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We welcome new subscriber:

Wes Jav Woodlands Media Host - 45rpm (Pulse FM)



woodlandsmedia.com.au

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new Media Jocks' Journal

Volume 36. May 1-31,2024

"Australia's longest running radio industry publication"

6PR Drops Perth Overnight Program

6PR Perth has retrenched 40-year media veteran Jon Lewis, replacing his live and local show with an Eastern States program. Lewis had been hosting the Perth Overnight shift at 6PR since 1995. Jon began at the station in April 1984 as a cartridge operator. The decision, which is part of a financial cost-cutting exercise, marks a departure from the "live and local" content the radio station has long promoted. It was Lewis who introduced the overnight talk format in the mid '90s. He told JJ that he he has been genuinely

overwhelmed by the hundreds of emails and responses from listeners in regard to his departure.

Radio News

The CEO of Commercial Radio & Audio (CRA), Ford Ennals, announced his departure on April 15. He served as CEO for two years, during which he led the rebranding of the industry body from "Commercial Radio "Commercial Australia" to Radio & Audio". He also oversaw the launch of 'Radio 360', the new industry audience measurement system which provided more robust audience listening data. Jo Dick, chief commercial officer, will care-take the CEO role while the board of directors searches for a new CEO. Ennal's next move is unknown.



Former KIIS 97.3 Weekend Brisbane Announcer/ 101.5FM Moreton Bay Drive Announcer Lee "Bevo" Bevington has moved into television as a Broadcast Engineer at Nine Brisbane. His company Lee Bevington Media records voice overs and podcasts like The Radio Fanboy Podcast.

Max Dudley, former 4BC Brisbane Content Director, has announced his new role. "I have joined Australia's most experienced team for highstakes issues, SEC Newgate as Account Director – based in the Brisbane office."



Brent James, 4BC Music Director and presenter, has been made redundant 4BC Brisbane/Nine from Radio. James along with the 4KQ Breakfast team of Laurel, Gary & Mark joined 4BC upon the demise of the high rating 4KQ when it was sold by ARN to SEN in 2022. Apart from being MD (as 4BC ventured into a more hybrid format) Brent has been heard on the 2GB/4BC networked music based program Saturday Night Live for the past 2 seasons during the non NRL periods.

Nicholls is lacob now co-host with Elerrina McPherson on Bundy's 93.1 Triple M Breakfast show. Jacob takes on his first Breakfast radio gig after spending the last few years on the Hit Network across Mackay and the Whitsundays, hosting the Workday shift and a Saturday morning show. A true Queenslander, he first found his love of radio at Brisbane's Bay FM before joining the street team at Brisbane's B105 and 104.5 Triple M.

Nick Morris has departed the ABC after nearly 19 years with the ABC Radio. Morris worked in various senior marketing roles before being appointed ABC Head of Sport in 2016.

Ryan Khay has joined Hot Tomato. He says: "I've been given a brilliant opportunity with ARN and i've transitioned my radio career and excited to announce that I'm the new Jnr Broadcast Technologist at 1029 Hot Tomato on the Gold Coast! After 22 years in Programming, I'm expanding my skill set to become the swiss army knife of Commercial Radio and moving into Broadcast Technology and couldn't be more excited!!"

After a few years with ARN as CD for Wave FM Wollongong and Regional Content Director VIC/NSW/SA, **Barry** Keohane has announced: "It's time for the next chapter. I'm proud of the work I've done here in Wollongong and with ARN Regional, and the people I've collaborated with. Also excited to see Wave kick some big goals in 2024!"



Stephanie Coombes has been made redundant as iHeart's Podcast Content Director, after three years in the role.

Scott Bevan has taken on ABC Newcastle Saturday Breakfast permanently after being a regular fill in. He has worked as a journalist for Nine Network, ABC as well as the 7.30 Report.

More news on page 40



Nick Lowther



* Nick recently celebrated 10 years with the ABC. He is the Chief of Staff at ABC Western Plains.

Where did you grow up in your youth?

- Bendigo, Victoria.

First regular job?

- Tram Conductor on the Bendigo Talking Trams. Learnt the art of the repetiive message early, telling passengers we 'were about to go 100 Years an Hour' about 10 times a day!

Radio training (maybe course or school)

- While I was flipping burgers for Maccas, I did Melbourne Radio School with Gary Mac on a Tuesday night at his St Kilda Rd school. It was so much fun and I eagerly read the Jocks Journal jobs on the wall for faraway magical places like 'Parkes' and 'Moree'

First radio job

- 2MG Mudgee 1999. In my interview I let them know about the Mudgee rail line being busy with freight. Sadly, the encyclopedia I got that from was from 1984 and the line shut in 86. No google then, kids.

A memory of your first day on air

- I found the 2MG tape not long ago. My memory is that I thought it went well. Listening back, look, well, there was no dead air?

Former stations you have worked at

- 3CCC Bendigo, 2MG/Real FM Mudgee, 2NM/Power FM Muswellbrook, 2ST/Power FM Nowra, ABC Illawarra in Wollongong, ABC Western Plains in Dubbo and the ABC's Audio on Demand unit.

A radio career highlight

- Going back into creating radio in 2014 at ABC Illawarra after being a manager for 10 years. I pretty much started back at the bottom, but had more grace and experience to learn again. It was the most exhilarating time of my career.

Most memorable celebrity interview

- I quite enjoyed the frank nature of Kevin Sheedy, AFL legend.

An embarrassing radio moment

- Once played the 'F' word version of Amiel's Love Song in breakfast, despite my own handwriting on the front of the CD saying 'DO NOT PLAY TRACK ONE!!'



A favourite music concert

- All my John Farnham concerts, been to four.

First record/cassette/ or CD purchased

- Chain Reaction from John Farnham

Are you a 'collector' of anything?

- My wife says I'm a hoarder, but I love momentos of career and life. Gifts, cards, letters, articles.

A pet peeve

- 'A head for radio' is an insult, stop enabling it.

A sports passion

- Following Carlton in AFL

A favourite current TV show

- 'Heartbreak High' on Netflix is refreshingly different and enjoyable.

Last thing you 'googled'?

- 'Renewable Energy Zone Planning NSW' yep, my life is off the chain.

Your 'long service' holiday plan?

- I've got a few story ideas for a passion project podcast, so need to think about which story I love most.

Three people alive you'd love to interview

- Comedian Tony Martin, actor William McInnes and road accident survivor and mum-to-be Sophie Delezio.

When you finally retire – the last song you'd like to play would be

- 'Beautiful Ride - Dewey Cox'

Best piece of advice

- 'Write the glad, tell the bad' from David Rogerson (Consultant). Always talk about bad news face to face and always share the good news of the team in an email. If someone is struggling to grasp something, they have never learned from a sarcastic email that only served to make you feel better.

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Jocks' Journal Fun Files

A WOODEN PLANK recently sold for \$718,750. It was the door frame panel that saved Rose's life in the 1997 film Titanic. It was sold as part of a Planet Hollywood movie memorabilia auction and finally sold after numerous bids. The prop, made from balsa wood, was based on the "most famous complete piece of debris" salvaged from the real sinking of the Titanic in 1912. Often mistakenly referred to as a door, it was in reality part of the door frame just above the first-class lounge entrance. The iconic prop has caused much debate from fans, many of whom have argued that the floating wood panel could have supported both Jack [Leonardo DiCaprio] and Rose [Kate Winslet] - making his fateful decision to stay in the frigid water an empty gesture. Director James Cameron said he had a scientific study performed in an attempt to put the debate to rest once and for all.

(And the result ... there was no way they both could have survived. Only one could survive. If you don't believe it ... maybe you could track down the plank owner and make an offer for say \$800,000!)

A PRISTINE COPY OF ACTION COMICS #1 featuring Superman for the first time has become the most valuable comic ever sold. The 1938 comic book went for \$6 million at Heritage Auctions.

(The crazy thing is, actor Christopher Reeve only earned \$250,000 for both the Superman and Superman II movies, while his veteran co-stars received huge sums of money: \$3.7 million for Marlon Brando and \$2 million for Gene Hackman both for Superman I. But the 1938 comic officially graded "Very Fine+ 8.5", fetched an amazing \$6 million.)

A 111-YEAR-OLD RESIDENT at a British retirement home has officially been named the world's oldest living man by Guinness World Records. John Alfred Tinniswood was awarded the title after the death of 114-year-old Venezuelan man Juan Vicente Pérez. Tinniswood, born Aug. 26, 1912, still gets out of bed himself, manages his own finances and listens to the radio each day to keep up with the news. He attributed his longevity to "pure luck." He doesn't follow any special diets, but he finds moderation to be the key in remaining healthy.

(So although he doesn't follow any special diet ... he does enjoy fish and chips every Friday. Well hopefully my intake of fish and chips will auger well for a long life.)

TWO IRISH BASKETBALL TEAMS have been ordered to replay the final 0.3 seconds of a quarter-final match. Limerick Sport Eagles beat the Portlaoise Panthers 80-78. But the game finished in controversial fashion, with the Eagles' winning points coming from free throws awarded on the final buzzer. The Panthers appealed on the grounds that the free throws should not have been allowed as the clock had expired at the same time the foul was called. The National League Committee (NLC) has ruled the fixture would not be replayed in full, but that the remaining 0.3 seconds should be played.

(Really? They will play 0.3 seconds? We used to have Irish jokes ... surely this is one of them? Anyway ... common sense has prevailed and the Panthers said that replaying a fraction of a second would go against the "values of the game of basketball".)

THE MOST FRUSTRATING PHRASE? According to a UK poll, "just stop worrying" was voted the most frustrating and futile advice in a survey of 2,000 British adults. Some 42% of those polled said it was the worst or most pointless suggestion they had been given. (Gee ... I could think of a lot of worse phrases. Mostly the ones that came from my parents like "because I said so" ... or "just you wait until your father comes home.")



RUSSELL COOK, THE MAN NICKNAMED "HARDEST GEEZER", has successfully run the full length of Africa, crossing the finish line in Tunisia after 352 days. Before he set off on the mammoth challenge to run the entire length of Africa, he said he hoped to look back at his life and have no regrets. The 27-year-old from West Sussex, said he had struggled with his

mental health, gambling and drinking, and wanted to "make a difference". After running through 16 countries, he has raised in excess of £700,000 for charity and has completed his final run. (By the way. The word "geezer" is believed to have originated in the UK in the 1880s as a slang term for a man. It may have derived from the earlier word "guiser," meaning a person in disguise or costume, which itself comes from the Middle English word "gysar" or "giser" meaning "one who plays a part." Over time, "geezer" has come to refer to an older man, often with a sense of respect or affection. And that's how many feel about Russell Cook.)

A PAIR OF TROUSERS has been censored by North Korea's state television channel. They censored a BBC gardening program by blurring out presenter Alan Titchmarsh's trousers. The station aired a 2010 edition of Garden Secrets but made sure that viewers could not see his jeans. Jeans are seen as a symbol of western imperialism and as such are banned. Western programming is extremely rare on North Korean screens, as the regime is careful to the point of paranoia - about allowing foreign culture to enter the country.

(But it is still not entirely clear how it arrived in the first place. However, North Korean TV often pirates content from foreign broadcasters, blurring out onscreen logos to hide the original source. This is often the case with their airing of Premier League, Champions League, and International football. Thank goodness that soccer stars have avoided playing the game in jeans!)

THE MAN WHO INVENTED THE WORLD'S FIRST KARAOKE MACHINE, has died aged 100. Shigeichi Negishi, the entrepreneur whose 1967 "Sparko Box" prototype is among several devices credited as ushering in Japan's karaoke craze. Marketing the device as a Sparko Box, he sold them alongside lyrics cards and reportedly produced and installed around 8,000 around Japan, mainly at bars and restaurants. By the time Negishi stopped selling the products in the 1970s, several rival machines had been invented and taken to market. Today, Japan is home to more than 8,000 dedicated karaoke box venues, while 131,500 bars are equipped with karaoke.

(And what is the most popular karaoke song in Japan? It's a well known 1963 hit by Kyu Sakamoto. The one the Americans renamed Sukiyaki although the real title is Ue o Muite Aruko.)

BBC RADIO is to re-broadcast a play for a listener who missed the ending in 1978. Sue Reilly was "gripped" by The Gazebo, a comic murder mystery, when she first heard it on radio in August 1978, but she missed the closing minutes and never heard the conclusion of the story. After she wrote to the BBC, Radio 4 Extra agreed to play it as part of its All Request Weekend.

(By the way, our station has an all request weekend coming up soon – but if you could stick with songs and not radio plays or old news bulletins – it would be appreciated.)

Mother's Day Fun Files



MUM'S SAYINGS. Remember some

of Mum's classic sayings? Let's look at some sarcastic answers we kids could have replied to if we were brave enough (or silly enough!) to have answered back.

1. Because I said so!

(You mean 'sew' as in knit or 'sow' as in plant? Mum, I'm confused.)

2. No dessert until you finish your dinner!

(Any chance we can start off with dessert and then have dinner?)

3. If someone asked you to jump off a cliff would you? (Possibly if I had a parachute or was skilled at hang gliding.)

4. I've told you a thousand times ... (Don't exaggerate Mum, by my count it's only 223.)

5. Say 'pardon' not what

(Ok Mum. Can you help with my homework? Pardon is the capital of France? Pardon happened on April 25?)

6. What did your last slave die of?

(I think it was heart strain from overwork putting away my toys everyday.)

7. You'll poke someone's eye out with that.

(Not necessarily. They might be wearing goggles.)

8. Close the door, you weren't born in a barn.

(Are you sure? I seem to have a memory of a mean old cow.)

9. Don't sit too close to the TV, you'll get square eyes.

(How cool would that be? My friends would be so envious.)

10. There is no such word as 'can't'.

(Are you willing to make a bet? Let me just grab a dictionary.)

11. If you eat your crusts you'll get curly hair

(Oh great, I've always wanted curly hair. Does that mean I'd also grow a curly beard? My friends would be really impressed!)
12. Don't make that face - if the wind changes you'll stay like that

(Ok, I'll only makes those faces when I'm inside the house. Not much fear of wind inside.)

13. Eat all your dinner. There are children starving in India. (I know and that's why I think we should box my leftovers and post them over to them.)

14. Money doesn't grow on trees you know!

(I'm not sure about that Mum. I'm sure you mentioned something about the 'bank branch' the other day.)

15. Back in my day ...

(Come on Mum ... pre-2000 is ancient history. We are talking about last century!)

MOTHER'S DAY began as a result of the efforts of Anna Jarvis, daughter of Ann Reeves Jarvis. Following her mother's 1905 death, Anna Jarvis conceived of Mother's Day as a way of honouring the sacrifices mothers made for their children. In May 1908 she organised the first official Mother's Day celebration at a Methodist church in West Virginia. Following the success of her first Mother's Day, Jarvis—who remained unmarried and childless her whole life—resolved to see her holiday added to the national calendar. By 1912 many US states, towns and churches had adopted Mother's Day as an annual holiday.

HOW TO KNOW WHETHER OR NOT YOU ARE READY TO BE A MOTHER (Mother's Day Sunday May 12)

Mess Test:

Smear peanut butter on the sofa and curtains. Place a prawn shell behind the couch and leave it there all summer.

Toy Test:

Obtain a 250 litre drum of LEGOs (if LEGOs are not available, you may substitute with Monopoly playing pieces). Have a friend spread them all over the house. Put on a blindfold. Try to walk to the bathroom or kitchen. Do not scream (this could wake a child at night).

Grocery Store Test:

Borrow one or two small animals (preferably a goat) and take them with you as you shop at the grocery store. Always keep them in sight and pay for anything they eat or damage.

Dressing Test:

Obtain one large, unhappy, live octopus (they turn bright red when they are unhappy). Stuff into a small net bag making sure that all arms stay inside.

Feeding Test:

Obtain a large plastic milk jug. Fill halfway with water. Suspend from the ceiling with a stout cord. Start the jug swinging. Try to insert spoonfuls of soggy cereal (such as Fruit Loops or Weet Bix) into the mouth of the jug, while pretending to be an airplane. Now dump the contents of the jug on the floor.

Physical Test:

Obtain a large beanbag and attach it to the front of your clothes. Leave it there for 9 months. Now remove ten of the beans.

Final Assignment:

Find a couple who already have a small child. Lecture them on how they can improve their discipline, patience, tolerance, toilet training and child's table manners. Suggest many ways they can improve. Emphasise to them that they should never allow their children to run wild. Enjoy this experience. It will be the last time you will have all the answers.

CELEBRITY QUOTES REGARDING MOTHERHOOD

"It just occurred to me that the majority of my diet is made up of food that my kid didn't finish..." - Carrie Underwood

"I always say if you aren't yelling at your kids, you're not spending enough time with them." - Reese Witherspoon

"I want my children to have all the things I couldn't afford. Then I want to move in with them." - **Phyllis Diller**

"Why don't kids understand that their nap is not for them but for us?" - Alyson Hannigan

"A mother need only step into the shower to be instantly reassured she is indispensable to every member of her family."

- Lynne Williams

"A mother is a person who seeing there are only four pieces of pie for five people, promptly announces she never did care for pie." - **Tenneva Jordan**

"When your mother asks, 'Do you want a piece of advice?' it is a mere formality. It doesn't matter if you answer yes or no. You're going to get it anyway." - Erma Bombeck

"If your kids are giving you a headache, follow the directions on the aspirin bottle, especially the part that says 'keep away from children'." - **Susan Savannah**

"I've conquered a lot of things ... blood clots in my lungs - twice ... knee and foot injuries ... winning grand slams being down match point ... to name just a few, but I found out by far the hardest thing is figuring out a stroller!" - **Serena Williams**

2024 GfK Radio 360 Metro Radio Ratings

SURVEY 2/2024

Overall figures. All people 5.30 - Midnight, Mon-Sun. (Previous 2022 survey results in brackets.)

Sydney

Station	2/2024	1/2024	8/2023	7/2023	6/2023	5/2023	4/2023	3/2023
2GB	11.9	12.7	12.1	12.4	11.1	11.6	14.3	12.2
smoothfm 95.3	11.0	10.8	11.4	10.6	9.1	9.9	11.3	10.8
KIIS 1065	11.0	10.5	11.5	11.5	10.9	10.0	12.0	13.0
WSFM	8.7	7.5	9.0	8.6	8.5	8.3	7.6	7.8
NOVA 96.9	8.1	8.0	7.7	7.0	6.4	6.7	7.3	7.1
104.1 2DAYFM	5.5	4.6	5.2	4.7	4.8	5.1	5.2	5.3
104.9 Triple M	5.3	5.0	5.2	5.4	6.1	6.0	5.1	5.3
ABC Sydney	5.1	5.4	6.0	7.0	7.3	6.1	5.6	6.5
2UE 954	5.0	5.6	3.5	4.0	4.3	3.8	3.3	4.5
2JJJ	3.7	4.1	3.6	3.3	4.3	5.0	4.3	3.8
ABC Classic	2.4	3.0	2.5	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.4	2.8
ABC NEWSRADIO	1.3	1.2	2.2	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.2
SKY Sports Radio	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.5
2RN	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.0	0.8

- KISS 1065 No 1 in breakfast and drive. 2GB No 1 in morning and evening, smooth FM No 1 in afternoon.
- Smooth No 1 on weekends. 2GB No 2 in breakfast. Smooth No 2 in morning, drive and evening.

Melbourne

Station	2/2024	1/2024	8/2023	7/2023	6/2023	5/2023	4/2023	3/2023
3AW	13.8	14.5	13.6	13.5	15.8	16.7	14.6	15.3
GOLD 104.3	10.9	11.8	10.3	12.4	12.7	9.6	10.8	11.1
101.9 FOXFM	10.1	9.4	10.3	10.5	9.4	9.4	9.2	8.8
smooth 91.5	8.9	7.5	9.4	8.5	9.3	9.9	9.6	9.7
NOVA 100	7.6	7.1	6.4	5.7	6.3	7.5	8.5	7.3
KIIS 101.1	6.2	6.4	7.6	7.1	6.9	7.4	7.5	7.3
105.1 Triple M	6.1	7.8	6.4	6.9	6.0	6.1	5.7	5.3
ABC Melb	6.0	6.5	6.6	8.0	7.4	7.1	6.9	6.0
SEN 1116AM	3.5	2.6	2.4	2.7	3.1	3.7	3.1	2.8
3JJJ	3.2	4.3	4.1	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.7	4.0
3RN	2.3	2.2	2.0	2.1	1.9	1.5	1.9	2.2
3MP 1377	1.4	1.6	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.6	1.1	1.4
ABC Classic	1.4	1.1	2.1	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.4	1.8
ABC NEWSRADIO	1.4	1.1	1.8	1.4	1.1	1.6	1.7	1.6
Magic 1278	1.3	1.4	1.0	1.3	1.1	0.8	1.3	1.6
RSN 927	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.6	1.9	0.8	0.7	0.6

- 3AW No 1 in breakfast, morning, evening and weekends. Gold 1043 No 1 in afternoon and drive.
- FOX up in all sessions. Triple M down in all sessions (-2.7 in afternoon). Gold -2.0 in breakfast.

Brisbane

Station	2/2024	1/2024	8/2023	7/2023	6/2023	5/2023	4/2023	3/2023
B105	11.9	13.8	11.7	11.5	11.1	11.1	11.7	12.8
104.5 TRIPLE M	11.8	13.2	13.3	11.8	11.4	10.4	10.9	10.6
NOVA 106.9	10.3	11.4	12.7	12.1	11.9	11.6	11.8	12.4
KIIS973	10.2	8.2	10.0	11.5	11.8	10.8	9.7	9.9
4BH 1116	9.5	9.1	8.1	8.6	8.4	9.3	9.8	8.4
4BC 882	7.0	6.5	6.6	7.4	6.5	6.2	6.4	6.5
4JJJ	5.5	5.6	5.8	5.4	5.8	6.6	5.8	5.8
ABC Brisbane	4.2	4.3	5.3	5.9	6.0	5.8	5.2	5.4
ABC Classic	2.3	1.8	1.2	1.4	1.6	2.2	2.1	1.5
4RN	1.1	1.2	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.6	2.2
ABC NEWSRADIO	0.8	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.7
SENQ693	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.9	1.1	8.0	0.4

- Triple M No 1 in breakfast, morning and afternoon. B105 No 1 in drive. 4BH No 1 in evening (11.1%).
- KIIS up in all sessions. B105 down in all sessions (-3.1 in breakfast). Triple M down in all sessions (-4.7 in evening).

2024 GfK Radio 360 Metro Radio Ratings

SURVEY 2/2024

Overall figures. All people 5.30 - Midnight, Mon-Sun. (Previous 2022-2023 survey results in brackets.)

Adelaide

Station	2/2024	1/2024	8/2023	7/2023	6/2023	5/2023	4/2023	3/2023
MIX102.3	14.3	13.3	11.9	11.8	11.4	12.6	11.9	12.1
5MMM	12.4	11.6	14.4	14.9	11.7	12.2	13.6	12.4
NOVA 91.9	10.0	11.3	10.1	9.3	10.6	10.8	10.5	10.7
SAFM	9.0	8.9	9.2	8.7	10.0	10.1	9.3	8.7
CRUISE 1323	8.7	8.6	8.3	8.7	9.1	8.5	8.7	8.9
FIVEaa	7.9	8.2	7.5	8.2	9.1	9.2	9.0	9.4
ABC Adelaide	7.4	6.6	8.3	7.4	7.6	7.9	8.5	7.7
5JJJ	5.1	5.2	4.3	5.0	4.5	3.3	3.2	4.0
ABC Classic	2.6	2.7	2.4	2.2	1.4	1.4	1.9	2.0
ABC Newsradio	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.5	1.5	2.1	2.1
5RN	1.2	1.4	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.8	2.3	1.1

- 5MMM No 1 in breakfast and morning. MIX 102.3 No 1 in afternoon and drive. FIVEaa No 1 in evening (-4.5).
- 5MMM up in all sessions. ABC Adelaide up in all sessions. Nova down in all sessions. MIX 102.3 No 2 in breakfast.

Perth

Station	2/2024	1/2024	8/2023	7/2023	6/2023	5/2023	4/2023	3/2023
MIX 94.5	15.3	15.6	12.4	13.4	12.9	11.1	12.2	13.4
NOVA 93.7	14.6	14.0	13.6	13.2	16.2	18.1	17.0	16.1
96FM	12.4	12.4	15.3	13.0	13.0	13.0	12.9	14.4
92.9 TRIPLE M	7.8	7.0	9.2	8.1	6.8	7.6	7.1	6.8
ABC PERTH	5.7	5.6	6.5	7.2	6.5	6.1	5.6	4.9
6JJJ	5.6	7.0	5.3	6.2	6.6	6.2	5.2	5.9
6PR	5.5	5.3	5.8	6.2	6.5	7.2	7.0	5.8
6IX	4.2	4.2	4.3	3.7	4.1	4.6	5.3	4.6
ABC Classic	2.3	2.8	2.5	2.4	2.6	3.0	2.1	1.8
ABC Newsradio	1.6	1.7	1.2	1.3	1.1	0.7	1.2	1.4
6RN	1.2	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4

- Nova 93.7 No 1 in breakfast. MIX 94.5 No 1 in morning, afternoon, drive, evening and weekends.
- MIX 94.5 2.1 in breakfast. 96FM no 2 in morning and afternoon. Nova No 2 in drive an evening.

GfK Canberra Radio Ratings 1/2024

STATION	1/2024	3/2023	2/2023	1/2023	2/2022
MIX 106.3	20.2	21.6	25.8	24.2	20.6
Hit 104.7	15.9	15.5	14.7	17.5	13.9
ABC Canberra	10.8	13.0	11.1	8.4	12.6
2JJJ	8.5	7.6	6.5	6.1	9.6
ABC Classic	7.1	7.0	7.9	9.8	7.1
2RN	7.1	6.6	7.4	8.4	8.3
2CA	5.1	6.9	6.3	6.9	7.1
2CC	4.7	4.9	4.6	4.8	5.9
ABC News Radio	3.6	4.8	5.1	4.0	4.7

^{*} Mix 106.3 No 1 in breakfast, morning, afternoon, drive and weekends. ABC Canberra No 1 in evening.

^{*} ABC Canberra -7.7 in morning. 2CA down in all sessions. Mix 106.3 -3.1 in breakfast. 2CC +2.0 in breakfast.



Hamish & Andy (LiSTNR SCA) is once again Australia's favourite podcast with the pair reclaiming their spot as Australia's top podcast, reaching almost 845,000 listeners in March, according to the Triton Australian Podcast Ranker. Castile True Crime (ARN iheart) is in second place followed by Mamamia Out Loud (Mamamia), then Shameless (Shameless Media) and in fifth place The Imperfects (ARN iheart)

Wednesday 1st May 2024

Births

JUDY COLLINS born in Seattle, Washington - 1939 (85)

- * American singer. She had her first hit in 1968 with Both Sides Now. She also had hit success with the hymn Amazing Grace ('71) and Send In The Clowns ('75). She toured Australia in March 2024.
- * She wrote the thriller *Shameless* and non-fiction works such as *Morning, Noon and Night.*
- * She was the inspiration behind the Crosby, Stills & Nash 1969 hit Suite: Judy Blue Eyes.
- * Her song *Chelsea Morning* was the inspiration behind US President Clinton naming his daughter Chelsea!

RITA COOLIDGE born in Nashville, Tennessee - 1945 (79)

- * US singer. Her hits include Higher And Higher ('77), Boz Scaggs' We're All Alone ('77) and The Way You Do The Things You Do ('78). She also recorded All Time High ('83) theme to the James Bond film Octopussy.
- * Rita was the inspiration behind Joe Cocker's 1969 hit *Delta Lady*. She was also a backing singer on Joe Cocker's Mad Dogs and Englishmen tour.
- * She was married to Kris Kristofferson from 1973-1980.

JOANNA LUMLEY born in Kashmir, India - 1946 (78)

- * English actress. Since 2008 she has hosted and presented a series of world documentaries such as Joanna Lumley's Japan and Joanna Lumley's India. She is well known for playing Patsy in the UK comedy program Absolutely Fabulous and Purdey in the '70s series The New Avengers. In recent times she's appeared in the TV series Finding Alice.
- * She's been married to conductor Stephen Barlow since 1986.
- * She supports many charities and animal welfare groups.

JOHN WOO (Yusen Wu) born in China - 1946 (78)

- * Chinese film director and producer. His Hollywood movies include *Broken Arrow* ('96), *Face/Off* ('97), *Mission: Impossible 2* (2000) and *Paycheck* (2003).
- * Yun Fat-Chow has starred in many of his Hong Kong made movies.

RAY PARKER JR born in Detroit, Michigan - 1954 (70)

* US singer and songwriter. He was lead vocalist with his band Raydio who had hits with Jack And Jill and You Can't Change That. After going solo he had hits including The Other Woman ('82) and the theme to Ghostbusters ('84).

NICK FELDMAN born in London, England - 1955 (69)

* UK musician. He's a member of the band Wang Chung. Their hits include *Dance Hall Days* ('84), *Everybody Have Fun Tonight* ('86) and *Let's Go* ('87).

OWEN PAUL (Owen Paul McGee) born in Glasgow, Scotland - 1962 (62)

* UK vocalist. He had a hit in 1986 with My Favourite Waste Of Time.

CHARLIE SCHLATTER born in Englewood, New Jersey - 1966 (58) * American actor. He played Dr Jesse Travis in TV's *Diagnosis: Murder* (1995-2001) and starred opposite Kylie Minogue in the 1989 feature film *The Delinquents.*

TIM McGRAW (Samuel Timothy McGraw) born in Delhi, Louisiana - 1967 (57)

* US country singer, actor and husband to Faith Hill. They met in 1996 when he hired her as his support act. He's had 10 albums debut at No 1 on the US country charts.

WES ANDERSON (Wesley Anderson) born in Houston, Texas - 1969 (55)

* US director. His popular films include *The Grand Budapest Hotel, The Fantastic Mr Fox, Moonrise Kingdom* and *Rushmore.* His quirky movies have been described as 'post modern'.

DAVID DIXON born in Brisbane, Queensland - 1971 (53)

* Australian singer and actor. He's a former vocalist with Queensland band Indecent Obsession. In 1990 they made No 31 on the US charts with the single *Tell Me Something*. Their debut hit was in 1989 with *Say Goodbye*. Their single *Kiss Me* and second album *Indio* both made No 1 in South Africa. His stage credits include: *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* and *Smokey Joe's Cafe*.

STUART APPLEBY born in Cohuna, Victoria - 1971 (53)

* Australian golfer. He's won nine times on the PGA tour. His wins include the Australian Open (2001), Queensland Open ('91) and Houston Open ('99). He's based in Florida.

KELLIE CRAWFORD (Kellie Hoggart) born in Sydney, NSW - 1974 (50)

- * Australian singer. She's a former member of the children's music group Hi 5. She left in 2008 after 10 years with the group.
- * At one time she was married to Hi 5 member Nathan Foley. Her second husband died in 2018.

VICTORIA MONÉT (Victoria Monét McCants) born in Atlanta, Georgia - 1989 (35)

* US singer/songwriter. Her debut studio album, Jaguar II (2023) became her commercial breakthrough. At the 66th Annual Grammy Awards, she was the recipient of seven nominations and three wins for Best New Artist, Best R&B Album and Best Engineered Album, Non-Classical.

CAITLIN STASEY born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1990 (34)

* Australian actress and singer. She played Rachel Kinski in *Neighbours* (2005-2009) and Kenna in the US series *Reign*. She can also be seen in the 2010 film *Tomorrow*, *When The War Began*.

Events

First **POSTAGE STAMP** was issued - 1840.

* The 'Penny Black' bears the head of Queen Victoria and is one of the most valuable stamps in the world.

EMPIRE STATE BUILDING was opened in New York City - 1931.

* Up until 1973 it was the world's tallest building.

BATMAN (known as 'The Batman') made his comic strip debut in America's Detective Comics (Volume 1 Issue #27) - 1939.

CITIZEN KANE, starring and directed by Orson Welles, premiered in New York City - 1941.

* The movie received nine nominations at the Academy Awards. It won just one Oscar.

MR POTATO HEAD toy was introduced in America - 1952.

* It was the very first toy to be advertised on television

ROY ORBISON's first single *Ooby Dooby* was re-released on Sun records - 1956.

CAROLE KING released her debut single *Goin' Wild* - 1958.

* It bombed out. She had her first solo hit in 1962 with *It Might As Well Rain Until September.*

INCREDIBLE HULK, created by Stan Lee, was first published by Marvel Comics - 1962.

ELVIS PRESLEY, 32, married **PRISCILLA BEAULIEU**, 21, - 1967.

* They divorced in 1973.

SYDNEY ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE opened - 1983.

* It closed on December 20, 2015 and was demolished in 2016.

AYRTON SENNA, Brazilian racing driver, died aged 34 after crashing his car in the San Marino Grand Prix - 1994.

SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS cartoon premiered on Nickelodeon in the US - 1999.

LIFE magazine was printed for the final time - 2000.

LOGIE AWARDS were held at Sydney's Superdome at Homebush - 2005.

* This was only the second time that Sydney had hosted the event.

JASON, CAMERON AND TRAVIS CLOKE, sons of former VFL footballer David Cloke, all lined up for Collingwood - 2005.

