

#### WESTERN AUSTRALIA -- FACTS

- occupies the entire western third of Australia
- 4/5th of the state is classified as desert
- 2.2mill population (85% live in SW corner)
- no part of the state is over 4000 feet high
- the main human activity is mining

# The area to the north of Perth has substantially hotter temperatures and far less rainfall than southern parts.

We drove out of Kalbarri on Day 3 and visited the National Park. We saw stunning scenery despite the 40+ degree heat. We came across a couple our age from UK. We stopped and talked in the shade. They waxed lyrical about the country and we told them that it was too dry for us - we came from the wetter eastern coast of Australia which they had not visited. They told us they were keen to walk the 7 hour trail but we dissuaded them - no hats, no sleeves on their tops and no water bottles. Stupid overseas tourists.

**WE KNOW SO LITTLE ABOUT OUR OWN COUNTRY, INCLUDING ITS ANIMALS AND ITS PLANTS.**

We might come back in the future when it is not so hot to walk more of the trails.

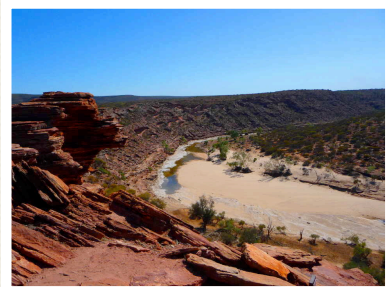
We drove on for nearly 4 hours and ended up in Carnarvon. This is where our niece Kerryn has lived for 13 years running a restaurant - The Old Post Office Café. It was even written up in the Lonely Planet travel book. We were very impressed. The place rocks at night. The dinner we had here was really delicious despite our meal being interrupted by a snake that slithered by on the nature strip. Luckily the town's snake catcher was also eating at the restaurant. The snake was not venomous (carpet python).

We spent the next morning bike riding in Carnarvon. In the afternoon we chatted with Kerryn.

## KALBARRI NATIONAL PARK



A HOLE IN THE ROCK



DRY RIVER BED



STUNNING RED ROCKS

## CARNARVON



WITH KERRYN

