

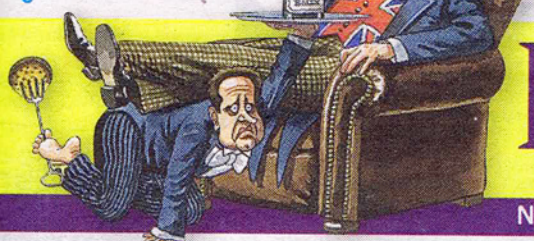


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## Peter Brookes

Six of the best: one year at the Westminster Academy

News pages 6, 7 Opinion page 23

# Osborne takes on the unions

Chancellor urges business to 'get stuck in'

Sam Coates, Robert Lea

Business leaders must join the battle to rewrite workers' rights, George Osborne said yesterday, as the coalition signalled a new, tougher phase in its relations with the unions.

Wideranging plans to cap the costs of discrimination cases, dilute pension rights for state employees who move into the private sector and alter entitlements when companies change hands were revealed yesterday by ministers.

A second senior Cabinet minister will open another front today, insisting backward working practices in train companies risk making the railway

reform. "If we are to support private sector growth and create jobs, we can't shy away from looking at difficult issues like employment law," he said.

"Your voice, the voice of business, needs to go on being heard in the battle. Some of these may be controversial. Unions and interest groups may oppose them. I say to the business community ... don't be passive observers. Don't stay on the sidelines. Get stuck in to the argument."

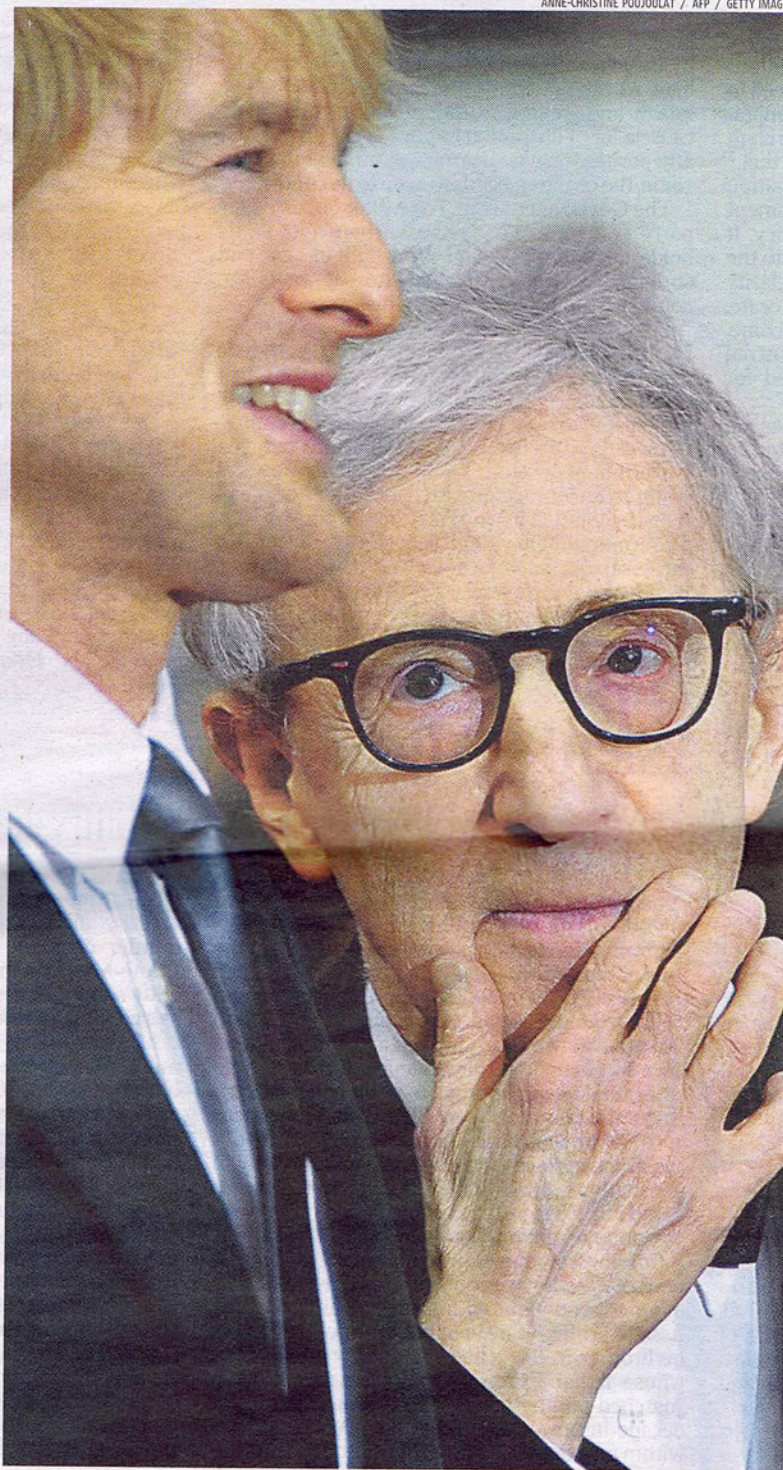
Ed Davey, the Lib Dem Business Minister, announced that the Government was looking at a series of changes to workers' rights, including:

