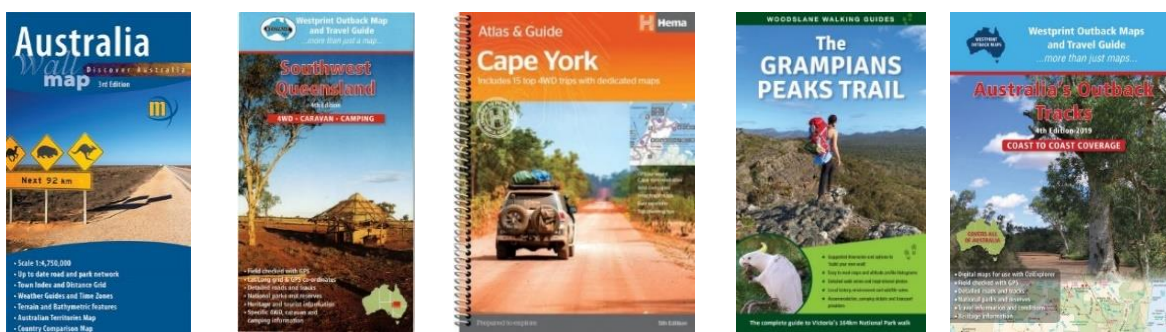




## The Meridian Line - Sunday 18.08.2024

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



### **Australia Wall Map – from \$12.95**

A 1:4,750,000 scale wall map of Australia, highlighting the country's top tourist attractions, parks, westprint outback points of interest. Designed for clarity and ease of reading, this map is perfect for business use and planning your travels across Australia. It features inset maps of Australia's Territories, a Country Comparison with Europe, distance grids, time zone clocks, and weather charts for all the capital cities to help guide you safely around Australia.

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

### **South West Queensland – from \$14.95**

This map showcases the Adventure Way road network, spanning from Toowoomba to Innamincka, and bordered by Windorah to the northwest, Augathella to the northeast, Barrington on the NSW/Qld border to the southeast, and Cameron Corner to the southwest. It provides detailed information on all access roads leading into Innamincka. This edition has been field-checked with GPS and includes a Lat/Long grid and GPS coordinates, detailed roads and tracks, national parks and reserves, heritage and tourist information, as well as specific details for 4WD, caravan, and camping enthusiasts.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/southwest-queensland/>

### ***Cape York Atlas – \$49.95***

The Cape York Atlas & Guide is your essential resource for exploring this extraordinary region of Australia. It offers comprehensive coverage of key areas such as The Tip, the coastline from Cairns to Cooktown, Rinyirru (Lakefield) National Park, the Peninsula Developmental Road, Old Telegraph Track, Torres Strait, and the Savannah Way. This guide ensures you won't miss the must-see attractions while also introducing you to lesser-known spots favoured by experts. It features 15 meticulously revised 4WD trips by travel journalist Ian Glover, accompanied by stunning photography from Matt Williams. Each trip is detailed with maps, trip grading, fuel availability, permit requirements, and essential contact information. It also incorporates content from the popular Cape York Travel & Adventure Guide by Ron and Viv Moon.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/cape-york-atlas-guide/>

### ***The Grampians Peaks Trail – \$29.98***

Victoria's Grampians Peaks Trail is a multi-day adventure spanning 164 kilometres of breathtaking scenery and demanding hiking, stretching from Mt Zero in the North to Dunkeld in the South. This trail crosses three major mountain ranges and, over the course of 13 diverse days, involves nearly as much elevation gain and descent as climbing Mt Everest. The book is beautifully illustrated with full-colour photographs and includes detailed maps for each section of the trail. Along with extensive planning notes, it provides in-depth walking guides for each of the 8 official day walks, catering to both day hikers and campers. There are also optional itineraries ranging from 4 to 9 days, with customizable "build your own walk" options. Additionally, the book offers a wealth of information on the local history, environment, and wildlife.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/the-grampians-peaks-trail-book/>

### ***Australia Outback Tracks Digital Map – \$65.00***

Westprint Maps has released a revised 4th edition of Australia's Outback Tracks map, a 1:1 million scale map that covers all of Australia—from coast to coast—not just the desert regions. This map is ideal for touring, allowing users to view far ahead without needing to switch between different maps. It also seamlessly bridges the gaps between regional maps where there is no overlap.

