



THE BEATLES



Timeline

1956	1960	1961	1962	1964	1966	1968	1970
John Lennon forms a skiffle band called The Quarrymen	The band change their name and perform as The Beatles	Epstein manages them after seeing them play The Cavern Club	Their first single Love Me Do is released and Ringo Star joins as the new drummer	They make a movie called 'A Hard Day's Night' and they tour America	'Revolver' and 'Sargent Pepper' albums recorded	'Hey Jude' single sells 6 million copies worldwide	'Let it Be' released and Paul McCartney leaves the band

Key Songs

Love Me Do	1962 - Their first single reaching #17 in the charts.
Please Please Me	1963 - A John Lennon song reaching #3 in the charts.
Can't Buy Me Love	1964 - A song about how buying things can't buy the real thing people want which is to be loved.
Hard Day's Night	1964 - A #1 selling single in both the U.S. and U.K. charts: the first time any artist had achieved this feat.
Help!	1965 - A cry for help from the Fab Four finding it hard to comprehend just how famous they had become.
Norwegian Wood	1965 - A song where George Harrison plays the sitar.
Paperback Writer	1966 - The song is in the form of a letter from an aspiring author addressed to a publisher.
Yesterday	1966 - A song about a broken relationship.
All You Need is Love	1967 - Inspired by the growing 'Peace' movement and a way to share their ideals of a world without war.
Helter Skelter	1968 - A guitar heavy rock song and a pre-cursor to metal music and guitar rock as we know it today.
Hey Jude	1968 - Paul McCartney wrote this song to Lennon's son Julian about his father and mother's divorce.

DID YOU KNOW?

The members of The Beatles were born in Liverpool in north west England. They have several songs named after places in Liverpool such as 'Penny Lane' and 'Strawberry Fields'. They toured all over the world but played The Cavern Club in the city of Liverpool over 275 times! It is now a fully restored, important music venue people like to visit to remind them of the band.

The Importance of The Beatles

Impact on Music and Culture

Much has been attributed to The Beatles and their enormous popularity over the years. It is thought that they stopped the dominance of American artists and brought a new wave of British music into the charts. They also helped make the 'album' rather than the 'single' more popular. They set trends for musical styles, fashions and the constant changing of their style and music allowed other musicians to do the same. In 2009, it was noted that they had sold 600 million records worldwide and were the best-selling musicians of all time.

The Peace Movement

Although they wrote 'All You Need is Love', it was 'Revolution' which was the band's first song that directly responded to world events. Lennon had been watching the violent events of the Vietnam War in 1968 and wanted to respond to the sad events unfolding. When John Lennon left the band, he continued writing anti-war songs.

Made Because of The Beatles

Many bands recording and playing today and in the past say that The Beatles were one of their major influences:

- Paul Weller
- Oasis
- The Bee Gees
- Joni Mitchell
- Bruce Springsteen
- Lady Gaga

The Fab Four

John Lennon

Originally formed The Quarrymen and then they changed their name to The Beatles. He wrote and helped write many Beatles songs and was both a guitarist and a piano player. After they split up as a band in 1970, he continued his career as a solo artist, achieving further success until he was sadly shot and killed in 1980.

Paul McCartney

Bass guitarist and singer-songwriter who wrote or helped write many of The Beatles songs. He still performs today at the age of 77.

George Harrison

Known as 'the quiet Beatle', George was well-known for embracing Indian culture and playing Indian instruments (such as the sitar). He died in 2001 at the age of 58.

Ringo Starr

Originally named Richard Starkey, Ringo, as he was later known as, replaced Pete Best in 1962 to become one of the most famous drummers of all time. He is 79 years old and is still releasing albums and performing songs.