsters are at risk of disabling conditions.

**0709**
Nato helicopters have taken out militants on the roof of the Intercontinental Hotel in Kabul, after [six Taliban gunmen stormed the building](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9525000/9525604.stm) last night, killing eight Afghans. Director of the Royal United Services Institute, Michael Clarke, talks about the "cleverly planned", but not "strategically thought through" attack.

**0714**
MPs are to vote on whether to [scrap legal aid in England and Wales](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9525000/9525605.stm) for private family law, clinical negligence, employment, immigration and some debt and housing issues. Peter Lodder QC, chairman of the Bar Council, highlights the significance of a yes vote.

**0716**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0721**
People are taking to the streets in Athens for another day of strikes and protests, [ahead of the Greek parliament's crucial vote on austerity measures.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9525000/9525617.stm) Chris Morris describes the demonstrations.

**0727**
Sports news with Jonathan Legard.

**0734**
The government has described [upcoming strikes over pension changes as "regrettable, unnecessary and premature",](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9525000/9525635.stm) insisting that the current system is not affordable. The Today programme's Adam Shaw reports. And Treasury minister Justine Greening explains why "any responsible government" has a duty to reform the system.

**0741**
Paper review.

**0744**
Despite £3bn being spent on books in the UK last year, [a dark digital cloud of uncertainty still hangs over the world of publishing.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9525000/9525598.stm) In the second of his reports into the impact of technology on the world of books, arts editor Will Gompertz looks at what the digital revolution means for the publishing business.

**0750**
Thought for the day with Akhandadhi Das, a Vaishnav Hindu teacher and theologian.

**0753**
[Immigration staff are set to strike tomorrow over pensions,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9525000/9525647.stm) and the Border Agency has written to one of the main airport operators suggesting they advise their passengers to "travel on an alternative day". Norman Shanks, a former head of group security at BAA and now a consultant in aviation security, gives his views on the potential impact of the action.

**0810**
The [Legal Aid and Sentencing Bill](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9525000/9525691.stm) passes through the Commons today. Justice Secretary Ken Clarke gives his reaction to the recent controversy over his proposals.

**0820**
The guitarist Duane Eddy, [whose early rock and roll became known as "twang",](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9525000/9525669.stm) has met up with former Pulp guitarist Richard Hawley to record a new album, the first in 25 years. David Sillito reports on the South Yorkshire inspiration behind his revival.

**0829**
Sports news with Jonathan Legard.

**0830**
Afghan officials say all the [insurgents who launched a ferocious attack on a top hotel in the capital, Kabul,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9525000/9525725.stm) have been killed. At least 10 civilians died in the night-time assault on the Intercontinental hotel; the Taliban say they were behind it. Nasir Saberi, former deputy minister for housing, now a businessman spoke, to the World Service earlier.

**0835**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0839**
The government is under pressure to improve its system of care home inspection, after representatives from [the care sector took a vote of no confidence in their own regulator, the Care Quality Commission (CQC).](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9525000/9525736.stm) Health reporter Matthew Hill has been following the story. And CQC'S director of operations, Amanda Sherlock, responds to this unprecedented call for change.

**0846**
The US military's bill for [air-conditioning in Iraq and Afghanistan](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9525000/9525737.stm) each year is about $20bn - about a third of the entire UK defence budget. Retired Brigadier General Steven Anderson, who used to be chief logistician for General Petraeus in Iraq, explains the reasons behind the massive cost of keeping cool.

**0850**
With rocketing growth, doubling house prices and near full employment, how long can [Brazil's economic boom last?](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9525000/9525738.stm) Economics editor Stephanie Flanders reports from Rio de Janeiro.

**0855**
The number of [children around the world being abducted by their parents](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9525000/9525769.stm) has risen by 10%, with one British child being taken away every other day, according to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Sharon Cooke, advice line manager for Reunite International Child Abduction Centre, and Michael, whose children were abducted by his Japanese wife, talk about the growing problem.