**This product is only available in a digital format using OziExplorer software.**

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/australia-outback-tracks-digital/>

## Meridian Musings

I have to admit, we've spent an excessive amount of time on the couch in front of the TV watching the Olympics these past couple of weeks, amazed by the skill and dedication of all the athletes. I don't think that is set to improve in the near future as I find the athletes at the Paralympics even more impressive — not only do they excel in their sports, but many have also had to overcome significant adversity to reach the top.

In his article, featured in the Reader Stories section, Max shares some of the challenges young children in various Murraylands communities faced during their daily commute to school. It makes me grateful that I only had to walk to the end of the street to catch the bus! Hope you enjoy reading it .

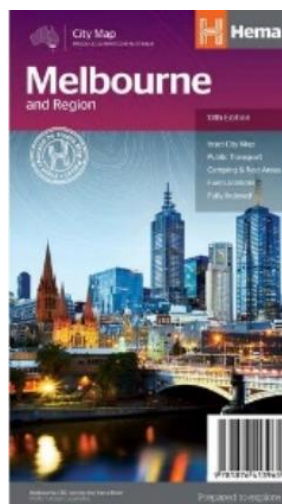
## What's New to the Website

### *Father's Day Offer*

Believe it or not, Father's Day is just around the corner on September 1st! If you're searching for the perfect gift, we've got you covered. Meridian Maps is offering a 10% discount on all stand alone books and atlases, excluding those in the clearance section. Simply use the code MMFD24 by September 1st to enjoy this special offer.

### ***Melbourne and Region - \$9.95***

This map includes a primary map of Greater Melbourne (1:115,000) featuring highways, major roads, local streets, 24-hour fuel, parks, and caravan parks. The reverse side offers a detailed CBD map highlighting accommodation, shopping, and points of interest, along with train and tram network maps.

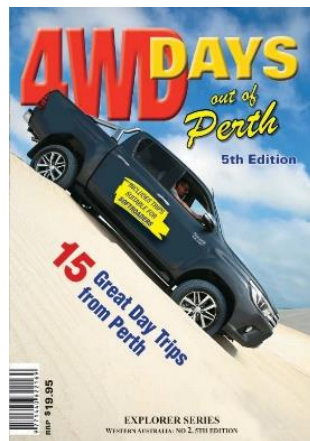


<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/4wd-weekends-perth/>

### **4WD Days Out of Perth - \$19.95**

One of the most popular of the 4WD day series – ideal for novices and experienced 4WDers.

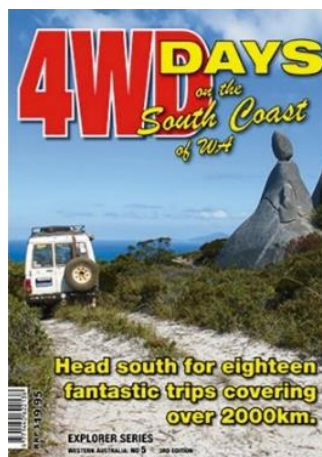
This guidebook covers fifteen 4WD trips near Perth, providing comprehensive details to guide four-wheel drivers at every turn. Each trip includes historical and cultural background information, detailed notes with distances, GPS waypoints, inset maps and photographs.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/4wd-perth/>

### **4WD Days on the South Coast of WA - \$19.95**

Explore the wild and stunning south coast of Western Australia with 18 4WD trips spanning over 2000 km. Complete with GPS coordinates and essential track and location details, 4WD Days on the South Coast is the perfect glove-box companion to help you make the most of your south coast adventures.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/4wd-south-coast-wa/>

## **4WD Weekends Out of Perth - \$19.95**

The 4th edition of this popular title offers 18 weekend adventures ready to be explored. Ideal for quick getaways or extended weekends, Weekends Out of Perth provides essential track details, GPS coordinates, and background information to help you step out of your comfort zone and discover the beauty of Western Australia.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/4wd-weekends-perth/>

### **What's On**

**August 16 - 25: Cobb & Co festival** in the country towns of Surat & Yuleba Queensland and along the dusty track in between. Celebrating the anniversary of the last Cobb & Co coach service in Australia, the Cobb & Co Festival is a fast-moving, rattling and clattering event celebrating the history and heritage of the Australian bush.

