



The Activity Coordinator's Friend

A Review of Famous Songs of the Past

'Fascinating Facts' June 2019

Track 1 Washday Blues

Washday Blues was composed by Porter Wagoner and released by Dolly Parton in 1972.

Dolly Rebecca Parton (born January 19, 1946) is an American singer-songwriter, instrumentalist, actress, author, and philanthropist, known for her work in country music. She was born in Tennessee, the fourth of twelve children of Robert Parton, a tobacco farmer. She outlined her family's poverty in her early songs: "Coat of Many Colours". They lived in a rustic, one-room cabin in The Smoky Mountains.

Music played an important role in her early life. Many of her early performances were in church. Her career began as a child performer on the radio. She rose to prominence in 1967 on Porter Wagoner's weekly TV programme. A string of pop-country hits followed into the mid-1980s, the most successful being her 1981 hit "9 to 5" (from the film of the same name). In the late 1990s, she returned to classic country/bluegrass. Non-musical ventures include Dollywood, a theme park in the Smoky Mountains of Tennessee, and her efforts on behalf of childhood literacy. The Imagination Library mails one book per month to each enrolled child from birth till kindergarten. The programme distributes more than 8.3 million free books annually. Parton is the most honoured female country performer of all time. She has repeatedly joked about her physical image and surgeries, saying, "If I see something sagging, bagging, and dragging, I'm going to nip it, suck it and tuck it. Why should I look like an old barn yard dog if I don't have to?"

Track 2 Twenty Tiny Fingers, Twenty Tiny Toes

Twenty Tiny Fingers, Twenty Tiny Toes got to Number 4 in the UK charts, by the Stargazers 1952 original.

Alma Cogan (19 May 1932 – 26 October 1966) was an English singer of traditional pop music in the 1950s and early 1960s. She was the highest paid British female entertainer of her era. In 1953, while recording "If I Had A Golden Umbrella", she broke into a giggle, and then played up the effect on



later recordings. Soon she was dubbed "The girl with the giggle in her voice". Cogan was one of the first UK record artists to appear frequently on television, where her powerful voice could be showcased along with her bubbly personality and dramatic costumes. These hooped skirts with sequins and figure-hugging tops were reputedly designed by herself and never worn twice. She never married but lived with her widowed mother in Kensington in a lavishly decorated ground-floor flat, which became a legendary party-venue. Regular visitors included Princess Margaret, Noël Coward, Cary Grant, Audrey Hepburn, Michael Caine and others.

Track 3 Secret Love

Secret Love is a popular song written in 1953 with music by Sammy Fain and lyrics by Paul Francis Webster. Its first performance was in the film Calamity Jane by Doris Day. It received an Academy Award for Best Original Song.

Calamity Jane Film

Calamity Jane is a "Wild West"-themed film musical released in 1953. It is loosely based on the life of Wild West heroine Calamity Jane and explores an alleged romance between Calamity Jane and Wild Bill Hickok in the American Old West. The film starred Doris Day as the title character and Howard Keel as Hickok. It was devised by Warner Brothers in response to the success of Annie Get Your Gun.

Doris Day

Doris Day (born Doris Mary Ann Kappelhoff, April 3, 1924) is an American actress, singer, and animal rights activist. With an entertainment career that spanned through almost 50 years, Day started her career as a big band singer in 1939, but only began to be noticed after her first hit recording, Sentimental Journey, in 1945. After leaving the Les Brown & His Band of Renown to try a solo career, she started her long-lasting partnership with Columbia Records, which would remain her only recording label. The contract lasted from 1947 to 1967, and included more than 650 recordings, making Day one of the most popular and acclaimed singers of the 20th century.

Track 4 Day Trip to Bangor

Day Trip to Bangor was included on Fiddler Dram's debut album, which was released in 1978. The song's origins lie in a visit made to Rhyl, a seaside resort 35 miles east of Bangor. But the name Bangor was chosen as it slipped off the tongue more easily. The band commented that: 'We were originally thinking of Rhyl, the resort, not Bangor, but clearly Rhyl has got no scan. The mayor of Bangor was a bit perplexed when it was a hit, but they were quite happy to accept the publicity!'