* First time in 13 years that three brothers played in the same AFL team.

PETER FOSTER, 46 year old Australian conman, was released from jail on parole on money laundering charges - 2009.

EAGLE BOYS, Australian pizza fast food chain, officially closed - 2017.

SESAME STREET opened at the intersection of West 63rd Street and Broadway New York City in honour of the children television show's 50th anniversary - 2019.

GORDON LIGHTFOOT, Canadian singer/songwriter, died aged 84 - 2023.

* He had his first worldwide hit in 1971 with *If You Could Read My Mind. Sundown* ('74) was his biggest hit in Australia and his only No 1 US hit. His 1976 single *The Wreck Of The Edmund Fitzgerald* was also a big seller.

Thursday 2nd May 2024

Births

ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK (Arnold George Dorsey) born in India - 1936 (88)

- * English singer. His pop hit career began in 1967 with Release Me, followed by There Goes My Everything, The Last Waltz, Am I That Easy To Forget and A Man His last chart Without Love. appearance was in 1977 with After The Lovin'. He will tour Australia this month (May 2024) on his 'Last Ever Australia Tour.' His first concert will be May 14 in Brisbane. * When he toured Australia in 1999 he was joined by his daughter, Louise Dorsey, who accompanied him on a couple of duets. His son Bradley was his tour manager. He'd been married to their mother Patricia for over 40 years. She died
- * Because he used to impersonate Jerry Lewis he was first called "Gerry" Dorsey. In 1965 his manager, the late Gordon Mills, suggested that he change his stage name to Engelbert Humperdinck the name of a German opera composer.

LESLEY GORE (Lesley Goldstein) born in New York City, New York - 1946. (Died aged 68 - 2015)

- * American singer. She was only 17 when she had her first hit with It's My Party. (It was the first No 1 hit to be produced by Quincy Jones). Her other '60s hits include Judy's Turn To Cry, You Don't Own Me and That's The Way The Boys Are.
- * She played Catwoman's assistant Pussycat in a few TV episodes of Batman.

SIR DAVID SUCHET born in London, England - 1946 (78)

- * British actor. He has appeared in many stage productions and movies but is best known for playing the detective Hercule Poirot in the series of *Poirot* television movies from 1989-2013.
- * He toured Australia in 2014 performing in the stage show *The Last Confession*. It also featured his actress wife Sheila Ferris. It was Suchet's first ever visit to Australia.
- * He hosted the 2012 religious documentary *The Footsteps of St Paul*. He has also recited the whole Bible (NIV version). It is available as a free audible audiobook.

LOU GRAMM born in Rochester, New York - 1950 (74)

- * US singer. Former lead vocalist with Foreigner. Their biggest hit was in 1985 with *I Want To Know What Love Is* which became a No 1 hit in Australia. Their other hits include *Cold As Ice* and *Waiting For A Girl Like You*. He left Foreigner in 1990 and now tours as 'Lou Gramm the voice of Foreigner'.
- * His biggest solo hit was in 1987 with *Midnight Blue*.

CHRISTINE BARANSKI born in Buffalo, New York - 1952 (72)

* US actress. She had the lead role in *The Good Wife* (2009-2016) and she now stars in the spin-off series *The Good Fight*. She also played Cybil Shepherd's friend Maryann in the '90s TV series *Cybil*. Her movies include *The Grinch, Chicago, Mamma Mia* and *Mamma Mia*! Here We Go Again.

BRIAN LARA born in Trinidad, West Indies - 1969 (55)

- * West Indies cricketer and TV commentator. The former West Indian captain made his Test debut in 1991. In April 2004 he made a record breaking innings of 400 not out against England in the fourth Test match at the Antigua Recreation Ground.
- * He starred in the 1999 Test series against Australia making 213 in the second Test, 153 not out in the third Test and a third century (in just 82 balls) in the fourth Test. His total of 539 runs are the most ever scored by a West Indian against Australia in a four-Test series. He made his 3rd century in just 82 balls.
- * He named his daughter Sydney in tribute to the 277 runs that he made in Sydney in 1992.

DWAYNE 'THE ROCK' JOHNSON born in California - 1972 (52)

- * US actor and former professional wrestler. He starred in the 2022 film Black Adam. He was one of the stars of the 2017 movie Jumanji: Welcome To The Jungle and starred in San Andreas that was filmed in Queensland in 2015. His other movies include The Scorpion King, The Mummy Returns, Race To Witch Mountain and the series of The Fast And Furious movies.
- * He is the narrator of the TV series *Young Rock* based upon his life which ran from 2021 to 2023.

DAVID BECKHAM born in London, England - 1975 (49)

- * English soccer player. He played for Manchester United, Preston North End, Real Madrid, AC Milan, Los Angeles Galaxy, Paris Saint Germain, and the English national team for which he holds the appearance record for an outfield player. He was the first English player to win league titles in four countries (which were England, Spain, the United States and France). In May 2013 he played his final game.
- * In 1999 he married Spice Girl Victoria Adams. They have four children.
- * He has over 60 tattoos.

KATIE NOONAN born in Paddington, NSW - 1977 (47)

- * Australian singer. She was lead vocalist with Brisbane band george. They made No 1 in Australia in 2002 with their debut album *Polyserena*. Her brother Tyrone Noonan was also a member of the group. They reunited in 2016 for a 20th anniversary performance.
- * In 2020 she released her 20th album *The Sweetest Taboo*. Her other solo albums include *Skin* and *Blackbird*.

LILY ALLEN born in London, England - 1985 (39)

* English singer/songwriter. Her hit singles, often featuring explicit lyrics, include *Smile*, *Not Fair* and *The Fear*. In 2009 she charted with the single *22*. It was featured on the album *It's Not Me*, *It's You* which made No 1 in Australia. Her 2013 hits include *Air Balloon* and *Hard Out Here*.

Events

First edition of **KING JAMES BIBLE** was published - 1611.

ROYAL MELBOURNE GOLF CLUB was established - 1891.

SUNCORP began operating - 1916. * It was originally called the State Accident Insurance Office, soon after the State Government Insurance Office and from March 1986, it became Suncorp.

VICTA LAWN MOWER patent was lodged by Mervyn Victor Richardson - 1955.

* It was developed in 1952 and in 1953 Richardson sold his first 100 mowers. Within a few years he was a millionaire.

RAY PETERSON recorded *Tell Laura I Love Her* - 1960.

BEN E KING left the Drifters and went solo - 1960.

* The following year he had his two biggest sellers with *Spanish Harlem* and *Stand By Me*.

NANCY SINATRA recorded the James Bond theme *You Only Live Twice* in London - 1967.

* Nancy recalled that she was extremely nervous during, and it took around 30 takes to acquire enough material. Composer John Barry eventually created the final track by incorporating vocals from 25 takes.

ERIC CLAPTON recorded *Wonderful Tonight* - 1977.

PINK FLOYD's hit *Another Brick In The Wall* was banned in South Africa because the authorities thought it might encourage boycotts at black schools - 1980.

JASON DUNSTALL, Hawthorn full forward, kicked 17 goals against Richmond (one short of a record) - 1992.

TONY BLAIR, aged 43, became Britain's youngest Prime Minister since 1801 - 1997.

PRESIDENT GEORGE W BUSH declared an end to the war with Iraq - 2003.

CREAM reunited after 37 years for four shows at London's Royal Albert Hall commencing on this date - 2005.

* The rock trio's 'final' concert was also at Royal Albert Hall in 1968.

OSAMA BIN LADEN, 54 year old head of the Islamist militant group al-Qaeda, was killed in Pakistan by a United States special forces military unit - 2011.

MANCHESTER UNITED'S Premier League game against Liverpool was postponed after about 200 fans broke into Old Trafford to protest against the Glazer family's ownership of the club - 2021.

- * It was the first time a Premier League match had been postponed because of fan protests.
- AFL CEO Gillon McLachlan announced that Tasmania would become the 19th team in the AFL and AFLW competitions in 2028 2023
- * In March 2024 the AFL announced the Tasmania team would be known as the Tasmania Devils, and would play in a dark green jumper emblazoned with a yellow map of the island state.

Friday 3rd May 2024

Births

BING CROSBY (Harry Lillis Crosby) born in Tacoma, Washington -1903. (Died aged 74 - 1977)

- * US actor and crooner of the '30s and '40s. He recorded several million selling records and had 340 hits in America 23 of them with the Andrew Sisters.
- * He made 65 films and teamed up with Bob Hope to star in a series of 'Road' pictures.. He also made movies of his own such as *Holiday Inn* that contained the all time classic *White Christmas*. In 1944 he won an Academy Award for Best Actor in *Going My Way*.

JAMES BROWN born in Georgia - 1933. (Died aged 73 - 2006)

* American soul singer. Despite numerous US hits from 1960 onwards it wasn't until 1986 that he had his first national hit in Australia with Living In America which was featured in Rocky IV. Two of his biggest hits in the '60s were - I Got You (I Feel Good) ('65) and It's A Man's Man's Man's World ('66).

FRANKIE VALLI (Francis Casteluccio) born in Newark, New Jersey - 1934 (90)

- * US singer. He was lead vocalist with the Four Seasons. They had four No 1 hits in America with Sherry ('62), Big Girls Don't Cry ('62), Walk Like A Man ('63) and Rag Doll ('64). His three big solo hits are Grease, Can't Take My Eyes Off You and My Eyes Adored You.
- * In 1975 the Four Seasons reunited with Frankie on lead vocals and Bob Gaudio on keyboards plus three new members. They hit the US No 1 spot with *December 1963 (What a Night)*. Prior to that they scored with *Who Loves You?* A remixed dance version of *December 1963* became a hit again in 1993.
- * The story and music of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons is told in the musical *The Jersey Boys*.

JOHN ORCSIK born in Austria - 1945 (79)

* Australian actor/director. He was one of the stars in the local TV series *Cop Shop* (1977-1983). In 1982 he married Paula Duncan - a fellow cast member. (Now divorced.) From 1999-2002 he played Ron Kirk in *Neighbours*.

MARY HOPKIN born in Wales - 1950 (74)

* Welsh singer. She got her showbiz break on the British television program *Opportunity Knocks*. British model Twiggy telephoned Paul McCartney and told him of her talent and as a consequence she was signed to the Beatles Apple record company. Paul chose her first single *Those Were The Days* which was released in 1968. Her other big hits were *Goodbye* (written by McCartney), *Temma Harbour* and *Knock Knock Who's There*?

CHRISTOPHER CROSS (Christopher Geppert) born in San Antonio, Texas - 1951 (73)

* American singer/songwriter. 1980 was his big year when he won five Grammys and had two huge hits with *Ride Like The Wind* and *Sailing* both from his selftitled debut album. A year later he had his second US No 1 hit with *Arthur's Theme*.

DAVID HOOKES born in Adelaide, SA - 1955. (Died aged 48 - 2004)

- * Australian Test cricketer and sports commentator. The 3AW Sports Today co-host was coaching the Victorian Bushrangers at the time of his death. He died in January 2004 due to an incident that took place outside a St Kilda hotel. It is believed that Hookes became involved in a brawl. He was punched and fell to the ground hitting his head in the process and went into cardiac arrest.
- * In his first Test in 1977 he scored five fours off five consecutive balls from Tony Greig.
- * For South Australia he scored almost 13,000 runs in a career which spanned 16 years.

BEN ELTON (Benjamin Elton) born in London, England - 1959 (65)

- * British comic, writer and author. He was a script writer for the TV comedy programs *The Young Ones, Black Adder* and *Mr Bean*. He also wrote the script for the musicals *We Will Rock You* and *Love Never Dies* sequel to *Phantom Of The Opera*.
- * He has published 16 novels since 1989 including *Stark* and *Popcorn*.

 * He married Australian girl Sophie Gare in 1994. They reside in Fremantle. They also have a home in England.

PETER HOWARTH born in Blackpool, Lancashire - 1960 (64) * UK singer. He's the lead singer of the English band The Hollies, which he joined in 2004. He replaced Allan Clarke when he retired.

ROB BRYDON (Robert Brydon Jones) born in Wales - 1965 (59)

* Welsh actor, comedian, radio and TV presenter. He has also appeared in a number of programs with Steve Coogan, including *The Trip* series. Since 2009, Brydon has presented the TV comedy panel show *Would I Lie to You?* He played Dr Paul Hamilton in the Australian/British comedy series *Supernova* and Bryn West in the UK TV sitcom *Gavin & Stacey*.

PETER EVERITT born in Mornington Peninsula, Victoria - 1974 (50)

- * AFL player. 203 cm tall 'Spida' made his debut for St Kilda in 1993 and in 2003 began playing for Hawthorn. He was then traded to the Sydney Swans at the end of 2006 and retired at the end of 2008 after playing 291 games. He works in the media and is a longtime breakfast presenter on Gold Coast radio station Triple M (formerly Gold 92.5).
- * His younger brother Andrejs Everitt also played AFL football.

BRAD SCOTT born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1976 (48)

* AFL footballer and current coach of Essendon. He played his first season with Hawthorn and then joined the Brisbane Lions. He played with his identical twin brother Chris (who coaches Geelong). Brad played in two premierships for the Lions.

CHRIS SCOTT born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1976 (48)

* AFL dual premiership player with Brisbane Lions. He and his identical twin brother Brad played in defence. Since 2011 he's been the coach of Geelong. The Cats won the flag in his first year as coach and again in 2022.

JAMES PATTINSON born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1990 (34)

* Australian cricketer. He made his Test debut in the 2011/12 home series against New Zealand, in the first Test in Brisbane on 1 December 2011. He took 5 wickets for 27 runs in the second innings of his debut Test. On 23 December 2009, James broke the record for Victorian One Day cricket by taking 6 for 48 off 10 overs with 1 maiden.

Events

BERT NEWTON, aged 18, began hosting the *Late Show* on Channel 7 - 1957.

* It was his debut as a TV host. The *Late Show* started three days before *In Melbourne Tonight*. In early 1959 he joined rival channel GTV 9 to host *In Melbourne Today*.

TIM TAM won the Kentucky Derby - 1958.

* The Tim Tam biscuits were named by Ross Arnott, who attended the 1958 Kentucky Derby and decided that the name of the winning horse Tim Tam was perfect for a planned new line of biscuits.

TWISTER game became a sensation after Johnny Carson and Eva Gabor played it on *The Tonight Show* - 1966.

THE HOLLIES recorded *Carrie Anne* (in just two takes) - 1967.

MARCIA HINES released her first single *Fire And Rain* - 1975.

* It was a cover version of the popular James Taylor song.

FIRST SPAM E-MAIL was sent by a Digital Equipment Corporation marketing rep (Gary Thuerk) to every ARPANET address of the US Defence Department - 1978.

MARGARET THATCHER became the first female Prime Minister of Great Britain - 1979.

CLIFF YOUNG, aged 61, won the 875km Sydney to Melbourne foot race in a record time of five days, 14 hours - 1983.

ANDY WARHOL's possessions were sold at auction with total sales of \$34 million - 1988.

GEELONG created an AFL record highest score 37.17.239 against Brisbane (11.9.75) at Carrara - 1992.

TORNADOES reaching 420km/h blew through Oklahoma killing at least 45 people and leaving 6,000 homeless - 1999.

EDITH BLISS, Australian singer/TV presenter, died aged 52 - 2012.

* She was a presenter on the TV program Wonder World

SAMANTHA CRISTOFORETTI, Italian astronaut, became the first person in space to drink a freshly made cup of espresso coffee - 2015.



Saturday 4th May 2024 Star Wars Day

Births

AUDREY HEPBURN (Edda Van Heemstra Hepburn-Ruston) born in Brussels, Belgium - 1929. (Died aged 63 - 1993)

* Belgium-born Hollywood actress. In 1953 she won an Academy Award for Best Actress in Roman Holiday. She also received Oscar nominations for her roles in Sabrina ('54), Breakfast At Tiffany's ('61), My Fair Lady ('64) and Wait Until Dark ('67).

EL CORDOBES (Manuel Benitez Perez) born in Spain - 1936 (88)

* Spain's most famous and highest paid bullfighter in history. He has the scars of more than 20 gorings from fighting bulls to prove it! He retired in 1971.

DICK DALE (Richard Monsour) born in Boston, Massachusetts - 1937. (Died aged 81 - 2019)

* US musician. He was hailed as the "King of Surf Guitar." An avid surfer and accomplished musician, Dale and his band, the Del-Tones appeared in several of the beach party teen flicks starring Annette Funicello and Frankie Avalon made during the early 60's. His signature single was *Misiriou* ('62).

STEVE LIEBMANN born in Sydney, NSW - 1944 (80)

- * Australian radio and TV presenter. In 1981 he joined the Nine Network as the original cohost of *Today* with Sue Kellaway. In 1986, after five years with the program, he moved to Channel 10 Sydney to present its main evening news bulletin. However, in 1990 he returned to the Nine Network to again co-host *Today*. In January 2005 he quit his role as host of the *Today* show.
- * He began his media career at radio station 2XL when he was still at high school. He's also worked at 2CA, 2UE and 2SM. He worked on air at 2UE from 2009-2010.

BELINDA GREEN born in Sydney, NSW - 1952 (72)

- * Australian model. The former Miss Australia was crowned Miss World in 1972. She became the second woman from Australia to win the title. She was a panellist on *Beauty & The Beast* (2002).
- * She had two children to her former husband John Singleton.

PIA ZADORA (Pia Schipani) born in New York - 1953 (71)

* US actress and singer. She can be seen in the films *Butterfly* and *Hairspray*. In 1985 she charted with *When The Rain Begins To Fall* - a duet with Jermaine Jackson.

MARILYN MARTIN born in Louisville, Kentucky - 1954 (70)

* American singer. In 1985 she charted with Separate Lives - a duet with Phil Collins. It was featured in the film White Nights.

PETER SLEEP born in Penola, South Australia - 1957 (67)

* Australian cricketer. 'Sounda' played 14 Tests for Australia. The 1986–87 series included his best bowling figures in a Test innings, five for 72 in the second innings as England failed to chase 320 for the win.

ANDREW DENTON born in Sydney, NSW - 1960 (64)

- *Australian TV and radio presenter. He's hosted various TV programs including the ABC interview program Enough Rope, as well as Blah Blah Blah, The Money Or The Gun and Live & Sweaty. He also hosted the Channel 7 late night program Denton and Interview which debuted in 2018. He is a former comedy writer for Doug Mulray. In 1997 he joined Triple M in Sydney as breakfast host and left at the end of 2001.
- * He married Jennifer Byrne in 2004.
- * His father Kit Denton wrote *The Breaker* which inspired the film *Breaker Morant*.

KYLIE GILLIES (Kylie Mills) born in Tamworth, NSW - 1967 (57)

* Australian TV presenter. Since 2007 she's co-hosted *The Morning Show* with Larry Emdur. Gillies was the *Weekend Sunrise* sport presenter and regularly filled in on the weekday *Sunrise* program. She also has been a presenter on Seven's late news updates.

JULIAN BARRATT born in Leeds, England - 1968 (56)

* English actor, musician and comedian. He is best known for playing the character of Howard Moon in the cult TV comedy *The Mighty Boosh*, which he cowrote with comedy partner Noel Fielding.

MIKE DIRNT (Michael Pritchard) born in Berkeley, California - 1972 (52)

* US musician. Bass player and backing vocalist for the punk rock band Green Day. Their hits include Redundant, Time Of Your Life, Boulevard Of Broken Dreams, American Idiot as well as The Saints Are Coming with U2.

FELICITY URQUHART born in Tamworth, NSW - 1976 (48)

* Australian country music singer-songwriter, and a TV/radio presenter. In 2020 she won five Golden Guitar Awards at the Tamworth Country Music Festival. * She was the host of the country music show Saturday Night Country on ABC Local Radio from 2010-2020.

LANCE BASS born in Laurel, Mississippi - 1979 (45)

- * Member of US group 'N Sync. Their biggest hit to date is *Bye Bye Bye* (2000) which was featured on their top selling album *No Strings Attached*.
- * The name 'N Sync came from the synthesis of last letters from their nicknames: Justin Chris Joey Lansten JC.

PATIENCE HODGSON born in Queensland - 1984 (40)

* Lead singer with Brisbane three piece Indie rock band The Grates. Their debut album, *Gravity Won't Get You High*, was released in 2006. It peaked at #9 on the ARIA chart. Their second album *Teeth Lost*, *Hearts Won* made No 6.

TRAVIS COLLINS born in Campbelltown, NSW - 1985 (39)

* Australian country singer/songwriter. Three of his albums have reached the ARIA Albums Chart top 20, Hard Light (2016), Brave & the Broken (2018) and Wreck Me (2020). He has won eight Golden Guitar trophies at the annual Country Music Awards.

RORY McILROY born in Ireland - 1989 (35)

* Northern Irish golfer. He was world No 1 in the Official World Golf Ranking for 95 weeks. He is a four-time major champion.

NIC NAITANUI (Nicholas Naitanui) born in Sydney, NSW - 1990 (34)

* AFL player. He played for the West Coast Eagles. 'Nic Nat' was drafted by West Coast with the second pick in the 2008 National Draft. Due to injury he missed out on playing in the Eagles 2018 premiership.

Events

GENE VINCENT recorded his biggest hit *Be Bop A Lula* - 1956.

DANDENONG PANORAMIC(now Dandenong Lunar) drive-in opened in Melbourne - 1956.

* It closed down in 1984 and then re-opened in September 2002. It closed in July 2023. The owner said the cost of keeping the doors open had become too high.

GRAMMY AWARDS were presented for the first time - 1959.

McDONALD'S "BIG MAC" hamburger was invented by Jim Delligatti - 1968.

MOODY BLUES formed in the UK - 1964.

- * The group had its first hit with *Go Now* in 1964. By 1967 the band had undergone a couple of line-up changes with Justin Hayward and John Lodge joining the group.
- * Their hit albums include Days of Future Passed ('67), A Question of Balance ('70), Every Good Boy Deserves Favour ('71), Seventh Sojourn ('72) and Long Distance Voyager ('81). Their biggest selling single is Nights In White Satin a hit in the '60s and again in '72.

TWIGGY phoned Paul McCartney after watching **MARY HOPKIN** on the TV talent show *Opportunity Knocks*, recommending the 18-year-old singer as a recording artist for Apple Records - 1968.

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR opened at Sydney's Capitol Theatre - 1972. * The Harry M Miller production ran for four years. Trevor White played Jesus and Jon English played Judas.

DIANA DORS, English actress, died aged 52 of cancer - 1984.

* Born Diana Fluck she was often referred to as 'Britain's answer to Marilyn Monroe.'

DARLINGredevelopment in Sydney was officially opened by Queen Elizabeth - 1988.

JAMES PACKER and DAVID GYNGELL were involved in a street brawl on a Bondi Beach footpath -2014

* Gyngell, who was best man at Packer's wedding, says he was the 'instigator' of the incident.

CATHY GODBOLD, Australian actress, died age 43 - 2018.

Sunday 5th May 2024

Births

TAMMY WYNETTE (Virginia Wynette Pugh) born in Tupelo, Mississippi - 1942. (Died aged 55 - 1998)

* US country singer. Her biggest hit was in 1969 with Stand By Your Man. She was a guest vocalist on the KLF 1992 hit Justified And Ancient.

MICHAEL PALIN born in Sheffield, England - 1943 (81)

* English comedy actor, writer and former *Monty Python's Flying Circus* performer. He starred in his own TV comedy *Ripping Yarns*. The programs were written by Palin and fellow Python Terry Jones. Nine episodes were produced between 1977-1979. Since the 1990s he's starred in a series of travel documentaries beginning with *Around the World in 80 Days*. Following each documentary he wrote a book about his travels.

JOHN RHYS-DAVIES born in Wiltshire, England - 1944 (80)

- * Welsh actor. He played the role of the dwarf Gimli in the Lord of the Rings movies and Sallah in the Indiana Jones movies. He played Michael Malone in the 1993 film The Untouchables and General Leonid Pushkin in the James Bond film The Living Daylights.
- * He voiced Ent Treebeard in Lord of the Rings, and has also has lent his distinctive voice to many video games and animated TV series.

REX GOH born in Singapore - 1951 (73)

* Australian guitarist. He's played with various Australian bands and artists including Savage Garden, Air Supply, Daryl Braithwaite and Renee Geyer.

RICHARD E GRANT (Richard Grant Esterhuysen) born in Swaziland -1957 (67)

* British-Swazi actor, director and TV presenter. He has appeared in over 80 films and TV programs, such as Withnail And I, The Scarlet Pimpernel, Jack & Sarah, L.A. Story, Dracula, The Hound Of The Baskervilles, Gosford Park, The Iron Lady, Logan and Can You Ever Forgive Me? In 2005 he directed his first major release, Wah-Wah. From 2012-2014 he hosted Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets.

ROBERT DIPIERDOMENICO (Berto Dipierdomenico) born in Hawthorn, Victoria - 1958 (66)

* Australian Rules footballer. The Hawthorn premiership player (five premiership teams) was co-winner of the 1986 Brownlow Medal. For many years 'Dipper' worked in the media as a football 'boundary rider' for Channel 7.

DOUG HAWKINS born ir Braybrook, Victoria - 1960 (64)

- * Australian Rules footballer. The former Footscray captain spent his final playing year with Fitzroy and retired at the end of 1995. 'Dougie' and former Hawthorn player Jason Dunstall once headed the Triple M Melbourne morning program and also hosted *Live And Kicking* on Channel 7.
- * He achieved the record for playing the most senior games for Footscray, breaking Ted Whitten's record in 1994. Ended his career with 329 games. (Record now beaten.)
- * In March 2023 he was sheltering in a shed that was struck by lightning. Doug was unhurt.

TINA YOTHERS born in Whittier, California - 1973 (51)

* American actress. She played the youngest daughter Jennifer Keaton in the 1980s television series *Family Ties*.

DIETER BRUMMER born in Sydney, NSW - 1976. (Died aged 48 - 2021) * Australian actor. He is best known for playing played Shane Parrish in TV's Home and Away. In 1995 and 1996 he won the Silver Logie for Most Popular Actor. He went on to appear in Neighbours and Winners and Losers.

* On 24 July 2021, Brummer was found dead at his parent's home in Sydney at the age of 45. He had only worked a few days on the job before lockdown stopped his role as a construction worker. "He was really excited and really grateful about the job," his employer said. "The (covid) lockdown took the wind out of his sails."

CRAIG DAVID born in Southampton, England - 1981 (43) * English singer. He made No 1 in the UK with his first two singles, Fill Me In and 7 Days. In 2003 he combined with Sting on the hit Rise And Fall.

COREY PARKER born in Brisbane, Queensland - 1982 (42)

* NRL player with the Brisbane Broncos. The former club captain was a part of the Broncos 2006 premiership team. He played 347 games and then retired at end of season 2016.

HENRY CAVILL born in Saint Hellier, Jersey - 1983 (41)

* English actor. He is known for his portrayal of Charles Brandon in *The Tudors*, Superman in *The Man Of Steel* and others, as well as Sherlock Holmes in *Enola Holmes* (2020). He also starred in *The Man from U.N.C.L.E.* (2015) and *Mission: Impossible - Fallout* (2018).

ADELE (Adele Adkins) born in North London, England - 1988 (36) * English singer/songwriter. Her albums 21, 25 and 30 have all made No 1 in Australia. 30 became the year's best-selling album worldwide including US and UK. The single as well as the album made No 1 in Australia.

- * Her first album 19 debuted at No 1 in the UK. It was followed by 21 (also named after her age at time of recording.) 21 topped the charts in 30 countries and also won Grammy for Album Of The Year.
- * She sang the theme to the 2012 James Bond film *Skyfall*.

CHRIS BROWN born in Tappahannock, Virginia - 1989 (35) * US r & b singer and dancer. His debut album *Chris Brown* featured the hit single *Run It!*, which topped the US singles chart making Brown the first male artist to have his debut single to top the chart. His second U.S. No 1 hit was *Kiss Kiss*. He featured on Jordin Sparks' No 1 2008 hit *No Air*. In 2019 he had a hit with *No Guidance feat*. Drake.

CARLOS ALCARAZ born in Murcia, Spain - 2003 (21)

* Spanish tennis player. He won at Wimbledon in 2023. He is currently ranked the world No. 2 tennis player in singles by the Association of Tennis Professionals. He won his first Grand Slam title at the 2022 US Open.

ARYNA SABALENKA born in Minsk, Belarus - 1998 (26)

* Belarusian tennis player. She has been ranked as world No. 1 in singles as well as doubles by the WTA. She won the 2024 and 2023 Australian Open finals. She also won the 2019 Grand Slam doubles title in the US Open and the 2021 Australian Open, alongside Elise Mertens.

Events

NAPOLEON BONAPARTE died aged 51 - 1821.

* His death was caused by cancer of the stomach. His final days were spent in exile on the Island of St. Helena.

CHANEL NO. 5, created by French fashion designer Coco Chanel with chemist Ernest Beaux, went on sale - 1921.

AMY JOHNSON (England) commenced the first successful solo flight by a woman from England to Australia - 1930.

* She arrived 23 days later at Darwin.

REV JOHN FLYNN, founder of The Royal Flying Doctor Service, died aged 70 in Sydney - 1951.

ALAN SHEPARD became the first American astronaut in space - 1961.

CLIFF RICHARD recorded *Summer Holiday* at EMI's Abbey Road studio - 1962.

WEST SIDE STORY soundtrack made No 1 on the US album charts and remained at the top for a record 54 weeks - 1962.

CHRISSIE HYNDE (Pretenders) married JIM KERR (Simple Minds) - 1984.

* The couple met in Australia. They divorced in 1990.

PAUL HOGAN, 50, married LINDA KOZLOWSKI, 32, - 1990.

* They divorced in October 2013.

KERRY PACKER won a reported \$27.98 million in Las Vegas - 1995.

"I LOVE YOU" virus affected millions of computers worldwide - 2000.

PATRICK JOHNSON, 30, became the first Australian sprinter to run the 100 metres in under 10 seconds (9.93) - 2003.

ANTHONY MUNDINE lost his World Super Middleweight title when he lost to Puerto Rican MANNY SIACA in Sydney - 2004.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA became the first state in Australia to ban **PLASTIC SHOPPING BAGS** - 2009.

WHO declared an end to the **COVID-19** global health emergency that had been in place since January 30, 2020 – 2023.



Monday 6th May 2024

Labour Day (QLD)/May Day (NT)

Births

BOB SEGER born in Dearborn, Michigan - 1945 (79)

* American singer/songwriter. In 1987 he had his biggest hit in Australia with Old Time Rock And Roll - which he first released in America in 1979. In 1983 Kenny Rogers and Sheena Easton had a big seller with his song We've Got Tonight and Jon English had a hit in 1975 with his song Turn The Page.

ALAN DALE born in Dunedin, New Zealand - 1947 (77)

- * NZ-born actor. He was one of the original cast members of *Neighbours* and played the role of Jim Robinson. He moved to the US in the late '90s and landed a role in the US series *24 Hours*. His most recent role is playing Joseph Anders in the TV remake of *Dynasty*. He's also appeared in several episodes of *Lost*, *The X Files* and had a part in *Star Trek: Nemesis*.
- * He married Tracy Pearson in 1990 a former Miss Australia and presenter on *Our House*.

MARY MacGREGOR born in St Paul, Minnesota - 1948 (76)

* American singer. She had her biggest hit in 1976 with the million seller *Torn Between Two Lovers*, written by Peter Yarrow.

DAVEY JOHNSTONE born in Edinburgh, Scotland - 1951 (73)

* Scottish guitarist. The ex-Magna Carta guitarist joined Elton John's backing band in 1971.

TONY BLAIR born in Edinburgh, Scotland - 1953 (71)

- * Former Prime Minister of Britain. Aged 43, he became Britain's youngest Prime Minister since Lord Liverpool in 1812. Blair is the Labour Party's longest-serving Prime Minister and the only person to have led the Labour Party to three consecutive general election victories. He was in power from May 1997 to June 2007.
- * In 2000 his wife Cherie gave birth to their fourth child. She is a lawyer and is the first wife of a British Prime Minister to work fulltime.
- * His father was a secretary of the Scottish Young Communist League before coming over to the Conservative Party.

ROMA DOWNEY born in Derry, Northern Ireland - 1960 (64)

* Irish actress and producer. She is the star and the producer of the series *The Baxters* on Amazon Prime. For nine years she played the angel Monica in the TV series *Touched By An Angel*. Downey also played the role of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis in the American television miniseries *A Woman Named Jackie* (1991). Roma and her husband Mark Burnett produced the TV mini-series, *The Bible*, for the History Channel and she also starred in it, playing Mary, the mother of Jesus.

GEORGE CLOONEY born in Lexington, Kentucky - 1961 (63)

- * US actor. In 2006 he was awarded with an Academy Award for Best Actor for his role in Syriana (2005). He was nominated for Best Actor for his role in The Descendants (2011) as well as Up In The Air (2009). In 2009 he starred in The Men Who Stare At Goats and provided the voice of Mr Fox in the animated movie Fantastic Mr Fox. His other movies include Batman And Robin ('97), The Perfect Storm (2000). O Brother Where Art Thou (2001), Ocean's Eleven (2001) and sequels. He starred with Sandra Bullock in the 2013 movie Gravity. On television he is best known for playing the role of Dr Douglas Ross in ER.
- * He's the nephew of singer Rosemary Clooney.
- * In 2014 he married British-Lebanese human rights lawyer Amal Alamuddin.

