

Facts

Giants causeway formed 50 million years ago

Slaves usually came from West Africa

870 miles is the longest distance on the mainland UK

Norman Conquest is the last successful invasion of Britain

Park and Beauty is based on Norman words

Fringe (Edinburgh Festival Fringe) take place in Edinburgh

Big Ben is 150 years old

First farmers came to Britain about 6000 years ago from south east Europe

Roman army left Britain - AD 410

Glorious Revolution marked as the beginning of constitutional monarchy

Bodnant Garden is located in Wales

England remain in republic for 11 years

Statute of Rhuddlan - annexed Wales to England

Northern Ireland Assembly has 108 elected members (known as MLAs, Member of Legislative Assembly)

The Quakers set up first anti-slavery campaign (late 1700s)

Millennium Stadium located in Cardiff

Bessemer process is known as production of steel

Historic Scotland looks after the Edinburgh Castle

Scottish parliament has 129 members

Scottish jury has 15 members

The most serious crime cases are heard by High Court in Scotland

'King James' Bible is a new translation into English (or 'Authorised version')

The Clans lost a lot of power after Battle of Culloden (1746)

Britain fought against Spain and France in Battle of Trafalgar

The Anglican Church of England known as in other countries

The Episcopal Church - in Scotland and US

Day before Lent - Shrove Tuesday or Pancake Day

Mercury Music Prize is awarded for best album from UK and Ireland each September

London has 33 local authorities

Shampooing was 'Indian art of head massage' when it was introduced first time

3000 people lost their lives in decades after 1969 due to violence in Northern Ireland

Labour Party won the election in 1945 (Clement Attlee as PM, 'Nye' as health minister)

The Battle of Britain - crucial aerial battle against German

Maiden Castle hill is located in Dorset

21% of people said that they had no religion and 70% Christian in Citizenship Survey (2009)

25% of people said that they had no religion and 59% Christian in Citizenship Survey (2011)

Vaisakhi is celebrated in April (14 April Sikh festival with parades, dancing and singing)

Henry VIII executed Anne Boleyn and Catherine Howard

Small claims: £3000 in Northern Ireland, £5000 in Scotland and £10000 in England and Wales

UN Security Council has 15 members

UN (United Nations) has 190+ members

The period after Norman Conquest up until 1485 is called as Middle Ages (medieval period). It was time of almost constant war

60000 British casualties on the first day after British attack on the Somme in July 1916

Citizen Advice Bureau or solicitor can help if you are facing domestic violence

National trust run by 61000 volunteers

Secretaries of State are responsible for education, health and defence

Jutes came from Northern Europe

Golden Hind was one of the first to circumnavigate the world

Charles I raised money for 11 years without parliament approval

James I and his son Charles I believed in the Divine Right of Kings

870 miles distance is the longest distance in the mainland

Children's Hearing System is used to deal with children and young people who committed an offence in Scotland. Northern Ireland has a system of youth conferencing to consider how child should be dealt with when they committed an offence

Welsh Assembly has 60 members

The National Assembly has 60 Assembly members.

Grand National is a horse racing event

At Remembrance Day (11 November), there is 2 minute silence at 11am

Sir Edmund Halley and Sir Isaac Newton were early members of the Royal Society

Britain remained separate from Roman Empire for about 100 years after unsuccessful Julius Caesar invasion

Council of Europe has 47 members and separate from EU, responsible for protection and promotion of human rights. It has no power to make laws, but draws up conventions and charters

'Carry on' associated with films

Serious civil cases deal by court of session in Edinburgh for Scotland and High Court in England, Wales and NI

Magistrates and Justices of the Peace (JPs) are member of local community, so they usually work unpaid and don't need legal qualification

Crusades war - European Christians fought for control of Holy Land.

During civil war, Charles I army was defeated at the Battles of Marston Moor and Naseby

Stormont in Belfast is a name of building, where Northern Irish assembly meets

Magistrate Court deals with most minor criminal cases in England, Wales.
Justice of Peace in Scotland.

In Northern Ireland, Deputy District Judges or District Judge hear minor criminal cases.

Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) elected in England and Wales, who are responsible for efficient and effective police force for local communities. PCCs set local police priorities and local policing budget. They also appoint the Chief Constable

MacDonalds of Glencoe originally from Scotland

Queen Mary was Catholic and persecuted Protestants

During the reigns of Elizabeth I and James, English government encouraged Scottish and English Protestants to settle in Ulster

British became fully democratic in the 20th century

Growing patriotism is associated with Elizabethan period in England

Queen Elizabeth I was Protestant. She reestablished Church of England

Labour government was elected in 1945 (Clement Attlee)

After Norman conquest peasants continued to speak on Anglo-Saxon language, but king and noblemen had spoken on Norman French. Gradually, they combined to English language

Phrase 'Rain stops play' related with cricket sport

Financial help for unemployed, old age pension and free school meal were introduced before First World War in 1914

Ulster fry - fried meal with bacon, eggs, sausage, black and white pudding, tomatoes, mushrooms, soda and potato bread

The Swinging Sixties was also time when social law were liberalised for example In relation to divorce and to abortion in England, Wales and Scotland. It was quite common at the time for employers to ask women to leave their jobs when they got married. But parliament introduced law to make it illegal

People spoke on Celtic language during Iron Age

The Laurence Olivier Award is celebrated by British theatres in London

Magistrate and Special Constable (or lay/non-police representative) are unpaid in UK

The Reformation is the name of movement which protest against the Roman Catholic Church during Henry VIII time

'Wallace and Gromit' film is animated film

Admiral Nelson died in Battle of Trafalgar (1805 against France and Spain)

Lords served serfs

The judiciary is responsible for interpreting the law

Commonwealth has 53 member states and Queen is ceremonial head of it

Hadrian's Wall is popular UNESCO World Heritage Site

4000 years ago people learned how to make bronze

Engineers came from German in Middle Ages

10% of population has a grandparent born outside of uk

Gothic architecture became popular in 19 century

Turner prize is given for Art

The first farmers built houses, monuments and tombs

Grimsby and Scunthorpe came from Vikings language

400 million was estimated population of British Empire (Victorian period)

The Turner Prize celebrates contemporary art (est. 1984)

Bayeux Tapestry embroidery is 70m long

Canal builders arrived from Holland

Mary, the Queen of Scots spent in prison 20 years

120000 Russian and Polish Jews came to Britain between 1870 - 1914

Viking settled in Danelaw after they got defeated

York minister has stained glass

Beowulf is Anglo-Saxon poem (tells about hero's battles against monsters)

Knights sat in House of Commons in the middle age

Industrial revolution took place between 18th and 19th centuries

Good Friday **marks the death of Jesus Christ** during the Easter.

The modern game of **golf** can be traced back to 15th century Scotland.

The Queen has reigned since her father's death in 1952, and in 2012 she celebrated her **Diamond Jubilee** (60 years as queen).

Battle of Waterloo is the **last battle between Great Britain and France**

In Scotland, the national Church is the Church of Scotland, which is a **Presbyterian Church**.

The most famous cricket competition is **the Ashes**, which is a series of Test matches played between England and Australia.

There are 60 members of the Welsh government or members of the Senedd (MSs) and elections are held **every four years** using a form of proportional representation.

Edinburg Castle and Lincoln Cathedral were built in the Middle Ages

2 million Indian and Chinese workers arrived to replace slaves

During Victorian times, the government began to promote policies of free trade, **abolishing a number of taxes on imported goods**. One example of this was the repealing of the Corn Laws in 1846. These had prevented the import of

cheap grain. The reforms helped the development of the British industry, because raw materials could now be imported cheaply.

Richard Austen Butler became a Conservative MP in 1923 and held several positions before becoming responsible for education in 1941. In this role, he oversaw the introduction of the Education Act 1944 (often called 'The Butler Act'), which introduced **free secondary education in England and Wales**.

The Northern Ireland Assembly has 108 elected members, known as MLAs (members of the Legislative Assembly). They are elected with a form of **proportional representation**.

The people of the Iron Age made the first coins to be minted in Britain, some inscribed with **the names of Iron Age kings**.

Civil servants are chosen on merit and are politically neutral – they are not political appointees.

Crathes Castle is located in Scotland.

Britain has produced many great designers, from Thomas Chippendale (who designed furniture in the 18th century) to **Clarice Cliff** (who designed Art Deco ceramics) to Sir Terence Conran (a 20th-century interior designer).

Parts of Hadrian's Wall, include the forts of Housesteads and Vindolanda.

The Irish Nationalist movement had grown strongly through the 19th century. Some, such as **the Fenians**, favoured complete independence.

