What's happening in the news this week?

Picture News



Adam Seward/imageBROKER/Shutterstock

Let's have a look at this week's poster!

4th - 10th May 2026

Picture News

Why do some people become so important to the world?



Adam Edward/imageBROKER/Shutterstock

Let's look at this week's story

Sir David Attenborough, a famous naturalist and broadcaster, is celebrating his 100th birthday. For over 70 years, he has created and presented programmes that help people understand animals, nature, and the planet. His work has inspired millions of people to learn more about the world and take care of it. Many people are celebrating his life and the difference he has made.



Learn more about this week's story here.
Watch this week's useful video here.
This week's Virtual Picture News here.



© Picture News 2026

How does it make me feel?



sad
despondent
disconsolate
dismal
doleful
downhearted
forlorn
gloomy
melancholic
miserable
woeful
wretched

angry
aggrieved
annoyed
discontented
disgruntled
distressed
exasperated
frustrated
indignant
offended
outraged
resentful
vexed

happy
beaming
buoyant
cheery
contented
delighted
enraptured
gleeful
glowing
joyful

confused
addled
baffled
bemused
bewildered
disorientated
indistinct
muddled
mystified
perplexed
puzzled

excited
animated
elevated
enlivened
enthusiastic
exhilarated
exuberant
thrilled

worried
agitated
anxious
apprehensive
concerned
disquieted
distraught
distressed
disturbed
fretful
perturbed
troubled
uneasy

overwhelmed
engulfed
inundated
overburdened
overloaded
saturated
submerged
swamped

afraid
alarmed
apprehensive
daunted
fearful
frantic
horrified
petrified
terrified

guilty
ashamed
compunctious
contrite
culpable
penitent
responsible
rueful

jealous
bitter
covetous
desirous
envious
envying
resentful
wary

thankful
appreciative
grateful
gratified
indebted
obliged
relieved

shocked
astonished
astounded
disconcerted
distressed
dumbfounded
horrified
staggered
startled
stunned
surprised

disgusted
affronted
appalled
horrified
repelled
repulsed
revolted
sickened

inspired
activated
encouraged
exhilarated
galvanised
influenced
motivated

embarrassed
ashamed
awkward
chagrined
demeaned
discomposed
humiliated
self-conscious
uncomfortable
uneasy
unsettled

interested
absorbed
captivated
curious
engaged
enthralled
fascinated
gripped
intrigued
riveted

© Picture News 2026

This week's story looks at events related to ...



Sir David Attenborough has visited every continent on Earth. His work highlights the importance of the natural world.

© Picture News 2026



Read the information found below all about Sir David Attenborough. In your opinion, out of all his achievements, which do you think is most memorable?

Sir David Attenborough is 100!

Sir David aims to help people understand how the planet works, showing the beauty of nature and explaining why it's important to protect the environment.

Who is he?

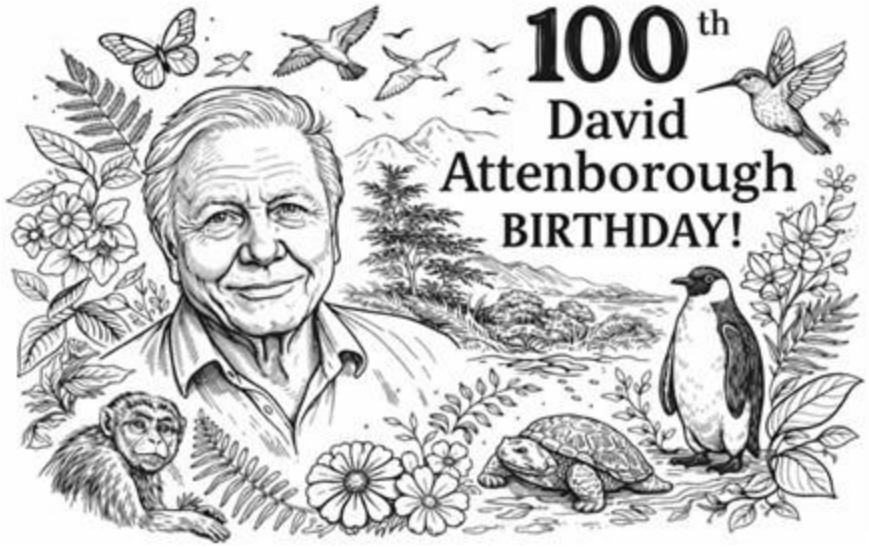
Sir David Attenborough is a famous TV presenter and conservationist, who has spent his life exploring and explaining the natural world.

