

JUNE

June is named for **Juno**, the warlike protector of the Roman state and patron goddess of marriage, hence the tradition of June weddings.



Each June thousands of travellers make their way to Westmoreland where the **Appleby Horse Fair** forms the centrepiece of their annual gathering.



A child prodigy, Felix Mendelssohn wrote his overture **A Midsummer Night's Dream** in 1824, at the age of 17. The incidental music for the play, including the ever popular *Wedding March*, followed in 1842. In Shakespeare's play, **Puck** is a mischievous fairy; his alter ego in folklore had more sinister overtones...



In the northern hemisphere **Midsummer Day** is celebrated on 24 June, though the **summer solstice**, when the tilt of the earth gives the longest daylight of the year, falls on 21 June.



The **Le Mans 24 Hour** endurance race for sports-cars, held in June each year, was dominated by **Bentley** during the late 1920s, with four consecutive wins. A further triumph came after a gap of 73 years in 2003.



While American troops stormed Omaha Beach as part of **Operation Overlord**, the Normandy invasion, Sergeant Major Stanley Hollis won the only Victoria Cross awarded on **D Day, 6 June 1944**, for his heroism during the British landing on Sword Beach.



The first great British television event, **Coronation Day, 2 June 1953**, also gave rise to souvenirs and commemorative packaging galore, even extending, as here, to OXO cubes.



Born in Tasmania on 20 June 1909 – his mother was descended from one of the *Bounty* mutineers – **Errol Flynn** became famous both for his swashbuckling

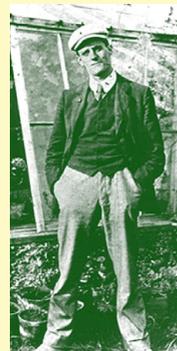


film roles and his flamboyant lifestyle. In later life Flynn suffered from constant ill health and suffered a series of heart attacks.

In his stream-of-consciousness novel **Ulysses** the urbane and ever dapper James Joyce chronicles the activities of one Leopold Bloom through an ordinary day, **16 June**.



Painted in 1895, **Flaming June** was the pinnacle of Frederick Leighton's career. The first painter to be given a peerage, he was created Baron Leighton of Stretton on 24 January 1896. The newly ennobled Lord Leighton died the next day.



Each year Joyce buffs recreate **Bloomsday** by meticulously following Bloom's fictional route through Dublin.