<https://www.cobbandcofestival.com.au/>

**August 17 – 1 September: Shinju Matsuri Festival of the Pearl** in Broome, Western Australia. The annual Shinju Matsuri originated from three cultural festivals – Japanese Obon Matsuri, Malaysian Hari Merdeka, Independence Day from British rule in 1957, and the Chinese Hang Seng. Shinju Matsuri rekindles the excitement and romance of Broome's early days of being a world-renowned producer of South Sea Pearls when the Japanese, Shinju Matsuri will tempt your senses with an exciting whirlwind of colour, sound, taste and smell as the community shares this beautiful locale with the world.

<https://shinjumatsuri.com.au/>

**August 23 – 25: Australian Antarctic Festival** in Battery Point, Tasmania. Produced by the Mawson's Huts Foundation, the festival presents a unique



opportunity for members of the public to inspect Australia's latest Antarctic and marine research. The 2024 festival features a program of fascinating, entertaining and educational events.

<https://tasmania.events/event/25240884-a/australian-antarctic-festival>

**30 August – 1 September: Red Centre NATS** in Alice Springs, Northern Territory. This is the 10th anniversary of Red CentreNATS! This iconic event has attracted automotive enthusiasts nationwide to experience top-tier street machines, elite show cars, hot rods, classics, and exotics. The adrenaline-fueled program includes drag racing, burnouts, show 'n' shine, live music, Australia's largest street parade, and more.

<https://redcentrenats.com.au/>

**30 August – 1 September: Flinders Island Running Festival** in Flinders Island, Tasmania. A weekend long festival which includes the Pub2Pub, a half-marathon run and walk which starts at Lady Barron and finishing at Whitemark, and a 5km Parkrun along the Bluff Track along the Whitemark Foreshore. The Festival is still very much a community weekend and all participants of any age and fitness are encouraged to join in!

<https://flindersisland.run/>

**August 31 – September 8: Babinda Harvest Festival** in Queensland. Discover the essence of rural Queensland at the Babinda Harvest Festival, highlighting the community's rich agricultural heritage with lively events, showcasing local talent, delectable cuisines, and the warmth of our hospitality.

<https://babindaharvestfest.org/>

**September 5 – 9: Broken Heel Festival** in Broken Hill, NSW. The Broken Heel Festival is a fabulous 3-5 day event that celebrates the theatrical anniversary of "Priscilla Queen of the Desert" at her spiritual home: The Palace Hotel and the township of Broken Hill, NSW, Australia. This is going to be the last Broken Heel Festival.

<https://www.bhfestival.com/>

## Seasonal Updates

Please be aware that road and Park closures are constantly changing and it is always best to check for changes before you set out.

For more regular updates on closures, please check our facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MeridianWestprintMaps> as we try to include warnings and advice as we become aware of them.

The latest Desert Parks Bulletin has been uploaded to our website. For this and other Desert Pass updates, please go to <https://meridianmaps.com.au/deserts-pass-update/>

Hydro Tasmania will commence upgrade works on Edgar Dam starting October 2024 until mid-2026. During this time the Edgar Dam boat ramp and campground will be closed. Access will remain open to Strathgordon and Scott's Peak boat ramps. Camping at the Huon and Ted's Beach campground will also remain open.

Kati Thanda Lake Eyre National Park - Halligan Bay Point Public Access Route – Open to 4WD (Caution at soft sections – please drive cautiously and to track conditions). Level Post Bay Public Access Route – Open to 4WD (Caution at damp areas).

