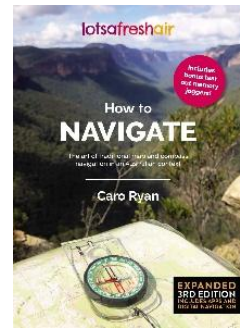
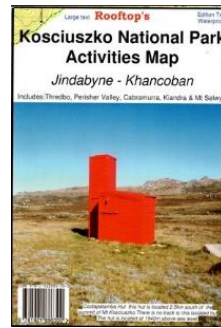
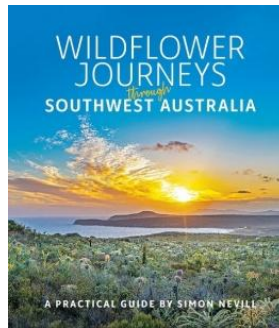
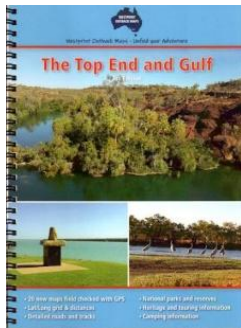
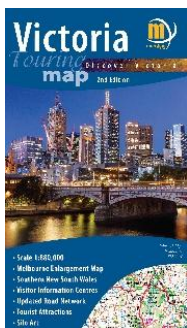


## The Meridian Line - Sunday 24.05.2026

**“It does not matter how slowly you go, so long as you do not stop.” – Confucius**



### Focus on Five

#### **Victoria Touring Map – from \$14.95**

This 1:880,000 scale touring map of Victoria highlights the state’s major tourist attractions, national parks and forests, campgrounds, and other points of interest. The 2nd edition includes the Silo Art Trail, wine regions, ski resorts, visitor information centres, and more. Clear and easy to read, it is an ideal companion for both business and leisure travel throughout Victoria. The reverse side features a Melbourne and Surrounds map, along with an index of Victorian locations.

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

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

The Top End & Gulf Atlas and Guide is an essential companion for anyone exploring the remote and spectacular landscapes of northern Australia. Covering a vast region from Croydon and Julia Creek in Queensland across to Wyndham and Halls Creek in Western Australia, the atlas provides detailed and up-to-date information on roads, tracks, and traveller facilities. Featuring

20 new double-page maps in a convenient spiral-bound format, the guide includes more than 30 pages of heritage and touring information, along with over 70 numbered points of interest. The clear and easy-to-read maps show road distances, rest areas, caravan parks, fuel outlets, Lat/Long grids, and GPS coordinates, making trip planning and navigation straightforward. The atlas also contains notes on local history, explorers, flora and fauna, as well as photographs of landmarks throughout the region. Covering all the major tourist routes through the Top End and Gulf country, it is an invaluable resource for travellers in 4WDs, caravans, and camper trailers.

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

### **Wildflower Journeys through Southwest Australia - \$49.95**

Local author Simon Nevill draws on four decades of wildflower research and photography to present 10 journeys of discovery through the greater south-west region of Western Australia, one of the world's recognised floral hotspots with more than 7,000 species. Designed to showcase the remarkable diversity of the region, the journeys range from easily accessible drives to more remote routes requiring a 4WD in places. The book is richly illustrated with hundreds of wildflower photographs and includes dozens of mud maps highlighting some of the best wildflower viewing locations. Featured journeys include Ellis Brook Valley Reserve, the Wandoo Woodland, shorter and longer northern journeys, Wotto Nature Reserve to Mullewa, The Rocks, the Inner and Outer Wheatbelt, the Big South Coast Journey, and the Deep South West Journey.

