

**Key dates in the history of  
anti-tobacco campaigning**



Further information about the early history of tobacco can be viewed at the US website:  
[www.tobacco.org/History/history.html](http://www.tobacco.org/History/history.html)

- Before 1 BC** Historians believe native Americans began using tobacco for medicinal and ceremonial purposes.
- 600-1000 AD** First pictorial record of tobacco being smoked found on Guatemalan pottery.
- 1492** Columbus discovers tobacco in the New World. He is offered “certain dried leaves” which, he records in his journal, “gave off a distinct fragrance”.
- The Spanish explorers Rodrigo de Jerez and Luis de Torres are credited with first observing smoking. Jerez became a smoker and took the habit back to Spain.
- 1531** European cultivation of tobacco begins in Santo Domingo.
- 1548** Portuguese cultivate tobacco in Brazil for commercial export.
- 1560** Jean Nicot de Villemain, France’s ambassador to Portugal, writes of tobacco’s medicinal properties. Nicot sends tobacco plants to the French court.
- 1571** Monardes, a doctor in Seville, reports on the latest craze among Spanish doctors – the wonders of the tobacco plant. Monardes lists 36 maladies which he believed could be cured by tobacco.

- 1572** Sir Francis Drake returns from the Americas and introduces pipe smoking to Britain.
- 1577** Frampton translates Monardes' report into English. Tobacco is recommended for toothache, falling fingernails, worms, halitosis, lockjaw and cancer!
- 1585** Sir Francis Drake introduces smoking to Sir Walter Raleigh.
- 1586** Some of the Virginia colonists return to England smoking pipes. The habit quickly spreads and tobacco takes root in English society.
- 1600s** Popes ban smoking in holy places.
- 1600** Sir Walter Raleigh persuades Queen Elizabeth to try smoking
- 1603** Physicians are upset that tobacco used by people without physician prescription. They complain to King James I.
- 1604** King James I of England, in his "counterblaste to Tobacco", said that smoking is a "custome lothesome to the eye, hateful to the nose, harmful to the brain, dangerous to the lungs, and in the black and stinking fume thereof, nearest resembling the horrible stygian smoke of the pit that is bottomless". He was the first to impose a heavy tax on tobacco.
- 1605** As a result of the King's protestations the Royal College of Physicians held a debate on smoking. Many members - pipes in hands - dismissed the King's views.
- 1610** Sir Francis Bacon writes that tobacco use is increasing and that it is a custom hard to quit.
- 1614** King Philip II of Spain establishes Seville as tobacco centre of the world. Seville becomes world centre for production of cigars. European cigarette use begins here as beggars patch together tobacco from used cigars and roll them in paper.
- First sale of native Virginia tobacco in England. Virginia colony enters world tobacco market under English protection.
- 1620** Trade agreement between the Crown and Virginia Company bans commercial tobacco growing in England, in return for a 1 shilling/lb. duty on Virginia tobacco.
- 1660** The restoration of the monarchy: Charles II returns from exile in Paris bringing the French court's practice of snuff with him. Snuff becomes an aristocratic form of tobacco use.
- 1665** Samuel Pepys describes a Royal Society experiment in which a cat quickly dies after being fed "a drop of distilled oil of tobacco".

- 1693** Smoking is banned in the House of Commons chamber: “No Member do presume to take tobacco in the gallery of the House or at a committee table.”
- 1724** Pope Benedict XIII learns to smoke and repeals Papal Bulls against clerical smoking.
- 1730** First American tobacco factories established in Virginia
- 1753** Swedish botanist Carolus Linnaeus names the plant genus, *nicotiana*, and describes two species: *nicotiana rustica*, and *nicotiana tabacum*.
- 1760** Pierre Lorillard established a “manufactory” in New York City for processing pipe tobacco, cigars and snuff.
- 1761** London physician, John Hill, performs possibly the first clinical study of tobacco effects. He warns snuff users that they are vulnerable to cancers of the nose.
- 1791** John Hill reports cases in which snuff caused nasal cancers.
- 1826** Cigar smoking begins to become fashionable in England.  
The purified form of the nicotine compound is obtained.
- 1830s** First organised anti-tobacco movement in the US begins as an adjunct to the temperance movement.
- 1832** Egyptian soldiers credited with the invention of the modern cigarette.
- 1836** Samuel Green of the New England Almanack writes that tobacco is an insecticide, a poison, a filthy habit, and can kill a man.
- 1847** Philip Morris opens a shop in Bond Street, London, selling hand-rolled Turkish cigarettes.
- 1852** Matches are introduced, making smoking more convenient.
- 1853-1856** Crimean War: British soldiers learn how cheap and convenient the cigarettes used by their Turkish allies are and bring the practice back to England.
- 1856** A debate about the health effects of tobacco begins in the British medical journal, *The Lancet*.  
The first cigarette factory in England is opened by Crimean War veteran Robert Gloag.
- 1868** UK Parliament passes the Railway Bill which mandates smoke-free carriages to prevent injury to non-smokers.

- 1876** Benson & Hedges receives its first royal warrant from Edward, Prince of Wales.
- 1889** Research by Langley and Dickinson on the effect of nicotine on nerve cells. They hypothesise that there are receptors and transmitters that respond to stimulation by specific chemicals.
- American tobacco entrepreneur, James Buchanan (“Buck”) Duke forms the American Tobacco Company: a conglomerate of the five leading American tobacco companies.
- 1901** Buck Duke buys the British Ogden tobacco firm, signalling a raid on the British industry. This prompts British companies to join together to counter Duke’s take-over. Imperial Tobacco is formed .
- 1902** The American and British tobacco companies come to an agreement: Imperial and American agree to stay in their own countries and unite to form the British American Tobacco Company (BAT) to sell both companies’ brands abroad.
- Philip Morris sets up a corporation in New York to sell its British brands, including one called ‘Marlboro’.
- 1908** Children’s Act bans the sale of tobacco to children under 16.
- 1912** First strong connection is made between lung cancer and smoking. Dr I Adler is the first to strongly suggest that lung cancer is related to smoking.
- 1916** Cigarette smoking becomes widespread among soldiers as tobacco is included in army rations during the First World War.
- 1925** In the US, Philip Morris’ Marlboro is targeted at women. Until the 1920’s women who smoked were considered to have dubious morals. A Marlboro ad questioned this, stating: “Has smoking any more to do with a woman’s morals than has the color of her hair?”
- Other leading companies begin the pursuit of female smokers. American Tobacco Company tempts women to try Lucky Strike cigarettes with the slogan, “Reach for a Lucky instead of a sweet”.
- 1927** British American Tobacco acquires the American tobacco company Brown & Williamson.
- 1930s** Britain has the highest lung cancer rate in the world.
- 1930** Researchers in Cologne, Germany, make a statistical correlation between cancer and smoking.
- 1933** Chesterfield begins running ads in the New York State Journal of Medicine, with claims such as: “Just as pure as the water you drink ... and practically untouched by human hands.”

The Children's Act is repealed and replaced by the Children and Young Persons Act. Under Section 7 of the Act it was made illegal to sell cigarettes to children under 16.

- 1939** "Tobacco misuse and lung carcinoma" by Franz Hermann Muller of the University of Cologne, is the first major report to find a strong link between smoking and lung cancer.
- 1939-1945** World War II: As part of the war effort, US President Roosevelt makes tobacco a protected crop. Cigarettes are included in soldiers' rations. Tobacco companies send millions of free cigarettes to troops.
- 1943** Advertising: Philip Morris places an ad in the US National Medical Journal which reads: "Don't smoke is advice hard for patients to swallow. May we suggest instead 'Smoking Philip Morris?' Tests showed three out of every four cases of smokers' cough cleared on changing to Philip Morris. Why not observe the results for yourself?"
- 1947** A massive (43%) increase in cigarette tax results in a 14% drop in cigarette consumption among British men.
- 1950** Drs Wynder and Graham, of Washington University, USA, published a study showing that of 650 men with lung cancer, 95% had been smoking for 25 years or more.
- 1951** The first large-scale epidemiological study of the relationship between smoking and lung cancer was carried out by Dr (now Professor Sir) Richard Doll and Professor (subsequently Sir) Austin Bradford Hill and published in the British Medical Journal. Doll and Hill interviewed 5,000 patients in British hospitals and found that of the 1,357 men with lung cancer, 99.5% were smokers.
- 1953** Dr Ernst L Wynder's landmark report finds that painting cigarette tar on the backs of mice creates tumours. This is the first biological link between smoking and cancer.
- 1954** The Reader's Digest published an article entitled "The cigarette controversy" documenting the evidence on the association between smoking and lung cancer.
- 1958** The first health authority smoking withdrawal clinic was established in Salford.
- 1962** The first Royal College of Physicians (RCP) report, "Smoking and Health", was published. It received massive publicity. The main recommendations were: restriction of tobacco advertising; increased taxation on cigarettes; more restrictions on the sales of cigarettes to children, and smoking in public places; and more information on the tar/nicotine content of cigarettes. For the first time in a decade, cigarette sales fell.

The Tobacco Advisory Committee (subsequently Council, and now known as the Tobacco Manufacturers' Association) - which represents the interests of the tobacco industry - agreed to implement a code of advertising practice for cigarettes which was intended to take some of the glamour out of cigarette advertisements. The code was based on the former ITA code governing cigarette advertisements on TV (before they were removed in 1964, with the co-operation of the ITA)

**1964** The US Surgeon General produced his first report on "Smoking and Health". Its conclusions corroborated those of the RCP and the US Surgeon General has produced annual reports since 1967 on the health consequences on smoking.

Doll and Hill published the results of a nationwide prospective survey on "mortality in relation to smoking: 10 years' observations in British Doctors". Between 1951 and 1964 about half the UK's doctors who smoked gave up and there was a dramatic fall in lung cancer incidence among those who gave up as opposed to those who continued to smoke.

**1965** After considerable debate, the government used the powers vested in it under the terms of the 1964 Television Act to ban cigarette advertisements on television. This was after consultation with the ITA.

**1966 Dec** The government asked the tobacco industry to withdraw cigarette coupon schemes. It refused.

**1967 Sep** The first World Conference on Smoking and Health was held in New York.

Oct Kenneth Robinson, Minister for Health, announced in Parliament the Government's intention to "introduce legislation in due course to take powers to ban cigarette coupon schemes, to control or ban other promotional schemes and to limit other forms of advertising". This action was never in fact taken.

**1968** The Health Education Council (HEC - later reorganised as the Health Education Authority, or HEA) was established by Government to replace the existing Central Council for Health Education in England and Wales. The Scottish Health Education Unit (SHEU, later SHEG, now HEBS - Health Education Board for Scotland) was established to cover similar activities in Scotland.

**1969** The Radio Times implemented its own ban on cigarette advertising.

Finnair claimed to be the world's first airline providing non-smoking accommodation.

Oct The HEC's first anti-smoking campaign was launched: posters asking "Why learn about lung cancer the hard way?" appeared.

**1970 May** The Director-General of the World Health Organisation (WHO) presented a report to the 23rd World Health Assembly on "The limitation of smoking".

The paper was prepared by Professor Charles Fletcher of the Hammersmith Hospital, and Dr Daniel Horn. It called for an end to cigarette advertising and promotion, among other recommendations. As a result, the WHO Assembly banned smoking at meetings and affirmed the health hazards in strong terms.

**1971 Jan** Publication of the second RCP report, "Smoking and Health Now". It endorsed the WHO report. This report also received widespread publicity and caused a permanent drop of 5% in cigarette consumption. A clear socio-economic divide in cessation had emerged: people in the "professional" classes were giving up smoking, while people in the "manual" and "unwaged" groups were not.

ASH was set up under the auspices of the RCP to make non-smoking the norm in society and to inform and educate the public about the death and disease caused by smoking. Its first president was Lord Rosenheim, President of the RCP: its Chairman Professor Charles Fletcher, its Hon Secretary Dr Keith Ball, and its first director Dr John Dunwoody.

**Mar** Sir Keith Joseph, secretary of state for Health, affirmed the government's intention to control tobacco use through voluntary agreement with the tobacco industry.

**Apr** First voluntary agreement between the tobacco industry and the government drawn up. Its provisions included: all cigarette packs for sale in the UK should carry the words "Warning by HM Government: Smoking can damage your health"; all press and poster ads were to carry the reference: "Every pack carries a Government health warning"; and the industry agreed to establish a scientific liaison committee consisting of industry and DHSS-nominated scientists to explore less dangerous forms of smoking and to devise a way of measuring tar/nicotine levels.

**May** Following a campaign by ASH, London Transport increased the proportion of carriages in underground trains reserved for non-smokers from 50% to 75%, and banned smoking on single-deck buses.

**1971 Oct** Rank Leisure was the first of the major UK cinema chains to provide smoke-free seating in most of its cinemas.

**1972 Jan** 132 MPs voted in favour of a ban on cigarette advertising, 73 against. In an extension of the existing voluntary agreement, the industry agreed to: include "health hints" on cigarette packs (e.g. "if you do smoke, leave a long stub"); cover up specific brand advertisements at televised sporting events; ensure that all brand ads at sports events carried a health warning; ensure that cinema cigarette advertisements, and those sent through the post, carried a reference to the health warning.

**1973 Feb** BOAC started to reserve a number of its seats for non-smokers.

The government announced that a new Independent Scientific Committee on Smoking and Health (ISCSH) was to replace the standing liaison committee. Its first priority was to produce guidelines for, and administer the testing of, tobacco substitute and additive materials.

Apr The first tar/nicotine tables, in which information on the tar and nicotine levels in all generally available cigarettes was given, were published. The lowest was 4mg and the highest 38mg. The average tar yield of cigarettes then on sale was 20.6mg.

Jun ASH introduced a "Butt of the Month" award for specific cigarette advertisements with citations for "outstanding services to national ill-health". The first award went to Consulate, a menthol cigarette advertised with the slogan "gives you a taste of the country".

Dec ASH pressure led to the withdrawal of an inadequately tested part-substitute for tobacco.

**1974** ASH published an expert report on smoking cessation clinics, calling for more effort to support these ventures. No health authority action was forthcoming.

Feb The second edition of the tar tables was published, dividing cigarettes into high, middle-to-high, middle, low-to-middle and low tar categories.

Jul Dr David Owen, minister for health, announced in Parliament that he had asked the industry to agree to: allocate some of its advertising budget to health education; abolish cigarette advertising in the cinema; print tar group descriptions on packs and advertisements; use a stronger and more prominent health warning; abolish coupon schemes; and consider curbing tobacco sponsorship of sport. The industry later rejected most of these requests.

The ASH "Butt of the Summer" award was given to Kensitas, with its slogan "You get more out of life with Kensitas". ASH suggested this should continue: "You get lung cancer. You get heart disease. You get emphysema." The manufacturers eventually withdrew the ad.

Imperial Tobacco withdrew two brands called "Rapier" and "Stiletto" after ASH wrote to its Chairman congratulating him on choosing such apt names for products associated with death.

British Rail and British Airways increased the proportion of accommodation for non-smokers.

Sep As holder of a single share, ASH put several questions concerning smoking and health forward at Rothmans AGM. Since then, ASH representatives attend most tobacco AGMs for the same purpose.

**1975** Code of Advertising Practice of cigarettes to be taken out of the hands of the industry and to be monitored by the Advertising Standards Authority; to



place tar groupings on packs and advertising. Imperial Tobacco, which then controlled two-thirds of the UK market, agreed unilaterally to remove brand names and logos from racing cars taking part in UK races.

- 1975 The total number of deaths from lung cancer decreased during 1975 for the first time for more than half a century, in men only: the number of deaths among women continued to increase.
- Jan ASH called for tobacco manufacturers and retailers to be made legally liable for compensation in respect of death or illness caused by smoking, in a submission to the Royal Commission on Civil Liability and Compensation.
- Apr In response to the government's 1974 proposals, the industry agreed to: withdraw advertising from U certificate cinema programmes; to end the advertising of free samples; to allow the
- May Two Thames TV documentaries on smoking in successive weeks made 160,000 people (5% of the audience) give up, according to a Gallup poll.
- July The ISCSH's first report on tobacco substitutes and tobacco additives was published.
- Aug Following discussions with the industry and the department of Health, the ASA agreed to devise a new, stricter code governing cigarette advertising.
- A survey by ASH showed that 86% of tobacco smokers were selling cigarettes to children.
- 1976** "Death in the West", Peter Taylor's hard-hitting documentary about the illness and death suffered by American cowboys who smoke, and the contrast with the Philip Morris "Marlboro cowboy" image, is shown once on Thames TV. Philip Morris immediately takes out an injunction to prevent further showings of this film. In 1979, in an out-of-court settlement with Thames, Philip Morris acquires all the film shot for this film, whether or not it was used in the finished programme.
- Jan The HEC launched an anti-smoking campaign aimed at young people.
- Robert Kilroy-Silk MP presented a Private Member's bill to bring tobacco substitutes and additives under the 1968 Medicines Act. Dr Owen announced the government's intentions to place tobacco substitutes and additives under the remit of the 1968 Medicines Act.
- The inaugural meeting of the all-party Parliamentary Group for action on smoking and health was held at the House of Commons. ASH's new patron, HRH the Duke of Gloucester, opened the meeting.
- Spring The BBC programme Nationwide launched a widespread campaign to "Stop smoking with Nationwide" which continued for several months.

- Mar The ASA implemented its own new code of advertising practice governing cigarettes which had been agreed in August 1975. The long-standing Marlboro cowboy and Rothmans pilot campaigns were immediately withdrawn as a result.
- A DHSS and NOP poll showed that 70% of the population - a majority of both smokers and non-smokers - favoured further restrictions on smoking in all public places.
- Apr Cigarette taxation increased by 3.5p in the Budget. "Specific" and "ad valorem" taxes, a two-tier system designed to ease tax harmonisation within the EEC, were introduced.
- Dec Professor Sir Richard Doll and Mr Richard Peto published the results of their 20-year prospective study of nearly 35,000 doctors' smoking habits. They concluded that one in three smokers dies from their habit.
- 1977** Jan The HEC launched a TV campaign focusing on the rights of non-smokers and smoking by women.
- 1977 Jan ASH submitted evidence to the Royal Commission on the National Health Service, recommending a "health levy" on cigarettes to pay for the cost of treating smoking-related diseases.
- Mar A new voluntary agreement with the tobacco industry stipulated: a slightly strengthened health warning to appear on packs and ads; advertising of high tar brands to be stopped immediately, and middle-to-high tar brands by 1978; no new brands in these categories to be introduced; a new, stronger code of advertising practice to be introduced; and a code of practice for sponsorship to be discussed with the Minister for Sport.
- David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, announced that the ISCSH, under the chairmanship of Professor Hunter, had given a limited go-ahead for the marketing of two tobacco substitutes, NSM and Cytrel. These products were incorporated into cigarettes which were still mostly made up of tobacco. The cigarettes were marketed as "safer" and eventually withdrawn after prolonged and vigorous protests from ASH and other groups on the grounds that the advertising was utterly misleading.
- Jun The third report of the RCP, "Smoking or Health", was published. It provided an authoritative summary of research on smoking and disease, and made the strongest calls yet for government action to control smoking.
- 1978** The Independent Broadcasting Authority publishes a Code of Advertising Standards which regulates all commercial TV and radio broadcasting. Cigarettes and cigarette tobacco are "unacceptable products" not to be advertised on commercial radio.
- Throughout the year, the State Express Challenge sports sponsorship scheme causes widespread media discussion of the ethics of tobacco sports sponsorship. Prizes are offered to sportsmen and women in various

disciplines and advertisements for the scheme appear regularly. Some prominent athletes, including Geoff Capes, Alan Pascoe and Brendan Foster make their opposition to the scheme public and the involvement of the Sports Aid Foundation causes several MPs to protest about the scheme.

