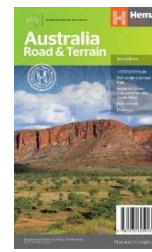
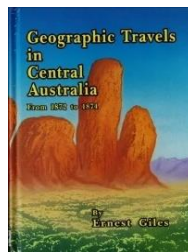
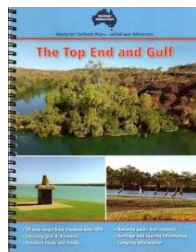
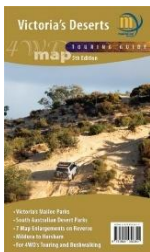




## The Meridian Line - Sunday 03.03.2024

“Do anything, but let it produce joy.” — Henry Miller



### ***Victoria Deserts 4WD Map – from \$14.95***

This is the most comprehensive map of Victoria's mallee parks. This 1:350,000 scale map showcases Victoria's mallee parks from the Little Desert to the Murray River, including South Australian Desert Parks of Ngarkat and Billiatt, and the Riverland region. It features newly added tracks, road names, and other enhancements, along with seven enlargements of popular areas on the reverse side. Ideal for both four-wheel drivers and bushwalkers, it covers all navigable tracks, tourist attractions, and key trails such as the Sunset Remote Walking Track and the Desert Discovery Walk, as well as the Border Track and four-wheel drive tracks in the Big Desert State Park.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/victorias-deserts-4wd-map/>

### ***The Top End and Gulf – \$29.95***

The Top End and Gulf atlas spans a vast territory from Croydon and Julia Creek in Queensland to Wyndam and Halls Creek in Western Australia, offering detailed information on roads, tracks, and facilities. This comprehensive guide features detailed maps accompanied by historical notes, explorer insights, points of interest, local flora and fauna descriptions, and numerous landmark photographs. The maps are user-friendly, displaying road distances, rest areas, caravan parks, fuel outlets, as well as Lat/Long grid and GPS coordinates.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/top-end-and-gulf/>

***Geographic Travels in Central Australia – \$19.95***

Author, Ernest Giles is hailed as the epitome of nineteenth-century explorers, covering unparalleled territory and offering vivid, captivating narratives of his adventures. Now, for the first time since 1975, Giles' firsthand accounts of his major Central Australian expeditions are republished. This volume appeals to residents, visitors, and enthusiasts of Central Australia, providing an exhilarating adventure conveyed in Giles' engaging literary style. An indispensable guide for travellers in the Centre or along the Gunbarrel Highway, this facsimile edition of the 1875 original is a timeless treasure.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/geographic-travels/>

***Heritage Wine Map of the Coonawarra – from \$30.00***

Embracing a heritage aesthetic, this map of the Coonawarra Wine Region showcases vine-covered areas, cellar door names, and the renowned grape varieties of the region. With overlays of roads, waterways, and contours reminiscent of antique maps, it evokes a sense of nostalgia. Printed on high-quality stock, this map is a perfect addition to the walls of homes, holiday houses, wine cellars, or offices, appealing to wine enthusiasts. Delivered in a sturdy postal tube, it's available in A3 (297mm x 420mm), A2 (420mm x 594mm), and A1 (594mm x 840mm) sizes, with customization options available upon request. This one of 7 wine areas mapped in this style across WA, SA and VIC.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/heritage-wine-map-of-the-coonawarra/>

***Australia Road and Terrain Map – \$14.95***

Hema's large map of Australia is colour-coded to depict the country's climate zones, featuring localities, major road networks, distances, and key national parks. On the flip side, you'll find an overview of Australia's iconic touring regions, showcasing their history, geology, natural wonders, bucket-list attractions, and iconic 4WD tracks.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/australia-road-terrain-map/>

## Meridian Musings

We had a wonderful time exhibiting at the Victorian 4WD Show at Lardner. The weather was perfect, and it was great to meet people from different 4WD clubs and to be invited to speak at their club nights.



It was great to receive such positive feedback in relation to the article on how we actually make our maps including these:

George: "Just a quick thank you for the most enjoyable and highly informative article about cartography. I knew there was as a lot involved in map making and your article filled quite a few gaps in my knowledge."