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

### ***Kosciuszko National Park Activities Map - \$15.95***

This Rooftop map is a 1:50,000 scale, double-sided map covering the Mount Kosciuszko region, including Thredbo, Charlotte Pass, Perisher Valley, Tom Groggin, Guthega, Geehi, Cabramurra, Kiandra, Selwyn Snowfields, Khancoban, Jindabyne, and surrounding alpine and wilderness areas such as Jagungal Wilderness and Indi Wilderness. It highlights a wide range of features and points of interest including the Main Range Walk, parts of the Australian Alps Walking Track, Opera House Hut, Whites River Hut, Dr Forbes Hut, Botherum Hut, Tin Hut, and Sawpit Creek, along with lookouts, rest areas, camping and picnic sites, and key natural landmarks such as Bourke's Gorge Falls, Grey Mare Mountain, Porcupine Rocks, and Lake Eucumbene. Detailed mapping shows roads, tracks, walking trails, watercourses, bush huts, and contour lines to assist with navigation across this alpine environment. Printed on waterproof paper, it is designed for use in all weather conditions.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/kosciuszco-nat-park/>

## ***How To Navigate – \$39.95***

A straight-talking, modern guide to map reading and compass use, with a strong focus on real-world navigation in the Australian bush. Written from the perspective of a passionate bushwalker with search and rescue experience, it combines practical instruction with stories, photographs, diagrams, and step-by-step how-to guidance. While GPS devices and navigation apps have become increasingly common, the book reinforces the enduring value of traditional skills such as reading a map, using a compass, and interpreting the landscape. It encourages readers to read map to ground, move with awareness, and build a deeper connection with the environment rather than simply relying on devices. This edition has been fully revised and expanded, including a new chapter on digital navigation, as well as sections on basic sun and star navigation, night navigation, and insights into First Nations approaches to wayfinding. It also features new maps, illustrations, photographs, tips, memory aids, and over 13 additional pages, along with QR code links to further video explanations and resources.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/how-to-navigate/>

## **Meridian Musings**

For the next two weeks, we'll be featuring a "**Beyond Clearance**" section on the website. This section includes maps and books that have been heavily reduced to clear remaining stock. In some cases, these are the final copies of older editions being cleared to make way for new releases. In others, titles are being discontinued, or we simply have excess stock we're looking to reduce ahead of stocktake.

Whatever the reason, the savings are significant. Product availability is limited, and once items are sold out, they will not be restocked. The "Beyond Clearance" section will remain live until 7 June or until stock is exhausted, whichever comes first.

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

## **What's New to the Website**

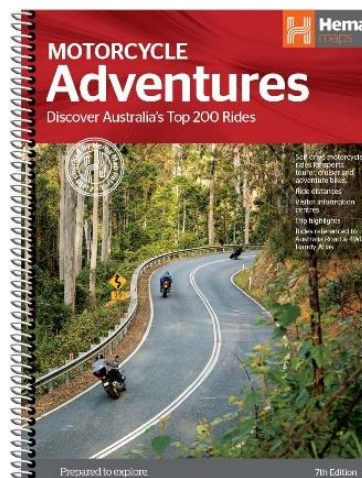
### ***Motorcycle Adventures – \$29.95***

Motorcycle Adventures Top 200 Rides 7th Edition has been fully updated with the latest ride distances, highlights and essential touring information for motorcyclists exploring Australia. Featuring 200 of the country's best motorcycle rides, the compact guide is organised by state and territory and includes detailed notes on each route, including start and finish points, total

distance, bike suitability for Adventure, Cruiser, Sports and Tourer motorcycles, along with useful contact information.

Designed to fit neatly into a tank bag or pannier, the spiral-bound guide is an ideal companion for riders wanting to experience some of Australia's most scenic and rewarding touring routes. Each ride also includes a map reference linked to the Australia Road & 4WD Handy Atlas, making navigation and trip planning even easier while on the road.

