



Today in History

December 17, 1903

▲ **Bicycle manufacturers Wilbur and Orville Wright made the first successful controlled flight in a powered aircraft on the beach at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina**

1843: Charles Dickens' popular tale, *A Christmas Carol*, was published

1996: China's last imperial eunuch, **Sun Yaoting**, died in **Beijing** aged 93

2010: Tunisian street vendor **Mohamed Bouazizi** set fire to himself in protest at official harassment, sparking Tunisia's revolution and the wider Arab Spring

2011: North Korean leader **Kim Jong-il** died from a heart attack. He was succeeded by his third son, the inexperienced **Kim Jong-un**