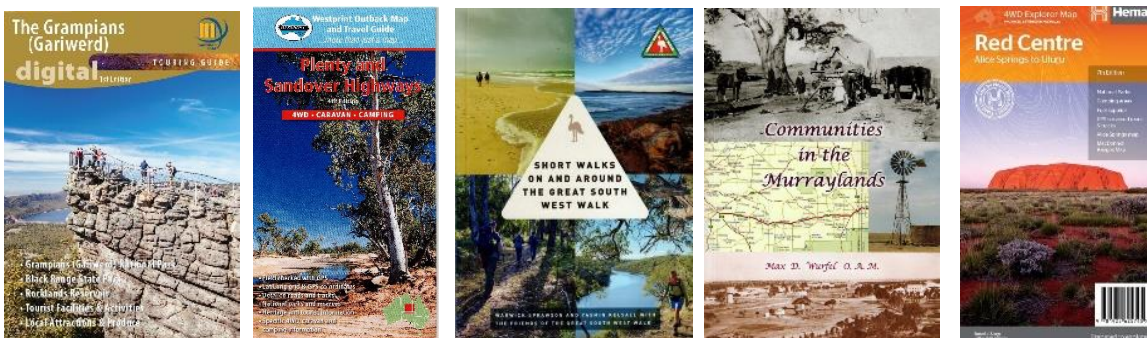




## The Meridian Line - Sunday 29.09.2024

**“A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new.” Albert Einstein.**



### ***The Grampians (Gariwerd) Touring Map – from \$14.95***

Discover the Grampians region like never before with Meridian Maps' detailed 1:100,000 scale map. Perfect for 4WD adventurers, road trippers, and holidaymakers, this map highlights a wealth of tourist activities and must see attractions. Explore the Grampians Way Touring Route, indigenous public art sites, wineries, rock climbing areas, tourist hotspots, camping and fishing locations, hiking trails and picnic grounds. Navigate the extensive walking trail network, including the famous Grampians Peaks Trail. This comprehensive map is your ultimate guide to the natural beauty and outdoor experiences the Grampians has to offer.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/the-grampians-touring-map/>

### ***Plenty and Sandover Highways – from \$14.95***

The Plenty & Sandover Highways provide the most direct access from Alice Springs to Boulia, Mt. Isa and other parts of western Queensland. These roads are far more interesting ways to reach The Alice or Mt Isa than the bitumen alternatives. They also lead the traveller through interesting places that might well have remained unexplored dots on the map. These include Fossicking near Gemtree, Boxhole Meteorite Crater and the Aboriginal community of Atitjere where you can buy some of the local art. You cross a

range of landscapes from spinifex plains to mulga woodlands and the channel country of western Queensland. This map covers: Plenty Highway, Sandover Highway (part of), Diamantina Developmental Road, Birdsville and Dajarra.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/plenty-and-sandover-highways/>

### ***Short Walks on and around the Great South West Walk – \$14.95***

Discover the best of the 251 km Great South West Walk through 31 different day walks. Ranging from quick 20-minute strolls to full-day hikes, these trails cater to all ages and skill levels. With detailed maps and track notes, this guide ensures a great experience for every walker. For a complete experience, use this guide alongside the Great South West Walk Map Guide.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/short-walks-great-south-west-walk/>

### **Communities in the Murraylands - \$25.95**

Max Wurfel has thoroughly researched and compiled information on the origins of around 50 communities that emerged along the railway from Taillem Bend to Pinnaroo in the Murraylands. Many of these settlements began with the establishment of a meeting place, followed by the creation of schools and football teams. Using a variety of resources alongside his own research, Max has crafted a fascinating look into the early days of the region. This book serves as a valuable resource for anyone interested in exploring their family history or the beginnings of these communities.

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

### ***Red Centre – from \$14.95***

This regional map of the Red Centre (1:750,000) spans from Alice Springs to Uluru, providing extensive travel and background information on key areas, including Alice Springs and its surroundings, Larapinta Drive, the West and East MacDonnell Ranges, the Old Ghan Route, Kings Canyon, Watarrka National Park, and Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. The map also features detailed maps of Alice Springs and Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park, with the latter including all available walking tracks within the park.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/red-centre/>

## Meridian Musings

Depending on where you live, school holidays have either started or are due to start very soon. It is great to see that a number of National Parks offer school holiday activities. Hope you are able to get and about and enjoy all that our Parks have to offer during Spring.

