

HOW A PHOTO CHANGED MY LIFE

(text from: *English Plus Options, OUP*)



“Koala Man” David Tree woke up one morning to find his photograph on the front page of newspapers around the world.

It was one of the hottest summers in memory in the state of Victoria, Australia. Bush fires were burning very close to people’s homes and they were in danger. In every town, volunteers were fighting the fires. David Tree was one of these volunteer firefighters.

On 9th February, Mr Tree was working with his team near his home town of Mirboo. They were fighting a bush fire. They were driving up Samson Road when Mr Tree saw a koala. It was walking across the burned ground, and it didn’t look happy. “There’s a koala, stop the truck.”, he shouted and jumped out.. “I videoed the koala for my daughter Cheyenne, and yelled for a bottle of water”. Firefighter Mark Pardew took the photo while koala was drinking from a bottle. A friend took the injured animal to a wildlife centre. At the centre, they named her Sam after Samson Road.

Later, Mr Pardew emailed the photo to friends and someone sent it to the local newspaper. From there, it went around the world and David Tree became a celebrity.

Why were people in danger that summer?

People were in danger because _____

Why did a friend take a koala to a wildlife centre?

He took it to the wildlife centre because _____

What did Mr Tree do when he saw a koala?

When Mr Tree saw a koala, he _____

What did Mr Pardew do with a photo of koala?

He _____

Why did David Tree become a celebrity?

He became a celebrity because _____

