

# ABOUT : Your Timeline

- 1714 - George of Hanover in Germany, becomes George I of Britain, with the next three kings also being called George. George III famously went mad during his reign and so his son took charge as regent. This period was thus called 'the Regency'.
- 1761 - The first canal was commissioned by Francis Egerton, 3rd Duke of Bridgewater, and built by James Brindley. It enabled coal to be transported from his mines to Manchester easily and in bulk, cutting the cost of coal by 50%. It connected Runcorn, Leigh and Manchester. Other canals had previously been built, but this was regarded as the first proper canal and prompted the building of lots a canals thereafter.
- 1771 - Arkwrights Mill - The first steam powered cotton mill, heralding the start of the 'factory age'.
- 1805 - The Battle of Trafalgar was a sea battle with the British Navy against the combined forces of the French and Spanish navies. Admiral Nelson won but was also killed during the battle. Britain's control of the seas was established.
- 1815 - The Duke of Wellington along with the last minute help of the Prussians defeated Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo, ending the series of Napoleonic wars, 1803-1815
- 1833 - The Slavery Abolition Act 1833, ended slavery throughout most of the British Empire, excepting areas controlled by the East India company. A complete ban became law in 1843.
- 1834 - The Poor law, took beggars off the streets and ensured that all poor people had somewhere to live and were clothed and fed, in special buildings called workhouses. In return they had to work. Conditions were sometimes harsh.

## THE GEORGIANS - *more information...*

### FURTHER INFORMATION

Named after the first of the Hanoverian kings, the Georgian period saw a large expansion of the British Empire, to include India, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. It also saw the start of the 'Industrial Revolution' with the world's first iron bridge in 1779, Arkwright's steam powered mill and Richard Trevithick's first steam locomotive, leading to the first railway, between Stockton and Darlington in 1825. There were wars with France, Spain, the American Colonies and the Irish. The latter eventually leading to an Act of Union, combining The Irish parliament with that of Great Britain's in 1801. Robert Walpole became Britain's first Prime Minister and Robert Peel started the modern police force in London, which were nicknamed 'bobbies'.

**Further information :** [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Georgian\\_era](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Georgian_era)  
<http://www.bl.uk/georgian-britain>  
<http://www.britainexpress.com/History/Georgian-History-of-Britain.htm>

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