In Victoria, we are also in the midst of AFL finals. Unfortunately, my team will have to look forward to next year. Nonetheless, we still get to enjoy the long weekend that the footy gifts us. It is really interesting to see that two interstate teams have made it to the finals this year. I guess that neither team gets the home ground advantage with the match still being played at the MCG in Victoria.

It is always great to hear what readers of the Meridian Line are doing and to share their journeys with them.

Max recently wrote in

“My wife and I are working in the Ngaanyatjarra Council Area for a short period. Ngaanyatjarra Council stretches from Kiwirrkurra in the North and in the South to Wingellina including Surveyor General's Corner and West to Warburton. We found this on Mulga Park Road (was one of Len Beadell's Roads). The road is very twisty, travels over many sand dunes and is quite rough in places so is quite an adventure. There are lots of camels and bird life to see.



## What's On

**27 – 29 September: Wings on the Warrego in Charleville Queensland.** Wings on the Warrego is set to host a variety of aviation events, catering to a broad audience with diverse interests.

<https://www.experiencecharleville.com.au/all-events/event/40-wings-on-the-warrego>

**3 – 6 October: Melbourne Caravan & Camping Leisurefest** in Victoria. Don't miss our 4 specialised zones: the RV Master Stage, Off-Grid Campground, Adventure Zone and the Kids Zone! There is something for everyone to unleash their inner adventurer.

<https://www.caravanshow.com.au/shows/the-melbourne-caravan-camping-leisurefest/>

**4 – 5 October: Nubeena Bee Festival** in Nubeena, Tasmania. Encounter interactive exhibits and captivating presentations, offering a firsthand glimpse into the intricate world of bees.

<https://www.nubeenabee festival.org/>

**4 – 7 October: 4WD Qld Corroboree** in Woodford Queensland. Open to all Four Wheel Drive Queensland Association affiliated clubs and their members. It is an opportunity for all member clubs to come together to attend the Association Country and to discuss relevant issues to all clubs.

<https://www.4wdqld.com.au/corroboree>

**5 October: Goroke Show** in Goroke Victoria. Take the Silo Art trail from Horsham past the picturesque Mt Arapiles at Natimuk and head to Goroke to enjoy a great day out at a good old fashioned country show.

[https://www.facebook.com/events/1019791876405578/?acontext=%7B%22event\\_action\\_history%22%3A%5B%5D%7D](https://www.facebook.com/events/1019791876405578/?acontext=%7B%22event_action_history%22%3A%5B%5D%7D)

**5 – 6 October: Tibooburra Gymkhana & Rodeo** in Tibooburra, NSW. This event is enjoyed by locals and visitors from far and wide, guaranteeing live action and entertainment across a jam-packed two days.

<https://lovethefarwest.com.au/events/tibooburra-gymkhana-bikekhana-and-rodeo/>

**26 – 27 October: Quorn Qandong Festival** in Quorn South Australia. Celebration of past and present, embracing the town's cultural tapestry and

fostering a sense of unity in a vibrant and inclusive bush food and street fair markets event.

<https://www.quornquandongfestival.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/>

The Ivanhoe Crossing over the Ord River in Western Australia is now open. Care needs to be taken when crossing as this crossing can be dangerous due to slippery surfaces, fast-flowing water, and the presence of both fresh and saltwater Crocodiles.

Montezuma Track in Tasmania is closed until further notice due to severe storm damage.

Cape York 4WD Road Queensland has reopened, subject to weather conditions, following repairs caused by Cyclone Jasper.

The Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service will be conducting foothold trapping activities in Southend Conservation Park between 9 – 18 October. These activities are conducted to reduce impacts on turtle nests from predation by feral animals. The whole Park will be closed to the public.

Bunda Cliffs Camping area in South Australia is permanently closed as it poses significant safety risks to the public. Parks has given advice again that this area part of the Nullarbor Wilderness Protection Area is unstable. The cliff edge is constantly collapsing into the ocean. Tracks along the Cliffs are also not accessible as many have cracks and prone to collapse.

Parks Victoria are continuing deer control in the Dandenong Ranges National Park. This program will be taking place between the hours of 4pm and 7am on a number of nights between August 14, 2024, and December 6, 2024. Various areas of the park will be inaccessible during the evening throughout this period. Signage will be in place at access points when control activities are occurring.

*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**

Richard sent in a note based on comments from last fortnight's musings stating:

"From what I read, are you travelling up north at the moment? If so, it would be great to a pictorially tour next newsletter."

