

A close-up portrait of a young woman with long, straight, light brown hair. She has a neutral expression and is looking directly at the camera. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light color.

Today in History

August 23, 2006

▲ **Austrian kidnap victim Natascha Kampusch, 18, escaped after being held captive for eight years in a windowless cell under the garage of a house near Vienna**

1305: Scottish patriot William Wallace was hung, drawn and quartered

1818: The first steam ship service went into operation on the Great Lakes in North America

1926: Screen idol Rudolph Valentino died from peritonitis aged only 31

2007: A 10 million-year-old fossil found in Africa raised the possibility that gorillas and humans had an ancestor that existed two million years earlier than previously thought