

## De nos lectrices : “Those were the days” , (Mary Hopkin)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dIYPGjXy\\_LA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dIYPGjXy_LA)



sources : Annie Gulesserian , Adrienne Sagherian : D.R. photo

Her debut single, "[Those Were the Days](#)", produced by McCartney, was released in the UK on 30 August 1968. Despite competition from well-established star [Sandie Shaw](#), whose single was also released that year, Hopkin's version became a [number 1 hit](#) on the [UK Singles Chart](#).<sup>[4]</sup> It reached number 2 on the US [Billboard Hot 100](#), where for three weeks it was held out of the top spot by the Beatles' "[Hey Jude](#)",<sup>[5]</sup> and spent two weeks at number 1 on Canada's [RPM](#) singles chart. It sold over 1,500,000 copies in the United States alone, and was awarded a [gold disc](#) by the [RIAA](#). Global sales topped 8,000,000.<sup>[6]</sup>

On 2 October 1968, Hopkin appeared at [St Paul's Cathedral](#) in London for the *Pop Experience*, where she sang "[Morning of My Life](#)", "[Turn Turn Turn](#)" and "[Plaisir](#)

[d'amour](#)".<sup>[7]</sup> In December that year, the [NME](#) music magazine reported that Hopkin was considering a lead acting role in [Stanley Baker](#)'s planned film *Rape of the Fair Country*, which was to be based on [Alexander Cordell's book of the same name](#).<sup>[8]</sup> That particular project did not materialise but Hopkin did sing the title songs to two of Baker's films, [Where's Jack?](#) and [Kidnapped](#).

On 21 February 1969, Hopkin's debut album, [Post Card](#), again produced by McCartney, was released.<sup>[9]</sup> It included [covers](#) of three songs from [Donovan](#), who also played on the album, and one song each from [George Martin](#) and [Harry Nilsson](#). It reached number 3 on the [UK Albums Chart](#), although it proved to be her solitary success in that chart.<sup>[4]</sup> In the United States, *Post Card* reached number 28 on the [Billboard albums chart](#).<sup>[5]</sup>

The next single was "[Goodbye](#)", written by McCartney (credited to [Lennon-McCartney](#)), and released on 26 March 1969.<sup>[10]</sup> It reached number 2 on the UK Singles Chart,<sup>[4]</sup> number 13 on the *Billboard* Hot 100,<sup>[10]</sup> and number 15 on the *RPM* chart in Canada.<sup>[11]</sup> Hopkin said she interpreted "Goodbye" as McCartney pledging to stop "[micromanaging](#)" her career, since she was uncomfortable with his positioning of her as a pop chanteuse.<sup>[12]</sup> She also expressed dissatisfaction with her manager at this time, [Terry Doran](#).<sup>[13]</sup>

Hopkin's third single, "[Temma Harbour](#)", was a re-arrangement of a [Philamore Lincoln](#) song. Her first single not to be produced by McCartney,<sup>[14]</sup> it was released on 16 January 1970 and peaked at number 6 in the UK and number 42 in Canada.<sup>[15]</sup> In the US, "Temma Harbour" reached number 39 on the *Billboard* Hot 100 and number 4 on the magazine's [Easy Listening chart](#).<sup>[16]</sup> Along with Donovan and [Billy Preston](#), Hopkin was one of the chorus singers on the [Radha Krishna Temple](#)'s 1970 hit single "[Govinda](#)", produced by [George Harrison](#) for Apple Records.<sup>[17]</sup>

## **Eurovision**[\[edit\]](#)

In March 1970, Hopkin represented the United Kingdom in the [1970 Eurovision](#)

[Song Contest](#), achieving second place with "[Knock, Knock Who's There?](#)"<sup>[3]</sup> Although she gave a confident performance and sang in a crystal-clear voice, and despite being the pre-contest favourite, Hopkin lost to "[All Kinds of Everything](#)", performed by Irish singer [Dana](#).<sup>[18]</sup> Produced by [Mickie Most](#), "Knock, Knock Who's There?" was released as a single on 23 March 1970 and peaked at number 2 in the UK.<sup>[4]</sup> It was a worldwide hit, selling over a million copies.

Hopkin's final big hit was "Think About Your Children", released in October 1970, which reached number 19 in the UK. Hopkin has expressed dissatisfaction with the material produced by Most, who had taken over as her producer with "Temma Harbour". After appearing in Eurovision, Hopkin wanted to return to her folk-music roots.

## After Eurovision

At McCartney's insistence, Hopkin had recorded a cover of "[Que Sera, Sera](#)" in August 1969.<sup>[19]</sup> Hopkin had no wish to record the song and refused to have the single released in Britain.<sup>[19]</sup> Initially issued in France in September 1969, it was released in North America in June 1970.<sup>[14]</sup> The single peaked at number 77 on the *Billboard* Hot 100<sup>[14]</sup> and number 47 in Canada,<sup>[citation needed]</sup> and was also a hit in Japan, Australia, New Zealand, and [Rhodesia](#) (present-day Zimbabwe).

The last single to hit the British charts was "Let My Name Be Sorrow", which reached number 46 in July 1971. It was produced by [Tony Visconti](#), whom Hopkin had met earlier for a Welsh recording of "Sparrow". "Let My Name Be Sorrow" was a hit in Poland in January 1972.

Hopkin's second album, *Earth Song, Ocean Song*, was released by Apple on 1 October 1971. The album was produced by Visconti and included cover versions of songs written by [Cat Stevens](#), [Gallagher and Lyle](#) and [Ralph McTell](#), as well as the two title tracks by Liz Thorsen. Hopkin felt it was the album she had always wanted to make, so, coinciding with her marriage to Visconti and with little left to prove, she left the music scene.<sup>[20]</sup> The album's single, "Water, Paper and Clay", missed the *Billboard* Hot 100. It was Hopkin's last single for Apple Records, which she left in March 1972.

After Hopkin's departure from Apple, a compilation album titled *Those Were the Days* was released in the latter part of 1972. The album featured all of Hopkin's hits but failed to chart. "Knock Knock, Who's There?" was released as a single in the United States and Canada, both countries having been excluded from the first release of that record in 1970. The single reached number 92 on the *Billboard* Hot 100 and number 11 on the Easy Listening chart in December 1972, giving Hopkin her last US hit.

source : wikipedia

photo : D.R.