

John Lennon



Born during the Second World War



- Born to Julia Lennon in 1940. His father was a sailor and away at sea.
- He went to live with his Auntie Mimi aged 5 as it was decided that she and her husband would be better able to provide for him.

Schooling



- John was not very academic at school although he was very good at art.
- His Mum bought him a guitar when he was 15 years old.
- He formed several bands, the 1st in 1956 called The Quarrymen.
- He soon invited Paul McCartney to join.

By the 1960s after playing in Germany to refine their skills...



- The name was changed to The Beatles
- The 4 members were John, Paul, George and Ringo
- In 1962 they released a single 'Love me do' which went to No.1

Beatlemania followed...



- The album 'Please, Please Me' went straight to number one as did all the records they released at this time.
- Their sound was young and energetic
- They were mobbed here and then in America.

By 1966..



- The songs were mostly written by John Lennon and Paul McCartney
- The Beatles were exhausted by the attention
- They stopped touring and recorded their songs, using rare instruments and unusual techniques to create a unique sound.

They made successful films as well as recording innovative music.



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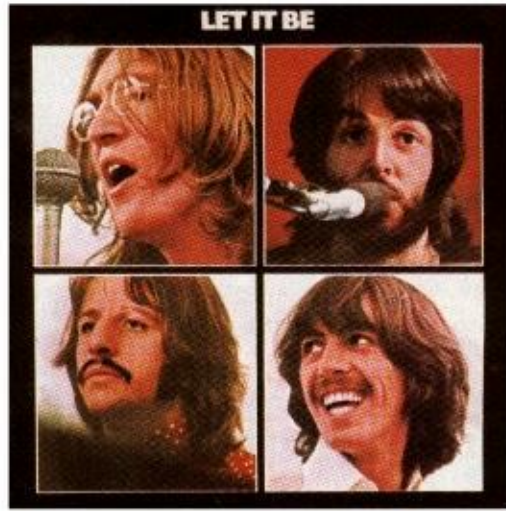
- He had married a fellow art student , in 1962, before the Beatles were famous and had a son Julian.
- In 1967 He went to an art exhibition in London by Yoko Ono and fell in love.
- He divorced Cynthia, and married Yoko in 1969

John and Yoko became involved in the Peace movement



- During the late sixties the Hippy Movement evolved, many young people became interested in alternative life styles.
- The Beatles were part of this, they grew their hair, went on trips to India and talked about world issues.

The Beatles broke up...



- They last played live in 1969, on top of a building in London.
- They had all begun to want to do different things.
- John and Yoko began to record their own records, they were very unusual.

The Beatles had been awarded MBEs in 1965



- John returned his to The Queen in 1968 in protest of the support given to the USA in the Vietnam War and its policies in Africa.

John and Yoko became involved in world politics using their fame to gain publicity



- 1969 John and Yoko stayed in bed for a week, invited the World's press and come and recorded 'Give Peace a Chance'.

John Lennon now lived in America



- John recorded his most famous song in 1971 'Imagine'. It was voted Song of the Millennium nearly 30 years later.
- After a temporary split from Yoko, they had a son in 1975.

John became a house husband



- Yoko went out to work, managing the money that John had made as part of The Beatles.
- He loved being at home with his baby son, as he had missed out on all that with Julian.

By 1980...



- John had begun to record music again.
- He wrote of his happiness and love for Yoko.
- On December 8th 1980 a crazed fan shot John dead outside his flat in New York.

The Legacy of John Lennon

- A wonderful musical partnership with Paul McCartney in The Beatles which was the sound track of The Sixties.
- A wide body of music using different styles and instruments.
- He brought a high profile to the peace / anti-war movement involving young people in Politics.

