

"TREVOR" THE TR2'S

Around Australia Adventure 2013



and
"BIG THING" TOUR

GLOSSARY

Total Miles 16,175 or 25,880 kilometres
Fuel 2246 Litres
Cost of fuel \$3833.00
Cheapest Fuel \$1.49 - Bass Victoria
Dearest Fuel \$2.08 Caiguna W.A.
1 gallon of fuel = 31 miles or we used 9 litres per 100 kilometres.

SPARES & PARTS

1 Battery
1 Nut for Rear Axle
1 Set Spark Plugs
1 Handbrake Cable
1 Diaphragm Mechanical
Fuel pump
1 Electric Pump
1 Taco Cable (not Problem)

ACCOMMODATION

97 nights
67 camping
23 Family & Friends
4 Motels
2 Budget Cabins
Cheapest \$15 Eucla W.A.
Dearest \$44 Broome W.A & Port Douglas Qld



1 Cowes
2 Ararat
3 Murray Bridge
4 Adelaide (2)
5 Edithburgh (2)
6 Minlaton
7 Port Pirie
8 Whyalla
9 Coffin Bay (3)
10 Streaky Bay

11 Ceduna
12 Eucla
13 Fraser Range Station
14 Esperance(3)
15 Hyden- Wave Rock
16 Albany (3)
17.Walpole
18 Augusta (2)
19 Busselton
20 Perth (4)

21 Charles Darwin Reserve
(near Wubin)
22 Geraldton
23 Kalbarri
24 Monkey Mia (2)
25 Carnarvon
26 Coral bay (2)
27 Exmouth (2)
28 Dampier
29 Pardoo Roadhouse

30 Broome (3)
31 Fitzroy Crossing
32 Wyndham
33 Lake Argyle
34 Katherine
35 Litchfield National Park
36 Darwin (4)
37 Mataranka.
38 Three Ways Roadhouse
39 Mount Isa

40 Karumba
41 Mount Surprise
42 Mareeba (2)
43 Cooktown (3)
44 Port Douglas
45 Cairns
46 Townsville
47 Mackay
48 Emu Park
49 Hervey Bay (2)



50 Maroochydore
51 Coolangatta (3)
52 Toowoomba (3)
53 Brisbane (2)
54 Byron Bay (3)
55 Nambucca Heads
56 Sydney (2)
57 Merimbula

All the lists (spare parts, camping gear, personal stuff) had been checked, and, so, on Tuesday 19th March at 10.15a.m. we were away, heading for Cowes, Phillip Island, Victoria. Nothing eventful on the first leg, We picked up an exhaust pipe extension to divert the exhaust away from the trailer in Sale.

Wednesday morning some final adjustments to car and trailer before heading in a northerly direction, stopping at Tooradin for lunch (a yummy pie), then through Melbourne over the West Gate Bridge, and onto our first camping night in the Acacia Caravan Park, Ararat, a good BBQ and camp kitchen, but very close to Railway Line and Highway "VERY NOISY". Thursday 21st March, headed off about 10ish, a very respectable hour. Wet and overcast.

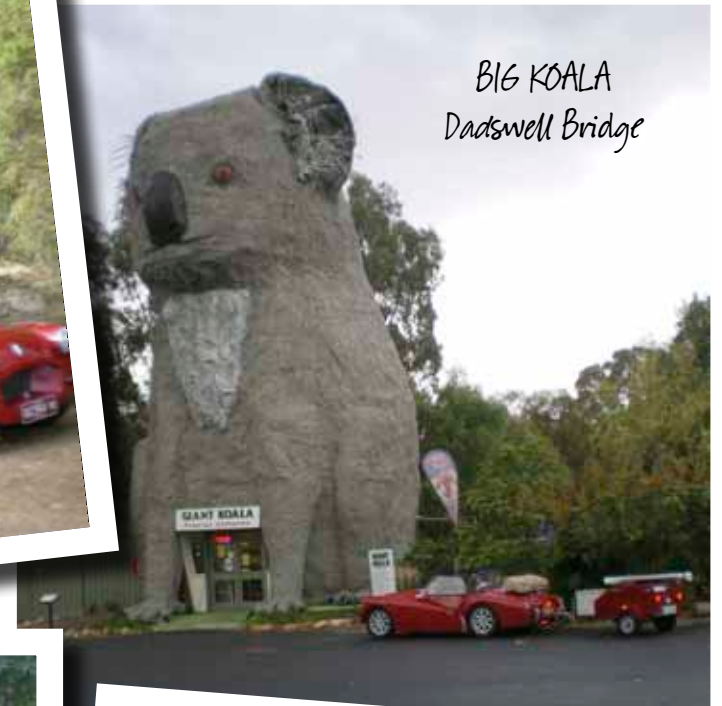
The first **BIG THING** a **GIANT KOALA** at Dadswell Bridge. A windy trip to Horsham—lunch at Dimboola and the rest of the day was spent battling Gale force winds; Dust storms, and rain, very hard driving in little "Trevor", so we decided to take a budget cabin (\$60) at Murray Bridge.