Fiddler's Dram were a British folk band of the late 1970s. They were drawn from a group of musicians at the University of Kent at Canterbury and

members of Duke's Folk Club in Whitstable, who cultivated an enthusiastic local following from their regular gigs at local clubs and bars in and around the Canterbury area. Their material mainly comprised arrangements of British traditional songs and tunes, but in time the original song "Daytrip to Bangor" became a live favourite.

Track 5 Hound Dog

Hound Dog is a twelve-bar blues song by Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller. It was recorded by Willie Mae "Big Mama" Thornton in 1952.

The song has been recorded more than 250 times with the best-known version being the July 1956 recording by Elvis Presley. From the 1970s onward, the song has been featured in numerous films, in *Grease*, *Forrest Gump* and *Indiana Jones*.

Elvis Aaron Presley (January 8, 1935 – August 16, 1977) was one of the most popular American singers of the 20th century. A cultural icon, he is commonly known by the single name Elvis. He is often referred to as the "King of Rock and Roll" or simply "the King".

Born in Tupelo, Mississippi, Presley moved to Memphis, Tennessee, with his family at the age of 13. He began his career there in 1954, working with Sun Records owner Sam Phillips, who wanted to bring the sound of African American music to a wider audience. His energised interpretations of songs, many from African American sources, and his uninhibited performance style made him enormously popular—and controversial. In November 1956, he made his film debut in *Love Me Tender*. Drafted into military service in 1958, Presley relaunched his recording career two years later with some of his most commercially successful work. In 1968, after seven years away from the stage, he returned to live performance in a celebrated comeback television special. Prescription drug abuse severely compromised his health, and he died suddenly in 1977 at the age of 42. Presley was also one of the first 'celebrities'. At the age of 21, within a year of his first appearance on American network television, he was one of the most famous people in the world.

Track 6 Just One of Those Things

Just One of Those Things is a popular song written by Cole Porter for the 1935 musical *Jubilee*. The song was later featured in two Doris Day musical films, *Lullaby of Broadway* (1951) and *Young at Heart* (1954).

Shirley Bassey Dame Shirley Veronica Bassey, DBE (born 8 January 1937) is a Welsh singer. She was born above a brothel in a docklands slum in Tiger Bay Cardiff. She was of paternal Nigerian and maternal English descent. She found fame in the mid-1950s and has been called "one of the most popular female vocalists in Britain during the last half of the 20th century". In the US, in particular, she is best known for recording the theme songs to the James

Bond films Goldfinger (1964), Diamonds Are Forever (1971), and Moonraker (1979).

Track 7 You'd Be So Nice To Come Home To

You'd Be So Nice to Come Home To is a popular song written by Cole Porter for the 1943 film Something to Shout About.

Nancy Wilson (born February 20, 1937) is an American singer with more than 70 albums, and three Grammy Awards. She has been labeled a singer of blues, jazz, cabaret and pop; a "consummate actress"; and "the complete entertainer." The title she prefers, however, is song stylist. She has received many nicknames including "Sweet Nancy", "The Baby", "Fancy Miss Nancy" and "The Girl With the Honey-Coated Voice". After doing numerous television guest appearances, Wilson eventually got her own series on NBC, The Nancy Wilson Show (1967–1968).

Track 8 Waltzing Matilda

Waltzing Matilda is Australia's most widely known bush ballad. It has been referred to as "the unofficial national anthem of Australia". The title is Australian slang for travelling by foot with one's goods in a "Matilda" (bag) slung over one's back. The song tells the story of an itinerant worker, or "swagman", making a drink of tea at a bush camp and capturing a sheep to eat. When the sheep's owner arrives with three police officers to arrest the worker for the theft, the worker commits suicide by drowning himself in the nearby watering hole, after which his ghost haunts the site. The original lyrics were written in 1895 by poet and nationalist Banjo Paterson.

David Gordon "**Slim Dusty**" Kirkpatrick (13 June 1927—19 September 2003) was an Australian country music singer-songwriter and producer, with a career spanning nearly seven decades. He adopted the stage name "Slim Dusty" in 1938 at eleven years of age. He was known to record songs in the legacy of Australian poets Henry Lawson and Banjo Paterson that represented the Australian Bush Lifestyle, and also for his many trucking songs. Dusty was the first Australian to have a No. 1 Hit song with "A Pub with No Beer".

