

## On This Day



John McEnroe

On 16th February 1959, tennis champion John McEnroe was born in Germany. His American father was stationed there with the United States Air Force. The family moved back to America, and John grew up in New York.

He started to play tennis when he was eight. He made it to the Wimbledon semi-finals by the time he was 18.

John McEnroe was a brilliant tennis player, but many people remember him for his tantrums on court. His cry of “You cannot be serious!” was heard many times!

## The Way We Were



Bone handled knives

We were expected to help with the washing up when I was a child. People didn't have dishwashers in those days – just husbands and children!

We were taught from an early age not to put knives in the washing up water. I thought at first it was because you might cut your fingers on the blades if you didn't see them in the water.

Actually it was because the bone handles went very discoloured and lost their smooth shiny finish. You had to hold them out of the water and just wash the blades.

## Do You Remember



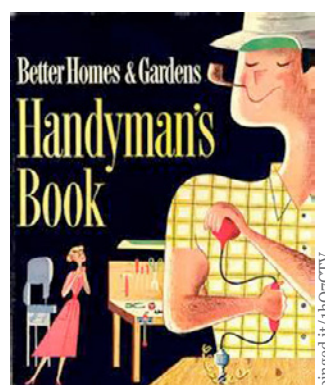
Spangles sweet wrapper

Our son Chris gave me this sweet wrapper. When he was about seven, he collected everything. Not just stamps, but even sweet wrappers. “Do you remember Spangles, Dad?” he said as he handed me this gaudy orange wrapper.

I never liked Spangles myself, but our kids loved them. They liked the strong, sweet flavours. They liked the way that you could suck on them for ages. You could roll them round and round with your tongue. Finally, you were left with just a tiny sliver of boiled sweet. Chris loved crunching that to bits with his teeth.

This Spangle was even fizzy, just like real orangeade.

## Over To You



Handyman help

*Dear Mary and Jimmy*

*Our first home was a small flat with a very old fashioned bathroom. The bath had curved ends and claw feet. There was also a very big gap between the bath and the wall. It was difficult to avoid water going over the edge of the bath and you couldn't reach round very easily to mop it up.*

*We decided to box in the bath. It made the bathroom look a bit more up-to-date and it was practical. My husband Jim did all the work himself. He had advice – not always welcome – from my father. Jim made a really good job of it.*

*Best wishes, from Maureen*

## Word Quiz

All these words start with the letters **a r c h**.

1. Arch \_ \_  
*Uses a bow and arrow.*
2. Arch \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
*Designs buildings.*
3. Arch \_ \_ sh \_ \_  
*There is one in Canterbury and one in York.*
4. Arch \_ \_ \_ l \_ g \_ \_ t  
*They dig things up.*
5. Arch \_ \_ g \_ l  
*Gabriel is one of these.*
6. Arch \_ v \_ s  
*A store of documents.*
7. Arch \_ p \_ \_ \_ g \_  
*A pattern of islands.*



bit.ly/1WIRhzy

## Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah

Zip-a-dee-doo-dah  
Zip-a-dee-ay  
My, oh my what a  
wond \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ day  
Plenty of suns \_ \_ \_ \_  
heading my w \_ \_  
Zip-a-dee-doo-dah  
Zip-a-dee-ay

Mister Blu \_ \_ \_ \_ d on my  
shou \_ \_ \_ \_  
It's the tru \_ \_ it's actual  
Ev'rything is satisfactual!  
Zip-a-dee-doo-dah,  
Zip-a-dee-ay  
Wonderful fee \_ \_ \_ \_  
Wonderful day!



tinyurl.com/q897p7n

James Baskett

## Answers

1. Wonderful
2. Sunshine
3. Way
4. Bluebird
5. Shoulder
6. Truth
7. Feeling

### PAGE 1 ~ ON THIS DAY ~ 16 February 1959 ~ John McEnroe tennis champion

**Background:** John McEnroe was spectacularly bad tempered and argumentative while he was playing. In the 1984 Wimbledon final he beat Jimmy Connors in just 80 minutes. That was his third and final Wimbledon singles title. McEnroe was a left-handed player. He was married to Tatum O'Neal, daughter of film star Ryan O'Neal.

**Questions:** Do you like watching tennis on television? Did you play tennis yourself? Who are your favourite tennis players of all time? What do you think of players who get angry with referees or umpires? What is your favourite sport?

### PAGE 1 ~ THE WAY WE WERE ~ (from Mary's point of view) ~ Bone handled knives

**Background:** Lots of people had bone handled knives, even if the forks and spoons had metal handles. Not only did the handles go discoloured, but if water got inside the handle, the metal would rust where it joined the blade, and they could break or get loose. They certainly would not withstand washing in a dishwasher. Cutlery is now often made of stainless steel, including the knife handles.

**Questions:** What sort of cutlery did you have in your household when you were a child? How did you keep it looking nice? Did you help with the washing up? If you were washing up after dinner, in what order would you wash up things? *[glasses, cutlery, first before anything greasy]*

### PAGE 2 ~ DO YOU REMEMBER ~ (from Jimmy's point of view) ~ Spangles sweet wrapper

**Background:** Spangles was a boiled sweet made by the Mars chocolate company from the 1950s to the 1980s. They were very popular as a treat for children. You might want to point out how much they cost - this one is from 1974 and cost 2p (though if you look closely Menzies were selling it for 2½p!)

**Questions:** Do you remember Spangles? Did you like them? Or did you buy them for children? Which flavours did you / they like best? What do boiled sweets look and taste like? What was your favourite sweet when you were a child? How did it taste? What was your children (or nephew's/niece's) favourite sweet? Some people say children get too many sweets. What do you think, and why?

### PAGE 2 ~ OVER TO YOU ~ Boxing in the bath

**Background:** Fashion, even in bathrooms, goes full circle. People are now putting in free-standing, claw foot baths just like the ones their parents and grandparents took out or boxed in. The 1950s was a decade when DIY became very popular and many householders would have tackled jobs like boxing in a bath themselves rather than pay someone else to do it.

**Questions:** What was the bathroom like when you had your first home away from your parents? Did you make any changes to your home? Who decided what changes to make? Who did the work? Which do you prefer, a bath or a shower? Why?

### PAGE 3 ~ QUIZ : Word Quiz

**Answers:** 1. Archer    2. Architect    3. Archbishop    4. Archaeologist  
5. Archangel    6. Archives    7. Archipelago

### PAGE 3 ~ SINGALONG : 'Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah' by James Baskett