Key features include self-guided rides suitable for a range of motorcycle styles, updated route and distance information, trip highlights, visitor information centre listings and easy-to-follow map references matched to the Hema Handy Atlas.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/motorcycle-adventures/>

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

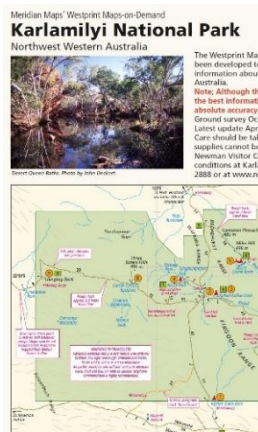
### ***Westprint Maps on Demand - from \$6.95***

We are pleased to be re-introducing the Westprint “Maps-on-Demand” series of maps. The series covers interesting out of the way locations in Outback Australia. There are 4 maps in the series and these will become available on the website as they are finalised. The maps will be available in three formats: printed on A3 paper, printed on A3 paper and laminated, or supplied in PDF format. They will retail for \$6.95 inc gst for the printed or PDF versions, and \$9.50 inc. gst for the laminated version.

The first two maps available to order are the Karlamilyi (Rudall River) National Park and Surveyor Generals Corner.

## Karlamilyi National Park

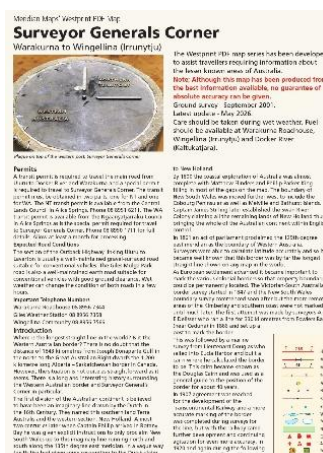
Previously known as Rudall River National Park, this is one of the most remote national parks in Western Australia. The park can be accessed via Newman, Port Hedland or the Canning Stock Route. Its standout attraction is the spectacular Desert Queen Baths, along with a series of permanent pools along the Rudall River. Around 70 bird species and a variety of desert wildlife survive in this harsh but remarkable environment, while the communities of Punmu and Parnngurr provide fuel and basic supplies.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/karlamilyi-nat-park/>

## Surveyor Generals Corner

This map covers a remote section of Western Australia, from Docker River (Kaltukatjara) and Warakurna on the Great Central Road, and south along the Giles Mulga Park Road to Wingellina on the Gunbarrel Highway. Notes on the map detail the fascinating history of Surveyor Generals Corner (of WA, SA and the NT) near Wingellina, while other points of interest include Lasseter's Cave and the Giles Weather Station.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/surveyor-generals-corner/>

## 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/>

Witjira NP open with limited access following rain event and flooding.

Dalhousie Campground – Open

Three O’Clock Creek Campground – Open

Dalhousie Campground to Purni Bore – Open

The Dalhousie airstrip – Open

Bloods Creek Ruin to Federal Waterhole Track – Closed

Binns Track – Closed

Public Access Route Number 8 Pedirka – Closed due to extensive water damage

Munga-Thirri Simpson Desert NP open with limited access following rain event and flooding. There is no access through to Queensland.

Colson Track – Open

Poeppels Corner – Closed

Public Access Route 15 K1 Warburton Crossing – Closed

Witjira NP is open noting access is only available via Finke in the Northern Territory. South Australian Roads are still closed and under repair.

Kati Thanda-Lake Eyre NP, PAR No 8 Pedirka, PAR No 15 K1 Warburton, PAR No 16 Walkers Crossing, PAR No 2 Level Post Bay and PAR No 13 Halligan Bay Point are closed.

Significant falls of rain and flooding in the far north have resulted in the closures of Innamincka Regional Reserve and Malkumba – Coongie Lakes National Park

Birdsville Inside track, Cooper Creek Causeway, Cooper Creek to Marree and SA Border to Mugeranie closed. Cooper Creek Ferry Crossing Access closed.

Strzelecki Track - Della/Dullingari Rd junction to Moomba is closed.

Strzelecki Track - Innamincka to Della/Dullingari Rd junction, Merty Merty to Mt Hopeless, Moomba to Mery Merty, Mt Hopeless to Talc Mine Rd open to 4WD/HV only.

Seasonal road closures in Victoria generally operate from after the King's Birthday long weekend in June (6 – 8 June) through to the end of October, but the closures may be extended if conditions are not suitable to safely re-open the roads.