- Apr Only high-tar cigarettes are affected by this year's Budget, which levies 7 pence on a packet of 20 with a tar yield of 20mg or more, from September.
- May Clause 1 of the Finance Bill, which provides for extra taxation on high tar cigarettes is debated in Parliamentary Committee and despite a campaign against the clause by the tobacco industry, it is adopted.
- A House of Commons Early Day Motion, tabled by Sir George Young and signed by 54 MPs, calls for a ban on tobacco advertising.
- Jul Tyne and Wear County Transport Committee agrees to make all public transport in the area smoke-free.
- Aug ASH asks the DHSS to set up a new independent authority to control tobacco advertising and promotion.
- A major article in the BMJ discusses the evidence that passive smoking is harmful to health.
- Studies in the main medical journals such as The Lancet and the BMJ continue to show that smoking and taking the contraceptive pill raises the risk of thrombosis.
- Sep The Central Middlesex Hospital in London holds a successful "Smoking Action Week", with film shows, cessation counselling and public meetings. The hospital becomes the first in Britain to implement a 1977 Department of Health Circular requiring hospitals to introduce a smoking policy.
- 1979** Jan Laurie Pavitt MP presents a Bill, supported by ASH, to legislate against tobacco advertising and promotion.
- Feb "ASH Wednesday" is chosen by ASH as a day to campaign for smoke-free offices and public places.
- May The publication of a major WHO report, "Controlling the smoking epidemic", receives widespread press coverage.
- David Simpson becomes Director of ASH.
- Jul Main post offices are made smoke-free.
- Oct Sir George Young, Under-Secretary of State at the DHSS, receives press commendation for his commitment to the smoking and health issue.

- Nov The Coronary Prevention Group is set up. Its aim is to encourage diet and lifestyle changes in order to reduce coronary heart disease, including reduction of smoking.
- OPCS figures show a sharp rise in women's deaths from lung cancer over the past ten years.
- 1980** Apr The BBC programme "Panorama" reports on the tobacco industry, revealing that the chairman of the Tobacco Advisory Council is on the Sports council, as well as showing in depth how the industry refuses to acknowledge publicly that smoking kills. The industry's third world marketing policies are also subjected to intensive scrutiny.
- Jun The second ISCSH report attracts criticism for refusing to recommend the publication of carbon monoxide yields of cigarettes.
- Jul The Social Services Committee, reporting to the Government on perinatal mortality, asks for all tobacco advertising to be banned and for other legislative methods to control tobacco use.
- Aug "Which" magazine publishes the carbon monoxide yields of 19 brands of cigarette in this month's issue and urges the Government to make this information generally known.
- Nov A BBC "Horizon" programme, "Smoker's Luck", wins press acclaim. It highlighted some of the less well-known effects of smoking such as gangrene, as well as presenting the advantages of giving up smoking.
- Dec The Government announces a new voluntary agreement with the tobacco industry, which was only in force for a very short time. Four new health warnings are introduced and more space is allocated to them on posters. The industry agrees to cut its expenditure on poster advertising by 30%. It also agrees to take steps not to put posters within view of schools, although the clause is vaguely worded. ASH, the BMA and a number of MPs describe the agreement as weak and ineffective. ASH vows that its long-term campaign to see all tobacco advertising banned by law will continue.
- 1981** Feb A conference to mark ASH's 10th anniversary attracts widespread press coverage. Over the previous 10 years, smoking has declined to the extent that the majority of people in the UK do not smoke.
- Mar Cigarette tax is increased by 14 pence on a packet of 20 in this year's main Budget, the biggest percentage price rise since 1947.
- 1981 May Publication of "The Ladykillers: Why smoking is a feminist issue", by Dr Bobbie Jacobson, former Deputy Director of ASH. The book attracts widespread press coverage for its detailed treatment of why tobacco use and tobacco advertising is a particular issue for women.
- Jul The TUC endorses an anti-smoking campaign to help union members give up.

- Sept Sir George Young, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Health, is moved to the Department of the Environment after it becomes clear that he will support and actively campaign for a ban on tobacco advertising and other legislation to control tobacco use. Patrick Jenkin, the Health Minister at the time, is also moved away from the Department of Health.
- 1982** Jan ASH publishes a guide for health practitioners interested in tobacco control.
- Mar The Government announces two new voluntary agreements on advertising and sponsorship. The sponsorship agreement permits the industry to raise the prize money offered in sporting events to £6 million. All advertisements for these events will have to carry a health warning. The advertising restrictions have yet to be decided, but the industry announces its intention to spend £3 million a year on health promotion activities. The agreements are denounced as ineffective by ASH and the BMA.
- Apr ASH launches a guide for local authorities interested in introducing a smoking policy.
- Jun An attempt by a group of Tory MPs, all with tobacco industry sympathies, to have the government grant to ASH withdrawn is not successful.
- Jul ASH asks the Health Secretary to ensure that video cassettes are not allowed to carry cigarette advertising under the terms of the voluntary agreement currently under discussion.
- Aug The BMA asks the Government to ban all forms of tobacco advertising.
- BAT Industries apologises to the Government after Martina Navratilova is seen wearing tennis kit with the "Kim" logo on it at Wimbledon. The row over this incident leads to considerable media debate about the effectiveness of the voluntary agreement system.
- Oct The Government announces a new voluntary agreement with the tobacco industry to regulate advertising and promotion. Advertising materials at point-of-sale and over a certain size will have to carry a health warning and video cassettes will not be allowed to carry cigarette advertising. Health warnings are modified and the rotation system which formerly applied is discontinued. The industry offers to reduce expenditure on poster ads and cinema ads by 50% and 40% respectively. The feature of the agreement which draws widespread and bitter criticism from the media and public alike is the industry's offer to pay £11 million over the three and a half years the agreement is to run to fund the Health Promotion Research Trust, which will offer grants to research a wide variety of health-related topics, except anything connected with tobacco use. One prominent surgeon comments: "It's like entrusting moral education about organised crime to the Mafia."
- Dec The report of the enquiry on the fire at Goodge Street Underground station calls for smoking to be banned on the Underground immediately.

- 1983** Feb ASH Scotland publishes "The Scottish Epidemic", which outlines the cost of smoking in human life and illness in each Parliamentary constituency, local government region and Health Board area in Scotland.
- Jul Laurie Pavitt MP presents a Bill asking for all tobacco advertising to be banned.
- Oct The third report of the Independent Scientific Committee on Smoking and Health is published. It recommends the progressive reduction of tar levels in cigarettes over the next four years.
- 1983 Oct Launch of Glasgow 2000, a campaign to make Glasgow smoke-free by the year 2000.
- Dec The fourth Royal College of Physicians Report, "Health or Smoking?", is published. For the first time, the report examines the health risks of passive smoking, but as before, it provides a wealth of data to support its assertion that over 100,000 people die every year from smoking-related illness in the UK, and it calls for an end to tobacco advertising and promotion.
- 1984** Jan A major review article in the American Journal of Epidemiology confirms the link between smoking and cervical cancer.
- Dr Eileen Crofton, Director of Scottish ASH since 1973, is awarded an MBE in the New Year's Honours List.
- Feb National No Smoking Day is launched as a major UK event, subsequently run on the second Wednesday of March every year. The day aims to encourage and support smokers who want to quit.
- ASH publishes surveys of smoking policies on airlines and in county and local councils throughout the UK.
- Mar Publication of a major work on the politics of tobacco. "The Smoke Ring", by prominent and respected campaigning journalist Peter Taylor, is a devastating account of how the industry contrives to remain powerful and in business in the face of widespread knowledge about the death and disease it causes. A "Panorama" programme screened the same day gives massive publicity to the book and its findings.
- May The London Transport Passenger Committee and the Evening Standard newspaper launch a campaign to get all of London's transport made smoke-free.
- Jun Bristol-based protest group AGHAST (Action Group to Halt Advertising and Sponsorship by Tobacco) submits a painting of a person dying from lung cancer for the John Player Special Portrait Award. The picture is short-listed by the judges but not given an award. Considerable publicity follows.

- ASH produces a guide to 244 hotels and guesthouses in the UK which provide smoke-free accommodation.
- Jul            Following a fire at Oxford Circus tube station, possibly caused by a cigarette, London Regional Transport bans smoking on all Underground trains.
- Oct            The BMA launches a major campaign with the aim of introducing a wide range of smoking control measures, including a ban on tobacco advertising.
- The improved "Give Up Smoking" (GUS) kit for use in GPs' surgeries is launched by ASH and the HEC.
- Nov            Actor Paul Eddington resigns from the Board of the Bristol Old Vic theatre after a deal to accept sponsorship from a tobacco firm is signed.
- Dec            Roger Sims MP presents a Bill to ban tobacco sponsorship of sporting events.
- 1985** Jan        The BMA's report on investment in tobacco firms by, among others, church and health organisations is greeted by widespread embarrassment and remorse from the bodies in question.
- 1985 Feb        London Regional Transport bans smoking on all Underground stations wholly or partly underground.
- The BMA publishes a report which refutes the tobacco industry's justification for advertising.
- Apr            The HEC's latest TV ad campaign tells women that lung cancer is now killing almost as many women as breast cancer.
- ACTS (Artists' Campaign against Tobacco Sponsorship) is set up. Founder members include Warren Mitchell, Derek Jacobi, Paul Eddington and Spike Milligan. Its first target is the National Theatre, which still accepts tobacco sponsorship.
- May            Speaking during a Northern Ireland Assembly debate on National No Smoking Day, Lord Dunleath reveals that part of the reason why he resigned as Chairman of Carreras Rothman (Northern Ireland) in 1983 was that: "I could not get it squared with my conscience...I felt unhappy about it, and about the rather subtle and covert advertising of tobacco that takes place..."
- Jun            The DHSS issues guidelines asking health authorities to introduce smoking policies in all health premises.
- Publication of a report, "When smoke gets in your eyes", recommending that the Government ban cigarette advertising in those women's magazines

with a majority readership aged under 25, prior to banning all tobacco advertising and promotion.

- Aug On the 20th anniversary of cigarette advertising being banned on TV, ASH writes to the Home Secretary asking him to make the BBC and IBA observe their responsibilities under the law and stop transmitting tobacco advertising in the form of tobacco-sponsored sport.
- Sep Launch of "Project Smoke-Free", a major regional initiative against smoking in the North-West of England.
- Oct The IBA decides not to accept smokeless tobacco product advertising for TV transmission.
- ASH publishes a guide: "Tobacco advertising: what you can do". This lists the restrictions that are meant to apply to tobacco advertising and gives names and addresses for where to complain if these restrictions are breached.
- Nov Publication of "The Big Kill", a series of booklets which provides data on the number of people in the England and Wales killed by tobacco, broken down by parliamentary constituency, area health authority and administrative boundary.
- Dec Labour MP George Foulkes introduces a Private Member's Bill to oblige employers to provide separate smoking and non-smoking facilities in the workplace, as well as increase the number of no-smoking areas in public places.
- The BMJ denounces the tobacco industry-funded Health Promotion Research Trust as "taking money from the Devil".
- 1986** Jan The HEC announces that it will withhold grants from researchers and academics who receive any funding from the tobacco industry-supported Health Promotion Research Trust.
- Feb Roger Sims MP's Private Member's Bill to make illegal the sponsorship of sport by the tobacco industry is defeated in the House of Commons.
- 1986 Feb Ann Clwyd MP's Private Member's Bill to prohibit the mention or display of the brand name, colour or logo of tobacco products during television broadcast is scheduled for a second reading in April.
- For the first time, the Sports Council declares that it is opposed to the sponsorship of sport by the tobacco industry.
- Mar Announcement of the new voluntary agreement on tobacco advertising and promotion. A ban on tobacco advertising in cinemas and six new health warnings are introduced. The new warnings are: Smoking can cause fatal diseases; Smoking can cause heart disease; Smoking when pregnant can injure your baby and cause premature birth; Stopping smoking reduces the



risk of serious diseases; Smoking can cause lung cancer, bronchitis and other chest diseases; and More than 30,000 people die each year in the UK from lung cancer. Tobacco advertising in certain women's magazines with 200,000 readers, at least a third of whom are aged 16-24 is banned and so is advertising for brands with a tar level of 18mg and above. The industry agrees to spend £1 million per year on publicity to make it clear that children under 16 must not be sold cigarettes. Reaction to the agreement from tobacco control campaigns, including ASH, was lukewarm.

Apr Passing of the Protection of Children (Tobacco) Act which made it illegal to sell any tobacco product to children aged under 16 - previously the law applied only to smoking tobacco.

During the following year, the BBC indicates that it might take action against some of the tobacco-sponsored sports events it televises. These include the Controller of BBC1 speculating that anti-smoking films might be transmitted just before or after tobacco-sponsored sports coverage; blacking out tobacco logos from a show-jumping transmission; threatening not to transmit snooker or sailing unless brand names are removed and health warnings displayed, etc. Few of these suggestions are ever implemented.

Jun Being subjected to other people's tobacco smoke "violates the right to health of non-smokers who must be protected against this noxious form of environmental pollution" - resolution passed at the 39th World Health Assembly.

Over 20,000 entries were received in the national "Scramble an ad" contest for schoolchildren to take a cigarette advertisement and change it into an anti-smoking advertisement.

Aug BMA publishes "Great Expectations", a study of the tobacco industry's marketing tactics worldwide. There is a large amount of press coverage.

Tobacco advertising is banned from Tyne and Wear metro after a survey showed that tobacco advertising was more prevalent in working-class areas served by the network than in middle-class areas.

Sep Publication of "Beating the Ladykillers", which looks at how the tobacco industry specifically targets women smokers.

Oct A major review of existing research on passive smoking published in the BMJ lends further weight to medical evidence linking passive smoking with lung cancer in non-smokers.

A MORI poll commissioned by ASH and the Cancer Research Campaign shows that eight out of ten workers would agree to smoking restrictions at work.

A Private Member's Bill sponsored by Joe Ashton MP aimed at creating no-smoking areas in pubs receives its first reading.

- Nov ASH and the HEC launch "Women and smoking: a handbook for action", a publication designed to help women who want to give up smoking or help others to stop.
- 1986 Dec The World Health Organisation's Statistics Annual for 1986 shows that Britain has the world's worst death rates from lung cancer and heart disease.
- It is revealed that in 1956, 30 years ago, the government refused to accept the link between smoking and lung cancer, despite being presented with hard medical evidence on the issue.
- 1987** An Institute of Directors poll revealed that 75% of managers would be willing to ban or restrict smoking at work if asked to do so by employees.
- Jan The Government signs a new voluntary agreement with the tobacco industry on sports sponsorship.
- The Cannon-ABC chain of cinemas makes all its premises totally smoke-free after a successful trial smoking policy.
- Feb Independent Television ceases transmission of all tobacco-sponsored sports events.
- Mar Reorganisation of the HEC as the Health Education Authority and SHEU as Scottish Health Education Group. Bodies for Wales (Health Promotion Authority for Wales) and Northern Ireland (HPANI) were set up.
- Apr Arunbhai Patel, the new owner of the Finlays chain of newsagents, announces that he will phase out the sale of tobacco from these shops over the next 5-10 years. Unfortunately, business problems obliged Mr Patel to sell the chain before he was able to implement this policy.
- Launch of the "Look after your heart" campaign, designed to reduce deaths from heart disease. Cutting smoking prevalence and introducing smoking policies at work will be an important part of the campaign.
- May Mr Roger Sims MP, introduces a Private Member's Bill on smoking in public places and it is debated in Parliament. The Bill is eventually withdrawn, despite some support from the Department of Health and Social Security.
- Jul Launch of a new pro-health campaign, the Public Health Alliance. One of its objectives is to expose and clarify the relationships between people in a position of authority and the tobacco, alcohol and pharmaceutical industries.
- Publication of an HEA booklet, "Smoking policies at work".
- The BMA calls for an end to the duty-free allowance of cigarettes.

- Aug A survey of tobacco-sponsored sport on television shows that the industry receives the equivalent of 700 30-second commercials a year, 99% of it on the BBC.
- Sep Launch of the European Commission's "Europe Against Cancer", initially a three-year campaign to raise awareness of risky behaviour such as smoking and dietary habits.
- With the support of ASH, the Institute of Environmental Health Officers calls for smoking to be banned in restaurants and other eating places.
- Oct Grampian ASH launches "Smokebusters", a club for children aged 11-13, which will encourage and support them in saying "no" to tobacco through a series of fun activities.
- Dec Following the King's Cross underground fire, in which 31 people died, London Underground immediately bans smoking throughout the network and bans tobacco advertising. British Rail also bans smoking on a section of commuter line which runs through a deep tunnel in Central London.
- 1988** Jan The EC proposes to introduce new upper limits on tar levels in cigarettes throughout Europe, and to legislate on health warnings to appear on tobacco packaging and advertisements.
- "Quit and Win!", a competition to help smokers give up, is launched in the UK for the first time.
- Feb The Government announces that it is to ban Skoal Bandits and other forms of sucking tobacco from sale in the UK, with effect from March 1990.
- The HEA launches "Smoking and Me", a smoking education programme aimed at 12-13 year-olds.
- Sheffield City Council announces that it will introduce a smoking policy affecting 33,000 council workers.
- Latest Government figures show that although fewer than one third of UK adults now smoke, the decline in prevalence is slowing down. Between 1984 and 1986 there was no significant decline in the number of women smoking at all.
- Mar Publication of the Independent Scientific Committee on Smoking and Health's Fourth Report, known as the "Froggatt Report". It concludes that there is a 10-30% increased risk of developing lung cancer if you are a non-smoker exposed to other people's smoke, and recommends making non-smoking the norm at work and in all public places where separate adequate provision for non-smokers is not possible.
- It is estimated that nearly 3.5 million smokers took part in National No Smoking Day.

