

WEDNESDAY 21ST OCTOBER

Feargal Sharkey was born in Derry, Northern Ireland in 1958. He was working as a TV delivery man when he joined his second cousin Billy's band, The Undertones. In 1978 they self-funded an EP that included Teenage Kicks. BBC DJ John Peel loved it so much he played it twice in a row. Released on 21st October 1978, it reached number 31 in the charts. The Undertones recorded several albums before splitting in 1983, after which Sharkey pursued a solo career.

In 1992 Sharkey moved into the business side of music, working for a record company, then the Radio Authority and eventually becoming CEO of UK Music, which represents the music industry. He helped establish UK Music's **political lobbying** work, ensuring musicians' interests were heard by government.

Leaving UK Music in 2011, Sharkey reinvented himself again. Always a keen fly fisherman, but he had become frustrated by pollution in Britain's rivers and began investigating sewage discharges and the failure of water companies and regulators to protect waterways. Using his **lobbying** skills, he is now one of Britain's most recognisable clean-water campaigners (YouTube Short), challenging politicians and water company bosses to clean up Britain's rivers.



- John Peel requested the opening lyric of *Teenage Kicks* be engraved on his headstone. What's your favourite song or lyric?
- Why do organisations like UK Music have **lobbyists**?
- Are rivers clean in your area? What would you campaign about governments changing?

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Feargal Sharkey was born in Derry, in 1958. He was working as a TV delivery man when he joined The Undertones. Their debut hit Teenage Kicks released this day 1978 was played twice in a row by John Peel on Radio1.

In 1992 Sharkey moved into the business side of music, eventually becoming CEO of UK Music and helped establish their **political lobbying** activity.

Since leaving UK Music in 2011 he has reinvented himself again. As a fly fisherman he had become frustrated by pollution in Britain's rivers and began investigating water companies and regulators, using his **lobbying** skills, to advocate for Britain's waterways.



- John Peel had a *Teenage Kicks* lyric put on his headstone. What's your favourite lyric?
- Why do organisations like UK Music have **lobbyists**?
- Are rivers clean in your area?