I hope you all enjoy a short, pictorial guide to our trip in the Top End.

### **The Top End**

Visiting the Top End had long been on our bucket list. We had managed to visit Central Australia with our children when they were quite young making it as far as Alice Springs. Our children have since grown up and left home which gives some idea as to how long it has been to realise the dream of this trip.

We landed in Darwin with the plan of picking up a hire car and travel Darwin – Kakadu – Katherine – Litchfield – Darwin. I really was not aware of what a spectacle of nature, culture and history was waiting for us.

There were so many highlights of the trip. From the diverse landscapes and indigenous culture of Kakadu National Park, the water holes and waterfalls of Litchfield, the serenity and splendour of Katherine Gorge there was something more stunning to enjoy each day.

We traded 7 degrees and cloudy skies for 37 degrees and stunning sunsets. Ubirr is a rocky outcrop in Kakadu National Park and is home to some exceptional indigenous rock art. Climbing to the top of Ubirr affords you amazing views over the floodplains and a relaxing place to marvel at the sunset.



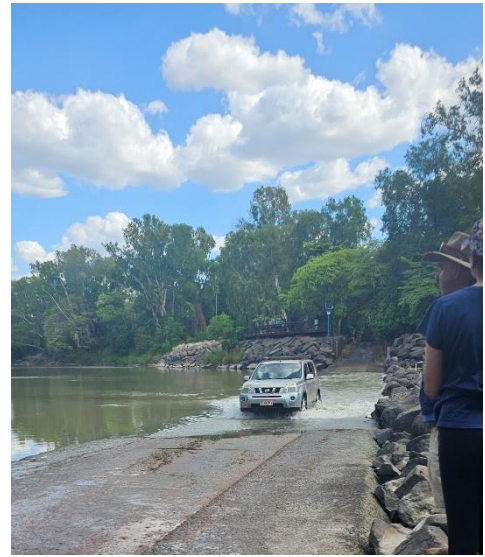


The rock art at Ubirr depict a variety of subjects, including animals, ancestral beings, and hunting scenes, reflecting the spiritual beliefs and traditional practices of the local Indigenous people. However, we were treated to a real spectacle of rock art on a trip to Arnhem Land. You can only enter Arnhem Land on a guided tour. We were able to get up close and personal to the art work and hear the stories and history associated with the various drawings.



There were more than a few crocodiles enjoying the waterways in Kakadu and no shortage of signs warning visitors of their presence. Yet it still amazed us to see how many people seemed to want to tempt fate and fish from the rocks.

Cahills Crossing is a famous river crossing in Kakadu National Park, located near the East Alligator River at the entrance to Arnhem Land and is known for its saltwater crocodiles.



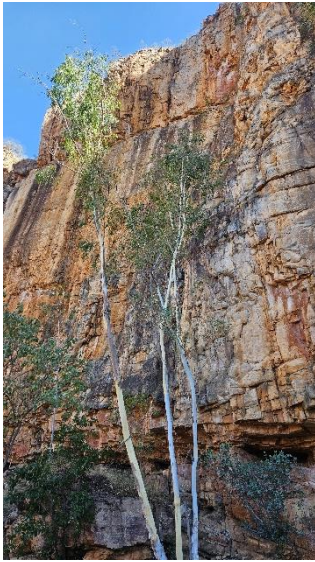


Billabongs, walking trails, and lookouts were all part of a day's adventure in Kakadu.

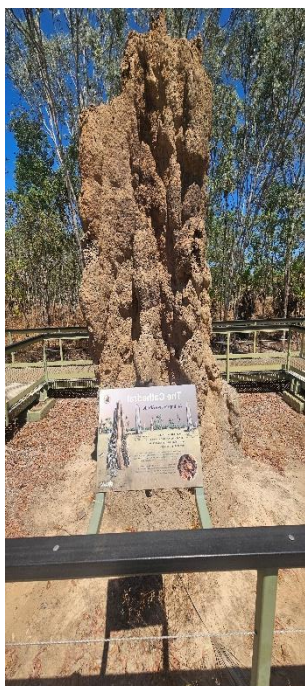


Katherine Gorge Katherine is located within Nitmiluk National Park, is a stunning natural wonder characterized by its cliffs and crystal-clear waters, serenity and beauty. We enjoyed a boat tour through three of the gorges and then enjoyed a swim in one of the rock pools. You couldn't imagine a more picturesque backdrop.



