Monday, May 31

ON THIS DAY



▲ 2009: Millvina Dean, the last survivor of the *Titanic*, died at the age of 97. She was just nine weeks old when the liner sank after hitting an iceberg in April 1912

1891: Construction of the 9,288km Trans-Siberian Railway began with a ground-laying ceremony in Vladivostok

1927: The last Model T Ford rolled off the assembly line

1961: South Africa proclaimed itself a republic and left the Commonwealth

2009: Top ranked tennis player Rafael Nadal of Spain suffered his first ever loss at the French Open with a shock fourth-round defeat