What has he done?

Sir David has made nature programmes for over 70 years!

He has created famous series like Planet Earth and Blue Planet, travelling all over the world to film animals and habitats.





Above: A graphic to commemorate Sir David's special birthday.
Source: Nathan Burns/Mrmetacognition

What are some of Sir David's key messages?

1. Humans need to take care of the Earth.
2. Small actions can make a big difference.



Interesting facts!

- Sir David has visited every continent!
- He has filmed some of the rarest animals on Earth.
- He's helped millions of people learn about wildlife.

© Picture News 2026

Resource one

Look at the resource below, which shows what Sir David's childhood was like.

As a young child, David loved exploring outside. He collected fossils, stones and natural objects.



He enjoyed looking closely at nature and asking questions. He wanted to learn more about animals and plants.



When he was about 11 years old, David heard that a university nearby needed newts. He found some in a pond and gave them to the university.



A year later, David was given a piece of amber from his adoptive sister. Inside were tiny fossils of ancient creatures!



As David grew into an adult, he continued to learn about nature and shared what he discovered with others. He began making TV programmes about animals and the world in his 20s.



This year, Sir David Attenborough turns 100! Many people are celebrating his achievements and his work exploring nature.

What do you find most interesting about Sir David's childhood? | **What would you like to collect or explore outside?**

© Picture News 2026

Resource two

Look at the resource below, which shares some information on people who have had an impact on how people view the world.

Greta Thunberg



Source: @gretathunberg on Instagram

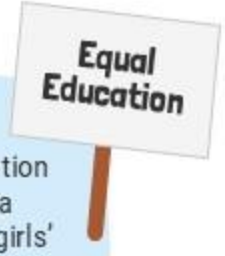
Greta Thunberg is a climate activist from Sweden. As a child, she began protesting outside her country's parliament to raise awareness about climate change. She has inspired young people around the world to speak up and take action to protect the planet.



Malala Yousafzai


Source: @malala on Instagram

Malala Yousafzai is an education activist from Pakistan. From a young age, she spoke up for girls' right to go to school, even when it was dangerous. Her story has helped people around the world understand the importance of education for everyone.





Nelson Mandela



Nelson Mandela was a leader from South Africa. He fought against unfair laws that treated people differently because of their race. His actions helped bring change and promote equality and fairness.



Robert Irwin

Robert Irwin is a conservationist from Australia. He shares his knowledge of animals and wildlife through TV and public work. He inspires others, especially young people, to care for and protect the natural world.


Source: @robertirwinphotography on Instagram

Why might these people be inspiring to some? | **After learning about these people, what does making an impact mean to you?**

© Picture News 2026

Picture News

Why do some people become so important to the world?



Adam Edward/imageBROKER/Shutterstock

Reflection

Understanding the world around us can help us take better care of it. Sometimes, one person's work can inspire millions of others to learn, care, and make a difference.



© Picture News 2026

Media Literacy

Analyse

Evaluate

Research

Act

I can check if facts match different sources.



Explanation: Let's explore how we can use more than one source to ensure facts are correct.


The BBC Unveils Huge Plans To Celebrate Sir David Attenborough's 100th Birthday

Questions to Discuss

- Why should you always try to find the same piece of information in at least three different places?
- If different websites have the same facts, does that prove the information is true? Why?

Activity

You are a biographer for a wildlife magazine. You have been asked to write a short biography of Sir David Attenborough's life. You should use three different sources to make sure the facts you are including are correct.

Think about: If you wanted to find out a real fact, which websites or books would you trust the most? Why do you think some places are better for finding the truth than others?

© Picture News 2026

British Values

I Really Do Matter!

- Individual Liberty
- Rule of Law
- Democracy
- Mutual Respect and Tolerance

Which British value do you think this week's story highlights?



This story relates to Rule of Law. This is because rules apply to everyone. From world leaders to giant companies, we must all follow the same rules to protect our planet.

This story relates to Democracy because it shows we have the right to use our voices and share our opinions to help protect the environment.



Do you agree with either person, or think something different?

© Picture News 2026

Protected Characteristics

Which protected characteristic do you think this week's story links to?