Friday 22nd March:-Up early, after a good nights sleep, had a lovely walk along the river, and on the road by 9a.m. Travelled along old Highway to Haandorf, a bit of shopping and stocking up. Rained very heavily and we got wet! On to Adelaide to Caravan park, arriving about 1p.m. Set up camp and walked into town for dinner at Japanese Sushi train and Asahi beer. Walked back to camp and a good nights sleep.

Saturday 23rd off to the Zoo to see Giant Pandas, and dinner with friends at Kingston Park.



First Night Camp - Ararat



*BIG KOALA
Dadswell Bridge*



*Bob with BIG PANDA
Adelaide Zoo*

Sunday 24th. Left about 9.30a.m. heading for Port Wakefield, lunch at Ardrossan, on the Yorke Peninsular, where we met an ex Register member. He sold his black TR3A, 7 or 8 years ago to Chris Lemanis. We stopped at Edithburgh for two nights. We bought local oysters, caught Whiting and Squid, and we did lovely walks along the beach collecting shells

Life is Good...

Tuesday 26th March, found us heading to Marion Bay then over to the west coast visiting Point Turton, then onto Minlaton to stay with friends on a farm for the night. Good food (yummy veggie lasagne) good wine, beer, good company.

Life is Good...

Wednesday 27th. March. On the road in rain at 10a.m. Stopped at Moonta for fabulous Cornish Pasties for lunch, then onto Port Pirie, raining consistently, so into a budget cabin. Prawns, crabs and beers (of course!) for dinner.

Life is Very Good.

Minlaton



Port Broughton



*Big Ship
Whyalla*



Thursday 28th. Had a bit of a fish caught some "Tommy Ruffs" (or Australian Herring) for dinner Weather is warming up, visited museum, shopped and had pies for lunch, and on the road again stopping at Whyalla for the night "Tommy Ruffs" and Squid for dinner and beers.

Life is Good

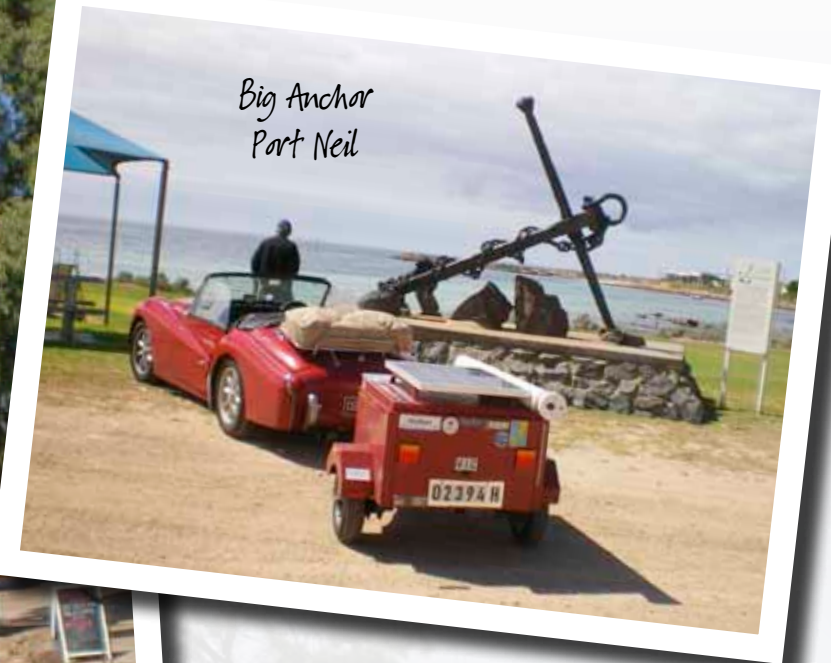
Friday the 29th and on the road by 8.30a.m. to Iron Knob, avoiding Kangaroos and Emus along the way! From Iron Knob to Kimba, (the halfway point between Sydney and Perth) and the home of the **BIG GALAH**. From Kimba it was southward again to Cleve and a photo of the **BIG CROSS** being very appropriate for Good Friday.

