

- 1 What can't a basenji dog do?
- 2 What is the value in cents of a U.S. dime?
- 3 What is bonhomie?
- 4 Name the home service supervisor from the SA Gas Company who appeared regularly on Adelaide daytime television in the 1960s.
- 5 What do the letters in the police charge DUI stand for?
- 6 The aniseed-flavoured liqueur ouzo comes from which country?
- 7 Wisteria Lane is the setting for which television series?
- 8 John Brumby is Treasurer of which Australian state?
- 9 Which West Adelaide player won the 1985 Magarey Medal?
- 10 Which American state has a border with only one other?
- 11 How many days are in May?
- 12 A duologue is a conversation between how many people?
- 13 What is the former Indian city of Bombay called?
- 14 What does the musical direction pianissimo mean?
- 15 Sydney ferries are predominantly which two colours?
- 16 What is the tiller on a boat?
- 17 What do the letters CSIRO stand for?
- 18 Who wrote the play *Hamlet*?
- 19 Elephants sleep standing up – true or false?
- 20 By removing the first two letters of which American state do you get the name of another?
- 21 Which U.S. city is the setting for the book *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*, by John Berendt?
- 22 On what date each year is St George's Day, commemorating the patron saint of England?
- 23 Phrygia, the ancient country over which the mythical King Midas ruled, is now part of which country?
- 24 Phenol is also known as what kind of acid?
- 25 In which year was the Sydney Harbour Bridge opened?
- 26 What is a modicum?
- 27 Name the ACTU president.
- 28 Irish singer Ronan Keating was once a member of which successful boy band?
- 29 Vientiane is the capital of which country?
- 30 Iron pyrites is also known as what kind of gold?
- 31 What colour "tape" means excessive attention to formality and routine?
- 32 In which year was the Pope born?
- 33 What is petrology?
- 34 In Greek legend, name the youth who fell in love with his own image.
- 35 What are kept in an aviary?
- 36 How many Grand Slam singles titles did U.S. tennis player Pete Sampras win?
- 37 What is rhinoplasty?
- 38 What is 35 per cent of \$35?
- 39 What is the monetary unit of Malaysia?
- 40 What is a vespiary?
- 41 What is the singular of neuroses?
- 42 What colour are New York taxis?
- 43 What was the middle name of Australian racing car driver Peter Brock?
- 44 In which country is the mountainous state of Oaxaca?
- 45 Which English soccer team is nicknamed the Gunners?
- 46 What is permaculture?
- 47 In which year was the pop-up toaster invented – 1927, 1937 or 1947?
- 48 Which country has Europe's largest Muslim population?
- 49 What is the tallest land mammal?
- 50 What is a gurney?

Answers page 19

Ha Thi Hoa was terrified by rumours the North

From 7

She was in her 20s before she made any attempt to trace her origins. When those efforts failed, "I basically shut down for another decade," she says.

Finally, towards the end of 2004, she typed the words "adopted Vietnamese" into Google and came upon an online support group for Australian Vietnamese war orphans. Still, she resisted contact.

"I sat back and watched them talk online for about a year before I came out of the woodwork," she says.

Finally, in touch with people whose own beginnings so closely mirrored her own, Suanne's world began to expand. Through them, she learned to look out for the *Operation Baby Lift* documentary, which she knew was about the flights that had airlifted her to her new life in Australia.

"I guess you hope against hope that you might actually see something of yourself," she says of her expectations of the film.

"So, it was very exciting to go 'Oh, my God', because it's the only image of me in Vietnam."

Excited rather than distressed, she regarded the photograph as the first concrete evidence of her early life.

"When you don't know who your birth parents are and you don't know if you ever will... for me that was perhaps the only thing I would have, the only image or information I would have about the first 3½ years of my life. For me at the time, it was almost as good as finding my birth parents."

She made contact with Film Australia, which put her in touch with the film-makers. Through them she was able to meet Ian Frame, who took the photograph, with Suanne's distinctive scar under her left eye clearly visible.

The excitement of the discovery spurred her interest, and when the opportunity arose to join other Vietnamese war orphans on a "Motherland Reunion" departing in March, she grasped it.

"I didn't go there to search," stresses Suanne, "but part of that trip was going to our orphanages or the site of our orphanages."

The Pragers had begun adoption proceedings about 12 months before Operation Baby Lift, so they had been given Suanne's name,

birth date and the name of her orphanage.