Grampians/Gariwerd National Park:

- **The Wonderland Loop Walk – Upgrade Works** - Safety upgrades will occur on from 18 May until 29 May.

## What's On

**4 – 8 June: Henry Lawson Heritage Festival 2026** in NSW. There will be kids activities, pavement art, market stalls, a parade through the streets, the cutting of Henry Lawson's birthday cake, bush dancing, live music, a poet's morning tea and walking tours.

<https://www.facebook.com/gulgonghenrylawsonheritagefestival/>

**5 – 7 June: Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces** in NSW. Market stalls, street entertainers, rides, exhibits, competitions and the grand parade – which is headed-up by the famous Running of the Sheep in their red socks.

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

**5 – 8 June: Coonamble Rodeo and Campdraft** in NSW. Traditional campdrafting, rodeo thrills, live entertainment and a lively outback atmosphere.

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

**5 – 7 June: Barunga festival** in Northern Territory. Iconic, family-friendly event on the national festival calendar that provides an authentic Aboriginal cultural experience. It boasts a long and proud tradition of celebrating Indigenous music, culture, and sport.

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

**5 – 8 June: Woodend Winter Art Festival** in Victoria. Classical music, jazz or world music, literary events and visual arts, educational programs for young people and a series of free community events

<https://woodendwinterartsfestival.org.au/>

**5 – 8 June: National Celtic Folk Festival** in Victoria. Celebration of Celtic and folk culture featuring over 60 national and international music, dance, theatre, storytelling, and workshop events.

<https://celticeventsaustralia.com/events/national-celtic-folk-festival-2026/>

**6 – 7 June: Central Coast Harvest Festival** in NSW. Take a glimpse behind the farm gate while exploring multiple rural farming communities and their picturesque heritage villages right on the Central Coast.

<https://www.lovecentralcoast.com/harvestfestival>

**6 – 7 June: Victor Harbor Valhalla Festival** in South Australia. Step into a living history Viking village where artisans demonstrate ancient trades, warriors clash in combat demonstrations, and the air fills with the spirit of the sagas.

<https://winterwhalefest.com.au/events/victor-harbor-valhalla-festival>

**12 – 14 June: Townsville Folk Festival** in Queensland. A not-for-profit, family-friendly event that celebrates community spirit, creativity, and artistic harmony featuring live music performances spanning, dance and circus, workshops, artisan markets, delicious food, and camping under the stars.

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

## Do you have a story?

If you've got a trip or tips to share, we'd love to hear from you - [rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au](mailto:rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au).

## Chasing Wildflowers Across Australia

Every year, as the seasons begin to shift, vast areas of Australia burst into colour. From the red deserts of the outback to the forests of Western Australia and the alpine meadows of the high country, wildflower season transforms landscapes that can appear harsh and dry into some of the most spectacular natural displays in the country. It is an opportunity to experience changing seasons, discover remote communities and appreciate the diversity of Australia's landscapes.

