

SKY NEWS

Happening this month...

Tuesday 1 July

National commemorations will be held on the 98th anniversary of the first day of the Battle of the Somme. One of the bloodiest battles in military history, it saw the armies of the British and French clash against the German Empire.

The cost of using your mobile phone to access the internet across Europe is slashed today, following new rules laid out by the EU. The new price caps will stop UK mobile providers setting excessive charges for mobile roaming abroad and means holidaymakers will be able to access maps or keep in touch with friends without running up huge bills.

The five remaining Monty Python members reunite for their last ever shows. Michael Palin, Eric Idle, Terry Jones, Terry Gilliam and John Cleese will take to the stage at London's O2, with tickets to their first performance having sold out within one minute. A further nine dates of their show, called Monty Python Live (mostly) one down, five to go, were subsequently added.

Friday 4 July

The Queen will officially name the Royal Navy's new aircraft carrier HMS Queen Elizabeth at a ceremony at Rosyth dockyard in Fife, Scotland. The 65,000-tonne ship will be Britain's biggest ever carrier.



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Programme Information Highlights

July 2014

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Friday 4 July

Silverstone hosts its 50th Grand Prix. To mark the occasion, the world-famous event will present three special commemorative parades which feature British Grand Prix winning cars and drivers that have provided unforgettable moments in the circuit's history.

Saturday 5 July

The Tour de France begins in Leeds. The Grand Départ cycle route will finish with a sprint into Sheffield the following day. It is the first time Le Tour has visited the north of England. Last year, Team Sky's Chris Froome became the second Brit to win the tour in two years when he rode to victory in Paris.

Thursday 10 July

The Bank of England publishes its latest decision regarding UK interest rates.

Saturday 12 July

The world's two best international football teams go head-to-head in the World Cup Final at the Estádio do Maracanã in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. Spain, who beat the Netherlands in 2010 to be crowned world champions, are among the favourites to lift the gold trophy this year.

Monday 14 July

Decca Records releases an album of spoken word and music to commemorate the centenary of the First World War. The official centenary album, titled Forever, features a reading of Rupert Brooke's poem The Soldier by David Cameron and John MccRae's poem In Flanders Fields read by Stephen Fry.

Wednesday 16 July

The National Office for Statistics publishes its latest figures regarding UK unemployment

Friday 18 July

Annual International Mandela day marks the former South African leader's dedication to the services of humanity. Held on the former president's birthday, it will be the first time that the day has been observed since his death in December 2013.

Saturday 19 July

A huge festival of culture begins in Glasgow to coincide with the 2014 Commonwealth Games. Events will transform the host city until 3 August with an invigorating mix of entertainment, live music and street art.

Tuesday 22 July

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge celebrate the first birthday of their son Prince George.

Wednesday 23 July

The XX Commonwealth Games begin in Glasgow with a much-anticipated opening ceremony. Over 6,500 athletes and officials from 71 nations and territories are expected to compete in 17 sports over 11 days. The Games will be attended by The Queen on the 24 July.

Friday 25 July

Press are invited to preview the Summer Opening of Buckingham Palace. This year, the exhibition will tell the story of life as a young member of the Royal Family at Buckingham Palace over the last 250 years.



The World Cup Final takes place in Rio De Janeiro