Back in The 1980s

IN THE NEWS

1980: Britain won 15 medals at the Olympic Games. Record breakers Steve Ovett and Sebastian Coe beat each other to get a Gold each in the 800m and 1500m respectively.

1981: Lady Diana Spencer married Prince Charles on July 29th.

All 52 american hostages that had been held in Tehran since 1979 were freed.

1982: Argentina invaded the Falkland Islands – a British territory, and Britain went to war with them. There was a huge loss of life.

1983: Seatbelts became compulsory wear on British roads in vehicles that had them fitted.

Michael Jackson first performed the dance move that will forever be known as 'The Moonwalk'.

1984: The Miners' strike over pit closures, cost Britain over £3 billion and over 5000 miners were arrested for various offences during the strike before it was eventually called off after 12 months.

1985: Major riots began in cities at the end of September, and in October they continued into Brixton, Peckham and also in Toxteth, Liverpool, after a police shooting. The riots eventually resulted in the brutal murder of a policeman.

The *Live Aid Concert* from Wembley Stadium in July made over £10 million in aid help for Africa. Huge music Stars give their services for free.

1986: The Chernobyl nuclear reactor exploded in the Soviet Union on April 26th. Hundreds of thousands were displaced and the effects were long-lasting.

The Space Shuttle *Challenger* disintegrated just 73 seconds after launching, killing all seven astronauts on board. Failed O-rings were blamed.

1987: The *Great Storm* hit Britain on the night of October 15th/16th. It was the worst night in living memory and the damage was huge. Thousands of trees were destroyed including six of the famous 'Seven Oaks' in Kent.

1988: Pan Am flight 103 with 255 passengers on board crashed into the Scottish border town of Lockerbie on December 21st. It was the worst act of terrorism in the history of the United Kingdom.

1989: The Berlin Wall was demolished on 9th November. It had separated the East and West of Germany since 1961.

On April 15th there was a disaster at the Hillsborough stadium in Sheffield during the FA cup semi-final between Liverpool and Nottingham Forest. 96 people lost their lives.

UK Prime Minister:
Margaret Thatcher: 1979 -1990

US Presidents:
Ronald Reagan 1981 - 1989
George H.W. Bush 1989 - 1993

World Population:
1983: 4.675 Billion
1988: 5.1 Billion

UK Population:
1983: 56.32 Million
1988: 56.86 Million

AVERAGE COST

	1983	1988
House	£22,520	£37,433
Yearly income	£6,587	£8,853
New Car	£5,120	£8,170
Gallon of fuel	£1.28	£1.70
Bacon, 400g	£1.30	£1.68
Loaf of bread	£0.44	£0.49
Pint of milk	£0.22	£0.26
Postage Stamp	£0.16	£0.19

Most Popular Baby Names
SARAH, LAURA, JAMES & CHRISTOPHER

INNOVATION

1982: First CD Player and the first implant of an artificial heart. Commodore 64 8-bit home computer launched. 1983: Camcorder, 1984: DNA Fingerprinting and first Apple mac Computer, 1987: Windows 2.0 and the first 'short' of 'The Simpsons' was aired. 1989: Nintendo Gameboy

SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS

LIVERPOOL: Division 1 Champions 1980, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985,1986, 1987, 1988
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR and MANCHESTER UNITED both won the FA Cup twice
ESSEX and MIDDLESEX each claimed 3 County Cricket titles

Rugby: 5 Nations: IRELAND claimed the Triple Crown in 1982. FRANCE took 6 titles during the decade.

Golf: British Open: TOM WATSON won 3 of his 5 titles in 1980, 1982, and 1983 and Jack Nicklaus won his last Major, the US Masters. in 1986

Tennis: Wimbledon: JOHN McENROE finally beat Bjorn Borg in 1981, and BORIS BECKER took his first title in 1985. MARTINA NAVRATILOVA and STEFFI GRAF dominated the women's game

Athletics: SEBASTIAN COE broke 3 world records in the summer of 1981 and his 800m 1.41.73 stood for 17 years. He sandwiched this between Gold medals at both the 1980 and 1984 Olympics.

Other athletic stars of the decade: Linford Christie, Daly Thompson, Steve Cram, Steve Ovett, Denise Lewis

ENTERTAINMENT

1980: Star Wars Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back
1981: Raiders of the Lost Ark 1982: ET: The Extra-Terrestrial 1983: Terms of Endearment 1984: Ghostbusters 1985: Back to the Future 1986: Top Gun 1987: Fatal Attraction 1988: Rain Man 1989: Batman, Lethal Weapon 2

IN THE CHARTS …

Top Artists: Madonna, 6 No.1s, The Pet Shop Boys, Wham, David Bowie, Shakin' Stevens, and The Jam, 4 No. 1s. Frankie Goes to Hollywood, Kylie Minogue, The Police, Phil Collins, Paul McCartney, George Michael, Jason Donovan, John Lennon, Whitney Houston, Blondie, Bucks Fizz, Michael Jackson, Jive Bunny and the Mastermixers, Adam Ant and Boy George with Culture Club all had 3 No' 1 hits.

Top Hits: 1980: Don't Stand So Close to Me: *The Police* 1981: Don't You Want Me: *Human League* 1982: Come on Eileen: *Dexy's Midnight Runners* 1983: Karma Chameleon: *Culture Club* 1984: Do They Know it's Christmas: *Band Aid* 1985: The Power of Love: *Jennifer Rush* 1986: Don't Leave Me This Way: *The Communards and Jane Morris* 1987: Never Gonna Give You Up: *Rick Astley* 1988: Mistletoe and Wine: *Cliff Richard* 1989: Ride on Time: *Black Box*

OSCAR WINNERS:

1980: Dustin Hoffman, Sally Field 1981: Robert De Niro, Sissy Spacek 1982: Henry Fonda, Katharine Hepburn 1983: Ben Kingsley, Meryl Streep 1984: Robert Duvall, Shirley MacLaine 1985: F Murray Abraham, Sally Field 1986: William Hurt, Geraldine Paige 1987: Paul Newman, Marlee Matlin 1988: Michael Douglas, Cher 1989: Dustin Hoffman, Jodie Foster

ON TV: • Blankety Blank • Doctor Who • Only Fools and Horses • Blue Peter • The Old Grey Whistle Test • Panorama • Dukes of Hazzard • Grange Hill • Black Adder • The Professionals • Bergerac • Miss Marple • Postman Pat • Emmerdale • Tiswas • The Bill • EastEnders • Last of the Summer Wine

WHO WE LOST: *1980: John Lennon 1981: Bob Marley 1982: Ingrid Bergman, Grace Kelly 1983: Karen Carpenter: 1984: Eric Morecombe. 1985: Orson Welles 1986: Cary Grant & James Cagney 1987: Andy Warhol, Fred Astaire 1988: Roy Orbison, Enzo Ferrari 1989: Salvador Dali*