Lunch was had back on the east coast at Port Neil and a photo of the **BIG ANCHOR**, then Port Lincoln, where one would expect to see a Big Tuna! But no a statue of Makybe Diva a *fairly famous* racehorse!

Big Galah
Kimba



Big Anchor
Port Neil



Big Cross
Cleve



Makybe Diva - Port Lincoln



It was onto Coffin Bay for Easter, staying at the The Coffin Bay Caravan & Camping Park owned and run by TR Register members Dean and Rosie Lewis, who own a nice TR3A. We bought local oysters and caught King George Whiting need I say more!

1st of April saw us on the road again, a lovely road with great scenery. We camped at Streaky Bay Caravan Park that night right on the shoreline. Oysters, Whiting and Beer for Dinner.

Life is Good!!



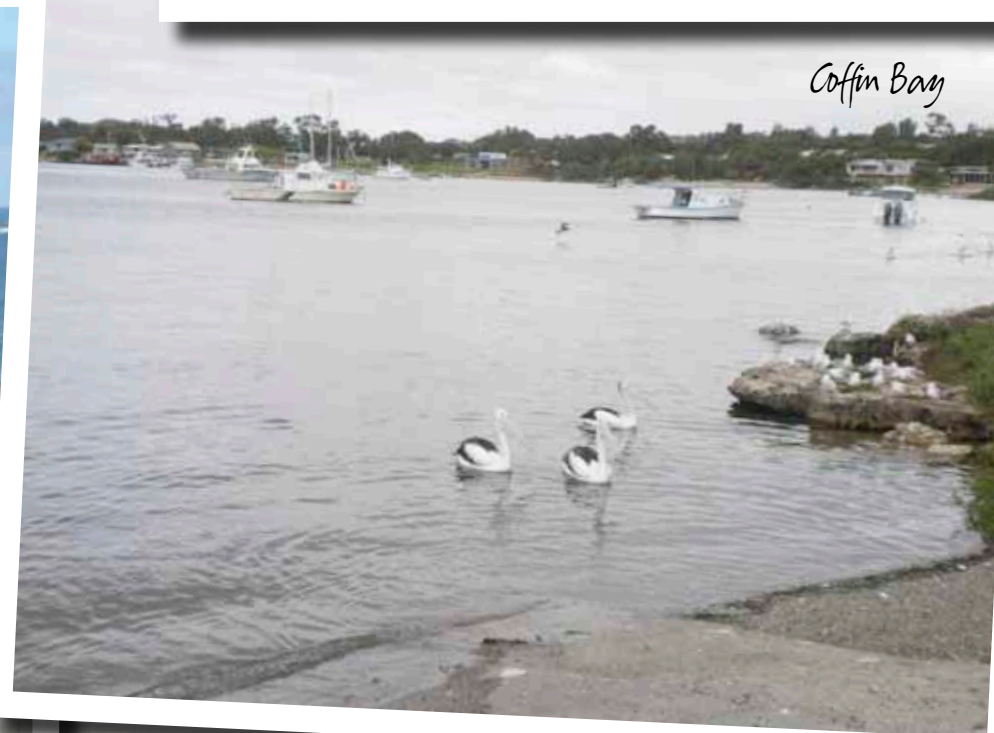
Dean & Rosie Lewis with Bob



"Trevor" & Mate

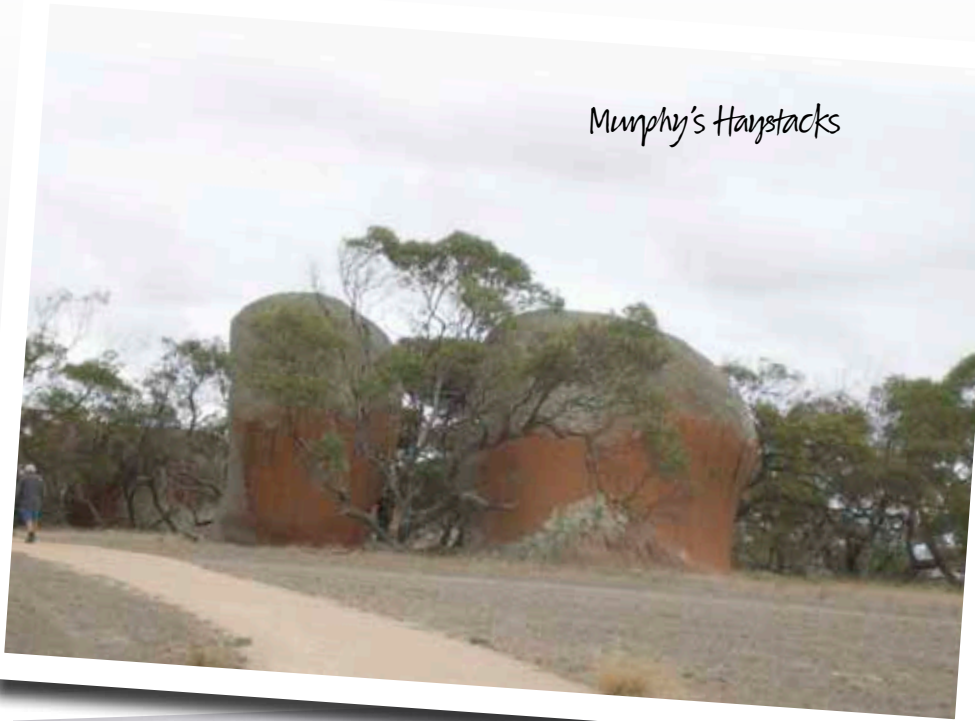


Coffin Bay National Park



Coffin Bay

Murphy's Haystacks