GINA RILEY born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1961 (63)

* Australian comedienne. She played Kim Craig in the Australian TV comedy program, *Kath & Kim* which debuted on ABC TV in 2002. Gina and her co-star Jane Turner met more than 20 years earlier at St Martin's Youth Art Centre. She has also played various comic characters in the TV shows *Fast Forward, The Comedy Company* and *The Games*.

CHRIS SHIFLETT born in Santa Barbara, California - 1971 (53)

* US guitarist. Since 1999 he's been the lead guitarist with the Foo Fighters. He also plays in the bands No Use For A Name and Me First and the Gimme Gimmes. **SUFFA** (Matthew Lambert) born in Adelaide, SA - 1977 (47)

* Australian rapper and record producer. He's one of the MCs of the Adelaide hip hop group the Hilltop Hoods. In 2016 they made No 2 on the ARIA chart with 1955 feat Montaigne and Tom Thum. They've had No 1 hit albums in Australia with The Hard Road, State Of The Heart, Drinking From The Sun and Walking Under Stars.

CELESTE BARBER born in Sydney, NSW - 1982 (42)

* Australian comedienne. She has been a panellist on the TV program *Have You Been Paying Attention?* and also was a co-host on *Studio 10*.

DOMINIC SCOTT KAY born in Los Angeles, California - 1996 (28)

* US actor. He is probably best known for his cameo appearance in the Easter egg scene of *Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End* as the son of Will Turner (Orlando Bloom). As a voice actor, he provided the voice of Wilbur in *Charlotte's Web* and Buddha in the first *Air Buddies* film.

PRINCE ARCHIE OF SUSSEX (Archie Harrison) born in London, England - 2019 (5)

- * Son Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex, and Meghan, Duchess of Sussex. His younger sister, Lilibet, was born in 2021.
- * In early 2020, his parents stepped down from their roles as working members of the royal family. The family moved to North America and settled in California.

Events

First ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMPS, the Penny Black and the Twopenny Blue, went on sale in Britain - 1840.

HINDENBURG German airship exploded killing 36 of the 97 aboard - 1937.

WHITE CHRISTMAS was published - 1942.

* The Irving Berlin song became the largest selling record of all time and was featured in the Bing Crosby film *Holiday Inn*.

ROGER BANNISTER (UK) broke the four minute mile at Oxford, England - 1954.

* The 25-year-old British doctor ran the mile in three minutes 59.4 seconds. Seven weeks later Australia's John Landy broke his record in a time of three minutes 57.9 seconds.

IN MELBOURNE TONIGHT, hosted by 23-year-old GRAHAM KENNEDY, began on GTV 9 - 1957.

* Some of the regular guests during its long history include; Bert Newton, Philip Brady, Peter Smith, Rosie Sturgess and Joff Ellen.

KEITH RICHARDS came up with the guitar riff of (I Can't Get No) Satisfaction - 1965.

* Richards was staying at a US hotel when he recorded the famous guitar riff on a portable tapedeck which was by his motel bedside. He was so tired that he didn't bother to play it back till the next day. According to Richards: "There was, like 30 seconds on this riff- and the rest is me snoring." He suggested the title - " I Can't Get No Satisfaction" and Mick Jagger wrote the other lyrics.

BJORN AGAIN performed their first show at the Tote Hotel in Melbourne - 1989.

* The Abba tribute band was created in 1988 in Melbourne by Rod Leissle and John Tyrell.

GUY WILLIAMS, 65 year old American actor, who played John Robinson in the 1960s series *Lost In Space* and starred as the swashbuckling masked hero *Zorro*, was found dead - 1989.

CHANNEL TUNNEL (from France to England) officially opened - 1994.

FRIENDS final program aired on US television - 2004. (Began in 1994)

GEENA DAVIS, 47 year old US actress, gave birth to twins Kian and Kaiis - 2004.

GRANT McLENNAN, Australian singer/songwiter and guitarist for the Queensland band the Go-Betweens, died aged 48 of a heart attack - 2006.

ERROL BROWN, original lead singer with Hot Chocolate, died aged 71 of liver cancer - 2015.

* He left the band Hot Chocolate in 1986.

MONKEYPOX outbreak began when the first virus case was reported in London - 2022.

THE CORONATION OF CHARLES III

and his wife, Camilla, as king and queen of the United Kingdom and the other Commonwealth realms, took place at Westminster Abbey

* It was the first coronation held since Elizabeth II's coronation in 1953 nearly 70 years prior.

Tuesday 7th May 2024

Births

LLOYD J WILLIAMS born in Australia - 1940 (84)

* Australian property developer and businessman and a major figure in Thoroughbred horse racing. He's the founder of Melbourne's Crown Casino and Entertainment Complex.

PETER CAREY born in Bacchus Marsh. Victoria - 1943 (81)

- * Australian author. In 2001 he won a second Booker Prize for *The True History of the Kelly Gang*. His first was for *Oscar And Lucinda*. His other books include: *The Fat Man In History* and *War Crimes*. Since the 1990s he's lived in America and is now based in New York.
- * He co-wrote the screenplay of the film *Bliss* ('97).

RICHARD O'SULLIVAN born in London, England - 1944 (80)

- * British comic actor. He starred in the comedy TV programs A Man About The House, Robin's Nest and Me And My Girl.
- * He has lived in a retirement home for entertainers in Twickenham since suffering a stroke in 2003.

THELMA HOUSTON born in Leland, Mississippi - 1943 (81)

* US singer. She had her biggest hit in 1976 with the disco song Don't Leave Me This Way. It made No 1 in the US.

MARTY RHONE (Karel van Rhoon) born in Java, Indonesia - 1948 (76) * Australian singer. His two biggest hits were *Denim And Lace* ('75) and *Mean Pair Of Jeans* ('77). In the mid '70s he took on acting roles in the stage musical *Godspell* and the TV series *The Class of '75*. He has also toured in the stage show singing the hits of Cliff Richard in the "50th Anniversary Celebration, Cliff & The Shadows – Together Again".

PETE WINGFIELD born ir Hampshire, England - 1948 (76)

- * British musician and producer. He had a hit in 1975 with *Eighteen With A Bullet*.
- * He's played keyboards for the Everly Brothers and has also featured on a few of Cliff Richard's recordings including the 1986 update of *Living Doll* (with the Young Ones).

SIR STEVE HANSEN born in New Zealand - 1959 (65)

* New Zealand rugby union coach and rugby union player. He is the former head coach of the All Blacks, having stepped down at the end of the 2019 Rugby World Cup. He played with Canterbury from 1980-1987.

stephen Quartermain born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1962 (62)
* Australian sports commentator.
He's the sports presenter on 10
News First Melbourne. In 1984

News First Melbourne. In 1984 he joined Network Ten and commentated AFL matches for Network Ten when they gained the rights in 2002. He was heard on Triple M from 1997 to 2011.

TRACI LORDS (Nora Kuzma) born in Steubenville, Ohio - 1968 (56)

* US actress and singer. She played Rikki in a few episodes of the TV soapie *Melrose Place*.

TANIA DOKO (Tania Dokolari) born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1974 (50) * Australian singer. One half of Bachelor Girl (with James Roche). They formed in 1992 and had their biggest hit with their debut single, Buses and Trains, which became an international hit. The band split in 2003 after the release of their second album.

* In 2023 they released a new single *Calling Out Your Name.* 2023 marked the 25th anniversary of their debut single and album.

DUSTIN FLETCHER born in Victoria - 1975 (49)

* AFL footballer with Essendon. He is the son of Essendon player Ken Fletcher. He played 400 games and retired at end of season 2015. He holds the outright Essendon games record. Dustin, who played at full-back for most of his career and played in Essendon's last premiership win in 2000 and was a member of the "Baby Bombers" (Essendon's 1993 premiership team) in his first AFL season.

ELTON FLATLEY born in Tamworth, NSW - 1977 (47)

* Australian international rugby union footballer. He played for the Queensland Reds. In 2004, he became the youngest player ever to reach 100 caps for the Queensland Reds when he led the side against the Sharks in Durban.

KYLIE WATSON born in Gosford, NSW - 1978 (46)

* Australian actress and model. She played Shauna Bradley in the local soapie *Home And Away* (1999-2002). Now works as an interior designer.

DAN SWEETMAN (Daniel Sweetman) born in Brisbane, Queensland - 1985 (39)

* Australian TV presenter and musician. He was co-host of Network Ten's national cartoon show *Toasted TV*. He's now working in Christian ministry at a local Brisbane church.

MARK FURZE born in Orange, NSW - 1986 (38)

* Australian actor and musician. He is best known for his role as Eric "Ric" Dalby on the Australian soapie *Home and Away*. Furze appeared as a contestant on the UK TV show *Soapstar Superstar* finishing third. He appeared in the 2018 US movie *I Can Only Imagine*.

AJLA TOMLJANOVIĆ born in Croatia - 1993 (31)

* Australian tennis player. She began competing for Australia at the 2014 US Open after obtaining permanent residency in Australia. For the next four years she was required to represent Croatia at all non-Grand Slam events, until she was granted Australian citizenship in January 2018.

Events

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana was founded by French explorer Rene-Robert Cavelier - 1718.

DYNAMITE was patented for the first time in the UK by Alfred Nobel - 1867.

COLLINGWOOD FOOTBALL CLUB played their first game (VFA) against Carlton - 1892.

* They have won 16 premierships, their last was in 2023 against the Brisbane Lions.

England lowered age of **WOMEN VOTERS** from 30 years old to 21 years old - 1928.

Patent for **RAY BAN SUNGLASSES** was issued - 1937.

* The company was founded in New York in 1936. Their headquarters are now in Milan, Italy.

GLENN MILLER AND HIS ORCHESTRA recorded Chattanooga Choo Choo - 1941.

REGINALD KENNETH DWIGHT formally changed his name by deed poll to **ELTON HERCULES JOHN** - 1972.

* In the late 1960s Reg began using the name Elton John professionally. He was working with a band Bluesology and took the first names of two of the members Elton Dean and Long John Baldry and dubbed himself Elton John.

HARRY M MILLER was sentenced to three years jail after being found guilty of five charges of fraud relating to his company Computicket - 1982.

AUGUSTHOFFMAN(USA)performeda record29,051consecutive sit-ups - 1983.

TING MING SIONG of Malaysia became the best man for the 408th time since 1976 - 1988.

CHARLIE ALLEN, Pacific Gas & Electric lead vocalist, died aged 48 - 1990.

* Pacific Gas & Electric had their biggest hits with *The Hunter* ('69) and *Are You Ready?* ('70).

THE SCREAM by Edvard Munch, Norway's most famous painting, was recovered almost three months after it was stolen from an Oslo museum - 1994.

EDDIE RABBITT, US singer/songwriter, died aged 53 - 1998.

* He got his big break when Elvis recorded his song *Kentucky Rain*. His biggest hits were *I Love A Rainy Night* (1980) and *Every Which Way But Loose* (1979).

MICHAEL DOOHAN (Australia) suffered a broken right leg, shoulder and left wrist, when he crashed his Honda motorcycle whilst racing in Spain - 1999.

VLADIMIR PUTIN was inaugurated as President of Russia - 2000.

RICHARD CARLETON, 60 Minutes reporter, died aged 62 of a heart attack during a press conference on the trapped miners in Beaconsfield, Tasmania - 2006.

LARGEST GROUP HUG consisting of 10,554 people was held in an event organized by Bear Hug III in Ontario in Canada - 2010.

MICKEY GILLEY, US country music singer and songwriter and club owner, died aged 86 - 2022.

* His biggest hit was A Roomful Of Roses ('74).



Wednesday 8th May 2024

No Socks Day/ World Red Cross Day

Births

SIR DAVID ATTENBOROUGH born in London, England - 1926 (97)

- * British naturalist. He is best known for writing and presenting several TV wildlife and nature programs including the *Life* TV series, in conjunction with the BBC Natural History Unit. His books include *The Trials of Life, Life on Earth* and *Living Planet*. He is also a former senior manager at the
- * He is the younger brother of British film actor and director Sir Richard Attenborough.

RICK NELSON (Eric Nelson) born in Teaneck, New Jersey - 1940. (Died aged 45 - 1985)

- * American singer and actor. His career began in 1952 when he appeared with his parents and brother in the television series *The Adventures of Ozzie And Harriet*. His hits include *Hello Mary Lou, Poor Little Fool, It's Late, Travelin' Man* and *Garden Party*.
- * On New Year's Eve 1985 Rick, his fiancee and six others died in a plane crash.

TONI TENNILLE (Cathyrn Antoinette Tennille) born in Montgomery, Alabama - 1940 (84) * American singer. As Captain & Tennille, Toni and her husband Daryl Dragon (alias 'Captain') had their biggest hit with the Neil Sedaka/Howard Greenfield song Love Will Keep Us Together in 1975. Tennille filed for divorce after 39 years of marriage in 2014.

GARY GLITTER (Paul Gadd) born in England - 1944 (80)

* English singer. On 5 February 2015 he was convicted of attempted rape, four counts of indecent assault and one of having sex with a girl under the age of 13. On 27 February 2015 he was sentenced to 16 years in prison.

JANINE HAINES born in Tanunda, South Australia - 1945. (Died aged 59 - 2004)

* Australian politician. Former leader of Australia's Democratic Party (1986-1990) who became the first woman to lead an Australian political party. She stepped down in 1990 after she failed to gain a seat in the Lower House in the Federal elections.

CHRIS FRANTZ born in Fort Campbell, Kentucky - 1951 (73)

- * Drummer with US group Talking Heads. His wife Tina Weymouth was also in the band and played bass guitar. They also front their own band the Tom Tom Club.
- * In 2023 the Talking Heads concert film *Stop Making Sense* was re-released in cinemas. It was re-mastered in 4K. The group also appeared together for the first time since 2002, to celebrate the film in a Q. and A. with Spike Lee at the Toronto International Film Festival

PHILIP BAILEY born in Denver, Colorado - 1951 (73)

* American singer. He's a vocalist and percussionist with the nine man-band Earth Wind & Fire. In 1984 he combined with Phil Collins on the hit *Easy Lover.* He also charted in 1985 with *Walking On The Chinese Wall.*

JIM PENMAN born in Stourbridge, England - 1952 (72)

* English born Australian businessman. Based in Melbourne, he founded the Jim's Mowing business in 1982. He says: "I just started mowing lawns, working incredibly hard six days week." He said - "Customers loved me and I got repeat work." In 1989, his business became a franchise, and soon after he became a millionaire.

ALEX VAN HALEN born in Amsterdam, The Netherlands - 1953 (71)

* Drummer and co-founder of rock band Van Halen. His late brother Eddie was the lead guitarist.

ANTHONY FIELD born in Sydney, NSW - 1963 (61)

- * Australian musician. He's a member of the internationally successful Australian children's group The Wiggles. He's now the only original member in the group. The latest lineup now features eight members.
- * In 2021 the Wiggles made No. 1 on the annual Triple J Hottest 100 poll for 2021 with Tame Impala's *Elephant* which they interspersed with their song *Fruit Salad*. This was the first cover to top the chart, as well as the first time a children's act had led the ranking.
- * He was a member of the 1980s pop band the Cockroaches.

MELISSA GILBERT born in Los Angeles, California - 1964 (60)

- * US actress. She played young Laura in the long running television series *Little House On The Prairie*.
- * From 2001-2005 she was President of the Screen Actors Guild.

DAVE O'NEIL born in Richmond, Victoria - 1965 (59)

* Australian comedian and radio/ TV presenter. From 2005-2014 he appeared on the music show *Spicks And Specks*. Former member of the breakfast team on Melbourne radio station Classic Rock. Prior to that he was a member of the Nova 100 Melbourne breakfast show.

DARREN HAYES born in Brisbane, Queensland - 1972 (52)

- * Australian singer. Former lead vocalist for Savage Garden. Darren and his partner Daniel Jones split at the end of 2001. In 1999 Savage Garden became the first Australian act in 18 years to score two No 1 records in America when *I Knew I Loved You* made the top. Their first No 1 was in 1998 with *To The Moon And Back*. Their 2000 hits include *Affirmation* and *Crash And Burn*.
- * In 2002 he released his debut solo album *Spin* which made No 1 in Australia and the UK.

ENRIQUE IGLESIAS born in Madrid, Spain - 1975 (49)

* Spanish singer and son of Julio Iglesias. He had No 1 hits in Australia in 2001 with *Hero* and *I Like It* (2011). He also had a major hit in 2000 with *Could I Have This Kiss Forever* - recorded with Whitney Houston

JOE BONAMASSA born in New Hartford, New York - 1977 (47)

* US blues rock guitarist, singer and songwriter. He started his career at age 12, when he opened for B.B. King. He has put out 15 solo albums through his independent record label J&R Adventures,

PAT CUMMINS born in Westmead, NSW - 1993 (31)

* Australian cricketer. He's the captain of the Australian national team in Test cricket and is the vice-captain of the team in limited-overs cricket. He also plays domestically for NSW. After the completion of the 2019 cricket season, he was awarded the Allan Border Medal for best Australian cricketer. In March 2022 he led Australia to win their first Test series in Asia since 2011 with a 115-run victory over Pakistan.

Events

HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSON'S first book of fairy tales was published - 1835.

COCA-COLA was introduced in the USA - 1886.

* The creator was John S. Pemberton and first went on sale at Jacob's Pharmacy in Atlanta, Georgia.

CARLTON AND UNITED BREWERIES was formed from the union of six major Melbourne breweries – Carlton, Victoria, McCracken, Shamrock and Castlemaine - 1907.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT was abolished in Sweden - 1921.

BATTLE OF THE CORAL SEA ended after four days - 1942.

*HMAS Hobart and HMAS Australia were involved in a battle with the Japanese around Port Moresby and Northern Queensland. The Japanese fleet eventually turned back and abandoned its attempt to capture Port Moresby.

VE DAY (victory in Europe) was celebrated - 1945.

A **PROTEST MARCH** which involved between 70,000 to 100,000 marched through the streets of Melbourne to protest Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War - 1970

REINHOLD MESSNER (Italy) and **PETER HABELER** (Austria) made the first successful ascent of Mt Everest without supplemental oxygen - 1978.

CROWN CASINO officially opened in Melbourne - 1997.

GARRY CARPENTER of New Zealand ate a record 37 Weet-Bix in one sitting - 1998.

MUTHIAH MURALITHARAN, Sri Lankan cricketer, took a record 520th wicket - 2004.

* As of 2024, he has taken more wickets in international cricket than any other bowler.

KARAOKE was performed by a record 1,815 students from 19 Victorian schools at the Croydon Secondary College's oval in Melbourne - 2006.

DENNIS WATERMAN, English actor and singer, died aged 74 of lung cancer - 2022.

Thursday 9th May 2024

Births

GLENDA JACKSON born in Cheshire, England - 1936. (Died aged 87 - 2023)

* British actress and politician. She won Academy Awards for Best Actress in Women In Love ('69) and A Touch Of Class ('72). Her final film was opposite Michael Cain in the 2023 film The Great Escaper. She also received much praise as the star in the title role of the BBC television series Elizabeth I. She retired from acting in 1992 and went into politics but returned to acting in 2015.

ALBERT FINNEY born in Salford, England - 1936. (Died aged 82 - 2019)

- * English actor. His films include Tom Jones ('63), Charlie Bubbles ('68) which he also directed, Murder On The Orient Express ('74), The Dresser ('83), Under The Volcano ('84), Erin Brockovich (2000), Big Fish (2003), The Bourne Ultimatum (2007), and Skyfall (2012). He received five Oscar nominations but never won an Oscar. He was nominated for 'Best Actor' four times.
- * He appeared and sang in the musical films: *Scrooge* ('70) as Ebenezer Scrooge and *Annie* ('82) as Daddy Warbucks.

KEN WARBY born in Newcastle, NSW - 1939. (Died aged 83 - 2023) * Australian motorboat racer and world water-speed record holder. In 1978 he became the first person to break the 500 kmh barrier when his Spirit Of Australia reached 511.11 kmh. At the time of his death, the record was still standing. As a child, Warby's hero was Donald Campbell, who died attempting to break the record in 1967.

JAMES L BROOKS born in North Bergen, New Jersey - 1940 (84)

* US film and movie director. He co-created the TV series *The Mary Tyler Moore Show* and directed the film *Terms Of Endearment*.

TOMMY ROE born in Atlanta, Georgia - 1942 (82)

* US singer. His first hit was Sheila ('62). In 1969 he had his biggest seller with Dizzy. His other '60s hits include Sweet Pea, Heather Honey, Sheila, Party Girl, and Jam Up And Jelly Tight.

RICHIE FURAY born in Yellow Springs, Ohio - 1944 (80)

- * American singer. He was a member of the '60s band Buffalo Springfield. In the 1970s he formed Poco. Their biggest hit was *Crazy Love.* He also played in the Souther Hillman Furay Band.
- * He served as a Christian pastor for 35 years and retired in 2017.

CANDICE BERGEN born in Beverley Hills, California - 1946 (78)

* American actress and daughter of the famous ventriloquist Edger Bergen. She starred in the US television comedy series *Murphy Brown* (1988-1998). It was revived for one season from 2018-2019. She can also be seen in *Boston Legal* and had a starring role in the 1982 film *Gandhi*.

BILLY JOEL born in The Bronx, New York - 1949 (75)

- * American singer/songwriter. In February 2024 he released the single *Turn the Lights Back On.* It was Joel's first single since *Christmas in Fallujah* was released in 2007. In March 2024 he released the live album *Hangin' Around.*
- * His first big hit came in 1976 with Piano Man. According to Joel his three biggest hits are The River of Dreams, It's Still Rock 'n' Roll To Me and Uptown Girl. His other major sellers include Just The Way You Are, My Life, You're Only Human and We Didn't Start The Fire. His last chart entries were in 1993 with River Of Dreams (#1 in Australia) and All About Soul.

ALLEY MILLS born in Chicago, Illinois - 1951 (73)

- * US actress. She played the mother, Norma Arnold, in the Wonder Years TV series. Since 2006 she's played Pamela Douglas in the TV soapie The Bold And The Beautiful.
- * She was married to actor Orson Bean who died aged 91 in 2019. They had been wed since 1993.

JOHN "RHINO" EDWARDS born in London, England - 1953 (71)

* English musician. He's been the bass guitarist for Status Quo since 1986. His son Freddie is also a guitarist. In 2014 he accompanied Status Quo on stage at The Roundhouse in London when the band launched their album Aquostic (Stripped Bare).

JANA WENDT born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1956 (68)

* Australian TV host and reporter. In 1982 she joined 60 Minutes and in 1988 succeeded Mike Willesee as host of A Current Affair. Since then she's also had stints with Channel 7 (Witness) and SBS (Dateline) and in 2003 replaced Jim Waley as host of Sunday.

JENNY TURRALL born in Sydney, NSW - 1960 (64)

* Australian swimmer. She became our youngest gold medal winner when at 13 years and 8 months old, she won gold in the 400 metres Freestyle Swimming at the 1974 Christchurch Commonwealth Games

JOHN CORBETT born in Wheeling, West Virginia - 1961 (63)

- * US actor. He played the DJ Chris Stevens in the TV series Northern Exposure. He was the leading male role in the film My Big Fat Greek Wedding (2002) and starred in the TV series United States Of Tara as Max Gregson.
- * In 2020 he married actress Bo Derek. It was his first marriage. They have been in a relationship since 2002.

DAVE GAHAN born in Epping, England - 1962 (62)

* Lead singer for British band Depeche Mode. The allsynthesized band had their biggest hit in Australia in 1982 with *Just Can't Get Enough.*

PIERRE BOUVIER born in Quebec, Canada - 1979 (45)

* Canadian singer and musician. He is best known as singer for pop punk band Simple Plan. Their hits include: Addicted, Perfect, Welcome To My Life and Untitled (How Could This Happen To Me).

GRANT HACKETT born in Southport, Queensland - 1980 (44) * Australian swimmer. He won two gold medals at the 2000 Olympic Games and a further gold medal in 2004 at Athens. A former captain of the Australian Swimming team, he retired in 2008.

SHANE VAN GISBERGEN born in Auckland, New Zealand - 1989

* New Zealand racing driver. Known as SVG, he's won three Supercars Championship wins (2016, 2021, 2022) and the Bathurst 1000 three times in 2020, 2022 and 2023. Van Gisbergen is the fourth most successful racing driver in the Supercars Championship history.

Events

PUNCH & JUDY SHOW stage play was first performed at Covent Garden in London - 1662.

FEDERAL PARLIAMENT met for the first time in Melbourne in the Exhibition Building - 1901.

PRINCE RAINIER III became the leader of Monaco - 1949.

* He married actress Grace Kelly in 1956. After Grace's death in 1982, Rainier refused to remarry.

VERTIGO, directed by Alfred Hitchcock, premiered in US - 1958. * It starred James Stewart and Kim Novak

WORLD'S LONGEST BASEBALL MATCH lasted 8 hr 6 min when the Chicago White Sox finally defeated the Milwaukee Brewers 7-6 - 1984.

New **PARLIAMENT HOUSE** on Capital Hill was officially opened by Queen Elizabeth II - 1988.

BILL WYMAN's Sticky Fingers Restaurant opened in High St Kensington - 1989.

* It has a large and eclectic range of Rolling Stones memorabilia including some of Bill's many Gold and Platinum discs.

FRONTLINE debuted on ABC TV - 1994.

* The comedy starred Rob Sitch as Mike Moore. 39 episodes were produced up until 1997.

RENEE ZELLWEGGER, 36, married US country singer KENNY CHESNEY, 37, - 2005.

* The union only lasted a few months and they both sought to have their marriage annulled.

LIONEL ROSE, Australian Aboriginal boxer, died aged 62 - 2011.

BRANT WEBB and **TODD RUSSELL**, Australian miners, were rescued after being trapped for two weeks in the Beaconsfield gold mine in Tasmania - 2006.

THE FOOTY SHOW, the AFL edition, was axed by the Nine Network - 2019.

AUSTRALIA'S RESERVE BANK admitted a printing error that saw 46 million \$50 banknotes put into circulation with a typo - 2019.

LITTLE RICHARD, US rock 'n' roll singer/songwriter and pianist, died aged 87 - 2020.

Friday 10th May 2024

Births

BARBARA TAYLOR BRADFORD born in England - 1933 (91)

- * British-American romance novelist. Along with many fiction novels, she has also written children's books and eight books on decorating. Her first book A Woman Of Substance was published in 1979.
- * She married US film producer Robert Bradford in 1963. They met on a blind date. He died in 2019.

LARRY WILLIAMS born in New Orleans, Louisiana - 1935. (Died aged 44 - 1980)

* US rock 'n roll singer. He had two hits in 1957 - Short Fat Fannie and Bony Moronie.

DAVE MASON born in Worcester, England - 1946 (78)

* Guitarist with UK band Traffic. He wrote their biggest hit *Hole In My Shoe* ('67). Mason played with Fleetwood Mac from 1994-1995 He's released 15 solo albums.

DONOVAN (Leitch) born ir Glasgow, Scotland - 1946 (78)

- * Scottish singer/songwriter. From 1965-1969 he had several big hits including Catch The Wind, Jennifer Juniper, Sunshine Superman, Mellow Yellow and his last chart entry Barabajagal which featured Jeff Beck on guitar.
- * His daughter lone is an actress. In 2008 she married Australian singer/songwriter Ben Lee. Hi son Donovan is also an actor and played in the group Nancy Boy.

GRAHAM GOULDMAN born in Manchester, England - 1946 (78)

- * English singer/songwriter and an original member of 10CC. Their '70s hits include *I'm Not In Love, The Things We Do For Love, Rubber Bullets* and *Dreadlock Holiday.*
- * Jonathan King supposedly came up with the group name 10CC after having a dream in which he saw the name 10CC up in lights.
- * He wrote some of Britain's biggest '60s pop hits such as No Milk Today, Listen People (Herman's Hermits), Bus Stop (Hollies) and For Your Love (Yardbirds). He wrote his first hit For Your Love, when he was 19.
- * He had a solo hit with *Sunburn* in 1979 and in 1986 joined with Andrew Gold to form Wax.

BONO (Paul Hewson) born in Dublin, Ireland - 1960 (64)

- * Lead singer with Irish rock band U2. The group have had the same four members since they formed at Dublin's Temple Mount High School in 1976. In November 2022, Bono released his memoir 'Surrender: 40 Songs, One Story.' The 40 chapters, are each named after a U2 song. Bono also created 40 original drawings for the book.
- * U2 toured Australia in 2019 as a part of their *Joshua Tree* world tour.
- * In 2014 U2 released their 13th studio album *Songs Of Innocence*. It was exclusive to all users of the iTunes music store and was provided free with the iPhone 6.
- * U2 first received Grammy Awards for the *The Joshua Tree* in 1988, and they have now won more Grammys than any other group. In 2006 U2 won five Grammy awards including album of the year (*How To Dismantle An Atomic Bomb*) and song of the year (*Sometimes You Can't Make It On Your Own*).
- * U2's albums The Unforgettable Fire ('84), Rattle And Hum ('88), Achtung Baby ('91), Zooropa ('93) and How To Dismantle An Atomic Bomb (2004) have all made No 1 down under. Their hit singles include With Or Without You, When Love Comes to Town, All I Want Is You, Beautiful Day, The Fly and Sweetest Thing.
- * His wife Alison gave birth to their first child Jordan on this day 1989.

LINDA EVANGELISTA born in Ontario, Canada - 1965 (59)

* Canadian model. She is known as "The Chameleon", both for her frequent hair changes and for the way she can transform herself in front of a camera. She has been featured on over 700 magazine covers. She said: "I don't get out of bed for less than \$10,000 a day."

GREG FASALA born in Victoria - 1965 (59)

* A part of the bald-headed Australian swimming team known as the 'Mean Machine' who competed in the 1984 LA Olympics.

YOUNG M.C. (Marvin Young) born in London, England - 1967 (57)

* UK rap singer born of Jamaican parents. He had his debut hit in 1990 with *Bust A Move* which made No 1 in Australia.

BOB SINCLAR (Christophe Le Friant) born in France - 1969 (55)

* French record producer and music DJ. In 2005 he made No 1 on the Australian charts with *Love Generation*.

LEIGH SALES born in Brisbane, Queensland - 1973 (51)

* Australian author and journalist. She was the host of ABC's flagship news and current affairs TV program 7.30. She stepped down in June 2022. Sales was also a presenter on ABC's Lateline.

CHAS LICCIARDELLO born in Sydney, NSW - 1977 (47)

* Australian comedian. He is the co-host of the ABC TV news show Planet America. He is best known for being a member of the TV comedy team The Chaser's War On Everything and CNNNN. He was the script comedy consultant for the ABC topical news show Hungry Beast.

NICKY WHELAN born in Cranbourne, Victoria - 1981 (43)

- * Australian actress and TV presenter. She appeared opposite Bruce Willis in the 2019 action movie *Trauma Center*. Her other films include *Hall Pass, The Wedding Ringer* and *Tragedy Girls*. She appeared in the US TV series *Scrubs* (2009-2010). Nicky was also a presenter on *Coxy's Big Break* and *Beyond The Boundary* and played the role of Pepper Steiger in *Neighbours*.
- * In 2017, she married American football player Kerry Rhodes in Los Angeles. They have now split.

CHLOE McCARDEL born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1985 (39)

* Australian open water swimmer and swim coach. McCardel's past swims include twenty-four solo crossings of the English Channel, including eight crossings in one season and three crossings in one week, three double-crossings in 2010, 2012 and 2017 and, in 2015, the fourth person to do a non-stop triple-crossing.

Events

JOHN NEWTON, who penned *Amazing Grace*, was converted to the Christian faith - 1748.

* On this day he cried out to God during a violent storm whilst on board a ship. The storm passed and he was inspired to write the well known hymn *Amazing Grace*. At that stage of his life he had no religious convictions.

MOTHER'S DAY was first observed at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in West Virginia - 1908.

* The tradition was started by Miss Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia who wanted to honour her mother who had passed away three years earlier on the second Sunday in May

WINSTON CHURCHILL, aged 65, became Britain's Prime Minister - 1940.

ROLLING STONES recorded their first single *Come On* - 1963.

* The song was written by Chuck Berry and was only a minor hit in the UK where it went to No 21.

ERIC CLAPTON recorded Bob Marley's *I Shot The Sheriff* - 1974.

BONO (Paul Hewson) was sent a letter from RSO (Robert Stigwood Organisation) in London that read: "Dear Mr Hewson, thank you for submitting your tape of 'U2" to RSO, we have listened with careful consideration, but feel it is not suitable for us at present. We wish you luck with your future career" - 1979.

* In March the following year U2 signed with Island Records and in October 1980 released their debut album *Boy.*

FRANCOIS MITTERRAND became the President of France - 1981.

PETER HILARY (son of Sir Edmund Hilary) completed his climb of Mt Everest - 1990.

NELSON MANDELA was sworn in as the first black President of South Africa - 1994.

BOB GELDOF divorced **PAULA YATES** - 1996.

SHEL SILVERSTEIN, US author/songwriter (*A Boy Named Sue, Sylvia's Mother, One's On The Way*), died aged 66 - 1999.

ANGELA BISHOP celebrated 30 years as an entertainment reporter with Network Ten - 2019.

