QUEEN ELIZABETH II
1926–

Queen of the United Kingdom and Head of the Commonwealth

Queen Elizabeth II was born in Mayfair, London. After the death of her father King George VI, she became Queen in 1952. The Queen takes on many royal engagements including visiting Australia 16 different times.
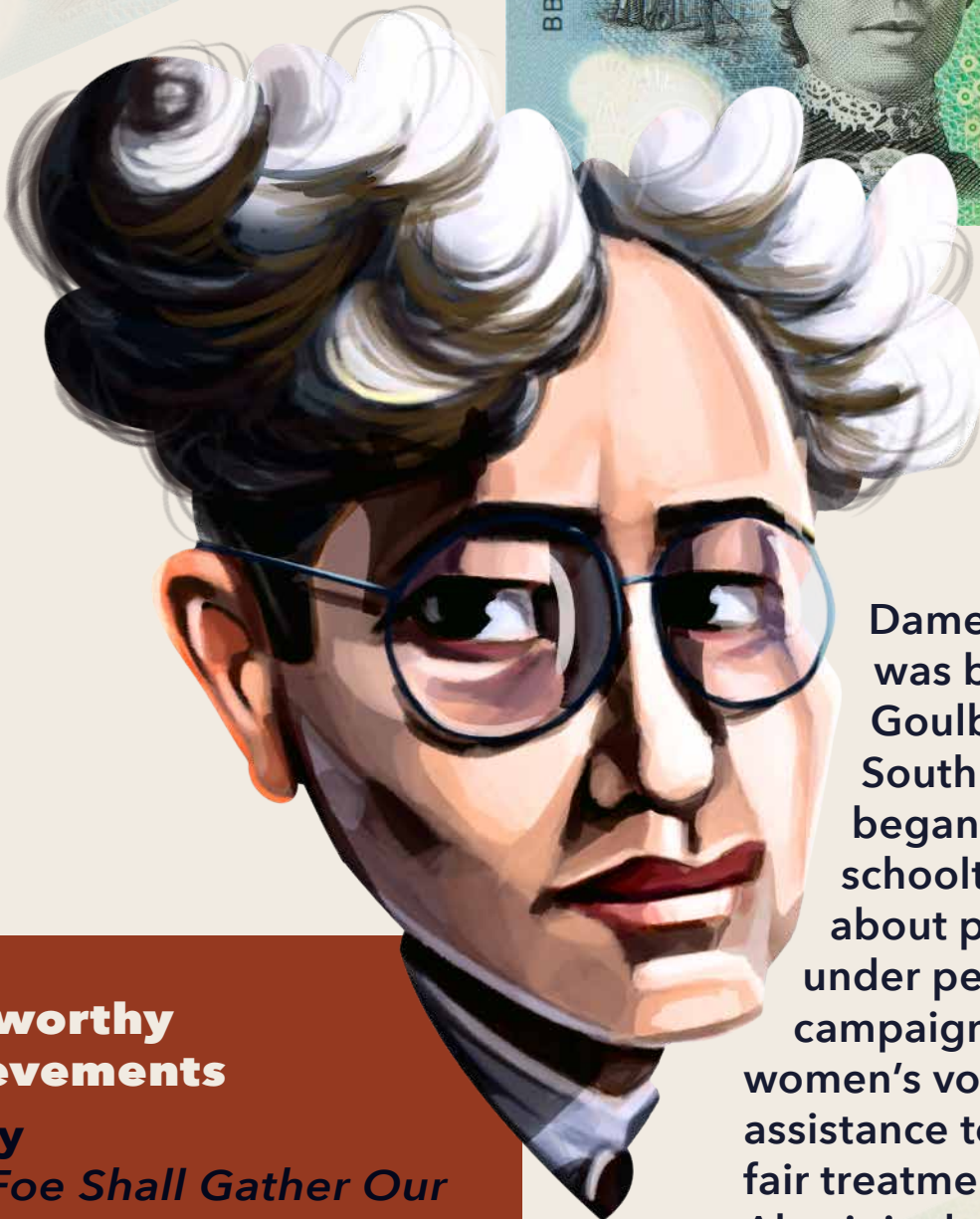
Noteworthy Facts
- Queen Elizabeth II is the longest-reigning British monarch.
- Corgis are the Queen's favourite dog breed. She has owned more than 30!