- Apr Liverpool City Council Trading Standards officers become the first in the UK with the power to prosecute shopkeepers for illegally selling cigarettes to children.
- The Tobacco Advisory Council is forced to withdraw press ads, a video and a booklet intended to show that tobacco smoke at work is not a problem. The materials, based on research conducted at Imperial College London, which the TAC part-funded, apparently represented the research findings somewhat misleadingly.
- Jun IBM announces that it will make its 60 UK buildings entirely smoke-free from September.
- The ASH Awards were presented to individuals and organisations who had made a contribution towards promoting a tobacco-free society.
- A USA court makes worldwide history by awarding damages against a tobacco firm to the family of Rose Cipollone, a smoker who died of lung cancer. The tobacco company launched an appeal against the award.
- Sep A study and an editorial in the British Medical Journal confirm that there is a link between smoking and leukaemia, although it is not clear that smoking causes the disease.
- An HEA-funded study on whether health authorities are introducing effective smoking policies in health premises reveals a worrying lack of action.
- Oct British Airways bans smoking on domestic flights.
- 1988 Oct At the inquest into the deaths of 31 people in the King's Cross Underground station fire in November 1987, a forensic scientist says that the fire was probably caused by a smoker's discarded match.
- Dec The Royal Navy announces that it is to end its 200-year practice of supplying shore-based staff with cheap cigarettes.
- 1989** Mar A poll shows that 79% of smokers think that National No Smoking Day is a good idea and around 5 million smokers will try and give up on the day.
- Apr The EC announces its intention to introduce legislation throughout Europe restricting tobacco advertising and promotion.
- May Richard Branson, Chairman of the Virgin Group, bans all tobacco advertising and promotion from his companies, at an estimated cost of £2 million over the next five years.
- Jun David Simpson, Director of ASH, is awarded an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

- Launch of the joint ASH, HEA and HPAW project "Bon Appetit", designed to encourage restaurateurs to provide smoke-free facilities.
- Jul Birmingham City Council announces proposals for a package of tobacco control measures that would make all indoor public places and transport smoke-free by the year 2000.
- Oct Establishment of ASH Workplace Services, a consultancy set up to meet the growing demand for expert advice on introducing smoking policies at work.
- It is announced that from October 1991, it will be against the law to advertise tobacco on television anywhere in the EC. This will have the effect of banning cigar and pipe tobacco commercials from British TV.
- Staff at a firm in Milton Keynes are offered a bonus of £200 if they give up smoking.
- Nov The first national Smokebusters Conference for children takes place in London.
- Despite Britain's opposition, the European Council of Health Ministers votes to legislate for stricter, larger health warnings on tobacco packs and advertising throughout Europe. The Ministers also adopted a directive setting the maximum permissible tar level in cigarettes at 15mg by the end of 1992 and 12mg by the end of 1997.
- Dec The HEA launches its £10 million teenage smoking campaign, targeting young people between the ages of 11 and 13. The campaign will run for five years.
- 1990** Jan Parents against Tobacco is launched. A coalition of MPs, TV and radio personalities, activists and members of the public, it aims to press for more effective legislation to protect children from tobacco. Its founder members include Esther Rantzen and Richard Branson.
- A telephone advice and counselling service for smokers wanting to give up is launched by QUIT (formerly the National Society of Non-smokers)
- Feb As part of the run-up to National No Smoking Day, TV presenter Anne Robinson records a series of four programmes charting her (successful) attempt to give up smoking.
- Virgin Atlantic launches the first smoke-free flights to the USA.
- Mar A study of children's attitudes to other people smoking, part-funded by ASH Scotland, is published to widespread publicity. It shows that most children are vehemently anti-smoking.
- 1990 Mar Government ban on oral snuff products comes into force.

- Members of the European Parliament vote in favour of banning tobacco advertising.
- Apr Joe Ashton MP presents a Bill drawn up by Parents against Tobacco designed to tighten up the law against selling cigarettes to children.
- The 7th World Conference on Tobacco and Health, held in Perth, Australia, concentrates on the issue of tobacco in the developing world.
- May A draft US report leaked to the press suggests that 3000 US citizens die each year from lung cancer caused by passive smoking.
- British Rail announces that it will phase out all smoking carriages on commuter trains running into London from within a 30-mile radius. The reason for the policy is given as customer demand.
- The Sunday Times, using material supplied by ASH, publishes a major article revealing BAT Industries' third world marketing activities. This leads to questions being asked by ASH and other shareholders at the BAT AGM.
- Parents against Tobacco pickets the BAT AGM.
- Jul OPCS figures show that although lung cancer incidence is declining among men, it is still increasing among women, and in some areas it has overtaken breast cancer as the most common cancer among women.
- Air Canada makes all its flights between North America and Europe smoke-free.
- The HEA launches a £25 million campaign to prevent heart disease.
- Aug Joan Clay, a civil servant suffering from chest illness which is aggravated by tobacco smoke, wins a historic ruling that injury caused by passive smoking can be ruled an "industrial accident". Miss Clay's victory is based on special circumstances, but is nonetheless an important precedent.
- The IBA orders Rothmans International to remove logos and brand names from a yacht entered in a race or face the withdrawal of television coverage of the event.
- Sep Launch of Teenagers against Smoking, a Northern Ireland-based campaign. ASH Northern Ireland helped set this pressure group up.
- A major medical study linking lung cancer in non-smokers to childhood passive smoking is published.
- Oct Widespread publicity is given to a British Journal of Addiction study showing that more than half the children who smoke daily are able to buy single cigarettes from tobacconists.

- Nov The Institute of Personnel Management publishes a guide to introducing a smoking policy at work.
- ASH and the HEA publish "Beating the Ban", an analysis of tobacco-sponsored sports coverage on the BBC. Children interviewed for the report are under the impression that cigarette advertising is allowed on TV, because they have seen logos and brand names.
- 1990 Nov The first attempt to produce a draft EC directive banning tobacco advertising fails, although the EC Social Affairs Commissioner affirms her intention to introduce a new directive.
- The PaT Private Members' Bill designed to tighten the law against selling cigarettes to children receives a boost when the first MP (Andrew Faulds, Labour MP for Warley East) named in the ballot for Private Members' Bills agrees to take it up.
- William Waldegrave is appointed as Secretary of State for Health in place of Kenneth Clarke. Mr Waldegrave is a non-smoker and thought to be more sympathetic to tobacco control than his predecessor.
- Dec BMA, ASH and the Coronary Prevention Group call for a 32p rise in cigarette tax at the next Budget, to bring prices back into line with 1987 levels.
- Members of the British Thoracic Society, doctors who treat chest complaints, announce that they will be joining the tobacco control campaign and pressing for effective legislation on tobacco use. This initiative later becomes "Doctors for Tobacco Law".
- The government ban on the sale of oral snuff products in the UK is overturned because of a legal technicality.
- 1991** Jan Publication of an ASH report revealing that nearly seven million women aged between 15 and 24 are exposed to cigarette advertising in the pages of women's magazines, despite the voluntary agreement intended to prevent such exposure.
- Appointment of David Pollock as Director of ASH. Establishment of the UK-based International Agency on Tobacco and Health (IATH) under the directorship of David Simpson OBE, former Director of ASH.
- Feb London Regional Transport makes all its buses smoke-free.
- The government announces its intention to legislate for tougher new health warnings, in line with EC directive requirements. ASH is one of many health bodies which submits a response to the proposed warnings and formats.
- A landmark court decision in Australia is greeted with pleasure by tobacco control bodies worldwide: a judge rules that the Tobacco Institute of

Australia's advertisements, implying that there was no proven case that passive smoking was dangerous, were "misleading and deceptive".

Mar Publication of "Passive smoking: a health hazard", a detailed booklet summarising up-to-date research on passive smoking and designed for the general public. ASH worked with the BMA, the Cancer Research Campaign and many other health bodies to produce this publication.

Cigarette tax is raised by approximately 16p in the Budget. The Chancellor says: "There are strong health arguments for a big duty increase in tobacco."

A poll conducted to tie in with No Smoking Day shows that around three-quarters of smokers would like to give up.

Apr The government announces that a new voluntary agreement will replace the one which expired in 1989.

May The Commissioners of the European Community call for a ban on tobacco advertising. ASH asks the government to support this proposal and a major campaign on this matter is launched.

1991 Jun Publication of the Government Green Paper, **The Health of the Nation**. The proposals include reducing overall smoking prevalence by one third, to 22% in men and 21% in women, as well as a reduction by 30% of deaths from coronary heart disease and stroke in under-65's by the year 2000.

Publication of the ASH guide Eat, Drink and Sleep Smoke-free - a guidebook listing hotels, restaurants and pubs where proper provision is made for non-smoking customers. The guide is launched at the London Hilton and receives extensive publicity.

Jul Doctors for Tobacco Law, a coalition of 29 organisations representing virtually all the UK's 85,000 doctors, is launched. DFTL aims to work with the existing group of tobacco control agencies pressing for government endorsement of the proposed EC ad ban directive. Its first activity is to stage a widely-reported demonstration outside Rothmans International's AGM. They provide data showing that for every Rothmans smoker who dies during the year from smoking related illness, the company makes a profit of £35,250.

The government announces a series of new, larger health warnings for tobacco packaging, in line with EC requirements. This is the first time that health warnings are legally required, as opposed to covered in the voluntary agreements. There will be two health warnings on the packs from now on instead of one and they will include "Smoking kills" and "Protect children: don't make them breathe your smoke". They will cover 6% of the relevant face of the pack. The minimum requirement under the terms of the Directive is 4%.



Following representations by ASH, the Select Committee on the Environment recommends that the government should accelerate its promised guidance on the rights of people to smoke-free air at work and in public places.

ASH publishes a Brief on the EC Directive to Ban all Tobacco Advertising, which includes a detailed refutation of the tobacco industry's arguments against a ban on tobacco advertising.

The EC Parliament votes in favour of a directive to ban oral snuff products from sale throughout the EC.

Aug A MINTEL survey shows that 61% of the public supports a ban on tobacco advertising.

Sep Publication of a new voluntary agreement which has provision for the legally-required new health warnings on advertisements. Other provisions include: a reduction over five years to half the number of shopfront advertisements that were counted in July 1991; minor tightening of the rules surrounding direct mailing; extension of the controls on advertising in women's magazines, with no advertising allowed in new publications until total readership and readership by young women has been ascertained, and no tobacco advertising allowed at all in publications where one-third of the readership is young women aged between 16 and 24.

In conjunction with ASH, the Institution of Environmental Health Officers publishes a guide to taking action on passive smoking.

Oct EC directive making tobacco advertising on television illegal comes into force.

ASH publishes a response to the Government Green Paper on the "Health of the Nation": "Ending an Epidemic - a manifesto for tobacco control".

Nov The UK tobacco industry starts legal proceedings against the government concerning the size of the new health warnings on cigarette packs.

Publication of **From the billboard to the playground**, a summary of research showing how children are influenced by tobacco advertising

1991 Nov More medical evidence links passive smoking with heart disease

Publication of **The Smoking Epidemic** by the HEA. This is a detailed survey of deaths from tobacco-related disease around the country. In the UK, 111,000 people die every year from smoking-related lung and other cancers, stroke, heart disease, arterial disease, chronic bronchitis and emphysema. The survey also has data on the cost of treating these illnesses to the NHS.

Dec The Department of the Environment publishes a voluntary code of practice on smoking in public places. If the public is present from necessity (health

premises, banks, post offices, local government premises etc), no smoking should be the norm. If the public is present from choice, for example in cafes, restaurants, pubs and community centres, separate provision should be made for smokers and non-smokers, unless this is impractical, in which case no smoking should be the norm.

Midland Bank announces that in May 1992 its premises will become completely smoke-free.

**1992 Jan** A comprehensive review of research on the health effects of passive smoking on babies and children is published

A Scottish nurse, May Dryden, loses a case for constructive dismissal after her employer, the Greater Glasgow Health Board, made all its premises smoke-free

The BMA publishes **Putting women in the picture**, a Europe-wide survey of women's magazines and their editorial and advertising policy on tobacco

MEPs in the European Parliament vote in favour of banning tobacco advertising

**Mar** The Children and Young Persons (Protection from Tobacco) Act 1991 comes into force. This tightens up existing legislation on the sale of cigarettes to children under 16. The new law makes it illegal to sell single cigarettes and also requires warning notices, stating that it is illegal to sell tobacco to anyone under the age of 16, to be displayed at all points of sale including vending machines.

Thirteen pence is added to the price of a packet of cigarettes (a 5% increase in the real price) by the Chancellor in the Budget

A Tobacco-Free Charter, signed by many sports and arts celebrities, is presented to the Prime Minister by ASH and the anti-tobacco movement. The Charter calls for an end to tobacco sponsorship.

No Smoking Day 1992 has the theme "Kiss it goodbye" and features a still from the film Casablanca. Humphrey Bogart died of lung cancer in 1957 and his estate gave permission for the picture to be used.

**Apr** ASH publishes and sends sample copies to every English school of **Smokescreens**, a hard-hitting comic for use with 13-14 year-old pupils.

A former health worker in Australia receives £35,000 in damages from her employer for health problems caused by passive smoking

**Jun** The first transdermal nicotine patch is available on prescription in the UK.

Hackney becomes the first London Borough to introduce a comprehensive smoking policy

Publication of the Royal College of Physicians' fifth report on tobacco, **Smoking and the Young**.

1992 Jun The Cipollone product liability case in the USA is finally settled. The decision on the case, running since 1984, counters the tobacco industry's claim that such lawsuits could be barred by US federal law, and is expected to lead to more lawsuits. Mrs Rose Cipollone, a smoker for 40 years, died of lung cancer in 1984. Her late husband, and then her family, brought the case against the tobacco industry.

Jul The Government's White Paper, **The Health of the Nation**, is published. It attracts widespread criticism for failing to recommend a ban on tobacco advertising but offers a higher target of prevalence reduction (to 20% in men and women by 2000) and a 40% reduction in cigarette consumption by the same year. For the first time, licensed taxi drivers are promised legislation to enable them to ban smoking in their vehicles if they want to.

Two UK firms of solicitors report that they are inundated with enquiries after they advertise for test cases to bring a lawsuit against the tobacco industry in the UK, following the successful outcome of the Cipollone case in the USA.

A smoker with heart disease attends the Rothmans Tobacco AGM with ASH to ask the Chairman if he accepts that smoking causes death and disease.

Entertainer Roy Castle, leading a high-profile campaign against smoking after he was diagnosed as having lung cancer caused by passive smoking, receives an ASH Award. Other recipients include Hackney Council, advertising agency Abbott Mead Vickers BBDO and Ladbrokes Betting Shops.

Margaret Thatcher, former Prime Minister, accepts a contract with Philip Morris to advise the company on its strategy in the developing world and in Eastern Europe.

Aug As a result of discussion between the BMA, OPCS and Coroner's working party the Home Office agree that doctors can include smoking as a cause of death on death certificates.

Sep ASH and Birmingham City Council hold a conference on smoking and schools.

Oct A legal opinion obtained by ASH confirms that non-smokers who suffer from passive smoking at work may be able to sue their employer for the damage caused to their health.

800 doctors and scientists sign a full page advert in The Independent newspaper calling for a ban on tobacco advertising.

- The Department of Health publishes for consultation and comment a report by its Chief Economic Adviser, Clive Smee, which reviews the evidence that tobacco advertising affects consumption and that advertising bans reduce consumption.
- Nov National Express, Britain's largest coach company, bans smoking on all its coaches.
- Dec Sales of tobacco from hospital shops cease.
- 1993** Jan British Rail's Network SouthEast bans smoking on most of its long distance commuter trains.
- Under the EU Workplace Directive, employers have a legal obligation to provide smoke-free rest areas in new or improved workplaces. Existing workplaces have until 1/1/96 to comply with the new legislation.
- A passive smoking exhibition (for which ASH had provided advice) is opened at the Science Museum in London by the Health Minister, Dr Brian MaWhinney.
- 1993 Jan The United States Environmental Protection Agency publishes its final report on passive smoking. This states that in the US 3000 lung cancer deaths a year can be attributed to passive smoking and classifies environmental tobacco smoke as a class A (known human) carcinogen.
- Legal aid is refused on appeal to 20 selected smokers wishing to sue tobacco companies for damages.
- A full-page advertisement calling for a ban on tobacco advertising, sponsored by medical and health organisations, including ASH, appears in The Independent.
- The Commons Health Select Committee calls on the Government to ban tobacco advertising and to drop opposition to the EC directive for a community-wide ban.
- Veronica Bland, a council employee, wins £15,000 in an out of court settlement against her employer for damage to her health from colleagues' smoking.
- Hugh Bayley MP presents a bill to ban tobacco advertising except at the point of sale.
- Feb Sir Richard Doll reveals the latest results in his forty year study of doctors. Smokers are three times more likely to die in middle-age than non-smokers and up to 1 in 2 smokers may eventually die from their habit.
- ASH Women and Smoking Group publishes 'Her share of misfortune: women, smoking and low income'.

Abbey National building society institutes a total ban on smoking.

British Midland bans smoking on all domestic and international flights.

From 20/2/93 tobacco retailers and vending machines must display a warning notice stating that it is illegal to sell cigarettes to children under the age of 16.

Mar Virginia Bottomley, Health Secretary, responds to the Commons Health Select Committee report on tobacco advertising. The Government believes that there is a relationship between tobacco advertising and cigarette consumption but that the nature and extent of the relationship remain debatable and therefore there is currently no justification for a ban on tobacco advertising.

Birmingham Health Education Unit and ASH publish Smoking in Schools which offers guidance on developing smoking policies in schools.

The British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering recommends that babies and children up to the age of two should not be placed in households with smokers when equally suitable non-smokers are available.

Apr J.D. Wetherspoons, a chain of London pubs, introduces smoke-free zones in 54 pubs.

May All Cathay Pacific Airways flights between Hong Kong and London Heathrow are to be smoke-free.

A study shows that tobacco alters DNA in the lining of the cervix and that the correlation is strong enough to point to smoking as a causative factor of cervical cancer.

The Sports Council announces its opposition to the sponsorship of sport by the tobacco industry.

All National Health Service premises go smoke-free on 31 May.

1993 Jun Imperial Tobacco, Gallaher and Rothmans International lose their case in the European Court to reduce the size of the health warnings on cigarette packets.

The British Heart Foundation and ASH Scotland launch a telephone helpline to help members of the public quit smoking and to provide advice to those engaged in helping smokers to quit.

British Airways begins trial non-smoking transatlantic flights.

The Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries publish mortality studies which show that women smokers are more than twice as likely to die early as non-smokers and men are 73% more likely to die prematurely.

- The London Borough of Richmond imposes restrictions which will prevent smokers from adopting children under the age of ten.
- Jul Shelter, the national campaign for the homeless, rejects a donation worth £50,000 from a tobacco company.
- Dr John Britton publishes a study into childhood asthma and smoking during pregnancy which finds that 39% of children whose mothers smoked 25 or more cigarettes a day during the child's first five years wheezed, compared to 29% of children whose mothers never smoked.
- A report from Parents Against Tobacco reveals that 90% of local authorities believe illegal sales of cigarettes to children to be a problem in their area.
- The Government publishes new regulations which strengthen the health warnings on tobacco products other than cigarettes.
- A MORI survey for the Health Education Authority reveals that 51% of people favour a complete ban on smoking in restaurants.
- Singapore Airlines offers daily non-smoking flights to London.
- Health care organisations, led by the HEA and ASH, make their first joint submission to the Chancellor of the Exchequer urging the Government to raise the tax on tobacco.
- Aug The Advertising Standards Authority upholds a complaint against an RJ Reynolds Camel advertisement for portraying smoking as adventurous and linking it to physical prowess.
- Nicotine patches are removed from the list of drugs which may be prescribed by GPs under the NHS.
- British Airways announces it will make some European flights of under 90 minutes smoke-free.
- Harry Elphick, a smoker, dies whilst awaiting treatment for heart disease. His widow claims that he was denied treatment at the Wythenshawe Hospital because he was a smoker.
- A report by the Health Education Authority shows that opportunistic advice from a GP can help a small but significant number (5%) of patients to give up.
- Sep The Health Education Authority launches a teenage smoking campaign that aims to exploit young people's concerns about the environment.
- BBC Broadcasting House and other central London premises go smoke-free.