TONES AND I released the single *Dance Monkey* - 2019.

* It made No 1 in Australia, and many other countries. It spent 24 weeks at No 1 breaking the record for most weeks at No 1 on the ARIA Singles Chart by an Australian artist.

ROLF HARRIS, Australian entertainer, died aged 93 - 2023.

Saturday 11th May 2024

Births

IRVING BERLIN (Israel Baline) born in Siberia, Russia - 1888. (Died aged 101 - 1989)

* US songwriter. He wrote nearly 1000 songs including White Christmas, God Bless America, There's No Business Like Showbusiness, Puttin' On The Ritz and Blue Skies.

JEANNE LITTLE (Jeanne Mitchell) born in Sydney, NSW - 1938. (Died aged 82 - 2020)

- * Australian entertainer. She appeared on *The Mike Walsh Show* and was a panel member on TV's *Beauty and The Beast* and appeared in the Australian stage productions of *Jerry's Girls, Legends* and *Hello Dahling*.
- * In 1977 she won the TV Week Gold Logie as Most Popular Female personality.

JOHNNY DEVLIN born in New Zealand - 1938 (86)

* NZ singer. From 1959 to the early 1960s he was a regular name on the Australian charts. He wrote a couple of hits for other artists such as *Good Lookin' Boy* for Patsy Ann Noble and *Surfside* for the Denvermen. Toured with the Beatles on their Australian 1964 tour.

IAN REDPATH born in Geelong, Victoria - 1941 (83)

* Australian cricketer. A former Australian vice-captain, he played in 66 Tests from 1964-'76 scoring 4,737 runs. In 2023 he was admitted into Cricket's Hall Of Fame.

ERIC BURDON born in Newcastle-On-Tyne, England - 1941 (83)

- * English singer. He was lead vocalist for the Animals. It was their second release House Of The Rising Sun which was their biggest seller going to No 1 in 1964 in UK, US and Australia. The original Animals split in 1966 and Eric headed to San Francisco and formed a new outfit. Some of their hits include San Franciscan Nights, Monterey, When I Was Young and Sky Pilot.
- * In the '70s he recorded with the American band War and had a hit with *Spill The Wine*.
- * In 1989 he toured Australia as lead singer for the Australian band the Party Boys.

PHIL SMYTH born in Adelaide, SA - 1958 (66)

* Australian basketball coach and former player. A former head coach of the Adelaide 36ers, he took them to three championship titles - in 1998, 1999 and 2003 - after also winning three championships as a player. As a player, he made his NBL debut with St Kilda in 1982. Also played with Canberra Cannons, Adelaide 36ers and Sydney Kings.

JAMES BRAYSHAW born in Subiaco, WA - 1967 (57)

* Australian TV/radio presenter and former WA State cricketer. He is now a Channel 7 football commentator and a co-host of *The Rush Hour* on Triple M. He's a former chairman of the North Melbourne Football Club.

GUY McKENNA born in Perth, WA - 1969 (55)

* AFL player with the West Coast Eagles. The former club captain played 268 games from 1988-2000. He played in the Eagles 1992 and 1994 premiership teams. He was the coach of the Gold Coast Suns AFL team from their debut in 2011 until the end of season 2014.

DEAN CAPOBIANCO born in WA - 1970 (54)

* Australian Olympic sprinter. He won the Stawell Gift in 1990 and became the fastest white man in the world when he came 5th in Stuttgart. The IAAF later found Capobianco guilty of taking steroids and suspended him until the year 2000.

ANITA HEGH born in Australia - 1972 (52)

- * Australian actress. She played Ellen 'Mac' Mackenzie in the TV drama *Stingers* (1998-2002).
- * She appeared in an AAMI TV commercial playing a mature driver being confronted with her younger self.

LAUREN JACKSON born in Albury, NSW - 1981 (43)

* Australian basketball player. She played with Canberra Capitals and in 2001 entered the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) draft and was selected by the Seattle Storm. Lauren is universally considered to be the best Australian female basketball player of all time.

HOLLY VALLANCE (Holly Vukadinovic) born in Fitzroy, Victoria - 1983 (41)

- * Australian actress and singer. She spent 2 years playing Felicity "Flick" Scully in *Neighbours*. She made No 1 in 2002 with her debut single *Kiss Kiss*. She moved to the UK to pursue a music career before an 8 year stint in LA where she appeared in *CSI*: *Miami, Entourage* and played Nika Volek in the TV series *Prison Break*.
- * In 2012 she married UK billionaire Nick Candy.

BEAU RYAN born in Wollongong, NSW - 1985 (39)

* Australian rugby league player and TV host. He played with the Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks and Wests Tigers. He retired in June 2014 due to a neck injury. He hosted Network 10's *The Amazing Race Australia*.

SABRINA CARPENTER born in Quakertown, Pennsylvania - 1999 (25)

* US singer and actress. Sabrina was a support act for Taylor Swift on her 2024 Australian tour. She made her acting debut with an appearance in the TV show Law & Order: Special Victims Unit and starred in the Disney Channel comedy series Girl Meets World (2014–2017). She released her fifth studio album, Emails I Can't Send, in 2022 and had a hit with Nonsense. In 2023 she charted with the single Feather.

Events

THE WALTZ was introduced into English ballrooms - 1812.

PARTRIDGE FAMILY recorded *I* Think I Love You - 1970.

* The only TV cast members on the recording were David Cassidy and his step-mother Shirley Jones on vocals. Music was provided by the 'Wrecking Crew' studio musicians.

CATS premiered at the New London Theatre - 1981.

* The Andrew Lloyd Webber musical is based on T S Eliot's *Old Possum* poems. It became the longest running musical on Broadway and the West End.

BOB MARLEY, Jamaican reggae singer/songwriter, died aged 36 of cancer - 1981.

* He had his biggest hit in Australia with *Is This Love* in 1978. He wrote *Stir It Up* that was a hit for Johnny Nash and *I Shot The Sheriff* that was a big seller for Eric Clapton.

TIMOTHY MACARTNEY-SNAPE of Australia became the first person to climb Mt Everest starting from sea level - 1990.

DAVE MATTHEWS BAND played their first gig at a private rooftop party in Charlottesville - 1991.

ALLAN BORDER announced his retirement as Australia's Test cricket captain - 1994.

TERENCE LEWIS, former Queensland Police Commissioner, was released from prison to home detention - 1998.

* He had been sentenced to 14 years in jail for official corruption in 1991. He died in 2023.

INDIA's population broke the 1 billion barrier (according to the Census commissioner) - 2000.

MARCUS ASHCROFT of the Brisbane Lions became the first Queenslander and first non-Victorian to play 300 AFL matches - 2003.

* He played 170 games in succession and was never reported. He played 318 games. His son Will now plays for the Lions.

A **JACKSON POLLOCK** drip painting 'Number 12, 1949', sold for \$16.7 million setting a world auction record - 2004.

DAVID CAMERON, 43-year-old British Conservative leader, became Britain's youngest Prime Minister in 200 years after the Liberal Democrats agreed to a coalition deal with the Conservative Party - 2010.

JERRY STILLER, US comic actor and father of Ben Stiller, died aged 92 - 2020.

* In his later years he became best known for playing the role of Frank Costanza, father of George, in TV's Seinfeld.

FRANK WARRICK, Brisbane TV news reader, died aged 76 - 2021.

NORMAN LLOYD, US actor, died aged 106 - 2021.

* His films include Saboteur ('42), Spellbound ('45), Limelight ('53) and Dead Poets Society ('89). In the 1980s, Lloyd played Dr. Daniel Auschlander in St. Elsewhere.

BARRY NEWMAN, US actor, died aged 92 - 2023.

* He starred in the film *Vanishing Point* ('71) and portrayed a defence attorney on the TV series *Petrocelli*.



Sunday 12th May 2024

Mother's Day - International Nurses Day

Births

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE born in Florence, Italy - 1820. (Died aged 90 - 1910)

* The 'Lady With The Lamp' is remembered as the founder of modern nursing.

KATHARINE HEPBURN born in Hartford, Connecticut - 1907. (Died aged 96 - 2003)

- * American actress. Her film career began in 1932 with A Bill Of Divorcement. She co-starred with Spencer Tracy in 10 films and won Academy Awards for Best Actress in Morning Glory ('33), Guess Who's Coming To Dinner? ('67), The Lion In Winter ('68) and On Golden Pond ('82). Her last acting role was in the 1994 Warren Beatty film Love Affair.
- * She received 12 Oscar nominations and a record four Oscar wins as Best Actress.

TONY HANCOCK born in Birmingham, England - 1924. (Died aged 44 - 1968)

- * English comedian. He starred in his own radio and TV series Hancock's Half Hour. Some of the regulars included Sid James, Kenneth Williams and Hatti Jacques.
- * Depression and alcoholism led to suicide. He took his life in a Sydney flat in Birriga Road, Bellevue Hill during a working visit to Australia in 1968.

BURT BACHARACH born in Kansas City, Missouri - 1928. (Died aged 94 - 2023)

- * American songwriter. Many of his best-known songs he wrote with lyricist Hal David. They include What's New Pussycat (Tom Jones), This Guy's In Love With You (Herb Alpert), Raindrops Keep Fallin' I Just Don't Know What To Do With Myself (Dusty Springfield), I'll Never Fall In Love Again (Bobbie Gentry), Alfie (Cilla Black) and several hits recorded by Dionne Warwick.
- * He married four times. His fourth wife was Jane Hansen. They married in 1993 and stayed together until his death in February 2023. His other wives included actress Angie Dickinson and songwriter Carole Bayer Sager. He and Carole collaborated with Peter Allen on *Arthur's Theme* which a hit for Christopher Cross.

BILLY SWAN born in Cape Girardeau, Missouri - 1942 (82)

- * American singer. His one big hit was in 1974 with *I Can Help*.
- * He produced the 1969 Tony Joe White hit *Polk Salad Annie.*

IAN DURY born in Essex, England - 1942. (Died aged 57 - 2000)

* English singer. In 1979 Hit Me With Your Rhythm Stick went to No 1 in the UK and Australia for Dury and his band The Blockheads.

STEVE WINWOOD born in Birmingham, England - 1948 (76)

- * English musician. He began his career as the teenage lead vocalist for the Spencer Davis Group.
- * In 1980 his solo career took off with the hit *While You See A Chance*. One of his biggest Australian sellers was his 1986 single *Higher Love*.

BRUCE BOXLEITNER born in Elgin, Illinois - 1950 (74)

- * US actor. He played Capt. John Sheridan in the '90s sc-fi TV series Babylon 5 and in the '80s series Scarecrow And Mrs King.
- * He married actress Melissa Gilbert in 1995. They split in 2011.

GABRIEL BYRNE born in Dublin, Ireland - 1950 (74)

- * Irish actor. His films include *Little Women, The Usual Suspects, The Man In The Iron Mask, The End Of Days* and *Jindabyne*. He starred in the TV series *In Treatment* (2008-2010) and appeared in the early episodes of *The Vikings*.
- * He was married for 6 years to actress Ellen Barkin.

KIX BROOKS (Leon Brooks) born in Shreveport, Louisiana - 1955 (69)

* US country singer and musician. He was one half of the music duo Brooks & (Ronnie) Dunn. One of their best known songs is *Boot Scootin' Boogie* ('92).

EMILIO ESTEVEZ born in Staten Island, New York - 1962 (62)

- * American actor. He is the eldest son of actor Martin Sheen and brother of Charlie. Emilio Estevez is his real name, his brother Charlie was born Ramon Estevez.
- * His film roles include *The Breakfast Club, St. Elmo's Fire* and *Stakeout*. He appeared with his brother Charlie in *Young Guns I* and *II* plus *Men At Work*.

STEPHEN BALDWIN born in Massapequa, New York - 1966 (58) * US actor and brother of actors Alec, Billy and Daniel Baldwin. He's the youngest brother. His films include 8 Seconds, Crossing The Bridge, The Usual Suspects and a role in the TV series Young Riders. He also played Barney Rubble in The Flintstones movie Viva Rock Vegas.

* His daughter Hailey is married to Canadian singer Justin Bieber.

CATHERINE TATE born in London, England - 1968 (56)

* English actress and comedienne. She starred as a variety of characters in her TV program The Catherine Tate Show. Also played Donna Noble in the 2006 Christmas special of Doctor Who and later reprised her role, becoming the Doctor's companion for the fourth series in 2008.

BILL SHORTEN born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1967 (57)

* Australian Labor Party politician. A former Leader of the Opposition, he stepped down after the ALP lost the 2019 election. Shorten was expected to win.

RISHI SUNAK born in Hampshire, England - 1980 (44)

* British politician. He has served as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and Leader of the Conservative Party since October 2022. He previously held two cabinet positions under Boris Johnson.

JACINTA NAMPIJINPA PRICE born in Darwin, NT - 1981 (43)

* Australian politician. She has been a senator for the Northern Territory since the 2022 federal election. She is a member of the Country Liberal Party. She sits with the National Party in federal parliament. She has been the Shadow Minister for Indigenous Affairs since April 2023.

RAMI MALEK born in Los Angeles, California - 1981 (43)

* Egyptian-American actor. He portrayed Freddie Mercury in the biographical drama *Bohemian Rhapsody* (2018). For this role he won an Academy Award for Best Actor. He became the first actor of Egyptian heritage to win the Academy Award for Best Actor. He played Elliot Alderson in the TV series *Mr. Robot*. Malek's films include the *Night at the Museum* trilogy, *The Pacific* (2010), *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn — Part 2* (2012), and *Short Term 12* (2013).

Events

DAILY MIRROR was published in Sydney for the first time - 1941.

* In 1990 it merged with the Daily Telegraph.

The first **THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE** book was published in the UK - 1945.

REG DWIGHT changed his name to **ELTON JOHN** on this day (according to singer Long John Baldry) - 1968.

VOTING AGE in Britain was lowered from 21 to 18 - 1969.

MICK JAGGER married Bianca Perez-Mora De Macias at the St. Tropez Town Hall - 1971.

* They divorced in 1978. She never remarried. In 1991 Jagger married Jerry Hall.

WOMEN'S ELECTORAL LOBBY was formed in Melbourne - 1972.

AIR SUPPLY members Graham Russell and Russell Hitchcock first met - 1975.

* They met on the first day of rehearsals for the musical *Jesus Christ Superstar* in Sydney.

MEAT LOAF, US singer, filed for bankruptcy with debts of over \$1 million - 1983.

30 climbers from five different expeditions reached the summit of **MT EVEREST** on this same day - 1992.

SUSAN MARONEY, Australian swimmer, became the first person to swim from Cuba to Florida - 1997.

ANDREW GAZE and his father **LINDSAY** officially retired from NBL professional basketball - 2005.

* Andrew ended his career with the Melbourne Tigers having played 612 NBL games. He also became the competition's all-time points leader with 18,908 points. His father coached the Tigers for 22 years.

JUSTICE CREW entered the ARIA singles chart at No 1 with *Que Sera* - 2014.

* Only six Australian groups have debuted at No 1.

TOM HAFEY, Australian VFL footballer and coach, died aged 82 - 2014.

* He played for Richmond and coached four clubs: Richmond, Collingwood, Geelong and Sydney.

Monday 13th May 2024

Births

BEATRICE ARTHUR (Bernice Frankel) born in New York - 1923. (Died aged 86 - 2009)

* US actress. She played Dorothy in the television series *The Golden Girls* ('85-'92). She is also well known for playing Maude in *All In The Family* and later starred as that character in her own series *Maude* ('72-'78).

HARVEY KEITEL born in Brooklyn, New York - 1939 (85)

* US actor. He has appeared in films including Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore ('75), Taxi Driver ('76), Thelma And Louise ('91), Bugsy ('91) The Piano ('93), National Treasure (2004) and 2007 sequel. He also had a starring role in the US TV series Life On Mars.

RITCHIE VALENS (Richard Valenzuela) born in California - 1941. (Died aged 17 - 1959)

* US singer. He died in 1959 in the plane accident which also took the lives of Buddy Holly and The Big Bopper. Ritchie's biggest hit was *Donna* in 1958. His life story was told in the 1987 movie *La Bamba*.

MARY WELLS born in Michigan - 1943. (Died aged 49 - 1992)

* US singer. Her only Australian hit was in 1964 with *My Guy*. It was written and produced by Smokey Robinson.

RORY O'DONOGHUE born in London, England - 1949. (Died aged 68 - 2017)

- * Australian actor and musician. He played Thin Arthur in the ABC comedy show, *Aunty Jack* and sang on the hit *Farewell Aunty Jack*.
- * He played the guitar solo on Kevin Johnson's hit *Rock And Roll* (I Gave You The Best Years Of My Life).
- * He had been undergoing treatment for depression and mental illness, when he took his own life in hospital in 2017.

ZOË WANAMAKER born in New York City, New York - 1949 (75)

* US actress. She appeared in the TV series My Family (2000-2011) as Tessa Piggott and Poirot (2005-2013) as Ariadne Oliver. Her movies include Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone (2001) and My Week with Marilyn (2011). **STEVIE WONDER** born in Saginaw, Michigan - 1950 (74)

* Blind American singer, songwriter and musician. His biggest hits include - For Once In My Life ('68), Yesterme, Yesteryou, Yesterday ('69), Superstition ('72), You Are The Sunshine Of My Life ('73), Master Blaster ('80), Ebony And Ivory (with Paul McCartney) ('82), I Just Called To Say I Love You ('84) and Part-Time Lover ('85).

JOHNNY LOGAN (Sean Sherrard) born in Frankston, Victoria - 1954 (70)

* UK singer. The son of Irish tenor Patrick O'Hagan is the only singer to win the Eurovision Song contest twice. Only one of the winning songs - Hold Me Now, became a hit in Australia in 1987.

DENNIS "THE WORM" RODMAN born in New Jersey - 1961 (63)

* US basketball player. He's played with the Los Angeles Lakers, Chicago Bulls, Detroit Pistons, San Antonio Spurs and various other

PAUL McDERMOTT born in Adelaide, SA - 1962 (62)

* Australian comedian, musician and TV presenter. He hosted Good News Week, as well as Good News Weekend, Strictly Dancing, Sideshow and the ABC quiz program Think Tank. He was formerly with the comedy trio the Doug Anthony All-Stars and a breakfast announcer on triple j.

STEPHEN COLBERT born in Washington, D.C. - 1964 (60)

* US TV host, comedian and actor. He currently hosts *The Late Show With Stephen Colbert*. He also hosted *The Colbert Report*.

DARIUS RUCKER born in South Carolina - 1966 (58)

* Lead singer with US group Hootie And The Blowfish. They had two big hits in 1995 with Let Her Cry and Only Wanna Be With You.

CHRIS BATH (Christine Bath) born in Auburn, NSW - 1967 (57)

* Australian news presenter. She presents the news at Channel Ten. She has also been a weekend presenter of Seven News Sydney and host of Seven's current affairs program *Sunday Night*, until she left the network on July 27, 2015.

SCOTT MORRISON born in Sydney, NSW - 1968 (56)

* 30th Prime Minister of Australia and leader of the Liberal Party from August 2018 until his election loss in May 2022. He was elected PM in May 2019. Labor carried a solid lead in preference polling into the elections, but when the results were in, Morrison and the coalition recorded a surprising victory.

* This month his book *Plans For Your Good* was published.

MATTHEW NICKS born in Adelaide, SA - 1975 (49)

* Former AFL player and since 2020 senior coach of the Adelaide Football Club. He played 175 games with the Sydney Swans.

SAMANTHA MORTON born in Nottingham, England - 1977 (47)

* English actress. She can be seen in the TV mini-series *Emma* ('97) and *Jane Eyre* ('97). Received an Academy Award nomination for her role in the Woody Allen movie *Sweet And Lowdown* ('99).

ROBERT PATTINSON born in London, England - 1986 (38)

* UK actor. He starred as Batman in the 2022 film *The Batman*. He is also well known for playing Edward Cullen in the film adaptations of the *Twilight* novels by Stephenie Meyer. He started out his career by playing Cedric Diggory in *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*.

CASEY DONOVAN born in Condell Park, Sydney, NSW - 1988 (36)

* Australian singer. Youngest winner of the Australian Idol TV program. Aged 16, she won in 2004. In that same year she had a No 1 hit with the Diane Warren song Listen To Your Heart. Casey won the third series of I'm a Celebrity...Get Me Out of Here which aired in 2017.

MORGAN WALLEN born in Sneedville, Tennessee - 1993 (31) * US country music singer and songwriter. In 2023 he made No 1 in Australia with his single Last Night.

CAMERON MCEVOY born on the Gold Coast, Queensland - 1994 (30)

* Australian swimmer. At the 2014 Commonwealth Games, he won six medals. A month later at the 2014 Pan Pacific Championships, he won five medals including the gold medal in the 100-metre freestyle. He competed in the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Events

FIRST FLEET sailed from England bound for Australia - 1787.

COLONEL JACOB SCHICK obtained patent No. 1,757,978 for his dry electric shaver - 1930.

SMITHS POTATO CRISPS was founded in Australia - 1932.

* The company first began in the UK just after World War I and was formed by Frank Smith and Jim Viney.

WINSTON CHURCHILL told the House of Commons in his first speech as Prime Minister - "I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat." - 1940.

JUDY GARLAND performed to a packed house at Sydney Stadium - 1964.

* Her Melbourne concert was a disaster. Five years later she was found dead in her London flat from an overdose of pills and alcohol.

THE BEATLES' film *Let It Be* had its world premiere in New York City - 1970.

* The Beatles: Get Back, a documentary that utilised footage filmed for Let It Be, was released in 2021. The series was directed and produced by Peter Jackson.

POPE JOHN PAUL II was shot in St Peter's Square by a Turkish gunman - 1981.

* He later met with his 24-year-old assailant and told him that he had forgiven him.

TEAM NEW ZEALAND (TMZ) won the America's Cup for the first time in 144 years when Black Magic beat Dennis Conner's Young America 5-0 - 1995.

* They won again in 2000 becoming only the second country in 150 years to successfully defend the America's Cup.

A collection of 150 guitars owned by **JOHN ENTWISTLE** (The Who) was auctioned at Sothebys and sold for \$2.5 million - 2003.

MATTHEW JOHNS was stood down from Channel 9 regarding his involvement in a sexual encounter with a New Zealand woman in 2002 - 2009.

DONALD 'DUCK' DUNN (Booker T & The MGs bass player), died aged 70 in his sleep following a concert in Japan where he played with his band mate Steve Cropper - 2012.

Tuesday 14th May 2024

Births

BOBBY DARIN (Walden Robert Cassotto) born in East Harlem, New York - 1936. (Died aged 37 - 1973)

- * American singer and actor. His hits include *Dream Lover* ('59), *Mack The Knife* ('59), *Nature Boy* ('61) and *Multiplication* ('62). His last chart entry was in 1966 with *If I Were A Carpenter*. His films include *Come September* (with his wife Sandra Dee) ('60), *Pepe* ('60), *Pressure Point* ('62) and *Captain Newman MD* ('65).
- * He was married to actress Sandra Dee from 1960-'67.

GEORGE LUCAS born in Modesto, California - 1944 (80)

* American producer/director and writer. Creator of the Star Wars franchise. He founded Lucasfilm which he sold to Walt Disney Company in 2012. His major films include American Graffiti, Star Wars plus sequels and prequels, Raiders of the Lost Ark and Tucker - The Man And His Dream.

MEG FOSTER born in Reading, Pennsylvania - 1948 (76)

* US actress. She starred in the early episodes of the 1980s TV program *Cagney and Lacey*. Some of her other roles include the 1979 TV miniseries version of *The Scarlet Letter*, and the films *Ticket to Heaven*, and *They Live*.

DAVID BYRNE born in Dumbarton, Scotland - 1952 (72)

- * US singer/songwriter and musician. He was lead singer and guitarist with Talking Heads. In 1986 Talking Heads had their two biggest hit singles in Australia with And She Was and Wild, Wild Life. They disbanded in 1991.
- * Jonathon Demme directed their live concert film *Stop Making Sense.* It was re-mastered and rereleased in 2023.

DAVID REYNE born in Lagos, Nigeria - 1959 (65)

* Australian TV/radio presenter, musician and brother of James Reyne. After leaving the *Getaway* TV program, he co-hosted with Kim Watkins the morning show *9am with David and Kim* (2006-2009). His acting credits include *The Flying Doctors* and *Sweet And Sour.* He was one of the presenters on Smooth FM but left in 2013.

FABRICE 'FAB' MORVAN born in Haiti - 1966 (58)

* One half of the 'lip synching' duo Milli Vanilli. The duo had three No 1 US hits in 1989 and won the Best New Artist Grammy but were stripped of the award when it was revealed they didn't sing on their debut album. His partner Rob Pilatus, who had a long battle with drug addiction, died in 1998.

CATE BLANCHETT (Catherine Blanchett) born in Clayton, Victoria - 1969 (55)

- * Australian actress. She is one of only seven actresses to win Oscars for both Best Actress and Best Supporting Actress. She won the Oscar for Best Supporting Actress for her role as Katharine Hepburn in *The Aviator* (2004). In 2013 she starred in Woody Allen's *Blue Jasmine*, for which she won an Academy Award for Best Actress in a Leading Role.
- * She also starred in *Elizabeth* and *Oscar And Lucinda* (with Ralph Fiennes) and *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button* as well as Gabriel in the *Lord Of The Rings* movies and *The Hobbit*. She played Lady Tremaine in the 2015 film *Cinderella* and Hela in the 2017 film *Thor: Ragnarok*.

NATALIE APPLETON born in Ontario, Canada - 1973 (51)

* Canadian singer with the All Saints. Her sister Nicole was also in the group. Their biggest hit is *Never Ever* (1998). Other hits include *Pure Shores* and *Black Coffee*. Natalie and Nicole also headed the group Appleton.

ADA NICODEMOU born in Carlton, NSW - 1977 (47)

* Australian actress. Since 2000 she's been in the cast of the TV soapie *Home And Away* playing Leah Baker-Patterson. In the '90s she appeared in *Heartbreak High*. In the movie *The Matrix* she played Du Jour.

BRENT HARVEY born in Preston, Victoria - 1978 (46)

* AFL player with North Melbourne. 'Boomer' holds the record for most matches played by an individual (432) in AFL history, breaking Michael Tuck's previous record in 2016. He played in North's 1999 premiership team and retired at end of 2016.

DANIEL AUERBACH born in Akron, Ohio - 1979 (45)

* US vocalist and guitarist with the Black Keys. In 2012 the most played song on Australian radio was their hit *Lonely Boy*.

GARY ABLETT JNR born in Moriac, Victoria - 1984 (40)

* AFL player. Son of Geelong great Gary Ablett Snr. From 2002-2010 he played with Geelong playing in two premierships. At the end of season 2010 he signed with the new Gold Coast Suns football club and was appointed inaugural captain. In 2013 he won his second Brownlow Medal. He returned to Geelong in season 2018.

OLLY MURS (Oliver Murs) born in Essex, England - 1984 (40)

* UK singer. In 2012 his singles Dear Darlin' and Troublemaker feat. Flo Rida peaked at No 4 in Australia. In 2015 he charted with Up feat. Demi Lovato.

MARK ZUCKERBERG born in White Plains, New York - 1984 (40)

* US businessman. He is best known as a co-creator of Facebook, of which he is chief executive and chairman. In 2008, aged 23, he was listed as the youngest US dollar billionaire with an estimated net worth of \$1.5 billion. He co-founded Facebook in 2004. It had more than 3.03 billion monthly active users as of 2023.

AMY SHARK (Amy Billings) born on Gold Coast, Queensland - 1986 (38)

- * Australian indie pop singersongwriter. In 2021 she made No 1 for the second time in Australia with her album *Cry Forever*. Her 2018 debut album *Love Monster* also made No 1. Her biggest hit single is the 2016 release *Adore* which made No 3 in Australia. In 2023 and 2024 she has been a judge on *Australian Idol*.
- * At the 2018 ARIAS she won Best Female, Best Pop and the Apple Music Album of The Year for her debut album *Love Monster*.

DYSON HEPPELL born i Leongatha, Victoria - 1992 (32)

* AFL player. He was appointed captain of the Essendon Football Club at the beginning of season 2017.

MIRANDA COSGROVE born in Los Angeles, California - 1993 (31)

* US actress. She starred in the TV sit-com *iCarly*. It was revived in 2021. She provides the voice of Margot in the animated movies *Despicable Me* (and sequels).

Events

CENTAUR, Australian hospital ship, was sunk by the Japanese off Moreton Island - 1943.

* The ship was finally discovered in December 2009. Only 64 of the 332 people on board survived.

STATE OF ISRAEL was born with David Ben-Gurion as its first Prime Minister - 1948.

JAN & DEAN began recording *Little*Old Lady (From Pasadena) - 1964.

DOLLAR COINS went into circulation in Australia - 1984.

LEE CHIN YONG from Korea achieved a world record 373 continuous chin-ups - 1988.

The remaining **VENTURE** stores closed in Australia - 1994.

BEN ELTON married his Australian girlfriend Sophie Gare in London - 1994.

Final episode of **SEINFELD** went to air in America - 1998.

* 40.4 million US viewers watched the program.

FRANK SINATRA, US singer and entertainer, died aged 82 - 1998.

CROWN PRINCE FREDERIK of **DENMARK**, aged 35, married 31 year old Tasmanian girl **MARY DONALDSON** - 2004.

* They are now King and Queen of Denmark.

DESTINY'S CHILD sang for one hour for a fee of \$US2.2 million at Brandon Green's bar mitzvah in France - 2005.

* Brandon is the son of billionaire Philip Green.

JUSTINE HENIN, aged 25, announced her retirement from professional tennis - 2008.

* This made her the first woman to leave professional tennis while holding the spot as the world's No 1 tennis player.

JUDITH DURHAM suffered a brain haemorrhage whilst performing on tour with The Seekers - 2013.

* She resumed the Seekers 50th anniversary tour late in 2013.

ANDREW SYMONDS, Australian cricketer, died aged 46 when he was killed in a car accident when his car left the road and rolled in Hervey Range, about 50km from Townsville - 2022.

Wednesday 15th May 2024

Births

TRINI LOPEZ born in Dallas, Texas - 1937. (Died aged 83 - 2020)

* American singer. He had his biggest hit in 1963 with the folk song *If I Had A Hammer*. His other big seller was *Lemon Tree* ('65). He had an acting role in the 1967 war movie *The Dirty Dozen*.

GRAEHAM GOBLE (Graham Goble) born in Adelaide, SA - 1947 (77)

- * Australian musician, songwriter and singer. He is best known as a founding member of the Little River Band that formed in 1975. He wrote the LRB hits Reminiscing, Lady, Night Owls and The Other Guy. He also penned It's A Long Way There. Goble also had hit success with LRB member Beeb Birtles with the singles I'm Coming Home and Lonely Lives.
- * He played with LRB members Beeb Birtles and Derek Pellici in Mississippi. Mississippi's biggest hit was Kings Of The World ('72).

BRIAN ENO (Brian Peter George St John le Baptiste de la Salle Eno) born in Suffolk, England - 1948 (76) * English musician and producer. The former member of Roxy Music went on to produce artists such as David Bowie, Talking Heads and U2 as well as working on his own solo musical projects.

NICHOLAS HAMMOND born in Washington DC - 1950 (74)

* US actor. His first major role was playing Friedrich in *The Sound Of Music* ('65). For many years he's been living in Australia and has appeared in local productions including *On The Beach* - as the US President, *Paradise Road* and *Emerald City*.

MIKE OLDFIELD born in Berkshire, England - 1953 (71)

- * English musician. He was only 19 when he recorded the top selling album *Tubular Bells*. Virtually all instruments were played by Oldfield and by 1981 world sales hit 10 million. *Tubular Bells* was featured in the soundtrack of the horror film *The Exercist*.
- * His 1983 release Moonlight Shadow is his biggest hit single in Australia. The song featured Maggie Reilly on vocals and was inspired by the death of John Lennon.

RHONDA BURCHMORE born in Sydney, NSW - 1960 (64)

- * Australian singer, dancer and actress. She has appeared in stage productions including; Sugar Babies, Hot Shoe Shuffle, Stop The Word I Want To Get Off, Mame, Mamma Mia and Fever. In 2012 she starred in Cry Me A River: The World of Julie London.
- * In 2020 she entered the jungle to compete in the sixth season of *I'm A Celebrity ... Get Me Out Of Here!* and placed third.

LISA CURRY born in Brisbane, Queensland - 1962 (62)

- * Australian swimming champion. The winner of 15 gold, 7 silver and 8 bronze International medals, is the only Australian swimmer to have held Commonwealth and Australian records in every stroke except backstroke.
- * In 2018 she married entertainer Mark Tabone. She was formerly married to ironman Grant Kenny. In 2009 they separated. Their daughter Jaimi Lee Kenny died on 14 September 2020 at age 33, following a long illness.

INDIRA NAIDOO born in South Africa - 1968 (56)

- * Australian radio announcer and TV presenter. She's heard on ABC radio and hosts *Compass* on ABC TV. For 3 years Indira was the presenter of SBS Television's national mid-evening news service *World News Tonight*.
- * Her best selling book is *The Space Between The Stars*.

ZARA TINDALL (Zara Phillips) born at Windsor Castle, England - 1981 (43)

* Daughter of Princess Anne and Capt Mark Phillips. Her parents divorced in 1992. She married rugby union player Mike Tindall in 2011.