DAME **MARY** GILMORE
1865–1962

Poet, journalist and campaigner.

AUSTRALIA

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Dame Mary Gilmore was born near Goulburn, New South Wales. She began her career as a schoolteacher writing about political topics under pen-names. She campaigned for women's voting rights, assistance to the poor and fair treatment of Aboriginal peoples.

Noteworthy Achievements

Poetry
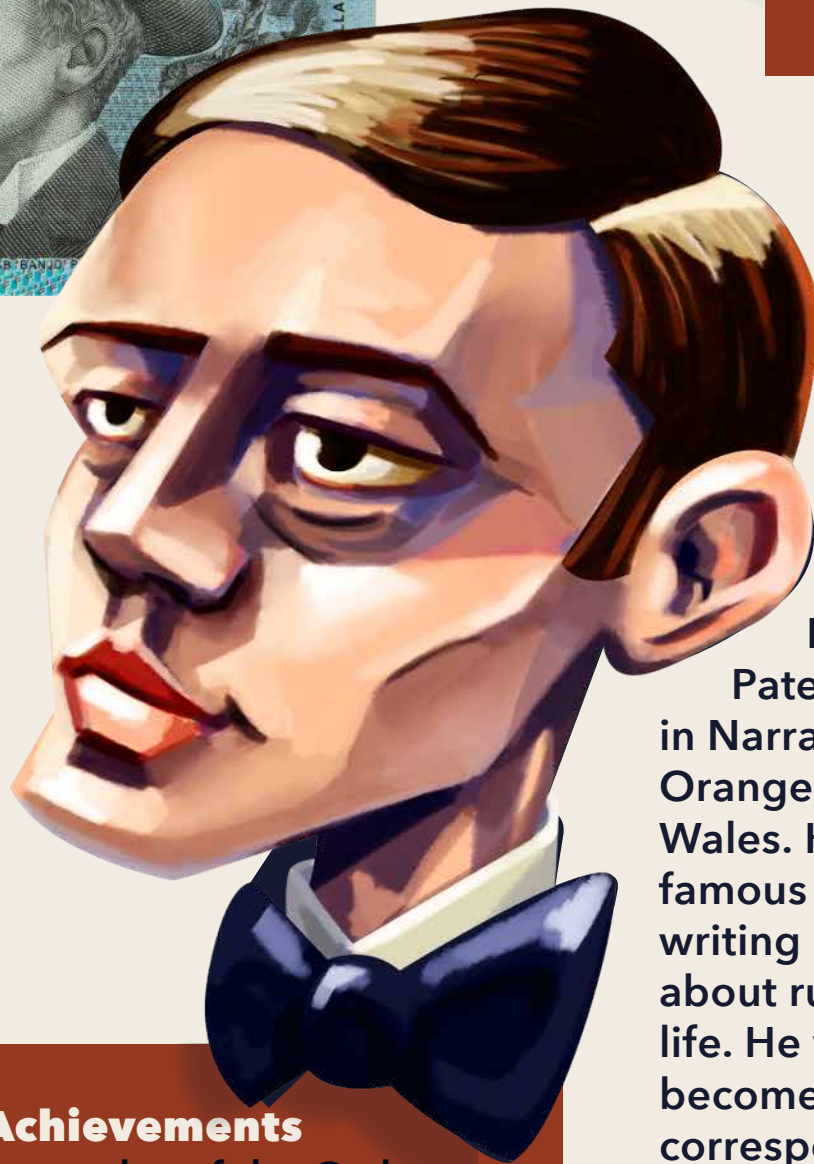- *No Foe Shall Gather Our Harvest*, 1940
- *Singapore*, 1942

Volumes
- *The Tilted Cart*, 1925
- *The Wild Swan*, 1930
- *Fourteen Men*, 1954

teachstarter

BANJO PATERSON
1894–1941

Andrew Barton "Banjo" Paterson was born in Narrambla, close to Orange, in New South Wales. He was a famous bush poet writing many ballads about rural Australian life. He went on to become a news correspondent before heading to Europe, where he became an ambulance driver during World War I.

Noteworthy Achievements

- He was a Commander of the Order of the British Empire.
- Banjo Paterson wrote many famous poems:
  - *Waltzing Matilda*, 1903
  - *The Man From Snowy River*, 1890
  - *Clancy of The Overflow*, 1889
  - *The Man From Ironbark*, 1892.