A weekend trail running event is being held in the Halls Gap/Wonderland area of Grampians (Gariwerd) National Park on Saturday August 24th and Sunday August 25th, 2024. This may involve temporary delays on some walking tracks.

Butterfly Gorge Nature Park and Lookout Walk in the Northern Territory are closed pending roadworks for safe access.

*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 travelling to an event.*

## Reader's Stories

### Do you have a story?

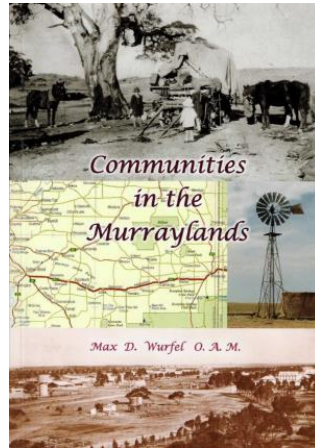
Articles for this newsletter can be emailed to [rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au](mailto:rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au). We cannot guarantee any item will have a particular publishing date but we do our best to keep topics and events current.

Thank you to Max for sending in this article. I would think that many readers of this article would have a tale or two to tell of their own experience, or a parent's, of getting to the nearest school, before motor transport got them to and from school.

## How Some Children Got To School

In gathering information for the book ***Communities in the Murraylands*** it was interesting to notice the different effort that some children had to do to get to school. Before that, parents had to negotiate with the Education Department to gain the services of a teacher and to establish a building. The Education

ruling for a school, was that it required around ten children being available within a three-mile distance by the shortest available road to the building.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/murraylands/>

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/murraylands-map-pack/>

One six-year-old girl had to ride a horse three miles and looking at the photo of the young girl sitting on the horse, it would require someone at home to saddle the horse and get her on to it. Then for her to ride a lonely journey to school, where an older child or person would need to remove the saddle. To get home she would need help to get the horse saddled ready for the ride home.

Another lad had to walk six miles to get to school. Because of the distance he only went to school on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. In the wintertime, he needed to leave school at 3:00pm, so as to be home before it got dark.

My mother would have had to walk over four miles if she used the nearest road but walked across paddocks, over six mallee hills, getting through fences, for the daily walk of about two miles. If she was early, she was able to stop off at a friend's house for a drink and toast, before they both continued the last half-mile to school. If it was raining at the end of the day, she would stay overnight at the friend's place, attend school the next day, then go home. This was well before any phone connection, so her parents would just have to hope she had stayed with the friend and was not lying injured somewhere between the school and home.

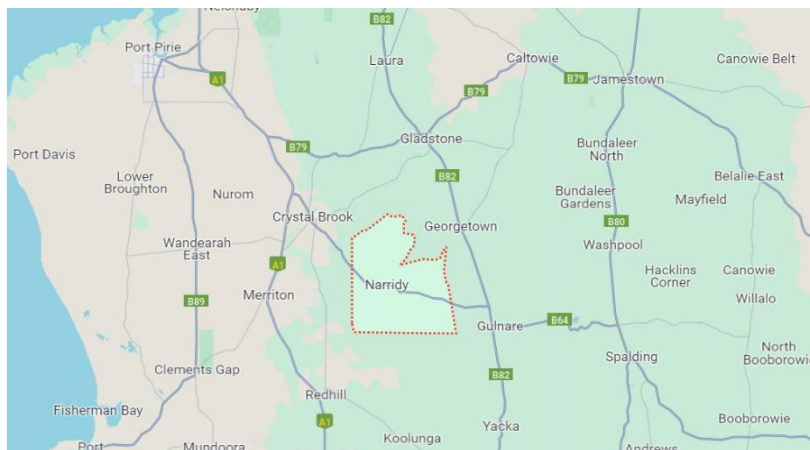
Another person who rode a horse to school said he and his stead did not always stay together. If on the way to school when he was dislodged, and he did not have hold of the horse, it could be presumed that the horse would turn around and head back home. When the parents eventually noticed that the



horse was back, they would then need to consider is their son lying injured somewhere or has he walked on to school.