SIR ANDREW MURRAY born in Glasgow, Scotland - 1987 (37)

* Scottish tennis player. At the 2012 US Open he became the first British player since 1977, and the first British man since 1936, to win a Grand Slam singles tournament, when he defeated Novak Djokovic. This title made him the only British male to become a Grand Slam champion during the Open Era. He won at Wimbledon in 2013 and again in 2016.

JESSICA FALKHOLT born in Sydney, NSW - 1988. (Died aged 29 - 2018)

- * Australian actress. She is best known for her brief 16 episode stint in 2016 as Hope Morrison in Home and Away.
- * On 26 December 2017, she was involved in a car crash which killed both her parents instantly. Both Jessica and her sister Annabelle, aged 21, were pulled out of the vehicle alive, but Annabelle died on 29 December. Falkholt was put on life support but died on 12 January 2018.

BIRDY (Jasmine van den Bogaerde) born in England - 1996 (28)

* English musician. She won the music competition *Open Mic UK* in 2008 at the age of 12. Her debut single, *Skinny Love*, was her debut hit and peaked at No 2 in Australia. Her 2011 self-titled debut album *Birdy* made No 1 in Australia and her 2016 album *Beautiful Lies* made No 10.

Events

Australia's first authorised **CATHOLIC MASS** was celebrated at Sydney Cove - 1803.

City of **LAS VEGAS** was founded in Nevada - 1905.

MICKEY MOUSE made his silent cartoon film debut in *Plane Crazy* - 1928.

* A sound version was released on 17 March 1929.

THE ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE, then known as the Aerial Medical Service, under the control of the Australian Inland Mission, became operational in Cloncurry, Queensland - 1928.

ELLEN CHURCH became the world's first air hostess - 1930.

* On this day she commenced work on board a flight from San Francisco to Wyoming.

AUSTRALIAN TOURING CRICKET TEAM scored a world record total of runs - 1948.

* In under six hours they made 721 all out against Essex in a match played at Southchurch Park, Southend.

SIR ROBERT MENZIES, Australian Prime Minister, died aged 83 - 1978.

Liberal leader **ROBIN GRAY** was elected Premier of Tasmania - 1982.

EBONY AND IVORY, recorded by Paul McCartney and Stevie Wonder, began a 7 week run at No 1 on the US Billboard chart - 1982.

DOUBLE-DECKER BUSES ran for the last time in Sydney - 1986.

V.S. KUMAR ANANDAN of Sri Lanka balanced on one foot for 33 hours without any support, beginning on this day - 1990.

JANE SEYMOUR married her 4th husband JAMES KEACH (brother of Stacy), director of her TV series *Dr. Quinn: Medicine Woman* - 1993.

* Divorced in 2015.

QUEENSLAND defeated NSW 2-0 in the lowest scoring and first tryless State of Origin rugby league match - 1995.

JUNE CARTER CASH, US singer/songwriter/wife of Johnny Cash, died aged 73 - 2003.

* Co-wrote Johnny's big hit *Ring Of Fire*. Played Robert Duvall's mother in the film *The Apostle*.

ALDI opened their first supermarkets in Victoria at West Heidelberg and Chirnside Park -2003

- * Owned by a German supermarket chain, Aldi (short for Albrecht Discount) opened first shop in Australia in Sydney in 2001.
- * Aldi first opened in Germany in 1948.

ARSENAL became the first UK soccer team in 115 years to end a season in England's top division unbeaten - 2004.

* Out of 38 games, they won 26 and had 12 draws.

ACHIM HEUKEMES, 53, achieved the record for the fastest run across Australia (43 days, 13 hours and 8 minutes) - 2005.

* He began his journey in Fremantle and ended in Sydney. He ran for the Oxfam Tsunami appeal. During the journey he wore out six pairs of shoes.

SHANIA TWAIN, Canadian singer, separated from husband **ROBERT JOHN 'MUTT' LANGE** after 15 years of marriage - 2008.

* Mutt had an affair with Shania's best friend Marie-Anne. Shania went on to marry Marie-Anne's former husband in 2011.

FRED WILLARD, US comic actor, died aged 86 - 2020.

* He was best known for his role in the Rob Reiner mockumentary film *This Is Spinal Tap*;

Thursday 16th May 2024

Births

DANNY TREJO born in Los Angeles, California - 1944 (80)

- * US actor. He has appeared in numerous Hollywood films, often as villains and antiheroes. Trejo is well known for playing the character Machete, in the *Spy Kids* movies. His other films include *Heat* (1995), *Con Air* (1997), and *Desperado* (1995).
- * He opened a series of Los Angeles restaurants. His first was Trejo's Tacos (2016), followed by Trejo's Cantina (2017), and Trejo's Coffee & Donuts (2017) - a mobile food truck.

NICKY CHINN born in Bristol, England - 1945 (79)

* UK songwriter. He combined with Queensland-born Mike Chapman to write and produce a string of hits for artists including Sweet, Suzi Quatro, Smokie and Mud.

ROBERT FRIPP born in Dorset, England - 1946 (78)

- * Lead guitarist with UK progressive rock band King Crimson. Their two best selling '70s albums were In the Court of the Crimson King and In The Wake of Poseidon. He always plays guitar sitting down on stage.
- * He married punk-singer Toyah on his 40th birthday. They are still together.

ALAN MACKAY-SIM born in Wahroonga, NSW - 1951. (Died aged 71 - 2023)

* Australian biomedical scientist. He specialised in adult stem cell research. He was named the 2017 Australian of the Year. Mackay-Sim retired in 2015. In that same year he was diagnosed with multiple myeloma and died in January 2023.

CHRISTIAN LACROIX born in France - 1951 (73)

* French fashion designer. In 1987 opened his own fashion house. He is known for his theatrical style and his 'le pouf' gown.

RICHARD PAGE born in Keokuk, Iowa - 1953 (71)

* Lead vocalist/bass guitarist with US band Mr. Mister. Their songs Broken Wings ('85) and Kyrie ('86) went to No 1 in the US and also became big sellers in Australia.

PIERCE BROSNAN born in Ireland - 1953 (71)

* Irish actor. He played James Bond in Goldeneye, Die Another Day, Tomorrow Never Dies and The World Is Not Enough. He also starred in the television series Remington Steele plus the films The Lawnmower Man, Mister Johnson, Dante's Peak, Mrs Doubtfire and The Ghost Writer.

DEBRA WINGER (Marie Debra Winger) born in Ohio - 1955 (69) * US actress. She was nominated for three Academy Awards for her roles in An Officer And A Gentleman, Terms Of Endearment and Shadowlands. Her other film credits include Urban Cowboy, Legal Eagles, A Dangerous Woman and Rachel Getting Married.

MILTON JONES born in London, England - 1964 (60)

* English comedian. He is well known for delivering puns in a deadpan style while feigning confusion. A classic Jones one liner: "My grandfather is always saying that in the old days people could leave their back doors open. Which is probably why his submarine sank."

JANET JACKSON born in Gary, Indiana - 1966 (58)

* American singer. She's the youngest of the famous Jackson family which comprised of nine children. Some of her biggest hits in Australia include What Have You Done For Me Lately ('86), Miss You Much ('89), Black Cat ('90), That's The Way Love Goes ('93), Together Again ('97), and All For You (2001). Her album janet made No 1 on the Australian charts in 1993. Her other hit singles include Again and Because of Love.

TRACEY GOLD born in New York, New York - 1969 (55)

* American actress. She played Carol Seaver in the TV sit-com *Growing Pains* ('85-'92).

DAVID BOREANAZ born in Buffalo, New York - 1969 (55)

* US actor. He stars as Jason Hayes in the TV series *SEAL Team* that debuted in 2017. He played Angel/Angelus in the TV series *Angel* as well as *Buffy The Vampire Slayer*. He was also in *the TV series Bones* (2005-2017).

TUCKER CARLSON born in San Francisco, California - 1969 (55)

* US conservative political commentator and TV presenter. He hosted *Tucker Carlson Tonight* on Fox News from 2016 to 2023. In 2024, he became the first Western journalist to interview President Putin since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

TORI SPELLING born in Los Angeles, California - 1973 (51)

* US actress daughter of TV producer Aaron Spelling. She played Donna Martin in the TV series *Beverly Hills* 90210.

LAURA PAUSINI born in Italy - 1974 (50)

* Italian singer/songwriter. Her self-titled debut album was released in Italy in 1993 and later became an international success. In 2002 she released her first English album From The Inside which featured the hit Surrender.

MELANIE LYNSKEY born in Taranaki, New Zealand - 1977 (47)
* NZ actress. Her films include Heavenly Creatures, Up in the Air, The Informant!, Flags of Our Fathers and Sweet Home Alabama. She also played Charlie Harper's neighbor/stalker Rose in the TV sit-com Two and a Half Men.

BROOKE McCLYMONT born in Grafton, NSW - 1981 (43)

* Australian country singer. She sings with her sisters in The McClymonts. Their 2014 album Here's To You And I became their third No 1 country album. In 2020 the group released Mayhem To Madness. The album peaked at No 3 on the ARIA Albums Chart.

DANIEL KERR born in Perth, WA - 1983 (41)

- * AFL player with West Coast Eagles. In 2006, he was part of the Eagles' 2006 premiership side. He was runner-up for the Brownlow Medal in 2005 and again in 2007.
- * His sister is Matildas soccer captain Sam Kerr.

ALEX PALL (Alexander Pall) born in New York - 1985 (39)

* US dj and musician. He's one half of the group The Chainsmokers. Their hits include *Closer* (feat. Halsey), *Something Just Like This* (feat. Coldplay), *Don't Let Me Down* (feat. Dava) and #Selfie.

MEGAN FOX born in Oak Ridge, Tennessee - 1986 (38)

* US actress and model. She is best known for playing Mikaela Banes in the *Transformers* movies.

Fvents

SPAM was introduced in America by George A Hormel & Co. - 1891.

ACADEMY AWARDS were presented for the first time - 1929.

The idea for a **DRIVE-IN** was patented by Richard Hollingshead in the US - 1933.

RON BARASSI played his first VFL game for Melbourne - 1953.

* He was named on the bench for their game against Footscray. In 1953 he played just 6 senior games.

JIMMY CARRUTHERS became the first world champion boxer to retire without a defeat or draw after winning 19 professional bouts - 1954.

* He made an unsuccessful comeback in 1961 and was defeated.

TONY JOE WHITE recorded his song *Polk Salad Annie* - 1968.

DR GEORGE NIKOPOULOS was indicted on 14 counts of over prescribing drugs to Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis and others - 1980.

ANDY KAUFMAN, US comedian, died aged 35 of cancer - 1984.

* The Saturday Night Live performer and star in the TV sitcom Taxi, was portrayed by Jim Carrey in the 2000 movie Man On The Moon.

BRISBANE BEARS kicked a club record score of 33.21.219 against Sydney Swans at the Gabba - 1993.

LATE NIGHT SHOPPING in Queensland was extended to 8am-9pm Mon-Fri and 8-5pm Saturdays - 1994.

SUSIE O'NEILL became the greatest gold medal winner in Australian swimming history when she won the 200m freestyle, the 34th national title of her career - 2000.

JAMES HEARNEY, a deaf 29-yearold Melbourne legal aid worker, received his Bachelor of Music at the Australian National University – 2003.

* He's believed to be the first deaf Australian to gain a musical degree

ROBERT HUGHES, star of *Hey Dad!* TV sit-com, was sentenced to 10 years and nine months in prison on child sex abuse charges - 2014.

Friday 17th May 2024

Births

DENNIS HOPPER born in Kansas - 1936. (Died aged 74 - 2010)

* US actor and director. His best known film is *Easy Rider* ('69) which he co-wrote, directed and starred in opposite Peter Fonda. Also appeared in *Apocalypse Now* ('79) and starred with Keanu Reeves in the 1994 hit film *Speed*. From 2008-2009 appeared as Ben Cendars in the TV series *Crash*.

TONY ROCHE born in Wagga Wagga, NSW - 1945 (79)

- * Australian tennis champion. He has won the most men's doubles at Wimbledon with his partner John Newcombe. They had five wins in '65, '68, '69, '70 and '74. (Newcombe won a 6th title with Ken Fletcher in 1966).
- * In 1994 he was appointed coach of the Australian Davis Cup team. He coached Ivan LendI to eight grand slam titles and for 2 ½ years coached Roger Federer.

'SUGAR RAY' LEONARD born in North Carolina - 1956 (68)

* American world welterweight boxing champion and gold medal winner at the 1976 Olympics. He first retired in 1982. After making a comeback in 1991 he announced his retirement again after losing to Terry Norris in the WBC super welterweight title fight. His only previous loss was to Roberto Duran in 1980.

ENYA (Eithne Ni Bhraonain) born in Ireland - 1961 (63)

- * Irish singer/songwriter. She writes the music to her songs. Her manager Nicky Ryan arranges and produces the songs and his wife Roma mostly writes the lyrics. In 1989 she had her first Australian hit with *Orinoco Flow (Sail Away)*. Her albums *Watermark, Shepherd Moons* and *Memory Of Trees* have all been huge sellers in Australia. Following the release of *And Winter Came* ... in 2008, she took an extended break from writing and recording. Her last album *Dark Sky Island* was in 2015.
- * She used to sing with three of her seven siblings in the group Clannad before going solo in 1982. * She plays most of the instruments on her recordings and overdubs as many as 140 vocal tracks for a single song.

CRAIG FERGUSON born i Scotland - 1962 (62)

* Scottish TV host, comedian and actor. He was the host of *The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson* which aired from 2005 to 2014. After starting his career in Britain he moved to the US where he found success in the role of Nigel Wick on *The Drew Carey Show*.

ALAN RICHARDSON born in - 1965 (59)

* Former AFL player and coach. He played 114 senior games with Collingwood from 1987-1996. He had earlier roles as an assistant coach at AFL clubs, Western Bulldogs, Collingwood, Essendon, Carlton and Port Adelaide. He began coaching St Kilda in 2014 and stepped down in July 2019.

JORDAN KNIGHT born in Boston, Massachusetts - 1970 (54)

* US singer. He's a member of the vocal group New Kids On the Block. They had their biggest hit in 1989 with You Got It (The Right Stuff). Their other hits include I'll Be Loving You (Forever), Hangin' Tough, and Step By Step.

SHAUN HART born in Ferntree Gully, Victoria - 1971 (53)

* AFL player. He was a part of the Brisbane Lions 2001, 2002 and 2003 premiership teams. In the 2001 grand final he was awarded the Norm Smith Medal, for best on ground.

ANDREA CORR born in County Louth, Ireland - 1974 (50)

- * Irish vocalist and musician with the family band The Corrs. Their '90s hits include *Runaway*, *Love To Love You*, *Forgiven*, *Not Forgotten* and their 2000 hit *Breathless*.
- * The Corrs toured Australia in November 2023. Their first tour downunder in 20 years.
- * Usually performs in barefeet.

AYDA FIELD (Ayda Evecan) born in Los Angeles, California - 1979 (45) * US actress and wife of Robbie Williams (since 2010). She played Angela Moroni in Days Of Our Lives, appeared in Blue Collar TV and during 2018, she featured on the judging panel of the British version of The X Factor, alongside her husband. Since 2015, she has been a regular panellist on the UK television show Loose Women.

PASSENGER (Michael Rosenberg) born in England - 1984 (40)

- * UK singer. He had a #1 hit in Australia in 2013 with Let Her Go. His albums All The Little Lights and Whispers both peaked at No 2 in Australia. In 2015 he released Whispers II. His 2016 album Young As The Morning Old As The Sea made No 1 in Australia.
- * He was the main vocalist and singer for the group Passenger. When the group disbanded in 2009 he kept the name.

Events

Captain Cook named Queensland's **GLASS HOUSE MOUNTAINS** after the glass furnace chimneys in Yorkshire - 1770.

KENTUCKY DERBY was run for the first time in America - 1875.

BREAKFAST CREEK HOTEL opened for business in Brisbane at Kingsford Smith Drive - 1890.

* The hotel is now heritage listed.

LAUREL & HARDY performed on stage for the final time at a show in England - 1954.

* After performing a single night at the Palace Theatre in Plymouth, Hardy had a mild heart attack, forcing the duo to cancel their run in the city and the rest of their UK tour. The 2018 film *Stan and Ollie* was primarily about this stage tour.

LESLEY GIBB filled in for brother Robin Gibb, who was pursuing a solo career, when the **BEE GEES** recorded a concert at the Talk of the Town for a TV special - 1969.

GODSPELL debuted on stage at the Cherry Lane Theatre in New York - 1971.

* The musical composed by Stephen Schwartz is based on the book of St Matthew.

DON GORSKE (USA) bought his first **BIG MAC** and now holds the world record for most McDonald's Big Macs eaten - 1972.

* He has consumed at least two a day for over 50 years and says after getting his first car, the first place he went to was McDonald's. That day he purchased and ate three Big Macs at lunch time. He has now extended his record by eating more than 700 of the burgers in 2023. Gorske said he hasn't suffered any ill health effects from his unusual diet, and he maintains his physique by abstaining from French fries.

ELTON JOHN received a platinum record for *Captain Fantastic and the Dirt Brown Cowboy* - 1975.

* It was the first album to sell a million copies on the first day of release!

PEPSI-COLA aired six commercial spots on Soviet TV, the first air time ever sold to an American company for Soviet television - 1988.

RENOIR's At The Moulin de la Galette sold for \$78.1 million, a record amount for Impressionist art - 1990.

NINTENDO's **GAMECUBE** was released in Australia - 2002.

KYLIE MINOGUE cancelled her "Showgirl: Greatest Hits" tour after being diagnosed with early stage breast cancer - 2005.

ANTHONY MUNDINE defeated **DANNY GREEN** in the biggest grossing fight in Australian boxing history - 2006.

* Mundine won on points in front of a crowd estimated at 30,000 at the Aussie Stadium in Sydney.

GINA RINEHART, Perth based daughter of the late mining magnate Lang Hancock, was named by BRW as Australia's first female billionaire - 2006.

PAUL McCARTNEY and his second wife **HEATHER** announced that they had split stating: "It is with sadness that we have decided to go our separate ways." - 2006.

DONNA SUMMER, US disco singer, died aged 63 of lung cancer - 2012. * Her hits include *Love To Love You Baby, I Feel Love* and *She Works Hard For The Money.*

ISRAEL FOLAU was found to have breached Rugby Australia's code of conduct and his 4-year contract with Rugby Australia was terminated early, ending his career with the Waratahs and the Wallabies - 2019.

* Folau's memes on social media that quoted Bible verses brought him into conflict with the administrators of Rugby Australia.

VANGELIS, Greek musician and songwriter, died aged 79 of congestive heart failure - 2022.

* He composed the music for Blade Runner and *Chariots Of Fire* which won him an Oscar in 1981. In that same year he recorded an album with Yes vocalist Jon Anderson. They charted in 1981 with the single *I'll Find My Way Home*.

Saturday 18th May 2024

Births

PERRY COMO born in Pennsylvania - 1912. (Died aged 88 - 2001)

* American singer. Some of his No 1 hits in the '50s were Hot Diggity, Round And Round, Catch A Falling Star and Magic Moments. In 1973 he had hist with And I Love You So (written by Don McLean) and For The Good Times which were both national top 10 hits.

RON TUDOR born in Gippsland, Victoria - **1924.** (Died aged 96 - 2020)

- * Australian record producer and founder of famous Fable label and the Bootleg record label. He set up Fable with a capital of \$2 in 1969 and it was sold in 1984. Fable was the first independent label to achieve notable success. This included the first all-Australian international hit, *The Pushbike Song* (Mixtures). John Williamson received his first gold record for *Old Man Emu*.
- * He said his favourite recording is *Picking Up Pebbles* ('69) by Matt Flinders. He said if that single wasn't a hit his business was gone but that single "dragged him out of the fire."
- * It was Ron who recognised the potential of The Seekers and gave them their first recording contract with W & G Records.

LOBBY LOYDE (John Lyde) born in Longreach, Queensland - 1941. (Died aged 65 - 2007)

* Australian rock guitarist. He worked with various bands including the Wild Cherries, Aztecs and Coloured Balls. The Coloured Balls had '70s hits with *Liberate Rock* and *Mess Of The Blues*. Began his career with Brisbane band the Purple Hearts.

MIRIAM MARGOLYES born in Oxford, England - 1941 (83)

- * British-Australian actress and voice artist. She stars in the Netflix TV series *Miriam Gargoyles Almost Australian*. She is now an Australian citizen but has still retained her British citizenship.
- * Her TV roles include Black Adder, Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries and Call The Midwife. Her movies include The Life and Death of Peter Sellers (as Sellers' mother), Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets, and The Age Of Innocence.

ALBERT HAMMOND born in London, England - 1944 (80)

* British-Gibraltarian singer/ songwriter. He had his biggest solo hit in 1973 with *It Never Rains In Southern California*. He co-wrote the Hollies hit *Air That I Breathe*, Leo Sayer's *When I Need You* and co-wrote Starship's hit *Nothing's Gonna Stop Us Now*.

RICHARD CLAPTON (Terry Gonk) born in Sydney, NSW - 1949 (75)

* Australian singer/songwriter. His biggest hits include *Girls On The Avenue* ('75), *Capricorn Dancer* ('77) and *Deep Water* ('77). He took his stage name from Keith Richards and Eric Clapton.

RICK WAKEMAN born in Middlesex, England - 1949 (75)

* English keyboard player. He played with Yes and has also had solo success with the albums - Six Wives of Henry VIII, Journey To The Centre Of The Earth and The Myths and Legends Of King Arthur And The Knights Of The Round Table.

MARK MOTHERSBAUGH born in Akron, Ohio - 1950 (74)

* US singer, musician, and songwriter. He is the co-founder of the new wave band Devo. Their 1980s hits include Whip It, Freedom Of Choice, Working In The Coal Mine and Beautiful World.

JOHN SCHUMANN born in Adelaide, SA - 1953 (71)

* Australian singer. His band Redgum had 1980s hits with *Only* 19 and I've Been To Bali Too.

JIM MOGINIE (James Moginie) born in Sydney, NSW - 1956 (68)

* Australian musician. Founding member, lead guitarist and keyboard player and with Midnight Oil. In 2022 they released a new album *Resist* and embarked on their *Resist*, *The Final Tour*.

TOYAH WILCOX born in Birmingham, England - 1958 (66)
* British actress and singer. Her best selling single was Anthem ('81). She starred in Quadrophenia ('79). In 1987 married Robert Fripp of King Crimson fame. During the COVID-19 lockdowns, Toyah and her husband uploaded many short, humorous videos to YouTube, mostly titled Toyah and Robert's Sunday Lunch.

TROY CASSAR-DALEY born in Sydney, NSW - 1969 (55)

- * Australian country singer. His popular songs include: Everything's Going To Be Alright, Lonesome But Free, Born To Survive and They Don't Make 'Em Like That Anymore (written with Garth Porter and Colin Buchanan). His best selling album is The Great Country Songbook that he recorded with Adam Harvey in 2013.
- * He is married to 4BC breakfast co-host/singer Laurel Edwards.

MARTIKA (Marta Marrero) born in Whittier, California - 1969 (55)

* Cuban-American singer. She had a No 1 hit in Australia in 1991 with the Prince composition *Love ... Thy Will Be Done* and in 1990 charted with *Toy Soldiers* and a revival of *I Feel The Earth Move*.

TINA FEY (Elizabeth Tina Fey) born in Pennsylvania - 1970 (54)

* US actress and comedienne. Star and creator of the TV comedy series 30 Rock. In 2004, Fey made her film debut as writer and costar of Mean Girls. In 2008, she starred in Baby Mama, alongside Amy Poehler. She is co-creator of the Netflix TV series Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt.

JAYNIE SEAL born in Sydney, NSW - 1973 (51)

* Australian TV presenter. She is a weather presenter on the Sky News Weather Channel, a news presenter on *Saturday Edition* and Sunday Edition on *Sky News Live*.

MONIQUE WRIGHT born in Australia - 1973 (51)

* Australian TV presenter. She cohosts *Weekend Sunrise* and was also the co-host of the weekday entertainment program *The Daily Edition*.

JACK JOHNSON born in Oahu, Hawaii - 1975 (49)

* US singer/songwriter. He's made No 1 in Australia with his albums In Between Dreams (2005), Sing-A-Longs And Lullabies For The Film Curious George (2006), Sleep Through The Static (2008) and To The Sea (2010). Before releasing music he was a professional surfer.

JESSICA WATSON born on the Gold Coast, Queensland - 1993 (31)

* Australian sailor. She became the youngest person to sail solo, non-stop and unassisted around the world on her yacht Ella's Pink Lady. She departed on October 18, 2009 and arrived in Sydney on May 15, 2010.

Events

NAPOLEON BONAPARTE was proclaimed Emperor of France - 1804.

WOMEN (over 21) were allowed to vote for the first time in Australia at the Queensland state election - 1907.

THE HOLLIES recorded the Graham Gouldman song *Bus Stop* - 1966.

JOHN HOWARD was elected to Parliament as the Member for Bennelong - 1974.

PETER LANDY called his 1000th AFL/VFL football match for Channel 7 - 1997.

* His first was in 1977 when South Melbourne played Melbourne at the MCG. His 1000th, was Melbourne v Geelong at the MCG.

ELTON JOHN split with his Scottish born manager of nearly 30 years, **JOHN REID**, after a dispute over his career and financial affairs - 1998.

EDDIE McGUIRE resigned as CEO of Channel 9 - 2007.

JOHN LENNON'S handwritten lyrics for the 1967 Beatles song Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds sold for \$237,132 (£145,644) at an auction in the US - 2011.

SCOTT MORRISON was elected as Prime Minister of Australia - 2019.

TOOMBUL SHOPPING CENTRE in the Brisbane suburb of Toombul closed down - 2022.

* On 27 February 2022 during the 2022 Brisbane floods the entire precinct was inundated. The whole shopping centre closed due to the flooding. In May 2022, following an inspection into the damage, it was determined that the centre wouldn't be safe to re-open due to the extent of the damage.

JIM BROWN, US gridiron player and actor, died aged 87 - 2023.

* His movie credits include - The Dirty Dozen ('67), Ice Station Zebra ('68) and 100 Rifles ('69).

HELMUT BERGER, Austrian actor, died aged 78 - 2023.

* Some of his best known films were *The Damned* ('69), *Dorian Gray* ('70) and *The Godfather III* ('90). He featured in nine episodes of *Dynasty* between 1983 and 1984 and a Vatican accountant in *The Godfather Part III* (1990).

Sunday 19th May 2024

Births

JAMES FOX born in London, England - 1939 (85)

* English actor and brother of Edward Fox. His movie roles include The Servant ('63), King Rat ('65), The Chase ('65), A Passage To India ('84), The Russia House ('91), Remains Of The Day ('93) and Sherlock Holmes (2009). He also played Mr Salt in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (2005).

PETE TOWNSHEND born in London, England - 1945 (79)

- * Guitarist/songwriter for British band The Who. He wrote The Who hits including My Generation, I'm A Boy, Happy Jack, Substitute, You Better You Bet and the rock opera Tommy. He's had some solo success with the singles Let My Love Open The Door ('80) and Face The Face ('86).
- * He wrote the novel White City. He was a consultant at the book publisher Faber & Faber in the 1980's.

DAVID HELFGOTT born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1947 (77)

- * Australian pianist. The movie *Shine*, starring Geoffrey Rush was based on his life. Helfgott was a child prodigy and won a prestigious ABC competition at 14. At 21 he was presented with a major prize by the Queen Mother for his winning performance of *Rachmaninoffs' Concerto No 3*.
- * He married his wife Gillian in 1984. She died aged 90 in 2022.

GRACE JONES (Grace Mendoza) born in Jamaica - 1948 (76)

- * Jamaican-born model, singer and actress. She studied acting before becoming one of the world's top models. She's appeared in the films *Conan The Destroyer* and Roger Moore's final James Bond movie *A View To A Kill*.
- * She had her first hit in Australia in 1985 with *Slave To The Rhythm*.

DUSTY HILL (Joe Hill) born in Dallas, Texas - 1949. (Died aged 72 - 2021)

* Bass guitarist with ZZ Top. They formed in 1970 and made their chart debut with *La Grange* in 1974. When Hill died in 2021, ZZ Top confirmed that the group would continue with Elwood Francis, the band's long time guitar tech, on bass, per Hill's wishes.

PHIL RUDD (Phillip Rudzevecuis) born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1954 (70)

* Drummer with AC/DC. He played with the group from 1974 until his sacking from the band in 1983. After going through several years of rehab, he was rehired by the band in 1995 but was dropped by the band again in 2015. He rejoined the band in September 2020 for their comeback album *Power Up*.

JAMES REYNE born in Lagos, Nigeria - 1957 (67)

- * Australian singer. Brother of TV presenter David Reyne. He was lead vocalist with the band Australian Crawl. They had a No 1 national hit in 1983 with the 12" EP Reckless. Their album Sirocco was the top selling Australian album of 1981. His solo hits include Fall Of Rome ('87), Hammerhead ('87), Motor's Too Fast ('88) and Slave ('91). In 1992 he topped the ARIA chart with Way Out West recorded with James Blundell.
- * He also recorded in 1992 with the Company of Strangers. They had hits with *Motor City (I Get Lost)* and *Sweet Love*.

YAZZ (Yasmin Evans) born in London, England - 1960 (64)

* UK singer. The former model had a big hit in 1988 with *The Only Way Is Up*.

CLAUDIA KARVAN born in Sydney, NSW - 1972 (52)

* Australian actress. She starred in the TV series Spirited (as dentist Suzy Darling) which she co-created. Her films include The Big Steal ('90), Dating The Enemy ('96) and Paperback Hero ('99). Also appeared in the TV series The Secret Life Of Us.

JENNY BERGGREN born in Sweden - 1972 (52)

* Vocalist with Swedish band Ace of Base. They've had two No 1 hits in Australia with *All That She Wants* ('93) and *The Sign* ('94).

ANDREW JOHNS born in Cessnock, NSW - 1974 (50)

- * Australian rugby league player. Former captain and half back of the Newcastle Knights. 'Joey' was a part of their 1997 and 2001 premiership teams.
- * His older brother Matthew Johns played NRL for Newcastle.

ERIN PHILLIPS born in Carlton, Victoria - 1985 (39)

* Australian Rules footballer. She was best on ground in the 2017 and 2019 AFLW Grand Finals playing for Adelaide. She is the daughter of former Port Adelaide and Collingwood footballer Greg Phillips. Now works on TV as an AFL boundary rider.

DANIELLE MACDONALD born in Sydney, NSW - 1991 (33)

* Australian actress. She is known for her lead roles as Patricia "Patti" Dombrowski in the film Patti Cake\$ (2017), Lady Bird (2017), Willowdean Dickson in Dumplin' (2018) and Lilian Roxon in I Am Woman (2019).

ELEANOR TOMLINSON born in London, England - 1992 (32)

* English actress. She is best known for playing Demelza Poldark in *Poldark* (2015–2019). Tomlinson appeared in the film *The Illusionist* (2006) as young Sophie and starred in the film *Angus, Thongs and Perfect Snogging* (2008).

MARK ZAHRA born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1992 (32)

* Australian jockey. He won the Melbourne Cup on Without A Fight in 2023 and on Gold Trip in 2022, as well as the Caulfield Cup on Without A Fight in 2023 and on Verry Elleegant in 2020.

LAINEY WILSON born in Baskin, Louisiana - 1992 (32)

* US country music singersongwriter. Her best selling album is the 2022 release *Bell Bottom Country*. Wilson has received seven CMA Awards, including winning their top honour Entertainer of the Year in 2023.

SAM SMITH (Samuel Smith) born in London, England - 1992 (32)

* UK singer. In 2015 Smith became the first male artist in 34 years and the first UK male artist to earn nominations in all "big four" Grammy categories. Smith was nominated for six Grammys and won four. In 2017 Too Good At Goodbyes became his first No 1 hit singel in Australia.

MARSHMELLO (Christopher Comstock) born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - 1992 (32)

* American electronic dance music producer and DJ. His charting hits include *Friends* (Marshmello & Anne-Marie) (2018), *Silence* (Marshmello feat. Khalid) (2017) and *Wolves* (with Selena Gomez) (2017) - which were all top 5 hits in Australia.

Events

RINGLING BROTHERS CIRCUS performed for the first time - 1884.

* In 2017 Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus closed with a final performance to a soldout crowd in New York.

THE DRIFTERS recorded *Save The Last Dance For Me* - 1960.

MARILYN MONROE sang Happy Birthday to President JOHN F KENNEDY at Madison Square Garden - 1962.

ERIC CLAPTON married **PATTI BOYD** - 1979.

- * Patti was the former wife of George Harrison. Eric and Patti divorced in 1989. She was the inspiration behind the song *Layla* which was a hit for Clapton's group Derek & The Dominoes and Eric's acoustic version which also became a hit.
- * Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr and George Harrison performed together for the first time since the break-up of the Beatles at their wedding reception.

MARK TAYLOR was appointed captain of Australia's cricket team - 1994.

JACQUELINE KENNEDY ONASSIS, former US First Lady/editor, died aged 64 of cancer - 1994.

BALAMURALI AMBATI (US) became the youngest doctor in the world at the age of 17 - 1995.

