

THE OFFICIAL UK CHARTS



Coming as no surprise to anyone, **Elton John's** *Something About The Way You Look Tonight/Candle In The Wind* single makes a dramatic, historic and record-setting debut at number one, after selling 658,000 copies on Saturday. It thus becomes Britain's fastest ever number one, topping the chart only a week after *Candle In The Wind* was recorded, and a day after the single was released. It sold more copies in a day than any previous record – indeed, it sold more copies in a day than any previous record has sold in a week, with the solitary exception of *Band Aid's* *Do They Know It's Christmas*, which rung up 750,000 sales during its first week in the shops in 1984.

Candle In The Wind is Elton's fourth number one but only his second as a soloist, emulating 1990's *Sacrifice/Healing Hands*. It's his 12th charity single – his entire output since late 1992 – and Britain's 17th charity number one. *Do They Know It's Christmas* was the first.

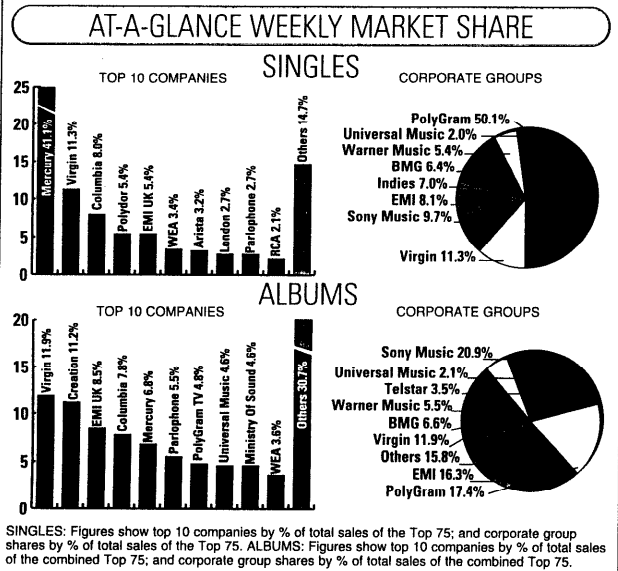
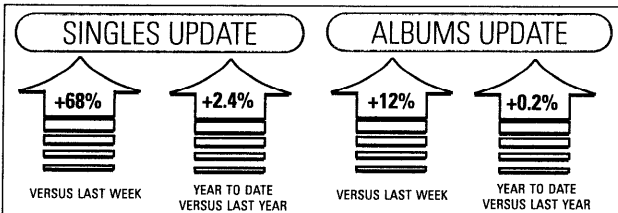
Another thing *Candle In The Wind* and *Do They Know It's Christmas* have in common is that their enormous sales have deprived **George Michael** of number one hits.

George was half of **Wham!** whose *Last Christmas* single sold over 450,000 copies the same week that *Do They Know It's Christmas* debuted at number one, and his latest solo single, pairing *You Have Been Loved* and *The Sweetest Thing*, debuts at number two this week, after selling 89,000 copies.

It's the sixth top three hit lifted from George's *Older* album. While several other artists have lifted six or more hits from an album – including **Luther Vandross**, **Michael Jackson**, **Janet Jackson** and **Alanis Morissette** – only one has previously placed six in the top three. That was *Take That*, whose 1993 album *Everything Changes* did the trick.

As George's latest hit pairs two tracks from the album, only four cuts from *Older* haven't been given singles status. Having sold around one and a half million copies already, *Older* has moved 46-24-14 in the past fortnight.

Mariah Carey's *Butterfly* album wasn't released until Thursday. Even so, it's something of a surprise that it didn't manage to debut at number one. **Mariah** topped the chart with her last album, *Daydream*, two years ago but *Butterfly* sold only 29,000 copies last week – or fewer than would be required to dislodge **Oasis's** *Be Here Now*, which stretched its tenure at the top to four weeks, after selling a further 64,000 copies to take its total to date to 1,090,000. That's enough for it to overtake **Spice Girls's** *Spice* – which



SINGLES: Figures show top 10 companies by % of total sales of the Top 75; and corporate group shares by % of total sales of the Top 75. ALBUMS: Figures show top 10 companies by % of total sales of the combined Top 75; and corporate group shares by % of total sales of the combined Top 75. AIRPLAY: Figures show top 10 companies by % of total airplay audience of the Music Control Top 50; and corporate group shares by % of total airplay audience of the Music Control Top 50.

has 1997 sales of 1,074,000 – to become the year's biggest selling album.