This week's story relates to the protected characteristic of age, because it shows that no matter a person's age, they can have a huge impact on the world.

Share your thoughts. Do you agree?

- Sex
- Who People Love
- Age
- Disability
- Being Yourself
- Marriage and Civil Partnership
- Pregnancy and Maternity
- Race
- Religion or Belief

© Picture News 2026

UN Rights of the Child



Learning about the environment gives children the power to share their own opinions on big issues that matter to them. Adults should respect these ideas and listen carefully to what children think.



© Picture News 2026

Useful Vocabulary



Achievements

Something impressive that a person has completed successfully by working hard or using their skills.

Out of all his **achievements**, which do you think is most memorable?

Broadcaster

A person or an organisation that sends out programmes or information to a large audience using media like television, radio or the internet.

Sir David Attenborough, a famous naturalist and **broadcaster**…

Commemorate

To do something special to remember and show respect for an important person or past event.

A graphic to **commemorate** Sir David's special birthday.

Conservationist

Someone who works hard to look after the natural world to make sure it stays protected for the future.

David Attenborough is a famous TV presenter and **conservationist**.

Continent

One of the world's seven main continuous areas of land.

Sir David has visited every **continent**!

Naturalist

An expert who studies and observes plants, animals, and the environment to understand how the natural world works.

Sir David Attenborough, a famous **naturalist** and broadcaster…

Can you use them in a conversation this week?

© Picture News 2026

Picture News

Why do some people become so important to the world?

Sir David Attenborough, a famous naturalist and broadcaster, is celebrating his 100th birthday. For over 70 years, he has created and presented programmes that help people understand animals, nature, and the planet. His work has inspired millions of people to learn more about the world and take care of it. Many people are celebrating his life and the difference he has made.

Listen Think Share

- Look at this week's image, do you know who it shows? It shows conservationist and TV presenter Sir David Attenborough, who is celebrating his 100th birthday!
- Share any prior knowledge you have about Sir David. Do you know why he is so well-known or what he has done in his life?
- Read the information found on the **assembly resource** all about Sir David Attenborough. In your opinion, out of all his achievements, which do you think is most memorable? Why?
- Watch the useful video which shows the trailer for a programme called 'A Life on Our Planet', created and narrated by Sir David. What are some of the things you find most interesting about his life?
- Are there any other people who have taught you a lot about the world and our impact on it?
- Can you think of something that is very important to you that you would like to tell the world?
- Do you feel that people need to be famous to make a difference? Do you believe it's easy for one person to change how other people think or act?

Reflection

Understanding the world around us can help us take better care of it. Sometimes, one person's work can inspire millions of others to learn, care, and make a difference.

Picture News

KS1 focus

What do we know about Sir David's childhood?

Listen Think Share

- Have you ever looked closely at something outside in nature, like a bug, a leaf, or a stone? What did you notice?
- Sir David Attenborough was very curious as a child. What does it mean to be curious? He enjoyed collecting fossils, stones, and other natural objects. What do you think he might have liked about these things?
- Do you think you are a curious person? Why? How does being curious help us learn?
- Look at **resource 1**, which shows what Sir David was like as a child. What kind of things do you like to explore or find out about? Why? Do your friends like similar or different things?
- Why do you think learning about animals and nature might have been exciting for Sir David when he was young?
- How do you think being curious as a child can help someone when they grow up?
- What is something you would like to explore or learn more about in the future? What are some things you can do to help you learn and find out more?
- If you could ask Sir David a question about his childhood, what would you ask him?

Reflection

Being curious can help us learn new things about the world around us. Looking closely and asking questions can lead to exciting discoveries!

Picture News

KS2 focus

Who else has had an impact on how people view the world?

Listen Think Share

- Consider whether you have ever watched, read about, or heard someone speaking who made you think differently about something. Who was it? Why did this stand out to you?
- Sir David Attenborough has helped people understand animals, nature, and the planet for many years. Why do you think learning from others can change how people see the world?
- Look at **resource 2**, which shows four people who have made an impact on how others view the world. Have you heard of these people before?
- Why might some people feel inspired by them? Think about what each person stands for. Do you agree with them?
- Greta Thunberg and Malala Yousafzai both began speaking out about important issues when they were young. Do you think young voices can be powerful? What might the world be like if young people never had the chance to share their ideas?
- Have you ever raised awareness of a cause that's important to you? What are the different ways we can raise awareness, e.g., fundraising for charity, creating posters? Have you ever done these things? Share your experiences.
- What skills or qualities do you think help someone to influence the way others see the world?

