

50 More Western Australian Historical

Facts & Trivia

❖ Prepared for Celebrate WA by Ruth Marchant James ❖

- Q1.** Thirty-one year old Peter Broun, his wife Caroline and their two young children arrived on the *Parmelia* in 1829. What was Broun's position in the new Swan River Colony?
A. Colonial Secretary
- Q2.** What important historic event was celebrated between December 1996 and February 1997?
A. The tri-centenary of de Vlamingh's visit
- Q3.** During the Second World War Mrs Chester, the eccentric widow of a former Subiaco mayor, purchased two spitfires and one training plane for the RAAF at a cost of 8000 and 1000 pounds respectively. For years she was a common sight in the city and most people identified her by what nick-name?
A. 'Birds' Nest'
- Q4.** What nationality was the early Benedictine Monk Rosendo Salvado who, together with fellow monks, founded the settlement of new Norcia?
A. Spanish
- Q5.** The Benedictine Monks came from Spain to establish an Aboriginal mission. In what year did they establish the settlement of New Norcia?
A. 1846 (New Norcia celebrated its 150th year in 1996.)
- Q6.** In what area of the Wheatbelt was the earliest inland European settlement in Western Australia?
A. The Avon Valley
- Q7.** By 8 June 1829 three ships were anchored in Cockburn sound. Name them.
A. HMS Challenger, Parmelia and HMS Sulphur
- Q8.** The sinking of HMAS Sydney in November 1941 posed a mystery for many years. What was the name of the German merchant raider involved? (Updated as at September 2010.)
A. The Kormoran
- Q9.** What distinguished soldier and well-known Perth architect designed the State War Memorial in King's Park?
A. General Sir Talbot Hobbs
- Q10.** Who was responsible for the naming of King George's Sound, Princess Royal Harbour and Michaelmas Island in Albany?
A. Captain George Vancouver in 1791. In naming the Sound he honoured King George III. The name of the harbour was chosen to mark the anniversary of Princess Charlotte's birth and that of the off-shore island because the expedition arrived on Michaelmas Eve.

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- Q11.** Garden and Carnac Islands originally had French names. What were they?
A. *Buache and Bertollet respectively*
- Q12.** What was the original name used for the timber now known as Jarrah?
A. *Swan River Mahogany*
- Q13.** Who passed through Kelmscott in November 1830 and was responsible for naming Churchman's Brook and Mount Dale?
A. *Ensign Dale*
- Q14.** In 1905 Mrs Muriel Chase (Aunty Mary the writer of a popular children's newspaper column) helped found the Silver Chain at the instigation of Perth journalist Arthur Grundy. What newspaper was involved in the foundation of this association?
A. *The Western Mail*
- Q15.** West Perth streets Colin, Outram and Havelock are connected with what war?
A. *The Indian Mutiny*
- Q16.** 6ML, Western Australia's first commercial radio station went to air on 19 March 1930. The station was owned and operated by what company?
A. *Musgroves Limited*
- Q17.** Mr Albany Bell, a progressive employer, built a large castle style factory on Guildford Road in 1919. He was well-known for another successful venture. What was it?
A. *The Albany Bell chain of tearooms which operated in major centres such as Perth, Kalgoorlie, Coolgardie and Bunbury.*
- Q18.** On 13 January 1921 a large Perth department store, on the corner of William and Hay Streets was destroyed by fire. What was the store?
A. *The Economic Store*
- Q19.** From which historic English church did Perth's Swan Bells come from originally?
A. *St Martin in the Fields, Trafalgar Square*
- Q20.** Which Square in central Perth is named after a former barmaid and millionaire property owner who left the bulk of her fortune to the University of Western Australia in 1960 for the purpose of setting up a medical foundation?
A. *Raine Square*
- Q21.** What is the popular name given to Point Curie?
A. *Pelican Point*
- Q22.** What do the names Westralia, Manx Fairy, Decoy and Zephyr have in common?
A. *They were the names of well-known Perth pleasure steamers operating on the Swan River, prior to World War 11.*

