Programme Information Highlights
April 2017

Happening this month...

**Thursday 6th – Sunday 9th April**
US Masters Golf, Augusta, Georgia, US
The 2017 Masters Tournament will be the 81st edition of the Masters Tournament and the first of golf’s four major championships to be held this year.

**Sunday 9th April**
Serbia Presidential Elections, Serbia
First round of Serbia’s Presidential elections, with a possible second round in May. Incumbent President Tomislav Nikolic is eligible to run for a second five year term.

**Friday 14th April**
Third anniversary of kidnapping of schoolgirls in Chibok, Nigeria
In 2014 nearly 300 female students were abducted from a secondary school in Chibok by the Islamic militant movement Boko Haram. In October last year 21 girls were released and reunited with their families.

**Saturday 15th April**
Holy Fire ceremony, Jerusalem
For over 1,000 years the ritual of the Holy Fire has been performed in Jerusalem every Easter, with a flame ‘miraculously’ appearing at the darkened tomb of Jesus to symbolise the Resurrection. Thousands of pilgrims gather to partake and witness this event.

This file picture dated 15th April 1992 shows North Korean President Kim Il-Sung at a celebration to mark his 80th birthday in Pyongyang.
(Photo by JIJI PRESS/AFP/Getty Images)

**Saturday 15th April**
‘Day of the Sun’ birthday, North Korea
North Koreans celebrate the ‘Day of the Sun’, the birthday of the country’s late founder Kim Il Sung – the current leader’s grandfather.

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Sunday 16th April
Referendum on Presidential Rule, Turkey
Turkey will hold a referendum on replacing its parliamentary system with the stronger presidency long sought by incumbent Tayyip Erdogan. It would enable the president to issue decrees, declare emergency rule, and appoint ministers and top state officials. It could also see Erdogan remain in power in the NATO member state until 2029.

Friday 21st – Sunday 23rd April
Spring meetings of the IMF and World Bank, Washington DC, US
The meetings bring together central bankers, ministers of finance and development, private sector executives, civil society, and academics to discuss issues of global concern, including the world economic outlook, global financial stability, poverty eradication, jobs and growth, economic development, and aid effectiveness.

Sunday 23rd April
French Presidential Election, France
The first round of voting is held in France's presidential election, with the second round run-off taking place on 7 May 2017. The top four candidates are: Francois Fillon (Les Republicains), Benoit Hamon (Socialists), Marine Le Pen (Front National) and Emmanuel Macron (Independent).

Saturday 29th April
White Correspondents’ Dinner, Washington DC, US
President Donald Trump has announced that he will not attend this year’s White House Correspondents' Dinner, a move that comes amid increasingly hostile relations between the media and the White House.

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