1961 THE RACE TO SPACE

President Dwight Eisenhower announces that the United States has severed diplomatic and consular relations with Cuba.

JAN 3 1961

British authorities announce that they have discovered a large Soviet spy ring in London. The members of the Portland Spy Ring will be found guilty of selling plans of Britain's first nuclear submarine, HMS *Dreadnought*, to the Russians. The submarine was launched in 1960 and will go into service with the Royal Navy in 1963.

JAN 9 1961

Ham, a 37-pound male Chimp, is rocketed into space aboard Mercury-Redstone 2. This is a test of the Project Mercury capsule designed to carry United States astronauts into space.

JAN 31 1961

The United States launches its first test of the Minuteman I intercontinental ballistic missile.

FEB 1 1961

The Beatles perform for the first time at the Cavern Club, Liverpool.

FEB 9 1961

President of the United States John F. Kennedy establishes the Peace Corps.

MAR 1 1961

Pilot Max Conrad circumnavigates the earth in his plane, in 8 days 18 hours and 49 minutes, setting a new world record.

MAR 8 1961

The first U.S. Polaris nuclear missile submarines arrive at Holy Loch in Scotland amidst massive anti-nuclear protests.

MAR 8 1961

Black and white £5 notes cease to be legal tender in the UK.

MAR 13 1961

Vostok 1: Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin becomes the first human in space, orbiting the Earth once.

APR 12 1961

The Bay of Pigs Invasion: an unsuccessful attempt by CIA-trained Cuban exiles to invade southern Cuba and overthrow the Cuban government and Fidel Castro. It fails after 2 days.

APR 17 1961

The Swedish ship Regaleknepet Visur is removed from the water after being sunk 333 years earlier.

APR 24 1961

Mercury program: Alan Shepard becomes the first American in space aboard Mercury-Redstone 3.

MAY 5 1961

Tottenham Hotspur Football Club becomes the first team in the 20th century to win both the English League and FA Cup.

MAY 6 1961

Marshall Nirenberg and Heinrich Matthaei identify the poly(U)RNA sequence and demonstrate how it is translated into a polypeptide consisting of only the amino acid phenylalanine. Their work opens the door to our modern understanding of how the genetic code is structured.

MAY 15 1961

The Soviet submarine K-19 reactor leak occurs in the North Atlantic.

JULY 4 1961

Amnesty International started in London by lawyer Peter Benenson.

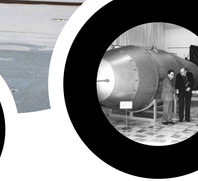
JULY 1961

Construction of the Berlin Wall begins. It restricts movement between East Berlin and West Berlin and forms a clear boundary between West Germany and East Germany, Western Europe and Eastern Europe. It is completed in 18 days.

AUG 13 1961

The Marvelettes score Motown Record Corporation's first US No.1 pop hit, 'Please Mr. Postman'.

AUG 21 1961



West Side Story is released as a film.

OCT 18 1961

The first edition of Private Eye, the British satirical magazine, is published.

OCT 25 1961

Nuclear testing: The Soviet Union detonates a 58-megaton yield hydrogen bomb known as Tsar Bomba over Novaya Zemlya. It remains the largest ever man-made explosion.

OCT 30 1961

The Fantastic Four No.1 comic debuts, launching the Marvel Universe and revolutionising the American comic book industry.

NOV 1961

U.S. President John F. Kennedy sends 18,000 military advisors to South Vietnam. They do not go into combat, but provide support for the South Vietnamese army.

NOV 10 1961

Cold War: In a nationally broadcast speech, Cuban leader Fidel Castro announces he is a Marxist-Leninist and that Cuba will adopt socialism.

DEC 2 1961

Vietnam War: The first American helicopters arrive in Saigon along with 400 U.S. personnel. They do not go into combat, but provide support for the South Vietnamese army.

DEC 11 1961

'Barbie' gets a boyfriend when the 'Ken' doll is introduced.

1961

The Incredible Journey is published. It is made into a film by Walt Disney in 1963.

1961

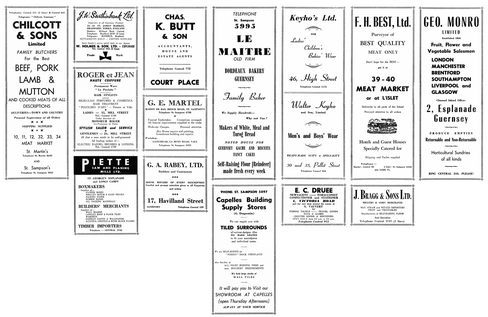
Pampers, the first disposable nappy, is introduced.

1961

WORLD
GUERNSEY

WORLD
GUERNSEY

Adverts taken from the Guernsey States Telephone Directory, 1961.



MAR 15 1961

The States agree to sell Fort George for a high class building redevelopment project. Belvedere Field and House are excluded from this scheme.

APR 4 1961

The new tomato processing plant opens at Bulwer Avenue.

APR 10 1961

10,000 people sign a petition to the States against the redevelopment of Fort George as high-class housing.

MAY 12 1961

The *Isle of Guernsey* undertakes her last passenger sailing from Guernsey to Southampton.

MAY 19 1961

The Dart Herald aircraft is inaugurated on the Channel Islands air service.

JUNE 10 1961

Miss Bonamy Collings presents the National Trust of Guernsey with its first property at Pleinmont.

JUNE 14 1961

The new mail-boat Sarnia arrives in the Island. A luncheon is held aboard the ship. A painting of the Island is presented to the ship. A States dinner is held for the visiting officials. Guernsey cans are given to the crew.

JULY 26 1961

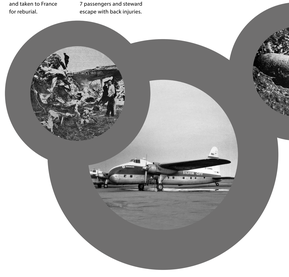
English visitor Ruth Oldham swims from Sark to Guernsey in 5 hours and 21 minutes.

OCT 10 1961

A 'Meals on Wheels' van is presented to the Women's Voluntary Service at the Town Arsenal by the Women Freemasons.

OCT 31 1961

During the month the remains of German troops and Organisation Todt workers are exhumed and taken to France for reburial.



NOV 1 1961

A Silver City Airways Bristol 170 Super freighter Mk 32 aircraft crashes at St. Saviours. The Pilot and First Officer are killed but the 7 passengers and steward escape with back injuries.

NOV 29 1961

A 500lb British bomb is found at Fort George during the development works. It is later exploded.