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REVEREND **JOHN FLYNN**
1880–1951

Minister, founder and author

John Flynn was born in Moliagul, central Victoria. After visiting the outback and seeing that there was no medical care available, he was inspired to begin the Aerial Medical Service (now known as the Royal Flying Doctor Service).

Noteworthy Achievements

- In the first year of the Aerial Medical Service 225 patients were treated.
- The communication technology used by the Flying Doctor Service was also used to establish the School of the Air in 1951.

MARY REIBEY
1777–1855

Not So Noteworthy Achievements

- She was sent to Australia when she was 14 years old after being arrested for stealing a horse.
- She might have had a bit of a temper! In 1817 she was found guilty of assaulting someone who owed her money.

Mary Reibey was born in Bury, Lancashire, England. After her husband died, she took responsibility for his businesses and continued to expand operations buying new trading ships. She devoted time to church, education and charity work.

EDITH COWAN
1861–1932

Social worker and politician

AUSTRALIA

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Edith Cowan was born in Glengarry close by to Geraldton in Western Australia. She was a strong advocate for public education and women's rights. She was the first woman to be elected into any Australian parliament and helped progress the welfare of migrants and children's health.
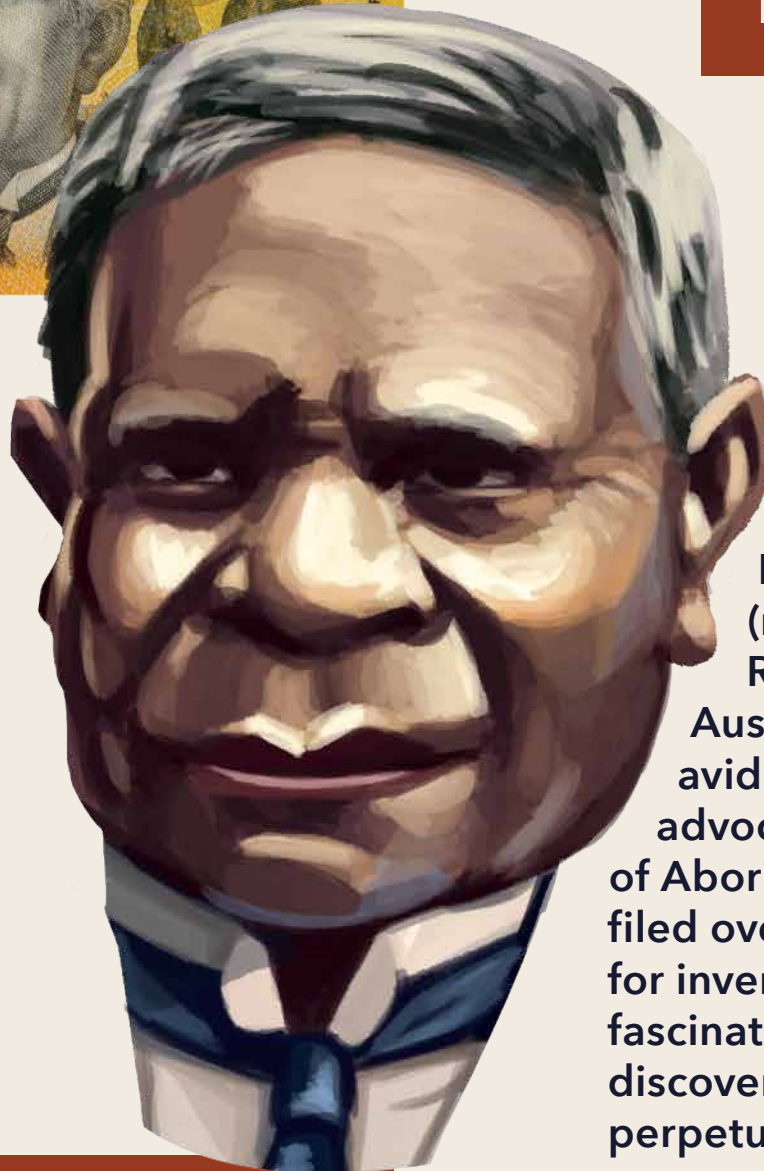
Notable Achievements

- Edith Cowan was one of the founders of the Red Cross.
- She became an Officer of the Order of the British Empire in 1920.

