



**PRESENT** Amber Rudd  
**May survives meeting with party rebels**

BY **BEN GLAZE**  
 Deputy Political Editor  
 "EMOTIONAL" Theresa May last night pleaded for Tory unity as she survived a crunch showdown with rebel Conservatives.

The Prime Minister spent 45 minutes at the party's backbench 1922 Committee, which holds her fate in its hands, as she begged them to support her Brexit plan.

Her dramatic appearance came after she was urged to "bring a noose" to the meeting, which was billed as a "show trial".

Former Home Secretary, Amber Rudd, said: "She spoke emotionally about why she was doing this for the good of the country."

Just 19% of people surveyed by research firm Ipsos MORI have confidence in the PM's handling of Brexit, down from 28%.



**MOVE** Stella Creasy  
**Vote boost on marriage and abortion in NI**

BY **NICOLA BARTLETT**  
 Political Correspondent

MPs have voted to pave the way for abortion and same-sex marriage reform in Northern Ireland.

An amendment by Labour's Stella Creasy and Conor McGinn to an obscure Northern Ireland bill being rushed through was approved 207 to 117.

Stormont has been without an executive since January 2017 and the bill will give civil servants greater clarity over what decisions they can take.

The amendment gives the Government power to direct officials on "incompatibility" of human rights law and curbs on abortion and gay marriage.

Ms Creasy said: "People in Northern Ireland need to hear their lives are not going to be the casualty of the chaos we're seeing."

# The bugs we just can't kill

Fears for patient lives as in-hospital infections soar



**GROWING FEAR**  
 Deadly bacteria in laboratory dish

**“Sooner or later we won't be able to treat anything.”**  
 DEREK BUTLER, CHAIR, MRSA ACTION UK

## 'Standards of hygiene in the hospital where dad died of MRSA infection were appalling'

AN MP has told how the shocking death of her father after he contracted MRSA in hospital spurred her into launching a political career.

Andrea Jenkyns' father, Clifford, a lorry driver, died after developing the bacterial infection in 2011.

Mr Jenkyns went into hospital for lung cancer treatment, but the bug meant he couldn't have his operation.

It is believed he would have lived for several years more had he been able to have the surgery.

Ms Jenkyns, Conservative MP for Morley and Outwood,

**CAMPAIGNER** Andrea Jenkyns

released a photograph of him four days before his death at the age of 73.

She said: "My dad was a fit guy. But the picture shows what MRSA reduced him to. He weighed less than seven stone."

She said he was put in isolation, but staff would come in and out without washing their hands or wearing gloves. She added: "I was shocked,

but when I mentioned this to the head nurse, I was just stared at blankly. The standards of hygiene were appalling."

Andrea is a trustee of the charity MRSA Action.



**FRAIL** Clifford Jenkyns days before he died

**EXCLUSIVE**

BY **MARTIN BAGOT**  
 Health Correspondent and **MARK WILDING**

**MEDICINE risks being taken back to the "dark ages" unless the battle against deadly superbugs is won, experts have warned.**

It came as the number of dangerous infections among patients in hospital has soared from 11,000 in 2010 to 48,000, with almost 1,000 new cases a week.

Antibiotic resistant bacteria, viruses and fungal pathogens are behind the shocking rise in infections among hospital patients.

Poor hygiene and cleanliness on wards left understaffed by savage Tory cuts is making the situation worse.

The superbugs mean three million procedures a year may become life-threatening as antibiotics will not be work, Public Health England warns.

MRSA Action UK charity chair Derek Butler said: "These infections shouldn't be happening. The message I'd give ministers is, 'If you think this battle is over, it's not. We have a bigger threat now than before because the bacteria have become more resistant to antibiotics."

"Sooner or later we won't be able to treat anything."

Patients Association chief executive Rachel Power added: "Behind these figures will be deeply distressing experiences for many people. It is crucial

### Sex disease risk of young adults

A YOUNG person is diagnosed with a sexually transmitted infection every four minutes in England, health officials found.

Public Health England said there were 144,000 cases of chlamydia or gonorrhoea diagnosed among 15 to 24-year-olds last year - almost 400 a day.

Across all age groups there were 420,000 diagnoses of STIs in England last year, PHE said.

PHE scientist Dr Hamish Mohammed said: "Without using condoms young people are putting themselves at risk."

there is a full explanation for why this increase has taken place and action taken by hospitals to investigate."

Chief medical officer for England, Professor Dame Sally Davies, said: "Without swift action, we are at risk of putting medicine back in the dark ages."

The 48,800 cases of in-hospital infections last year was up from 24,800 in 2012/13 and 11,000 in 2009/10.

Germs can be passed on through via contaminated medical equipment and instruments, bed linen and airborne droplets. Although cases of MRSA are falling, most of the rise in infections was caused by antibiotic resistant gram negative bacteria.

Many patients struck down with the infections are elderly, meaning they have far less chance of fighting them off.

The Department of Health and Social Care said: "We have committed to tackling the issue through £360million in research since 2014 and we have already seen GPs are prescribing antibiotics 13% less than in 2013."

■ Almost 2,500 hospitals and GP surgeries are surrounded by dangerously high traffic pollution levels which pose a threat to infants and the elderly, report by the British Lung Foundation found.