- limiting the amount that can be paid out in discrimination cases;
- the role of Tupe, the rules designed to safeguard staff terms and conditions after a change of ownership;
- the need to give staff 90 days' notice when companies want to embark on collective redundancy programmes.

Len McCluskey, general secretary of Unite, the country's largest union, said: "The Government wants to make a bonfire of alleged red tape. The Labour movement should be getting out the hosepipes to extinguish these small-minded plans."

He also attacked Vince Cable for leading a "do-nothing department" that had presided over youth unemployment running at more than

Continued on page 8, col 5



Woody Allen with Owen Wilson, the star of his new film *Midnight in Paris*, which opened the 64th Cannes Film Festival last night. News, First Night review, page 4

## I'm no artist, says Woody at Cannes

## Eight killed by quakes in Spanish tourist area

Graham Keeley Madrid

At least eight people were killed last night when two earthquakes struck southeastern Spain in a region popular with British tourists.

Buildings, including an old clock tower, collapsed in the Murcian town of Lorca when a quake of 5.1 magnitude hit just before 7pm.

It came after a 4.4 magnitude tremor less than two hours earlier. Dozens of people were injured and at least one child died in the quakes, which were Spain's worst for 30 years.

Roads and bridges were damaged across the region. Cars were flattened by falling masonry, parts of buildings collapsed and a viaduct was rendered unsafe. Dozens of patients at the Rafael Méndez de Lórca Hospital in Lorca

## Tremor's deadly power revealed live on TV

World, page 29

were injured. Scores of people trying to escape the area blocked the A7 motorway.

"Unfortunately, we can confirm ... deaths due to cave-ins and falling debris," Francisco Jodar, the Mayor of Lorca, told the Ser radio station. "We're trying to find out if there are people inside the collapsed houses."

A church tower fell yards from a journalist as he was about to start a report. Television images showed shaken people in the street. In one report, a blanket covered what appeared to be a body lying in the street.

Last night authorities were trying to find accommodation and food for at least 10,000 people whose homes were either destroyed or rendered unsafe.

The epicentre of the first quake was Lorca. Tremors were also felt in other cities including Mazarrón, Cartagena, Águilas and as far away as Almería, Albacete and Madrid.

The Murcia region is popular with holidaymakers, many of whom go to play golf. There is also a big population of expatriate Britons, particularly in towns such as Manzanares.

