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## School children holding a large flag that is flown over Parliament House in Canberra.Australian National Flag – Fun Facts

1. **Following federation in 1901, the new Commonwealth Government held an open competition calling for public input into the design of a flag. It was the first time in history that a national flag had been chosen in this way.   
   Where was the first place that the Australian National Flag was flown?**
   1. Parliament House, Canberra
   2. The Sydney Opera House
   3. The Exhibition Building, Melbourne
   4. The Lodge (Residence of the Prime Minister)
2. **Australian National Flag Day was proclaimed by the then Governor-General in 1996 to ‘commemorate the day in 1901 on which the Australian National Flag was first flown’. On what date do we celebrate each year?**
3. **Which colour features on the Australian National Flag?** 
   1. Red
   2. White
   3. Blue
   4. All of the above
4. **The crosses of which countries may be seen on the Australian National Flag?** 
   1. England
   2. Scotland
   3. Ireland
   4. All of the above
5. **How many points are there on the Commonwealth Star, the largest star on the Australian National Flag?** 
   1. 5
   2. 6
   3. 7
   4. 8
6. **Which other Australian symbol features the Commonwealth Star?**

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1. **Five people tied for the honour of designing our flag, sharing the £200 prize money. Match the name of the winning flag designer to their correct occupation:**

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| **Name of winning flag designer** | **Occupation** |
| 1. Ivor Evans | 1. First Officer with Union Steamship Company of New Zealand |
| 1. Annie Dorrington | 1. Teenage optician’s apprentice from Leichhardt, New South Wales |
| 1. Leslie Hawkins | 1. 14 year old schoolboy from Melbourne, Victoria |
| 1. Egbert Nuttal | 1. Well-known artist from Perth, Western Australia |
| 1. William Stevens | 1. Architect with the Melbourne & Metropolitan Board of Works |

1. **Approximately how many entries were submitted in the competition to find the first Australian National Flag?** 
   1. 152
   2. 3,500
   3. 30,000
   4. 130,000
2. **The Southern Cross is a constellation that is significant to First Nations peoples because it features in Dreaming Stories. In which hemisphere is the Southern Cross visible?**
3. **Which of the following statements about the Australian National Flag is true?** 
   1. The Australian National Flag is the only official flag of Australia
   2. The design for the Flag was chosen by an international competition
   3. The Flag can only be flown at certain times of the year
   4. The flag has not changed since 1901
4. **Name one other official flag of Australia.**
5. **How big is the Australian National Flag flying over Parliament House?**

## Answers

1. C
2. 3 September
3. D
4. D
5. C
6. The Commonwealth Coat of Arms
7. (a)-(iii). (b)-(iv). (c)-(ii). (d)-(v). (e)-(i)
8. C
9. The Southern Hemisphere
10. B
11. Australia recognises other official flags including the Australian Aboriginal Flag, the Torres Strait Islander Flag, the Australian red ensign and the ensigns of the Australian Defence Force.
12. 12.8 by 6.4 metres, or slightly larger than the side of a double decker bus