However, the year's major soul discovery were the Jackson Five, who, not surprisingly, appeared on the Tamla Motown label. The sons of a former musician, the five were brothers who had already made several obscure singles before being spotted by Diana Ross at a charity show. Ms. Ross, now a solo singer and the star of the newly founded Motown Picture Corporation, lent her advice, encouragement and patronage and within one year, they had hit the top of the charts with four singles: *I Want You Back, ABC, The Love You Save* and *I'll Be There.* 

All featured the incredible voice of the youngest of the brothers, Michael, who was only 11 when they cut *I Want You Back*, and he remained their focal point as well as branching out on a concurrent solo career which, after a couple of near misses, brought him a number one, *Ben*, in 1972. The mid-seventies saw the five, now known as the Jacksons, on a downhill slide but in 1977 they fought back with *Show You The Way To Go* followed by *Blame It On The Boogie* the year after, and were as ebullient as ever.

The same could not be said of the Partridge Family, who ceased to exist when their television series folded up. Whilst together, the Partridges scored only three top ten hits (including a number one, *I Think I Love You*) but their popularity acted as a springboard for David Cassidy, who continued his career as a teen idol in the seventies.

Rare Earth had their first hit with *Get Ready*, and B. J. Thomas had his biggest with *Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head*, as did Ray Stevens with *Everything Is Beautiful* – though by far the best selling single of the year was *Bridge Over Troubled Water* by Simon and Garfunkel.

R. Dean Taylor, the first white act in the Tamla Motown stable, appeared with *Indiana Wants Me* and Dawn began their long chart association with *Candida* and *Knock Three Times*, but the biggest of the new pop acts were the Carpenters and Bread.

Often dismissed as bland pap churners, Richard Carpenter and his sister Karen took more pains than most, and their efforts were rewarded with a string of hits familiar to anyone who switched on a radio during the early seventies. *Close To You*, a number one in 1970, was followed by *We've Only Just Begun*, *For All We Know*, *Goodbye To Love* and several other top tenners and by 1977, they'd accumulated some 20 gold discs.

Bread, initially a trio of songwriters, singers and session musicians, were helping on an album by a group called Pleasure Faire when they decided to start helping themselves, and it was a track from their second album, *Make It With You*, which secured their future – though at this point the group lost one member and added two. *Baby I'm-A-Want You* and *Guitar Man* took them high into the album charts and also furnished such top twenty singles as *Everything I Own*, and *Sweet Surrender*, but when founder members David Gates and James Griffin fell out, the group broke up. Despite its demise, the group's enduring popularity was shown when a 1977 compilation album, *The Sound Of Bread*, sold over two million copies in Britain alone.

Meanwhile on the American long-haired front, underground groups were surfacing in profusion, though most, like the Flock, It's A Beautiful Day,





Hot Tuna, and Dan Hicks and His Hot Licks, would soon submerge again. Amongst those who stayed afloat were two blues groups, the Allman Brothers and the J. Geils Band.

The star of the Allman Brothers was undoubtedly Duane Allman, who'd earned his reputation as a studio guitarist, decorating late sixties recordings by Wilson Pickett and Aretha Franklin among others. By 1970, he'd teamed up with brother Gregg to form a six-piece powerhouse who, after attracting a huge following in the south, broke nationally with their live double album *At Fillmore East*.

Stars of a popular T.V. series, the Partridge Family later achieved significant success as recording artists. David Cassidy (top right) subsequently emerged as a teen idol

David Gates (top left) was the leading light behind Bread's consistent hit output.



During his reign as number one teen heart-throb, David Cassidy incited the most fervent fan worship since the Beatles.

following. Despite their excellence, their first three albums made no impression whatsoever on the charts and it was only a last ditch attempt, *Feats Don't Fail Me Now*, which took them into the top forty and rescued them from oblivion in 1974 – four years after guitarist Lowel George had put the band together. Despite continued critical acclaim, their subsequent albums were only moderately successful, a factor which finally induced George to try his solo wings in 1979. A few days into his first tour he was found dead in his hotel room.

James Taylor, the latest singer/songwriter, not only cured his drug addiction but also wrote about it to achieve his first hit single, *Fire And Rain*, which reached number three towards the end of the year. He had been among the first acts to be signed to the Beatles' Apple label in 1967 and though it was a particularly uneventful phase, his guardian angel there, Peter Asher (formerly of Peter and Gordon), subsequently organised a contract with Warners, which resulted in the hit single and the platinum album *Sweet Baby James*. A second smash album, *Mud Slide Slim And The Blue Horizon*, provided another hit single in *You've Got A friend*, which reached number one, and the ultra-relaxed Taylor established himself as one of the most consistent and enduring of the singer/songwriter genre.

Working a similar vein was Kris Kristofferson, a Texan who graduated from Oxford University with an English literature degree – a qualification which helped him secure a job as janitor in a Nashville studio during the mid sixties. His musical prowess Following their record success, the Jackson Five became the subject of a television cartoon series. Lead singer Michael Jackson (second from right), only 11 when the group first hit the charts, rode into the eighties as one of the biggest solo acts in the world.