- 1993 Sep The Health Education Authority calls for Regal cigarette advertisements featuring the bald smoker called Reg to be banned because the character has become a cult figure with children. A study shows that 90% of teenagers surveyed in the North of England had seen the ads compared with less than 50% of adults.
- Oct ASH launches the Breathing Space campaign for smoke-free work and public places. The Breathing Space pack informs consumers how they can approach restaurant owners, employers, schools, bus companies etc to convince them to go smoke-free.
- Department of the Environment survey of smoking in public places shows that 66% of establishments surveyed had a smoking policy and that 95% of the public thought that separate provision should be made for smokers and non-smokers in restaurants, cafes and other eating places.
- British Airways is to ban smoking on some flights to New Zealand and Australia.
- Nov Health Education Authority publishes *The Smoking Epidemic: a Prescription for Change* which assesses the impact of smoking in terms of GP consultations, prescriptions and outpatient visits and puts the total annual cost of smoking to the NHS in England & Wales at £610 million.
- The Chancellor of the Exchequer announces that he intends to increase excise duty on tobacco products by at least 3% on average each year in future Budgets.
- OPCS survey shows that, in England, 10% of 11-15 year olds and 23% of 15 year olds are still regular smokers.
- Dec Labour MP for Rother Valley, Kevin Barron, announced that he would introduce a Private Members' Bill to ban tobacco advertising. The First Reading was on 16 December.
- The Advertising Standards Authority decide that further use of the Regal advertisements featuring the humorous character Reg would be unwise and requests that they be discontinued.
- The Quitting is Winning anti-smoking campaign aimed at parents who smoke is launched in London.
- 1994 Jan** The British Medical Association states that it is wrong to discriminate against smokers in the provision of medical treatment.
- The widow of a Royal Marine wins a war widow's pension on the grounds that the decades of smoking which caused her husband's death in 1989 could be traced back to his suffering as a prisoner during the Second World War.

ASH publishes a new booklet on smoking specially written for secondary schoolchildren.

The Department of Health issues guidelines designed to reduce the incidence of smoking in homes for children.

The latest OPCS figures on smoking are published: the number of smokers is steadily declining so that in 1992 28% of the population smoked.

A European network on young people and tobacco is set up at ASH Scotland.

Feb On 11 February the House of Commons gives an unopposed Second Reading to Kevin Barron's Private Members' Bill to ban tobacco advertising after a procedural vote is carried by 227 votes to 17.

1994 Feb The Government publishes an Action Plan to reduce smoking. The plan outlines 5 areas in which action needs to be taken: price, increasing awareness of health risks and providing support for smokers who want to give up, effective controls on advertising, protecting smokers from passive smoking and improving scientific understanding of the risks of tobacco. They announce the appointment of the new Scientific Committee on Tobacco & Health under Professor David Poswillo.

Mar A British Rail survey shows that 85% of travellers on Network SouthEast approve of the smoking bans implemented last year.

A report, *Poor Smokers*, is published by the Policy Studies Institute which highlights a growing policy dilemma in that tobacco taxes help reduce smoking among the majority but have little or no effect on those who smoke most and can least afford it: Britain's poorest families.

ASH publishes a briefing on tobacco sponsorship of sport based on written evidence to the House of Commons National Heritage Select Committee.

Yorkshire ASH and the West Yorkshire Smoking & Health Campaign publish a guide to smoke-free eating and drinking in Yorkshire.

Apr Terry Hurlstone is awarded £50 for the stress he suffered from tobacco smoke while visiting his daughter at Nuffield Hospital in Brentwood, Essex.

Nurses Against Smoking is set up by the Royal College of Nursing Respiratory Nurses Forum.

The Smoke-free Birmingham Project publishes a guide to smoke-free provision in the city.

May Kevin Barron's Private Member's Bill to ban tobacco advertising fails at its Report Stage in the House of Commons on 13 May. 108 amendments and 5 new clauses are tabled, a tactic which ensures that the Bill runs out of time.



- ASH gives oral evidence to the National Heritage Select Committee on tobacco-sponsored sport and its television coverage.
- Jul In the High Court Mr Justice Popplewell quashes the refusal of legal aid to over 200 smokers wishing to sue tobacco manufacturers for damages. The application is to be reconsidered.
- The House of Commons National Heritage Select Committee recommends an end to televising of tobacco-sponsored sport on terrestrial television channels and that the Government negotiate with other governments similar controls on satellite channels.
- Philip Kanal from Bognor Regis received £300 from British Airways in an out of court settlement for the severe discomfort he and his family suffered from tobacco smoke on a flight from Heathrow to Toronto.
- The Cancer Research Campaign and Prowess Racing entered a team in the British Formula 3 motor racing championships. The car carried the slogan "Stop before you start".
- Sep A joint submission on tobacco taxation to the Chancellor of the Exchequer was made by more than 50 health organisations. The submission stressed the importance of regular tax increases on tobacco as a means of controlling tobacco consumption.
- The first no smoking beaches in Britain were introduced at Bournemouth, Dorset. Three stretches of the resort's seven miles of sand are to become no smoking zones from May 1995.
- 1994 Sep A report on mortality from smoking in developed countries by Professors Peto and Lopez estimated that tobacco smoking will kill around one million of today's UK teenagers and children in middle age, and one million in old age, if the current smoking patterns continue.
- The entertainer, Roy Castle, died from lung cancer on 2nd September. Roy Castle tirelessly campaigned against smoking and passive smoking throughout his illness.
- Oct The latest figures from Sir Richard Doll's study of smoking and death among British doctors found that the risks of smoking are twice as high as previously thought. It now seems that about half of all regular cigarette smokers will eventually be killed by their habit.
- Nov The House of Commons Treasury and Civil Service Committee produced its report on the increase of personal imports of tobacco and alcohol. It concluded that there was, so far, insufficient evidence to justify any departure from the Government's commitment to increase general tobacco duties but there was some evidence of large scale importing of hand-rolling tobacco.

- Dec
- The details of the new Voluntary Agreement on tobacco advertising and promotion, announced in May 94, were published. Measures include increasing the size of health warnings on posters and banning tobacco advertising on billboards within 200m of school entrances.
- A Parliamentary committee report on sports sponsorship and television coverage recommended that no further sporting events sponsored by tobacco companies should be broadcast once existing contracts have expired. The Heritage Secretary, Stephen Dorrell, rejected the report.
- The Government launched a three year national anti-smoking campaign in England. The £13.5 million project is aimed at adults and particularly parents who are risking their children's health by exposing them to passive smoking.
- Labour MP for Worsley, Terry Lewis, announced his intention to sponsor a Bill to increase the size and legibility of health warnings on tobacco packs.
- Tessa Jowell MP, who came fourteenth in the Private Members' Ballot, sponsored a Bill to ban smoking in public places and the workplace.
- 1995 Jan**
- A new agreement on tobacco sponsorship of sport comes into effect.
- A Campaign for Smoke-Free Family Restaurants was jointly launched by the Health Education Authority and the National Asthma Campaign. The campaign aims to persuade restaurateurs and cafe owners catering for families to provide segregated areas for smokers.
- The Health Education Authority produced a guide to the best smoke-free places to eat and drink in London and the South East called 'Rooms without Fumes'.
- Oxfordshire ASH and Yorkshire ASH urged magistrates to include the condition that areas of pubs and bars licensed for children are smoke-free when implementing the Deregulation and Contracting Out Bill which allows children's certificates to be issued to pubs and bars.
- Feb
- Limited legal aid granted to a group of smokers seeking compensation for illnesses caused by smoking.
- The "Put smoking out of fashion" campaign launched by the Health Education Authority to persuade fashion models and agencies that smoking and fashion do not mix.
- 1995 Feb
- Elizabeth Ashby, an asthmatic, was awarded £2,500 in an out of court settlement for illness exacerbated by passive smoking at work.
- The Private Members' Bill to increase the size of health warnings, promoted by Terry Lewis MP, failed to proceed when it was talked out at its second reading on the 17 February.

- Apr A major American study concludes that passive smoking is a cause of heart disease in non-smokers.
- May ASH complains to the ASA about a gift catalogue promoting Benson & Hedges cigarettes on the grounds that it breached the voluntary agreement on tobacco advertising by encouraging people to smoke.
- The High Court declares illegal a mail-order scheme to import cheap cigarettes from Europe into the UK.
- Jun A Crown Court judge upholds a magistrate's ruling that non-smoking areas should be provided as a condition of granting children's certificates in pubs.
- July Beryl Roe, a former employee of Stockport Council is awarded £25,000 in compensation in an out of court settlement for the ill-health she experienced after working in a smoky office for several years.
- Sep A jury in San Francisco awards \$2m to a former smoker who claimed he contracted cancer from asbestos in cigarette filters. Milton Horowitz sued Lorillard, manufacturer of Kent cigarettes, after he contracted the rare asbestos-related disease.
- Oct A study reveals that the Government is receiving around £108m a year in tax revenue from illegal sales of cigarettes to children.
- Nov A BMA study shows that three out of four of the most heavily advertised brands of cigarettes are among the top four brands smoked by 11-14 year olds.
- 1996** Jan A Shropshire publican reports that turnover has increased by a third since a ban on smoking was introduced 18 months ago.
- Simon Hughes MP introduces a Ten Minute Rule Bill aimed at protecting children by banning all tobacco advertising and promotion and strengthening the law to stop the illegal sale of tobacco to minors.
- Feb The Government launches a 3-year anti-smoking campaign aimed at teenagers.
- Mar The American tobacco company Liggett breaks ranks with the rest of the tobacco industry and agrees to reach a multi-million dollar out of court settlement with tobacco control litigants. The company agrees to pay 5% of its pre-tax profits towards tobacco-related health care costs.
- Mar Cambridge University accepts sponsorship from BAT to pay for a professorship in international relations in honour of BAT's former chairman, Sir Patrick Sheehy.

- Apr BAT's Chairman, Lord Cairns, admits that the company has spent more than £33m a year defending itself against tobacco-related lawsuits but also admits that it has not made any contingency arrangements to protect shareholders from tobacco litigation.
- 1996 May A survey commissioned by ASH and five other health organisations found that many children still links sports such as motor-racing are linked to cigarette advertising. The survey also revealed that children who smoke quickly become addicted to nicotine.
- A South London school accepts £250,000 from BAT.
- Jun Guernsey's State Parliament becomes the first government in the British Isles to impose a ban on tobacco advertising.
- Jul The 300 former smokers who were suing the tobacco industry lose their appeal against the withdrawal of legal aid.
- Aug Grady Carter, a lung cancer victim, is awarded \$500,000 against Brown and Williamson, an American subsidiary of BAT. The jury ruled that the cigarettes Mr Carter smoked were a "defective" product and that the manufacturers had shown negligence in not alerting smokers to the hazards of smoking.
- US President Bill Clinton declares nicotine an addictive drug and grants the Food and Drug Administration authority to regulate nicotine. The FDA also recommends action to limit tobacco advertising and sponsorship.
- The Medical Research Council accepts £147,000 from BAT to study the relationship between nicotine and Alzheimer's disease. The decision is widely condemned by the medical community.
- Sep Lawyers acting for the lung cancer victims who were refused Legal Aid to sue the tobacco industry agree to take on the case on a "no win, no fee" basis.
- Oct The Advertising Standards Authority upholds complaints about a Philip Morris advertising campaign which had claimed that the health risks from passive smoking were no greater than drinking chlorinated water or eating biscuits.
- Scientists identify the substance in tobacco smoke that causes lung cancer.
- John Dean, a 41-year old former smoker who had been suffering from Buerger's disease (a circulatory condition) loses his legal battle against Gallaher.
- Dec Gallaher announces that it is to close its factory in Hyde, Lancashire with the loss of 950 jobs.

Two families of lung cancer victims file product liability suits in France. This is the first action of its kind in the country.

Data released by the Health Education Authority reveal that the annual death toll from smoking-related diseases in the UK is now at least 120,000.

- 1997 Mar** In an unprecedented move, US tobacco company Liggett Group proposes a deal to settle outstanding litigation which includes a formal acknowledgement that smoking is addictive and can cause cancer.
- Apr** As part of the evidence submitted to a class action lawsuit in the US, the president of RJ Reynolds, Andrew Schindler, swears under oath that he did not believe tobacco was any more addictive than coffee or carrots.
- A US federal judge rules that cigarettes are “drug delivery devices” for the delivery of nicotine. The ruling clears the way for the US Food and Drug Administration to regulate tobacco products.
- 1997 May** The new Labour Government announces its commitment to ban tobacco advertising and tackle smoking among the young. Tessa Jowell is appointed as minister with responsibility for public health - the first time that public health has been recognised at ministerial level.
- The Health Secretary, Frank Dobson, announces that the government will ban tobacco sponsorship of sport but that sporting bodies would be given time to find alternative sponsors.
- A former pub licensee begins legal action against Scottish and Newcastle brewery for damages to his health as a result of working in a smoky atmosphere.
- Jun** The US tobacco companies agree a deal with lawyers representing 40 US states. Under the terms of the settlement, the industry agrees to pay approx. £368.5bn over 25 years to pay for the healthcare costs incurred by treating people with smoking-related illnesses. In return, the deal would stop further class action lawsuits and impose a limit on the amount of money required to pay future individual claimants.
- Gallaher is awarded a prize for its 17-year sponsorship of the Ulster Orchestra. The award was organised by the Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts.
- Jul** The Government hosts an anti-smoking summit to discuss ways of reducing smoking. The proposals are intended to form the basis of a White Paper on tobacco control.
- Aug** A survey by MINTEL suggests that the number of smokers in Britain has increased for the first time in 20 years. Contrary to previous trends, the

rise appeared to be in smokers in the highest socio-economic groups and among those in their late thirties and early forties.

- Oct In the US state of Florida a landmark lawsuit filed on behalf of 60,000 non-smoking flight attendants is settled out of court. The \$300m settlement marks the first time that the tobacco industry has agreed to pay for damage caused by passive smoking.
- ASH and the BMA hold a conference to assess the possibility of legal action in the UK against the tobacco industry by individual health authorities and other bodies.
- The latest ONS survey reveals a 1% increase in smoking prevalence among teenagers aged 11-15. In 1996, 13% of secondary schoolchildren were regular smokers.
- BAT Industries announces that it is to split into two companies. The financial services division is to merge with Zurich Insurance while the tobacco division is to retain the original name of British American Tobacco.
- Nov The 1996 General Household Survey reveals a rise in smoking prevalence among British adults for the first time since the Government began collecting data on smoking in 1972. Among men prevalence rose from the 1994 figure of 28 per cent to 29 per cent, and among women there was an increase from 26 to 28 per cent.
- The Government calls for Formula One to be exempt from the proposed EU Directive on tobacco advertising and sponsorship. The proposal is widely criticised and eventually the Government backs down in order not to jeopardise the rest of the Directive.
- Dec The European Council of Health Ministers votes to ban tobacco advertising throughout the European Union. The landmark Directive, agreed by the narrowest of margins, will prohibit “any form of commercial communication with the aim, or direct or indirect effect, of promoting a tobacco product”. The draft Directive has to be approved by the European Parliament before it becomes law.
- 1997 Dec BAT confirms that it has purchased the Tyrell motor racing team which will be known as British American Racing. It is reported that BAT is to spend up to £300 million over five years on the new team.
- 1998 Jan Tobacco executives admit at a US Congressional hearing that nicotine is addictive and that smoking is harmful. The statements were in contrast to their testimony before the same committee in 1994.
- Feb Internal tobacco industry documents released to an American court show that BAT knew at least twenty years ago that nicotine was addictive.

- The Advertising Standards Authority rejects a complaint made by ASH that ads for Camel boots were, in fact, a form of tobacco advertising.
- Mar Formula One's ruling body, the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) announces that it would consider bringing forward the end to all tobacco sponsorship if presented with evidence that tobacco sponsorship encourages children to take up smoking.
- The Government-appointed Scientific Committee on Tobacco and Health (SCOTH) publishes its review of the evidence on passive smoking and other health effects of tobacco use. The committee concludes that exposure to passive smoking is a cause of lung cancer and heart disease in adults, while children exposed to tobacco smoke are at increased risk of cot death, asthma and other respiratory diseases, and middle ear disease.
- A non-smoker with lung cancer, who worked for 30 years in smoke-filled pubs, issues legal action against Scottish and Newcastle Breweries and Whitbread, claiming that passive smoking has caused her illness.
- Apr ASH publishes research to show that smokers who switch to low tar cigarettes in the belief that they are safer, are being misled by advertising which promotes these products as being 'mild' or 'light'. The research showed that machines used to denote tar and nicotine levels do not give a true measurement of the amount of tar and nicotine consumed by the typical smoker.
- May The European Parliament votes by a clear majority in favour of the EU Directive to ban tobacco advertising and sponsorship.
- A nurse who sued her former employer for loss of earnings due to illness caused by passive smoking loses her case. The judge ruled that her employer had taken reasonable steps to protect employees from the hazards of tobacco smoke and, in so doing, accepted the principle that employers do have a duty to take appropriate action to avoid excessive exposure to environmental tobacco smoke.
- Jun The EU Directive is formally adopted by the EU member states.
- ASH publishes a report: 'Tobacco Explained - the truth about the tobacco industry in its own words'. The document includes extracts from previously confidential industry documents which show how the companies mounted a huge cover-up operation to conceal their knowledge about the harmful effects of smoking.
- Judge Michael Wright sets a January 2000 trial date for the first UK group action case brought by lung cancer victims against Gallaher and Imperial Tobacco.

- The US Senate votes against the proposed tobacco settlement that had been agreed in principle by the tobacco companies and states' attorneys general in June 1997.
- 1998 Jul A US judge rules that the Environmental Protection Agency wrongly declared environmental tobacco smoke (i.e. passive smoking) a dangerous carcinogen. The EPA said it would appeal the ruling.
- A US appeals court overturns the landmark award of \$750,000 made to lung cancer victim Grady Carter. The court ruled that Carter was outside the limitations period of 4 years when he filed his claim.
- Aug A US appeals court rules that the Food and Drug Administration does not have jurisdiction to regulate tobacco and that it over-stepped its authority when it issued regulations in August 1996 restricting the sale of tobacco products to children and limiting tobacco advertising and marketing.
- Sep The newly elected Director General of the World Health Organization, Gro Harlem Brundtland, calls for a world-wide ban on tobacco advertising. WHO sets a target for the reduction of European smokers to under 20% of the adult population by the year 2015.
- Nov A \$206 billion settlement is agreed between the principal US tobacco companies and 46 states that had sued to recover the costs of treating people with smoking-related diseases. The deal requires the companies to make payments to the states over 25 years plus an additional \$1.45 bn to fund national anti-smoking campaigns. The companies also agree not to market to young people and to limit tobacco sponsorship of sport to one event per year.
- Dec The Government publishes a White Paper on tobacco control. It includes new targets to reduce smoking prevalence among adults and children; an NHS smoking cessation programme; a "clean air" charter aimed at the hospitality trade and plans to further restrict smoking in the workplace, through an Approved Code of Practice.
- Four UK tobacco companies issue a legal challenge to the EU Directive on tobacco advertising arguing that it is health measure rather than a harmonisation issue under the single market provisions.
- 1999 Jan BAT announces that it is to merge with Rothmans in a deal worth £5.28 billion. The deal means that the new merged company will be the world's second largest tobacco company with 16% of the estimated global market of around 5.5 trillion cigarettes, just behind the world's leading company, Philip Morris which has a 17% share.
- The Warrant Office announces that it will be withdrawing the Royal Warrant from Gallaher. The company is given one year's notice to allow time to change the packaging and remove the Royal Crest from its cigarette packs.



