

Bob Geldof – out to change the world

Oct 5, 1951: Born **Robert Frederick Zenon Geldof**, in County Dublin, Ireland. Educated at Blackrock College

1973-75: Works as freelance journalist for **New Musical Express** and **Melody Maker**. Becomes music editor for Canadian rock magazine **Georgia Straight**

1975: Returns to Dublin, forms **Nightlife Thugs** which evolves into “new wave” band **The Boomtown Rats**

1976: Rats move to London and signs record deal with **Ensign**

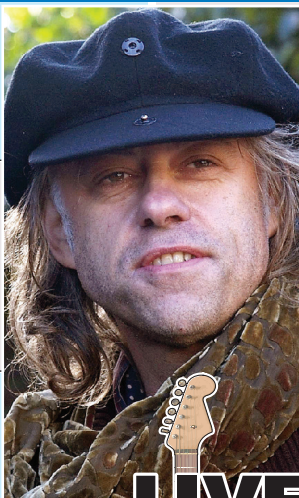
1977: Debut album peaks at No.11 in British charts

1979: Geldof's **I Don't Like Mondays** – inspired by Californian school shooting – becomes smash hit, reaching top spot in 32 countries

1981-83: Wilderness years – Rats fall from favour as “new romantic” bands like **Duran Duran** rise to fame

1984: Turning his attention to the Ethiopian famine, Geldof becomes better known for his charity work. Organizes **Band Aid Trust** for charity record **Do They Know It's Christmas?** Single raises \$4 million for famine relief. Trust goes on to raise nearly \$150m for African aid – and prompts Prime Minister **Margaret Thatcher** to re-evaluate UK famine relief policy

1985: Live Aid. Geldof herds together rock's elite to play before a worldwide television audience of over one million. Twin concerts in London and Philadelphia raise \$40 million for poverty relief in Africa. Co-founds TV production house **Planet 24**



1986: Receives honorary knighthood for his charity efforts. Marries his long-term partner, **Paula Yates**

1987: Publishes his autobiography, **Is That It**

1990: Geldof returns to music, developing his solo career

1992: Planet 24 launches pioneering TV series **The Big Breakfast**

1995: Yates and Geldof separate after she has affair with rock star, **Michael Hutchence**

1997: After bitter custody battle, Geldof wins full custody of his and Yates' three daughters. Becomes outspoken advocate of fathers' rights.

Nov: Hutchence found dead in Sydney hotel room

1999: Sells Planet 24 to **Carlton Communications** for reported \$8.1 million. Finds highly successful **Ten Alps** TV venture

2000: After Yates' death from heroin overdose, Geldof becomes legal guardian of **Tiger Lily** – Yates' daughter with Hutchence – arguing she should be raised with her half-sisters

2002: Appears in anti-euro campaign

2004: Returns to Ethiopia – attacks EU's “**pathetic and appalling**” response to Africa's humanitarian crises. Hails U.S. President **George Bush** for his \$15bn plan to fight Aids in Africa and the Caribbean

2005: Organizes **Live8** concerts, calling on world leaders to end poverty in Africa

LIVE