Track 9 There Is A Tavern in the Town

There is a Tavern in the Town is a traditional folk song that was performed by Rudy Vallée as "The Drunkard's Song". It was the college anthem of Trinity University College, and provides the melody for the children's tune "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes". The song first appeared in the 1883 edition of Student Songs and may trace its origins to a traditional miners' song from Cornwall.

Dame Gracie Fields, DBE (born Grace Stansfield, 9 January 1898 – 27 September 1979), was an English singer/comedienne & star of both cinema and music. Fields had a great rapport with her audience, which helped her become one of Britain's highest paid performers, playing to sold out theatres across the country. Her most famous song, which became her theme, Sally, was worked into the title of her first film, Sally in Our Alley (1931). At the start of WW2 Fields travelled to France to entertain the troops in the midst of air-raids, performing on the backs of open lorries and in war-torn areas. She was the first artist to play behind enemy lines in Berlin. However, because her husband remained an Italian citizen and would have been interned in the United Kingdom, she was forced to leave Britain for North America during the war, at the instruction of Winston Churchill, who told her to "Make American Dollars, not British Pounds," which she did, in aid of the Spitfire Fund. She lived on her beloved Isle of Capri for the remainder of her life while still performing occasionally on stage and films.

Track 10 Love Letters In The Sand

A popular song first published in 1931. The song was "inspired" by an 1881 composition, "The Spanish Cavalier" by William D. Hendrickson. Pat Boone's cover became a major hit in June and July 1957. The song was used in Boone's film "Bernardine". Boone also did the whistling in the instrumental portion of the song.

Charles Eugene "**Pat**" **Boone** (born June 1, 1934) is an American singer, actor, and writer. He was a successful pop singer in the United States during the 1950s and early 1960s. Several of his hit songs were cover versions of black R&B artists' hit songs, when parts of the country were racially segregated and black musical artists were not played on white radio stations. He sold over 45 million albums, had 38 Top 40 hits and appeared in more than 12 Hollywood movies. Boone's talent as a singer and actor, combined with his old-fashioned values, contributed to his popularity in the early rock and roll era. At the age of twenty-three, he began hosting a half-hour ABC variety television series, The Pat Boone Chevy Showroom, which aired for 115 episodes (1957–1960). Many musical performers, including Edie Adams, Andy Williams, Pearl Bailey and Johnny Mathis made appearances on the show. He continues to perform, and speak as a motivational speaker, a television personality, and a conservative political commentator.

Track 11 Walking My Baby Back Home

Walkin' My Baby Back Home is a popular song written in 1930 by Roy Turk (lyrics) and Fred E. Ahlert (music). The song was a hit in 1952 sung by Johnnie Ray. It was the title song from the 1953 film starring Donald O'Connor, Janet Leigh, Buddy Hackett, and Scatman Crothers.

Johnnie Ray (January 10, 1927 – February 24, 1990) was an American singer, songwriter, and pianist. Popular for most of the 1950s, Ray has been cited by critics as a major precursor of what would become rock and roll, for his jazz and blues-influenced music and his animated stage personality.

Track 12 The Times They Are A Changin’

Bob Dylan wrote the song as a deliberate attempt to create an anthem of change for the time, influenced by Irish and Scottish ballads. Ever since its release the song has been very influential to people's views on society, with critics noting the general yet universal lyrics as contributing to the song's everlasting message of change.

Bob Dylan (born Robert Allen Zimmerman, May 24, 1941) is an American musician, singer-songwriter, artist, and writer. He has been an influential figure in popular music and culture for more than five decades. Much of his most celebrated work dates from the 1960s. A number of Dylan's early songs, such as "Blowin' in the Wind" and "The Times They Are a-Changin'", became anthems for the US civil rights and anti-war movements. Dylan's lyrics have incorporated a variety of political, social, philosophical, and literary influences. His recording career, spanning fifty years, has explored many of the traditions in American song—from folk, blues, and country to gospel, rockabilly to English, Scottish, and Irish folk music, rock and roll, embracing even jazz and swing.

Track 13 Bonnie Wee Thing

A traditional Scottish Song with words by Robbie Burns.

Don Grieve is a Celtic Music / Musician, Scottish Born Entertainer, Bard, Singer and Songwriter.

Track 14 The Trolley Song

The Trolley Song is a song written by Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane and made famous by Judy Garland in the 1944 film Meet Me in St. Louis. Blane said the song was inspired by a picture of a trolley car in a turn-of-the-century newspaper. The picture was captioned "Clang, Clang, Clang, Went the Trolley."

