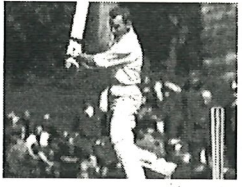


## Today in History

◀ 28 March ▶



### 1955 NZ cricketers skittled for 26

In recent years most test matches between New Zealand and England have been keenly contested. This was not the case in 1955. At Eden Park, Auckland, on 28 March, New Zealand cricket experienced its darkest day when its 11 batsman could muster only 26 runs against England. This total remains a world record low – and, unlike most cricketing records, it is one that may never be beaten.

The test had started with some promise. After scoring a modest 200 runs in its first innings, the New Zealand team felt it had put itself back in the match when it dismissed England for 246. Satisfaction was short-lived. In its second innings New Zealand slumped to 26 all out in 27 overs; only opener Bert Sutcliffe reached double figures, scoring 11 runs.

When New Zealand toured England in 1958 it fared little better, being dismissed for 47 and 74 in the second test. New Zealand suffered many defeats at English hands before finally winning a test, at Wellington's Basin Reserve in February 1978. Needing only 137 to win, the English were dismissed for 64, with Richard Hadlee capturing 6 for 26. This first victory – at the 48th attempt – was a tribute to perseverance, and it was enthusiastically welcomed as proof that we could at last compete on the cricket pitch with our former colonial masters.

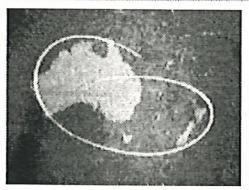
Image: Bert Sutcliffe (BBC)

#### Internal links

[Playing England – New Zealand cricket](#) [John Reid](#) [1955 – key events](#)

#### External links

[Scoreboard \(Cricinfo\)](#) [Geoff Rabone obituary \(NZ Herald\)](#)



### 1983 Signing of CER strengthens Tasman trade ties

The Australia–New Zealand Closer Economic Relations Trade Agreement, better known as CER, was New Zealand's first comprehensive bilateral trade agreement, and one of the first agreements of this kind in the world.

Although CER came into force on 1 January 1983, the agreement was not formally signed until 28 March that year, by the New Zealand High Commissioner in Canberra, Laurie Francis, and Lionel Bowen, Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade. CER built upon the New Zealand Australia Free Trade Agreement, which had been in place since 1966.

By 1990, free trade in goods and nearly all services had been achieved. In recent years the two countries have moved towards even closer cooperation in policies, laws and regulatory regimes. CER has been a model for other bilateral trade relationships. It has been described by the World Trade Organisation as 'the world's most comprehensive, effective and mutually compatible free trade agreement'.

Image: detail from Polish publication about CER (Gdansk University)

#### External links

[CER: A Closer Economic relationship \(MFAT\)](#) [Closer Economic Relations \(Wikipedia\)](#) [Full text of the ANZCERTA](#)

## This Week in History



4 April 2001  
Silvia Cartwright becomes Governor General

5 April 1932  
Death of Phar Lap

6 April 1864 Pai Marire ambush in Taranaki

7 April 1856 First state secondary school opens in Nelson

8 April 1873  
Julius Vogel becomes Premier

9 April 1932  
Unemployed disturbances in Dunedin

10 April 1968  
Sinking of the Wahine

Today in History

### What has happened?

See historic events for the year by year below. Why?

DI

Visit

Kiwi of the



Julius Vogel

Premier Julius Vogel's great plan was to borrow heavily to build infrastructure and to lure migrants. It was controversial, but the money and migrants stimulated the economy and created a viable consumer market for producers.

more

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THIS WEEK'S  
QUIZ

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