

Treasure Hunt Answers 9

My train journey across Australia was wonderful. The food and drink were just incredible.

One of the places we passed through was called Kalgoorlie. But the town wasn't always known as this. What was it known as, and why?

In the winter of 1893, prospectors Patrick (Paddy) Hannan, Tom Flanagan, and Dan Shea noticed signs of gold in the area around the foot of what is now the Mount Charlotte gold mine and decided to investigate. Hannan filed a Reward Claim. Hundreds of men swarmed to the area in search of gold, and Kalgoorlie, originally called Hannan's Find, was born.

To my surprise, even out in the middle of Nullarbor Plain (what is the literal translation of Nullarbor No trees) the train had fast wifi. As anyone who has travelled from Shrewsbury to London will know, that was more than Virgin could provide! I received an email from my quiz loving friend. This time it had 2 questions.

There is only one word in the OED that is an anagram of coronavirus. What is it? **Carnivorous**

In my opinion, one of the finest novels of the 20th century. My daughter agrees with me and she is ALWAYS right: "It was a bright, cold day in April, and the clocks were striking 13." This is the opening sentence of which novel? **1984**

It wasn't a boring journey, but I had time to bring my emails up to date and to ask the tower contact in Perth if I could ring. She had said I would be welcome to ring that Sunday, which was great as I was going to arrive on the Saturday afternoon. So I sat back and enjoyed the rest of my journey.

I arrived in Perth and popped across to Barrack Square. The tower is very impressive, but just how tall is it? **271 feet**

I then went to Billabong Brewing, but they wouldn't sell me any of their Brew On Premises beer. Why not? **The Brew On Premises Beers are not available to purchase, they are brewed by individuals at the Billabong Brewery.**

So I went to a nearby pub and had a couple of pints.

The next day I had a quick tour of Perth before going ringing.

The Swan Bells are amazing, so some questions for you.

- How many bells are there? **18**
- 12 of the bells came from an English church. Which one? **St Martin in the Field, London.**
- If you add together the years the 12 bells were cast, divide by 12 and then round up or down to the nearest whole number what do you get. **1734 (actually 1734.4166)**

I had a great ring and enjoyed some beer with like-minded people. The beer wasn't quite as good as Station Bitter, but then it wasn't brewed in Oswestry!

And so it was that on the afternoon of Monday March 9th I sat back on a very special Qantas flight and arrived the next day in London. Why is this so special, and what is the name Qantas give to the plane I travelled in. **The Qantas Dreamliner takes a bit over 19 hours to fly direct from Perth to London. When the service was initiated it was the longest commercial flight in the world.**

I eventually got on a train to Gobowen. Well I didn't really, I had to change at Birmingham International. The trains were late, it was raining, there was, predictably, no WiFi, but it was home. The following Sunday I rang a QP at Oswestry, with all my friends, and then lockdown!

But do I have some stories, and memories, and millions of pictures? The good thing about lockdown is that I won't need to have the scheduled meeting with my bank manager for a little while!