- Feb. A court in California orders Philip Morris to pay \$50 million in damages to Patricia Henley a lung cancer victim. The award is subsequently reduced to \$25m. The release of thousands of internal industry documents revealing that Philip Morris and other tobacco companies knew about the harmful effects of smoking but concealed the knowledge, is believed to have influenced the jury in this case.
- The first UK class action of 52 people with lung cancer is brought to an end. Lord Justice Wright rules that the majority of the plaintiffs have exceeded the 3-year time limit for personal injury claims. The lawyers for the plaintiffs decide that it would be too risky to pursue the case for the remaining few cases.
- March RJR Nabisco Holdings sells its international tobacco division to Japan Tobacco.
- April BAT's US subsidiary, Brown & Williamson reveals that it is developing a 'safer' cigarette made with tobacco that has lower levels of cancer-causing nitrosamines.
- Brown & Williamson launches its website and uses this to public acknowledge a causal link between smoking and disease.
- A second record breaking punitive damages award is made by a jury in Oregon against Philip Morris for "systematically lying" about the risks of smoking. The family of Jesse Williams, a 67-year old who died of lung cancer, was awarded \$81million.
- May The World Health Assembly backs a resolution to begin work on a new Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC).
- June ASH and the BMA launch a report revealing the link between smoking and impotence. It is estimated that up to 120,000 young men are impotent because of smoking.
- The Government announces plans to introduce a ban on tobacco advertising on 10 December 1999.
- July The Health and Safety Commission releases a draft Approved Code of Practice (AcoP) on passive smoking in the workplace.
- The Parliamentary Health Select Committee announces that it is to hold an inquiry to examine what action the tobacco industry has taken in response to the scientific knowledge of the harmful effects of smoking.
- ASH and ICRF launch a report on tobacco additives which shows that some additives increase the potency of nicotine and enhance the palatability of tobacco smoke.
- September A jury in Florida finds tobacco companies guilty of making a "defective and addictive" product, and for conspiring to hide the dangers of

smoking. The class action, known as the Engle case after the lead plaintiff Howard Engle, is the first to go to trial.

The US Department of Justice files a multi-billion dollar civil lawsuit against the tobacco industry to recoup money spent on health care for smoking-related diseases. The lawsuit also includes a civil RICO (Racketeer Influenced, corrupt Organisations act) charge which would allow the government to seek a portion of any “ill-gotten” tobacco profits.

A voluntary code of practice, backed by the government is launched by the hospitality trade to reduce exposure to passive smoking in pubs, hotels and restaurants.

- October      The High Court grants an injunction by the tobacco industry to stop the implementation of the proposed UK regulations to ban tobacco advertising.
- November    A new directive on tobacco regulation is adopted by the European Commission. The directive is designed to replace existing laws on health warnings and tar yields. In addition, it calls for disclosure of all ingredients and additives and the prohibition of misleading descriptors such as “mild” and “light”.
- December    The Court of Appeal overturns the High Court judgement on the advertising regulations but the industry announces that it will take the matter to the House of Lords. The Appeal Court orders that the regulations cannot be implemented until the matter is heard by the House of Lords.
- 2000
- January      The Canadian Health Minister announces proposals to increase the size of health warnings to cover 50% of the front of cigarette packs and to include images of diseased lungs, etc.
- ASH and a group of investigative journalists release documents which suggest that BAT has been involved in tobacco smuggling as part of a global effort to recruit new smokers. The expose is published in detail in the Guardian newspaper.
- February     ASH is recalled to give further evidence to the Health Select Committee regarding the alleged involvement of BAT in tobacco smuggling. BAT’s chairman Martin Broughton and Kenneth Clarke MP, the former Chancellor and deputy-chairman of BAT, are also called to respond to the allegations.
- In response to questioning by members of the Health Committee, the Health secretary, Alan Milburn, agrees to publish the list of 600 permitted additives in cigarettes.

The Royal College of Physicians publishes a report on nicotine addiction which ranks cigarettes on a par with heroin and calls for greater regulation of tobacco.

March Philip Morris and RJ Reynolds are ordered to pay damages totalling \$20m to a 40-year old smoker dying of lung cancer. This case is significant because it is the first in which the plaintiff began smoking after health warnings appeared on cigarette packs. Previously, tobacco companies had used the health warnings as part of their defence to argue that smokers must have been aware of the health risks.

The Government announces a new strategy, costing £209 million over 3 years, to combat tobacco smuggling. This includes the deployment of 1000 extra customs officers, additional intelligence staff, x-ray scanners, tougher sanctions and penalties, and a public awareness campaign.

April The US Supreme Court rules that the Food and Drug Administration lacks the power to regulate tobacco.

The 1998 General Household Survey data show that smoking prevalence has fallen slightly in British adults from 28% in 1996 to 27% in 1998.

May Two South American states: Ecuador and Columbia launch legal actions against Philip Morris for its alleged involvement in a conspiracy to smuggle cigarettes into the two countries.

June Publication of the House of Commons Health Committee report into the tobacco industry. The main conclusion is that almost every area of tobacco the industry is under-regulated or poorly-regulated. Calls for the establishment of a Tobacco Regulation Authority. Of the tobacco companies, the MPs conclude that their “past records of denial and obfuscation militate against any claims they may make towards scientific objectivity.”

Members of the European Parliament approve the draft directive on tobacco regulation and vote to increase the size of health warnings to cover at least 35% of the front surface and 45% of the back. The Council of Health Ministers subsequently approves the directive but rejects the MEPs proposal on health warnings, accepting instead the Commission’s original proposal of an increase to 25% of each pack surface.

The Advocate General of the European Court of Justice issues an opinion on the European directive on tobacco advertising. He questions the legal basis of the directive and argues that it should be annulled. Although not binding on the court, there is an expectation that the judges will accept this opinion. The UK Government announces that if the directive is overturned, it will introduce new primary legislation to ban tobacco advertising.

- June Launch of Zyban (bupropion), the first non-nicotine stop smoking aid to receive a licence. The drug works by de-sensitising nicotine receptors in the brain, thereby removing cravings caused by nicotine withdrawal.
- July European Commission announces that it is to sue a number of tobacco companies for their involvement in tobacco smuggling.
- Aug Documents released by the World Health Organization reveal that the WHO was infiltrated by tobacco industry employees who systematically undermined the organisation's campaigns on tobacco control.
- September The Health and Safety Commission recommends adoption of an Approved Code of Practice (ACoP) to restrict smoking in the workplace. The ACoP requires approval by government ministers.
- A US federal judge dismisses two of the US government's four claims in a lawsuit that seeks to recover billions of dollars spent by the government on smoking-related illnesses. Judge Gladys Kessler ruled that the government could not use the Medical Care Recovery Act to recoup costs but ruled that the US Justice Dept. could proceed with its two counts under the federal racketeering law.
- October Acting on the recommendation of the Advocate General, the European Court of Justice annuls the tobacco advertising directive. The Court states that only tobacco advertising that crosses national boundaries, such as TV, radio and Internet advertising should be a legitimate matter for European legislation.
- As part of its response to the Health select Committee's inquiry into the tobacco industry, the government orders an investigation into the allegations that BAT is involved in tobacco smuggling.
- ASH launches a report – "Danger: PR in the Playground" which reveals the truth behind the tobacco industry's PR strategy on youth smoking.
- An independent American tobacco company, Star Scientific Inc., is granted a patent for a process that produces very low levels of the cancer-causing tobacco specific nitrosamines found in tobacco smoke.
- November The European Commission files a RICO (Racketeer Influence Corrupt Organisations) action against Philip Morris and RJ Reynolds in the US courts. The action is designed to recover excise duties which the EU alleges were lost as a result of industry involvement in tobacco smuggling.
- Nottingham University announces that it has accepted £3.8 million from British American Tobacco to fund an International Centre for Social Responsibility. This results in a number of academics withdrawing from the University in protest.

The first inter-governmental negotiations on the WHO's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control are held in Geneva. The target date for ratification of a global treaty on tobacco is set for 2003.

December The UK government publishes its Tobacco Advertising and Promotion Bill which aims to ban all forms of tobacco advertising throughout the UK.

It's revealed that Philip Morris is behind an Australian fashion website designed to attract teenage girls. Visitors to the site are invited to clubs and events where Philip Morris's Alpine cigarettes are heavily promoted.

## 2001

January New research shows that a ban on tobacco sponsorship would pose no threat to the future of Formula One motor racing. Furthermore, the report by a marketing expert argues that there is no need to allow the sport until 2006 to find alternative sponsors as there are many non-tobacco companies ready to take the place of the cigarette companies.

February A major survey of the lifestyles of 16-16 year olds across Europe reveals that Britain's teenagers are near the top of the league table for the use of illicit drugs, alcohol and tobacco. In the UK, 20% of teenagers said they were regular smokers by the age 13.

March New evidence of tobacco companies' involvement in smuggling is published by a consortium of investigative journalists. The report covers the activities of BAT, Philip Morris, RJ Reynolds and others, and gives insight into the RICO action filed against the companies.

The Department of Health announces that nicotine replacement therapies are to be made more widely available, both by prescription and on general sale.

May EU directive requiring bigger, bolder health warnings on tobacco packaging becomes law. Measures to be phased in from 30 September 2002 include increasing the size of health warnings to cover 30% and 40% of the main pack faces; a reduction in maximum tar yields from 12% to 10%, with maximum yields imposed for nicotine and carbon monoxide; removal of misleading descriptors such as "light" and "mild"; and a requirement by tobacco companies to disclose ingredients and additives by brand.

A new European Union directive that would place some restrictions on tobacco advertising is published. Under the proposals all press and radio advertising for tobacco would be banned, as would tobacco sponsorship of sport for events which take place in more than one EU country. Indirect advertising and point of sale advertising are not covered by the draft directive.

The US company Star Scientific announces that it is to test market a novel tobacco product called cigarets which look and taste like mints. The prime ingredient is powdered tobacco mixed with eucalyptus and mint flavourings. The company says it aims to encourage smokers to use the product in places where they cannot smoke.

June A former smoker with lung cancer is awarded \$3 billion in punitive damages against Philip Morris. It is the biggest verdict to date in an individual tobacco case. In addition, the Los Angeles jury awards the plaintiff, Richard Boeken, \$5.54 million in compensatory damages.

Despite promises made by the Labour Party to ban tobacco advertising, the Tobacco Advertising and Promotions Bill, which failed to reach the statute book because of lack of parliamentary time before the General Election, is not included in the new parliamentary timetable. Health groups say the decision is a disgrace and bitterly disappointing.

The deputy chairman of BAT, Kenneth Clarke MP, announces his intention to stand for leadership of the Conservative Party.

The Committee on Safety of Medicines announces tougher controls on the stop smoking drug Zyban following a number of deaths by people taking the drug.

July Philip Morris commissions a report for the Czech government which claims that smoking has economic benefits because smokers die early and are therefore no longer a burden on the country. The company subsequently apologises for causing offence. ASH dismisses the report as "irrelevant and misleading".

New research shows that just 30 minutes exposure to tobacco smoke by non-smokers is sufficient to have an impact on coronary blood flow. Researchers say this provides direct evidence of the harmful effect of passive smoking on circulation in non-smokers.

Following the failure of the government to include a bill to ban tobacco advertising in the Queen's Speech after the June general election, the Liberal Democrat peer, Tim Clement-Jones, introduces an identical bill in the House of Lords.

August A study of 300 employees in Glasgow shows that non-smoking workers exposed to passive smoking at work suffer up to 10 percent reduced lung function.

The Californian lung cancer victim who won a record \$3 billion award against Philip Morris is ordered to accept a lower amount or face a retrial, after a Superior Court judge ruled that the original verdict was too high. Richard Boeken agrees to accept the much lower \$100m damage award.

September BAT sets up website that lists bars and clubs but whose real purpose is to promote cigarettes. ASH responds by creating a rival site to reveal the truth behind the BAT website.

Japan Tobacco, the world's third largest tobacco company, announces that it is taking the European Union to court over the labelling rules that could prevent it from marketing its 'Mild Seven' brand. Under the terms of the tobacco regulation directive, passed in May, terms such as 'mild' and 'light' would be banned.

November An investigation by the genetic policy research group, GeneWatch, reveals that Japan Tobacco has bought the right to develop vaccines and treatments for lung cancer based on genetic research patents owned by a biotech company. ASH described the move as "a kind of vertical integration of smoking and cancer, all in the name of profit".

December Health experts call for changes to the regulations governing smoking cessation aids, noting that it is far easier for people to have access to, and to continue using tobacco than it is to get aids to help them quit. For example, certain groups in particular such as pregnant women, young people under the age of 18, and people with existing heart problems are discouraged from using nicotine replacement therapy.

## 2002

January Canadian research reveals that graphic images showing the effects of smoking are effective in putting people off smoking. Since the introduction of images on cigarette packs sold in Canada, 44% of smokers said the pictures had increased their motivation to quit.

February A New York judge dismisses a federal lawsuit by the European Union alleging US tobacco giants Philip Morris and R.J. Reynolds sponsored cigarette smuggling in Europe.

March A survey carried out by ASH, the No Smoking Day charity and Cancer Research UK reveals that smokers are not only disillusioned with smoking but also highly over-optimistic about whether they are likely to quit, and how long it will take.

Philip Morris is ordered to pay more than US\$150 million in damages for a smoker's cancer death. The lawsuit claims the company lied to smokers about the health risks associated with low-tar products. The decision is the fifth defeat in Oregon and California for cigarette makers in suits by individual smokers.

The Government announces it will back the Private Member's Bill to ban tobacco advertising introduced by the Liberal Democrat peer Lord Clement Jones.

- April An Australian court dismisses BAT's defence in a lung cancer case after the lawyers for the victim showed that BAT destroyed documents that could have had a bearing on the outcome of the case.
- June An Oregon appeals judge reverses a lower court ruling against Philip Morris that had cut damages awarded to the family of a dead smoker down to \$32 million, restoring the initial \$80 million punitive damages award.
- The International Agency for Research on Cancer (a division of the World Health Organization) publishes a report confirming that passive smoking is a cause of lung cancer in non-smokers.
- July BAT launches its first corporate social responsibility report. To coincide with this, ASH publishes a critique of BAT, highlighting areas not covered by BAT's own report such as the scale of death arising from the sales of its products.
- August Cancer Research UK launches draft code of practice urging universities and research bodies to reject tobacco industry funding. The charity says that it will not fund research at institutions receiving money from the tobacco industry.
- October A Los Angeles court awards US\$28 billion in punitive damages to a 64-year old smoker dying of lung cancer. The same jury awarded \$850,000 in compensatory damages to Betty Bullock, who blamed her addiction on the company's failure to warn of the risks of smoking. The size of the award caused the Dow Jones index of US stocks to fall by more than 200 points. Philip Morris's shares dropped by \$2 – about 5 per cent of their value.
- Oct/Nov The bill to ban tobacco advertising, which began as a Private Member's bill in the House of Lords, is passed by parliament. In order to comply with the EU tobacco advertising directive, the date for the phasing out of tobacco sponsorship of Formula One motor racing is brought forward from Oct 2006 to July 2005.
- December The EU Directive on tobacco advertising is adopted. It is limited in scope, covering only trans-border advertising and sponsorship. However, it allows for Member States to adopt stronger measures.
- The British Medical Association publishes a report calling for a ban on smoking in public places. It states that voluntary measures are not adequate to protect people from the effects of second-hand smoke.

## 2003

- January New, large health warnings start to appear on cigarette packs as required by the EU tobacco product directive. The stark messages include:



“Smoking clogs the arteries and causes heart attacks and strokes” and the first warning about addiction: “Smoking is highly addictive, don’t start.”

- February      The first phase of the Tobacco Advertising and Promotion Act is implemented. This brings to an end tobacco advertising on billboards and in the print media, and bans direct mail, internet advertising and new promotions.
- March          For the second time, a California appeals court upholds a \$26.5 million verdict against Philip Morris in the case brought by lung cancer victim Patricia Henley. In 1999, a jury had awarded Ms Henley \$51.5 million which was reduced to \$26.5m on appeal. In its second appeal, Philip Morris argued that there should be a new trial but this was rejected.
- A ban on smoking in all workplaces including bars is introduced in New York City. A poll shows the law is supported by 70% of voters.
- May             The Framework Convention on Tobacco Control is adopted by the 171 member states of the World Health Assembly. This is the first internationally agreed draft treaty to control tobacco supply and consumption. The agreed final text covers taxation, smoking prevention and treatment, smuggling, advertising and product regulation. In order to become a binding agreement, it requires ratification by a minimum of 40 countries.
- July             Imperial Tobacco signs a Memorandum of Understanding with Customs & Excise in an attempt to drive down illegal trafficking of cigarettes. The move follows the suspension of seven employees in connection with an investigation into alleged smuggling at Reemtsma, Imperial’s German subsidiary.
- The Chief Medical Officer, Sir Liam Donaldson, issues a challenge to the UK government to ban smoking in public places. In his Annual Report, Sir Liam said such action would “put this country at the forefront of international best practice in tobacco control”.
- October        The first British tobacco litigation case to reach the courts begins in Edinburgh. Alfred McTear, a former 60-a-day smoker died in 1993, aged 49. Shortly before his death he launched a civil action against Imperial Tobacco which his wife subsequently pursued on his behalf. Giving evidence to the court, Imperial Tobacco’s Chief Executive Gareth Davis denied the links between smoking and lung cancer.
- A woman with asthma is awarded £17,000 compensation against a former employer who failed to stop smoking in her presence. Karen Whitehead, who is registered disabled, became ill in her first week but her request to work in a smoke-free environment was thwarted because the company failed to uphold the no-smoking rule.

BAT announces plans to merge its US subsidiary, Brown & Williamson, with its former rival RJ Reynolds. The deal is designed, in part, to protect BAT from current and future tobacco litigation.

November The Presidents of 13 royal medical colleges sign a joint letter to The Times calling for a total ban on smoking in the workplace, including pubs and restaurants.

December A website listing controversial documents that were supplied to a government inquiry into the tobacco industry is launched to the public. The site – [www.tobaccopapers.com](http://www.tobaccopapers.com) - includes briefings, brainstorming session notes and outline advertising campaigns for tobacco companies. The documents reveal the tactics used to lure young people and manipulate adult smokers.

The Office of Fair Trading launches an inquiry into allegations of price fixing in the UK tobacco industry.

## 2004

January ASH and the legal firm Thompsons issue a warning letter to leading hospitality industry bosses stating that the 'date of guilty knowledge' regarding the dangers of passive smoking is now passed. The letter states that employers have no excuse for not knowing of the risks faced by their staff if they are exposed to secondhand smoke at work.

February The British Heart Foundation's hard-hitting anti-smoking campaign showing fat oozing out of a smoker's artery is hailed as a success. One month after the campaign launch, BHF report that 10,000 people had contacted the NHS smoking helpline and 62,000 had visited the website in response to the advertisements.

The Government adviser Derek Wanless publishes a follow-up report on the future of public health in the UK. "Securing Good Health for the Whole Population" includes a number of recommendations to tackle the smoking epidemic such as a ban on smoking in workplaces, the need for stronger action to tackle smuggling, and the possibility of allowing nicotine substitutes to be made more widely available.

