

2014 - Centenary year of the start of WWI



2008 - Barack Obama becomes first Afro-American President of the USA



2009 - U2 '360° Tour', which is still the highest grossing tour to date

2005 - French surgeon Bernard Devauchelle and his team in Amiens carry out the first human face transplant



2008 - Spotify launched

2003 - US tennis player Pete Sampras retires with a record 14 Grand Slam titles



2006 - Last airing of Top of the Pops

2001 - The Queen Mother turns 101



2004 - First ever episode of the X-Factor

2000 - World survives Y2K without disasters or computer meltdowns



2000 - Bon Jovi play the last ever concert at the old Wembley Stadium

1997 - Dolly the sheep is cloned successfully



1996 - The Spice Girls release "Wannabe"

1994 - The Sitcom "Friends" airs for the first time



1991 - MP3 file invented

1991 - Fall of The Soviet Union



1987 - Release of Michael Jackson's "Bad" album. Only album to have five consecutive #1 hits

1989 - Fall of The Berlin Wall



1985 - Live Aid

1986 - NASA Space Shuttle Challenger explodes immediately after take-off



1984 - Madonna's Material Girl released

1976 - Britain enjoys longest heat wave in history



1982 - Music was first sold on Compact Disc (CD)

1974 - Streaking becomes a fad in the US



1981 - MTV is launched

1970 - Patients receive first nuclear powered heart pace maker



1979 - "Mull of Kintyre" is the biggest selling record of the decade

1969 - Man walks on the moon



1977 - Never mind the ***** here's The Sex Pistols

1967 - Colour TV first introduced in the UK



1975 - Disco fever runs rampant

1963 - Coldest winter since 1740 strikes Britain



1971 - Fiddler On The Roof becomes the longest running musical in Broadway history

1962 - Sunday Times issues its first colour supplement



1963 - Beatlemania!

1958 - The Beatnik movement appears



1959 - The folk scene becomes the music de jour for the beatniks

1956 - Rock 'n' Roll dance in vogue



1958 - Cha Cha is the new dance vogue

1954 - Roger Bannister runs a mile in 3mins 59.4secs



1955 - Elvis Presley makes his first record at Sun Studios, Memphis, Tennessee

1947 - Flying saucers reported in the US



1950 - "Cool Jazz" develops from Be-Bop

1946 - Shortest recorded boxing match, Couture beats Walton with one punch (10.5s)



1949 - The samba comes into fashion

1945 - End of WWII



1944 - Glenn Miller's unique big band sound becomes forever associated with World War 2. Sadly his plane never reaches France and so he doesn't share in the world-wide fame his music had from then till now

1942 - Gilbert Murray founds Oxfam



1939 - Germany is so outraged by the song "I'm Going To Hang Out The Washing On The Siegfried Line" that they demand a re-match of World War 1

1939 - Nylon stockings first appear



1935 - Jazz becomes Swing!

1936 - Jesse Owen wins 4 gold medals at the Berlin Olympics



1933 - The Nazis ban Jazz as degenerate music

1935 - Malcolm Campbell drives "Bluebird" at 276.8mph



1929 - Al Jolson is the biggest selling musical act of the 20s

1928 - Brazil's economy collapses due to over production of coffee



1924 - George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" perfectly blends the new jazz with classical music's formality

1925 - The Charleston becomes the most fashionable dance



1923 - Louis Armstrong and Sidney Bechet are the first great jazz soloists

1921 - BBC founded



1919 - Italian tenor Enrico Caruso is the biggest selling recording artist of the era and "Vesti La Giubba" is the first ever million seller

1918: WWI Armistice signed



1917 - James Rees Europe's Hellfighters go to Europe to entertain the U.S. troops and causes a sensation with his ragtime jazz

1914: The Foxtrot comes into fashion



1917 - The first ever jazz record is released on RCA. The Original Dixieland Jazz Band's Livery Stable Blues and Original Dixieland One Step

1912: First successful parachute jump



1913 - Marie Lloyd, Britain's greatest Music Hall star leads the Music Hall War with entertainers striking for better pay and conditions

1904: New York policeman arrests woman for smoking cigarette in public



1911 - The big hit of the year is Irving Berlin's Alexander's Ragtime Band

1900: W.G. Grace hangs up his bat for the last time after scoring 54,000 runs

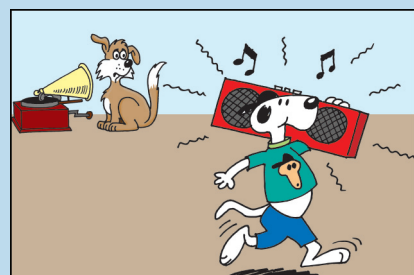


1900 - The Ragtime craze sweeps America

1900: The Cakewalk becomes the most fashionable dance



2000 - 2015: "Grime" is a good word when describing music after the year 2000 and a term from the 1920s "dancehall" gets given a makeover in the new electronic music mixed by DJs. The club music beats of the 1990s get a 'nu shape' too with complex rhythms and phrasings being added. Jamaican Caribbean musical influences enter the music charts. We're all back into glitzy leggings (just like the 80s) and cropped tops (like the 90s). Bling is a must have accessories for any pop star as the bass beats are turned up.



1980s - 2000: Music fans split into groups like *New Romantics*, *Punks*, *Techno Dancers* and *Indies*, *Rockers*, *Rappers* and *Ravers*. Music sounds from Synth machines become popular as computer-generated music makes its debut. We are all back-combing our hair and fixing it with hairspray through the 80s (when leg warmers come out the first time around) and *Madonna* steps on stage in fishnet gloves and the brightest bold make-up. It's fashionable even for the boys! In the 90s it's shell-suits, lumberjack shirts and DM boots.



1960-1979: From Beatlemania to Abbamania, - from loveable Mop Tops and the not quite so loveable *Punk Rockers*. In the movies the glamour and sophistication of James Bond brings adventure into the charts whilst London's leading live music venue - *The Marquee Club* - is as exciting as going to today's O2 Arena. We are all in bellbottom trousers and flower power prints in the 60s, whilst the 70s take us into the glitter and glamour of disco style.



1940-1959: WWII. *Swing music* is the pop music of the day and *Glenn Miller* its biggest star whilst *Frank Sinatra* in America and *Vera Lynn* in the UK bring us sentimentality and romance. In the 50s *Elvis* arrives and changes everything as swing is replaced by the rock 'n' roll of *Blue Suede Shoes*. Teenagers have pocket money to spend and *Teddy Boys* and *Teddy Girls* are the new Rock 'n' Roll rebels.



1920-1939: The Roaring 20s. The dance style called *The Charleston* arrives as gangsters run speakeasies (secret bars where illegal alcohol is served in teapots) and hot jazz is all the rage. The 30s is the start of the *Swing Era*, and sees the arrival of Hollywood glamour with movie stars like *Fred Astaire* and *Ginger Rogers* dancing and singing to the music of *Cole Porter* and *George Gershwin*, - perfect for dancing cheek to cheek.



1900-1919: The Edwardian Era. Music styles in this time are many and diverse. Variety & music hall songs are often rowdy and fun ("*Boiled Beef and Carrots*" was the "Happy" of 100 years ago!) In America the *Ragtime Craze* is big news and the first million selling records appear, often featuring the great Italian tenor *Caruso*. World War I brings us numerous well known songs such as "*It's A Long Way To Tipperary*" and "*Pack Up Your Troubles In Your Old Kit Bag*" and Ragtime crosses the Atlantic when America enters the war in 1917 and brings their pop music with them. It's been here ever since.