In the UK, you need to be at least **16 years old** to ride a moped, and there are other age requirements and special tests for driving large vehicles.

In the UK, you must be at least **17** years to drive a car or motorcycle and you must have a driving licence to drive on public roads.

In 1997 the Labour Party led by **Tony Blair** was elected. The Blair government introduced a Scottish Parliament and a Welsh Assembly.

The White Tower in the Tower of London is an example of a Norman castle keep, built on the orders of William the Conqueror.

In England, Wales and Northern Ireland, if an accused person is aged 10 to 17, the case is normally heard in a Youth Court in front of up to three specially trained magistrates or a District Judge. The most serious cases will go the Crown Court.

The National Trust was founded in 1895 by three volunteers.

After the Black Death, new social classes appeared in England, including owners of large areas of land known as gentry

County Courts deal with a wide range of civil disputes. These include people trying to get back money that is owed to them, cases involving personal injury, family matters, breaches of contract, and divorce. In Scotland, most of these matters are dealt with in the Sheriff Court.

In Scotland the elected members, called MSPs, meet in the Scottish Parliament building at **Holyrood** in Edinburgh.

British film studios flourished in the 1930s.

The monarch has regular meetings with the Prime Minister and can advise, warn and encourage, but the decisions on government policies are made by the Prime Minister and cabinet.

Elections to the European Parliament use a system of **proportional representation**, where seats are allocated to each party in proportion to the total number of votes it has won.

Forcing another person to marry is a criminal offence.

John Major was Prime Minister after Mrs Thatcher, and helped establish the Northern Ireland peace process.

Many Muslims sacrifice an animal to eat during Eid ul Adha.

During the Middle Ages people came to England from abroad to trade and also to work, such as weavers from France, engineers from Germany, **glass manufacturers from Italy** and canal builders from Holland.

Margaret Thatcher worked closely with the United States President, **Ronald Reagan**, and was one of the first Western leaders to recognise and welcome the changes in the leadership of the Soviet Union which eventually led to the end of the Cold War.

When Queen Anne died in 1714, Parliament chose a German, **George I**, to be the next king, because he was Anne's nearest Protestant relative.

In the UK, there are several different parts of government. The main ones are: the monarchy, the Parliament (the House of Commons and the House of Lords), the Prime Minister, the cabinet, the judiciary (courts), the police, the civil service and the local government.

Adolf Hitler came to power in Germany in **1933**.

Four Weddings and a Funeral (1994) was directed by Mike Newell.

The **Harrier jump jet**, an aircraft capable of taking off vertically, is a British invention of the 20th century.

During the 17th century there were two main groups in Parliament, known as the Whigs and the Tories.

The Mousetrap, a murder-mystery play by Dame Agatha Christie, has been running in the west end since 1952 and has had the longest initial run of any show in history.

In Scotland, the **31st December** is called Hogmanay and **2 January** is also a public holiday. For some Scottish people, Hogmanay is a bigger holiday than Christmas.

The Killing Fields (1984) was directed by Roland Joffé.

Inveraray Castle and Crathes Castle are located in Scotland.

The Wars of the Roses ended with the Battle of Bosworth Field in 1485.

If an MP dies or resigns, there will be a fresh election, called a by-election, in his or her constituency.

The Welsh Assembly has the power to make laws in 20 areas, including: education and training, health and social services, economic development and housing.

There is **one** Welsh-language channel in Wales.

During the First World War millions of people were killed or wounded, with more than 2 million British casualties.

When Catherine was too old to give him another child, Henry VIII decided to divorce her, hoping that another wife would give him a son to be his heir.

'All the world's a stage' are lines from William Shakespeare's play As You Like It.

There are famous gardens to visit throughout the UK, including Kew Gardens, Sissinghurst and Hidcote in England, Crathes Castle and Inveraray Castle in Scotland, Bodnant Garden in Wales, and Mount Stewart in Northern Ireland.

In Scotland, Gaelic is spoken in some parts of the Highlands and Islands, and in Northern Ireland some people speak Irish Gaelic.

Between 1853 and 1913, as many as 13 million British citizens left the country.

Drivers can use their driving licence until they are 70 years old. After that, the licence is valid for three years at a time.

In 1284 King Edward I of England introduced the Statute of Rhuddlan, which annexed Wales to the Crown of England.

Norway is not a member of the European Union.

The Houses of Parliament and St Pancras Station were built in the 19th century, as were the town halls in cities such as Manchester and Sheffield.