Judy Garland (born Frances Ethel Gumm; June 10, 1922 – June 22, 1969) was an American actress, singer and vaudevillian. Described by Fred Astaire as "the greatest entertainer who ever lived" and renowned for her contralto voice, she attained international stardom throughout a career that spanned more than 40 years as an actress in musical and dramatic roles, as a recording artist and on the concert stage. She was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Actress for her role in the remake of A Star is Born.

After appearing in vaudeville with her two older sisters, Garland was signed to Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer as a teenager. There she made more than two dozen films, including nine with Mickey Rooney and the 1939 film with which she would be most identified, *The Wizard of Oz*. Despite her professional triumphs, Garland struggled immensely in her personal life, starting from when she was a child. Her self-image was strongly influenced by film executives, who said she was unattractive and constantly manipulated her onscreen physical appearance. She was plagued by financial instability, often owing hundreds of thousands of dollars in back taxes. She married five times. She also had a long battle with drugs and alcohol, which ultimately led to her death at the age of 47. In 1999, the American Film Institute placed her among the ten greatest female stars in the history of American cinema.

Track 15 The Young Ones

The Young Ones is a single by Cliff Richard and The Shadows. The song, written by Sid Tepper and Roy C. Bennett, is the title song to the 1961 film *The Young Ones* and its soundtrack album. It was released in January 1962.

Sir Cliff Richard, OBE (born Harry Rodger Webb; 14 October 1940) is a British pop singer, musician, performer, actor, and philanthropist. With his backing group The Shadows, Richard, was a rebellious rock and roll singer in the style of Little Richard and Elvis Presley. He dominated the British music scene in the late 1950s and early 1960s. His 1958 hit single "Move It" is often described as Britain's first authentic rock and roll song, and John Lennon once claimed that "before Cliff and the Shadows, there had been nothing worth listening to in British music." A conversion to Christianity and subsequent softening of his music later led to a more middle of the road pop image, sometimes venturing into gospel music.

Over a 53-year career, Richard has become a fixture of the British entertainment world, amassing many gold and platinum discs and awards. Richards is the third biggest selling singles artist of all time in the UK, with total sales of over 21 million, and has reportedly sold an estimated 250 million records worldwide.

Track 16 Tiptoe Through the Tulips

Tiptoe Through the Tulips is a popular song originally published in 1929. The song was written by Al Dubin (lyrics) and Joe Burke (music). The song was used in "Sinkin' in the Bathtub", the first Looney Tunes cartoon ever, in 1930.

Nick Lucas (August 22, 1897 – July 28, 1982) was known as "the grandfather of the jazz guitar. He was born into an Italian family in Newark, New Jersey. In 1929, Lucas co-starred in the Warner Bros. musical, *Gold Diggers of Broadway*, in which he introduced the two hit songs "Painting the Clouds with

Sunshine" and "Tiptoe Through the Tulips". The latter became Lucas's theme song.

Track 17 Whispering Grass

Whispering Grass (Don't Tell The Trees) is a popular song written by Fred Fisher and his daughter Doris Fisher. The song was first recorded by Erskine Hawkins & His Orchestra in 1940. The Ink Spots also recorded it the same year. The words of the song are reminiscent of those of Kahlil Gibran: "If you reveal your secrets to the wind, you should not blame the wind for revealing them to the trees." "Whispering Grass" was a 1975 UK number-one single by Windsor Davies and Don Estelle. Davies and Estelle were actors in the successful sitcom *It Ain't Half Hot Mum*.

Don Estelle (22 May 1933 – 2 August 2003) was a British actor and singer best known as 'Lofty' in *It Ain't Half Hot Mum*. He had a powerful tenor voice and as a spin-off from the series, he and co-star Windsor Davies had a Number 1 hit in the UK Singles Chart in 1975 with a semi-comic version of "Whispering Grass". Estelle also acted in the films *Not Now, Comrade* (1976), *A Private Function* (1984) and *Santa Claus: The Movie* (1984)

Windsor Davies (born 28 August 1930 in Canning Town, West Ham, Essex) is a British actor who is best known for playing the part of Battery Sergeant Major Williams in the British sitcom *It Ain't Half Hot Mum* (1974–81). Among his catchphrases was "Shut Up!", delivered as an eardrum-shattering military scream. Another phrase was "Oh dear, how sad, what a pity, never mind" Other television roles included the sailor Taffy in the first of the BBC-series *The Onedin Line*.

