

## BBC Learning English – Ask About Britain 英国问答

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## The British View of Australia 英国人眼中的澳大利亚

**Fei Fei:** 大家好，欢迎收听《英国问答》。我是冯菲菲。

**Rob:** G'day, I'm Rob.

**Fei Fei:** G'day!? What sort of greeting is that?

**Rob:** It's what the Aussies say.

**Fei Fei:** The Aussies? You mean Australian people and today's question is all about Australia.

### Insert

Hi, I'm a Chinese international student studying construction in Australia. I'm very curious to see lots of connection here between Oz and Britain. So what are normal British people views about Australia, its people, culture and the connection?  
From Ren, in the Gold Coast, Australia.

**Fei Fei:** 我们的听友 Ren 说他正在 OZ 澳大利亚学习，他想知道英澳两国之间的关系，尤其想了解英国人对澳大利亚这个国家的看法。It's true, there is a connection between the two countries.

**Rob:** Yes, it's a historical connection that goes back a few hundred years.

**Fei Fei:** 历史关系。澳大利亚曾经是大英帝国的一个殖民地 a colony. 现在澳大利亚是英联邦国家的成员之一。The commonwealth 英联邦。So there is a strong bond 坚固密切的关系 between the two countries.

**Rob:** Yes and over the years, an image of Australia and the Australian people has developed in the minds of British people, such as the Australian's being laid back.

**Fei Fei:** Laid back 放松的，随和的。Well I don't think this man would agree...

### Insert

I think it's a bit of a stereotype, and it might be reinforced by the fact that Australians who come here might be more likely to be, say, on gap years or something, rather than,



you know, someone working in a full-time job in Australia mightn't be quite so chilled out.

**Fei Fei:** That's interesting. He thinks the idea of a laid back Australian is a stereotype 老套刻板的印象。

**Rob:** Yes, in London, Australians on a gap year can appear quite chilled out but that might not be the case for someone working full time.

**Fei Fei:** So that man thinks the idea of Australians being laid back is a myth 传说的、不真实的事儿。

**Rob:** That's his view. But this man thinks the opposite.

### Insert

I think it's their lifestyles – they're a little bit more laid back and not as serious or worried about things as we are here, possibly, in Britain.

**Rob:** You see. He thinks the Aussie lifestyle makes the people laid back.

**Fei Fei:** 生活方式 lifestyle. They are relaxed people – Rob are you sure you're not Australian?!

**Rob:** No I'm sure about that! He also thinks they worry less about things. That's why they say "no worries".

**Fei Fei:** 这里直译为“没担忧，没烦恼”，通常的意思是“别客气”。澳洲人经常把这个短语挂在嘴边。So is that really another Australian catchphrase?

**Rob:** I think so. Anyway let's hear some more views. This one's about the sporting rivalry that the two countries have.

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I suppose there is, largely in sporting terms, but it's a kind of banterous relationship rather than an actually aggressive one. It doesn't really have any of the venom of say, the rivalry of Germany or even Argentina, say, in football. So I think generally, it's in good nature, although I'm not sure Australians would necessarily perceive it as such as well.

**Fei Fei:** 上面这位男士主要是从体育竞技方面来比较英澳两国之间的联系。Rivalry 竞赛，竞争。He said the rivalry was banterous? Banter 的意思就是人们互相逗乐、开玩笑。

**Rob:** Yes, banter. He means the sporting rivalry is shown through words and talking not in physical aggression. It's good natured.

**Fei Fei:** 和善的、友好的。So the two countries compete in sport but the rivalry is friendly.

**Rob:** That's what he thinks. Personally speaking, I think the two countries are friends and they respect each other even though their attitudes to life may differ.

**Fei Fei:** 也就是说两国人民对生活的态度有些不同。And Rob, what about their catchphrases 名言警句?

**Rob:** Well I've mentioned g'day and no worries. Let's hear a few more.

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Man 1: "Mad as a cut snake." I like that one.

Man 2: "Good on ya, mate!"

**Fei Fei:** Mad as a cut snake and good on ya mate. But are these real Australian catchphrases?

**Rob:** Well, I've heard them used on TV but we'd have to ask a real Australian to find out for sure.

**Fei Fei:** Maybe Ren can find out while he's studying in Australia. 非常感谢你的问题, 希望我们的回答对你有所帮助。

**Rob:** Yes, thank you Ren. If you have any questions about life in the UK, please email us at [chinaelt@bbc.co.uk](mailto:chinaelt@bbc.co.uk).

**Fei Fei:** We look forward to hearing from you. Bye.

**Rob:** Bye.

### Glossary

colony - 殖民地	a strong bond - 坚固密切的关系
Laid back - 放松的, 随和的	stereotype - 老套刻板的印象
myth - 传说的、不真实的事儿	no worries! - 别客气, 没关系
sporting rivalry – 体育竞赛	banterous – 逗乐的, 开玩笑的
good natured – 和善的、友好的	catchphrase – 名言、警句