A friend told me of her experience of getting to school. 'How we were to get to Narridy posed quite a question? Then dad came up with the idea of a horse and sulky. He purchased a mare named Nellie, with a foal named Paddy, plus a rubber-tired sulky.



For the first few days, dad drove us to school, and would come and pick us up at the end of the day. Soon mum decided she would have a go! On this particular day, mum, dad, younger sister and I were all in the sulky trotting up the track. Dad was showing mum how to do it. She was pretty sure she knew what to do, so when dad got out to open the gate, she drove off and left him there! I can still see dad standing at the gate with a look of amazement on his face!



Then it was my turn. I was soon to turn eight. It was five miles to Narridy, firstly taking the dirt road from the farm, and then turning onto the bituminised main road from Pt. Pirie. It was a bit “hairy” at times, because if cars were whizzing past, we had to stop and then do a “hill start” up onto the main road.

We had to cross two shallow fords, and when it rained water would cross the road. Nellie would balk at this, so I would have to leave Claire holding the reins, while I grabbed the bridle and led Nellie across. This meant taking off shoes and socks.’

When the East Murray Area School was first established all students arrived at school by a bus driven by a school-teacher. (editor’s note – The East Murray Area School is now permanently closed due to low enrolments and the land on which the school was located is now being sold).



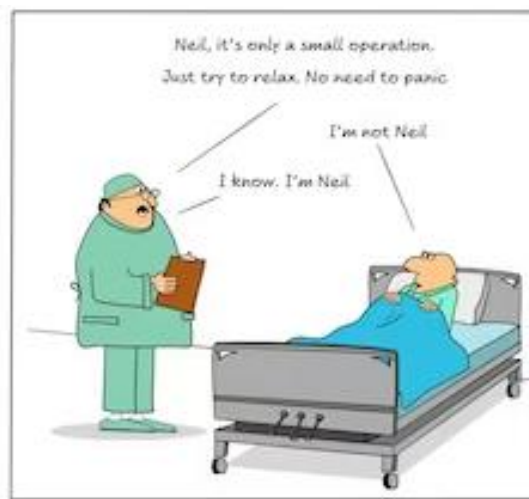
When I started school our bus route took an hour to complete. One month we would be first on and first off and the next month it was last on and last off. Our house was very near the road and from the front gate to the edge of the road was about five metres. The last few years our bus route became a case of a schoolteacher living at the end of the road, so it was a one-point start to finish at school. That meant, I was last on and first off, and virtually no effort required from house to bus pickup/drop-off.

**Please note that the accompanying pictures in this article are not the people mentioned – they are provided for illustrative purposes.**

### **Meridian Mirth**

To share your jokes, please send them to [rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au](mailto:rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au). Thanks to Simon, Carolyn and Rob for sending in the following jokes! Hope everyone enjoys them in the light hearted manner in which they were written!

I don't know who needs to hear this.  
but you're a great gardener.  
That plant really should have tried harder.



Good Luck with the Op!

A woman went to a pet shop and immediately spotted a large, beautiful parrot. There was a sign on the cage that said £50.00.

"Why so little?" she asked the pet store owner.

The owner looked at her and said,

"Look, I should tell you first that this bird used to live in a house of prostitution, and sometimes it says some pretty vulgar stuff."

The woman thought about this, but decided she had to have the bird anyway. She took it home and hung the bird's cage up in her living room and waited for it to say something.

The bird looked around the room, then at her, and said,

"New house, new madam."

The woman was a bit shocked at the implication, but then thought "that's really not so bad."

When her two teenage daughters returned from school, the bird saw them and said, "New house, new madam, new girls."

The girls and the woman were a bit offended but then began to laugh about the situation considering how and where the parrot had been raised.

Moments later, the woman's husband Keith came home from work.

The bird looked at him and said,

"Hi Keith."

A few years ago, year, I thought it would be good idea to purchase a cemetery plot as a birthday present for my mother-in-law...

The following year, I didn't get her a present.

She was not too happy about this and questioned why I didn't get her a present.