Track 18 I Want To Hold Your Hand

I Want to Hold Your Hand is a song by the English rock band the Beatles. Written by John Lennon and Paul McCartney, and recorded in October 1963, it was the first Beatles record to be made using four-track equipment. It was written when they were renting a basement in the house belonging to Jane Asher's (the actress) parents.

The Beatles were an English rock band formed in Liverpool in 1960. They became perhaps the most commercially successful and critically acclaimed act in the history of popular music. The band's best-known line up consisted of John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, and Ringo Starr. In the early 1960s, their enormous popularity first emerged as "Beatlemania". The Beatles built their reputation playing clubs in Liverpool and Hamburg over a three-year period from 1960. They gained popularity in the United Kingdom after their first single, Love Me Do, became a modest hit in late 1962. They acquired the nickname the "Fab Four" as Beatlemania grew in Britain over the following

year, and by early 1964 they had become international stars. From 1965 on, they produced what many critics consider their finest material. After their break-up in 1970, the ex-Beatles each found success in individual musical careers. Lennon was murdered in 1980, and Harrison died of cancer in 2001. McCartney and Starr remain active. The Beatles are the best-selling band in history, with EMI Records estimating sales of over one billion records.

Track 19 If I Had A Talking Picture Of You

If I Had A Talking Picture Of You was written by Laurie Hugh. It was on the album The World Of Jeeves And Wooster.

The **Pasadena Roof Orchestra** (commonly abbreviated to PRO) is a contemporary band from England that specialises in the jazz and swing genres of music of the 1920s and 1930s, although their full repertoire is considerably wider. The orchestra has existed since 1969, although the line-up has frequently changed. It has achieved success outside the United Kingdom, most notably in Germany.

Track 20 California, Here I Come!

California, Here I Come is a song written for the 1921 Broadway musical Bombo, starring Al Jolson. The song was written by Buddy DeSylva and Joseph Meyer, with Jolson often listed as a co-author. Jolson recorded the song in 1924. It is often called the unofficial state song of California.

Al Jolson (May 26, 1886 – October 23, 1950) was an American singer, comedian, and actor. In his heyday, he was dubbed 'The World's Greatest Entertainer'. His performing style was brash and extroverted, and he popularised a large number of songs that benefited from his "shamelessly sentimental, melodramatic approach". In the 1930s, Jolson was America's most famous and highest paid entertainer. Between 1911 and 1928, Jolson had nine sell-out Winter Garden shows in a row, more than 80 hit records, and 16 national and international tours. Although he's best remembered today as the star in the first (full length) talking movie, The Jazz Singer in 1927, he later starred in a series of successful musical films throughout the 1930s. After a period of inactivity, his stardom returned with the 1946 Oscar-winning biographical film, The Jolson Story. After the attack on Pearl Harbour, Jolson became the first star to entertain troops overseas during World War II, and again in 1950 became the first star to perform for G.I.s in Korea, doing 42 shows in 16 days. He died just weeks after returning to the U.S., partly due to the physical exertion of performing.

Track 21 It's Only Make Believe

It's Only Make Believe is the title of a song written by Jack Nance and American country music artist Conway Twitty, released by Twitty as a single in

July 1958. It is believed that Twitty wrote his part of the song while sitting on a fire escape outside his hotel room, to escape the summer heat in Hamilton, Ontario.

Conway Twitty (born Harold Lloyd Jenkins; September 1, 1933 – June 5, 1993) was an American country music singer. He also had success in the rock and roll, rock, R&B, and pop genres. From 1971 to 1976, Twitty received a string of Country Music Association awards for duets with Loretta Lynn. He was of Welsh descent and was born in Mississippi. He changed his name from Jenkins because he felt it was not memorable enough for a start. According to one version, the singer was looking at a road map when he spotted Conway, Arkansas, and Twitty, Texas, and chose the name Conway Twitty!

Track 22 Up, Up and Away

Up, Up and Away is a 1967 song written by Jimmy Webb and recorded by The 5th Dimension, that became a major pop hit.