Reflection

People can influence how others see the world in many ways. Their actions, words and ideas can help others think differently and care about important issues. Even one person can have a lasting impact.

Picture News

KS2 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Observe and record how greenhouse gases trap heat within the Earth's atmosphere.

You will need:

- 2x identical glass jars labelled A and B (e.g., jam jars)
- 2x thermometers
- 1x sheet of plastic wrap (e.g., cling film)
- 1x rubber band
- 1x stopwatch or timer
- A heat source (e.g., a sunny windowsill)

Place a thermometer in the two jars, ensuring they're readable. Leave Jar A open to represent a normal atmosphere. Seal Jar B tightly with plastic wrap and a rubber band to represent trapped greenhouse gases. Place both jars side-by-side in direct sunlight or under a lamp, ensuring equal exposure. Then record the initial temperature. Start a timer and record the temperature for both jars every 5 minutes for a total of 30 minutes.

Think about: Looking at your results table, did the temperature in Jar B rise faster, slower, or at the same rate as Jar A? What was the final temperature difference between the two jars after 30 minutes? Why do you think one got hotter than the other?

Option 2

Each find a food item at home and look on the packaging to see where it has come from, then report back to the class.

On a world map, connect your school's location to the country where each person's food was produced.

Research or calculate how far your food item has travelled to reach you. Talk about how food miles are the distance food travels from where it is grown to where it is eaten.

Think about: When our food travels a long distance to reach our plates, what impact do those food miles have on the environment? Why? Why do we buy some foods from far away? What are the different ways we can get our food closer to home instead of far away?

Picture News

KS1 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Discuss that items don't just disappear when we throw them away, and much of what we throw away ends up in landfill. A landfill is a giant, deep hole in the ground where our rubbish is placed and then covered with soil. Discuss that different items take different amounts of time to break down and decompose.
Lay out several common items (e.g., an apple core, a newspaper, a plastic bottle, a tin can, and a glass jar). Guess how long each item takes to decompose and then research to find out. How close were your estimates?

Think about: If we keep throwing things away, what will our world look like when you are older? What are some alternatives to throwing things away? Why is this important for the environment?

Option 2

What is a habitat? Why are habitats important for minibeasts? Can you name some different habitats where minibeasts live in the UK?

As a class, go on a minibeast hunt to observe which minibeasts live in which habitats. You may wish to provide an identification sheet to help the children identify the minibeasts.

On a piece of paper, draw a table with the following headings:

Creature:	Where I found it (habitat):	Number of legs:

Think about: How many different minibeasts did you find? Do the minibeasts look different depending on where they live? How? Where did you find the most minibeasts? Why do you think this was?

Picture News

This week's useful websites

This week's news story

www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/david-attenborough-100th-birthday-bbc-documentaries_uk_6996ee85e4b0f4c9ebc104b2

This week's useful video

A Life on Our Planet
www.youtube.com/watch?v=64R2MYUt394

This week's Virtual Picture News

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

This week's vocabulary

Achievements
Something impressive that a person has completed successfully by working hard or using their skills.
Out of all his **achievements**, which do you think is most memorable?

Broadcaster
A person or an organisation that sends out programmes or information to a large audience using media like television, radio or the internet.
Sir David Attenborough, a famous naturalist and **broadcaster**...

Commemorate
To do something special to remember and show respect for an important person or past event.
A graphic to **commemorate** Sir David's special birthday.