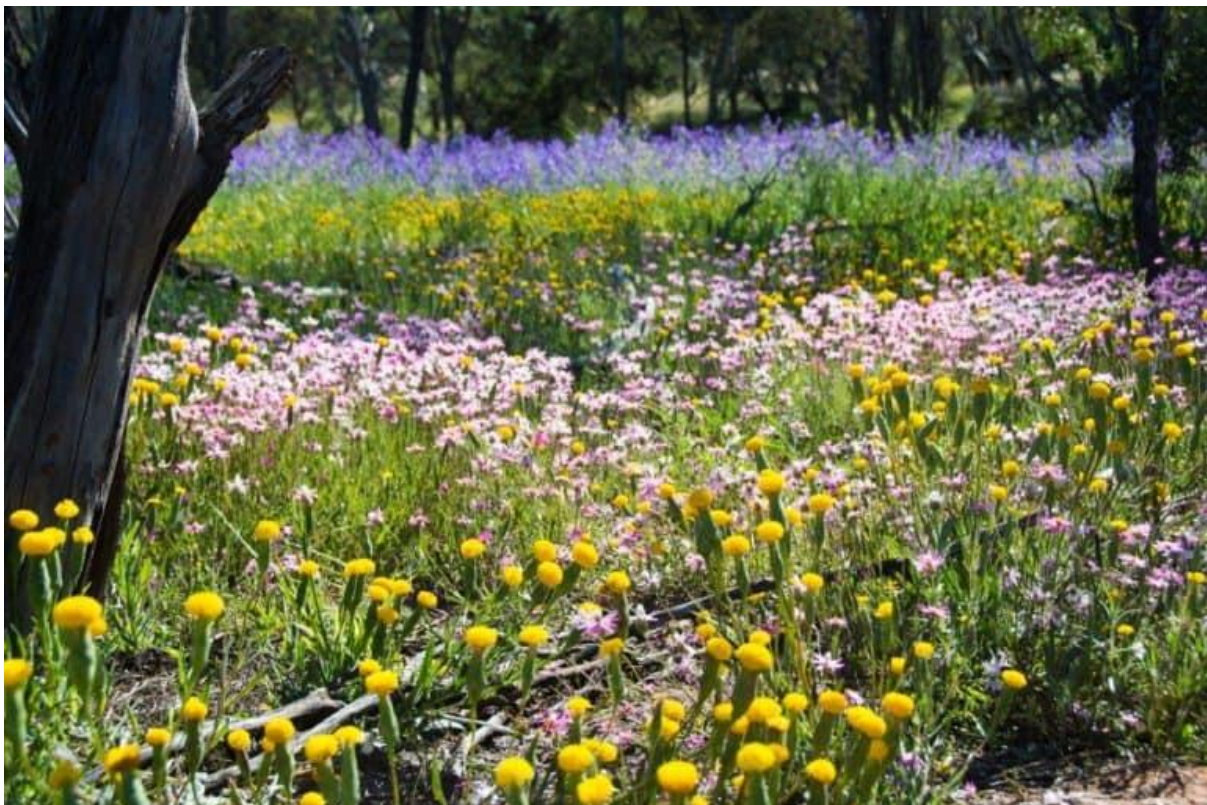
Unlike many countries where wildflower seasons are confined to a short spring period, Australia's climate means flowering can occur almost year-round somewhere across the continent. Tropical regions bloom after summer rains, arid deserts erupt into colour following rare downpours, and southern states come alive in spring as wattles, orchids, everlastings and native heathlands flower in spectacular fashion.

For many, Western Australia is regarded as the ultimate wildflower destination. Home to more than 12,000 species of wildflowers — over 60 per cent of which are found nowhere else on earth — the state boasts one of the

most diverse and spectacular floral displays in the world. From June through to November, its rugged landscapes come alive with vibrant colour and rich scents as millions of blooms spread across the state, with new varieties still being discovered.

Each year, thousands of visitors follow Western Australia's famous wildflower trail as the season gradually shifts across the region depending on rainfall and conditions. Along the way, travellers encounter some of Australia's most distinctive native flowers, including pink boronias, striking red and green kangaroo paw, magenta paperbark blossom and vivid orange-flowering banksias.

The journey often begins in the forests and coastal heathlands north of Western Australia, where seasonal rains bring the country to life in spectacular fashion. Around Coalseam Conservation Park, Mullewa and Pindar, vast carpets of everlastings spread across paddocks and roadside verges, transforming ordinary stretches of road into scenes of colour and texture.



Coalseam Conservation Park

Further north, near Kalbarri, the wildflower experience changes entirely. Rugged coastal cliffs and inland gorges frame a landscape of flowering

wattles, hakeas and banksias, while rare species such as the Kalbarri spider orchid add delicate detail to the raw scenery.



Inland towards Mount Magnet, Cue and the Murchison, the landscape transforms after winter rains, as the red earth suddenly comes alive with bursts of colour. Flowering shrubs and desert blooms appear in places that, only weeks earlier, can seem lifeless and barren.

The 309-kilometre Wildflower Way links Dalwallinu to Geraldton. The route passes through towns including Morawa, Mullewa and Perenjori, where the landscape unfolds in layers of everlastings, wreath flowers, wattles and orchids.

