

Summary of Today's News

SKY

Theresa May resigns with 'deep regret' over Brexit

Theresa May fought back tears as she announced she will resign as Conservative Party leader on 7 June, following months of pressure.

But she acknowledged her failure, saying: "It is and will always remain a matter of deep regret to me that I have not been able to deliver Brexit." Watched by husband Philip and her closest aides, she said: "It is now clear to me that it is in the best interests of the country for a new prime minister to lead that effort. She will remain as a caretaker prime minister until the new leader is chosen and this could take several weeks.

Theresa May's resignation statement in full

Read the full transcript of Theresa May's announcement that she will be stepping down as leader of the Conservatives on 7 June.

Back in 2016, we gave the British people a choice.

Against all predictions, the British people voted to leave the European Union. So I am today announcing that I will resign as leader of the Conservative and Unionist Party on Friday 7 June so that a successor can be chosen.

I have agreed with the Party Chairman and with the Chairman of the 1922 Committee that the process for electing a new leader should begin in the following week. At another time of political controversy, a few years before his death, he took me to one side at a local event and gave me a piece of advice.

We have helped more people than ever enjoy the security of a job. This is what a decent, moderate and patriotic Conservative Government, on the common ground of British politics, can achieve - even as we tackle the biggest peacetime challenge any government has faced.

That we can deliver Brexit and serve the British people with policies inspired by our values. Because this country is a Union.

But a union of people - all of us.

Theresa May shows her human side - but it's too late

It was an acute flash of searing emotion from a prime minister who, by her own admission, rarely wears her heart on her sleeve.

She began by laying out her objectives in the job: to turn the UK into a country that works for everyone, and to deliver Brexit. Mrs May said her successor will need to "find consensus" and that her party should be "decent, moderate and patriotic" - a sign perhaps that she believes the next prime minister will need to work with all MPs, rather than pander to Tory Brexiteers. A prime minister unable to make the emotional case for her Brexit deal.

A hard working politician lacking in the fleet of foot empathetic firepower needed to deal with Brexit.

Six children taken to hospital after 'serious incident' in Sheffield

Six children have been taken to hospital after a "serious incident" at a property in Sheffield, police say.

Officers were called to Gregg House Road in the Shiregreen area of the city at about 7.30am.

Measles and mumps outbreak prompts vaccination calls

Mumps cases in England have increased almost three-fold in the first three months of this year.

Meanwhile the number of measles cases was slightly down over the same period - 231 in the first three months of this year against 275 last year. "There are measles outbreaks happening across Europe so if you are planning to travel, make sure you check with your GP and catch-up if needed." The MMR vaccine is given on the NHS to babies, usually within a month of their first birthday.

Harvey Weinstein reaches tentative \$44m compensation deal with sexual abuse accusers

Harvey Weinstein has reached a tentative compensation deal worth \$44m with women who have accused him of sexual misconduct, Sky News understands.

If the \$44m (£34.7) deal is finalised it would resolve a civil rights lawsuit filed by the New York attorney general's office, but would not cover criminal charges. The former Hollywood producer, who won plaudits and awards for movies including Pulp Fiction and The King's Speech, fell from grace after more than 70 women, mostly young actresses and others in the movie business, accused him of sexual misconduct dating back decades.

Julian Assange: WikiLeaks founder faces 17 new US charges

Julian Assange is facing 17 more charges in the US for allegedly receiving and publishing classified information.

Assange is now facing further charges which allege he conspired with Manning to obtain and disclose national defence documents, including state department cables and military reports on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. It is the end of national security journalism and the first amendment." The website describes itself as specialising in the publication of "censored or otherwise restricted official materials involving war, spying and corruption." The case has sparked conversation about press freedom and whether Assange acted outside of usual journalistic practice.

Syria: Sky News witnesses horrors of Syria's last rebel outpost

Sky News has gained exclusive access to the bombardment of Idlib - the last rebel outpost in Syria - and witnessed first-hand the relentless attack on civilians inside the province.

We were with two civilian political activists when our small group of five was tracked, targeted and fired upon by regime forces helped by Russian airpower as they bombarded Al Habit town in the countryside of Idlib. More than three million are now inside Idlib Governorate, having fled other fighting areas such as Aleppo, swelling the population to more than double its usual size. The intentional targeting of journalists is also a breach of international standards.

As we retreated to leave the area, the targeting of us continued. "Go, go, go," he shouted, telling us to make use of the cloud cover to move out. He took shrapnel to his left side of chest and blood was seeping through his white t-shirt as we tried to reach our vehicle.

We left quickly after Bilal jumped into another vehicle to head for hospital and we headed to try to find a garage for our rapidly deflating tyre.