The Fifth Dimension is an American popular music vocal group, whose repertoire includes pop, R&B, soul, jazz, light opera and Broadway—the melange was coined as "Champagne Soul". Formed as the Versatiles in late 1965, the group changed its name to the hipper "the 5th Dimension" by 1966. They became well-known during the late 1960s and early 1970s for their popular hits.

Track 23 Gone Fishin'

Gone Fishin' is a song written by Nick and Charles Kenny and recorded by Bing Crosby and Louis Armstrong in 1951. The song was later recorded by Pat Boone, Gene Autrey and others.

Louis Armstrong (August 4, 1901 – July 6, 1971), nicknamed Satchmo or Pops, was an American jazz trumpeter and singer from New Orleans, Louisiana. Coming to prominence in the 1920s as a cornet and trumpet player, Armstrong was a big influence in jazz, shifting the focus of the music from collective improvisation to solo performance. With his instantly recognisable deep and distinctive gravelly voice, Armstrong was also an influential singer bending the lyrics and melody of a song for expressive purposes. He was also greatly skilled at scat singing (vocalising using sounds and syllables instead of actual lyrics). Renowned for his charismatic stage presence and voice almost as much as his trumpet-playing, Armstrong's influence extends well beyond jazz music. Armstrong was one of the first truly popular African-American entertainers to "cross over", whose skin-colour was secondary to his music in an America that was severely racially divided. His artistry and personality allowed him socially acceptable access to the upper echelons of American society that were highly restricted for a black man.

Track 24 Ain't She Sweet

A song composed by Milton Ager (music) and Jack Yellen (lyrics) and published in 1927. It became popular in the first half of the 20th century, one of the hit songs that typified the Roaring Twenties. Milton Ager wrote the song for his daughter Shana Ager.

Gene Austin (June 24, 1900 – January 24, 1972) was an American singer and songwriter, one of the first "crooners". Austin was born as Lemeul Eugene Lucas in Gainesville, Texas. He took the name "Gene Austin" from his stepfather, Jim Austin. He ran away from home at 15 and joined a vaudeville act in Houston, Texas, where the audience was allowed to come to the stage and sing. On a dare from his friends, Austin took the stage and sang. The audience response was overwhelming, and the vaudeville company immediately offered him a spot on their ticket. After WW1 Austin settled in Baltimore, Maryland, where he intended to study dentistry. Soon, however, he was playing piano and singing in local taverns. Such later crooners as Bing Crosby, Frank Sinatra, and Russ Columbo all credited Austin with creating the musical genre that began their careers.

Track 25 She Was Only Sixteen

Sam Cooke originally wrote and performed this song in 1959 then later it was famously covered by Dr. Hook.

Samuel Cook (January 22, 1931 – December 11, 1964), known by his stage name **Sam Cooke**, was an American recording artist, singer-songwriter and entrepreneur. He is considered to be one of the pioneers and founders of soul music and is commonly known as the King of Soul for his distinctive vocal abilities and influence on the modern world of music. His pioneering contributions to soul music led to the rise of Aretha Franklin, Bobby Womack, Al Green, Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye, and popularised the likes of Otis Redding and James Brown. Cooke had 30 U.S. top 40 hits between 1957 and 1964, and a further three after his death. Major hits like "You Send Me", "A Change Is Gonna Come", "Cupid", "Chain Gang", "Wonderful World", and "Twistin' the Night Away" are some of his most popular songs. Cooke was also among the first modern black performers and composers to attend to the business side of his musical career. He founded both a record label and a publishing company as an extension of his careers as a singer and composer. He also took an active part in the African-American Civil Rights Movement. In 1964, Cooke was fatally shot by the manager of the Hacienda Motel in Los Angeles, California, at the age of 33.



Track 26 Three Coins In The Fountain

Three Coins in the Fountain is a popular song which received the Academy Award for Best Original Song in 1954. It was written for the romance film, Three Coins in the Fountain and refers to the act of throwing a coin into the Trevi Fountain in Rome while making a wish. Each of the film's three stars performs this act.

