

THIS MONTH

The name 'September' comes from the seventh month of the Roman calendar. The Saxon name for the month is Gerst-monath, meaning barley. September's flower is the aster.

1st: Germany invaded Poland in 1939, Japan hit by a 7.9 earthquake, killing more than 140,000 in 1923, **James (Gentleman Jim) Corbett**, boxing champion, born in 1866, **Nicholas Breakspear** (Pope Adrian IV), only English Pope, died in 1159

2nd: the Great Fire of London started in Pudding Lane in 1666, **Lord Kitchener** reconquered the Sudan at the Battle of Omdurman in 1898, the Second World War ended with the surrender of Japan in 1945

3rd: Sweden switched to driving on the right in 1967, Britain introduced the Gregorian calendar in 1752 so that September 3rd became September 14th, Allied forces invaded Italy in 1943

5th: The British took Malta from the French in 1800, Palestinian terrorists killed two Israeli athletes and took nine others hostage at the 1972 Munich Olympic Games (all the hostages were later killed), **Douglas Bader**, fighter pilot, died in 1982

6th: **Juan Sebastian del Cano** completed the first circumnavigation of the world in 1522 after the death of Magellan the expedition leader, the Great Fire of London extinguished in 1666, **Hendrik Verwoerd**, Prime Minister of South Africa, assassinated in 1966

7th: **Queen Elizabeth I** born in 1533, **Buddy Holly**, singer, born in 1936, **Catherine Parr**, wife of Henry VIII, died in 1548

8th: First V2 rocket hit London in 1944, Spanish colonists founded St Augustine in Florida (the USA's oldest continuously-inhabited settlement) in 1565, **King Richard I** (the Lionheart) born in 1157, **Peter Sellers**, actor, born in 1925

9th: **William the Conqueror** died in 1087, **Mao Zedong**, Chinese leader, died in 1976

10th: London taxi driver, **George Smith**, became the first person to be convicted of drink-driving in 1897, Hungary opened its frontiers to East Germany and Austria in 1989 triggering a mass exodus to the West

11th: terrorists brought down the World Trade Centre twin towers in New York in 2001

12th: **Herbert Henry Asquith**, Prime Minister 1908-1916, born in 1852

13th: **John Bunyan** released from prison after 12 years in 1672, **William Cecil**, statesman, born in Bourne, Lincolnshire, in 1520

14th: **Napoleon** entered Moscow in 1812

15th: Battle of Britain Day, tanks used for the first time in the Battle of Flers-Courcelette in 1916, **Duke of Sussex**, aka **Prince Harry**, born in 1984, **Alexander Fleming** discovered penicillin in 1928, **William Huskisson** MP, became the world's first railway passenger casualty in 1830

17th: foundation stone laid for the new William Farr School building by Mrs William Farr in 1958, the Soviet Army invaded Poland in 1939, Jews expelled from France in 1394

19th: **Melville Bissell** patented the carpet sweeper in 1876, **Jeremy Irons**, actor, born in 1948, **Twiggy**, model, born in 1949, **George Cadbury**, chocolate manufacturer, born in 1839, **William Lever**, soap manufacturer, born in 1851, **Thomas Barnardo**, philanthropist, died in 1905

20th: Attila and his Huns defeated at the Battle of Chalons in 451, Britain came off the gold standard in 1931, **Sir James Dewar**, inventor of the vacuum flask, born in 1842, **Sophia Loren**, actress, born in 1934

21st: England suffered its first home defeat by a foreign soccer team when they lost 2-0 to the Republic of Ireland at Goodison Park in 1949, **Edward II**, reigned 1307-1327, murdered by his wife in 1327

22nd: the first TV commercial (for Gibbs SR toothpaste) broadcast on ITV in 1955, **Michael Faraday**, chemist, born in 1791

25th: the first blood transfusion in Guy's Hospital in 1818

28th: twinning agreement with Moncé en Belin signed in Welton in 1974, **Brigitte Bardot**, actress, born in 1934, **Helen Shapiro**, singer, born in 1946, *God Save the King* first sung at the Drury Lane Theatre in 1745, Polish immigrant **Michael Marks** and Yorkshireman **Tom Spencer** opened their Penny Bazaar in Manchester in 1894

29th: **Richard II** (1377-1399) deposed by **Henry Bolingbroke** (Henry IV) in 1399

30th: 'Peace in our Time' declaration by Neville Chamberlain in 1938, the Berlin Airlift came to an end in 1949, **James Dean**, actor, died in 1955.