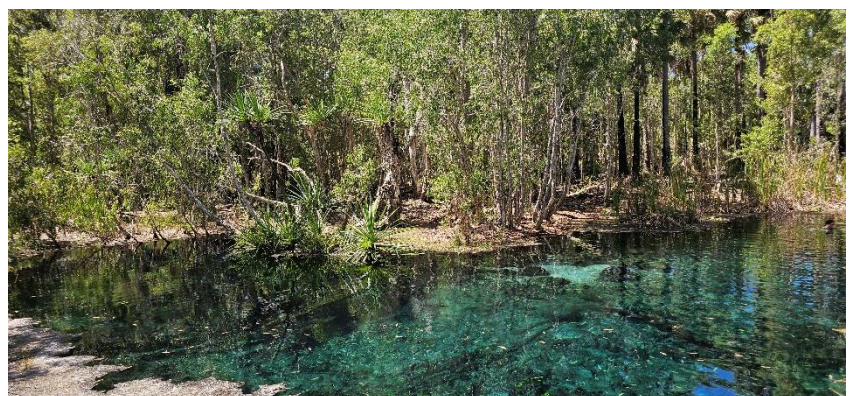


Litchfield National Park is characterised by stunning waterholes and waterfalls such as Wangi Falls, Buley Rockhole, Tolmer Falls as well as the termite mounds which more resembled something you would see in a cemetery than in a national park!





There are many other amazing reserves, billabongs, waterholes, caves and walks to stop at as you drive from one major destination to another.



Darwin is a city full of street art, canvassing the talents of many artist. It also acknowledges its history and the impact of both World War 2 and Cyclone Tracy. It also pays homage to the outstanding work of the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

Try as we might, our photos really do not do justice to the natural beauty created by Mother Nature.

### **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.

### **Meridian Mirth**

To share your jokes, please send them to [rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au](mailto:rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au).  
Thanks to Rob, Dean and Simon for their contributions to this week's mirth.

A little boy goes to his father and asks, "Daddy, how was I born?"  
The father answers, "Well, son, I guess one day you'll need to know anyway! Your mom and I first connected in a chat room on Yahoo. Then I arranged a date via e-mail with your mom, and we met at a cyber café. We sneaked into a secluded room and Googled each other. There, your mother agreed to a download from my hard drive. As soon as I was ready to upload, we discovered that neither of us had used a firewall. Since it was too late to hit the delete button, nine months later a little pop-up appeared that said: 'You've got male!'"

Two storks are sitting in their nest: a father stork and baby stork. The baby stork is crying and crying and father stork is trying to calm him. "Don't worry, son. Your mother will come back. She's only bringing people babies and making them happy."

The next night, it's father's turn to do the job. Mother and son are sitting in the nest, the baby stork is crying, and mother is saying "Son, your father will be back as soon as possible, but now he's bringing joy to new mommies and daddies."

A few days later, the stork's parents are desperate: their son is absent from the nest all night! Shortly before dawn, he returns and the parents ask him where he's been all night.

The baby stork says, "Nowhere. Just scaring the hell out of college students!"

A police recruit was asked during the exam, "What would you do if you had to arrest your mother?"

He said, "Call for backup!"

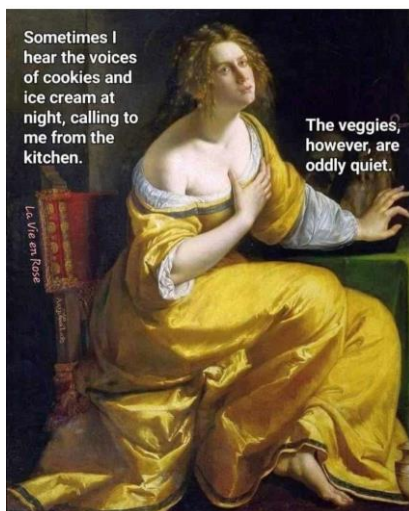
Reaching the end of a job interview, the Human Resources Officer asks a young engineer fresh out of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, "And what starting salary are you looking for?"

The engineer replies, "In the region of \$125,000 a year, depending on the benefits package."

The interviewer inquires, "Well, what would you say to a package of five weeks vacation, 14 paid holidays, full medical and dental, company matching retirement fund to 50% of salary, and a company car leased every two years, say, a red Corvette?"

The engineer sits up straight and says, "Wow! Are you kidding?"

The interviewer replies, "Yeah, but you started it."



## The Fine Print

### At 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)

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