The Esperance Wildflower Trail offers a very different experience combining wildflower displays with coastal scenery, linking national parks such as Cape Le Grand, Fitzgerald River and West Cape Howe. Along the way, species including bluebells, lambertia, dryandra and fringe lilies among white sand, granite headlands and sheltered bushland.



West Cape National Park in bloom

The South West flower trail threads through forest, farmland and coastline between Dwellingup, Collie, Donnybrook, Pemberton, Walpole, Denmark, Albany and the Stirling Range National Park. Beneath towering jarrah forests and along dramatic coastal edges, the understorey comes alive with pea flowers, kangaroo paw, donkey orchids and eschenaultia.

South Australia also offers remarkable wildflower experiences, particularly in the Flinders Ranges and arid interior. Following good rains, the outback can transform dramatically. Sturt's desert pea, with its vivid red flowers and black centre, is perhaps the most iconic arid-zone wildflowers.



Sturt Desert Pea

Travelling through the Ikara-Flinders Ranges in spring reveals a striking contrast between rugged mountain scenery and seasonal bursts of colour. After rainfall, flowering acacias, wattles, native daisies, hopbush, mint bush and the iconic Sturt's desert pea soften the ancient rock formations and bring vivid colour to the arid landscape. Areas around Wilpena Pound, Brachina Gorge and Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Park are particularly rewarding during spring, when the ranges feel less harsh and more like a living mosaic of stone, soil and bloom.



Ikara-Flinders Ranges in spring

The Murraylands and mallee regions also offer excellent seasonal displays, with orchids, native lilies and flowering shrubs often appearing in national parks and reserves that are easily missed from major highways.

Victoria may not receive the same recognition for wildflowers, but it offers remarkable diversity. The wildflower season typically begins in early September and runs through to November, when longer days, warmer temperatures and seasonal rainfall bring the landscape into bloom. Victoria's native wildflowers are also ecologically important, supporting birds, bees and butterflies. Species such as orchids, wattles and grevilleas are well adapted to local conditions, making them resilient and vital to ecosystem health.

Spring transforms Grampians National Park, Little Desert National Park and Victoria's alpine regions into vibrant displays of heathlands, orchids and wattles. In the high country, alpine wildflowers emerge through the warmer months beneath snow gum forests and mountain backdrops, while delicate species such as triggerplants and sundews thrive across the alpine landscape.



The Grampians remain especially popular during spring, with wildflowers lining walking tracks and scenic drives, complemented by waterfalls flowing after winter rains. Elsewhere, regions such as the Mornington Peninsula and Wilson's Promontory offer distinctive coastal wildflower displays, while the Little Desert National Park provides a quieter experience with its surprising diversity of flowering plant life.

In New South Wales, the wildflower season generally runs from September to January, extending into April in cooler regions such as Kosciuszko National Park and Booderee National Park.

Across the state, species such as waratah, banksia, flannel flower, boronia and native orchids contribute to seasonal transformation. The Blue Mountains, Warrumbungle National Park and Riverina each offer distinct displays, from escarpment heathlands to inland plains that burst into colour after rain.



Waratah

Further north, Barrington Tops National Park offers one of the most diverse floral environments, with forest, rainforest, grasslands and wetlands supporting a wide range of seasonal blooms.

Queensland presents a different style of wildflower touring. In the tropics, flowering is driven by wet season rains, while inland deserts can erupt in colour after rare rainfall. In outback regions such as Simpson Desert, ephemeral blooms can transform vast red landscapes into carpets of wildflowers.



Simpson Desert in bloom

The Granite Belt and Scenic Rim also offer seasonal displays, while sunflower fields across regions such as Toowoomba and Warwick add another layer of colour to Queensland's floral calendar.

Tasmania's cooler climate creates a shorter but distinctive season. From alpine plateaus to coastal heathlands, wildflowers such as scoparia, alpine daisies and orchids transform the landscape each summer. National parks including Cradle Mountain, Freycinet National Park and the Walls of Jerusalem showcase some of the state's most remarkable displays.