I responded "Well, you still haven't used the birthday present which I purchased for you last year!"

And that's how the fight started.....

I went out for a few drinks with my wife to our local bar. We were enjoying a few drinks when I noticed that she kept on looking at a drunken man who was smashing back drinks all by himself in the corner of the room.

I asked her, "Do you know that man?"

"Yes", she said sadly,

"He is my old flame who I dated in high school, I heard that he hit the bottle hard immediately after we broke up years ago, and he hasn't been a sober man since."

"Oh my gosh!" I replied, "Who would think a person could continue celebrating for so long?"

And that's how the fight started...

My lovely wife kept dropping hints about what to get her for her upcoming birthday. She told me, "I want something shiny that goes from 0 to 100 in about 4 seconds."

I went out and bought her a bathroom scale.

And that's how the fight started.....

My husband was standing naked in front of the bathroom mirror.

He had a look of frustration on his face and turned to me and said. "I no longer am happy with my appearance. I feel awful and I look wrinkled, fat and old. I really need you to give me a compliment to make me feel better."

I responded, "My darling, you have 20/20 vision."

And that's how the fight started...

I was in bed watching "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire" with my wife.

I rolled over and asked her 'Do you want to have some fun?'

She looked me in the eye and quickly responded with a resounding "No".

I proceeded to ask her, 'Is that your final answer?'

... Without hesitation she replied, 'Yes..'

I then said, "Then I'd like to phone a friend."

And that's when the fight started..

On Saturday I was out with my husband for a few drinks.

I pointed over at another couple night sitting at a table and said to my husband, "do you see that couple over there? He gives her a kiss every few minutes. Why don't you do that?"

He replied, "That sounds great, but I don't even know her."

And that's when the fight started.

My wife kept playing with her wedding ring so I asked her, "honey, why do you keep turning and twisting your ring?"

To which she replied, "I am trying to figure out the combination."

And that's when the fight started!

My husband and I were lying under the bed covers when he touched my back, I said, "that feels great." He continued to touch my leg, I then said, "wow, you know that feels even better."

Then all at once he stopped. I asked him, "why did you stop darling?"

He replied, "I found the remote."  
And that's when the fight started.

I went shopping with my wife to buy me some new business shirts but found that the largest size the store had was still too tight.  
I asked my wife, "Where do I go from here?"  
My wife replied, "Straight to the gym!"  
And that's when the fight started.

The other day my husband was having a few beers and said to me, "I am the man of this house. You will wash, cook and clean. You will also rub my feet and shoulders!"  
He then went on to ask me "Now can you guess who is going to help me dress?"  
To which I replied, "the Funeral Director?"  
And that's when the fight started.

My youngest son asked my husband, "Dad, what is an alcoholic?"  
He replied, "Do you see those 4 trees? An alcoholic would see 8 trees."  
My son responded, "But dad there are only 2 trees."  
And that's when the fight started.

My husband was recently stopped by a police officer who said,  
"Congratulations, sir! You are the 1,000,000th car to drive over this bridge – you win \$10,000!  
What will you do with that money?"  
My husband gets very emotional and says, "First of all, I'll finally obtain my driver's license!" I cut in and said, "Don't listen to him, officer, he's still drunk!"  
My mother in law says from the back seat, "I knew we shouldn't have taken this stolen car!" And my cousin in the trunk asks, "Hey, are we passed the border now?"  
And that's when the fight started!

Last Sunday morning I got up at 6am to go fishing.  
I got out of bed very quietly, got dressed into my fishing clothes and made my sandwiches.  
I went into my garage, hooked up the boat trailer up and started driving out in the heavy rain. I turned the radio on to hear that the wind and rain would be relentless all day, so I thought, bugger this I am going back home to bed.  
I drove home and snuck back into bed cuddling up to my wife's back; now with a different hope for the morning, and whispered, "The weather out there is just awful."  
My lovely wife of 10 years replied, "yeah, can you believe my husband is out fishing in this?"  
And that's how the fight started....

## **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**

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