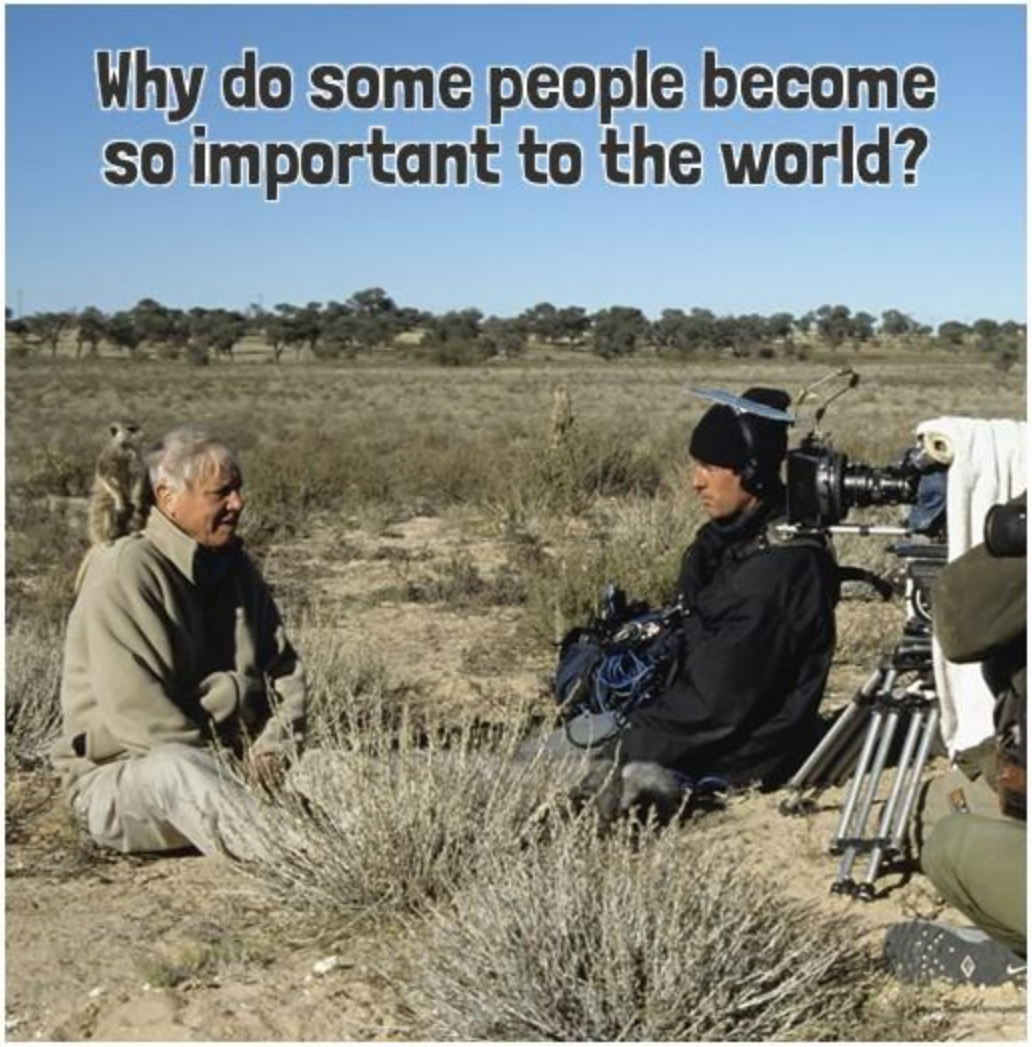
Conservationist
Someone who works hard to look after the natural world to make sure it stays protected for the future.
David Attenborough is a famous TV presenter and **conservationist**.

Continent
One of the world's seven main continuous areas of land.
Sir David has visited every **continent**!

Naturalist
An expert who studies and observes plants, animals, and the environment to understand how the natural world works.
Sir David Attenborough, a famous **naturalist** and broadcaster...

TAKEHOME

4th – 10th May



In the news this week

Sir David Attenborough, a famous naturalist and broadcaster, is celebrating his 100th birthday. For over 70 years, he has created and presented programmes that help people understand animals, nature, and the planet. His work has inspired millions of people to learn more about the world and take care of it. Many people are celebrating his life and the difference he has made.

Things to talk about at home ...

- Who is someone you think is important? Why are they important?
- What has David Attenborough done to help people understand the world?
- How can we learn about places and animals we can't see ourselves?
- Do you think you have to be famous to make a difference? Why?
- Can you share something you care about and would like others to care about too?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

© Picture News 2026

IN THE SPOTLIGHT 1 NEWSPAPER 4th – 10th May

The Power of Puppets!

