Happening this month...

**Thursday January 1st**
Today, Lithuania adopts the Euro as its currency. Three journalists held in prison in Egypt, Mohamed Fahmy, Peter Greste and Baher Mohamed begin their appeals. Recipients of Britain’s New Year’s Honours are expected to include the actor John Hurt, the actress Joan Collins, the campaigner Esther Rantzen and Paul Cummins and Tom Piper, who designed the Tower of London poppies. Today is the 30-year anniversary of the first mobile phone call in the UK. From today businesses supplying online digital services will have to account for VAT based on the EU country of purchase, which includes 28 countries in the EU with 30 different VAT rates.

**Friday January 2nd**
Regulated rail fares in the UK - including season tickets for most commuter journeys and off-peak prices on most intercity journeys - rise from today.

**Monday January 5th**
Sky News launches “In the Margins” - a focus on 150 areas which it has identified as key to the outcome of Britain’s 2015 General Election. The trial of the Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev is due to start today.

**Tuesday January 6th**
CES 2015, the world’s largest consumer electronics show, begins in Las Vegas.

**Thursday January 8th**
Today is the 5th anniversary of the Haiti earthquake. Britain’s biggest supermarkets will start to report their Christmas trading today.

**Friday January 9th**
BAFTA announces its nominations for the EE British Academy Film Awards. The radical Muslim cleric Abu Hamza will be sentenced in New York for terrorism offences relating to the taking of 16 hostages in Yemen in 1998.
Programme Information Highlights
January 2015

Sunday January 11th
The 72nd Golden Globe Awards, hosted by Tina Fey and Amy Poehler for the third year running will be held in Hollywood.

Wednesday January 14th
The former British Prime Minister Tony Blair is due to appear before Westminster’s Northern Ireland Affairs Committee investigating a controversial Government scheme to deal with “on-the-run” Irish republicans.

Thursday January 15th
The Oscar nominations will be announced today ahead of the 87th Academy Awards ceremony on February 22nd.
The Russian protest leader Alexei Navalny has called for an anti-Kremlin rally to be held in Moscow today.

Tuesday January 20th
President Obama will make his annual State of the Union address at 2100 EST (2 am, January 21st GMT).

Wednesday January 21st
The 2015 World Economic Forum begins in Davos, Switzerland. Its theme is “The New Global Context”.

Tuesday January 27th
An inquiry begins today into the death of Alexander Litvinenko, who fled to Britain in 2000 and died in London after drinking tea laced with radioactive Polonium-210. His family believes he was working for MI6 at the time and was killed on the orders of the Kremlin.

In London, the Costa Book of the Year 2014 (formerly the Whitbread Book Award) will be announced at an awards ceremony.

Tina Fey (L) and Amy Poehler arrive on the red carpet for the Golden Globe awards on January 12, 2014 in Beverly Hills, California. AFP PHOTO / Frederic J. BROWN

All the information included in this document is correct at the time of publication (30 December), but is subject to amendment.