Prodigy's *The Fat Of The Land* takes third place with 715,000 sales – and **George Michael's** *Older* is poised to slip into 10th place ahead of **No Doubt's** *Tragic Kingdom*, making the Top 10 of 1997 an entirely British affair, the missing places, in descending order, being filled by **Texas's** *White One*, **Blonde's** *The Lighthouse Family's* *Ocean Drive*, **Radiohead's** *OK Computer*, **The Beautiful South's** *Blue Is The Colour*, **Jamiroquai's** *Travelling Without Moving* and **The Manic Street Preachers's** *Everything Must Go*.

Motown shakes off its recent lethargy this week, with **Boyz II Men's** new single *4 Seasons Of Loneliness* debuting at number 10. It's the label's first Top 10 hit for exactly three years – and **Boyz II Men** were the act who provided that hit too, with *I'll Make Love To You*.

Dannii Minogue recently had her biggest hit ever, reaching number four with *All I Wanna Do*, but big sister **Kylie** is finding the going somewhat tougher. **Kylie's** first single for nearly two years, *Some Kind Of Bliss* debuts this week at number 22. It's her 24th Top 40 hit but the first not to make the Top 20.

Alan Jones



Becoming the first record ever to debut at number one simultaneously on both the sales and airplay

charts, **Elton John's** *Candle In The Wind 1997* amassed 1249 plays from radio last week. Its audience of 67m was over 12m more than any other record. It was aired most by **Invicta FM** (43 plays) followed by **Capital FM** (40), **Power FM** and **BRMB** (38 apiece), **Southern FM** (37) and **MFM** (36). It drew a lot of attention from the track which serves as the other half of the double A-side, *Something About The Way You Look Tonight*, which slumped 11-78 as a result, and the original recording of *Candle In The Wind*, which slipped from 34th place with 436 plays to nowhere with 42 plays. **Music Control's** fingerprinting of *Candle In The Wind 1997* combined both the live (**Westminster Abbey**) and studio versions, even though they don't appear on the same record, so it's impossible to say how much airplay either one received. In America, radio plays for the live version alone make it a new entry into the airplay chart there at number 35 this week. The studio version is poised to make an even higher debut next week.

George Michael's *You Have Been Loved* – which catapulted 126-2 last week – was comprehensively overshadowed by *Candle In The Wind*, and slumps to 25th place. The downturn in support for the song coincides with a recovery in airplay for the track it is paired with, *The Strangest Thing*, which had previously attracted more support. *The Strangest Thing* was ranked 65th last week, and now climbs to 40th place. If **Music Control** was to combine airplay for the two songs, they would rank seventh.

Overall, the "Diana effect" was progressively less pronounced as the week wore on. **Puff Daddy's** *I'll Be Missing You* reversed its 7-1 climb, while records which suffered after the **Princess's** death rebounded, including **Men In Black** (19-4), **Tubthumping** (84-32) and **Bitch** (36-26).

The record fancied to take over eventually from **Elton** at the top of the sales chart, **Spice Girls's** *Spice Up Your Life*, is the week's highest new entry, debuting at number 38, after amassing 196 plays. Seen by many as a disappointing rejoinder from the girls, it initially prospered at **Radio One**, where it was played 16 times, and **Power FM** (15). No other station played it more than a dozen times.

Portishead debuted at number eight on the **CIN** chart with their new single *All Mine* but radio play was much harder to come by, with the single crawling 111-98 with just 94 logged plays.

Alan Jones

CHART FOCUS

THE UK'S OFFICIAL CHART SOURCE

reach more people, so more people can reach you!

With over 8,500 contacts across a wide range of music industry services, the *music week directory* is the one-stop information source for the entire UK music industry.

One advertisement in the *music week directory* guarantees you year-long profile for your company in a directory that is found on all the most important desks in the music industry.

For further information about booking advertisements and logos in the *music week directory*, please call Anne Jones on tel: 0171 921 5937.

DEADLINES

LOGO BOOKING DEADLINE:
3 OCTOBER 1997

ADVERTISEMENT BOOKING DEADLINE:
10 OCTOBER 1997

FINAL AD/LOGO COPY DEADLINE:
31 OCTOBER 1997