Thursday 30th June

**Hundreds of thousands of teachers and civil servants are going on strike over changes to their pensions. Downing Street has dismissed as "unrealistic" proposals for a 5% increase in the EU budget. Also on today's programme, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge are off to North America for what has been described as an historic trip.**

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**0615**
Business news with Adam Shaw: There has been a serious setback for London's stock exchange after it announced it had to scrap plans to merge with the Toronto stock exchange. Assistant editor at Reuters, Chris Hughes, examines how big of a blow it really is. Larry Magid, technology analyst at CNET in California, talks about why the social networking site Myspace has been sold for a fraction of the price it was purchased for six years ago. Chief executive of the British Property Federation, Liz Peace, and Stuart Fraser, chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee in the City of London, debate how to tackle the shortage of affordable housing in Britain. [Download the podcast](http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/today)

**0650**
The UN says [the worst drought in 60 years has hit the Horn of Africa,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9526000/9526599.stm) causing severe malnutrition among people across the region. Mike Sunderland of Save the Children gives his assessment of the situation.

**0709**
Services including job centres and courts will be hit and many schools closed as hundreds of thousands of [public sector workers go on strike over pensions.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9526000/9526598.stm) North England correspondent Ed Thomas reports from a picket line in Newcastle. And chief political correspondent Norman Smith reports on the unease in some parts of the union movement.

**0714**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0717**
Women's groups in France say they have seen a huge increase in [the number of women coming forward to claim sexual harassment in the wake of the arrest of former IMF leader, Dominique Strauss-Kahn.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9526000/9526597.stm) Christian Fraser reports on why the trial appears to have lifted the lid on discussion of sexual harassment and abuse in France.

**0720**
[Lloyds bank,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9526000/9526600.stm) in which taxpayers have roughly a 40% stake, has announced a further 15,000 job losses. Business editor Robert Peston gives us the latest.

**0727**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0733**
Unions that are taking industrial action in the next 24 hours did not manage to get most of their members to vote. [The mayor of London, Boris Johnson,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9526000/9526603.stm) explains his belief that these are not strong enough grounds for industrial action.

**0738**
Paper review.

**0741**
An estimated 200,000 people are detained in the secretive network of North Korea's prisons - tortured, abused and forced to work in conditions that approach slavery. Kim Hye Sook spent 27 years in one camp after being interned with her family when just 13-years-old. She married while detained and had two children, who all died before she finally escaped to South Korea in 2008. [She told her story to Mike Thomson.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9526000/9526601.stm) *This item is an extended version of the broadcast package and contains descriptions which some people may find disturbing.*

**0747**
Thought for the day with the Reverend Lucy Winkett, Rector of St James Piccadilly.

**0750**
A new legal ruling means that [police in England and Wales will have just four days to make a charge against someone, even if they are on bail.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9526000/9526606.stm) Michael Zander QC, eminent legal scholar and emeritus professor at the London School of Economics, considers the impact of the changes.

**0811**
[One-in-eight of Britain's six million public sector workers are expected to strike over changes to their pensions,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9526000/9526631.stm) while talks between the government and unions continue. Mark Serwotka, general secretary of the Public and Commercial Services Union, outlines the unions' case. And Cabinet Office minister Francis Maude explains the government's position.

**0825**
[The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge will visit Canada and the west coast of the US this week,](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9526000/9526607.stm) taking their newly-minted, modern royal brand across the Atlantic. Amanda Foreman, US-based author of Georgiana: Duchess of Devonshire, and Richard Fitzwilliam, former editor of International Who's Who and royal commentator in the UK, debate what reception the couple will get, and how it could benefit Britain.

**0833**
Sports news with Rob Bonnet.

**0839**
A third of schools in England will be affected by union strikes over pensions, with another third having to close completely. John Tolbutt, headmaster at Gabalfa Primary School in Cardiff, a member of the NASUWT union which is not striking today, [explains the "difficult day" ahead for teachers.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9526000/9526610.stm)

**0845**
The European Commission says it wants a 5% increase in funds for its budget between 2014 to 2020, and is proposing a Europe-wide tax on financial transactions to pay for it. [Viviane Reding, vice president of the commission, responds to the UK's rejection of the plans.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9526000/9526609.stm)

**0849**
Business news with Adam Shaw.

**0853**
How does the public feel about the upcoming union strikes and what are the political risks? Peter Kellner, president of the polling organisation YouGov, and political editor Nick Robinson, debate [how important public opinion is in driving the actions of both government and unions.](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9526000/9526664.stm)