MATTHEW BRODERICK married actress SARAH JESSICA PARKER - 1997.

First **APPLE STORE** opened in US -

GLENN WHEATLEY, Australian artist manager and businessman, was freed from jail after serving 10 months for tax fraud - 2008.

* He served the remaining 5 months of his sentence at his \$8 million mansion in South Yarra.

PRINCE HARRY and **MEGHAN MARKLE** married at St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle - 2018.

JOHNNY ASHCROFT, Australian country singer, died aged 94 - 2021.

SIR MARTIN AMIS, English novelist and screenwriter, died aged 73 - 2023

* He is best known for his novels *Money* and *London Fields*.

Monday 20th May 2024

Births

JIMMY STEWART born in Indiana, Pennsylvania - 1908. (Died aged 89 - 1997)

* American actor. His early movies include You Can't Take It With You ('38), Mr Smith Goes To Washington ('39), The Philadelphia Story ('40). After the war he starred in a variety of roles including It's A Wonderful Life ('46) and three Alfred Hitchcock thrillers - The Man Who Knew Too Much, Rope, Vertigo and Rear Window.

BRIAN DIXON born in - 1936 (88)

- * Australian rules footballer and politician. He played in five Melbourne (Demons) premierships and coached North Melbourne from 1971-'72. He also had a successful political career as a Liberal MLA and went on to become the Minister for Youth, Sport and Recreation.
- * He was the original overseer of the *Life: Be In It* campaign.

JILL JACKSON born in Joshua, Texas - 1942 (82)

* US singer. Jill is best remembered as 'Paula' of Paul & Paula fame. The duo had a big hit with *Hey Paula* in 1963. Her partner 'Paul' (Ray Hildebrand) died in 2013.

MAL WALDEN (Malcolm Walden) born in England - 1945 (79)

* Australian newsreader. In 1978 he became the first working journalist to be appointed a senior television presenter. He remained with Seven up until 1987. He also read the weeknight news with Channel 10 in Melbourne. On December 4, 2013 he presented his final Ten Eyewitness News.

JOE COCKER (John Cocker) born in Sheffield, England - 1944. (Died aged 70 - 2014)

* English singer. In 1968 he had his first big hit with the Lennon-McCartney song With A Little Help From My Friends which went to No 1 in the UK. In the early '70s Cocker and Leon Russell put together the 40 piece musical entourage known as Mad Dogs & Englishmen. The tour yielded a top selling double album and movie of the same title.
* The Oscar-winning song Up Where We Belong ('82) was recorded by Joe with Jennifer

Warnes and became his first US No

1 hit and No 2 in Australia.

CHER (Cherilyn La Pierre) born in El Centro, California - 1946 (78)

* US singer and actress. Her 1998 hit Believe is her biggest selling single. It made No 1 in Australia, England (7 weeks) and America. At the age of 52 she became the oldest female artist to make No 1 on the US singles chart. Her other solo hits include - The Shoop Shoop Song which featured in the film Mermaids and the '70s songs Gypsys, Tramps and Thieves, Dark Lady and Half Breed. In 1989 she also had a No 1 hit in Australia with If I Could Turn Back Time from her album Heart Of Stone which peaked nationally at No 2.

* In 1964, aged 18, she married Sonny Bono. The following year they had their biggest hit with *I Got You Babe*. They also had a successful '70s television variety show. After her divorce to Sonny she was married to rock guitarist Gregg Allman from 1975-1978.

BUSTA RHYMES (Trevor Smith Jnr) born in Uniondale, New York - 1972 (52)

* US singer and rapper. He featured on the Pussycat Dolls 2005 No 1 hit *Don't Cha*.

ROBERT DOYLE born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1953 (71)

- * Australian politician. On 30 November 2008, he was elected 103rd Lord Mayor of Melbourne. He resigned on 4 February 2018 amidst allegations of sexual harassment.
- * He was the Opposition Leader of Victoria from 2002 to 2006, representing the Liberal Party of Australia.

LOUIS THEROUX born in Singapore - 1970 (54)

* British-American documentary filmmaker, journalist and broadcaster. Theroux is best known for his documentary series, including Louis Theroux's Weird Weekends and When Louis Met. Also the My Scientology Movie and KSI: In Real Life.

STIRLING MORTLOCK born in Sydney, NSW - 1977 (47)

* Australian rugby player. Former captain of the Wallabies, Brumbies and Melbourne Rebels. He scored over 1,000 points in Super Rugby, and nearly 500 Test points for the Wallabies.

ALLISON LANGDON born in Wollongong, NSW - 1979 (45)

- * Australian TV reporter. She's a news presenter on National Nine News and a reporter on 60 Minutes.
- * In 2008 she married Mike Willesee Jnr, son of Mike Willesee.

MARK WINTERBOTTOM born in Sydney, NSW - 1981 (43)

- * Australian racing driver. He won the Bathurst 1000 (with Steven Richards) in 2013 and twice won the Sandown 500 in 2006 and 2015. He is also the winner of the 2015 International V8 Supercars Championship, winning the first title for Ford in five years.
- * He is the son of the 1969 and 1974 Australian Sprintcar Champion Jim Winterbottom.

RACHEL PLATTEN born in Newton Centre, Massachusetts - 1981 (43) * US singer. She had her biggest hit in 2015 with *Fight Song* (No 2 in Australia).

ROSA LINN (Roza Kostandyan) born in Armenia - 2000 (24)

* Armenian singer-songwriter. She had her biggest hit in 2022 with *Snap*. Linn represented her country in the Eurovision Song Contest 2022 in Turin, Italy with that song which finished in 20th place.

Events

CHARLES LINDBERGH commenced his famous solo trans-Atlantic flight - 1927.

* He left New York at 7.25 a.m. and flew non-stop for 33 hours to Paris in his plane The Spirit of St Louis.

Australia's first **AIRMAIL STAMP** was issued - 1929.

AMELIA EARHART left Newfoundland for Ireland to become the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic which she achieved in 13 1/2 hours - 1932.

Australia's first comic book **FATTY FINN**, written by Syd Nicholls, was published - 1934.

BASKIN-ROBBINS was founded by brothers-in-law Burt Baskin and Irv Robbins from the merging of their respective ice cream parlours, in Glendale, California - 1945.

THE PLATTERS recorded the original version of *Only You* - 1954.

* They recorded a new version a year later and eventually *Only You* became their first big seller.

A children's book that featured a **BLACK RABBIT** marrying a **WHITE RABBIT** was banned in Alabama - 1959.

* The book in question was 'The Rabbits' Wedding' written by Garth Williams.

FORD motor company won the battle to call its new car the **FALCON**, registering the name 20 minutes before Chrysler made an attempt - 1959.

VIVA LAS VEGAS, starring Elvis Presley, opened in US cinemas - 1964.

PETER CETERA, bass guitarist/ vocalist with Chicago, underwent five hours of surgery after having four teeth knocked out - 1971.

* It was caused by four men who got into an argument with him about the length of his hair. They also disliked the fact that he was a Cubs fan in Dodger Stadium and that the Cubs had just belted the LA Dodgers by 7-0.

CROCODILE DUNDEE II, starring Paul Hogan, premiered in Australia - 1988.

EAST TIMOR (or Timor-Leste) became independent - 2002.

* On 27 September 2002, East Timor was renamed to Timor-Leste, using the Portuguese language, and was admitted as a member state by the UN. It became the first new sovereign state of the 21st century.

KYLIE MINOGUE underwent breast cancer surgery - 2005.

ANNA BLIGH (Queensland Premier) declared that South East Queensland's DROUGHT was over - 2009.

ROBIN GIBB, vocalist with Bee Gees, died aged 62 of liver and kidney failure - 2012.

RAY MANZAREK, US keyboard player with The Doors, died aged 74 - 2013.

NIKI LAUDA, Austrian Formula One racing driver, died aged 70 - 2019.

YAHOO purchased **TUMBLR** for \$1.1 billion - 2013.

DAVID LETTERMAN hosted his final *Late Show With David Letterman* for CBS - 2015.

* In total, Letterman hosted 6,028 episodes of *Late Night* and *Late Show*.

Tuesday 21st May 2024

Births

MALCOLM FRASER (John Malcolm Fraser) born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1930. (Died aged 84 -2015)

* 22nd Prime Minister of Australia and the Leader of the Liberal Party from 1975 to 1983. He formed the charity organisation CARE Australia in 1987.

MARCIE BLANE (Marcia Blank) born in Brooklyn, New York - 1944 (80)

* American singer. She had her only hit in 1962 with Bobby's Girl.

JOE CAMILLERI born in Malta - 1948 (76)

- * Australian singer and musician. In the '70s and early '80s his band Jo Jo Zep & The Falcons had three big hits with *Hit and Run, Shape I'm In* and *Taxi Mary*. His band the Black Sorrows had hit success with Chained To The Wheel ('89), Harley And Rose ('90) and Never Let Me Go ('91).
- * Joe adopted the pseudonym Jo Jo Zep when he released the Christmas song *Run Rudolph Run* under that name.

LEO SAYER (Gerard Sayer) born in Sussex, England - 1948 (76)

- * English singer/songwriter. It was early in 1973 that his name first gained attention when The Who's Roger Daltrey recorded a solo album featuring songs by Leo Sayer and Dave Courtney. Later that year Sayer's first single *The Show Must Go On* was released. It became his first top 10 hit in Australia. His other hits include Long Tall Glasses, When I Need You, How Much Love, You Make Me Feel Like Dancing, Have You Ever Been In Love and Moonlighting.
- * He moved to Australia in 2005 and on Australia Day 2009 became an Australian citizen.

MR T (Lawrence Tureaud) born in Chicago, Illinois - 1952 (72)

* American actor. He was a professional bodyguard for Muhammad Ali, Steve McQueen, Diana Ross before making his first major film appearance as Clubber Lang in *Rocky III*. He also played tough guy 'B.A.' Baracus in the television series *The A Team*. He had a major role in the 2001 film *Apocalypse IV: Judgement*.

JUDGE REINHOLD (Edward Reinhold Jnr) born in Wilmington, Delaware - 1957 (67)

* American actor. He co-starred with Eddie Murphy in *Beverly Hills Cop I & II* and can be seen in the '80s films *Running Scared, Gremlins* and *Ruthless People*.

SALLY BOYDEN born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1965 (59)

* Australian singer. The former member of *The Young Talent Time* left Australia in the '70s. She is now living in London where she has worked as a songwriter for EMI. She has also sung backing vocals for Duran Duran.

JOSEPHINE MITCHELL born in Sydney, NSW - 1965 (59)

* Australian actress. She played Jo Loveday in the Australian TV series *A Country Practice* and also appeared in *E Street* ('85-'89).

LISA EDELSTEIN born in Boston, Massachusetts - 1966 (58)

* US actress. She is best known for playing Dr. Lisa Cuddy on the medical drama series *House*. From 2014-2018, she starred as Abby McCarthy in the TV series *Girlfriends' Guide to Divorce*.

BRAD ARTHUR born in Sydney, NSW - 1974 (50)

* NRL coach. He was appointed coach of the Parramatta Eels in 2014. They lost the 2022 Grand Final to the Penrith Panthers. His son Jakob plays for Manly.

ANTHONY MUNDINE born in Newtown, Sydney - 1975 (49)

- * Australian boxer and former rugby league player. 'The Man' was trained by his father, Tony Mundine, who was a middleweight contender during the 1970s. Anthony boxed from 2000-2021 and achieved 48 wins and 11 losses.
- * In May 2006 he defeated Danny Green in the biggest grossing fight in Australian boxing history. He won on points in front of a crowd estimated at 30,000. On 3 February 2017, Mundine held a boxing rematch with Danny Green at the Adelaide Oval. In a controversial fight during which both boxers were deducted points, Green was declared the winner, despite most commentators awarding the fight to Mundine.

BELINDA BROMILOW born in Perth, WA - 1975 (49)

* Australian actress. She is best known for her roles in the television series *Doctor Doctor, Spirited, Packed to the Rafters* and *Talk to Me*. She is now appearing in the TV series *The Great* as Aunt Elizabeth. who is married to *The Great's* creator and main writer, Tony McNamara.

GOTYE (Wouter De Backer) born in Bruges, Belgium - 1980 (44)

* Australian singer and musician. His 2011 single *Somebody That I Used to Know* (featuring NZ singer Kimbra) made No 1 on the US Billboard Hot 100, making him the fifth Australian artist to do so. The song charted in the Top 20 in over 10 countries and made No 1 in six countries including Australia and New Zealand.

Events

First **EIGHT-HOUR WORKING DAY** was achieved by Australian Stonemasons in Victoria - 1856.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME was adopted in the UK - 1916.

HUMPHREY BOGART married his fourth wife **LAUREN BACALL** in Ohio - 1945.

* They met on the set of *To Have And Have Not* ('45). They made five films together, the last being *Key Largo* ('48).

CHUCK BERRY recorded his first single *Maybelline* - 1955.

* He says it took 36 takes before it was finally recorded. It was adapted from a song he'd written called *Ida Red* - in which he mimicked white country singers.

STEVIE WONDER, aged 13, (then called Little Stevie Wonder) released his first hit *Fingertips* - 1963.

THE DRIFTERS recorded the single *Under The Boardwalk* - 1964.

- * The group's lead singer Rudy Lewis died of a drug overdose the night before the recording. Johnny Moore, who left in 1957, was brought back to do lead vocals.
- * This was written by Arthur Resnick and Kenny Young. Resnick also wrote *Good Lovin'* for The Rascals; Young wrote songs for Herman's Hermits and formed a band called Fox.
- * The song also became a hit for the Rolling Stones, Bette Midler, John Mellencamp and Bruce Willis.

CROSBY, STILLS, NASH & YOUNG recorded the Neil Young song *Ohio* - 1970.

* It was recorded just 16 days after the tragic events at Kent State University that inspired the song.

ELTON JOHN became the first rock artist to perform in the USSR - 1979.

Actress MARLO THOMAS (daughter of Danny) married talkshow host PHIL DONAHUE - 1980.

MURRAY HEAD's hit One Night In Bangkok (from the musical Chess) was banned in Thailand - 1985.

* Thailand's Mass Communications Organization banned the song saying its lyrics "cause misunderstanding about Thai society and show disrespect towards Buddhism."

JOHN FARNHAM's album Whispering Jack was released on compact disc making it the first locally produced CD - 1987.

RAJIV GANDHI, 46-year-old Indian Prime Minister, was assassinated in a bomb attack in Madras, India - 1991.

PRESIDENT SUHARTO of Indonesia resigned ending his 32 year rule - 1998.

JAY COCHRANE completed the first skywalk across Niagara Falls since 1897 - 2002.

* Cochrane, 58, completed the 67m walk in about 8 minutes. He stopped midway to strike a one-foot, one-handed pose for photographers.

A new series of **DOCTOR WHO** programs, starring Christopher Eccleston, began on ABC TV - 2005.

ANSHU JAMSENPA (India) climbed Mt Everest for the second time in the same week - 2017.

* She had first reached the peak three days earlier.

RINGLING BROS. AND BARNUM & BAILEY CIRCUS closed with a final performance to a sold-out crowd in New York - 2017.

* With weakening attendances and high operating costs, the circus closed on this day after 146 years.

ANTHONY ALBANESE was elected Prime Minister when the ALP defeated the Liberal/National Coalition Government led by Scott Morrison – 2022.

Wednesday 22nd May 2024

Births

CHARLES AZNAVOUR (Shahnour Aznavourian) born in Paris, France - 1924. (Died aged 94 - 2018)

* Armenian-French singer and actor. His two biggest hits in Australia are *The Old Fashioned Way* ('73) and *She* ('74). He wrote over 650 songs and appeared in several movies including *And Then There Were None* ('74) and *Shoot The Piano Player* ('60).

RICHARD BENJAMIN born in New York City, New York - 1938 (86)

- * American actor and director. He starred in *Goodbye Columbus* ('69), *Diary Of A Mad Housewife* ('70) and directed *The Money Pit* ('85).
- * He's been married to actress Paula Prentiss since 1961.

BOB KATTER born in Cloncurry, Oueensland - 1945 (79)

- * Queensland politician. He has served as a member of the Australian House of Representatives since March 1993, representing the Division of Kennedy, Queensland. A former National Party member and Independent, he now heads Katters Australian Party.
- * He was one of the protesters who pelted the Beatles with eggs during their 1964 visit to Australia!

STAN ALVES (Neil Stan Alves) born in Victoria - 1946 (78)

* Australian Rules footballer. He played with Melbourne and North Melbourne. He also coached St Kilda to their first Grand Final appearance in 26 years, but in 1997 was sacked as coach at the end of season 1998. He's now working in the media and can be heard on ABC radio as a football commentator.

BERNIE TAUPIN (Bernard Taupin) born in Lincolnshire, England - 1950 (74)

- * English songwriter. He's written the lyrics for most of Elton John's hit songs. They met in 1969 when he and Elton answered an advertisement for musical talent. In 2023 he released the book Scattershot: Life, Music, Elton, and Me.
- * He co-wrote Starship's 1985 hit We Built This City and These Dreams a hit for Heart in 1986.

LINDA GEORGE born in England - 1951 (73)

- * Australian singer. She had three national hits from 1973-1974 with Neither One Of Us, Our Day Will Come and Mama's Little Girl.
- * She sang lead on the song Care For Kids which was the International Year of The Child theme song in 1979.

IVA DAVIES (Ivor Davies) born in Wauchope, NSW - 1955 (69)

* Founder and lead singer/guitarist for Icehouse. (They were originally known as Flowers). Their hits include Crazy ('87), Great Southern Land ('82) and their No 1 hit Electric Blue ('87) that he co-wrote with John Oates of Hall & Oates fame. Electric Blue made No 7 in the US. Their album Man of Colours is one of Australia's biggest selling locally made albums.

GARY SWEET born in Coburg, Victoria - 1957 (67)

* Australian actor. Star of various local TV series' including *Stingers*, *Police Rescue*, *Big Sky* and *House Husbands*. Also had starring roles in the local mini-series' *Bodyline* (as Sir Don Bradman) and *Come In Spinner*. In 1981 he won a Logie for Best New Talent for his role as "Magpie" in *The Sullivans*.

MORRISSEY (Steven Morrissey) born in England - 1959 (65)

* English singer. The former lead vocalist for The Smiths has had over 10 top 20 hits in his homeland. His solo release *Suedehead* was a minor hit in 1988. In 1992 he made No 12 on the Australian album chart with *Your Arsenal*.

ANDREA THOMPSON (Rebecca Andrea Thompson) born in Dayton, Ohio - 1959 (65)

* US actress. She played Det. Jill Kirkendall in the TV drama *NYPD Blue* (1996-2000). Also appeared in *Babylon 5* and *Falcon Crest*.

NAOMI CAMPBELL born ir London, England - 1970 (54)

* English model. In 1995, she made her debut as a recording artist with *Babywoman*. *La*, *La*, *La Love Song* with Japanese singer Toshi, reached #1 in Japan. She co-authored a bestselling novel, *Swan*, followed up with the photo book titled *Naomi*.

KATIE PRICE aka JORDAN (Katrina Price) born in Newport, Wales - 1978 (46)

- * UK model and ex-wife of Australian singer Peter Andre. Her private life is often featured in British tabloids and celebrity-based magazines. She also goes by her birth name Katie Price.
- * She met Peter Andre on the reality TV series *I'm a Celebrity... Get Me Out of Here!* and they wed in 2005. The pair released a duets album in 2006 titled *A Whole New World*. They divorced in 2009.

ERIN McNAUGHT born in Canberra, ACT - 1982 (42)

* Australian model and actress. She competed in the 2006 Miss Universe competition and was Miss Australia 2006. She played Sienna Cammeneti in the TV soapie Neighbours and hosted Cybershack on Channel 10.

NOVAK DJOKOVIC born in Belgrade, Serbia - 1987 (37)

* Serbian tennis player. He has been ranked No. 1 for a record total of 419 weeks in a record 13 different years, and finished as the year-end No. 1 a record eight times. Djokovic has won a record 24 Grand Slam men's singles titles, including a record ten Australian Open titles, the last being in 2023. His Grand Slam singles titles also include Wimbledon - 8 titles, US Open - 4 titles and the French Open - 3 titles.

Events

TOOTHPASTE TUBE was invented by British dentist Dr Sheffield - 1892.

AIRPLANE (flying machine) was patented by Wilbur and Orville Wright - 1906.

JERRY LEE LEWIS, US rock 'n roll singer, shocked the English public when he arrived in London accompanied by Myra, his 13-year-old wife and cousin - 1958.

* Four days later he was booed off stage and forced to cancel 34 of his 37 concerts.

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN, aged 16, recorded his first song *That's What You'll Get* with The Castiles - 1966. * The song was never released.

RICHARD NIXON became the first US President to visit Moscow - 1972.

PAC-MAN arcade game was released in Japan - 1980.

JIMMY BARNES married JANE MAHONEY - 1981.

* In 1979 he met Thailand-born Jane Mahoney the stepdaughter of an Australian diplomat. Barnes began a relationship with her and they wed in 1981. He said in 2016: "35 years ago I married this beautiful girl, I love her to the moon and back - how lucky am I?"

STEINLAGER 2, the New Zealand yacht captained by Peter Blake, won the Whitbread Round The World Race - 1990.

* New Zealand yachts also came second and third.

JOHNNY CARSON presented his final *Tonight Show* after 30 years as host - 1992.

* Carson, who died in 2005, first began hosting the late night variety program in October, 1962. His sidekick Ed McMahon also retired following this program. Carson was replaced by Jay Leno.

DAVID BLAINE, US magician and stuntman, commenced standing on a circular platform, only 22 inches (55 cms) in diameter, atop a free-standing 100 foot (30 m) pillar, for 35 hours in Manhattan's Bryant Park - 2002.

ANNIKA SORENSTAM (Sweden) became the first woman to play the PGA tour in 58 years - 2003.

SCARED LITTLE WEIRD GUYS performed their farewell show at Brisbane's Sit Down Comedy Club - 2011.

* The comedy duo formed in 1990.

A **TORNADO** struck Joplin in Missouri levelling many of the town's buildings and killed 162 people - 2011.

QUEENSLAND FIREBIRDS netball team won the ANZ Championship and became the first team to go through the season undefeated - 2011.

* They defeated the NZ Northern Mystics 57-44.

At the **ARIANA GRANDE** concert at the Manchester Arena in England, an extremist Muslim suicide bomber detonated an explosive in the foyer of the arena, causing 23 fatalities and approximately 120 injuries - 2017. * Grande was unhurt in the attack.

* Grande was unhurt in the attack. She suspended the tour until June 7 and announced that she would return to Manchester to give a concert to raise money for the victims' families and to visit survivors and fans.

Thursday 23rd May 2024

Births

RAY LAWLER born in Footscray, Victoria - 1921 (103)

- * Australian playwright. He wrote *The Summer of The Seventeenth Doll* which made its debut in 1955. He played 'Barney' in the original stage production in Melbourne. Later on he wrote the prequels *Kid Stakes* and *Hard Times* which debuted on stage in 1975 and 1976.
- * He married actress Jacklyn Kelleher in 1956. They had twin sons (born in UK in 1957) and a daughter.
- * He spent 20 years living overseas and then returned to Australia in 1975. In 2008 he was living in Footscray, the place of his birth.

DAME JOAN COLLINS born in London, England - 1933 (91)

- * British actress. She has appeared in a number of minor movies since 1952, but the biggest career move came when she signed up to appear in the '80s American soapie *Dynasty* as Alexis Carrington.
- * Her younger sister Jackie Collins died aged 77 in 2015.
- * In 2002 she married 36-year-old Percy Gibson – 31 years her junior. It was her 5th marriage.

DR ROBERT A MOOG born in New York City, New York - 1934. (Died aged 71 - 2005)

* US inventor of the famous Moog synthesizer. The first mainstream music album to feature the instrument was *Pisces, Aquarius, Capricorn, & Jones, Ltd.* by The Monkees.

JOHN NEWCOMBE born in Sydney, NSW - 1944 (80)

- * Australian tennis player and coach. He was No.1 player in world three times ('70-'71 and '73). He achieved three Wimbledon singles wins, two US singles titles, six men's doubles wins at Wimbledon (with Tony Roche and Ken Fletcher) and many other titles.
- * He was captain of Australia's Davis Cup team from 1994-2000.

DAVID GRAHAM born in Windsor, NSW - 1946 (78)

* Australian golfer. His major golf wins include - Australian Open ('77), US PGA championship ('79) and the US Open ('81). In 1979 he won the ABC Sports award.

"MARVELOUS" MARVIN HAGLER born in Newark, New Jersey -1954. (Died aged 66 - 2021)

- * American boxer. He was the World middleweight champion from 1980-'87. He achieved 62 wins and just 3 losses 52 wins by KO.
- * In 1982 he legally changed his name to 'Marvelous Marvin Hagler.'

LUKA BLOOM (Kevin Moore) born in Ireland - 1955 (69)

- * Irish singer. Younger brother of folk singer Christy Moore. His breakthrough album *Riverside* was released in 1990.
- * He changed his name in 1987 when he arrived in America. Named himself after 'Luka' the Suzanne Vega song and 'Bloom' is taken from the James Joyce novel Ulysses.

LIZ HAYES (Elizabeth Ryan) born in Taree, NSW - 1956 (68)

- * Australian TV news reporter. After training in the print media, she joined the Nine Network in 1981 as a news reporter. She was the *Today* co-host from 1986 to 1996. In 1997 she joined the reporting team on *60 Minutes*.
- * She was secretly wed in February 1991 to John Singleton. (His third marriage and her second). They separated a short time later.
- * At school she was known as Beth Ryan. Her first marriage was to a local boy, Bryan Hayes.

DREW CAREY (Andrew Allison Carey) born in Cleveland, Ohio - 1958 (66)

* US comedian. He starred in the TV sit-com *The Drew Carey Show* (1995 - 2004). Also hosted *Whose Line Is It Anyway*? (1998-2007).

COLIN BUCHANAN born in Dublin, Ireland - 1964 (60)

* Australian singer/songwriter and children's entertainer. The winner of several Golden Guitar awards has written songs with Lee Kernaghan, Adam Brand and Troy Cassar-Daley. Hat Town, written with Lee Kernaghan, won an APRA Award, while his Aussie Christmas album, recorded with Greg Champion (Bucko & Champs) has become an Australian classic. He's also recorded children's gospel music albums and appeared as a presenter on Playschool.

POPPY KING born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1972 (52)

* Australian entrepreneur. She built an internationally successful business through her range of lipsticks. Aged 18, she started her own cosmetics company in 1991. Poppy Industries was turning over \$6 million a year but in 1998 her debts were estimated at about \$15 million and she was forced to put her company into receivership and on the market. She moved base to America in 1999.

JEWEL (Jewel Kilcher) born in Utah - 1974 (50)

* US singer/songwriter. The Alaskan-raised singer has had hits including You Were Meant For Me, Foolish Games, Intuition, Hands and Stand. Her most recent album was Freewheelin' Woman released in 2022. She released her second children's album The Merry Goes 'Round in 2011.

Events

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN announced the invention of BI-FOCAL EYEGLASSES - 1785.

Adelaide's **ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS** opened - 1883.

BONNIE (Parker), aged 23, and **CLYDE** (Barrow), aged 25, were killed in a police ambush in Louisiana - 1934.

TVT 6 went to air in Hobart - 1960.

AUSTRALIA RADIO stations banned Australian and British records from airplay - 1970.

* The recording companies imposed a six-month embargo on the supply of previously free promotional records to radio stations. In retaliation, FARB members boycotted all new major label releases by UK or Australian artists — but not by American artists — and refused to include records from these companies in their weekly chart surveys. ABC radio did not take part in the ban and local artists that recorded for the independent Fable label received airplay.

INDIANA JONES & THE TEMPLE OF DOOM, starring Harrison Ford, opened in US theatres - 1984.

* Prequel to Raiders Of The Lost Ark. Indiana Jones and The Dial of Destiny was released in 2023.

YIANNIS KOUROS won a record fifth Sydney-Melbourne Westfield run - 1990.

ASHRITA FURMAN (New York) walked a record 98.2km while continuously balancing a milk bottle on his head - 1992.

* It took him 15 hours, 2 minutes to complete the walk.

Final episode of **STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION** screened on
US television - 1994.

JIMMY PAGE, Led Zeppelin guitarist, was fined for smoking a cigarette in the toilet of an airplane that set off the fire alarm - 1995.

TEMBA TSHERI SHERPA, a 16 year old Nepalese schoolboy, became the youngest person to climb Mt Everest - 2001.

LEROY LOGGINS was axed from the Brisbane Bullets basketball team after playing a then record 567 games - 2001. (Record beaten by Andrew Gaze.)

\$2.75 million was paid by an anonymous bidder for the MOBILE NUMBER 666-6666 during a charity auction in Qatar - 2006.

CHERYL and NIKKI BART (Australia) became the first mother-daughter team to scale Mt Everest - 2008.

DAME ELIZABETH TAYLOR, English born Hollywood actress, died aged 79 - 2011.

SIR ROGER MOORE, UK actor who was the second actor to play James Bond and starred in the TV series *The Saint*, died aged 89 - 2017.

POWDERFINGER reformed for a one-off livestreamed charity performance, *One Night Lonely* - 2020

* It was their first concert in over a decade. 90,000 fans watched on YouTube.

THE WEEKND was nominated for sixteen awards, winning ten, at the Billboard Music Awards - 2021.

PHIL MICKELSON, aged 50, became the oldest major golf winner in history when he won his 6th major the PGA Championship - 2021

BOB FULTON, UK born Australian rugby league footballer and coach, died aged 73 - 2021.

LORRAE DESMOND (born Beryl Hunt), Australian actress, singer and television presenter, died aged 91 on the Gold Coast - 2021

Friday 24th May 2024

Births

BRIAN WENZEL born in Adelaide, SA - 1929 (95)

* Australian actor. He played Sgt Frank Gilroy in the local TV series A Country Practice ('81-'93).

TOMMY CHONG born in Alberta, Canada - 1938 (86)

- * Canadian actor and comedian. One half of the comedy duo Cheech & Chong. They appeared in several movies and had novelty hit singles with *Earache My Eye* ('74) and *Basketball Jones* ('73). He was one of the stars of the '90s TV series *Nash Bridges*.
- * His daughter Rae Dawn Chong is an actress.

BOB DYLAN (Robert Zimmerman) born in Duluth, Minnesota - 1941 (83)

- * American singer/songwriter. His most popular songs include Blowin' In The Wind, The Times They Are A-Changin', Like A Rolling Stone, Positively Fourth Street, Rainy Day Women #12 & 35, Just Like A Woman, Lay Lady Lay, Knockin' On Heaven's Door and Hurricane.
- * From 2006-2009 he hosted a US radio show *Theme Time Radio Hour.*
- * Many of his songs have also become hits for other artists including Manfred Mann (Mighty Quinn, With God On Our Side), The Byrds (Mr Tambourine Man), Peter, Paul & Mary (Blowin' In The Wind) and Cher (All I Really Want To Do).
- * In 1988 he joined with musician friends George Harrison, Tom Petty, Roy Orbison and Jeff Lynne to record as the Traveling Wilburys.

GARY BURGHOFF born in Bristol, Connecticut - 1943 (81)

* American actor. He played Walter 'Radar' O'Reilly in the *M.A.S.H.* television series and the original *M.A.S.H.* movie ('70).

PATTI LA BELLE (Patricia Holt) born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania -1944 (80)

* American singer. She was lead vocalist with La Belle who had a No 1 US hit in 1975 with *Lady Marmalade*. In 1986 she made No 1 again in the US with *On My Own* which she recorded with Doobie Brother Michael McDonald.

DAVE PEACOCK born in London, England - 1945 (79)

* UK musician. One half of the music duo Chas & Dave. They had their biggest hit in 1982 with *Ain't No Pleasing You*. His partner Chas died in 2018.

PRISCILLA PRESLEY (Priscilla Wagner) born in Brooklyn, New York - 1945 (79)

- * American actress and former wife of Elvis Presley. They had one child Lisa-Marie. Priscilla was by Lisa Marie's side after she went into cardiac arrest on January 12 2023 and confirmed her daughter's death in a statement later that day.
- * She played Jenna Wade in the US soap series *Dallas* and co-starred with Leslie Nielsen in the *Naked Gun* comedy movies.
- * She was in a relationship with Marco Garibaldi for 22 years. In 1987, aged 42, she gave birth to their son Navarone.

JIMMY MANZIE (James Manzie) born in Australia - 1956 (68)

* Bass guitarist/vocalist with Australian band 'Ol 55. He wrote their hits *On The Prowl* ('75), *I Want A Rockin' Christmas* ('76) and *Stay* ('78).

BARRY O'FARRELL born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1959 (65)

* Australian politician. In March 2011 the Leader of the NSW Liberal Party was voted in as the 43rd Premier of NSW. On 16 April 2014, he resigned as party leader and NSW Premier.

DAME KRISTIN SCOTT THOMAS born in England - 1960 (64)

* English-French actress. She played the unfaithful wife in the 1996 movie *The English Patient*. Her other films include: *Mission: Impossible, The Horse Whisperer, Keeping Mum, The Other Boleyn Girl* and *Darkest Hour.*

JOHN C REILLY born in Chicago, Illinois - 1965 (59)

* US actor, comedian and singer. In recent times he's played Jerry Buss in the TV series Winning Time: The Rise Of The Lakers Dynasty. His films include Days of Thunder, Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story, Chicago, Step Brothers, Guardians of the Galaxy, Kong: Skull Island. and Stan and Ollie (as Ollie).