Coastline between Coffin Bay and Streaky Bay





Campsite at Streaky Bay



After some restocking of the essentials and a photo of the **BIG SHARK**, we headed for Ceduna, arriving early so as to do a bit of fishing off the pier. We Purchased Local Smokey Bay Oysters and Prawns (got to keep the standard up!) a photo of the **BIG OYSTER** and then ... Set out to cross the Nullabor, in good weather, and stunning views at the Head of The Bight, and overnight in Eucla Western Australia



Big Oyster - Ceduna



*Big Shark
(actual size of shark caught in Streaky Bay)*

Nullabor Plain



Endla



Old Telegraph Station



Travellers Cross

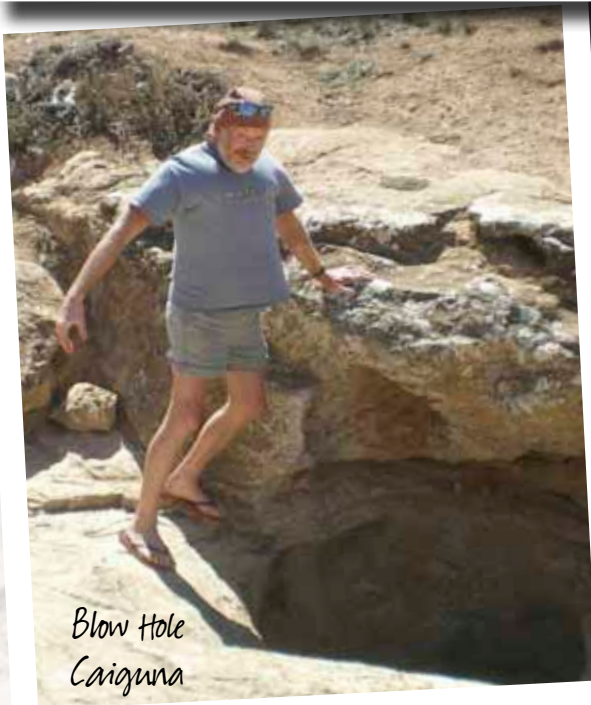


Thursday 4th April
saw us up before
sunrise, so as to
take photos of the
Travellers Cross
with the first rays
of the sun, then
down a very rough
dirt road to see
The Old Telegraph
Station, slowly being
overtaken by the
sand dunes.



