

SLSWA - ALL OTHER PHOTOS: TOURISM WESTERN AUSTRALIA

# Hi! My name is Harvey, and I'm from Perth, Western Australia.

m 14 years old, and I live with my parents, my two younger brothers and my younger sister. Perth has beautiful beaches. Or you can take a ferry to a small island called Rottnest. The sand there is pure white and the water is really clear. Perfect for snorkelling. If you drive out of the city there are forests, which are cooler. And in the countryside you might see kangaroos. Not koalas, though. They live in the east of Australia.



A quokka is a marsupial, like kangaroos and koalas. It is indigenous to Rottnest Island near Perth.



I'm in Year 9 at school. I have three more years after this one. Our school year is from February to December, so we don't have summer holidays soon, like you! But we have warm weather all year. My school uniform has black shorts for boys, with a white shirt and an optional tie, and skirts or dresses for girls.

#### **SCHOOL MUSIC**

I live near school, so I don't have to get up till 7.30. I take the bus and arrive for "Form" class at 9 a.m. That's just ten minutes where our form teacher checks who is present, and gives us any information we need. We have three periods, then 20 minutes break. Then two more periods and 30 minutes for lunch. After three more periods, we finish at 3.15 p.m. There are often sports practices before or after school.

This year I have to study English, Maths, Science, Social Science, <u>Health</u>, Sport and French. I chose to study Photography and Music. I play euphonium (a little smaller than

I play cricket in a club, but you can also play on the beach in the city centre!



### HELP (2.1248)

band (n) group of musicians brass (adj) the section of an orchestra with instruments like trumpets and tubas to check (v) to verify disease (n) cancer, aids,

tuberculosis etc. are diseases first-aid (exp) emergency medical help to a person in danger gold (n) expensive yellow metal the Gold Rush (exp) period when

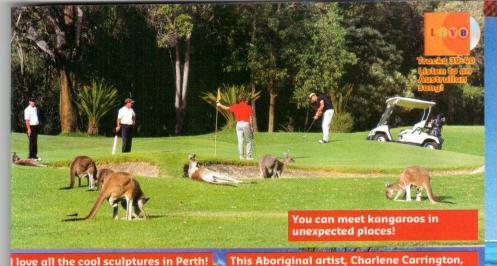
lots of people arrived in the

region to try to find gold **health** (n) the condition of your body

to be **looking forward to** (exp) to be impatient for something to happen

snorkelling (n) swimming under the surface of the water with a tube for air

<u>wood</u>wind: the section of an orchestra with instruments like flutes and clarinettes



takes her inspiration from the Australian

a tuba) in one of the four school bands. It's a wind band: we have brass and woodwind instruments. We have band practice on Friday mornings. In 2014, we're going to play some concerts in Europe: in France, the Czech Republic and Britain. I've never been to Europe, so I'm really looking forward to it.

#### **BEACH LIFE**

Like many Australians, I love sport. I surf of course, and I skateboard a lot. I'm in a grass hockey team and a cricket team. And I do surf lifesaving (see top photo, p.12). We learn how to help people who get into trouble in the ocean. I started lifesaving when I was seven, for two years. Then I started again last year.

We practise on Sunday mornings. We learn <u>first-aid</u> techniques and CPR, when you press on a person's heart after they have a cardiac arrest. And we learn how to get a person out of the water. We use surfboards to get to accidents quickly, and to help bring people back to the beach. When I'm older, I'd like to study medicine, or sports science, so lifesaving is good experience. And you spend lots of time on

You can visit this old gold mine, from the Gold Rush.

Northern
Territory

Queensland

AUSTRALIA

Perthe

South Australia

Perthe

Adelaide ACT CANBERRA

Victoria

Melbourne

All

# **SPOTLIGHT**

#### **II** Australia

Population: 23 million Capital: Canberra

Prime Minister: Julia Gillard Monarch: Queen Elizabeth II

Languages:

English and Aboriginal languages
National Day:

January 26, Australia Day. Geography: Australia is

7,686,850 km<sup>2</sup>. (50 per cent larger than Europe.) Ninety per cent of Australians live near the coast, with 75 per cent in the big cities.

Mini-History

Archeologists say Aborigines have been living in Australia for more than 50,000 years. They are one of the oldest surviving human civilisations.

In 1770 British explorer James Cook "discovered" part of the east coast of Australia. He declared it was British and named it New South Wales. In 1788, the British government started a colony for prisoners. In 1840, the British stopped sending prisoners there.

in 1850, gold was discovered. Lots of people came to Australia to look for gold. It was the Gold Rush! In 1901, Australia became independent. It has a government and Prime Minister, but the British Queen is still the head of state. The Aboriginal population was decimated by European diseases and brutal treatment by the colonists. When Europeans arrived, there were probably 750,000 Aborigines, but at one point, there were only 60,000. Today there are about 500,000.

## **U**1 Western Australia

The state covers one-third of Australia — it's enormous! It is the biggest state, but only has the fifth biggest population of the eight states and territories.

Population: 2.4 million (1.5 million in the Perth metropolitan area)

History:

The Swan River Colony was founded by the British captain James Stirling in 1829. This then became Perth. In the 1890s, many people came to try to find gold. The state has lots of sunshine and natural resources. Today, the major economic sectors are mineral mining, petroleum and agriculture (particularly cereals and beef).