Woman with 99 Wrong Birthdays



A British woman got her birthday wrong for 99 years. Emily Donaghue was born in 1909 and always celebrated her birthday on May the 3rd. Before her 100th birthday, her son, 78-year-old John, found her real date of birth. She was really born on May the 5th. She was born two days later than she thought. The family found the mistake when they sent a copy of Emily's birth certificate to Britain's Queen Elizabeth. The Queen sends every British person a telegram on their 100th birthday. John Donaghue doesn't know why his mother got her birthday wrong.

VOCABULARY: Match the correct answers.

1. birthday a. cable / wire

2. wrong b. a national of England

3. celebrate c. mistake

4. British d. the day a person is born

5. telegram e. to mark and have fun

READING COMPREHENSION: Answer the questions.

- 1. For how many years did Emily got her birthday wrong?
- 2. When was Emily born?
- 3. Who found out about the mistake?
- 4. What did Emily's family do when they found out the mistake?
- 5. What does the Queen send to every British centenarian?
- 6. When is Emily's real birthday?