

WHAT HAPPENED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 2013?

THE CHRISTENING OF PRINCE GEORGE OF CAMBRIDGE

The official portrait for the christening of Prince George of Cambridge, photographed in The Morning Room at Clarence House in London on October 23, 2013. Back row left to right: The Duke of Edinburgh, Britain's Prince Charles, Camilla, The Duchess of Cornwall, Prince Harry of Wales, Pippa Middleton, James Middleton, Carole Middleton and Michael Middleton. Front row left to right: Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge carrying Prince George and William, Duke of Cambridge.



MARGARET THATCHER'S FUNERAL

Following several years of poor health, Thatcher died on the morning of 8 April 2013 at the age of 87 after suffering a stroke. She had been staying at a suite in The Ritz Hotel in London since December 2012 after having difficulty with stairs at her Chester Square home.

Details of her funeral were agreed with her in advance. In line with her wishes she received a ceremonial funeral, including full military honours, with a church service at St Paul's Cathedral on 17 April. Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip attended the funeral. The second time in the Queen's reign that she had attended the funeral of a former prime minister.

On 28 September a service for Thatcher was held in the All Saints Chapel of the Royal Hospital Chelsea's Margaret Thatcher Infirmary. Afterwards Thatcher's ashes were interred in the grounds of the hospital, next to those of her husband. The service and interment were an unpublicised private event.



NELSON MANDELA'S DEATH

After suffering from a prolonged respiratory infection, Mandela died on 5 December 2013 at the age of 95. He died at his home in Houghton, Johannesburg, surrounded by his family. His death was announced on television by President Jacob Zuma.

On 6 December 2013, President Zuma announced a national mourning period of ten days, with the main event held at the FNB Stadium in Johannesburg on 10 December 2013. He declared Sunday 8 December 2013 a national day of prayer and reflection. Mandela's body lay in state from 11–13 December at the Union Buildings in Pretoria and a state funeral was held on 15 December 2013 in Qunu, South Africa.

Approximately 90 representatives of foreign states travelled to South Africa to attend memorial events.