DAVID UNAIPON
1872–1967

Writer, speaker and inventor.

David Unaipon, a Ngarrindjeri man, was born at the Point McLeay Mission (now known as Raukkan) in South Australia. He was an avid inventor and advocate for the rights of Aboriginal people. He filed over nine patents for inventions and was fascinated with discovering the secret of perpetual motion.
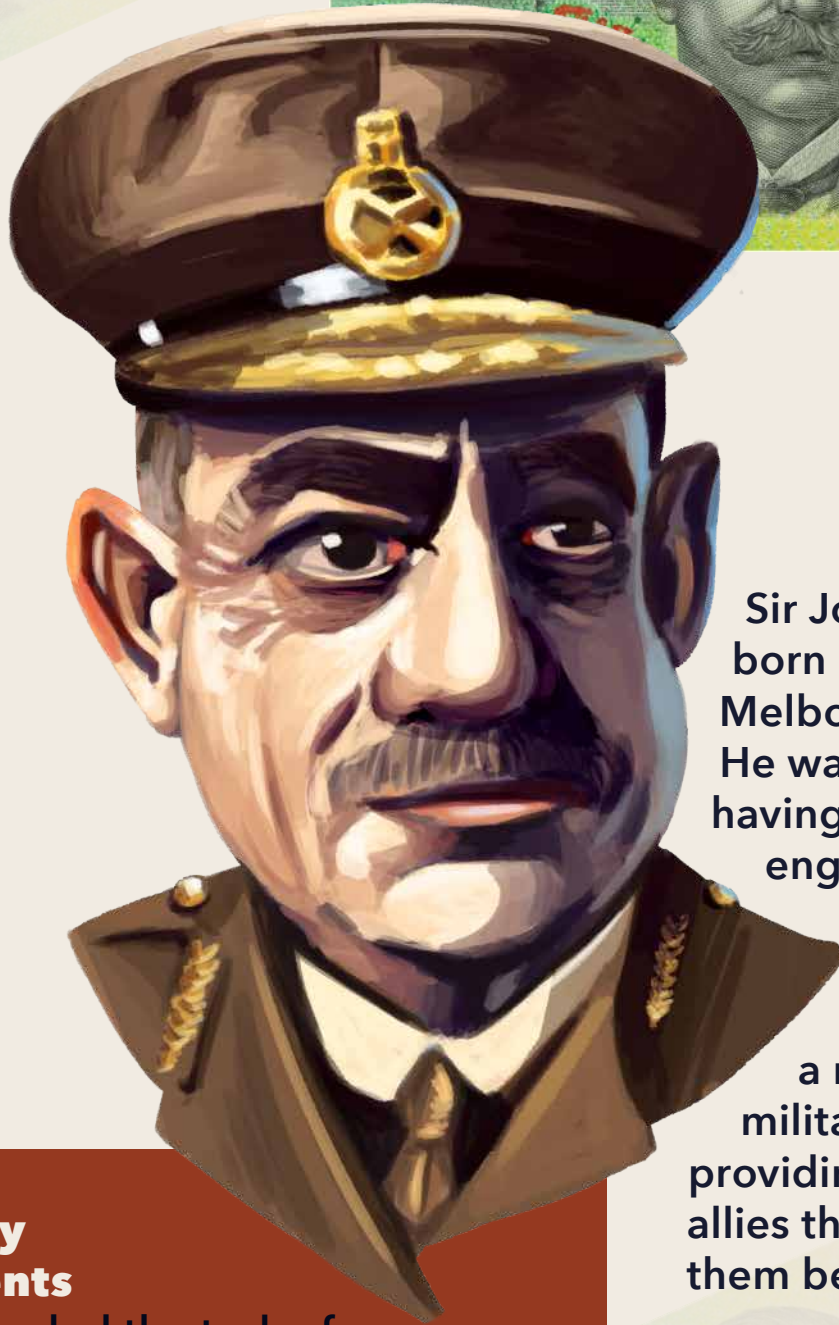
Noteworthy Achievements
- Unaipon was the first Aboriginal writer to be published.
- In 1914, Unaipon foresaw the possibility of helicopter flight.

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SIR JOHN MONASH
1865–1931

Engineer and soldier.