There are two ways to arrange a visit to the Northern Ireland Assembly at Stormont. You can either contact the Education Service (details are on the Northern Ireland Assembly website at <http://www.niassembly.gov.uk>) or contact an MLA.

To book guided tours or seats in the public galleries for the Welsh Assembly you can contact the Assembly Booking Service on 0300 200 6565, email contact@assembly.wales or visit <http://www.assembly.wales> for an online booking form.

Which act introduced the Forced Marriage Protection Orders for England, Wales and Northern Ireland in 2008? - The Forced Marriage (Civil Protection) Act 2007

The Northern Ireland Assembly has 90 elected members, known as MLAs (members of the Legislative Assembly). They are elected with a form of proportional representation.

Before the 18th century, agriculture was the biggest source of employment in Britain.

Some programmes are broadcasted in Irish Gaelic

The Pre-Raphaelites were an important group of artists in the second half of the 19th century. They painted detailed pictures on religious or literary themes in bright colours. The group included Holman Hunt, Dante Gabriel Rossetti and Sir John Millais.

One of the most famous battles of the Hundred Years War was the Battle of Agincourt in 1415, where King Henry V's vastly outnumbered English army defeated the French. The English left France in the 1450s.

After his victory in the Wars of the Roses, Henry VII wanted to make sure that

England remained peaceful and that his position as king was secure. He deliberately strengthened the central administration of England and reduced the power of the nobles.

In May 2010, and for the first time in the UK since February 1974, no political party won an overall majority in the General Election. The Conservative and Liberal Democrat parties formed a coalition and the leader of the Conservative Party, David Cameron, became Prime Minister.

Northern Ireland and Scotland have their own banknotes, which are valid everywhere in the UK. However, shops and businesses do not have to accept them.

Hovercraft invented in the 1950s

The House of Lords can suggest amendments or propose new laws, which are then discussed by MPs. The House of Lords checks laws that have been passed by the House of Commons to ensure they are fit for purpose. It also holds the government to account to make sure that it is working in the best interests of the people.

NATO stands for The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

The people of the Bronze Age were accomplished metalworkers who made many beautiful objects in bronze and gold, including tools, ornaments and weapons.

There is a famous celebration of Diwali in Leicester.

The electoral register is updated every year in September or October.

Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park cover 720 square miles

Henry married Anne of Cleves for political reasons but divorced her soon after.

To visit the UK Parliament, you can write to your local MP in advance to ask for tickets or you can Queue on the day at the public entrance.

In the 18th century, Lancelot 'Capability' Brown designed the grounds around country houses so that the landscape appeared to be natural, with grass, trees and lakes. He often worked with Edwin Lutyens to design colourful gardens around the houses he designed.

Catherine of Aragon was a Spanish princess

During the Second World War, British movies (for example, In Which We Serve) played an important part in boosting morale.

The National Eisteddfod of Wales is an annual cultural festival which includes music, dance, art and original performances largely in Welsh. It includes a number of important competitions for Welsh poetry.

The Super League is the most well-known rugby league (club) competition.

Which famous poem tells the story of the knights at the court of King Arthur? -
Sir Gawain and the Green Knight

The longest distance on the mainland in the UK is from John O'Groats on the north coast of Scotland to a place in the south-west corner of England known as:
Land's End

In the UK, there is a National Lottery for which draws are made **every week**.

There are five ski centres in Scotland, as well as Europe's longest dry ski slope **near Edinburgh**.

A National Insurance number does not on its own prove to an employer that you have the right to work in the UK.

The 'Concorde' began carrying passengers in 1976.

The Proms is an eight-week summer season of orchestral classical music that takes place in various venues, including the Royal Albert Hall in London.

What name is given to the candelabrum lit during the eight-day holiday of Hanukkah? - Menorah

The Scottish Parliament can legislate on: civil and criminal law, health, education, planning and additional tax-raising powers.

The language spoken during the Iron Age was part of the Celtic language family.

In the UK, the longest distance on the mainland is from John O'Groats on the north coast of Scotland to Land's End in the south-west corner of England. It is about 870 miles (approximately 1,400 kilometres).

Royal Ascot , a five-day race meeting in Berkshire attended by members of the Royal Family.

Diwali normally falls in October or November and lasts for five days.

The Lord of the Rings is not the British film.

Old Bailey is A Famous criminal Court

Ealing Studios has a claim to being the oldest continuously working film studio facility in the world.