LAYNE BEACHLEY (Tania Gardner) born in Sydney, NSW - 1972 (52)

- * Australian surfer. She's won more surfing titles than any Australian man or woman. The seven times world champion started competitive surfing aged 16. Retired in 2008. She is now the chair of Surfing Australia.
- * She married INXS musician Kirk Pengilly in 2010.

KYM VALENTINE born Blacktown, NSW - 1977 (47)

- * Australian actress. She is best known for playing Libby Kennedy/ Kirk in the TV soapie *Neighbours*.
- * She began her acting career in a McDonald's TV ad at the age of 5.

ANDY LEE (Andrew Lee) born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1981 (43)

* Australian comedian and radio/ TV presenter. Andy and his partner and good friend Hamish Blake are well known for their work on radio and television. Their weekly podcast is one of the most listened to podcasts in Australia. He is host of the Australian version of the game show *The Cube* for Network 10. He is also an executive producer for the show. He also hosts *The Hundred with Andy Lee* on the Nine Network.

LACHIE NEALE (Lachlan Neale) born in Naracoorte, South Australia - 1993 (31)

* AFL player. He captains for the Brisbane Lions. In 2020 he won Brownlow Medal after polling 31 votes during the shortened regular season, being best-onground in ten matches. He played for Fremantle from 2012 - 2018.

EMMA MCKEON born ir Wollongong, NSW - 1994 (30)

- * Australian swimmer. Australian swimmer. She has won 11 medals and is Australia's most successful Olympian. In 2021, she tied with Ian Thorpe for the most number of Olympic gold medals won over the course of an Australian athlete's career with five total gold medals earned at her first two Olympic Games.
- * She has been dating fellow swimmer (and singer) Cody Simpson since April 2022.
- * She is the daughter of four-time Commonwealth gold medallist and two-time Olympian Ron McKeon Her mother, Susie, was also a professional swimmer.

Events

First **PUBLIC MUSEUM**, The Ashmolean, opened in Oxford in England - 1683.

AMY JOHNSON landed at Darwin Airport in her Gypsy Moth, becoming the first woman to fly solo from Britain to Australia -1930.

EUROVISION SONG CONTEST was first held in Switzerland - 1956.

* Eurovision has been held annually since 1956 (apart from 2020 due to Covid).

PETER GREEN played his last concert with **FLEETWOOD MAC** then left to join the Children Of God sect - 1970.

* He wrote their '60s hits Albatross, Oh Well Part 1 and Black Magic Woman.

NEVILLE BONNER, Liberal Senator of Queensland, became the first Aboriginal member of any Australian parliament - 1971.

JOHN MOSCHITTA set a Guinness World record by reciting 586 words in a minute in Los Angeles - 1988.

BRAVEHEART, directed by and starring Mel Gibson, opened in US cinemas - 1995.

* At the 68th Academy Awards, the film was nominated for ten Academy Awards and won five: Best Picture, Best Director, Best Cinematography, Best Makeup, and Best Sound Effects Editing.

MIKE TYSON, US boxer, was freed from jail after spending 3 1/2 months for a 1998 road rage attack on two motorists - 1999.

KANYE WEST married **KIM KARDASHIAN** in Italy - 2014.

* This was Kim's third marriage and Kanye's first. They divorced in 2022.

DELTA GOODREM made No 1 on the ARIA chart for the 5th time with her album *Bridge Over Troubled Dreams* - 2021.

TINA TURNER, US singer, died aged 83 in Switzerland - 2023.

* With her former husband Ike Turner, she recorded the massive dance hit Nutbush City Limits in 1973. Outside music, she starred in Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome opposite Mel Gibson in 1985. She published her first memoir, I, Tina, in 1986, which was later adapted into the 1993 film What's Love Got to Do With It? starring Angela Bassett as Turner. In 1995, she sang the theme tune to the James Bond film GoldenEve. Turner announced her retirement in 2000, a year after releasing her final solo album, Twenty Four Seven,

Saturday 25th May 2024

Births

HAL DAVID (Harold David) born in Brooklyn, New York - 1921. (Died aged 91 - 2012)

* US lyricist. He wrote the words to over 700 songs - most of them with Burt Bacharach (who died in 2023). Some of their best known compositions include - Anyone Who Had A Heart, Do You Know The Way To San Jose, I Just Don't Know What To Do With Myself, Close To You, This Guy's In Love With You, What's New Pussycat, Raindrops Keep Fallin' On My Head and Trains and Boats and Planes.

TOM T HALL born in Olive Hill, Kentucky - 1936. (Died aged 85 -2021)

* US country singer/songwriter. He wrote Jeannie C Riley's No 1 hit *Harper Valley P.T.A.* ('68) and had his biggest hit in Australia in 1973 with *Old Dogs and Children and Watermelon Wine*. In 1974 he charted with *I Love*.

SIR IAN McKELLEN born in Lancashire, England - 1939 (85)

* English stage and film actor. He played the role of the wizard Gandalf in the Lord Of The Rings trilogy and the The Hobbit movies. Also known for his role as Magneto/Erik in X Men 1 and 2 and as Sir Leigh Teabing in The Da Vinci Code. He starred in the 2015 film Mr Holmes.

KEVIN BARTLETT born in Coffs Harbour, NSW - 1940 (84)

* Australian open wheel and touring car racing driver. He retired in 1990.

JESSIE COLTER (Miriam Johnson) born in Phoenix, Arizona - 1943 (81)

- * American country singer. She had her biggest hit in Australia in 1975 with I'm Not Lisa.
- * She married Waylon Jennings. They remained together until Jennings's death in 2002.

FRANK OZ (Frank Oznowicz) born in Hereford, England - 1944 (80)

* English puppeteer and film director. He's the voice of the Muppet characters Miss Piggy and Fozzie Bear as well as Yoda in the *Star Wars* movies. He directed the 1986 film re-make of *Little Shop Of Horrors*.

JACKI WEAVER (Jacqueline Weaver) born in Sydney, NSW -1947 (77)

* Australian actress. She received an Academy Award nomination for best supporting actress for her role in the Australian film Animal Kingdom (2010) and the 2012 US film Silver Linings Playbook (playing Robert DeNiro's wife). She currently appears in the US series Hello Tomorrow. Her recent films include Father Stu (2022) and Poms (2019) - a film about a group of women from a retirement community who decide to start a cheerleading group. Her Australian credits include The Removalists ('75), Picnic At Hanging Rock ('75), Caddie ('76) and Cosi ('96).

* She appeared in the US TV program *Blunt Talk*. It ran for only 20 episodes.

PAUL WELLER (John Weller) born in Surrey, England - 1958 (66)

- * English vocalist and guitarist. His band The Jam had four No 1 hits in England but only one major hit in Australia with A Town Called Malice ('82). In 1983 Weller and keyboardist Mick Talbot formed Style Council. Their Australian hits include You're The Best Thing ('84), Shout To The Top ('84) and Walls Come Tumbling Down ('85). They broke up in 1990.
- * His 1996 solo album *Stanley Rd* made No 1 first week of release in England.

MIKE MYERS born in Ontario, Canada - 1963 (61)

* Canadian actor and writer. He is best known for playing Austin Powers, Dr Evil and other characters in the series of *Austin Powers* movies. Also starred as Wayne in *Wayne's World* (and sequel) and *The Cat In The Hat* (2004). He provides the voice of Shrek in *Shrek* (2001) and the sequels that followed.

ANNE HECHE born in Aurora, Ohio - 1969. (Died aged 53 - 2022)

- * US actress. Her films include Six Days Seven Nights ('98) with Harrison Ford and Wag The Dog ('97). She was also in the TV soapie Another World ('87-'91).
- * On August 5, 2022, she was critically injured when she crashed her car into a house at high speed. She died in hospital on August 11, 2022, at the age of 53.

JAMIE KENNEDY born in Upper Darby, Pennsylvania - 1970 (54)

* US actor and comedian. He's the writer, producer and star of the TV program *The Jamie Kennedy Experiment*. He also appeared in TV's *Ghost Whisperer*. His films include: *Three Kings, Bowfinger* and *Enemy Of The State*.

TONY RONALDSON (Anthony Ronaldson) born in Adelaide, South Australia - 1972 (52)

Australian basketball player. Known as "The Bear", Ronaldson played for the Fastside Spectres, South East Melbourne Magic, Victoria Titans, Perth Wildcats and New Zealand Breakers. He played in seven NBL Grand Final series and won two championships, both with the Magic in 1992 and 1996. He also represented Australia at the 1996 and 2004 Olympic Games.

CILLIAN MURPHY born in Cork, Ireland - 1976 (48)

* Irish actor. He starred in the 2023 Christopher Nolan film Oppenheimer and this role won him the Academy Award for Best Actor. He began his collaboration with Nolan in 2005, playing the Scarecrow in The Dark Knight trilogy (2005–2012) as well as appearing in Inception (2010) and Dunkirk (2017). He starred as Tommy Shelby in TV drama series Peaky Blinders (2013–2022).

JOE KING born in Denver, Colorado - 1980 (44)

* US guitarist, backing vocalist, songwriter and co-founder of the band The Fray. Their 2009 single *You Found Me* became the band's first song to reach No 1 in Australia. It was also the most played song on Australian radio in 2009.

LUKE BALL born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1984 (40)

* AFL player. From 2003 to 2009 he played for St Kilda and was their captain in 2006 and co-captain in 2007. He joined Collingwood in 2010 and played in their premiership team in that same year when they beat St Kilda.

* His older brother Matthew played for Hawthorn.

SAMANTHA HEATHWOOD born in - 1985 (39)

* Australian TV news presenter and journalist. She is currently the presenter for the 6pm weekends and 4pm Thurs/Fri, and a senior reporter for Seven News Queensland. Prior to that she was with Nine News for 9 years.

Events

HMS PINAFORE, Gilbert & Sullivan's first successful operetta, opened at Opera Comique in London - 1878.

MIDNIGHT COWBOY movie premiered in New York - 1969.

* It won the Academy Award for best film of 1969. Nilsson sang the theme song *Everybody's Talkin'*.

MIKE OLDFIELD's debut album *Tubular Bells* was released - 1973.

STAR WARS, directed by George Lucas, premiered in US - 1977.

* Title now is Star Wars: Episode VI – Return Of The Jedi.

DANIEL GOODWIN, dressed as Spiderman, scaled the outside of Chicago's Sears Tower in 7 hours - 1981.

YOU AM I became the first local band to chalk up three straight No 1 albums in Australia when #4 *Record* went to No 1 - 1998.

Inaugural **JETSTAR** flight (JQ371) took off from Newcastle to Melbourne - 2004.

GRAHAM KENNEDY, Australian TV/radio host and actor, died aged 71 in Bowral, NSW - 2005.

PERTH recorded its coldest May night in 98 years with the temperature dropping to 1.3 C at 7am - 2012.

HARVEY WEINSTEIN, US film producer, was charged with rape, a criminal sex act, sex abuse and sexual misconduct for incidents involving two separate women - 2018.

* He was sentenced to 23 years in prison. By October 2017, more than 80 women had made allegations against Weinstein.

GEORGE FLOYD, an African American man, died after an officer with the Minneapolis Police Department, had pressed his knee to Floyd's neck for almost nine minutes while Floyd was handcuffed face down on the ground - 2020.

* During the last three minutes of that nine minutes, Floyd was motionless. Three more officers further restricted his body movement and prevented onlookers from intervening.

JOY McKEAN, Australian country singer and widow of Slim Dusty, died aged 93 - 2023.



Sunday 26th May 2024 National Sorry Day

Births

JOHN WAYNE (Marion Morrison) born in Winterset, Iowa - 1907. (Died aged 72 - 1979)

* American actor known as 'Duke.' One of his most successful non-western roles was in *The Quiet Man* ('52). His other movies include *Rio Bravo, The Searchers, True Grit, North To Alaska* and *She Wore A Yellow Ribbon*. According to yearly surveys he is still one of America's most popular actors.

LEVON HELM (Mark Lavon Helm) born in Elaine, Arkansas - 1940. (Died aged 71 - 2012)

* US musician and actor. He was a drummer/vocalist with The Band and also appeared in more than a dozen films and played Loretta Lyn's father in *Coal Miner's Daughter*. He said the character in Elton John's song *Levon* was named after him.

ERNIE CARROLL born in Geelong, Victoria - 1929. (Died aged 92 - 2022)

- * Australian puppeteer. Creative force behind the character Ossie Ostrich. He retired at the end of 1994 but returned to *Hey Hey It's Saturday* when the show was revived in 2010. He died on March 30, 2022.
- * He joined Melbourne television station GTV-9 in its first active year, 1956, as a producer for children's television. He worked on *The Tarax Show* both on screen and as a producer. He created the character of the 'squeaky-voiced moppet' Joybelle and also played the scruffy Professor Ratbaggy.

STEVIE NICKS (Stephanie Nicks) born in Phoenix, Arizona - 1948 (76)

- * US vocalist. She joined Fleetwood Mac with her then-boyfriend Lindsey Buckingham in 1975. The group then went on to experience their biggest hit success particularly with their album *Rumours*. She wrote their hits *Dreams* and *Sara*. Nicks left the band in 1991 but rejoined in 1997.
- * In 1986 she had two solo hits with I Can't Wait and Talk To Me. She also had a top 10 hit with Stop Draggin' My Heart Around ('81) recorded with Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers.

DEAN LUKIN born in Sydney, NSW - 1960 (64)

* Australian Olympic weight lifter. He was the first Australian to win a weightlifting gold medal which he achieved at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.

BOBCAT GOLDTHWAIT (Robert Goldthwait) born in Syracuse, New York - 1962 (62)

* US comedian. He appeared in three *Police Academy* movies playing the role of Zed.

LENNY KRAVITZ born in New York City, New York - 1964 (60)

- * US singer and musician. His hits include It Ain't Over 'Til It's Over (91), Are You Gonna Go My Way ('93), Believe ('93) and Fly Away ('99).
- * He plays Cinna in the *Hunger Games* movies and also can be seen in the 2013 film *The Butler*.

HELENA BONHAM CARTER born in London, England - 1966 (58)

- * British actress. The long time girlfriend of director Tim Burton has featured in several of his films including *Alice In Wonderland* (2010). Her other films include *A Room With A View, Howard's End, Planet Of The Apes, Oceans 8,* and the Harry Potter movies playing Bellatrix Lestrange.
- * She starred in two *Enola Holmes* movies.

KING FREDERIK X OF DENMARK

(Frederik Christian) born in Copenhagen, Denmark - 1968 (56) * Formerly the Crown Prince of Denmark, he is the eldest son of Queen Margrethe II and her late husband, Prince Consort Henrik. He acceded to the throne following his mother's abdication on 14 January 2024.

* In 2004 he married Tasmanian girl Mary Donaldson. She is now the Queen of Denmark.

LAURYN HILL born in South Orange, New Jersey - 1975 (49)

* US singer/actress. The former Fugees vocalist was the big winner at the 1999 Grammy Awards winning five - the most that a female performer has won in one evening. Her solo album *The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill* (1998) was a best seller making No 1 in America. She's only released two albums - and one is a live album.

STEPHEN CURRY born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1976 (48)

* Australian comedian and actor. His TV credits include *The Secret*

His TV credits include *The Secret Life Of Us, The King* (playing Graham Kennedy), *Hiding* and *The Time Of Our Lives.* He played jockey Damien Oliver in the 2011 movie *The Cup* and appeared in *Thor: Love And Thunder* (2022)

ISAAC SLADE born in Boulder, Colorado - 1981 (43)

* US singer and musician. He's the lead vocalist, main songwriter, pianist and co-founder of the band The Fray. Their 2009 single *You Found Me* became the band's first song to reach No 1 in Australia. It was also the most played song on Australian radio in 2009.

JOSH THOMAS born in Brisbane, Queensland - 1987 (37)

- * Australian comedian. He received his start in comedy when in 2005 he became the youngest ever winner of the Melbourne International Comedy Festival's Raw Comedy Competition at the age of 17. He was the Generation Y team captain on the TV program Talkin' 'Bout Your Generation.
- * He was diagnosed with ADHD at the age of 28. In 2021, he revealed that he is also autistic.

JOEL SELWOOD born in Bendigo, Victoria - 1988 (36)

- * AFL footballer. A former captain of the Geelong Football Club, in April 2022 he became the longest serving VFL/AFL captain in history. Selwood played in four of the Cats premiership teams including their 2022 win and then retired after playing 355 games. In 2024 the Joel Selwood Stand was officially opened at Kardinia Park Geelong the Cats home football ground.
- * His brother Scott Selwood played with the Eagles as well as Geelong.

Events

LE MANS 24-HOUR CAR RACE was held for the first time - 1923.

US singer **FRANKIE LAINE** (born Frank Lo Vecchio) and his partner Ruth Smith commenced a dance marathon which lasted till October 18 - a total of 3,501 hours! - 1932.

JOHN LENNON and wife **YOKO** began their eight day bed-in for peace in Montreal - 1969.

* On the seventh day of their bed-in John, Yoko and a handful of friends known as the Plastic Ono Band, recorded *Give Peace A Chance* in their hotel room. **DON McLEAN** recorded the hit song *American Pie* - 1971.

- * It was written as a finale to his stage performances. The song was the culmination of ideas gathered over ten years.
- * Madonna had a dance version which made No 1 in 2000.

One thousand people were treated by first aid workers at a **DAVID CASSIDY** concert at London's White City Stadium - 1974.

* Most of the casualities recovered but tragically 14-year-old Bernadette Whelan died from heart failure four days later.

EVEL KNIEVEL suffered serious spinal injuries in Britain when his car crashed, attempting to leap 13 buses - 1975.

US RADIO STATIONS nationwide had 30 seconds of silence to dramatise the medium's importance - 1979.

ROBERT WAGNER married **JILL ST JOHN** - 1990.

* They had been together for eight years. It was the fourth marriage for St. John and third for Wagner (who was previously married to Natalie Wood).

MICHAEL JACKSON married LISA MARIE PRESLEY - 1994.

- * They separated in December 1995. Their wedding took place 20 days after Lisa-Marie's divorce to her first husband Danny Keough. They were married by a judge in the Dominican Republic.
- * On their honeymoon they were accompanied by 47 friends, a dance troupe, five bodyguards and 2,655 cuddly toys.

KERRY PACKER supposedly won \$US20 million in a single night at blackjack tables at the MGM Grand Casino - 1995.

PAUL LENNON resigned as Premier of Tasmania and was replaced by **DAVID BARTLETT** - 2008.

First **3-D SPORTS EVENT** on Australian television was the rugby league State Of Origin game - 2010.

MECO (born Domenico Monardo), American record producer and musician, died aged 83 - 2023.

* He is best known for his 1977 disco version of the *Star Wars* theme from his album *Star Wars* and *Other Galactic Funk*; both the single and album were certified platinum in the US.

Monday 27th May 2024

Births

VINCENT PRICE born in Missouri - 1911. (Died aged 82 - 1994)

- * American actor. He was best known for his horror movie roles and starred House of Wax ('51), The Fly ('58), The Fall of the House of Usher ('61) and The Abominable Dr. Phibes ('71). He also had a small role in the 1991 film Edward Scissorhands.
- * He provided the narration on Michael Jackson's hit *Thriller*.

SIR CHRISTOPHER LEE born in London, England - 1922. (Died aged 93 - 2015)

* English actor. Lee appeared in about 223 films and is best known for playing Dracula. At the age of 90 he appeared in the 2011 Oscar winning film *Hugo*. He played Saruman The White in *Fellowship Of The Ring* (2001) and *The Two Towers* (2002).

HENRY KISSINGER (Heinz Kissinger) born in Germany – 1923. (Died aged 100 - 2023)

* US diplomat and politician. Former US Secretary of State and adviser to President Nixon. For his actions negotiating a ceasefire in Vietnam, Kissinger received the 1973 Nobel Peace Prize under controversial circumstances.

LOU GOSSETT JR born in Brooklyn, New York - 1936. (Died aged 87 -2024)

* US actor. He won a Best Supporting Actor Oscar for his performance in *An Officer And A Gentleman* ('81). He died in 2024.

CILLA BLACK (Priscilla White) born in Liverpool, England - 1943. (Died aged 72 - 2015)

* British singer and TV host. Her '60s hits include - You're My World, It's For You, Alfie, Step Inside Love and Conversations. She became one of the UK's highest paid TV personalities and hosted the game shows Blind Date (1985-2003) and Surprise, Surprise.

MARTY KRISTIAN (Martins Vanags) born in Germany - 1947 (77)

* Male singer with the New Seekers. Some of their biggest hits from 1970-'74 were What Have They Done To My Song Ma ('70), I'd Like To Teach The World To Sing ('72) and You Won't Find Another Fool Like Me ('74).

LYNNE HAMILTON born in Lancashire, England - 1949 (75)

* Australian singer. She had a top 10 hit in 1979 with *On The Inside* - theme to the series *Prisoner*. In 1989 it became a huge hit in the UK reaching No 3. For over 30 years she's been in full-time Christian ministry.

PAULINE HANSON (Pauline Seccomb) born in Brisbane, Queensland - 1954 (70)

- * Australian politician. She is currently a Senator representing Queensland in the Parliament of Australia. Hanson is the founder of the One Nation political party (which she launched in 1997) and Pauline's United Australia Party (launched in 2007).
- * She appeared as a contestant in the 2004 TV program *Dancing With The Stars*.
- * She is twice divorced, marrying her first husband, a Polish immigrant, at the age of 17.

FIONA MacDONALD born in Queensland - 1957 (67)

* Brisbane TV presenter. She's the younger sister of Jacki MacDonald. Her TV credits include the '80s TV programs Look Who's Talking, In Brisbane Today and It's A Knockout.

NEIL FINN born in Te Awamutu, New Zealand - 1958 (66)

- * NZ singer, songwriter and guitarist. Finn is best known as the founder of the group Crowded House. Their self-titled debut album became an international success with the singles *Don't Dream It's Over* and *Something So Strong* both becoming top 10 hits in the US. Prior to Crowded House, Neil played with his brother Tim in Split Enz. He wrote their biggest hit *I Got You* (1980).
- * On 9 April 2018, it was announced that Finn would be joining Fleetwood Mac replacing Lindsey Buckingham.
- * His 1998 solo debut album *Try Whistling This* made No 1 on the Australian album charts.

ADAM THOMPSON born in Shepparton, Victoria - 1964 (60)

* Lead singer for Australian band Chocolate Starfish. Their hits include *You're So Vain* ('93), *Mountain* ('94) and *4-Letter Word* ('94).

PAT CASH (Patrick Cash) born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1965 (59)

* Australian tennis player. In 1987 he became the first Australian since 1971 to win the Men's Championship at Wimbledon. He was runner up at the Australian Open in 1987 and 1988.

TODD BRIDGES born in San Francisco, California - 1965 (59)

* American actor. He played Willis Jackson in the TV series Diff'rent Strokes ('78-'86) and had a recurring role as Monk on the sitcom Everybody Hates Chris.

JOSEPH FIENNES born in Salisbury, England - 1970 (54)

* English actor and brother of Ralph Fiennes. His movies include Shakespeare In Love ('98), The Merchant Of Venice (2004), Luther (2005) and Risen (2016). He was also the star of the TV series FlashForward and appears in The Handmaid's Tale.

WAYNE CAREY born in Wagga Wagga, NSW - 1971 (53)

* Australian Rules footballer. The former captain of the Kangaroos AFL club led them in their 1996 and 1999 premierships. He kicked a club record 671 goals for North Melbourne. Carey worked as a Seven football commentator and as a *Talking Footy* panellist.

JAMIE OLIVER born in Essex, England - 1975 (49)

* English chef and TV presenter. His TV programs include *The Naked Chef, Oliver's Twist, Jamie's Kitchen.* and *Jamie's Dream School.* In recent years he's been involved in a global campaign for better food education.

MICHAEL HUSSEY born Morley, WA - 1975 (49)

* Australian cricketer. Known as 'Mr Cricket', he made his debut for Australia in Perth in 2004. He's also played for the Perth Scorchers and the Chennai Super Kings. He's now a commentator on FOX.

DAISY PEARCE born in Bright, Victoria - 1988 (36)

* Australian Rules footballer. She served as Melbourne captain in the AFLW and took them to their first premiership. She's now the coach of the West Coast Eagles in the AFLW and a football commentator on Channel 7.

CHRIS COLFER born in Fresno, California - 1990 (34)

* US actor and singer. He is best known for his portrayal of Kurt Hummel on the TV program *Glee*.

Events

GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE was opened to traffic in San Francisco - 1937.

JOHNNY O'KEEFE recorded his first disc *You Hit The Wrong Note Billy Goat* - 1957.

* The song was sent to him by Bill Haley. It was the last 78 R.P.M. to be released on Festival Records.

THE CRICKETS released their first single *That'll Be The Day* - 1957.

* The song was written by Buddy Holly and the inspiration for the song title was a line used by John Wayne in his film *The Searchers*. It became the only No 1 hit in the US for Holly and his band The Crickets.

CAVERN CLUB in Liverpool was pulled down - 1973.

* In 1984 a new Cavern re-opened at the same address. It was rebuilt using many of the original bricks.

PETER SNYMAN (South Africa) ended 50 days in a glass case with twenty-four of the world's most poisonous snakes, which included black mambas and deadly cobras. He left the case unharmed - 1979.

TINY TIM sang non-stop for 3 hours, 11 minutes and 30 seconds at Brighton, England - 1988.

* He sang over 120 songs and established a world record.

THE EAGLES reunited and commenced their *Hell Freezes Over Tour* - 1994.

CHRISTOPHER REEVE, US actor, became a quadriplegic due to a horse riding accident in Virginia - 1995.

* He was thrown from the horse during a jumping event. The injuries left him paralysed from the neck down.

BRIGETTE MUIR became the first Australian woman to climb Mt Everest - 1997.

* It was her fourth attempt.

KIM KARDASHIAN and KANYE WEST's wedding kiss photo officially broke the Instagram record, with 1.93 million people clicking on the image - 2014.

* This record has now been beaten.

WILL POWER (Australia) won the 102nd running of the Indianapolis 500, his third win of the event - 2018.

Tuesday 28th May 2024

Births

CARROLL BAKER born in Johnstown, Pennsylvania - 1931 (93)

* US actress. Her films include Giant ('56), Baby Doll ('56), The Carpetbaggers ('64), Harlow ('65) and The Game ('97).

GLADYS KNIGHT born in Atlanta, Georgia - 1944 (80)

- * American singer. Gladys Knight & the Pips consisted of Gladys, her brother and two cousins. They began their recording career in 1961. They had numerous hit songs in the US but only a few in Australia. Their better known songs are the '70s hits Midnight Train To Georgia, I Feel A Song and So Sad The Song.
- * Gladys Knight recently toured Australia on her Farewell Tour

JOHN FOGERTY born in Berkeley, California - 1945 (79)

- * Lead singer/vocalist/songwriter for the 4-man US band Creedence Clearwater Revival. CCR had several double-sided hits in Australia beginning in 1969 with Proud Mary. Their final hit came in 1972 when as a trio they recorded Someday Never Comes. Their best selling album was Cosmo's Factory. John had two solo hits in 1985 with The Old Man Down The Road and Rock and Roll Girls. In 1973 he recorded Jambalaya under the name of the Blue Ridge Rangers.
- * His last charting album was in 2013 with *Wrote A Song For Everyone*. It made No 6 in Australia.

ROLAND GIFT born in Yorkshire, England - 1961 (63)

* Lead vocalist for the British trio Fine Young Cannibals. Their hit *She Drives Me Crazy* made No 1 on the Australian charts in 1989. Their other hits include *Johnny Come Home* ('85), *Blue* ('86), a revival of the Elvis Presley hit *Suspicious Minds* ('86) and *Good Thing* ('89).

JEFF FENECH born in Sydney, NSW - 1964 (60)

- * Australian boxer. Known as the "Marrickville Mauler", the former IBC bantamweight champion, WBC super bantamweight champion and WBC featherweight champion ended his career winning 28 fights, lost three and had one draw.
- * In 2020 trained Mike Tyson.

KYLIE MINOGUE born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1968 (56)

- * Australian singer and actress. She is the highest-selling female Australian artist of all time. Her 2023 album *Tension* debuted at No 1 in Australia and UK. It is her 9th No 1 album in the UK. Her 4th consecutive No 1 in Australia. She is the first woman to top the UK album chart in each of five consecutive decades. In Australia she's also had a record 10 No 1 singles. It began with *Locomotion* in 1987 and *2 Hearts* in 2007 was her 10th No 1.
- * She is still unmarried. She became engaged to UK actor Joshua Sasse in 2016 but the relationship ended in 2017.
- * She played Charlene Mitchell in *Neighbours* ('86-'88) but quit the series to concentrate on a music career which began with the 1987 hit *Locomotion*.
- * Kylie and many other stars who began their careers on *Neighbours* returned to the program to film special cameo appearances as part of the finale episode which aired in July 2022.
- * She was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2005 and had to cancel her *Showgirl: Greatest Hits* tour. It resumed in 2006.

COLBIE CAILLAT born in Newbury Park, California - 1985 (39)

* US singer/songwriter. Caillat (pronounced: cal-lay) made No 1 in 2008 in Australia and US with her single *Bubbly*.

CAREY MULLIGAN born in London, England - 1985 (39)

* UK actress. She had the lead role as Jenny in the 2009 film *An Education*. Her other films include *Pride & Prejudice, Public Enemies, The Great Gatsby* and *Promising Young Woman*.

CAMERON BOYCE born in Los Angeles, California - 1999. (Died aged 20 - 2019)

* American actor. After making his first acting appearance in a *Panic!* At the Disco music video, he made his film debut in Mirrors in 2008. Boyce then went on to star as Luke Ross in Jessie from 2011 to 2015. He appeared in the feature films Eagle Eye, Grown Ups, and Grown Ups 2. On July 6, 2019, Boyce died at the age of 20 due to complications of epilepsy.

Events

First **INDOOR SWIMMING POOL** opened in London, England - 1742.

RAGGEDY ANN DOLL was patented by American writer John B Gruelle - 1915.

Australia's first **GREYHOUND TRACK MEETING** was held at Epping Racecourse (later called Harold Park) in Sydney - 1927.

THE GOON SHOW (then called *The Crazy People*) began on BBC radio - 1951.

* It starred Peter Sellers, Spike Milligan, Harry Secombe and Michael Bentine. The scripts were penned by Spike Milligan.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL was founded by Peter Benenson in London - 1961.

FRANCIS CHICHESTER completed his 47,500km voyage around the world in his yacht Gypsy Moth IV, arriving back at Plymouth, England - 1967.

AUDIE MURPHY, US actor/W W II hero, died aged 45 in a plane crash - 1971.

EURYTHMICS released their first single *Never Gonna Cry Again* - 1981.

* It was a flop, so too were their next three singles. They finally made it big with *Love Is A Stranger* ('82).

FRANK MITCHELL, 15, of Chichester, England successfully balanced 15 plastic bottles of water (each holding 1.5 litres of water) on top of each other - 1982.

ERIC MORECAMBE of the British comedy team Morecambe & (Ernie) Wise, died aged 58 - 1984.

- * The Morecambe and Wise partnership lasted from 1941 until Morecambe's death in 1984.
- * His widow Joan died aged 97 in 2023.

DERRYN HINCH was sentenced to six weeks jail and a \$25,000 fine after he broadcast on 3AW Melbourne the name of a Catholic priest charged with sex offences - 1986.

MATHIAS RUST, 19-year-old West German pilot, landed his Cessna aircraft in Moscow's Red Square -1987.

* He was arrested and sentenced to six months in a Soviet prison.

PHIL HARTMAN, 49-year-old star of the TV program, *News Radio*, was shot dead by his wife - 1998.

* His wife then killed herself as police carried their pyjamaclad children from their house. Hartman was the seventh member of the cast of TV's Saturday Night Live to die at a young age.

HEAVY SNOW fell during the rugby league match in Canberra between the Canberra Raiders and Wests Tigers - 2000.

* Some players suffered frostbite.

THE EASYBEATS' hit *Friday On My Mind* was named by APRA as Australia's best song of the past 75 years - 2001.

JIMMY BARNES declared that he had quit his 30 year addiction to booze and cocaine - 2002.

Governor General **PETER HOLLINGWORTH** announced his resignation following criticism of his mishandling of abuse allegations - 2003.

* He became only the 3rd Governor-General to resign in over 100 years of Federation. (John Hope resigned in 1902 after failing to have his pay increased to his satisfaction.)

SKYCAM (wire suspended camera) was first used in Australia by Channel 9 during the Essendon v Fremantle game at Telstra Dome - 2004.

SAM NEWMAN was ordered by Channel 9 management to take an extended break from *The Footy Show* and to 'recover and convalesce' from two major operations - 2008.

* Newman had angered some AFL executives and a group of women actively involved in the top levels of football with his on air comments and actions.

GARY COLEMAN, US child star of TV sit-com *Diff'rent Strokes* (1978-'86), died aged 42 of a brain haemorrhage - 2010

iPADS went on sale in Australia - 2010.