ACROSS THE NULLABOR PLAIN

Great weather, and with no danger of wildlife we sat on 105 kph. Lunch at Cocklebiddy, temperature nudging 30 degrees, so the lovely cool air coming out of the Blow Hole at Caiguna was very welcome. Our overnight stop was at Fraser Range Station, where we saw a **Big Metal Detector**. The next morning we were off still heading west to Norseman then south to Esperance. We had some car trouble today, which required us to put on the spare electric fuel pump, which worked fine. We also changed the spark plugs, which had become carbed up (maybe due to fuel problem) then the battery packed up (getting old) then the starter button shorted out. All sorted out in Caravan Park in Esperance.



Blow Hole
Caiguna



Big Metal Detector



Big Whale - Nullabor



Norseman



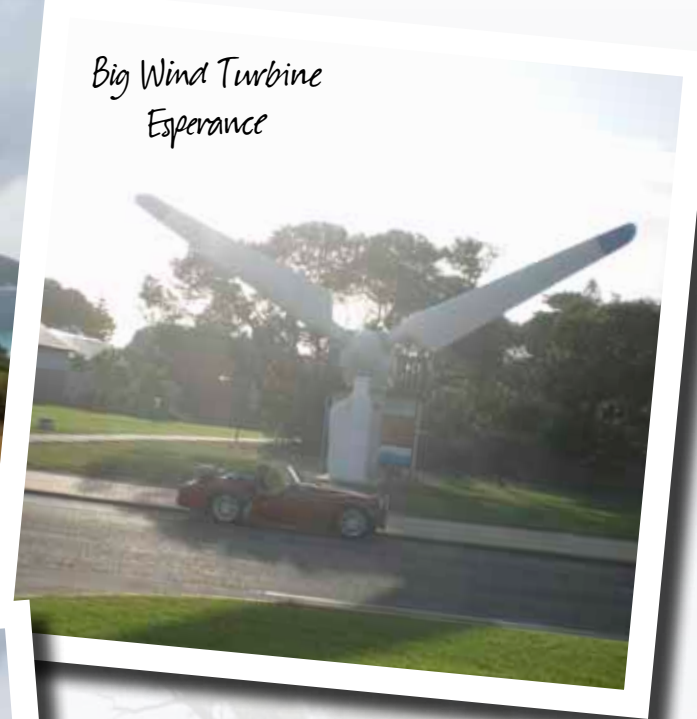
We toured the Port of Esperance, a great tour run by the local Apex club at \$5 per head, and, also travelled out to the beautiful beaches in Cape Le Grand National Park.

We left Esperance on April 8th, another hot day. We stopped at Ravensthorpe for cool drinks and icy poles, (oh and by the way, in a moment of madness, whilst camped at Esperance, I put the spare diaphragm and pump kit in the mechanical fuel pump, and, reinstalled it!). In the heat and with the added problem of poor octane fuel, the pump stopped working as we left Ravensthorpe, so out it came, and, in went the electric pump again, swearing' that never again will I trust the old style mechanical fuel pump'. Our overnight stop was at Wave Rock near Hyden. We saw the sun rise from the top of the rock, simply beautiful, and, definitely worth the extra kilometres. On the road by 9a.m and headed for Albany, car running well despite the 39 degree heat!, but a nice 22 degrees in Albany. We camped at Emu Park Caravan Park for a few nights. Whilst in Albany we had an aluminium plate made (to fit where mechanical fuel pump had been) at Albany Engineering Company. Peter Bassell, (the proprietor) only wanted \$10 for the job, however we insisted on more, and finally settled on \$25, which went into the staff social fund. Peter is a truly good engineer he even offered the use of his home garage and hoist if needed. We also purchased a spare electric fuel pump in Albany (just in case!) We visited Two Peoples Bay National Park and Torndirrup National Park. Lovely coastline and beaches and spent quite a few hours touring around Whale World Australia's Last Whaling Station, now a museum.