Zimbabwe is a former member of the Commonwealth, having withdrawn in 2003, and the issue of Zimbabwe has repeatedly taken centre stage in the Commonwealth, both since Zimbabwe's independence and as part of the British Empire.

Decisions on government policies are made by the Prime Minister and cabinet.

The most famous sailing event in the UK takes place at Cowes on the Isle of Wight.

The MP's office is located at The House of Commons, Westminster, London, SW1A 0AA.

The House of Lords is normally more independent of the government than the House of Commons.

In the new Church of England, the king, not the Pope, would have the power to appoint bishops and order how people should worship.

In Wales, many people speak Welsh – a completely different language from English – and it is taught in schools and universities.

In 1837, Queen Victoria became queen of the UK at the age of 18. She reigned until 1901, almost 64 years.

The Queen receives foreign ambassadors and high commissioners, entertains visiting heads of state, and makes state visits overseas in support of diplomatic and relationships with other countries.

The London Eye is situated on the southern bank of the River Thames and is a Ferris wheel that is 443 feet (135 metres) tall.

When Cromwell died, his son, Richard, became Lord Protector in his place but was not able to control the army or the government

Edward VI died at the age of 15 after ruling for just over six years, and his half-sister Mary became queen.

Who were the pioneers of the IVF (in-vitro fertilisation) therapy? - Sir Robert Edwards and Patrick Steptoe

In the UK, bank holidays of no religious significance are celebrated at the beginning of May in late May or early June, and in August

Henry VIII was succeeded by his son Edward VI.

It is a criminal offence to carry a weapon of any kind, even if it is for self-defence. This includes a gun, a knife or anything that is made or adapted to cause injury.

Charles II was crowned king of Scotland and led a Scottish army into England. Cromwell defeated this army in the Battles of Dunbar and Worcester.

Rugby originated in England in the early 19th century and is very popular in the UK today.

Modern tennis evolved in England in the late 19th century.

The Reform Act of 1832 had greatly increased the number of people with the right to vote. The act also abolished the old pocket and rotten boroughs and more parliamentary seats were given to the towns and cities.

Charles I wanted the worship of the Church of England to include more ceremony and introduced a revised Prayer Book.

The most famous rugby union competition is the Six Nations Championship between England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, France and Italy.

When Henry VIII took the title 'King of Ireland'. English laws were introduced and local leaders were expected to follow the instructions of the Lord Lieutenants in Dublin.

In Northern Ireland, the anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne is celebrated in July and is also a public holiday.

Lincoln Cathedral was built in mediaeval times

Edward VI was 15 years old when he died

During the Middle Ages, several cathedrals had windows of stained glass, telling stories about: The Bible and Christian saints

The settlements of Scottish and English Protestants in Ulster (the northern province of Ireland) during the reigns of Elizabeth I and James I, who took over the land from Catholic landholders is known as: Plantations

Which of the following is a traditional character of the pantomimes? - the Dame

Most people live in towns and cities but much of Britain is still countryside.

After King Alfred the Great defeated the Vikings, many of the Viking invaders stayed in Britain, especially in the east and north of England in an area called: Danelaw

York Minster is a famous example of stained glass used on the windows of some cathedrals during the middle ages.

The Foreign Secretary is responsible for managing relationships with foreign countries.

Poems which survive from the Middle Ages include Chaucer's Canterbury Tales and a poem called Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, about one of the knights at the court of King Arthur.

When did Gordon Brown take over as Prime Minister from his predecessor Tony Blair? - in 2007

Costa Rica is not a member of the Commonwealth.

PCCs (Police and Crime Commissioners) set local police priorities and the local policing budget. They also appoint the local Chief Constable.

What do Sir Terence Conran, Clarice Cliff and Thomas Chippendale have in common? - They were British designers

The core values of civil servants include: integrity, honesty, objectivity and impartiality (including being politically neutral).

Robert Louis Stevenson, Graham Greene and Sir Kingsley Amis were British writers

British industry led the world in the 19th century. The UK produced more than half of the world's **iron, coal and cotton cloth**.

Margaret Thatcher made structural changes to the economy through the privatisation of nationalised industries and imposed legal controls on trade union powers.

The language spoken during the Iron Age was part of the Celtic language family.

What do Ian McEwan, Hilary Mantel and Julian Barnes have in common? - They were awarded with the Man Booker Prize for Fiction