March Ireland becomes the first country in the world to ban smoking in workplaces and public places. Despite dire predictions of failure by sections of the hospitality trade, the ban is widely accepted and compliance reaches 97%.

April ASH, Friends of the Earth and Christian Aid join forces to launch a report criticising BAT's record on the environment, health and activities in developing countries. Timed to coincide with BAT's AGM, "BAT's Big Wheeze" includes case studies of how tobacco farmers are exploited at the hands of BAT and how the company's claims on environmental standards do not stand up to scrutiny.

Philip Morris International offers to pay \$1 billion to the European Union in a landmark deal to avoid lawsuits over allegations that it colluded in the smuggling of cigarettes into the EU. The company continues to deny any involvement in the illegal trade in cigarettes.

The European Union announces that it is to phase out the payment of subsidies to tobacco farmers. Tobacco is the most heavily subsidised agricultural crop. The new system is not due to begin until 2006.

- June
- The BMJ publishes the latest results of the famous “doctors’ study” that has tracked the smoking habits and mortality rates of almost 35,000 British male doctors from 1951 to 2001. The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary study shows that the risks for persistent cigarette smoking are even higher than previously estimated: about half to two thirds of all persistent smokers will eventually be killed by their habit.
- “Welcome to Norway. The only thing we smoke here is salmon”, read posters issued by the government to mark the implementation of Norway’s ban on smoking in all public places. Norway is the second country to implement a total smoking ban.
- A MORI poll finds that 80% of Britons favour a law to ensure all enclosed workplaces are smoke-free. Support is strong across all social classes.
- July
- For the second year running, The Chief Medical Officer, Sir Liam Donaldson, provides powerful evidence to support the case for smokefree workplaces. In his annual report on the state of public health, he concludes that smokefree workplaces would bring a net benefit to society of between £2.3 and £.7 billion a year.
- August
- ASH and the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health launch a toolkit to help employers implement smokefree policies. The kit contains the latest expert advice on issues such as the law relating to secondhand smoke pollution.
- September
- The US Government’s civil racketeering case against the tobacco industry, originally filed under the Clinton Administration, finally gets under way. The government is seeking \$280 billion from the “ill-gotten gains” it says the industry earned by selling to people who became addicted before the age of 21.
- October
- The tobacco industry loses its legal challenge to the government’s tobacco advertising Point of Sale regulations.
- November
- Following the ratification of the WHO’s Framework Convention on Tobacco Control by 40 countries, the treaty is due to enter into force within 90 days.
- The Government publishes “Choosing Health”, a public health White Paper which proposes a ban on smoking in the majority of workplaces

and public places but stop short of a total ban. Exemptions are proposed for pubs not serving food and private clubs.

The Scottish First Minister announces that Scotland will introduce a total ban on smoking in workplaces and public places.

December The tobacco advertising point of sale regulations are upheld and enter into force on 21 December. The only permitted brand advertising is now one single A5 sized ad or ad with equivalent overall dimensions. One third of the surface area must include a health warning.

New Zealand becomes the third country in the world, after Ireland and Norway, to ban smoking in all enclosed workplaces and public places.

## 2005

January A parliamentary select committee investigation into tobacco smuggling accuses the tobacco companies of not doing enough to tackle smuggling which costs the UK taxpayer £3 billion a year in lost taxes.

The pub chain JD Wetherspoon announces that it is to bring forward a ban on smoking in its pubs. Starting in May 2005, 60 pubs are to become smokefree, whilst the remainder will ban smoking in 2006.

February The first global health treaty – the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control – enters into force. The treaty requires countries to commit to implementing a range of measures such as a ban on tobacco advertising, measures to protect people from secondhand smoke, tax rises, and large clear health warnings on all tobacco products.

March The British Medical Journal publishes new data to show the estimated number of deaths caused by secondhand smoke in the UK. According to Professor Konrad Jamrozik, passive smoking is responsible for an estimated 617 deaths per year in the workplace, including 54 deaths a year among people employed in the hospitality industry. Approximately 10,000 people die each year from passive smoke exposure in the home.

One year after implementation of the Irish smoke free law, a survey shows that 98% of people believe workplaces are healthier as a result. 94% of workplaces inspected were compliant with the law.

Guernsey becomes the first jurisdiction within the United Kingdom to enact comprehensive legislation to ban smoking in public places and workplaces.

April The Scottish Parliament passes the Smoking, Health and Social Care (Scotland) bill which will ban smoking in all workplaces and public places. The law is due to come into force on 26 March 2006.

June The widow of Alfred McTear loses her battle on behalf of her husband against Imperial Tobacco. Mr McTear died of lung cancer but began

legal proceedings against the tobacco company before he died. Judge Nimmo Smith rules that to succeed, Mrs McTear would have had to prove not only that Imperial Tobacco caused her husband's death but also that smoking causes lung cancer. The company had not admitted this, and it could not be assumed, the judge ruled.

- July The final part of the Tobacco Advertising and Promotion Act 2002, banning tobacco sponsorship of global sports such as Formula One motor racing, comes into effect. An EU Directive banning cross-border tobacco advertising and sponsorship takes effect at the same time.
- October The Northern Ireland Minister announces that smoking will be banned in every workplace in the province by April 2007.
- November By 8 November, the deadline for ratification of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, 110 countries had become party to the treaty.
- The Government publishes the Health Bill which sets out proposals for making workplaces smokefree. Despite widespread support for a comprehensive smoking ban, the Bill proposes that exemptions be made for private members' clubs and for pubs that do not serve food. The measures will apply to England only as Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland have opted for comprehensive smoke-free workplaces.
- December A YouGov Poll commissioned by Cancer Research UK and Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) finds that 67% of respondents across the UK believed that all pubs and bars should be smokefree by law.

## **2006**

- February Report Stage and Third Reading of the Health Bill in the House of Commons. An amendment to make all workplaces and enclosed public places smokefree is passed by 384 votes in favour and 184 votes against. The exemption of pubs that do not serve food and private members' clubs from smokefree legislation is removed.
- The first Conference of the Parties (nations) of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) is held in Geneva. More than 140 countries are now signatories to the treaty and are committed to its full implementation.
- March Scotland becomes the first country of the United Kingdom to implement smokefree legislation. Smoking is now banned in virtually all workplaces and enclosed public places including pubs and clubs.
- May The Government launches a consultation on proposals to include picture warnings on tobacco products.

- June The Advocate General of the European Court of Justice issues an Opinion arguing that the German government challenge to the EU Directive banning tobacco advertising is without foundation.
- July Health Bill receives Royal Assent and becomes Health Act 2006.  
The Government issues proposals to raise the minimum age for the purchase of tobacco from 16 to 18.
- August New York's Mayor, Michael Bloomberg, announces that he is to give US\$125 million to worldwide tobacco control programmes.
- November ASH joins health and fire-safety groups in the start of a new campaign for Reduced Ignition Propensity ("fire-safer") cigarettes. The RIP Coalition is working towards the adoption by the European Commission of standards that would require all cigarettes sold in Europe to be self-extinguishing, in order to reduce deaths and injuries from fires.
- December ASH issues guidance on varenicline - a new stop smoking drug launched in the UK under the brand name Champix. This is intended as an interim measure to help health professionals until the official guidance by NICE is produced.

## **2007**

- January The Government announces that the legal age for the purchase of tobacco will be raised to 18 from 1 October 2007.
- February After just six weeks of being smokefree, the European Parliament abandons its smokefree policy and reintroduces smoking rooms.
- March The Chancellor announces that the VAT on stop smoking aids will be reduced to the lowest level (5% instead of 17.5%) from 1 July to coincide with the implementation of the indoor smoking ban.
- April The smokefree legislation is implemented in Wales (2<sup>nd</sup> April) and in Northern Ireland (30<sup>th</sup> April).  
The Motion Picture Association of America advises the US film industry to "eliminate the depiction of tobacco smoking from films accessible to children and youths".
- May A YouGov poll shows that 25% of adults in England say they will visit pubs more often once the smoking ban comes into effect.
- July England goes smokefree on 1 July. Early results show that within the first two weeks of the smokefree law, compliance rates reach 97%.

NICE releases guidance on the use of varenicline (Champix) as a stop-smoking aid.

US film producer Walt Disney announces that it will no longer permit smoking scenes in family-oriented films and that it will discourage smoking in films distributed by affiliated companies.

August The World Health Organization states that by the year 2030, 80 percent of the predicted 8.3 million tobacco deaths each year will be in developing countries. By 2015 tobacco deaths will be 50% higher than HIV deaths and will account for 10% of total deaths worldwide.

The government announces that it will be compulsory for cigarette manufacturers to include picture warnings on the packs of cigarettes. Implementation to be phased in from October 2008.

The Health Department in New York announces that adult smoking rates fell to 17.5% in 2006, beating the target reduction to 18% by 2008, thanks to the City's aggressive anti-tobacco campaign. New York City now has 240,000 fewer smokers than it had in 2002.

October The law raising the legal age for purchase of tobacco from 16 to 18 comes into effect.

The Irish government launches a consultation on proposals to ban point of sale displays of cigarettes, tighter controls on the location and operation of cigarette machines, and the introduction of a register of tobacco retailers.

November The Department of Health announces that 98 per cent of businesses in England inspected between July 1st and the end of September, were found to be compliant with the new smokefree law, and 84 per cent were displaying the correct signage.

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announces that the decades-long decline in smoking by Americans has stalled for the past 3 years. It is the first time smoking rates have levelled off in 40 years. It coincides with a reduction in state spending since 2000 on helping smokers quit and discouraging children taking up smoking.

EU member states endorse plans to ensure that only fire-safer cigarettes are sold in European Union member states.

December Four public health organisations join forces to encourage the government and Primary Care Trusts to reduce smoking as a way of tackling health inequalities. The Association of Directors of Public Health, The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health, The Faculty of Public Health and the Trading Standards Institute are calling for new local area agreements between local authorities and PCTs to include targets to reduce smoking.

## 2008

- January
- France bans smoking in public places
- 11 out of 16 German states ban smoking in public places
- The latest General Household Survey shows that smoking rates among British adults declined by 2% overall between 2005 and 2006 from 24% to 22%. Among routine and manual groups smoking prevalence also fell by 2% from 31% in 2005 to 29% in 2006.
- Turkey's parliament approves a ban on smoking in public places.
- The Nigerian government announces a multi-billion dollar lawsuit against three major tobacco firms. The government is seeking more than USD 44 billion in compensation for the costs of treating smoking-related diseases.
- February
- A WHO report - the Global Tobacco Epidemic - estimates that unless governments act now tobacco could cause one billion deaths by 2030.
- A part of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) the WHO announces plans to adopt an internationally-agreed protocol to tackle illegal tobacco trade by 2010.
- According to market analysts Nielson, cigarette sales in England dropped by 6.3% following the smoking ban in July 2007.
- The National Institute of Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE), the official health advisory body in England, updates its guidance on stop smoking therapies for specific groups including pregnant women and children.
- Graphic picture warnings come into effect in New Zealand.
- June
- Two provinces of Canada – Ontario and Quebec - ban point of sale displays of cigarettes and tobacco products, bringing the total number of provinces or territories with similar legislation to nine (out of 13).
- July
- On the first anniversary of the smokefree law, the Office for National Statistics reveals that eighty per cent of Britons support the law and 61% are strongly in favour.
- The smoking ban is extended to Mental Health Units.
- Following a price fixing investigation by the Office of Fair Trading involving British tobacco companies and supermarkets, Gallaher and five retailers agree to pay penalties amounting to nearly £200 million. The



investigation against Imperial Tobacco, the Co-operative group, Morrisons, Sainsbury, Safeway, Shell and Tesco continues.

- August The European Commission announces that, in order to reduce the risk of fires, all cigarettes sold in the EU will have to be self extinguishing by 2011.
- September Australia announces that all cigarettes will be self extinguishing by March 2010.
- October ASH launches 'Beyond Smoking Kills', a report to mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Government's White Paper 'Smoking Kills', which makes recommendations on tobacco policy for the next decade.
- November The London Borough of Redbridge passes a policy banning the placing of children with foster carers who smoke.
- Third Conference of the Parties of the FCTC adopts Articles on tobacco advertising, packaging, labelling and measures to prevent tobacco industry interference in health policies.

## 2009

- January The Health Bill which includes measures to protect children from smoking is announced by Alan Johnson, the Secretary of State for Health. The tobacco measures in the bill will require retailers to remove tobacco from public view and apply restrictions on vending machine access.
- Figures from the Office for National Statistics' General Household Survey 2007 show the lowest ever number of smokers and a record 59% of the population have never taken up smoking.
- February In a landmark legal battle a US jury orders tobacco giant Philip Morris to pay \$8m (£5.6m) to the widow of a lifelong smoker who died of lung disease.
- Scotland unveils a Tobacco Control Bill which includes ending the display of tobacco products in shops, banning cigarette vending machines, a new registration scheme for shops selling tobacco products, on-the-spot fines for retailers who sell to under-18s, and sales bans against retailers who continually sell to underage smokers.
- March Manchester City Council bans smokers from fostering children.
- April New South Wales in Australia bans the display of tobacco products in shops.
- The UK government signs anti-smuggling agreements with Philip Morris International and Japan Tobacco International.

- Above inflation tax increases on tobacco are announced in the Annual Budget.
- May Bulgarian lawmakers vote to ban smoking in public places from 2010.
- The tobacco display ban measures in the Health Bill pass through the House of Lords. Peers voted by 204 to 110, majority 94, against the Tory amendment to the Health Bill that would have removed the clause banning tobacco displays. Under proposals contained in the Bill, by 2013 all shops in England, Wales and Northern Ireland will be prevented from displaying tobacco products.
- June ASH release a report showing that if a protocol on tobacco smuggling were to be adopted it could reduce smuggling in the UK by up to 80%.
- July The European Commission adopts a proposal for a Council Recommendation calling on all Member States to bring in laws to protect their citizens from exposure to tobacco smoke by 2012
- Cyprus becomes the latest country to ban indoor smoking in public places. The legislation is set to be enforced from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010.
- Patients at Rampton psychiatric hospital lose an appeal over the right to smoke following the smoking ban in 2007.
- Liverpool city council launches a consultation on whether films containing smoking imagery should be classified with an '18' certificate.
- August According to data from the TREND Tobacco Index which is based on actual audits of retail sales among a panel of locations worldwide, global tobacco sales fell by 19.3% compared with the same quarter in 2008.
- A US jury orders tobacco giant Philip Morris to pay \$13.8m (£8.4m) to the daughter of a lifelong smoker who died of lung disease.
- September MSPs in Scotland vote in favour of new tobacco control measures to restrict sales of tobacco products to young people. The measures include banning cigarette vending machine and point of sale display of tobacco products.
- ASH publishes research showing that young people are being misled by the colours and branding on cigarette packs. This supports the case for plain packaging.
- October Ontario, Canada launches a \$50 billion lawsuit against tobacco companies over health care costs.
- Westminster MPs vote in favour of banning point of sale displays of tobacco products. MPs also support a backbench amendment to outlaw cigarette vending machines in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

- November The Scottish government announces that it is to insert a new clause into the Tobacco and Primary Medical Services Bill, now going through Parliament, which will outlaw the purchase of tobacco by adults for persons under the age of 18.
- Health Act 2009 receives Royal Assent. From 2011 large shops in England, Wales and Northern Ireland will be prevented from displaying tobacco products and cigarette sales from vending machines will be prohibited. Small shops have until 2013 to comply with the display ban.
- A Florida court orders Philip Morris to pay \$300m (£180m) in damages to a former smoker.
- Sir John Crofton, a pioneer in the treatment of tuberculosis and a leading international champion of tobacco control, dies at the age of 97.
- EU Member States agree to raise taxes on tobacco products sold in the bloc, starting in 2014, in a bid to protect public health and boost government revenue.
- December Liverpool city councillors reject a proposal to give adult ratings to films shown in the city which feature smoking characters.
- Tobacco manufacturer Reynolds American acquires Nicovum, a Swedish company that makes products that help smokers quit.
- The death is announced of David Taylor MP, Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Smoking and Health.
- Professor John Moxham, a leading professor of respiratory medicine, becomes the new Chairman of ASH, following the retirement of ASH's former Chairman Donald Reid.

## 2010

- January The latest annual lifestyle survey shows that the overall smoking rate among adults in Britain remained the same as in 2007 at 21%.
- Smoking in cars with a child present becomes an offence in the state of Victoria, Australia.
- Norway becomes the latest country to ban the display of tobacco products at the point of sale.
- The government in Finland states that it intends to make the country the first to phase out smoking completely.
- February The Department of Health publishes "A Smokefree Future – A Comprehensive Tobacco Control Strategy for England." This includes a commitment to reviewing the case for standardized packaging of tobacco products.

A study shows children's exposure to secondhand smoke in England has declined by nearly 60% between 1996 and 2006.

Imperial Tobacco announces that it will seek a judicial review of the ban on tobacco vending machines due to enter into force in October 2011.

The European Council updates the Directive on tobacco tax to raise the minimum excise duty on cigarettes and bring the tax on hand-rolled tobacco gradually into line with that of manufactured cigarettes.

March

The fourth International Negotiating Body of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control fails to agree the text of a protocol on illicit trade but makes some progress. Parties agree important provisions to control the supply chain for tobacco products, including a tracking and tracing system for cigarettes and a licensing system for manufacturers.

ASH publishes a cost benefit analysis of increasing tobacco tax. The report reveals that a tax rise of 5% would lead to 190,000 fewer smokers and lead to economic benefits of over £270m a year.

The Chancellor raises tobacco duty by 1% above inflation (15p on 20 cigarettes) and makes a commitment to increase duty by 2% above inflation from 2011 to 2014.

A study by the policy think tank, the Policy Exchange, argues for a 5% rise in tobacco duty, noting that taxes on smoking raise £10 billion a year but the cost to the economy is £13.74 billion.

The world's largest tobacco company, Philip Morris International (PMI), announces that it is taking the Norwegian government to court. PMI wants the Norwegian ban on displaying tobacco products in stores lifted

Australia announces that all cigarettes sold will have to meet new fire-safety standards. Tobacco retailers have until September 2010 to sell their existing stocks of non-compliant cigarettes.

Malcolm Young, co-founder of ASH, dies aged 91.

April

The Australian federal government announces plans to ban branding from tobacco packaging.

Finland becomes the first country in the European Union to adopt fire safety standards for cigarettes.

Ten retailers and two tobacco companies - Imperial Tobacco and Gallaher (JTI) - are fined £225 million for "unlawful practices" in the pricing of cigarettes, cigars and rolling tobacco by the Office of Fair Trading.