Theresa May resigns: The woman famous for her resilience could endure no more

For many, the only surprise was that she lasted as long as she did.

The daughter of a vicar, Theresa Brasier grew up in a household committed to public service.

Despite her ability to endure, Mrs May was not afraid to make a few enemies. I conducted three lengthy interviews with Mrs May at three very different points in her premiership. "They died when I was quite young so it's really nice to think " She paused for a moment, then added, with a slight smile, "You know, I think they would have been proud." The second time I interviewed her was in January 2017 on Sky News, when the prime minister traditionally sets out their policy agenda for the months ahead. As her withdrawal deal repeatedly failed to pass the House of Commons and talks with Labour collapsed, this was a prime minister running out of ideas with little else to say.

Sort Brexit and win an election: Five things on the next PM's to-do list

Only three candidates - Boris Johnson, Esther McVey and Rory Stewart - have so far formally declared their intention to stand for the Tory leadership.

The new prime minister's first problem will be that the parliamentary arithmetic won't have changed since Theresa May's humiliating Commons defeats earlier this year. Those prime ministers who arrive in Downing Street after winning a general election usually enjoy a honeymoon period, often lasting several months. The new prime minister will inherit the same parliamentary arithmetic, and a hardline Brexiteer like Mr Johnson could face bigger pro-Remain rebellions on the Tory side than Mrs May has suffered.

Heal the Tory woundsThe new leader would be wise to appoint a balanced cabinet with Leavers and Remainers, rather than pack the top table with Brexiteer cronies.

Some Tory MPs, including newly-promoted cabinet minister Rory Stewart and arch-Remainer Dominic Grieve, have suggested they'll quit the party if Mr Johnson becomes leader.

The European elections have seen a huge protest vote against the two big parties and the rise of far-right extremism.

British deal with US over Chagos Islands not its finest hour

It was not Britain's finest hour. In the mid-60s Harold Wilson wanted Polaris missiles, the US sought a base in the middle of the Indian Ocean.

People who had lived there, for a few generations at least.

Because they had not owned property at least on the islands, living in accommodation given them by absentee landlords, instead their compensation if any was less than generous. Britain says its sovereignty goes back to 1814 and points out that the decision in 1965 to divide it from other territory was agreed with Mauritius in return for fishing and other rights.

And the UK insists the continued existence of the military base is vital for allied interests, to "combat conflict terrorism, drugs, crime and piracy" in the words of British ambassador to the UN Karen Pierce.

What happens to my Huawei smartphones and tablets now?

Huawei smartphone and tablet owners are being left in a difficult position following US sanctions banning American companies from providing any technologies to the company.

All of Huawei's smartphone devices run on the Android operating system, which is principally developed by Google, and its tablets are based on Windows 10. As Google is banned from letting Huawei use a licensed version of Android, the company would be limited to the open-source version of the operating system. These core infrastructure devices touch everything traversing the internet and are critical to it functioning properly - and this equipment is what is being considered a security concern.

Donald Trump's state visit: Your ultimate guide

Donald Trump is coming back, this time for a full-blown state visit. Here is what you need to know.

State visits often include the head of state addressing both Houses of Parliament, but Mr Bercow said in 2017 that Mr Trump should not be allowed to make a formal address.

Lord Fowler, Mr Bercow's counterpart in the House of Lords, has said there is a "strong case" for the US president being afforded such an honour, but at the moment it is thought unlikely. Both Barack Obama and George W Bush did not get to ride in a carriage on their state visits, while their ceremonial welcomes took place inside the grounds at Buckingham Palace. A massive security operation is expected - thousands were on hand for Mr Trump's 2018 working visit.

First Lady Melania Trump is also expected to accompany the president. There is no invitation from the head of state and the visiting leader must cover their own costs. Mrs May promised to establish a "new special relationship" with Mr Trump after he was elected, while the president himself has described his relationship with the PM as "the highest level of special".

We must not be complacent - the fight for LGBT rights and freedoms must continue

Today marks the 30th birthday of Stonewall, the charity for gay, bisexual and transgender rights.

Writing for Sky News, he reflects on the past 30 years and how LGBT rights have evolved. So exactly one year to the day of the introduction of Section 28, we stood on the deck of Ian's house on the Thames and announced the founding of Stonewall. Stonewall, alongside other activists and grassroots organisations, spent the last 30 years fighting for change to make a huge difference in the lives of LGBT people here and abroad.

We owe this fight to the generations yet to come, but also to the generations who fought before us, who gave their freedoms, their liberty, and in some cases, their lives so that we may carry the torch to make the world better for LGBT people everywhere.

Autogenerated by Harris Vince on 2019-05-24 in 0.00354s.