Sharon: "Great newsletter. Thankyou. Love your maps – use them all the time hiking."

Reg: "I would like to thank you for the newsletter. I missed Friday Five when it stopped and look forward to receive yours, thanks again."

Dean: "Loving the mirth section – keep it up!"

Mark: "Who knew it took that long to produce a map. Thanks for the article."

If there is anything that readers would like to see covered in the newsletter, please let us know. If we can't help you, perhaps one of our readers can. Just contact us at [rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au](mailto:rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au).

Perry wrote in to let us know about the Corowa Swim In which is the largest ex-military vehicle gathering in the Southern Hemisphere. Held from 10 -17 March this year around Ball Park Caravan Park in Corowa NSW on the Murray River.

All kinds of vehicles dating from WW1 through to Vietnam era including tracked vehicles, amphibious, motorbikes, trucks and cars will be on display with this year's theme being "Year of the Blitz" to honour the iconic WW2 blitz vehicles.

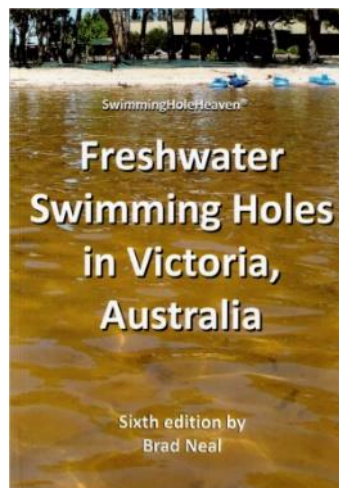
Further information: <https://www.corowaswim-in.org/>

## **New to the Website**

### ***Freshwater Swimming Holes in Victoria Australia - \$25.00***

This guide stands as the primary resource for discovering swimming spots in Victoria, Australia. Each swimming site has been personally tested by taking a dip in the water. Freshwater Swimming Holes in Victoria offers comprehensive directions, along with vivid photographs and videos, highlighting the top-notch waterholes, lakes, rivers, and waterfalls ideal for swimming throughout the state. This extensive collection of information is the result of over 15 years of meticulous research.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/swimming-holes/>



### ***Check out the Clearance Stock***

The stock under the clearance tab are lines that we will no longer be carrying or may be a previous edition of a map. Similar to the products found under the Not Quite Right Laminate section, once the stock is gone, it is gone.

If we happen to get multiple orders for the same item, the first person to place the order will receive the goods and we will organise a refund to subsequent orders.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product-category/meridian-maps-clearance/>

Current stock includes:

<i>Title</i>	<i>Copies Available</i>	<i>RRP</i>	<i>Clearance Price</i>
Australia's granite Wonderlands	1	\$39.95	\$10.00
Shore to Shore	2	\$35.95	\$10.00
Bush Camping With Dogs	2	\$34.95	\$25.00
Hema Australia Map – 11 <sup>th</sup> edition	10	\$14.95	\$7.95
Hema Australia Handy Map 11 <sup>th</sup> edition	4	\$9.95	\$5.95

## **What's On**

March 3 – Friends of Werribee Gorge & Long Forest Mallee host a clean-up event each year. Members and locals are all welcome. To register:

[https://register.cleanup.org.au/fundraisers/kirstyreid/long-forest-rd-46441?fbclid=IwAR1SA7kS305U4TqhrRqizMsu9t1p4\\_zVm5OMG9zFSDsNm\\_gfMtToN06W8QUo](https://register.cleanup.org.au/fundraisers/kirstyreid/long-forest-rd-46441?fbclid=IwAR1SA7kS305U4TqhrRqizMsu9t1p4_zVm5OMG9zFSDsNm_gfMtToN06W8QUo)

March 16 – Wakool Sheep Races in NSW – Sheep races are back and better than ever with 25 heats plus finals there's

plenty of entertainment for the whole family. More information at:

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1182402>

March 22 – Buffalo Stampede Festival - an epic series of sky running and trail running events held in Bright and Mt Buffalo, Victoria. Race distances range from the epic 100km Bright Ultra Sky Marathon all the way down to their 2km Junior Dash. For more information:

<https://www.visitbright.com.au/listing/buffalo-stampede-festival-bright/>

March 24 - Wimmera Autumn Merino Sheep Show. This is an event to showcase stud merinos, fleeces and yard dogs at Maydale Reserve at the historic Horsham Showgrounds overlooking the Wimmera River. Check out:

<https://visithorsham.com.au/event/wimmera-merino-sheep-show/>

## **Seasonal Updates**

Summer has officially given way to autumn and days will begin to become cooler. This coincides with the reopening of many roads and tracks in outback Australia. Check out the latest South Australian Desert Parks for updates. <https://meridianmaps.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/dpb786.pdf>

*Disclaimer: These events were correct at the time they were added to the Meridian Line; however, this may have been some time before the actual event. Please make your own enquiries before We*

## Reader's Stories

Last fortnight I wrote asking readers to send in their stories of what you did as a novice road tripper, camper or 4WDer that you would never do again.

One of our readers, Perry, is wrote to us about an adventure that he is certainly enjoying! He wrote: I have been vehicle touring in and around Australia since the early 70's firstly in a VW Beetle, VW Kombi and a string of Land Rovers. Still doing it and am embarking on a trip to the NW of Western Australia including many etc's, later this year.

Using tents, swags, camper trailers and my current home built mobile camper, there is actually nothing that I wouldn't do again as it has all been a learning experience and thoroughly enjoyable.

And from Rob: Further to your call in today's FF for camping tips not to be repeated, let me relate a few I can think of off the top of my head.

1) -- In the mid-'70s, when I still lived in Holland, I spent two weeks touring through Scotland in constant drizzle on my motorcycle with my first great love on the pillion seat. I visited a camping shop in Amsterdam to look for some sort of lightweight mattress we could use in the tent. They recommended a new product with lots of air pockets, which we would call glorified bubble-wrap these days. "It's very comfortable and the air pockets provide great insulation from cold off the ground." OK, but the first time we used it, camping in the wilds near the Falls of Glomach, half the 'bubbles' had popped the next morning, and most of the rest were gone as we crawled around the tent to pack up. We used thin, self-inflating foam camping mattresses from then on, never a problem with those.

2) -- Several years later, motorcycling through Africa, I pitched the same upmarket tent under a shady mango tree on the shores of Lake Malawi (mangoes provide great shade). The fruits were out of season, so I didn't have to worry about them dropping, but what I realised only a couple of days later, was the invisible 'drizzle' of resin on the fly sheet. Sticky muck that was impossible to wash off. So, for the next few years I was stuck (so to speak) with a sticky fly sheet until I got a new tent.

3) -- In Africa as well as after I moved to Australia, I learned that you never put your tent groundsheet straight on the ground. Thorns, bindis and other pointy things will produce pinpricks that let in water when it rains. I now lay down a layer of double-folded, black-plastic agricultural sheeting first (heavy on the bike but worth carrying even there).

4) -- I also sweep the area clean with a dead branch, which might expose an underground ants' nest where I once accidentally pitched my tent.

5) -- If you camp out in the open, a pleasant option is a stretcher (camp bed) as follows: park your vehicle about 3m from a tree or bush; between the two, erect the stretcher and roll out your sleeping bag, string up a mosquito net and tuck it in under the bag. This way you'll sleep off the ground, safe from creeping insects, mosquitoes and early-morning flies (there will be thousands of those waiting on the netting in the morning in livestock areas!), and you can look at the blazing stars as you doze off.

6) -- I had two bottles of white wine breaking in the Engel fridge in the 'Cruiser along the bumpy sand tracks on Fraser Island. I thought I had them jammed solidly among the other contents, but no good. Polyethylene padding from now on -- the sort of stuff you can bang with a hammer (if thick enough), and nothing happens :-)

7) -- Finally, one thing I soon learned on sandy outback tracks on two wheels and perhaps to a lesser extent, on four, is that it pays to find your bush camp around 4pm. Any later and the low sun shines either along the ruts or straight across them, and in both cases, they become very hard to read.

If you have a story you would like to contribute to this newsletter, please send it to [rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au](mailto:rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au).


