

Programme Information Highlights

December 2011

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HAPPENING THIS MONTH...

Thursday 1 December

Shadow Chancellor Ed Balls delivers the keynote address to more than 450 guests at the Confederation of British Industry's Wales Annual Dinner. The event will be held in the prestigious City Hall in Cardiff.

The Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply delivers its manufacturing figures for November. Despite a surprising rise during the third quarter of this year, figures for September still remained lower than the highs seen at the beginning of 2011.

The Bank Of England publishes its latest Financial Stability Report. The last report in June revealed that Britain's biggest lender, Lloyds Banking Group, had double the number of high or very high risk mortgages on its books than other banks. It also highlighted the potential risk posed to the system by exchange traded funds (ETFs).

People across the world are drawn together to raise awareness of the AIDS pandemic caused by the spread of HIV infection. There are currently more people than ever living with HIV in the UK. Over 90,000 are said to be infected, with over a quarter unaware that they have the virus.

The government launches its Christmas anti-drink-drive campaign. Last year, Think! teamed up with Coca-Cola and 8,000 pubs across the country

to supply buy one, get one free soft drinks to designated drivers.

Thursday 8 December

The Bank of England makes its latest decision regarding UK interest rates.

Tuesday 13 December

The UK's monthly inflation figures are announced.

Tuesday 20 December

The Council of Mortgage Lenders publishes its figures for November. The CML's recent reports have showed that mortgage lending to those moving home is at its highest in over a year, as borrowers take advantage of low interest rates.

The Office of Fair Trading deadline to respond to Consumer Focus's super-complaint arises. The watchdog urged the £1bn travel money industry to investigate potentially unwarranted and excessive currency charges that it claims rips off holidaymakers when they spend or withdraw foreign currency abroad.

Thursday 22 December

The Office for National Statistics announces its final growth figures for the third quarter of 2011.

Sunday 25 December

Families across the world gather around their television sets for the Queen's traditional Christmas message.



The Office of Fair trading must respond to a super-complaint concerning the cost of obtaining foreign currency overseas

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Friday 30 December

Hogmanay celebrations begin against the backdrop of Edinburgh Castle. Primal Scream are set to headline the three-day music and fireworks spectacular that will see in the new year.

The Land Registry publishes its latest flagship House Price Index measuring the price of UK residential housing.

Saturday 31 December

Hundreds of thousands of revellers take to the streets around the UK to say goodbye to 2011 and welcome in 2012.

The Queen bestows her New Year's honours. Last year actor David Suchet, golfer Graeme McDowell, football referee Howard Webb and artist and filmmaker Steve McQueen were all included on her Majesty's prestigious list.



Hogmanay begins in Edinburgh, culminating in a spectacular firework display to celebrate the New Year