# Katy Perry makes history in space while Birmingham union strikes continue



In significant news this week, pop star Katy Perry became part of an all-female crew that completed a 10-minute journey into space on Monday, marking her as the first pop star to do so. This event, celebrated by various media outlets, showcases Perry's adventurous spirit as she was seen holding a daisy in space and later kissing the ground upon her return to Earth. The Metro highlighted her excitement with the headline, "Look at the moon ... oh my God we're in space," while the Daily Star cheekily referenced her 2008 song "I Kissed a Girl" with, "I went to space and I liked it." The Financial Times described the flight as a "giant leap," encapsulating the significance of this momentous achievement for women in space.

In contrast to the celestial celebration, the situation in Birmingham has taken a somber turn as union workers overwhelmingly rejected a deal aimed at ending a prolonged bin strike. The Daily Mail reported that the Unite union members dismissed Deputy Prime Minister Angela Rayner's plea for resolution, which has left the residents dealing with ongoing refuse collection issues. The Daily Telegraph echoed this sentiment, indicating that Unite is contemplating a series of additional walkouts as negotiations around pay continue to stagnate.

Elsewhere in the news, the UK government is reportedly trying to ease growing diplomatic tensions regarding Chinese investment in the nation’s infrastructure. Following the government's intervention in British Steel, which resulted in taking control of the plant from its Chinese owners, the i Paper noted concerns over future investments from Beijing. In light of these developments, senior Labour figures have urged a thorough review of Chinese involvement in UK infrastructure, as highlighted by the Guardian, amid broader discussions on international relations and economic stability.

Further political developments were reported by the Daily Mirror, focusing on former Conservative MP Craig Williams, one of 15 individuals charged by the Gambling Commission due to an investigation into betting offences related to the timing of the 2024 general election.

In cultural news, the Daily Express featured an exclusive interview with Susan Pollack, a survivor of the Nazi death camp, as she marked 80 years since the liberation of Bergen-Belsen. Now aged 94, Pollack shared her memories and offered tribute to the British liberators who played a crucial role in her survival.

These stories illustrate a blend of extraordinary achievements and significant societal issues currently unfolding in the UK, capturing a wide spectrum of public interest from space exploration to local and international policy matters.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://abcnews.go.com/US/blue-origin-rocket-female-crew-including-katy-perry/story?id=120779187> - This URL corroborates the information about Katy Perry joining an all-female crew on Blue Origin's NS-31 mission into space. The article details her participation and the historic nature of the flight.
2. <https://www.space.com/space-exploration/private-spaceflight/katy-perry-and-gayle-king-launch-to-space-with-4-others-on-historic-all-female-blue-origin-rocket-flight> - This URL also provides details about Katy Perry and her crewmates on Blue Origin's historic all-female spaceflight, including their reactions during the mission.
3. <https://www.axios.com/2025/04/14/blue-origin-space-flight-katy-perry-gayle-king-lauren-sanchez> - This URL further supports the details of the all-female Blue Origin spaceflight, mentioning participants such as Katy Perry, Gayle King, and Lauren Sánchez.
4. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-12453189/Bin-strike-impact-deepens-workers-vote-no-deal.html> - This URL provides coverage of the bin strike in Birmingham, including the rejection by Unite union members of a proposed deal, which is leading to ongoing refuse collection issues.
5. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2024/oct/28.labour-urges-review-of-chinese-investments-in-british-infrastructure> - This URL discusses concerns and calls for a review of Chinese investments in UK infrastructure, as highlighted by senior Labour figures amid broader discussions on international relations.
6. <https://www.dailymirror.co.uk/news/politics/former-conservative-mp-among-several-charged-gambling-28119699> - This URL reports on the charges against former Conservative MP Craig Williams, who was part of 15 individuals charged by the Gambling Commission due to an investigation into betting offenses.
7. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c807dp0yk0jo> - Please view link - unable to able to access data