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- Q23.** A prominent Australian Rules footballer from Victoria who became one of the country's best-known fighter pilot aces, died in March 1943 after taking command of a Kittyhawk Squadron at Exmouth. Give the name of this popular RAAF pilot buried at the Karrakatta War Cemetery.
A. Squadron Leader Keith (Bluey) Truscott
- Q24.** In which Western Australian country town did May Gibbs, author of the famous *Snugglypot and Cuddlepig* book live in the 1880s?
A. Harvey
- Q25.** Name the burning freighter which threatened the entire inner harbour at Fremantle on 17 January 1945 when fire engulfed the ship and blazing oil spread out towards other vessels, including three submarines laden with torpedoes and shells?
A. The Panamanian
- Q26.** Stirling Highway, the main thoroughfare between the port and the capital city, was previously known by what name?
A. The Perth-Fremantle Road
- Q27.** An internationally famous author visited Perth in May 1922. Two years later he jointly produced the novel *The Boy in the Bush* with Western Australian writer, Molly Skinner. Who was he?
A. D H Lawrence
- Q28.** On 17 August 1838, the first Aboriginal prisoners were taken to Rottnest. What type of prisoners were sent to the same island during World War I?
A. 1300 German prisoners of war were interned on Rottnest Island.
- Q29.** The Rottnest Hotel, more commonly referred to as the Quokka Arms, was originally used for what purpose?
A. The Governor's summer residence
- Q30.** When Dutch sailors first sailed the West Coast and saw the Pinnacles limestone outcrops from the sea, what did they think they were?
A. The remains of an ancient city
- Q31.** Long serving Premier Sir David Brand entered the Western Australian Legislative Assembly as a member for which electorate?
A. Greenough
- Q32.** When was the Perth Town Hall constructed?
A. Building was commenced in 1867 and was completed in 1870.
- Q33.** In 1885, Western Australians were introduced to a new sport. Name the sport.
A. Australian Rules Football. The first official match was played on the Esplanade on 6 June 1885.

50 More Western Australian Historical Facts & Trivia

- Q34.** Name the first Anglican and Roman Catholic Bishops of Perth
A. *Bishop Mathew Blagden Hale and Bishop John Brady*
- Q35.** What was the original name given to Toodyay?
A. *Newcastle*
- Q36.** When was Perth Park renamed King's Park?
A. *1901*
- Q37.** How old is the aptly named King Jarrah Tree near Manjimup in the South West?
A. *Over 600 years old*
- Q38.** What is the origin of the name given to the beachside suburb of Swanbourne?
A. *Swanbourne in Buckinghamshire, UK, was the birthplace of Captain Charles Howe Fremantle.*
- Q39.** Where in 1964 did Donald Campbell set the world water speed record?
A. *At Lake Dumbleyoung in the Wheatbelt*
- Q40.** The Battye Library perpetuates the name of which former Perth identity?
A. *Historian, librarian and author Dr J S Battye*
- Q41.** According to records compiled by the Geographic Names Department the name Mandurah, or Mandjar, is an Aboriginal word meaning what?
A. *Trading place*
- Q42.** Between the years 1854 and 1866 three significant buildings were completed at the west end of St George's Terrace. Name them.
A. *Perth Boy's School (completed 1854), the Cloisters (1858) and the Pensioner Barracks (1866), now just the Barracks Arch.*
- Q43.** A northern beachside area, originally known as Wangaree, was later renamed Lancelin. Why was this name chosen?
A. *Named for French scientific writer P J Lancelin by members of Baudin's expedition.*
- Q44.** Who was responsible for the plan of the original Perth townsite?
A. *Surveyor-General John Septimus Roe*
- Q45.** The suburb of Mosman Park was previously known by two other names. What were they?
A. *Buckland Hill and Cottesloe Beach*
- Q46.** Name the highly respected Aboriginal woman who, in 1873, after completing her education at New Norcia, was appointed the town's first post mistress and first telegraph operator.
A. *Mary Helen Cuper, formerly Miss Pangerian of Bunbury*

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- Q47.** Who was the first woman medical practitioner in Perth?
A. *Dr Roberta Jull*
- Q48.** Who was the Matron of King Edward Memorial Hospital for Woman for thirty-two years who made an enormous contribution in the field of women's health?
A. *Matron Agnes Walsh*
- Q49.** The water supply for the entire township of Kalgoorlie-Boulder is supplied by a pipeline that was designed by C Y O'Connor. In what year was the pipeline completed?
A. *1903*
- Q50.** Pumped from Mundaring Weir, how long does the water journey along the pipeline before reaching Kalgoorlie-Boulder?
A. *Ten days*

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QUESTIONS

- Q1.** Thirty-one year old Peter Broun, his wife Caroline and their two young children arrived on the *Parmelia* in 1829. What was Broun's position in the new Swan River Colony?
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