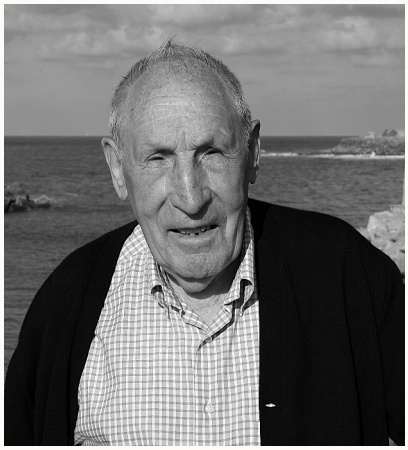
Lives born in 1926: family and the wider world

Anne Ellen Cassidy was born in Ireland in 1926. In the same year, people were born who would shape politics, music, cinema, broadcasting and public memory.



Fortuno Gorostola Urbieta

Fortuno Gorostola Urbieta

Born in the Basque Country in 1926, Fortuno Gorostola Urbieta belongs to this page not through public fame, but through family memory.

He was the husband of Mari Teri Izagirre, father of Maripi and Narci, and Grandad - Attatta - to Sean, Dylan, Andoni, Telmo and Xuban. He is remembered as a Real Sociedad fan, a repairer of toys, and an experimenter/inventor of “pintxos” (Basque tapas).

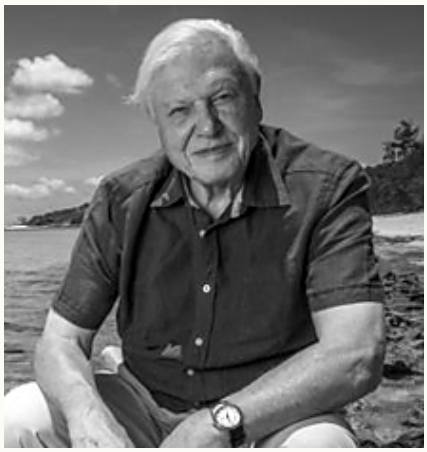


Queen Elizabeth II

Queen Elizabeth II

Born in London in 1926, Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor later became Queen Elizabeth II.

Her long reign made her one of the most recognisable public figures of the twentieth and early twenty-first centuries.

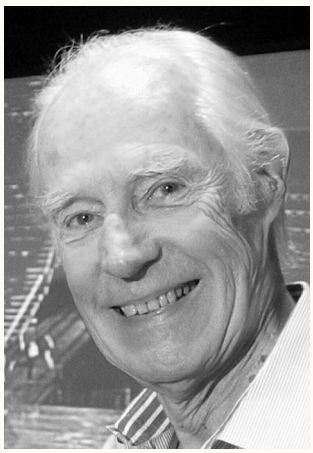


David Attenborough

David Attenborough

Born in London in 1926, David Attenborough became one of the world's best-known broadcasters and natural historians.

Through programmes such as Life on Earth and later landmark nature documentaries, he brought the natural world into family living rooms across generations.

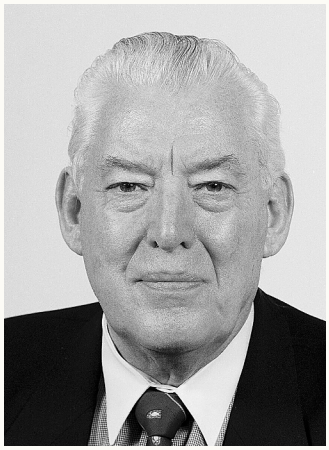


George Martin

George Martin

Born in London in 1926, George Martin became one of the most influential record producers of the twentieth century.

Known especially for his work with The Beatles, he helped shape the sound of modern popular music and became widely known as the "Fifth Beatle".



Ian Paisley

Ian Paisley

Born in Armagh in 1926, Ian Paisley became one of the most prominent and controversial public figures in Northern Ireland.

A preacher, political leader and founder of the Free Presbyterian Church of Ulster, he later became leader of the Democratic Unionist Party and served as First Minister of Northern Ireland.

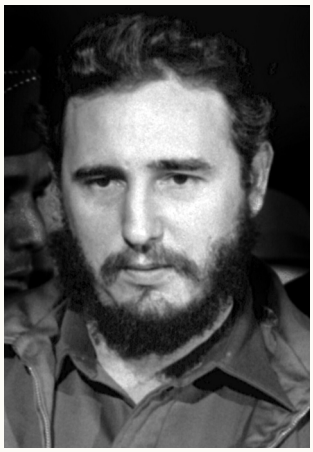


Miles Davis

Miles Davis

Born in Illinois in 1926, Miles Davis became one of the most influential jazz musicians of the twentieth century.

His trumpet playing and restless reinvention helped reshape jazz through bebop, cool jazz, modal jazz and later fusion.



Fidel Castro

Fidel Castro

Born in Cuba in 1926, Fidel Castro became one of the most significant and controversial political figures of the twentieth century.

After leading the Cuban Revolution, he governed Cuba for decades and became closely associated with Cold War history and modern Cuban politics.



Norma Jeane Mortenson

Norma Jeane Mortenson (Marilyn Monroe)

Born Norma Jeane Mortenson in Los Angeles in 1926, she later became known to the world as Marilyn Monroe and became one of the most famous film stars of the twentieth century.

Her public image came to symbolise Hollywood glamour, while her life also revealed the pressures and loneliness that could sit behind fame.