

THE BEATLES, THE SIX DAY WAR, AND TONY BLACKBURN!

1967: The Year of Augustinians' Birth – by Duncan Robinson

In 2007 Augustinians Cricket Club celebrated their 40th year in existence, having been founded in 1967 by a group of staff at St. Augustine's School.

It has been a great achievement and success story to have lasted this long and to be in the position they are now in. To commemorate this, a special evening is being held at the YMCA clubhouse in March 2008 involving many guests, including players, past and present, and speakers.

To put into context just how long the club has survived, here are some of the other events that took place in the world in 1967, the year of the club's birth.

In 1967 the population of the world was 3.485 billion. During the period of Augustinians' existence, world population has risen by over 3 billion people and now stands at 6.649 billion.



On the entertainment scene, the biggest films to hit the big screen in 1967 were *The Graduate*, *Bonnie and Clyde* and *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*. The Beatles' *Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* album (above) was released in the 'Summer of Love' and is now widely regarded as one of the greatest ever pop albums.

In the world of sport, the first ever Superbowl was held in America and 100,000 people crammed into the old Wembley Stadium to see the first ever all-

London FA Cup Final as Tottenham Hotspur defeated Chelsea 2-1. Former stars Ron 'Chopper' Harris, Terry Venables and Jimmy Greaves were on the teamsheet that day.



Augustinians share a birthday with BBC Radio 1, the most popular radio station in the UK. DJ Tony Blackburn (above) presented the first ever show on September 30th 1967. His first song of choice was *Flowers in the Rain* by The Move.

The major event in world affairs in 1967 was the 'Six Day War' in which Israel defeated the Arabs. Israel claimed to have acted in self-defence as they united the holy city of Jerusalem for the first time since 1948. The war was brought to a close when the Israelis observed a UN ceasefire.

Elsewhere in the world, Biafra declared independence from Nigeria and was blockaded, leading to massive starvation. South Yemen also became independent from the UK.

In Cape Town, South Africa, Dr Christiaan Bernard performed the first heart transplant and the USS Liberty, a US navy ship, was accidentally bombed by Israeli jets.

American Samoa adopted a new constitution and became self-governing and a military coup overthrew the government of Greece.

Earth Day was celebrated for the first time in 1967 to put forward the message of environmental awareness around the world. This is still in progress today.

1967 was also the year of the birth of educational children's television programme *Sesame Street*. The show has now had 38 seasons and 4,160 episodes and is one of the longest-running television shows in history. The show is a pioneer of the contemporary educational television standard, combining both education and entertainment. It is best known for its muppet characters.

Augustinians will be hoping that their 1967 link to muppets is not a bad omen for the upcoming 2008 season!