AUSTRALIA

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Sir John Monash was born in West Melbourne, Victoria. He was a studious man having degrees in arts, engineering and law. During the First World War, Monash became a reputable military leader providing battle plans to allies that resulted in them being victorious.
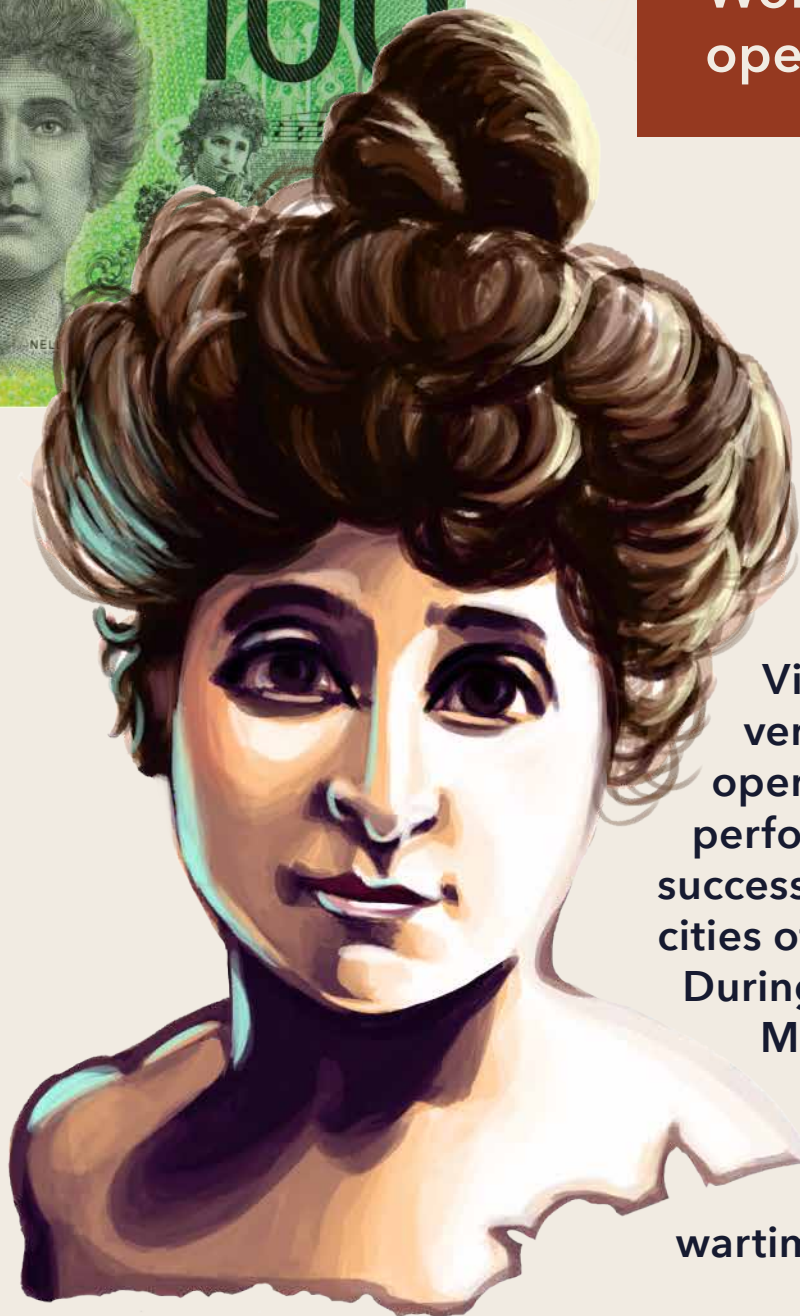
Noteworthy Achievements

- Monash headed the task of bringing 160 000 Australian soldiers back home after World War I.
- He was involved with building the Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne.

DAME NELLIE MELBA
1861–1931

World-renowned opera singer.

Dame Nellie Melba was born in Melbourne, Victoria. She was a very accomplished opera singer who performed with great success in many major cities of the world. During World War I, Melba raised funds for charities and performed wartime concert tours.

Noteworthy Facts

- 'Melba' is actually a stage name. It is a contraction of the city she was born in. Dame Nellie Melba was born Helen Porter Mitchell.
- She was made Dame Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire in 1927.