Frank Sinatra (December 12, 1915 – May 14, 1998) began his musical career in the swing era with Harry James and Tommy Dorsey. Sinatra became an unprecedentedly successful solo artist in the early to mid-1940s, after being signed to Columbia Records in 1943. Being the idol of the "bobby soxers", he released his first album, The Voice of Frank Sinatra in 1946. His professional career had stalled by the 1950s, but it was reborn in 1953 after he won the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor for his performance in From Here to Eternity. He signed with Capitol Records in 1953 and released several critically lauded albums (such as In the Wee Small Hours, Songs for Swingin' Lovers, Come Fly with Me, Only the Lonely and Nice 'n' Easy). He toured internationally, was a founding member of the Rat Pack and kept company with celebrities and statesmen, including John F. Kennedy. Sinatra is one of the best-selling artists of all time.

Track 27 Mr Wonderful

Mr. Wonderful is from Keely Smith's 1957 debut album. The song is from the 1956 Broadway show of the same name which starred Sammy Davis Jr.

Keely Smith (born Dorothy Jacqueline Keely, March 9, 1928) is an American jazz and popular music singer who enjoyed popularity in the 1950s and 1960s. She is of Irish and Native American ancestry. She collaborated with, among others, Louis Prima and Frank Sinatra. Her first big solo hit was "I Wish You Love" in 1957.

Track 28 Over the Hills & Far Away

Over the Hills and Far Away is a traditional English song, dating back to at least the late 17th century. The words have changed over the years. The only consistent element in early versions is the title line and the tune. Some versions refer to lovers while this version refers to joining the army.

John Tams (born 16 February 1949) is an English actor, singer, songwriter, composer and musician. He left school at 15 without any qualifications and worked in fairgrounds before training as a journalist. Tams was a member of Derbyshire folk group Muckram Wakes in the 1970s. He also worked as a music consultant at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre and on War Horse which opened at the National Theatre in 2007. John Tams may be best known to the

general public through having played one of the supporting roles in the ITV drama series Sharpe as one of the "Chosen Men": rifleman and former poacher Daniel Hagman, a whimsical, sober, steady hand in the 95th Rifles.

Track 29 Rose Marie

Rose Marie is a 1936 black-and-white musical film starring Jeanette MacDonald, Nelson Eddy and Reginald Owen. It is set in the Canadian wilderness. It was a huge success and became MacDonald and Eddy's best-known film. Their duet of "Indian Love Call" was a major hit for the two singers and remained a signature song throughout their careers.

Nelson Eddy (June 29, 1901 – March 6, 1967) was an American singer and actor who appeared in 19 musical films during the 1930s and 1940s, as well as in opera and on the concert stage, radio, television, and in nightclubs. A classically trained baritone, he is best remembered for the eight films in which he co-starred with soprano Jeanette MacDonald. He was one of the first "crossover" stars, a superstar appealing both to shrieking bobby-soxers as well as opera purists, and in his hey-day was the highest paid singer in the world. During his 40-year career, he earned three stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and was invited to sing at the third inauguration of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. He also introduced millions of young Americans to classical music and inspired many of them to pursue a musical career.

Jeanette Anna MacDonald (June 18, 1903 – January 14, 1965) was an American singer and actress best remembered for her musical films of the 1930s with Maurice Chevalier (Love Me Tonight, The Merry Widow) and Nelson Eddy (Naughty Marietta, Rose-Marie, and Maytime). During the 1930s and 1940s she starred in 29 feature films, four nominated for Best Picture Oscars (The Love Parade, One Hour with You, Naughty Marietta and San Francisco), and recorded extensively, earning three gold records. She later appeared in opera, concerts, radio, and television. MacDonald was one of the most influential sopranos of the 20th century, introducing opera to movie-going audiences and inspiring a generation of singers.

Track 30 They Can't Take That Away From Me

Is a 1937 song written by George Gershwin and Ira Gershwin and introduced by Fred Astaire in the 1937 film Shall We Dance. The song is performed by Astaire on the foggy deck of the ferry from New Jersey to Manhattan. It is sung to Ginger Rogers, who remains silent listening throughout. No dance sequence follows, which was unusual for the Astaire-Rogers numbers.

Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers (born Frederick Austerlitz; May 10, 1899 – June 22, 1987) was an American film and Broadway stage dancer, choreographer, singer and actor. His stage and subsequent film career

spanned a total of 76 years, during which he made 31 musical films. He was named the fifth Greatest Male Star of All Time by the American Film Institute. He is particularly associated with Ginger Rogers, with whom he made ten films. Gene Kelly, another major innovator in filmed dance, said that "the history of dance on film begins with Astaire".