As you know, Sir David Attenborough is turning 100. Throughout his life, he has inspired millions! But he's not the only one whose ideas are still inspiring others 100 years later. The Young People's Puppet Theatre (YPPT), based in St Albans, England, was founded in 2015, and inspired by a puppet theatre created 100 years ago in Germany by the great-grandparents of Caitlin Duschenes. Puppets are figures that can be moved using hands, strings or sticks to help tell a story. They come in all shapes and sizes and are enjoyed all over the world – from traditional shadow puppet shows in Indonesia, like Wayang Kulit, to shows made by children with YPPT across London and the east of England. YPPT works with schools, helping children make their own puppets, build simple sets and take part in shows. Each child creates a character and works with others to bring a story to life. Caitlin said puppetry was wonderful, but it was 'more about what it does for the children and the doors it unlocks for them', helping children tell stories and share a little happiness - just like Sir David! ***Have you ever seen or created your own puppet show?***



Pictured: A traditional shadow puppet show in Indonesia, called Wayang Kulit. **Source:** Canva.

Couch to 5K Turns Ten!

Have you ever started something that felt a bit tricky at first, but got easier the more you practised? The Couch to 5K app is turning 10, and it has helped lots of people take their first steps into running! The app (which has been downloaded over 8 million times) gives simple steps to follow. It starts with walking, then adds short runs, followed by more walking. Each time, the running gets a little longer and the rests get shorter, helping people build up slowly, feel more confident, and run 5km without stopping. Some familiar faces from the BBC shared a special video to wish the app a happy birthday. They talked about what running and using the app has meant to them. Romesh Ranganathan said, 'It is great for physical health, but mainly for me, for my mental health', and thinks everyone should give it a go. ***Talking of movement and feeling good, are you joining us on 14th May for the Big School Live Workout with Joe Wicks for Mental Health Week?***



Pictured: Someone running! **Source:** Canva.

Is it ever too late to try something new?



If you set your mind to something and trust and believe in yourself, you can achieve great things, no matter your age!
Elm Class

© Picture News 2026

IN THE SPOTLIGHT 2 NEWSPAPER 4th – 10th May

Book Fairies

The Book Fairies are celebrating an impressive milestone – they have just given away their 6 millionth book! The non-profit organisation collects books in good condition and redistributes them to schools, educators, and community partners in the New York area. Since it was set up in 2012, volunteers in Hicksville, USA, have spent thousands of hours sorting millions of books donated by community members, bookstores, publishers and authors. 'A single book can spark imagination, inspire a reader, and change a life,' posted The Book Fairies. They also commented, 'Each one representing a child, a family, and a community impacted through the power of literacy. We're so excited to continue that impact by getting even more books into the hands of those who need them most. Reaching 6 million books is no small feat, and it wouldn't have been possible without the incredible support of our volunteers, book donors, financial supporters, board members, and dedicated staff.'



Pictured: The Book Fairies celebrate distributing 6 million books.
Source: The Book Fairies on Facebook.



Pictured: Children reading alongside The Book Fairies moto.
Source: The Book Fairies on Facebook.

Do you enjoy choosing your next book to read?
What do you do with books that you no longer need?
Could you find out where you could donate them?

Titanic Treasure

A lifejacket worn by a Titanic survivor has been auctioned for £670,000! The lifejacket was part of a Titanic and White Star memorabilia sale, held at Henry Aldridge & Son Ltd Auctioneers & Valuers in Wiltshire. The lifejacket has been on display at the world's largest Titanic Museum in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, and at the Titanic Belfast Museum. Also auctioned were a gold watch from the personal effects of a wealthy businessman for £180,000, and a lifeboat seat cushion, featuring an original White Star burgee plaque which sold for £390,000. Andrew Aldridge, from the auction house, said, 'Quite simply this lifejacket presents a once in a generation opportunity for collectors, it's the only example to ever be offered for auction from a Titanic survivor...



Pictured: The lifejacket worn by Titanic survivor, Laura Mabel Francatelli, alongside a rare photograph from Lifeboat 1, where she is pictured with the Duff Gordon family and fellow survivors. **Source:** Titanic Belfast on Facebook.

Although [the] Titanic sank 114 years ago, every man, woman and child onboard had a story to tell so in essence we have over 2,200 chapters and today we present those stories through these pieces of memorabilia. The lifejacket is without doubt one of the most iconic items from the Titanic ever to be offered for auction.'
Do you think saving memorabilia from historical events is important for all of us?

Is it ever too late to try something new?



You should never feel too old to try something that you want to do. But you also shouldn't wait, because if you love it, the sooner you start, the longer you can enjoy it!
Nina

Let us know what you think about this week's news picture-news.co.uk/discuss help@picture-news.co.uk /picturenewsprimary/

© Picture News 2026