

1884: 25 April  
 Sydney Larkin born (Lichfield, Staffordshire)

1886: 10 January  
 Eva Emily Day born (Littleborough, Lancashire)

1906: 6 August  
 Eva and Sydney meet for the first time (Rhyl, North Wales)

1911: 5 October  
 Eva and Sydney marry Leigh, (Lancashire)

1912: 21 August  
 Catherine Emily Larkin (Kitty) born (Birmingham)

1922:  
 Born - 9 August (Wednesday)  
 2 Poultny Road, Radford, **Coventry**, England

14 September: baptised **Philip Arthur Larkin**  
 at the **Cathedral of St. Michael Coventry**

1930:  
 September: enters **King Henry VIII School**  
 (Preparatory Department) **Coventry**, where  
 he meets **Jim Sutton** for the first time

1932:  
 September: moves up to  
**King Henry VIII** Senior School

June: offered post of Assistant Librarian  
 at University College **Leicester** where he  
 meets **Monica Jones** for the first time (1947)

1939:  
 April: **'Summer Nocturne'**  
 Larkin's first published poem  
 appears in the **King Henry VIII**  
**School** magazine **The Coventrian**

1940:  
 November: **'Ultimatum'** published in  
**The Listener** (vol. xxiv. No.620); Larkin's  
 first poem published in a national weekly

1945:  
 July: **The North Ship**,  
 Larkin's first collection  
 of poems, published  
 by **R.A. Caton** of the  
 Fortune Press (**London**)

1946:  
 October: **Jill**, Larkin's first novel in print,  
 published by the Fortune Press (**London**)

1951:  
 27 April: **XX Poems**  
 privately printed for Larkin  
 in an edition of 100 copies  
 by Carswells of **Belfast**

1947:  
 21 February: **A Girl in Winter**  
 published by the Fortune Press  
 (**London**)

1954:  
 March: **The Fantasy Poets**,  
**Philip Larkin, No. 21** published by  
 the Fantasy Press,  
 Swynford, Eynsham (**Oxford**)

1955:  
 November: **The Less Deceived** pub-  
 lished by **George and Jean Hartley**  
 of the Marvell Press (**Hessle**)

1956:  
 13 July: **John Shakespeare** article  
 'Four young poets - 1. Philip Larkin'  
 (heavily re-drafted by Larkin himself)  
 appears anonymously in the  
**Times Educational Supplement**

1965:  
 26 April: awarded  
**Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry**

1964:  
 28 February: **The Whitsun Weddings**  
 published by Faber and Faber (**London**)

15 December: **Down Cemetery Road**, the  
 BBC TV **Monitor** documentary directed by  
**Patrick Garland**, broadcast for the first time

1970:  
 9 February: **All What Jazz** is  
 published by Faber and Faber (**London**)

June: **'The Explosion'** as a single-leaf  
 broadsheet published by The Poem-of-  
 the-Month Club Ltd. (**London**)

29 November: completes  
**'Aubade'** - published in the  
**Times Literary Supplement**  
 23 December 1977

1974:  
 3 June: **High Windows** published  
 by Faber and Faber (**London**)

1976:  
 17 July: guests on **Desert Island Discs**  
 (BBC Radio Four)

1973:  
 29 March: **The Oxford Book of Twentieth**  
**Century English Verse** chosen by **Philip Larkin**,  
 published by Clarendon Press (**Oxford**)

1988: 10 October  
**Philip Larkin: Collected Poems**  
 - edited by **Anthony Thwaite** (Faber and Faber)

1992: 19 October  
**Selected Letters of Philip Larkin 1940-1985**  
 - edited by **Anthony Thwaite** (Faber and Faber)

2001: 1 November  
**Philip Larkin: Further Requirements**  
 - edited by **Anthony Thwaite** (Faber and Faber)

2010: 2 December  
**Philip Larkin Statue** unveiled at **Hull Paragon**  
 - created by **Martin Jennings**

2012: 19 January  
**The Complete Poems of Philip Larkin**  
 - edited by **Archie Burnett** (Faber and Faber)

# L I F E

1948:  
 26 March: **Sydney Larkin** dies, aged 63

17 May: becomes engaged to  
**Ruth Bowman**

21 March: first day as Librarian at  
 University of **Hull** where he meets  
**Maeve Brennan** for the first time

1943:  
 4 July: graduates with a **Bachelor of Arts (English,**  
**First Class)** from **Oxford** University

16 November: appointed Librarian at **Wellington**, Shrop-  
 shire where he meets **Ruth Bowman** for the first time

1950:  
 17 June: proposes marriage to **Ruth Bowman**  
 (withdraws the proposal two weeks later on 2 July)

2 October: first day as Sub-Librarian at **Queen's University Belfast**  
 where he meets **Winifred Arnott** and **Patsy Strang** for the first time

1961:  
 6 March: collapses during a Library Committee meeting, but  
 tests at **Hull** Kingston General hospital are inconclusive

10 April: admitted to the **London** Hospital, Whitechapel  
 under the care of neurologist **Sir Russell Brain**

1977:  
 17 November: **Eva Larkin** dies, aged 91

1983:  
 10 April: returns with **Monica Jones**  
 (suffering with shingles) from her  
 cottage in **Haydon Bridge**. After a  
 short stay in hospital, she moves  
 in with him permanently

1975:  
 8 May: receives notice that he is to be  
 awarded the **CBE**; the investiture takes place  
 at **Buckingham Palace** in November 1975

1 February: Larkin's memorial service  
 takes place at **Westminster Abbey**

1985 Dies - 2 December (1.24 a.m. Monday)

**Philip Larkin** was 63 at the time of his death  
 from cancer — the same age (as Larkin had  
 predicted) at which his father died

9 December: Larkin's funeral service takes  
 place at **St Mary the Virgin, Cottingham**

1993: 10 October  
**Philip Larkin: A Writer's Life**  
**Andrew Motion** (Faber and Faber)

2001: 15 February  
**Monica Jones** dies (aged 78)

2003: 11 June  
**Maeve Brennan** dies (aged 73)

2011: 18 July  
**Jean Hartley** dies (aged 78)