Cape Le Grand

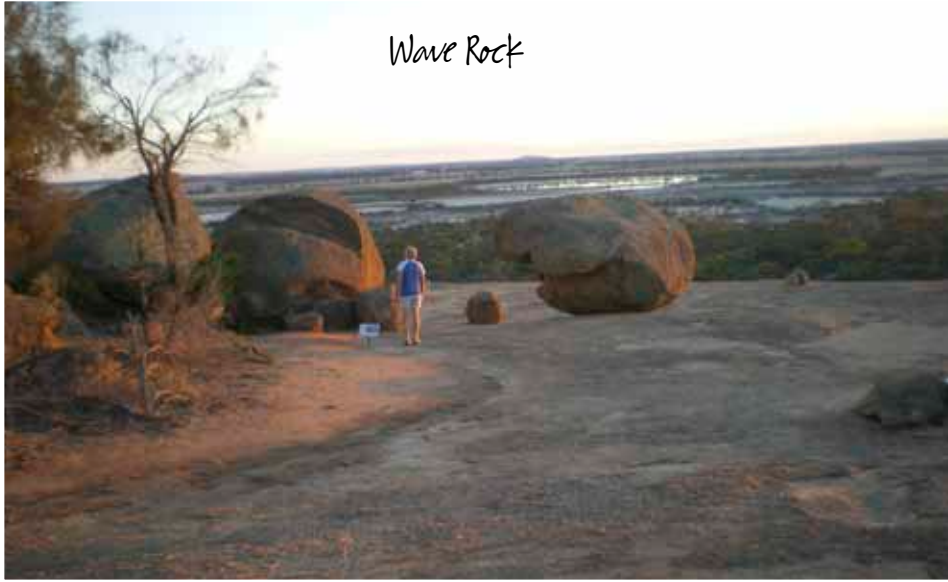


*Big Wind Turbine
Esperance*



Big Derrick - Esperance

Wave Rock



Hippo Rock



Hanging 5





Wave Rock



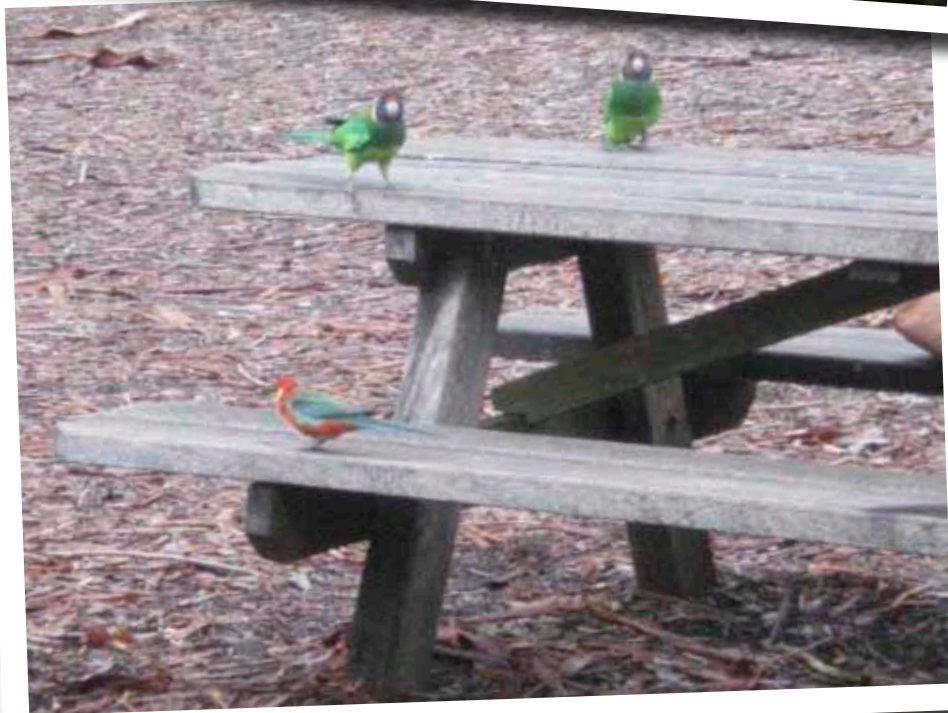
Friday 12th, on the move westward again travelling to Denmark for lunch then onto the Valley of the Giants and the Tree Top Walk, then Walpole and Coal Bay Caravan Park for the night. Fished and walked and shared our camp spot with local very quiet Kangaroos. Saturday saw us travelling along some beautiful forest roads, visiting the Gloucester Tree in Pemberton. Onto Augusta, our most south westerly point of the trip.