Britain's three largest tobacco companies announce that they intend to seek a judicial review of the tobacco Point of Sale display ban. A vending

- machine manufacturer makes a similar announcement regarding the law prohibiting the sale of tobacco from vending machines.
- May No Party wins overall majority in the General Election; a new Coalition Government is formed between the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats.
- ASH launches “The smoke-filled room: How Big Tobacco influences healthy policy in the UK”. The report shows how the tobacco industry used front groups to shape UK and EU policy.
- BAT is voted least popular company in a survey of 6,000 consumers by the Reputation Institute.
- June The Medicines and Healthcare Regulatory Authority holds a consultation on the regulation of nicotine products.
- A study measuring the health impact of the smokefree legislation in England reveals that there were 1200 fewer emergency admissions to hospital for heart attack (a drop of 2.4%) in the 12 months following the 2007 law.
- The US Supreme Court brings to an end the long-running racketeering case against the tobacco industry. The US Government had sought US\$280 billion from the companies for “ill-gotten gains”.
- July On the third anniversary of the smokefree law in England a YouGov poll shows that public support for the law continues to grow and that among smokers support has doubled since 2007.
- Stephen Williams MP is appointed Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Smoking and Health.
- BAT signs a legally-binding anti-smuggling agreement with the European Union. This requires the company to apply rigorous controls to prevent the illicit trade of its products.
- August The Swiss Indoor Tennis Tournament is forced to end its sponsorship with Davidoff following a long campaign by a Swiss anti-tobacco organisation in conjunction with ASH.
- A YouGov poll commissioned by the Faculty of Public Health found that 74% of Britons support banning smoking in cars carrying children.
- According the NHS Information Centre, record numbers of people in England successfully stopped smoking using NHS support.
- The Finnish president signs a new law putting the display of tobacco products out of sight.

The Scottish Household Survey found that 24.3% of adults said they smoked in 2009, compared with 30.7% in 1999. Using population figures from the General Register Office for Scotland this equates to 227,107 people who stopped smoking over the past decade.

September A ban on smoking in public places comes into force in Greece.

The Vancouver Parks Board in Canada passed a bylaw making all the city's parks, beaches, golf courses and sports fields smokefree.

The European Commission signed a co-operation agreement with Imperial Tobacco Limited. The tobacco company will pay the European Union and Member States €200 million over the next 20 years to help combat cigarette smuggling.

October Legislation prohibiting smoking in public places in Barbados comes into force.

According to data by the Tobacco and Alcohol Market Regulatory Agency of Turkey, sales of cigarettes dropped by 16.2 per cent in the first eight months of 2010 when compared to the same period of 2009 due to the indoor smoking ban.

Long Beach City Council in California bans smoking in all Long Beach Parks and other outdoor areas including picnic areas, playgrounds and hiking trails.

British American Tobacco's (BAT) cigarette volumes fall by 1% to 526bn as smokers cut back during the recession. Cigarette volumes were down 8% in Western Europe, 3% in Africa and the Middle East and 2% in Eastern Europe.

The Association of Public Health Observatories launches the Local Tobacco Control Profiles for England, a web-based tool providing key indicators on tobacco and health at local level.

The government of Alberta, a province in Canada, announces plans to launch legal action against the tobacco industry in a bid to recoup billions of dollars in health-care costs associated with treating those with tobacco-related illnesses.

November According to the New York City Health Department smoking related deaths are down 17 per cent, saving an estimated 6,300 lives over eight years.

The Dutch Health Minister Edith Schippers repeals the ban on smoking in pubs smaller than 70 square meters where only the owner works.

Poland's law banning smoking in all public places including hotels, pubs, clubs, restaurants, sporting venues, workplaces, trains, children's playgrounds and company cars enters into force.

The Health Secretary, Andrew Lansley, announces that the government will investigate the viability of introducing plain packaging of tobacco products in a plan to de-glamorise smoking and stop young people taking up the habit.

December The government launches a new Public Health White Paper and commits to consulting on plain packaging of tobacco products.

## 2011

January Spain introduces a new anti-smoking law which prohibits smoking in public places. The law also bans smoking in children's playgrounds and access points to schools and hospitals.

Cigarette packets in Canada will require mandatory graphic warnings which cover three-quarters of the packages' surface.

Research by the World Cancer Research Fund (WCRF) places the UK 22<sup>nd</sup> in a world league of highest cancer rates. Professor Mike Richards, the government's cancer advisor attributes the relatively good position in the table to its early tackling of its "tobacco epidemic" compared with other countries.

According to the Office for National Statistics' General Lifestyle Survey almost twice as many working class people smoke in England – 29% compared to 15% of those in managerial or professional groups.

Feb New York City Council approves a bill to ban smoking in 1,700 city parks and along 14 miles of city beaches.

Health Scotland issues new guidance titled "Smoke-free Mental Health". The guidance offers a step-by-step approach to support the process of engagement with all concerned, including staff and patients.

March The Coalition Government announces a new Tobacco Plan for England which sets out national ambitions to reduce smoking rates among all adults from 21.2% to 18.5% by the end of 2015, with other specific targets for pregnant women and 15 year olds. The plan also commits to removing the display of tobacco products from shops and to holding a public consultation on plain packaging.

Belgium's constitutional court widens the country's smoking ban in public places to include all cafes and the kingdom's nine casinos from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011.

The Chancellor increases tobacco duty by 2% above inflation in the budget. The tobacco tax structure is also modified in order to narrow the gap between the highest and lowest priced brands of cigarettes.

Newfoundland, a Canadian province passes a bill banning smoking in cars with children.

April Scotland launches a new Register of Tobacco Retailers under the Tobacco and Primary Medical Services (Scotland) Act 2010. The register is part of a wider revamp of tobacco sales law. The Act also introduces the new offence of proxy purchasing and underage purchasing.

The Australian government publishes draft legislation to require standardised, plain packaging with graphic pictures of health warnings on all tobacco products. The product's name would appear on the front of the pack in a standard font size and style. If the legislation is passed Australia will become the first country to ban tobacco branding.

As part of a plan to tackle illicit tobacco the government announces that the number of cigarettes holidaymakers may bring back from mainland Europe is to be cut by more than two-thirds. The strategy sets a guideline limit of 800 cigarettes and 1kg of rolling tobacco. Current limits of up to 3,200 cigarettes and 3kg of rolling tobacco were set in 2002.

May Sinclair Collins Ltd, which is owned by Imperial Tobacco loses a legal challenge to the ban on cigarette vending machines in Scotland

British American Tobacco agrees to buy the privately owned Productora Tabacalera de Colombia, S.A.S. (Protabaco), the second largest cigarette company in Colombia, for \$452 million (£277 million).

Philip Morris International Inc. purchases the rights to a technology that lets users inhale nicotine without smoking.

On World No Tobacco Day ASH receives an award on World No Tobacco Day from the World Health Organisation (WHO) in recognition of its role in helping to mobilise civil society engagement in development of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

June British American Tobacco (BAT) admits to funding a retail association's high-profile campaign against a government ban on cigarette displays in shops. The National Federation of Retail Newsagents claimed the ban, approved by the government earlier this year, would put thousands of small shopkeepers out of business. The federation's campaign received funding from BAT whose lobbying firm, Hume Brophy, emailed MPs claiming the ban would have a "devastating effect on the small business sector in your constituency".

Cancer Research UK calls for the European Union (EU) to adopt plain packaging with graphic pictures of health warnings on all tobacco



products in a briefing presented in Brussels. The briefing - titled "Spotlight on the FCTC" - argues that tobacco packaging should be used by governments to communicate the dangers of tobacco use rather than being used as a marketing tool by the tobacco industry. The briefing also reveals the evidence that plain packaging helps change attitudes to smoking, the high level of public support for the measure, as well as dispelling the myth that this will cost jobs or a loss of retail income.

The Scottish Government announces that there will be a delay in implementing the ban on vending machines due to legal challenges by the tobacco industry.

Formula One team Ferrari extends its partnership with tobacco company Philip Morris to the end of 2015. Philip Morris' Marlboro brand has been a sponsor of the team since 1984 and Ferrari's title partner since 1997. Despite tobacco advertising been banned from the sport in 2007, the team's official name away from the track remains "Scuderia Ferrari Marlboro".

ASH launches its new report 'Tobacconomics' which reveals how the tobacco industry uses pseudo economic arguments to block new health regulations.

The Court of Appeal rejects an attempt to overturn a proposed ban on cigarette vending machines in pubs, clubs and restaurants in England. The ruling upholds a decision by the High Court last December to reject Sinclair Collis's legal challenge to the sections of the UK Health Act 2009 that seek to ban tobacco vending sales from October 2011.

Alex Cunningham, a Labour MP, tables a Smoking in Private Vehicles Bill under the Ten Minute Rule which calls for a ban on adults smoking in cars where children are present.

Tobacco giant Philip Morris notifies the Australian government that it will be launching legal proceedings against the Government's plan to introduce legislation requiring plain packaging of all tobacco products. Hong Kong-based Philip Morris Asia Limited (PMA), owner of Australian affiliate Philip Morris Limited, claims that the law would violate Australia's obligations under a bilateral investment treaty (BIT) with Hong Kong.

September    The Canadian federal government approves a tobacco shock campaign featuring graphic images of real-life smoking casualties. By March 21st, 2012, cigarette manufacturers will have to use large warning labels that cover three-quarters of each cigarette package.

October        The sale of tobacco from vending machines is banned in England, with anyone caught selling cigarettes in machines facing a fine of £2,500.

The Welsh government announces that a ban on the sale of cigarettes from vending machines will come into force on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2012.

The Boston Housing Authority (USA) announces that public housing will go smokefree in 2012 after the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development approve the ban.

November Nottingham City Council becomes the first local authority in the East Midlands to introduce a no smoking policy at playgrounds and around its school gates.

Australia will become the first country to introduce plain packaging laws after the Senate passed the Federal Government's plain packaging laws for cigarettes, with amendments to the start date. The new packaging laws are now due to come into effect in December 2012, six months later than the original time frame. The legislation bans the use of company logos and requires all cigarette packets to be a dark green colour.

Northern Ireland Health Minister Edwin Poots announces a consultation on banning smoking in private vehicles carrying children under 16.

The APPG on smoking and health holds an inquiry on smoking in private vehicles and produces a report of the Inquiry findings.

New cigarette safety standards come into force. All cigarettes sold in the EU must now meet a reduced ignition propensity (RIP) requirement

December ASH receives the Luther L Terry Award for "Outstanding Organization". Awarded by the American Cancer Society, the Luther L. Terry Awards are presented triennially and in conjunction with the World Conference on Tobacco OR Health. These awards recognize outstanding worldwide achievement in the field of tobacco control.

The world's four biggest cigarette companies: Philip Morris, BAT, Imperial Tobacco and Japan Tobacco Inc. drop their legal challenge to the ban on the display of tobacco products in shops in England.

## **2012**

January A report by ASH and FairPensions challenges the long-held view that pension funds are 'duty-bound' to invest in tobacco.

March A one-day conference commemorates 50 years since the publication in 1962 of the first ever report on smoking – 'Smoking and Health' by the Royal College of Physicians.

The Chancellor raises tobacco duty by 5% above inflation, following a pledge made in the Government's Tobacco Control Plan to make tobacco less affordable.

The 15<sup>th</sup> World Conference on Tobacco or Health takes place in Singapore.

ASH organises a seminar on smoking and pregnancy in conjunction with charities and other organisations. This leads to the formation of the Smoking in Pregnancy Challenge Group designed to integrate efforts to reduce smoking in pregnancy.

- April Regulations prohibiting the display of tobacco in large stores under the Health Act 2009 come into force. A large store is a store with a floor area exceeding 280 square meters and is based on the definition in the Sunday Trading Act 1994. Small shops have until April 2015 to comply with the legislation.
- A public consultation on plain, standardised packaging is launched by the government.
- May ASH launches the CLear standard, a new initiative to enable local authorities to assess and benchmark their local tobacco control activities.
- August On the closing day of the Government's consultation on tobacco packaging figures show that more than 200,000 members of the public responded to the Plain Packs Protect campaign. A YouGov survey finds that 62% of adults in England support tobacco being sold in plain packaging with only 11% against the measure.
- The Australian High Court rejects a legal challenge by the tobacco industry to the law on plain packaging, paving the way for the law to be implemented in December.
- September Philip Morris International loses its legal challenge to a key element of Norway's tobacco control legislation - a ban on the display of tobacco products at the point of sale.
- October The Department of Health launches the first mass quit smoking attempt dubbed "Stoptober" for the month of October. Smokers attempting to quit are supported by TV and radio advertising, daily messaging service and roadshows.
- NICE launches a consultation on its draft guidance on tobacco harm reduction.
- Data released by HM Revenue & Customs shows that there was a further fall in tobacco smuggling in the UK during 2010/11. An estimated 9% of cigarettes consumed were illicit compared to 11% in 2009/10.
- November A protocol to combat the global problem of tobacco smuggling and illicit trade was adopted at the 5<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

- December      Australia becomes the first country in the world to require tobacco products to be sold in plain, standardised packaging.
- The EU Commission publishes a draft revised Tobacco Products Directive. One of the proposals is to increase the size of health warnings to 75% for both the front and back of cigarette packets and to make picture warnings mandatory throughout the EU.
- Imperial Tobacco loses its legal challenge to the Scottish health law, paving the way for the implementation of the tobacco point of sale display ban and prohibition of sales of tobacco from vending machines.
- The Department of Health launches a £2.7m 9-week mass media campaign showing a tumour growing on a cigarette to alert smokers to risk of cancer.

## 2013

- January      A manufacturer of electronic cigarettes launches a TV advertising campaign. Meanwhile, the Advertising Standards Authority upholds a complaint that another company had misled consumers over the safety of its e-cigarettes.
- February      Six months after the close of the Government consultation on tobacco packaging, the Smokefree Action Coalition calls on the Government to commit to legislation to require standard tobacco packaging.
- March      The Advertising Standards Authority rules that ads by Japan Tobacco International claiming that the Government had already rejected the idea of standard packaging are misleading. The ASA orders JTI not to run the ads again.
- The chancellor raises tobacco tax by 2% above inflation but health campaigners warn that this may not be enough to deter smokers from quitting or trading down to cheaper brands.
- The Scottish Government launches its Tobacco Control Strategy which includes a target to reduce adult smoking prevalence to 5% by 2034.
- April      Public Health Minister Anna Soubry publicly states her support for standardised packaging of tobacco.
- May 2013      The Sun newspaper reports that the Government has abandoned plans to introduce standard packaging. However, although there is no reference to the policy in the Queen's Speech, Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt insists that the matter is still under review.
- On World No Tobacco Day (31<sup>st</sup> May) The Irish Health Minister announces that Ireland will go ahead with standard tobacco packaging.

- June
- The Department of Health launches a mass media campaign to raise awareness of the hazards of secondhand smoke and to encourage people to make their homes and cars smoke-free.
- Stephen Williams MP, Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Smoking and Health is awarded a WHO medal for services to tobacco control.
- NICE issues guidance on tobacco harm reduction. This supports the use of licensed nicotine containing products to help smokers not currently able to quit to cut down and as a substitute for smoking.
- The MHRA announces that electronic cigarettes will be regulated. Once licensed, e-cigarettes will be available for sale as over-the-counter medicines.
- A report by a coalition of charities and campaigners including ASH, reveals that more than 300 babies die every year because their mothers smoked while pregnant. The revelation prompts experts to call for a national carbon monoxide screening programme.
- July 2013
- The EU Parliament Environment and Public Health (ENVI) committee votes to accept the EU Commission's proposal to increase health warnings to cover 75% of cigarette pack surfaces along with other measures such as a ban on flavourings and slim cigarettes.
- A study evaluating the impact of the World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control estimates that the treaty could prevent more than 7.3 million premature deaths by 2050.
- The UK Government publishes a summary report of the consultation on plain, standardised tobacco packaging but the Health Secretary announces that the Government will not be proceeding with standard packaging until evidence on the impact of the measure in Australia has been assessed. Health groups react by calling for a free vote on the issue in Parliament.
- The Scottish government announces its intention to press ahead with standardised tobacco packaging.
- The Observer newspaper reveals a detailed campaign by Philip Morris International to stifle proposals for standardised cigarette packaging in the UK. The company is also under scrutiny for hiring David Cameron's chief strategist Lynton Crosby.

The Irish Health Minister James Reilly announces a plan to cut smoking from one in three adults to one in twenty by 2025. He also pledges to introduce standardised cigarette packs and to work towards a ban on smoking in cars.

The latest statistics on smoking among 11-15 year olds in England in 2012 show that regular smoking rates have fallen to 4% for both boys and girls.

#### August 2013

A study reveals that the tobacco industry in the UK is responsible for about half of cigarette price rises while publicly blaming the Government and falsely claiming that price rises increase smuggling.

For the third time this year, the Advertising Standards Authority rules that an advert by Gallagher/JTI against standard packaging is misleading.

Train operators including C2C, Greater Anglia and First Capital Connect impose a ban on passengers using e-cigarettes in their stations.

British American Tobacco becomes the first tobacco company to launch disposable e-cigarettes in the UK under the brand name 'Vype'.

#### September 2013

A randomised controlled trial published in the Lancet finds that electronic cigarettes are modestly effective at helping people quit smoking.

Imperial tobacco buys the Chinese company which invented electronic cigarettes.

Public Health Minister, Anna Soubry, again vocalises her support for standardised packaging, saying that packaging lured her to become a smoker as a teenager.

British American Tobacco introduces technology across its entire Pall Mall range, which allows users to switch to menthol flavoured cigarettes whilst smoking.

#### October 2013

A study published in the European Journal of Public Health finds that increasing the size of pictorial health warnings and standardizing the appearance and shape of tobacco packages may discourage young people from starting smoking.

UK medical journals announce that they will no longer publish research which is funded by the tobacco industry.

The Office for National Statistics publishes data which shows that deaths from heart attacks and strokes halved between 2001 and 2012. This is attributed to better diets, reduced smoking rates and more effective treatment.

The Committee of Advertising Practice (CAP) announces that it is developing a new clear set of advertising rules for electronic cigarettes.

#### November 2013

The Government announces that it will introduce an amendment to the Children and Families Bill, which will give the Secretary of State the power to introduce standardised packaging through regulations.

The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Health, Jane Ellison, also announces that paediatrician Sir Cyril Chantler will carry out an independent review of the public health evidence on standardised packaging of tobacco products.

A literature review is published in the journal *Tobacco Control* which shows that increasing tobacco price via tax is the intervention with the greatest potential to reduce socioeconomic inequalities caused by smoking.

#### December 2013

An advert for VIP E-cigarettes, which refers to oral sex, is broadcast on ITV. It goes on to become the 6<sup>th</sup> most complained about advert of all time.

Research shows that smokers who use a combination of behavioural support and pharmacotherapy have almost three times the odds of success than those who use neither.

Researchers from Imperial College London, ASH and CRUK estimate that 600 children start smoking every day in the UK.

Members of the European Parliament reach a provisional deal on a revised European Union Tobacco Products Directive (EU TPD).

#### January 2014

The Government announces plans to ban the proxy purchasing of tobacco in England and Wales.

The Government announces its intention to ban the sale of nicotine containing products to children aged under 18 years old.

Members of the House of Lords vote to bring in new laws to prohibit smoking in cars with children under the Children and Families Act. The Lords voted by 222 to 197 for the amendment.

#### February 2014

Smoking rates in the UK fall below 20% for the first time in 80 years.

It is announced that the sale of electronic cigarettes has risen 340% in the past year, meaning, for the first time, the sale of electronic cigarettes is greater than the sale of nicotine patches, lozenges and gum.

MPs back plans in the Children and Families Bill to ban smoking in cars carrying children in a free vote. MPs voted in favour by a margin of 269 – 376 in favour and 107 against. It is later revealed that 12 MPs who voted against had links to the tobacco industry.