### Events

**9 Jan**. The ocean liner the Queen Elizabeth is destroyed by fire in Hong Kong harbour.

**30 Jan.** In Londonderry, 13 civilians are shot by troops on 'Bloody Sunday'.

21 Feb. President Nixon meets Mao Tse-Tung in Peking.

**29 Mar.** Queen Elizabeth opens the treasures of Tutenkhamun exhibition at the British Museum.

**15 May** Governor Wallace of Alabama is crippled in an assassination attempt.

12 Aug. The last U.S. combat troops leave Vietnam.

**4 Sept.** Mark Spitz wins a record seven gold medals sat the Olympic Games.

**5 Sept.** Palestinian terrorists kill Israeli Olympic team-members.

10 Oct. Sir John Betjemen becomes Poet Laureate.

7 Nov. Nixon defeats McGovern in a landslide victory and remains President.

### Films of 72

Cabaret · Deliverance · Dirty Harry · Fritz The Cat · The Godfather · The Harder They Come · Straw Dogs · What's Up Doc?

## U.S. CHART TOPPERS – WEEKS AT TOP

Brand New Kev American Pie Let's Stay Together Without You Heart Of Gold A Horse With No Name The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face Oh Girl I'll Take You There The Candy Man Song Sung Blue Lean On Me Alone Again (Naturally) Brandy Black And White Baby Don't Get Hooked On Me Ben My Ding-A-Ling I Can See Clearly Now Papa Was A Rolling Stone I Am Woman Me And Mrs. Jones

### Melanie Don McLean Al Green Nilsson Neil Young America Roberta Flack Chi-Lites Staple Singers Sammy Davis Jr. Neil Diamond **Bill Withers** Gilbert O'Sullivan Looking Glass Three Dog Night Mac Davis Michael Jackson Chuck Berry Johnny Nash Temptations Helen Reddy Billy Paul

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# U.K. CHART TOPPERS – WEEKS AT TOP

LINIC
I'd Like To Teach The World To Sing
Telegram Sam
Son Of My Father
Without You
Amazing Grace
Metal Guru
Vincent
Take Me Bak Ome
Puppy Love
School's Out
You Wear It Well
Mama Weer All Crazee Now
How Can I Be Sure?
Mouldy Old Dough
Clair
My Ding-A-Ling
Long Haired Lover From Liverpool
2

Benny Hill New Seekers T. Rex Chicory Tip Nilsson Royal Scots Dragoon Band T. Rex Don McLean Slade Donny Osmond Alice Cooper Rod Stewart Slade David Cassidy Lieutenant Pigeon Gilbert O'Sullivan Chuck Berry Little Jimmy Osmond



Opposite top left: Liza Minnelli and Joel Grey in Cabaret.

Opposite top right: Marlon Brando in The Godfather. Opposite below: Troops in Ulster.



#### Events

1 Jan. Britain becomes a member of the E.E.C.

**30 Jan.** Liddy and McGord are found guilty of attempting to spy on Democratic headquarters in the Watergate building.

**27 Feb.** Wounded Knee, South Dakota is occupied for 70 days by the American Indian Movement in protest at federal treatment of Indians.

**26** May An Icelandic gunboat shells a British trawler, beginning the 'cod war'.

11 Sept. A military coup in Chile overthrows the left-wing government of President Allende, who dies in the fighting.

**20 Sept.** Billie Jean King defeats Bobby Riggs in a \$100,000 tennis match billed as 'the battle of the sexes'.

11 Oct. The Yom Kippur War begins.

**16 Oct.** Henry Kissinger receives the Nobel Peace Prize.

14 Nov. Princess Anne and Mark Phillips are married in Westminster Abbey.

17 Dec. Arab terrorists kill 31 at Rome airport.

### Films of 73

American Graffiti $\cdot$  Day Of The Jackal $\cdot$  Live And Let Die  $\cdot$  Mean Streets  $\cdot$  Oh Lucky Man  $\cdot$  Paper Moon  $\cdot$  Pat Garret And Billy The Kid  $\cdot$  That'll Be The Day

Below: Israeli tanks on the<br/>Golan Heights.Opposite bottom: Cambodian<br/>refugees.

### U.S. CHART TOPPERS – WEEKS AT TOP

Me And Mrs. Jones You're So Vain Superstition Crocodile Rock Killing Me Softly With His Song Love Train The Night The Lights Went Out In Georgia Tie A Yellow Ribbon You Are The Sunshine Of My Life Frankenstein My Love

Give Me Love Will It Go Round In Circles Bad Bad Leroy Brown The Morning After Touch Me In The Morning Brother Louie Let's Get It On Delta Dawn We're An American Band Half Breed Angie Midnight Train To Georgia

Keep On Truckin' Photograph Top Of The World The Most Beautiful Girl Time In A Bottle

### U.K. CHART TOPPERS - WEEKS AT TOP

Long Haired Lover From Liverpool Blockbuster Cum On Feel The Noize Twelfth Of Never Get Down Tie A Yellow Ribbon See My Baby Jive Can The Can Rubber Bullets Skweeze Me Pleeze Me Welcome Home I'm The Leader Of The Gang Young Love Angel Fingers Eye Level Day Dreamer I Love You Love Me Love Merry Xmas Everybody

Billy Paul Carly Simon Stevie Wonder Elton John Roberta Flack O'Jays Vicki Lawrence Tony Orlando and Dawn Stevie Wonder Edgar Winter Paul McCartney and Wings George Harrison **Billy Preston** Jim Croce Maureen McGovern Diana Ross **Stories** Marvin Gaye Helen Reddy Grand Funk Cher **Rolling Stones** Gladys Knight and the Pips Eddie Kendricks Ringo Carpenters Charlie Rich Jim Croce

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Little Jimmy Osmond Sweet Slade Donny Osmond Gilbert O'Sullivan Tony Orlando and Dawn Wizzard Suzi Ouatro 10 cc Slade Peters and Lee Gary Glitter Donny Osmond Wizzard Simon Park Orchestra David Cassidy Gary Glitter Slade

