

# GN45680 On this day in history Week 19 May 5-11



## Today in History

May 5, 1274

▲ Italian poet Dante Alighieri met Beatrice Portinari, his muse, for the first time. His Divine Comedy is considered the most important poem of the Middle Ages

1860: Giuseppe Garibaldi and his "Thousand Redshirts" sailed from Genoa to conquer Sicily and Naples

1865: The first ever fully rubberised road was carried out in London

2004: Garçon, a masterpiece by the French artist, was then recorded

2023: The World Health Organization ended its declaration of a global health emergency

Picture: Newscom



## Today in History

May 6, 2023

▲ The coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla took place. Charles was the 40th reigning monarch crowned in London's Westminster Abbey since 1066

1954: British athlete Roger Bannister became the first man to run a mile in under four minutes

1994: The Channel Tunnel which



## Today in History

May 7, 1824

▲ Beethoven stood alongside the conductor at the premiere of his Ninth Symphony. Now totally deaf, he did not hear the applause until he was turned to witness it

1934: The world's largest pearl, a clam pearl weighing 6.4kg, was found by a Filipino diver off Palawan island

1944: A Russian submarine the



## Today in History

May 8, 1984

▲ The Thames Barrier, built to protect London from flooding, was opened. When raised into position its 10 steel gates stand as high as a five-storey building

1794: French chemist Antoine-Laurent Lavoisier, the first person to identify oxygen, was guillotined in Paris

1984: Malawi became the official



## Today in History

May 9, 2023

▲ Unrest erupted in Pakistan after former Prime Minister Imran Khan was arrested on alleged corruption charges in a court appearance in Islamabad

1901: Australia opened its first federal parliament in Melbourne. It moved to the new capital, Canberra, in 1927

2004: Kremlin-backed Chechen President Akhmad Kadyrov was assassinated by a bomb in Grozny

2004: Construction began in Istanbul on a \$4.5bn rail tunnel under the Bosphorus. It finally opened in 2013

2014: Syrian government forces captured the city of Homs after a three-year siege

Picture: Getty Images

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## Today in History

May 10, 1994

▲ Nelson Mandela was sworn in as South Africa's first black president. Jailed for 27 years as a militant anti-apartheid activist, he was freed in 1990

1924: J. Edgar Hoover became the first Director of the FBI

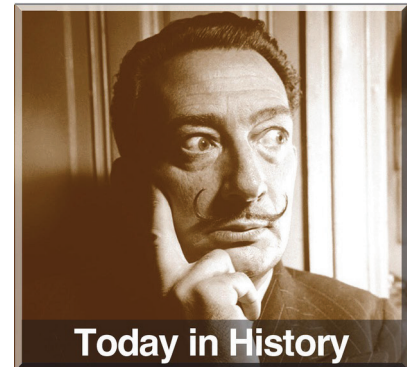
1954: The silicon-based junction transistor went into commercial production

1962: Marvel Comics published the first issue of The Incredible Hulk, a green-skinned, heavily muscled humanoid

1994: Media tycoon Silvio Berlusconi became prime minister of Italy. He remained a major player in Italian politics for almost 20 years

Picture: Getty Images

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## Today in History

May 11, 1904

▲ Surrealist painter Salvador Dali was born in Spain. Works such as The Persistence of Memory are renowned for their striking and often bizarre images

868: The earliest complete example of a dated printed book, the Diamond Sutra, ("sutra" meaning "teaching") was published in China

1949: Siam changed its name to Thailand for the second time

1994: Deir al-Balah became the first town in Gaza to come under Palestinian self-rule

2014: The eastern Ukrainian provinces of Donetsk and Luhansk voted overwhelmingly for self-rule

Picture: Getty Images

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