

# **TOP OF THE POPS**

**By Rod**

*Those who remember Alan Freeman's Pop Parade countdown on Radio 1 will recognise the genre. Ideally the countdown music needs to be playing quietly in the background and then faded up where shown. Some modernisation of the performers may be needed – e.g. the current Pop Idols.*

Greetings pop-pickers everywhere to this week's Top Ten Hit Parade. The only Official Chart in The Kingdom.

*Music up*

At number 10 – yes, 'Ol' Green Eyes' is back! Some would say he never went away. It's that big hit for Frank Sinafter, "You shall not covet your neighbour's house, wife, servant, ox, donkey or anything he owns". I should say so, matey!

*Music up*

And coming in at this week's number 9, from The Pretenders, it's "You shall not give false testimony".

And at number 8 we have Take That, featuring the hugely talented Robbery Williams, with "You shall not steal".

*Music up*

And yes, pop-pickers. Contrary to popular opinion. It's still there. It's still in. Firmly rooted at number 7, we have "You shall not commit adultery" by Faithless. That's bad news for Mrs Blenkinsop of 42 Acacia Gardens. Yes, Mary, we know about you and the milkman. Even worse news – so does your husband, Mike.

*Music up*

But the good news for you, Mary, and the bad news for Mike comes in the shape of this week's number 6.

Yes, you guessed it. Another non-mover – from The Killers – at number 6 it's "You shall not murder".

Sorry, Mike. Maybe instead you'd better "Try a little tenderness".

*Music up*

And now we move to The Kingdom's Official top 5 for this week.

*Music up*

At number 5, that timeless classic from The Mamas and the Papas, “Honour your father and your mother”. Always popular with the kiddies. Not ‘arf.

*Music up*

And now, despite the best efforts of the retail industry, it’s still here. It’s still number 4. From The Manic Street Traders it’s “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God”.

Phew, what a mouthful. After that you’ll need a day of rest!

*Music up*

And at number 3, Mama Mia here they go again, from Abba, the one that’s on everybody’s lips, “You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God”.

And, yes, at number 2, originally from Will Young, but with recent versions from Michelle McManus, and – crossing the Atlantic – Kelly Clarkson; it’s the one that has never gone out of date, “You shall not make for yourself any idol”.

*Music up*

And now, pop-pickers, it’s time to announce this week’s number 1 in the Kingdom’s only Official Top 10 Hit Parade.

*Music up*

For the three thousand four hundredth year in succession. Without budging. Resisting all challenges. At number one, from the King Himself, it’s “You shall have no other gods before me”. Not ‘arf .

*Music up*

**THE END**