### IN THE NEWS

#### Greek 'Lehman' fear

The turmoil in Greece could cause a Lehman Brothers-style shock to the financial system if the crisis is allowed to spiral out of control, economists have warned. News, page 3

#### Bin Laden's diary

A handwritten journal by Osama bin Laden has been discovered in the mountain of information seized in the US raid on his hiding place in Pakistan. World, page 30

#### Ai Weiwei outcry

Artists stepped up a campaign to highlight the plight of Ai Weiwei, the Chinese artist held by his Government as part of an apparent crackdown on dissidents. News, page 17

#### Lifeline for rebels

Libyan rebels seized control of the airport in Misrata in a potentially significant breakthrough that could open a new supply lifeline for the besieged city. World, page 28

#### Doubts over railway

First Group is to hand back the keys to the Great Western train franchise three years earlier than thought because of uncertainty over government reforms. Business, page 35

### Inside today

#### George Michael

Why I'm sorry

News, page 9





# YOUNG TIMES

## Be a guerrilla

Arm yourself with soil and seeds. Now the urban world's your flowerbed, says **Richard Reynolds**

I'm a guerrilla. That's not a big, hairy ape but someone who does things a bit differently from the norm. In my case, that means gardening. I garden without boundaries because I have no garden. I plant all over my neighbourhood, mischievously popping flowers into places where they will explode into bloom unexpectedly: on roundabouts, beside pavements, on any spare patch of earth. It helps Nature, cheers up urban spaces and gives the bees something to savour as well. Why don't you have a go?

### Seed Bombs

In one small projectile you have most of what a seed needs to grow, and you can reach places you couldn't otherwise. Plus, you can chuck it and run rather than hanging around digging.

To make your seed bomb, the simplest method is to mix soil, compost and wildflower seeds with a bit of water and roll it into small balls. It works better if the soil is clay-ey, so if you don't live in a

clay-ey area (more common in the south and east of Britain), then you may want to get to know a potter.

Let the bombs dry out for a day, then they are ready to throw. They work best in damp weather, but you could always follow up your bombing raid with a bit of precision firing with your water pistol. Be patient. Seed bombs are a gamble and wildflowers can take a while to establish.

### Guerrilla Sunflowers

Sunflowers look good and are easy to grow. From one tiny seed you can have a giant yellow beacon in two months.

A packet of about 20 seeds costs no more than £2. Find some ground that's not too dusty or gravelly. Ideally it should be at least as deep as a hand, so there's room for the roots. Plant two seeds about 2cm down, cover them over and pour a mug of water on top. Return to water them a few times if you can. By late July they should be flowering, and they will last into October. Although sunflowers die in winter, the seeds will drop, providing food for animals — or even growing into new plants next year. [guerillagardening.org](http://guerillagardening.org)



Young guerrilla gardeners in South London. Above left: lobbing a seed bomb

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## WIN TICKETS TO SEE TAKE THAT

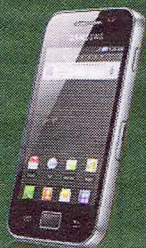
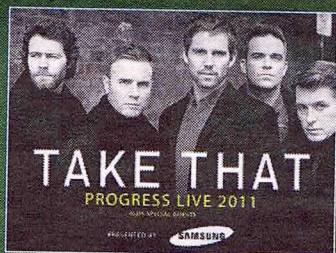
The biggest tour of 2011 is about to kick off. Robbie's back with Take That and the band is getting ready to embark on Progress Live 2011, the first time they have toured as a five-piece since 1995.

Die-hard fans will be treated to performances from the band's number one selling album Progress and some of the old favourites.

Samsung, the headline sponsor for the tour, is giving Times+ members the chance to get a sneak preview of the show with an exclusive pair of Production Rehearsal tickets as well as tickets to one of the band's live UK dates. The winner will also receive a Samsung Galaxy Ace smartphone which features the Take That Tour App.

Samsung and Times+ are providing tickets for this exclusive VIP experience with travel and accommodation included.

For your chance to win, visit [mytimesplus.co.uk](http://mytimesplus.co.uk)



## WIN A FANTASTIC AEG STEAM OVEN

This year's Taste of London and Taste of Edinburgh restaurant festivals will feature a new range of AEG cooking appliances. Heading up the range are the Maxiklasse ProCombi Steam Ovens - and we've got one to give away in this fantastic competition.

Professional cooks understand that the fusion of steam and heat creates a recipe for success. This combination produces soft, tender food on the inside, and a crisp golden finish on the outside.

Whether you are cooking the basics or baking to impress, this AEG steam oven is an essential addition to your kitchen.

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THE  TIMES

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