



TOUGH: Thatcher is 87

Maggie out of hospital

by Nick Dorman

BARONESS Thatcher has left hospital and is "doing well" after having a growth removed from her bladder, it emerged last night.

The Tory former PM, 87, is now "convalescing privately", said sources.

She has suffered from ill health in recent years and was admitted to a central London hospital on December 20 for a minor op. It is thought she left on Friday.

Shortly after Baroness Thatcher's admission for surgery David Cameron tweeted a message to her, saying he wished her a "speedy recovery".

Her friend and ex-adviser Lord Bell also revealed she had undergone "minimally invasive" surgery.

He added at the time: "She's very tough. The doctors were perfectly happy and said the operation was completely satisfactory."

UKIP on for EU poll win

LABOUR policy chief Jon Cruddas has predicted UKIP could win the next European elections.

In today's Sunday People, the MP said the anti-EU party and its leader Nigel Farage are on a roll.

He wrote: "My hunch is he and UKIP will have a great 2013 and an even better 2014 when they may top the European elections."

He said Prime Minister David Cameron is "captive to the old guard" while Labour leader Ed Miliband needs to make a strong case for a reformed Europe.

■ Cruddas column: Page 14



TOUGH: Mob calls for noose yesterday



MASS PROTEST: Candles for girl

Death rape demo

by Lewis Panther

THOUSANDS of protesters took to the streets of New Delhi yesterday after the death of a young Indian woman who was gang-raped and thrown off a moving bus.

Six men face the death penalty after being charged with murder over

the crime that shocked the world. Sonia Ghandi, president of India's National Congress, vowed to fight for change, saying: "We want swift and fitting punishment for the perpetrators of such brutal acts."

The 23-year-old medical student died in hospital in Singapore on Friday, two weeks after being attacked.

GRUB'S UP



Prices to rocket AGAIN in 2013 after bad crops

by Keir Mudie and Nick Dorman

SHOPPERS will find it hard to swallow but prices for food basics will soar again next year.

Bread, potatoes, sausages, bacon and milk are all set to go up due to dwindling supplies and rising production costs.

In some cases wholesale prices for our trolley faves have **DOUBLED** in a year with output at a 30-year low.

It is a major blow for hard-hit families who have already been clobbered with big rises to their supermarket bills.

Economist Jonathan Davis warned last night: "If prices are rising for wholesalers there will doubtless be a knock-on effect

for consumers." Morrisons chief Dalton Philips added: "2013 will be a little tougher than this year. We'll try to insulate customers where we can."

Since the credit crunch hit in 2007, sausage prices have rocketed by 33 per cent, potatoes by 32 per cent, milk by 31 per cent and bread 29 per cent.

According to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, rising wholesale milk prices are up due to production falling by 6.5 per cent.

And spuds have already more than doubled this month from £114 a ton to £245 a ton compared to December 2011.

The rise is blamed on

Britain's worst potato crop for 30 years. Bread is also under threat with the price of a white loaf up by 12 per cent this year.

And experts believe the trend will continue into 2013 amid the worst British wheat crop since 1977.

The National Pig Association fears poor supplies and rising production costs will hit bacon and bangers.

Mr Davis added: "Food is not a discretionary product. The price can go as high as it wants and people will still have to pay it."

A report by European Food and Farming Partnerships, predicted food inflation will hit four per cent by the end of next year.



FEAR: Morrisons' Philips

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..And so's immigration after dip

by Keir Mudie

THE Government is failing to meet immigration targets for this year and could see a rise after the next election.

David Cameron pledged to ensure the figure was down to less than 100,000 by the end of this parliament.

But as well as missing his target next year with a figure of 140,000, the number is expected to rise again after 2014/15. Figures released by

the Office of National Statistics show net immigration at 215,000 in 2011.

And provisional figures show last year's influx to the UK was at 180,000.

But think-tank the Institute for Public Policy Research predicts, although the number is set to fall again next year, it will increase after 2014.

And it says that, although the drop is significant, the government is still some way from hitting it's target to

reduce the number of migrants by "tens of thousands" – despite introducing measures to control immigration.

Sarah Mulley, Associate Director at IPPR, said: "The Government is fast running out of options for further restricting non-EU immigration in any significant way."

The biggest effect on the numbers has been a clamp-down on student visas which will show in the 2013-14 data, timed for a 2015 Election.



INFLUX: London's Whitechapel

WEATHER TODAY
High 12C (54F) Low 1C (34F)

It will be a bright and windy day across Britain with temperatures a few degrees colder than recent days. There will be a mixture of sunny spells and blustery showers, these most frequent in western areas and wintry in Scotland and northern England.

Sunrise: 8.05am Sunset: 4.01pm

YESTERDAY ABROAD

Costa Brava	sun, 16C (61F)
Cyprus	fair, 19C (66F)
Dubai	sun, 24C (75F)
Egypt	sun, 21C (70F)
Florida	fair, 20C (68F)
France (South)	sun, 14C (57F)
Greece	thunder, 17C (63F)
Mallorca	sun, 16C (61F)
Malta	sun, 16C (61F)
Tenerife	sun, 22C (72F)
Turkey	shower, 16C (61F)

OUTLOOK: MONDAY

A wet and windy day with rain for most areas.

High 14C (57F) Low -5C (23F)

TUESDAY

Sunny spells. Wintry showers in the north and west.

High 10C (50F) Low -4C (25F)

WEDNESDAY

Bright with sunny spells and scattered showers.

High 12C (54F) Low 2C (36F)

THURSDAY

Mostly dry with variable amounts of cloud.

High 14C (57F) Low 0C (32F)

FRIDAY

Dry and bright with spells of sunshine.

High 13C (55F) Low 2C (36F)

SATURDAY

Largely dry and bright. Staying cloudy in places.

High 12C (54F) Low 1C (34F)

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