ANALOGUE TV was turned off in Brishane - 2013.

CORNELIA FRANCES, the six-time Logie nominee best known for playing the villain, on TV shows like *The Young Doctors, Sons and Daughters, Home and Away* and hosting *The Weakest Link,* died aged 77 from cancer - 2018.

Wednesday 29th May 2024

Births

BOB HOPE (Leslie Hope) born in Eltham, England - 1903. (Died aged 100 - 2003)

* American comedian and actor. His film popularity came with the series of 'Road' pictures with Bing Crosby and Dorothy Lamour. The first was *Road to Singapore* in 1940 and the final was *Road To Hong Kong* in 1962. He died aged 100 in 2003. His wife Dolores died aged 102 in 2011.

JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY born in Brookline, Massachusetts -1917. (Died aged 45 -1963)

- * America's 35th President. He became America's youngest President aged 43 in 1961. He was assassinated in 1963. His brother Robert also lost his life to an assassin in 1968.
- * His 1963 assassination was the subject of the 1991 Oliver Stone film *JFK*. According to the movie version Kennedy's death was a conspiracy and Lee Harvey Oswald was not the lone gunman.

PETE SMITH born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1939 (85)

* Australian radio host and voice over announcer. From 1980-2001 he was the voice-over announcer on *Sale Of The Century*. He's also well known for his appearances on *IMT*, *The Ernie Sigley Show* and as an announcer on the *Martin Molloy* radio programs.

HELMUT BERGER (Helmut Steinberger) born in Austria - 1944. (Died aged 78 - 2023)

* Austrian actor. Some of his best known films are *The Damned* ('69), *Dorian Gray* ('70) and *The Godfather III* ('90). He played in nine episodes of the soap opera *Dynasty* and played a Vatican accountant who meets a sticky end in *The Godfather Part III* (1990). He has also starred in several European movies. He died May 18, 2003.

GARY BROOKER born in London, England - 1945. (Died aged 76 - 2022)

* English vocalist/keyboard player with Procol Harum. He co-wrote their 1967 hit *Whiter Shade Of Pale* with Keith Reid (who died in 2023). Their second best selling single was *Conquistador* in 1972.

FRANCIS ROSSI born in London, England - 1949 (75)

- * Guitarist/vocalist with Status Quo. Rossi is the only remaining original member since Rick Parfitt died aged 68 in December 2016. Status Quo's first hit was one of his songs titled *Pictures of Matchstick Men* ('68). Their other chart hits include: *Down Down, Whatever You Want, Wild Side of Life* and *Rocking All Over The World.* The group have had a record 64 chart hits in the UK.
- * In March 2009 he finally cut off his distinctive trademark ponytail after 35 years.

BERNIE LYNCH born in Perth, WA - 1953 (71)

- * Australian musician. Lynch and his Grace Knight were the nucleus for the band the Eurogliders. Their biggest hit was *Heaven (Must Be There)* which reached No 2 on the Australian charts in 1984. In 1985 they had two top 10 hits with *We Will Together* and *Can't Wait To See You*.
- * He was only married for 11 months to Grace Knight although they were together for 5 years.

DANNY ELFMAN born in Amarillo, Texas - 1953 (71)

* US film composer. He was frontman for the band Oingo Boingo. They had hits in 1986 with Weird Science and Stay. He has composed music for several movies including Spider-Man, Beetlejuice, Batman, The Hulk, Avengers: Men In Black, Age Of Ultron and the theme music for TV's The Simpsons.

ANNETTE BENING born in Topeka, Kansas - 1958 (66)

* American actress and wife of actor Warren Beatty. Star of the 2004 movie *Being Julia*. Appeared with her husband in *Bugsy* ('91) and *Love Affair* ('94) and received an Oscar nomination for her role in the 1999 film *American Beauty*.

RUPERT EVERETT born in Norfolk, England - 1959 (65)

* English actor. His films include My Best Friend's Wedding, Shakespeare In Love, An Ideal Husband, Inspector Gadget and Miss Peregrini's Home For Peculiar Children. He also provided the voice of Prince Charming in the Shrek movies.

MELISSA ETHERIDGE born in Leavenworth, Kansas - 1961 (63)

* American singer. She had her debut hit in 1988 with *Bring Me Some Water*.

NOEL GALLAGHER born in

Manchester, England - 1967 (57) * UK musician and singer. Noel and his brother Liam were the nucleus for the band Oasis. Their hits include (What's The Story) Morning Glory, Wonderwall (No 1 in Australia) and Don't Look Back In Anger. He quit Oasis in 2009 after a fight with his brother. (They are still not on talking terms). He now

JO BETH TAYLOR (Joanne Guilfoyle) born in Perth. WA - 1971 (53)

heads the band the High Flying

Birds. They have had three No 1

hit albums in the UK.

- * Australian TV and radio presenter. She is best known for hosting Australia's Funniest Home Videos ('93-'97), Starstruck (2000) and being a part of the team on Hey Hey It's Saturday ('95-'97).
- * In 1991 she released her debut album 99 Reasons. The single of the same name made No 29 on the Australian chart.

MYF WARHURST (Myfanwy Warhurst) born in Portland, Victoria - 1974 (50)

- * Australian radio and TV presenter. A former Triple J announcer she is well known a team captain on the ABC TV program *Spicks and Specks*. She also provides voices on the children's program *Bluey*.
- * As of 2022 she has an ongoing role as Australia's commentator for the Eurovision Song Contest.

NATARSHA BELLING born in Mudgee, NSW - 1975 (49)

* Australian TV news presenter. Since 2009 she has presented *Ten Eyewitness News - First At Five: Weekends*. She was the co-host of Ten's breakfast show *Wake Up,* which began on 4 November 2013 and ended on 23 May 2014.

MELANIE BROWN born in West Yorkshire, England - 1975 (49)

- * English singer with the Spice Girls. She's known as Mel B or Scary Spice. In the UK the Spice Girls first six singles all made No 1. Their 1996 debut single Wannabe topped the charts in 22 countries including the UK, Australia and US. She had a solo hit in 1998 with I Want You Back.
- * She has been a judge on the Australian version of the TV talent program *The X Factor, The Voice Kids Australia* and a co-host of *Dancing With the Stars*.

Events

ESCALATOR trademark was registered by Otis Elevator Company in US - 1900.

First **POP-UP TOASTER** was patented by Charles Strite of Minnesota - 1919.

BING CROSBY recorded White Christmas for the first time - 1942.
* His 1947 re-recording became the best known version.

EDMUND HILARY of New Zealand and guide Tenzing Norgay became the first men to climb Mt. Everest - 1953.

\$5 notes were introduced for the first time in Australia - 1967.

SUE PRELL, 45, became the first woman in the world to hit two consecutive holes-in-one at Chatswood Golf Club - 1977.

CLIFF RICHARD recorded *We Don't Talk Anymore* - 1979.

DOMINIC O'BRIEN memorised a single pack of shuffled cards in a time of 55.62 seconds at Piccadilly, London - 1992.

JEFF BUCKLEY, US singer/songwriter, drowned aged 30 - 1997.

RENE RIVKIN was sentenced to 9 months periodic detention and fined \$30,000 - 2003.

COSTCO opened their first Queensland store - 2014.

* Costco opened their first Australian store at Docklands in Victoria in August 2009.

ALAN JONES, 2GB/4BC breakfast announcer, hosted his final breakfast program from his NSW Southern Highlands home - 2020.

BJ THOMAS, US singer, died aged 78 - 2021.

* He had his first hit in 1966 with Mama. His best seller in the 1970s was Another Somebody Done Somebody Wrong Song and in the 1980s, Whatever Happened To Old Fashioned Love. He also had a few best selling gospel albums including Home Where I Belong.

LESTER PIGGOTT, UK jockey, died aged 86 in Switzerland - 2022.

* He was one of the world's leading jockeys in Thoroughbred flat racing and was the British riding champion 11 times. He won the Derby nine times.

Thursday 30th May 2024

Births

MEL BLANC (Melvin Jerome Blanc) born in San Francisco, California -1908. (Died aged 81 - 1989)

* US cartoon voice. He voiced numerous cartoon characters including Bugs Bunny, Porky Pig, Daffy Duck, Sylvester, Tweetie Pie, Foghorn Leghorn and Road Runner.

BENNY GOODMAN (Steven Benjamin Goodman) born in Chicago, Illinois - 1909. (Died aged 77 - 1986)

* American jazz clarinettist and band leader known as 'The King of Swing'. Some of his best selling records were On A Slow Boat To China, Star Dust and I Found A New Baby.

STAN ROFE born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1933. (Died aged 69 - 2003)

* Melbourne radio announcer. "Stan The Man" was one of Melbourne's top rating disc jockeys during the '50s and '60s. He was heard on various stations including 3KZ, 3XY and 3UZ. He also was a regular guest on the TV music program *Uptight*.

PRO HART (Kevin Hart) born in Broken Hill, NSW - 1928. (Died aged 77 - 2006)

* Australian artist and sculptor. For 16 years he worked as a miner and because he was a bit of a know-it-all he earned the nickname 'Pro', short for professor. * His son David and daughter Julie are also artists. The Julie Hart Gallery is based in Williams St Broken Hill.

JILL PERRYMAN born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1933 (91)

* Australian stage singer and actress. She has starred in a number of stage musicals including Funny Girl, Hello Dolly, Side by Sondheim and Chicago.

* In 1979 she was awarded an

KEIR DULLEA born in Cleveland, Ohio - 1936 (88)

* American actor. He starred in the movies *The Hoodlum Priest* ('61), *David And Lisa* ('62) but is best known for playing Dave Bowman in *2001: A Space Odyssey* ('68).He was also in the sequel *2010.*

MICHAEL J POLLARD (Michael Pollack) born in New Jersey - 1939. (Died aged 80 - 2019)

* American actor. He received on Oscar nomination for his role in the 1967 movie *Bonnie and Clyde*.

JIM CONWAY born in Sydney, NSW - 1952 (72)

* Australian musician. He played harmonica and provided backing vocals in his band Jim Conway's Big Wheel. He's also is co-founder of the Captain Matchbox Whoopee Band that was led by his brother Mic Conway. Jim retired in 2014 due to ill health (MS).

COLM MEANEY born in Dublin, Ireland - 1953 (71)

* Irish actor. He played Miles O'Brien on Star Trek: The Next Generation and Deep Space Nine. He starred as Thomas C. Durant on Hell on Wheels (2011–2016).

JAKE "THE SNAKE" ROBERTS (Aurelian Smith, Jr.) born in Gainesville, Texas - 1955 (69)

* US wrestler. He is a secondgeneration professional wrestler and the son of former wrestler Aurelian "Grizzly" Smith.

MARIE FREDRIKSSON (Gun-Marie Fredriiksson) born in Sweden - 1958. (Died aged 61 - 2019)

* Female half of the Swedish duo Roxette. Their hits *The Look, It Must Have Been Love* and *Joyride* all made No 1 in Australia. Their other hits include *Listen To Your Heart* and *Fading Like A Flower*. She was diagnosed with a brain tumor in 2002, and died following a 17-year battle with cancer at the age of 61.

STEPHEN 'TIN TIN' DUFFY born in Birmingham, England - 1960 (64)

* English singer. He had a hit in Australia in 1985 with *Kiss Me*.

WYNONNA JUDD (Christina Ciminella) born in Ashland, Kentucky - 1964 (60)

- * US country singer. For 7 years she sang with her mother Naomi (who died in 2022) in the country music duo The Judds. They broke up as a duo in 1992. Actress Ashley Judd is her sister.
- * Wynonna adopted her stage name from the Oklahoma town of Wynonna. Judd is her mother's maiden name.

Events

JOAN OF ARC, aged 19, was burned at the stake in France - 1431.

* She had been accused of heresy and being a witch. In 1920 she was canonised as a Roman Catholic saint.

WILBUR WRIGHT, US aviation pioneer, died aged 45 of typhoid fever - 1912.

DARK TOWN STRUTTERS BALL jazz record was recorded by the Original Dixieland Jazz Band in New York City - 1917.

* It was popularised by the Original Dixieland Jazz Band. The song became a pop hit for Ted Mulry Gang in 1976.

INDIANAPOLIS 500 was held for the first time - 1911.

- * The first winner was Ray Harroun driving a Marmon "Wasp" at a speed of 74.59 mph. The Marmon "Wasp" is believed to have been the first automobile to make use of the rear view mirror.
- * The circuit was originally paved with bricks hence the still-used nickname The Brickyard. It was finally sealed in 1932.

CADBURY's DAIRY MILK CHOCOLATE was first produced in Tasmania at Claremont - 1928.

HEALESVILLE SANCTUARY opened in Melbourne as the Sir Colin Mackenzie Sanctuary for Australian Flora and Fauna - 1954.
* In July 1978 it was renamed Healesville Sanctuary.

MARGARET COURT (Australia) won her second French Open tennis title - 1964.

DOLLY PARTON, aged 20, married Carl Dean, aged 23, in a Baptist Church in Georgia - 1966.

- * They met in 1964 shortly after Parton, then 18, had moved to Nashville to try and make a career as a singer. Carl operated a road repair company. They renewed their vows in 2016. They have no children.
- * Dolly says "If we cheat we don't know it. So if we do cheat, it's very healthy for both of us. We understand about one another and just accept it." She also has said "I've had crushes on some very unusual men but Carl knows I'll always come home and I'm not having sex with these people I'm flirtin' and having fun."

EVEL KNIEVEL, seated on a Triumph motorcycle, jumped off a ramp at a speed of 128 kph, and cleared 16 automobiles standing in a row at the Ascot Speedway in California - 1967.

PETER WATSON, Australian singer with M.P.D. Ltd, died aged 27 following a long illness - 1972.

CLIFF RICHARD released his 100th single *The Best Of Me* in the UK - 1989.

* It became his 26th top three hit in England.

MIDNIGHT OIL performed on a flatbed truck in front of Exxon's New York offices to publicise the oil company's ecological abuses -

PAUL SIMON, 50, married his third wife, singer **EDIE BRICKELL**, 26 - 1992.

JIMMY BARNES' Mittagong mansion was sold at auction for \$1.4 million - 1994.

SARAH FERGUSON and **PRINCE ANDREW** were granted a divorce - 1996.

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE 2 had its Australian premiere in Sydney with Tom Cruise and his then wife Nicole Kidman in attendance -2000.

DIANA ROSS voluntarily entered a Malibu drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre - 2002.

MICKIE MOST, UK record producer, died aged 64 of cancer - 2003.

* He produced hits for The Animals, Hermans Hermits, Donovan, Kim Wilde, Lulu and Jeff Beck. He ran his own record label RAK in the 1970's.

DUSTIN FLETCHER, Essendon AFL footballer, played his 400th and final AFL game - 2015.

* He was 40 at the time and became the third player to become the third player in VFL/ AFL history to reach the milestone. (Brent Harvey became the 4th). This turned out to be Dustin's final game as he was injured and retired in that year.

OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN revealed her breast cancer had returned after 25 years - 2017.

R. KELLY, US singer, was charged with 11 new counts of sexual assault and abuse in Chicago - 2019.



Friday 31st May 2024 World No Tobacco Day

Births

CLINT EASTWOOD (Clinton Eastwood) born in San Francisco, California - 1930 (94)

- * US actor/director. His most recent film is *Cry Macho* released in October 2021. Prior to that was his 2018 feature *The Mule* that he also directed and starred in.
- * At 74 he became the oldest person to win the Academy Award for Best Director which he won for the 2004 film *Million Dollar Baby* which also won the Oscar for Best Picture.
- * He directed and produced the 2014 films *The Jersey Boys* and *American Sniper*.
- * He got his first break in the television series *Rawhide* ('59-'66) playing Rowdy Yates. Some of his other major films include the spaghetti western *Fistful of Dollars* plus sequels, the series of *Dirty Harry* films and the comedy *Every Which Way But Loose* plus the follow up *Any Which Way You Can*.

PETER YARROW born ir Manhattan, New York - 1938 (86)

- * US singer and musician. He was Peter of Peter, Paul and Mary fame. Their last single *Leavin'* On A Jet Plane (written by John Denver) turned out to be their biggest hit and their only No 1 hit in the US in 1969. (Puff The Magic Dragon and Blowin' In The Wind both peaked at No 2).
- * He co-wrote Mary MacGregor's 1977 hit *Torn Between Two Lovers*.

STEPHEN 'STEFAN' ACKERIE born in Lebanon - 1941 (83)

- * Australian hairdresser and founder of the Stefan hairdressing salons. In 1957, aged 16, he came out to Australia from Lebanon. In the early '60s he opened his first salon in South Rd Adelaide. His first Queensland salon opened in Longreach in 1966.
- * A Queensland number plate (Q1) owned by Stefan sold for \$5.6m at auction in January 2024. He bought it in the Great Plate auction in 1985.

SHARON GLESS born in Los Angeles, California - 1943 (81)

* American actress. She played Det. Chris Cagney in the '80s TV police drama series *Cagney & Lacey* and starred in the TV series *The Trials of Rosie O'Neill*. WAYNE DUNCAN born in Preston, Victoria - 1944. (Died aged 72 -2016)

* Australian musician. He is best known as the bass guitarist with Daddy Cool. Their biggest hits were Eagle Rock ('71) and Come Back Again ('71).

JOHN 'BONZO' BONHAM born in Worcestershire, England - 1948. (Died aged 32 - 1980)

* Drummer with Led Zeppelin. The group broke-up following his death which was caused by a heavy bout of drinking. His son Jason is a well known drummer and fronted his own band Bonham and has also played with Led Zeppelin.

TOM BERENGER (Thomas Moore) born in Chicago, Illinois - 1949 (75) * American actor. He can be seen in the '80s films - Platoon, Big Chill, Betrayed, Major League, Born On The Fourth Of July and Inception. He also starred in the series of Sniper films.

DAVID STERRY born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1954 (70)

* Australian singer, guitarist with Real Life. They had hit success in 1983 with Send Me An Angel and Catch Me I'm Falling.

TOMMY EMMANUEL born in Muswellbrook, NSW - 1955 (69)

* Australian guitarist. He's Australia's biggest selling instrumental recording artist. His hit albums include Dare To Be Different, Determination, and The Day Finger Pickers Took Over The World - with Chet Atkins. For many years he's been based in Nashville.

BROOKE SHIELDS born in New York City, New York - 1965 (59)

* American actress. She starred in the US TV sit-com Suddenly Susan. Her films include Pretty Baby ('78), Blue Lagoon ('79), Endless Love ('81) and Brenda Starr ('89).

TODD McKENNEY born in Perth, Western Australia - 1965 (59)

- * Australian entertainer. In 2019 he starred in *Barnum The Circus Musical*. He is well known for playing Peter Allen in the stage musical *The Boy From Oz*. He was a judge on the TV program *Dancing With The Stars*.
- * He played the role of Nathan in the film *Strictly Ballroom*.

MARK LIZOTTE (aka DIESEL) born in Rhode Island - 1966 (58)

* US-born guitarist/vocalist. His group Johnny Diesel and the Injectors had top 10 hits with Soul Revival and Cry In Shame. He went solo in 1991 and made No 1 in Australia with his debut solo album Hepfidelity. His biggest solo hit single is Tip Of My Tongue ('92). * He is married to Jep - sister-inlaw of Jimmy Barnes.

SARAH O'HARE born in London, England - 1972 (52)

- * British born Australian model and actress. She hosted the TV program Australia's Next Top Model and Everybody Dance Now. in the 2001 film Head Over Heels.
- * In 1999 she wed Lachlan Murdoch.

COLIN FARRELL born in Dublin, Ireland - 1976 (48)

* Irish actor. His films include Daredevil (2003), The Recruit (2003), Minority Report (2002), Hart's War (2002), Alexander (2004), The Way Back (2010, Dumbo (2019) and The Batman (2022).

LUKE ARNOLD born in Adelaide, SA - 1984 (40)

* Australian actor. He's best known for starring in the local TV program Black Sails. He's also appeared in programs such as McLeod's Daughters, Rush, Rescue: Special Ops and City Homicide and played Michael Hutchence in the TV miniseries INXS: Never Tear Us Apart.

JASON TAUMALOLO (Vaai Taumalolo) born in Auckland, New Zealand - 1993 (31)

* Australian rugby league player. He plays for the North Queensland Cowboys in the NRL. He played in their first premiership in 2015. He has also played for Tonga and New Zealand at international level.

NORMANI (Normani Hamilton) born in Atlanta, Georgia - 1996 (28)

* American singer and dancer. She is a former member of the girl group Fifth Harmony. In 2019 she combined with Sam Smith on the hit single *Dancing With A Stranger* which made No 6 in Australia. In 2018 she sang with Khalid on the hit *Love Lies* (No 3 in Australia).

IGA ŚWIĄTEK born in Warsaw, Poland - 2001 (23)

* Polish tennis player. She is currently ranked as the world No. 1 in women's singles by the WTA. She has won three French Opens and a US Open.

Events

BIG BEN (named after Sir Benjamin Hall) chimed for the first time in London - 1859.

TITANIC was launched before 100,000 onlookers in Belfast - 1911.

- * In keeping with the White Star Line's traditional policy, the ship was not formally named or christened with champagne. The ship was towed to a fitting-out berth where, over the course of the next year, her engines, funnels and superstructure were installed and her interior was fitted out.
- * MIllvina Dean, last survivor of the Titanic, died on this day aged 97 in 2009.

JOH BJELKE-PETERSEN, 41, married FLORENCE GILMOUR, 31, - 1952.

CHERMSIDE SHOPPING CENTRE opened in Brisbane - 1957.

* Australia's first drive-in shopping centre. It had its own car park and covered 28 acres. 15,000 attended the opening. Its opening marked one of the beginnings of American consumer culture in Australia.

JIM CLARK, Scottish racing driver, became the first non-US driver to win the Indianapolis 500 - 1965.

SEINFELD pilot episode went to air on US television (as *The Seinfeld Chronicles*) - 1990.

GINGER SPICE (Geri Halliwell) left the Spice Girls - 1998.

* She rejoined the group when they reunited in 2007.

SUE FEAR, aged 40, became the first Australian-born woman to scale Mt Everest - 2003.

* She died mountain climbing in 2006.

PEPPA PIG debuted on UK television - 2004.

* The British animated television series was directed and produced by Astley Baker Davies. It went on a hiatus for two years before repremiering in February 2015.

DANNY LA RUE, UK impersonator, died aged 81 - 2009.

* He wanted to call himself Danny Street but the name was already taken so he chose 'La Rue' — French for street.

CHRIS HANEY, Canadian cocreator of the 1980s board game Trivial Pursuit, died aged 59 - 2010.

2014

May

There have been further changes within the Fairfax Radio stations. Clark Forbes, Fairfax radio national content director, and 3AW/ Magic 1278 Melbourne acting general manager Rob Curtain as well as Sydney 2UE general manager Chris Parker have all been made redundant. 4BC/ Magic 1278 GM Anthony Frangi departed in late April.

Cat Lynch is joining **Amos Gill** as co-host on breakfast for **hit107** Adelaide. She replaces **Dani Pola** who left the show at the end of March.

After 40 years in radio and the past seven with the **Capital Radio Network, Don Dawkins** has announced his retirement finishing June 30 then relocating to Paynesville on the Gippsland Lakes in Victoria. Don received his training at the **3SA** radio school.

Graham Kemp retired from radio on Tuesday April 21. Since 2006 he's been the General Manager of RadioTAB. From 1986-1991 he was Program Manager of 4BC and from 1979-1982 GM of 4BK in a career lasting 54 years. (More on his career in next issue of Jocks' Journal).

Glenn Hartas has been appointed as the new Content Manager at 91.9 Fresh FM Gladstone. Glenn has spent the past fourteen months at Juice 1073 on the Gold Coast and prior to Juice he spent over three years at 96five Brisbane.

Rachel McLarnon, morning announcer and Music Director at SeaFM Sunshine Coast, has accepted the same role at NXFM Newcastle. Rachel commences on 18th May.

Ivan Green has finished up after many years as the General Manager of Christian station **Live FM** Townsville.

Jocks' Journal

Radio News from 10 Years Ago

Peter Maynard has resigned as General Manager for Nova 919 and FIVEaa in Adelaide. Peter will be returning to the Melbourne market for family reasons. Neil O'Reilly is now acting General Manager.

Longtime 2ST
Nowra announcer Murray
'Muz' Peters died on April 16.
He was 64. He also worked at
2NZ and 2RG and trained with
Max Rowley.

The Rev Dr Gordon Moyes, who hosted *Sunday Night Live* with Gordon Moyes on 2GB for around 18 years passed away aged 76 on Easter Sunday. He was a former Chairman of The Macquarie Radio Network.

Sam Thompson replaces Mal Lewis as Content Director for GOLD104.3 Melbourne. Mal Lewis resigned after seven with the ARN music station.

Wendy Saunders has been appointed Nova 96.9's new Music Director. Saunders was most recently Music Programmer at MTV Australia.

Steve Hirst is now General Manager with Hot91 and Zinc96 on the Sunshine Coast. He was previously with NOVA Entertainment in DAB+Syndication.

HOT FM Cairns announcer Elliott Lovejoy is moving to Canada to take up a new radio position. The co-host of the Illy & Elliott brekky show will be joining the team at 2day FM Niagara Falls, Canada at the end of May.

Jane Holmes is now back on Magic 1278 Melbourne co-hosting Magic 1278 Melbourne with John Blackman. PD Dave Ferguson is currently hosting drive with other positions yet to be finalised. Andrew McLaren, who hosted Overnights has also been filling in.

After 16 years, this time around at Ballarat's **3BA**, announcer **Mike Cooper** has decided to call it a day and has left. For many years he hosted the 'Ballarat Today' program.

Jimi Love, Light FM night time announcer, has left the Melbourne Christian community station. He's been with the station for 2 years.

Darwin announcer **Julia Christensen** has announced her retirement after almost 30 years on **ABC** Local Radio Northern Territory airwaves.

Angela Owens has left ABC Central West. The morning presenter is moving to Melbourne.

Jessica Scully, former Petersham TAFE Diploma student, has been appointed as breakfast host at NOW FM Moree.

Christian Zappa is the new Commercial Producer at Radio Canberra - 2CC, 2CA, KIX and MyCanberra Digital. Zappa comes from Now FM Moree.

Alexandra Spurway has been appointed Senior Producer at hit 104.1 2DayFM's The Dan & Maz Show. She previously worked on Channel 9's Today Show.

Mel Little replaces Johnny McKay on breakfast at Territory FM. With the recent retirement of Joe Miller, Jih Seymour returns to regular daytime radio for the first time in 9 years. Jih is also the station General Manager and has been with Territory FM for over 25 years.

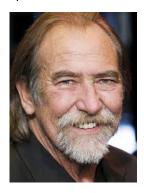
Rob McCasker left 3BA/Power FM Ballarat in April. He hosted the 3BA daytime program "Ballarat Today" and at one time was also a station Creative Writer.



Sarah McGilvray is the new Executive Producer of Merrick...and Australia. She has previously worked with Ray Hadley at 2GB, hit 104.1 2DayFM and more recently at Nova.

Alison MacDougall will join Central Victoria's Gold AM/FM team in a dual announcing and promotions role to cover breakfast while Bruce Lees is on long service leave.

Dave Brown a long-time sports caller with Fresh FM Bendigo has died aged 59 after a short battle with cancer. He started at Fresh FM in about 2000 alongside Barry Denner on their popular Monday night Footy Zone show.



Adelaide radio legend, **David** '**Daisy' Day** has passed away at the age of 63 after battling health issues. He is best known for his 30 years at **SAFM/Triple M** Adelaide and prior to that his time at **5KA**. He founded Adelaide's Australian Radio School. Day is the author of 'It's Our Music' a biography about the Adelaide music scene.

Brisbane voice over artist Jim Pilgrim has passed away aged 70. His radio career involved stints on 2CA, 2NX and at 2CC where he was the first drive announcer when it launched in October 1975. His last regular radio shift was on 4KQ. After leaving on air presenting he voiced thousands of radio and TV commercials and was a master at the 'hard sell' read.

More Radio News



After more than three decades as News Director After more After more than three decades as News Director of K rock and Bay 93.9 FM, of K rock and Bay 93.9 FM, Rob McLennan is taking up a new post at ARN, overseeing its newsrooms in regional Victoria,

South Australia and New South Wales. He was a part of the K Rock/Bay family for 36 years in total. His final day was Thursday March 28. When McLennan started his radio journey in Geelong, there was just the one station in town: 3GL in James Street. He was there for the name change to K rock and the acquisition of Bay 93.9, becoming News Director of the combined operation.

After two decades in Macquarie Park, **WSFM's Brendan Jones** and **Amanda Keller** have officially lifted off from ARN's new state-of-the-art studios in North Sydney, the final piece on the network's relocations. The duo were joined in studio by **Shannon Noll** performing his 2005 hit *Lift* to celebrate the move and mark the year Jonesy and Amanda started broadcasting together. This move follows the relocation of **Kyle & Jackie O** last month and **Ugly Phil** kicking things off for **WSFM** last week. ARN's entire Sydney business is now settled into the new premises across three floors of the purpose-built facilities at Coca-Cola Place.

Former **Star 102.7 FM** presenter **Dave Warner** has taken a new role outside radio after some time off after 20 years hosting breakfast. He'll combine his love of sports and talking as the events, marketing and communications manager for AFL Cairns.

Former AFL footballer **Ben Cousins** has signed an exclusive deal with a Perth breakfast radio program, expanding his media presence in his home state of Western Australia. Cousins is now making regular appearances on the **Pete and Kymba** Breakfast show on **Mix94.5** every Wednesday. The move, announced by **Southern Cross Austereo** adds to his media roles as a sports presenter for **7News** and his forthcoming appearance on the hit TV show *Dancing With the Stars*.



The radio husband and wife team of **Luke and Susie** have announced in song that their national radio show ended just prior to Easter. After 8 years and 2,478 episodes they say it's 'time for a change.' Their syndicated radio program was heard on many Christian radio stations throughout Australia. Luke

and Susie Holt have been married since 2003. They always had hopes of working together and for 8 years they have been presenting a national show as well as a podcast.

After 20 years in radio, **Andy Kay** is leaving the industry. Andy – Head of Audience Engagement at Melbourne's **Nova 100** – is taking on a new role as Partnerships Manager – Commercial & Media at Always Live. Always Live is a celebration of live contemporary music that was the brainchild of the late Michael Gudinski, and is now headed up by his son Matt (Source: Radio Today)

Jake Harvey will move from Coffs Harbour to Mackay & The Whitsundays to take on **Hit** mornings from Monday April 29.

ARN has announced changes to its daytime programming that will roll out across Australia's Eastern seaboard in April. The shift will see **KIIS FM** presenter **Gordie Waters** — well known for his role as host of **KIIS 1065 Sydney** weekdays — taking the reins as Workday announcer at **KIIS 101.1 101.1** in **Melbourne** starting April 5, followed by **KIIS 97.3** in **Brisbane** from April 8. This transition also means bidding farewell to **KIIS 97.3's Jess Miller**, regarded as a valued member of the KIIS family.

Terry Blacker, 101 FM Logan General Manager/presenter, has been presented with one of the 2024 Local Legends Award by Jim Chalmers, Federal Member for Rankin and the Federal Treasurer. It was a 'thank you' for his continued service to the local community. The Local Legends Awards are all about acknowledging and celebrating these efforts and this year marks the special 10 year anniversary of the awards.



Russell McEwan, former Queensland radio identity, has died. McEwan suffered the last couple of years from chronic health issues and passed away on 10th April 2024. He leaves behind his wife Jasmine, and children from a previous marriage. lan 'Bluey' George says: "Russ was one of the nicest blokes you ever want producing your ads and a pretty flash radio presenter

as well." He began in the industry in 1978 working 4LG, 4GC, 4AY and later 4WK and 4AK. It was at the time 4GR Toowoomba changed their format to Super Stereo. He says he "hopped on the bus to start what has been my greatest journey in radio." He did a few Mid Dawn shifts, Copy Writing, Producing and later Drive and filled in on Breakfast. In later years he worked at Stereo 10 as a copywriter/producer.



Ann-Maree Nolan, who worked for nearly three decades in radio and radio research across Austereo (now SCA), ARN, Nielsen Media and GfK, where she was Account Director for Radio, died on Good Friday 2024 after a long battle with cancer. She spoke on Linked In of her love on radio ratings day: "The adrenalin rush I get leading up to and

on survey day, all the stations have a story to tell if you listen."

Xtra Insights Radio Surveys

In the latest Port Macquarie **Xtra Insights** Survey the most listened to station was **Triple M Mid North Coast** with 28.7% (-3.1). Next came **Hit 102 Mid North Coast** with 22% (+0.5). The third most listened to station was **triple j** with 11.9% (-1.4).

In the latest Mount Gambier Xtra Insights survey the most listened to stations were: **SAFM Limestone Coast 96.1** with 31.7% (-7.3), followed by **ABC South East SA** with 20.6% (-1.2), then **Triple M Limestone Coast** with 18.6% (+9.3).

Hit 96.5 Geraldton was the most listened to station in the **Xtra Insights Geraldton** survey with 32.9 (+5.3). Next came **98.1 Triple M** with 26.5 (+0.5). **ABC Mid West and Wheatbelt** recorded 19.9% (-0.6).