Her first visit to the ramshackle Catholic Church orphanage in Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon, proved a disappointment.

The next day, Suanne returned with another adoptee on the tour, who had come from the same orphanage and who spoke French. They were told that all records had been destroyed, but that perhaps an elderly priest who had worked at the orphanage during the war might have more information.

In the early evening, the old priest was able to tell them that "if Suanne has a Vietnamese name and a birth date we might find her in our baptism records". Alas, the records office was closed for the night, and the Motherland Tour's itinerary had them on the first flight out to central Vietnam.

Frustrated, Suanne called home to Adelaide a few days later, explaining her predicament. Margaret Prager had no hesitation encouraging her to leave the tour and return to Ho Chi Minh City.

This time accompanied by a Vietnamese interpreter, Suanne turned up at the orphanage early on the morning of April 11 with a request to see the baptism records.

"They tried to send us away and said they didn't know what we were talking about but I just kept begging through my interpreter," she says.

The records clerk was equally uncooperative, telling Suanne that her query had drawn a blank. Still she persisted, begging him to take another look. When finally he agreed, opening the book to the relevant page, there was her name, her date of birth and the names of her mother and her aunt, together with their address.

"My interpreter went 'Ah, oh, my God, you're in there', and for 10 minutes they were talking Vietnamese and I was like, 'What's happening?'," she says.

The interpreter explained, adding that the address given was just down the street. Perhaps they might walk down and find it?

"When we got there we found my cousin and my aunts and my sister and this whole extended family still living there," says Suanne. "And they contacted my mother and she came flying in from work on a motorbike."

Like many other Vietnamese children given up for adoption during the war, Suanne had

not been an orphan after all. Her mother, Ha Thi Hoa, is now 63 and works as a housekeeper for a French doctor living in Saigon.

"She just grabbed me and wept," says Suanne. "She said she thought I'd forgotten about her. Or that I'd died. She said she hadn't gone a day in 32 years without thinking about me. She had tried to pay someone to look for me at one stage and never heard anything."

Ha Thi Hoa looked for the scar under Suanne's eye, now faint after plastic surgery when she first arrived in Australia. She checked Suanne's ear lobes – she had had baby Minh Trang's ears pierced before giving her up to Father Olivier, the priest from the Catholic church. Meanwhile, more aunts and cousins and neighbours were arriving. Everyone was crying, says Suanne.

After 30 years of grief and guilt, Ha Thi Hoa wept as she apologised again and again to her lost daughter, explaining why she gave her up.

The child's father had been in the U.S. Coastguard. Terrified by rumours that the North Vietnamese would kill children fathered by the enemy, as well as their mothers, Ha Thi Hoa faced a desperate decision. "She keeps telling me that on the day she gave me up to the orphanage I squealed 'No, no, Mummy, I don't want to go. Take me home'," says Suanne. "And she wept and was terribly sad but Father Olivier said to her 'You don't need to cry. Don't be sad, because I'm going to save her life'."

Rolf and Margaret Prager sit calmly in the sunny sitting room of their eastern suburbs home. Suanne is in the study, having popped in for a late lunch. They're clearly happy at this new turn of events in their daughter's life.

"It's a great thing for Su," says Margaret Prager. "She's often said that there was a big hole that she needed to fill and I'm hoping that this will fill it."

Already, it's made a difference, adds her father. "She's much more positive and much happier in herself," he says.

They're confident that her identity as Ha Thi Hoa's daughter will be confirmed by the DNA test Suanne is planning. The scar, the ear piercing, the details from the baptism record, and the fact that she had been baptised before being given up for adoption, all point to a positive outcome, they believe.

"The paperchase seems very legitimate," says Margaret Prager. "Everything points to it being correct. But I do think the DNA test is important just to absolutely confirm it."

She has counselled Suanne about the possibility of a negative result, but has been assured by her daughter that she would rather know, and be sure.

Meanwhile, there's talk of a family visit to meet Ha Thi Hoa later this year. Suanne is learning French, and plans to enrol in a Vietnamese language course shortly. She's yet to come to terms with the kind of divided life that lies ahead, trying to maintain a relationship with a mother she barely knows, far away.

"She's going to have work through all those things," adds her wise Australian mother. "It's a journey that's not finished yet."



Reunited... Suanne with her mother, Ha Thi Hoa, in Ho Chi Minh City.