# Labour MP Jess Phillips predicts 'nastiest' General Election on July 4 as she highlights key concerns for constituents



Labour MP Jess Phillips anticipates that the upcoming General Election on July 4 will be the "nastiest" she has ever encountered, citing increased levels of disinformation and vitriol. Phillips, who represents Birmingham Yardley, has outlined key issues concerning her constituents, including housing and homelessness, crime and drug dealing, street cleanliness, and access to healthcare. She has been in Parliament since 2015 and resigned from the Labour Shadow Cabinet over Kier Starmer's stance on Gaza.

Conwy Council has announced that work on upgraded sea defences in Llandudno will begin later this year. The project, which has been planned for over a decade, aims to protect the coastline against expected rises in sea levels and increased storm frequency. The £5.2 million initiative, 85% funded by the Welsh Government, will include constructing new sea walls and upgrading existing defences to safeguard nearly 5,000 homes and 1,000 commercial properties.

Astrid Roussel, a French native living in Newport, Wales, transformed her lockdown hobby of baking into a thriving business, Astrid's Petit Cuisine. Initially self-taught, Roussel now operates out of a commercial kitchen in Cardiff, producing French-inspired pastries and running baking classes.

Four members of a drug-dealing operation known as "Popty Ping" have been sentenced. Swansea Crown Court heard that the group offered cocaine, ketamine, cannabis, and ecstasy via an online service. Abbas Al-Sulaimawi, Aaron Ridgeway, Yannick Sheehan, and Ellis Martin were arrested following a police investigation. Their sentences range from conditional discharge to four years in prison.

Ysgol Llansteffan in Carmarthenshire faces potential closure due to falling pupil numbers, which currently stand at eight. Carmarthenshire Council has given the school eight months to increase enrolment or face closure, leaving the village concerned about the long-term impact on the community.

Aldi has launched the UK's first supermarket 'Gin Club', offering participants the chance to sample and review its summer gin collection. Successful applicants are required to share their feedback and cocktail recipes on social media platforms.

The DWP confirmed that the upcoming general election will not impact the ongoing transition of 'legacy' benefits to Universal Credit. Claimants will need to apply for UC within three months of receiving a Migration Notice to avoid having their current benefits stopped.

Five fire engines and 35 firefighters responded to a fire at a derelict industrial site in Erdington, Birmingham. The fire, which involved building materials, was extinguished without any injuries.

Nick Upton, a Carmarthen native, has pursued a bodybuilding career free from performance-enhancing drugs. Now based in Los Angeles, he trains others and aims to compete in the Natural Mr Olympia competition in Las Vegas.

The new Madina Mosque in Cardiff is set to be approved, featuring a cafe, library, gym, and separate prayer halls. Concerns about parking have been raised by residents, but the council's planning committee will discuss the plans next week.

Festival organisers in Pembrokeshire, Westival and Unearthed, are facing challenges due to increased operational costs and reduced ticket sales, exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis. While Westival prepares for this year's event, Unearthed has paused until 2025.

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