

The Alice Springs School of the Air's History

CLICK HERE to read the Alice Springs School of the Air's fascinating timeline!

A. Choose the right answer:

1. Who had the idea to use radio for school lessons?
a) Margaret Stiller b) Nancy Barrett c) Adelaide Miethke d) Molly Ferguson
2. When did the School of the Air officially start?
a) in 1944 b) in 1950 c) in 1951 d) in 1952
3. Who taught the first lessons?
a) Adelaide Miethke b) Teachers at Alice Springs Primary School c) Teachers in Adelaide d) Flying Doctors
4. How often were classes broadcast from 1951 to 1956?
a) every day b) once a week c) twice a week d) three times a week
5. When did they honour Molly Ferguson with an MBE for her work at the School of the Air?
a) in 1954 b) in 1955 c) in 1956 d) in 1957
6. When was the first Get-together week?
a) in 1955 b) in 1956 c) in 1957 d) in 1958
7. Who was the first teacher to go on "patrol"?
a) David Ashton b) Molly Ferguson c) Margaret Stiller d) Nancy Barrett
8. Where did School of the Air's students go for their first excursion?
a) Alice Springs b) Anzac Hill c) Gregory National Park d) Adelaide
9. When did the Alice Springs School of the Air become completely autonomous?
a) in 1974 b) in 1975 c) in 1976 d) in 1977
10. Who designed the school logo?
a) Val Whalen b) David Ashton c) Judy Hodder d) Nancy Barrett
11. What happened in 1976?
a) the School moved to another building b) the first patrol by plane c) the first In-School d) nothing
12. When did the School start a Preschool program?
a) in 1977 b) in 1978 c) in 1979 d) in 1980
13. What did Mrs Kennedy organise?
a) the first radio lesson b) the first excursion c) the first patrol by plane d) the first In-School
14. When did the first Indigenous children become students of the School?
a) in 1991 b) in 1992 c) in 1993 d) in 1995
15. When did the School start using email?
a) in 1991 b) in 1993 c) in 1996 d) in 1999
16. Who visited the School in 2000?
a) the Prime Minister of Australia b) the Prime Minister of Greece c) the President of the United States d) Queen Elizabeth II.
17. What does Interactive Distance Learning (IDL) use?
a) broadband and satellite technologies b) radio transceivers c) carrier pigeons d) TV broadcasts
18. What happened in 2002?
a) They started using only satellite Internet b) they got new laptops c) Prince Charles visited them d) an earthquake
19. How many students did the School have in 2013?
a) 130 b) 101 c) 104 d) 140
20. What is special about the students from Suplejack Downs?
a) they live in an Aboriginal community b) their parent(s) and grandparent(s) were also students at the school
c) they come from the largest working cattle station in the world d) they are 100km away from the School

B. Choose T (True) or F (False):

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1. The Alice Springs School of the Air is the first of its kind in the world. | T | F |
| 2. 28 students went to the first Get-together week. | T | F |
| 3. Miss Molly Ferguson left the School because of ill health. | T | F |
| 4. Miss Nancy Barrett used a brown 4WD Toyota Land Cruiser to go on her first patrol. | T | F |
| 5. The patrols of the teachers were so successful that they still happen. | T | F |
| 6. Mr David Ashton went on patrol 4 times a year. | T | F |
| 7. From the start, teachers at Alice Springs made and marked all the lessons. | T | F |
| 8. By 1991, 25% of all patrols were by airplane. | T | F |
| 9. They started work on the building in Head Street, where the School still is today, in 1977. | T | F |
| 10. The School started using secure Internet services for teaching in 2000. | T | F |