Wildflowers in Freycinet National park

In the Northern Territory, wildflower seasons are dictated by rainfall rather than calendar months. The Red Centre blooms after winter rains, while the Top End flourishes following the wet season, particularly in parks such as Litchfield National Park and Kakadu National Park.



Natural landscapes in Kakadu National Park

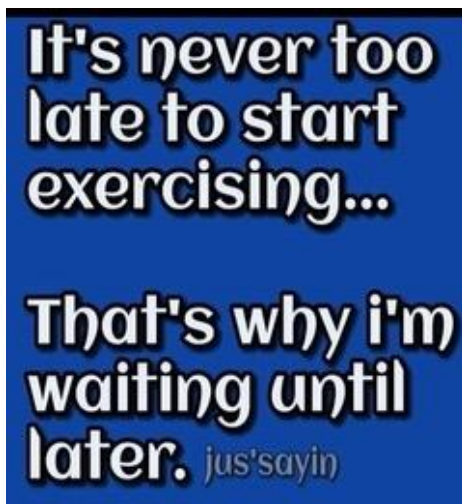
Around Alice Springs and the MacDonnell Ranges, species such as Sturt's desert pea and native daisies emerge after rain, while remote regions such as Andado Station may experience spectacular but highly unpredictable flowering events.

Across Australia, wildflower touring encourages travellers to slow down and observe more closely. Whether it is a roadside bloom, a remote desert display or a mountain walk lined with orchids, the experience is often defined by discovery rather than destination.

Ultimately, chasing wildflowers across Australia is about seeing familiar landscapes in a new light. What may appear dry or remote for much of the year can, with the right conditions, become a living tapestry of colour and life.

### **Meridian Mirth**

To share your jokes, please send them to [rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au](mailto:rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au). Many thanks to Paul and Rob for their contributions!



Proofreading is a dying art, wouldn't you say?

Seen in a Shopping centre bathroom:  
The toilet is out of order. Please use floor below.

In a Laundromat:  
Automatic washing machines: Please remove your clothes when the light goes out.

In a Department store:  
Bargain Basement Upstairs.

In an office:  
Would the person who took the step ladder yesterday please bring it back or further steps will be taken!

After coffee break, staff should empty the coffee pot and stand upside down on the draining board.

Outside a second hand shop:  
We exchange everything! Bicycles, washing machines, etc. Why not bring the wife along and get a wonderful bargain?

Notice in a Health Food shop window:  
Closed due to illness.

Spotted in a safari park:  
Elephants, please stay in your car!

Seen in a conference room:  
For anyone who has children and doesn't know it, there is a daycare centre on the first floor.

Message on a bulletin board:  
If you cannot read, this will tell you how to get lessons.

On a repair shop door:  
We can repair anything! (Please knock on the door hard. The bell doesn't work.)

Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers.

Panda Mating Fails; Veterinarian Takes Over.

Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant.

If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last Awhile

Cold Wave Linked to Lower Temperatures.

Couple Slain; Police Suspect Homicide

Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges.

Man Struck By Lightning: Faces Battery Charge.

Astronaut Takes Blame for Gas in Spacecraft.

Local High School Dropouts Cut in Half.

Hospitals are Sued by 7 Foot Doctors.

Typhoon Rips Through Cemetery; Hundreds Dead.

If it's in stock... we have it!

I finally found a car  
that fits my gas budget



I was driving when I saw the flash of a traffic camera. I figured that my picture had been taken for exceeding the speed limit even though I knew I was not speeding.

Just to be sure, I went around the block and passed the same spot, driving even more slowly, but again the camera flashed. Now I began to think that this

was quite funny, so I drove even slower as I passed the area once again, but the traffic camera flashed yet again.

I tried a fourth and a fifth time with the same results and was now laughing uncontrollably as the camera flashed as a rolled past at a snail's pace.

Two weeks later, I got five tickets in the mail for driving without a seatbelt.



### 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

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#### Disclaimer

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