### **Meridian Mirth**

Thank you for these jokes from our regular contributor! To share your jokes, please send them to [rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au](mailto:rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au)

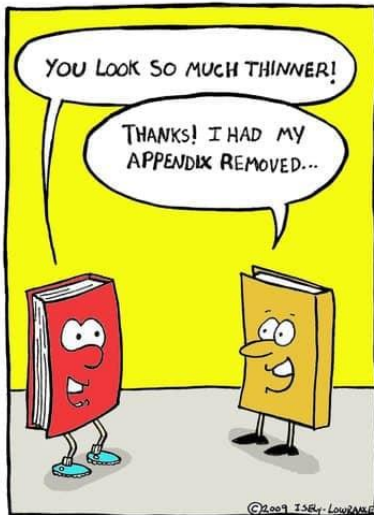


**NO I CAN'T DO SNAPCHAT  
OR TIKTOK BUT I CAN WRITE  
IN CURSIVE, DO MATH  
WITHOUT A CALCULATOR  
AND TELL TIME ON A  
CLOCK WITH HANDS.**

**IF WE WANTED TO BOLDLY SEND  
BILLIONAIRES WHERE  
NO BILLIONAIRES HAVE  
BEEN BEFORE, WE  
COULD HAVE JUST  
SENT THEM TO  
THE TAX OFFICE**

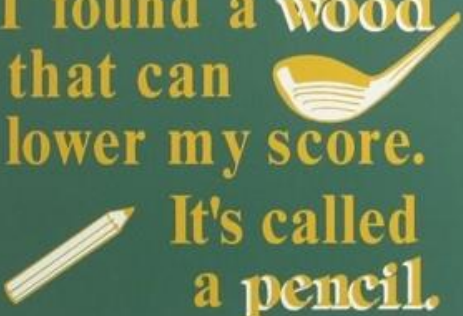


Pre internet chat room using  
An old version of windows...





I found a wood  
that can  
lower my score.  
It's called  
a pencil.



THANKS FOR  
TEACHING ME  
THE MEANING OF  
-PLETHORA-  
IT MEANS A LOT

AT MY AGE, A TRAIL  
OF CLOTHES LEADING  
TO THE BEDROOM  
MEANS I DROPPED  
THEM ON THE WAY  
FROM THE DRYER.

**BENEFITS OF A GOOD VOCABULARY!**  
I RECENTLY CALLED AN OLD ENGINEERING  
BUDDY OF MINE AND ASKED WHAT HE  
WAS WORKING ON THESE DAYS.  
HE REPLIED THAT HE WAS WORKING ON  
"AQUA-THERMAL TREATMENT OF  
CERAMICS, ALUMINUM AND STEEL UNDER  
A CONSTRAINED ENVIRONMENT."  
I WAS IMPRESSED UNTIL, UPON FURTHER  
INQUIRY, I LEARNED THAT HE WAS  
WASHING DISHES WITH HOT WATER UNDER  
HIS WIFE'S SUPERVISION.



And finally,



To share your jokes, please send them to [rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au](mailto:rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au)

You are welcome to use information from this newsletter, but we request that kindly acknowledge that the information is from The Meridian Line.

### **Do you have a story?**

Articles for this newsletter can be emailed to [rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au](mailto:rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au) We cannot guarantee any item will have a particular publishing date but we do our best to keep topics and events current.

### **The Fine Print**

#### **About The Meridian Line**

Wherever possible we try to acknowledge the source of all information contained in this newsletter. We offer no guarantees for accuracy, but we do our best.

#### **Get the Word Out**

Feel free to forward this newsletter to any family or friends who you feel might enjoy a good read. If they would like to receive this newsletter on a regular basis they can register at: <https://meridianmaps.com.au/newsletter/>

#### **Using information from this newsletter**

You are welcome to use information from this newsletter, but we request that you kindly acknowledge that the information is from The Meridian Line.

#### **Meridian Contact information**

Email: [rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au](mailto:rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au)

### **Disclaimer**

Please note that the opinions and articles expressed in The Meridian Line are not necessarily those of The Meridian team. Also, we do not endorse any products (other than our own), or tours listed in my contributed articles.