

- Oct 9, 1940: John Winston Lennon born in Liverpool, England. Only child of Julia and Alfred Lennon
- 1957: Forms *Quarrymen* skifflerock group with *Paul McCartney*. *George Harrison* joins one year later
- 1960-62: With name changed to *The Beatles*, they perform over 280 gigs at Hamburg rock clubs
- 1962: Beatles now with *Ringo*Starr on drums release first single,
 Love Me Do. Lennon marries Cynthia
 Powell, son Julian born April 1963
- 1964: Hugely successful debut in U.S. leads to two years of constant touring and international stardom
- 1965: Beatles appointed MBEs in Queen's Birthday Honours list
- 1966: Lennon states that Beatles are more popular than Jesus, setting off backlash against group
- 1967: Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band released
- 1968: John and Cynthia divorce
- 1969: Lennon marries Yoko Ono. Give Peace a Chance recorded. Lennon returns his MBE in protest over Vietnam War

- break up. Lennon debuts solo album, John Lennon/Plastic Ono Band
- 1971: Lennon and Ono move to New York. *Imagine* released
- 1972: FBI starts investigation amid calls for Lennon's deportation over his links with anti-Vietnam War protestors. Lennon and Ono release *Sometime in New York City* political album including songs about women's rights and race relations
- 1973: Lennon and Ono separate for 18 months
- 1974: Lennon releases album Walls and Bridges, which includes number one single, Whatever Gets You Thru the Night. Makes final concert appearance at Madison Square Garden with Elton John
- 1975: Deportation order overturned. Lennon and Yoko's son *Sean* born – Lennon takes break from music
- 1980: Double Fantasy released
- Dec 8, 1980: John Lennon shot dead by deranged fan Mark David Chapman outside Lennon's Dakota building apartment in Manhattan

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