The European Parliament approves the revised Tobacco Products Directive. Member states have 2 years to transpose the Directive into national law. New rules include:

- Picture warnings to cover 65% of the front and back of cigarettes and roll-your-own tobacco packs.
- Packs of less than 20 cigarettes are prohibited
- Flavoured cigarettes, such as menthol, fruit and vanilla are prohibited
- A regulatory framework for electronic cigarettes.

March 2014

The Children and Families Act 2014 is granted Royal Assent. The Act is the primary legislation making it an offence for an adult to buy cigarettes for anyone under 18 (proxy purchasing) and giving the Government powers to introduce regulations:

- requiring standardised packaging for tobacco products.
- making it an offence to smoke in a private vehicle carrying children.
- making it an offence to sell e-cigarettes to children under 18.

Research published in the Lancet shows that there was a 10% reduction in premature births and severe childhood asthma attacks in the year following the introduction of smoke-free laws.

The British Medical Association (BMA) calls for the ban of the sale of cigarettes and tobacco to anyone born after the year 2000. This is later supported in a vote and becomes official BMA policy.

Tobacco tax is increased by 2% above inflation in this year's budget and Chancellor George Osborne makes a commitment to sustain the increase each year until the end of the next parliament.

April 2014

The Welsh Government's Public Health White Paper is published. It includes proposals which could make Wales the first part of the UK to ban the use of electronic cigarettes in enclosed public spaces.



Sir Cyril Chantler publishes his independent review into whether the introduction of standardised packaging is likely to have an effect on public health, particularly for children. The review concludes that if standardised packaging were introduced, it would have a positive impact on public health.

ASH data estimates that there are 2.1m current electronic cigarette users in the UK, meaning use has tripled in the past three years.

May 2014

It is revealed that Priti Patel, MP, who is leading a backbench rebellion against standardised packaging, has previously worked as a lobbyist for British American Tobacco.

Research conducted by a team led by Prof Robert West at UCL has found that smokers attempting to quit without professional help are approximately 60% more likely to succeed if they use electronic cigarettes rather than willpower alone or over-the-counter nicotine replacement therapies such as patches or gum.

A blog written by Professor Kevin Fenton, director of health and wellbeing at Public Health England summarises PHE's view of the current evidence on electronic cigarettes. It says: "A lack of reliable long-term studies of the risks of electronic cigarettes and the diversity of unlicensed electronic cigarettes available means PHE continues to recommend the use of licensed nicotine replacement therapies to support smokers to quit or cut down". However they also state that: "it is never better for the health of a smoker or those around them to smoke tobacco rather than use even an unlicensed e-cigarette". PHE also supports regulation by the MHRA of electronic cigarettes as medicines.

June 2014

The Australian Federal Treasury publishes information which shows that cigarette sales have fallen since the introduction of graphic health warnings and standardised packaging; 3.4% per cent fewer cigarettes were sold in 2013 than 2012.

Figures published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics also show that Australians are consuming less tobacco than previously. Households consumed \$3.4 billion worth of tobacco products in the first three months of 2014 – this is almost \$1 billion less than ten years ago. Standardised packaging became mandatory in Australia on December 1, 2012.

The UK Government publishes draft regulations and announces a second consultation on the introduction of standardised packaging, to run until 7<sup>th</sup> August.

July 2014

A consultation on the draft regulations to prohibit smoking in cars with children under 18 present is launched, to run until 27<sup>th</sup> August.

A court in Florida orders US tobacco firm RJ Reynolds, to pay \$23.6 billion (£13.8bn) to the wife of a smoker who died of lung cancer. Figures released by the Health and Social Care Information Centre show that regular smoking fell from 9% to 3% of 11- to 15-year-olds between 2003 and 2013.

#### August 2014

Tobacco firm Philip Morris International (PMI) uses its submission to the consultation on standardised packaging to threaten to sue the Government for damages if standardised packaging goes ahead.

The Health and Social Care Information Centre releases statistics on NHS Stop Smoking Services April 2013- March 2014. The report finds that the number of people attending Stop Smoking Services has reduced for the second consecutive year, but that quit rates have remained the same.

Figures released by Public Health England reveal the potential benefits that standardised packaging of tobacco products could bring, not only for health, but in savings of around £500 million for local communities.

The debate concerning electronic cigarettes continues and the WHO calls for electronic cigarettes to be banned from indoor spaces and for curbs on sales of the devices.

#### September 2014

Voke, a nicotine inhaler, owned by Nicoventures a wholly owned subsidiary of British American Tobacco is granted marketing authorisation as a licensed medicinal product.

A study carried out by the Centre for Behavioural Research in Cancer in Melbourne and published in the *BMJ Open* finds no evidence to suggest standardised cigarette increased the consumption of illegal tobacco in Australia.

Research commissioned by ASH finds that English local authorities spend £600m every year on social care for people with health problems caused by smoking.

#### October 2014

ONS figures from the annual Integrated Household Survey find that adult smoking in the UK fell from 19.8% in 2012 to 18.7% in 2013. The figures suggest that smoking is at its lowest level since the 1940s.

The French Health Minister announces plans to introduce standardised cigarette packaging in 2016.

Electronic cigarettes are banned on all Transport for London (TfL) premises.

The Committee on Advertising Practice issues new rules on the advertising of electronic cigarettes, primarily to protect young people.

The Labour Party pledges to introduce a tax on tobacco firms to help pay for cancer diagnostic tests.

London Health Commission recommends extending smokefree areas to London's parks as part of a new tobacco control strategy.

#### November 2014

Tobacco firms win the right to challenge new European Union rules on cigarette packaging.

British American Tobacco is fined £650,000 by UK tax authorities for oversupplying its products to Belgium.

#### December 2014

ONS figures show that British households are spending less on smoking.

Regulations to make it illegal to smoke in cars carrying children in England are tabled.

Three television adverts for electronic cigarettes are banned by the Advertising Standards Authority, for appearing to glamorise smoking.

#### January 2015

3,700 health professionals sign an open letter to the Prime Minister to express alarm that time is running out for standardised packaging to be voted on before the general election.

The UK government announces that it will press ahead with legislation on standardised packaging for cigarettes before the general election.

#### February 2015

Bristol trials smoke-free zones in two public squares.

A vote on regulations to ban smoking in cars with children present in England from 1 October is passed by 342 to 74.

All but one health board in Scotland announce that the use of electronic cigarettes will be banned on hospital grounds from April 2015.

Regulations for standardised tobacco packaging are laid.

#### March 2015

Standardised packaging regulations are passed in the House of Commons by 367 votes to 113. They are also agreed in the House of Lords and the legislation will come into force from May 2016.

ASH publishes a legal opinion which concludes that standardised packaging is compatible with EU law.

A DCLG report recommends that tax earned from tobacco sales should be used to help with the cost of clearing up cigarette litter.

UK Department of Health is awarded American Cancer Society “Exemplary Leadership” award for tobacco policy achievements.

April 2015

A ban on displaying tobacco in small shops comes into force throughout the UK. This completes implementation of the regulations that were initially brought in for large shops in 2012.

New research shows no increase in Australia’s illicit tobacco trade after the introduction of standardised packaging legislation.

May 2015

The Scottish Public Health Minister announces a proposal to ban the sale of electronic cigarettes to under 18 year olds.

The European Commission proposes EU join the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products under the World Health Organisation’s Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

June 2015

Wales passes legislation which prohibits smoking in cars with children present.

Chancellor George Osborne announces £200 million cuts to public health budgets.

ASH launches *Smoking Still Kills* – key recommendations of the report include a new tobacco control strategy and levy on the tobacco industry.

July 2015

The UK Government announces it has no plans to proceed with the tobacco levy.

August 2015

Public Health England publishes major review of the evidence on electronic cigarettes concluding that they are significantly less harmful than smoking.

Research published by the BMJ concludes that smoke-free legislation has reduced still births, neonatal mortality and low birth weight across England since 2007.

Cancer Research publishes: 'Effects of Switching to Electronic Cigarettes with and without concurrent exposure to Nicotine, Carbon Monoxide and Acrolein' report.

#### September 2015

The annual Scottish Health Survey finds that 5% of the adult population regularly use e-cigarettes, while 22% of those over 16 describe themselves as smokers.

British American Tobacco signs a conditional agreement to acquire 100% of the e-cigarettes CHIC group.

The Japan Tobacco Group of Companies agrees to pay \$5billion to buy international rights to the Natural American Spirit cigarette brand.

#### October 2015

Legislation comes into force in England and Wales banning smoking in cars with people under the age of 18 present.

Regulations come into force prohibiting the sale of electronic cigarettes to under 18s and the purchasing of tobacco or e-cigarettes by adults for children.

Expert testimony from Professor Hajek tells Welsh Assembly Members that e-cigarettes are unattractive to non-smokers and there's no evidence to suggest they are a gateway to smoking.

#### November 2015

Trade in illicit tobacco is estimated to cost the UK Treasury £2.1bn each year in lost revenue.

US smoking rate hits a record low standing at 16.4% in 2014.

New research in Australia finds a decline in smoking prevalence since the introduction of plain packaging.

#### December 2015

The Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria call on the Federal Government to prosecute Phillip Morris International for the illegal importation of cigarettes into the country.

Moody's Investors Service forecasts a 4 to 5 percent increase in operating profits for the US and European tobacco industry in 2016, despite a fall in cigarette sales.

Advocate General Kokott considers the new EU Tobacco Directive of 2014 to have been lawfully adopted.

#### January 2016

Welsh Assembly members debate the use of e-cigarettes in public places as the country prepares for new legislation controlling vaping to come into effect in 2017.

New research finds 75,000 child workers are employed in Bidi factories in Bangladesh. Bidi is a type of hand-rolled cigarette.

#### February 2016

Smoke Free South West research finds that 62% of ex-smokers in the South West are happier since giving up smoking.

A report published by the Australian Government's Department of Health concludes that the laws introducing plain standardised packaging of tobacco products have contributed to a decline in smoking.

New research finds that the introduction of comprehensive smoke-free legislation in Hong Kong has reduced hospital admissions for children.

#### March 2016

University College London research estimates that e-cigarettes helped between 16,000 and 22,000 people in England become long-term quitters in 2014.

The EU Commission reveals plans to consider imposing excise tax on e-cigarettes.

The Court of Appeal rules that the 2006 smokefree law does not apply to state prisons. However, the Government intends to continue with current plans to gradually implement the smokefree policy in prisons.

#### April 2016

ASH publishes *The Stolen Years: The Smoking and Mental Health Action Report*, revealing that smoking accounts for the single largest difference in life expectancy between people with mental health conditions and the general population. Those with mental health conditions die on average 10-20 years earlier.

A youth protest outside the British American Tobacco AGM focuses on allegations of BAT corruption and bribery in East Africa.

The Royal College of Physicians publishes the report 'Nicotine without smoke: Tobacco harm reduction' concluding that electronic cigarettes are a safer alternative to smoking and are beneficial to public health.

May 2016

The European Court of Justice rules that the European Union Tobacco Products Directive is lawful. The Court confirmed that member states may go further than the Directive, enabling countries to introduce standardised packaging.

ASH research finds that use of electronic cigarettes continues to rise, reaching 2.8 million UK adults. However, a quarter of adults believe electronic cigarettes are more harmful than smoking.

The European Union Tobacco Products Directive and UK law on standardised packaging come into effect on the 20<sup>th</sup> May.

June 2016

Smoking at Time of Delivery data shows that in England 10.6% of women were smoking at the end of their pregnancy in 2015/16 compared to 11.4% in 2014/15. This means the Government has met its ambition to reduce smoking rates among pregnant women to less than 11% by 2015. However, there remains a large variation between different parts of the country.

The EU becomes the 18th jurisdiction to ratify the WHO Protocol to eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products (Illicit Trade Protocol) following a vote by the European Parliament in favour of the measure.

Three landmark cases in the EU Court of Justice deal an important blow in the long-running campaign by the tobacco industry to use legal challenges to avoid regulation. The ruling supports the EU's Tobacco Products Directive.

July 2016

A report published by the House of Commons Health Committee on the Impact of the Spending Review on Health and Social Care recognises that *"cuts to public health budgets set out in the Spending Review threaten to undermine the necessary upgrade to prevention and public health set out in the Five Year Forward View"*.

British American Tobacco announces a reduction in its workforce by 950 at a German factory as it moves to cut costs amid a decline in smoking in Western Europe. This is to be implemented over two years.

Bleeding inside the lining of the brain (subarachnoid haemorrhage) is significantly more common among smokers, especially female smokers, than among people who do not smoke, according to new research published in the American Heart Association's journal Stroke.

August 2016

Figures published by NHS Stop Smoking Services show a further significant 15% decline in the number of smokers seeking help to quit from the Stop Smoking Services in England. However, the successful quit rate remained similar to previous years.

- Sept.2016      Legislation requiring standardised packaging of tobacco products is passed by Parliament in New Zealand.
- A Health Select Committee report says cuts to public health funding are a false economy in the drive to improve health and reduce health inequalities.
- Public Health England announces that adult smoking rates in England have fallen to 16.9% at the launch of annual 'Stoptober' campaign which encourages smokers to quit during the month of October.
- The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health calls on local authorities to introduce more smokefree places where children play or learn. A survey shows that 89 per cent of adults in Britain would support a smoking ban in children's play areas and 57 per cent would support a smoking ban in public parks.
- One year after the introduction of a law banning smoking in cars when children are present, ASH's Smokefree GB survey reveals that the measure is supported by 87% of adults in England. In addition, 86% of children report no exposure to smoking in cars compared to 83% in 2015. A separate survey by the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health finds high levels of compliance with the law.
- Oct. 2016      ASH research demolishes the tobacco industry argument that local newsagents need tobacco to stay in business. The Counter Arguments report shows that industry messaging aimed at small retailers exaggerates the need for tobacco sales, and the impact it has on footfall and profits.
- Nov. 2016      A report by the Canadian Cancer Society shows that 105 countries and territories now require picture health warnings on cigarette packages. In addition 5 countries have passed laws requiring plain, standardised packaging and a further 13 are working towards legislation.
- The Chancellor announces plans to introduce a Minimum Excise Tax on cigarettes and to require the licensing of tobacco manufacturing equipment.
- The Appeal Court rejects the tobacco industry's appeal against the UK law requiring standardised packaging of cigarettes and hand-rolled tobacco.
- Tobacco company Philip Morris launches IQOS, a potentially 'reduced risk' tobacco product in the UK. The device uses compressed tobacco in a 'mini-cigarette' form in a vapouriser. Unlike electronic cigarettes which vapourise nicotine suspended in a liquid, the IQOS heats and vapourises tobacco.



- Dec. 2016 A new law takes effect in Scotland which makes it an offence to smoke in a car when a child is present.
- The Chief Medical Officer's report notes that improvements in health as a result of a decline in smoking could be even greater if the 'Baby-boomer' generation were given more support to stop smoking. Among current and ex-smokers 66% of men and 71% of women aged 50-69 have never been recommended to stop smoking by a doctor or nurse.
- Research by the British Thoracic Society shows that most hospitals across the UK are not doing enough to support smokers to stop smoking. The study also shows that only 1 in 16 hospitals completely enforce smokefree grounds, and staff are not being given adequate training in smoking cessation.
- Jan. 2017 ASH research into the social care costs of smoking shows that local authorities in England face a bill of £760m a year, up from £600m in 2012, to help people with smoking-related illness stay in their own homes (domiciliary care). Individuals also face a bill of about £630 million to cover the cost of their own care. The figures are included in an All-Party Parliamentary Group on Smoking and Health report which highlights the need for national leadership to ensure smoking rates continue to fall.
- Feb. 2017 A health intervention to reduce smoking during pregnancy, is shown to be very successful. Pregnant women enrolled in the 'BabyClear' scheme are almost twice as likely to quit smoking if they are supported from their first midwife appointment and given carbon monoxide testing.
- Britain's Imperial Brands announces a new joint venture with China National Tobacco (CNT) to be called Global Horizon Ventures Limited (GHVL) to develop 'next-generation' products as well as traditional tobacco products.
- A study finds that former smokers who have completely replaced standard cigarettes with e-cigarettes show substantial reductions in levels of tobacco related carcinogens and toxins compared with those who continue to smoke cigarettes. In particular, the chemical NNAL (known to cause lung cancer), is found to be 97% lower in e-cigarette users compared to smokers.
- Treating smokers for their illnesses costs £1.1 trillion (\$1.4tn) each year, a new study by the World Health Organization warns. This accounts for almost 2% of the world's expenditure.
- March 2017 More people in the UK are quitting smoking than ever before, according to data from the Office for National Statistics.
- The Isle of Man prison introduces a six month trial of e-cigarettes.

A new study in the *Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health* shows that for every £1.00 spent on public health, there is an average return of £14.

April 2017 The UK Supreme Court denies tobacco firms permission to appeal the new standardised packaging laws.

A new report from World Health Organization and the United Nations Development Programme shows that smoking may cause 200 million deaths this century in China.

NHS Wales launches a 'Help Me Quit' campaign to improve awareness of smoking support services.

A new study from the University of Bristol found a link between grandmothers' smoking habits and autism in their grandchildren.

May 2017 The WTO upholds Australia's plain packaging laws despite being challenged by the tobacco industry.

The findings on e-cigarettes from the ASH/YouGov Smokefree GB Survey 2017 are published, which shows that for the first time there are more ex-smokers using e-cigarettes than current smokers.

On May 20 & 21 the EU Revised Tobacco Products Directive and Tobacco and Related Products Regulations 2016 bring standardised packaging and minimum pack size laws into full effect across the UK.

June 2017 Smoking at Time of Delivery data shows that in England 10.5% of women were smoking at the end of their pregnancy in 2016/17, compared with 10.6% in 2015/16.

Figures from the Office for National Statistics' Adult Smoking Habits 2016 survey show the lowest ever recorded prevalence of smoking in the UK. The national rate among adults in 2016 was 15.8%, down from 17.2% in 2015, meaning the UK had the second-lowest rate in Europe.

Research from King's College London finds a 39% drop in physical assaults – both between patients and towards staff – following the introduction of a smokefree policy at the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust.

July 2017 1st July marks the ten-year anniversary of the implementation of smokefree legislation in England. ASH publishes *Smokefree: The first ten years* emphasising the strong support for this measure across the country.

Reuters produces an in-depth report on efforts by Philip Morris International's attempts to subvert the World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

ASH publishes *Smokefree Skills: An assessment of maternity workforce training*, which recommends embedding practical intervention skills in curricula.

The Government releases its new *Tobacco Control Plan for England: Towards a Smokefree Generation*. The Plan sets out new ambitions including to reduce prevalence among adults to 12% or less by 2022, to reduce the prevalence of smoking in pregnancy to 6% or less by 2022 and to make all mental health inpatient services sites smokefree by 2018.

August 2017 British American Tobacco confirms it is under investigation by the Serious Fraud Office over allegations it paid bribes in East Africa.

The number of people accessing NHS Stop Smoking Services fell by 15% in 2016/17, as local authority budgets for public health are cut.

The largest ever analysis of data on e-cigarettes in the UK finds no evidence that they are leading young people into smoking. The study, a collaboration between UK Centre for Tobacco and Alcohol Studies, Public Health England, ASH, and the DECIPHer Centre at the University of Cardiff is an analysis of five large-scale surveys conducted from 2015-2017 encompassing over 60,000 11-16 year-olds.



For more information on issues raised, visit [www.ash.org.uk](http://www.ash.org.uk)

---