Happening this month…

**Thursday 1st August – Monday 5th August**

*England v Australia - The Ashes: First test, Edgbaston, UK*

England take on Australia in the first match of the 2019 Ashes Series.

**Friday 2nd August – Monday 26th August**

*Edinburgh International Festival, Edinburgh, Scotland*

Edinburgh hosts the world’s largest art festival with over 50,000 performances of international theatre, dance, opera and music event at various venues across the city.

**Saturday 3rd August**

*Rolex Fastnet Yacht Race begins, Plymouth, United Kingdom*

Biennial world renowned 608-mile cross-Atlantic race begins, featuring around 300 vessels.

**Sunday 4th August**

*The Duchess of Sussex is 38*

The Duchess of Sussex, born Meghan Markle, turns 38 today.

**Friday 9th August – Wednesday 14th August (dates tbc)**

*Hajj, various venues, Saudi Arabia*

Muslims gather in Saudi Arabia to celebrate the Hajj festival - the largest annual gathering of people worldwide. The Hajj takes place at four venues: two of open ground - Mina and Muzdalfa; and two mountains - Mount Arafat and Mount Jumarap. Exact dates are determined by the sighting of the new moon at the beginning of the Islamic month of Dhu al-Hijjah (it begins from the 8th of August).

**Friday 9th August – Sunday 11th August**

*Premier League - season begins, United Kingdom*

New Premier League season gets underway. Highlights: Liverpool v Norwich (Friday); West Ham v Manchester City, Bournemouth v Sheffield United, Spurs v Aston Villa (all Saturday); Manchester United v Chelsea, Newcastle v Arsenal (both Sunday).

All the information included in this document is correct at the time of publication (19th June 2019) but is subject to amendment.
Programme Information Highlights
August 2019

Friday 23rd August
80 years ago: Nazi-Soviet pact signed Russia
Molotov-Robentrop, or Nazi-Soviet pact, was signed between Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia on this day in 1939. The agreement was a neutrality pact, in which both parties agreed they would not attack each other. The signing came days before the start of the Second World War, but the non-aggression would end with Hitler's invasion of Russia in 1941.

Saturday 24th August – Monday 26th August
G7 Summit, Biarritz, France
French President Emmanuel Macron hosts his counterparts from USA, UK, Canada, Italy, France, Germany, and Japan. Russia has been suspended from the grouping - then the G8 - since March 2014 due to its annexation of Crimea. International organisations, the European Union, and invited partners also attend.

Saturday 24th August – Monday 26th August
Notting Hill Carnival, London, UK
Europe’s biggest street party and one of the largest carnivals in the world. Highlight is the three-mile costumed parade which dominates the streets.

Saturday 24th August
Red Bull Cliff Diving Championship, Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mostar’s famous Stari Most bridge, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is the backdrop for spectacular cliff diving at the tour’s sixth stop. Divers will take off from the fortified bridge into the Neretva river below.

Revellers pelt each other with tomatoes, during the 'Tomatina' festival in Buñol, on August 29, 2018. This iconic annual fiesta, which celebrates its 73rd edition, has been billed as "the world's biggest food fight" and is a major draw for foreigners, in particular from Britain, Japan and the US. (Photo by JOSE JORDAN / AFP/Getty Images)

Monday 26th August – Sunday 8th September
US Open, Flushing Meadows, New York, USA
Final grand slam tournament of the year.

Wednesday 28th August
Tomatina Festival, Buñol, Spain
Participants pelt each other with 125,000 kilos of ripe tomatoes in a tourist-friendly giant food fight, the focal point in a week-long festival and celebration. It’s held annually on the last Wednesday of August.

All the information included in this document is correct at the time of publication (19th June 2019) but is subject to amendment.