



The Week that was

It's been an unusually long week. The weather has been temperamental and totally unpredictable. The Coalition Government have had an equally torrential time with budget 2012 still making the news headlines and the Leveson enquiry poised on the brink of a huge political upheaval.

Matters were made worse when it was announced that we are officially in a double dip – I'm not talking about double dip ice cream – recession. On top of all that Danny Alexander announced plans to set up new spending rules for Whitehall departments. The Chief Secretary to the Treasury told departments that they must abide by a new two-point plan or face penalties each department will also have to pass information to the Treasury on a monthly basis.

Shockingly HSBC is making 2,000 staff redundant despite making £13.8bn profit in 2011... are they serious? On top of that a British Gas call centre in Southampton is set to close with 550 job losses, Aquascutum went into liquidation and cut 115 jobs; US Firm, Computer Sciences Corporation is poised to cut 640 jobs and 60 per cent of black students cannot find full-time employment. What a week!! This is further compounded by the £4,145 in interest students who borrow £9,000 each for three years of study will pay. And there's more gloomy news and more and more.... But the last one that I need to share with you is that the Government has admitted that working families will pay higher tax rates than millionaires because of the reductions in child benefit.

There is some good news; the droughts over – or at least it bloody well should be!!!!

Have a great weekend and thanks for reading

Floyd

Opposition Position

This week saw Labour Party lurch to the left, defending the public sector employee. On Thursday this week Ed Miliband avidly argued against the Government's proposals to introduce regional pay scales for public sector workers. Mr Miliband argued that regional pay would only further entrench the North - South divide and have a detrimental effect on the quality of life on public sector workers outside the south east of England.

Stephen Twigg Shadow Education further came to the defence of teachers in response to figures that the number of teachers in English state schools fell by 10,000, Mr Twigg criticised the Education secretary stating:

"Michael Gove has lambasted teachers as the 'enemies of promise' and 'whingers'. If you insult teachers no wonder they quit."

Head line of the week

The Daily Telegraph, 27/04/2012 – Page 13

"In need of a job but not if it means going out in the rain"- A businessman has criticised Britain's "workshy benefits culture" after seven new recruits failed to turn up on their first day because they did not want to go out in the rain.