Sperm Whale Skeleton



Humpback Whale Skeleton





*Big Cow
Cape Leeuwin*



We visited Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse and saw where the Southern and Indian Oceans meet and did a lovely eco tour up the Blackwood River. We celebrated our 40th (Ruby) Wedding Anniversary at the "local" on the 14th April. Life is getting "Better and Older"

Monday 15th, on the road early and headed northward to Margaret River and local beaches. Stopped at a couple of boutique breweries and wineries and arrived in Busselton early afternoon. Walked along the famous Pier and dropped a line but no luck.



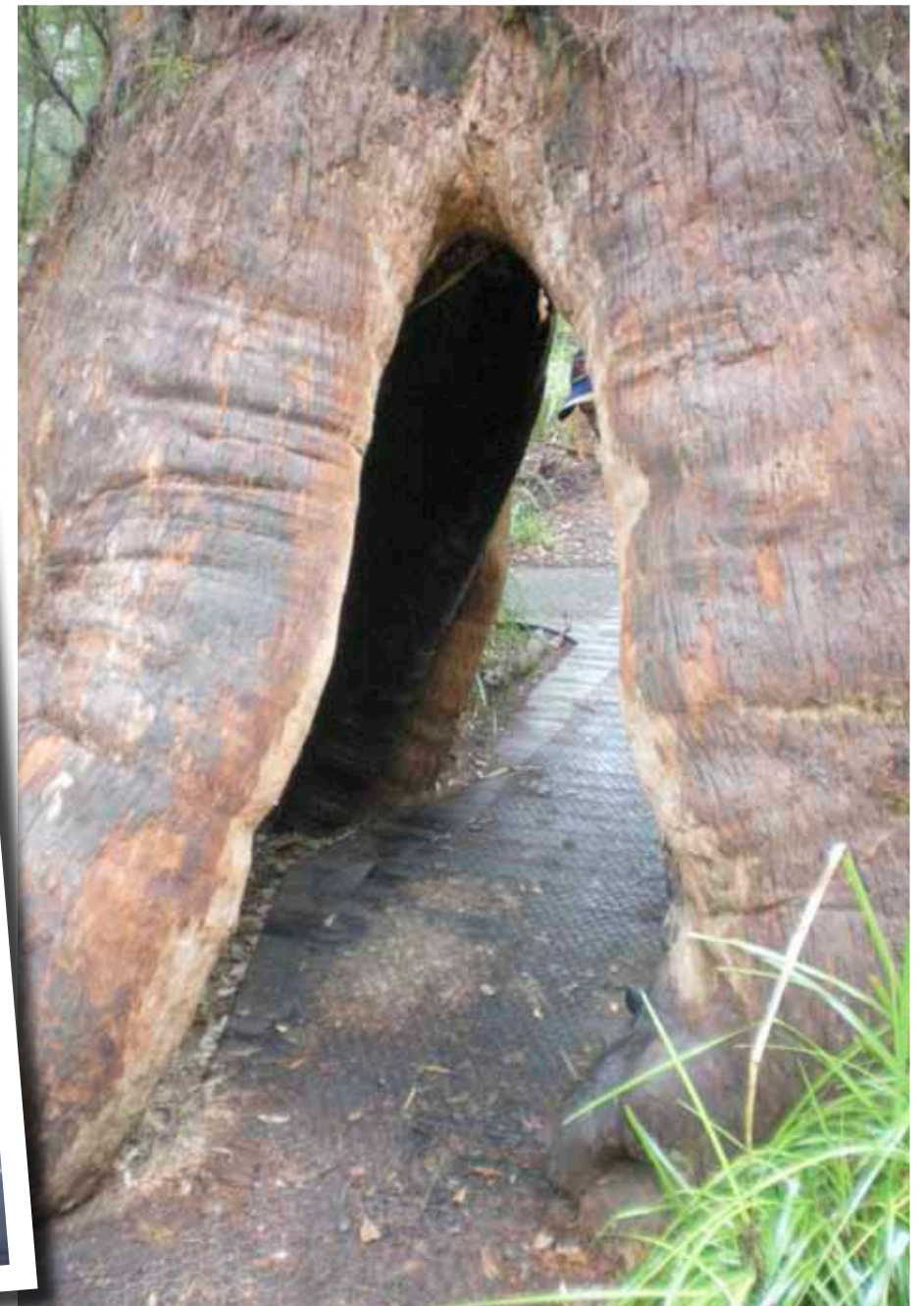
Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse



Valley of the Giants



Gloucester Tree Pemberton



Pertn

"Trevor" with "Trevor"
and Ken and Lynn Bedwell



Pertn Family, Cammen, Janrah and Paul



"Trevor" outside Little Creatures Brewery



Lunch with
friends at
Little Creatures
Brewery





Arriving in Perth, we stayed with our nephew, Paul Monaghan, his partner Carmen and baby Jarrah, for 4 nights. We serviced "Trevor" and replaced the handbrake cable. Thanks to Bare & Co. and the ever reliable Ray Kasparin (we ordered the cable 3p.m. Sydney time Thursday 18th April, and, it was delivered to Paul's place by 1p.m. the next day). We had a laid back week, catching up with friends, and had a great meal of "Chilli Mussels" at Little Creatures Brewery and beer—of course! We did one of the many tours to be had at Freemantle Gaol. Departure day arrived Saturday 20th April, up to meet Ken and Lynn Bedwell for a lovely lunch at their place in Kallaroo (a northern suburb of Perth). They then headed our convoy of 2 in their TR3A (also called "Trevor") followed closely by our Trevor out to the Northern Highway. After saying our goodbyes we travelled to Charles Darwin Heritage Reserve (formerly White Wells Station) 355 kilometres north of Perth. a taste of the outback. We stayed in workers quarters, with another family of Mum and Dad and 5 children (boy & girl twins 9; girl 7; boy and girl twins 5). They were on their way to Darwin, then flying to Russia to travel the Trans Siberian Railway, then to Greece. A two year trip, and they thought we were on a big adventure!



Friends at Old Well



View From Veranda



Charles Darwin Heritage Reserve

Charles Darwin Heritage Reserve is very interesting, they are trying to get rid of feral animals and return the land to its natural habitat, a very big job, but they have managed to get rid of the goats now they are tackling the cats!





Ant nest



Ant building nest



Sandalwood Tree

Our 2 night stay over, and, at 8.30 Monday morning saw us heading back to the coast, In perfect TR weather, and roads. We arrived in Geraldton, set up camp, then visited the "HMAS Sydney" Memorial, shopped and toured about. A latish start and off towards Kalbarri, along some stunning coastline, overnight at Kalbarri which is situated at the mouth of the Murchison River.

Wednesday morning we headed for Monkey Mia. Temperatures on the rise, and, we put sun screen roof up. Monkey Mia is lovely, but, very crowded and commercial. The camp ground had Emus wandering about, so one had to be careful not to leave anything lying about! We fed the Dolphins and caught some nice sand Whiting. Whilst fishing a mum dolphin and her calf came and took at look at Bob and scrounge for a feed, a very close up experience. We Attended the dawn service for Anzac Day, a lovely service on the beach.

An early start on Friday, for the run to Carnarvon for our next overnight stop. Took photos of the **BIG SATELLITE DISH** and the **BIG HUMPTY DUMPTY**, and, took advantage of the locally grown fruit and vegetables. Saturday, and, we were off to Coral Bay with a detour to Quobba Blowhole (not blowing!) and, had camp set up by midday. Coral Bay is a very nice place, we fed fish and did a Ningaloo Reef snorkelling dive tour which we thoroughly enjoyed and, even caught a squid for tea. Our next stop was Exmouth, where we camped at the Lighthouse Caravan park, some 17 kilometres north of Exmouth township, a stroll over the sand dunes to a great fishing spot and a couple of nice fish caught for tea .We drove out to Yardi Gorge (where we saw large turtles) and swam at Turquoise Bay. This was our most westerly point of the trip, and an area not to be missed.

*HMAS Sydney Memorial
Geraldton*



Geraldton Port



“Closing the Circle”

The “Pool of Remembrance” is the final element of the HMAS Sydney II Memorial.

It is a circle within the circle of the original Memorial, which symbolizes the circle of life and death; the concept of Eternity and Infinite.

It commemorates the Finding of HMAS Sydney II on March 16th 2008.

The form of the Pool, with the circular terracing symbolically “descending down into the depths” evokes the War Grave where the Ship now rests silently on the sea floor 120 nautical miles of Steep Point W.A. It culminates in the black granite shadow pattern circle of 644 Silver Gulls linking to the Wall of Remembrance and the Dome of Souls, the wing tip the final 645th Gull, marking the exact location of the Ship in the granite map of the Pool floor.

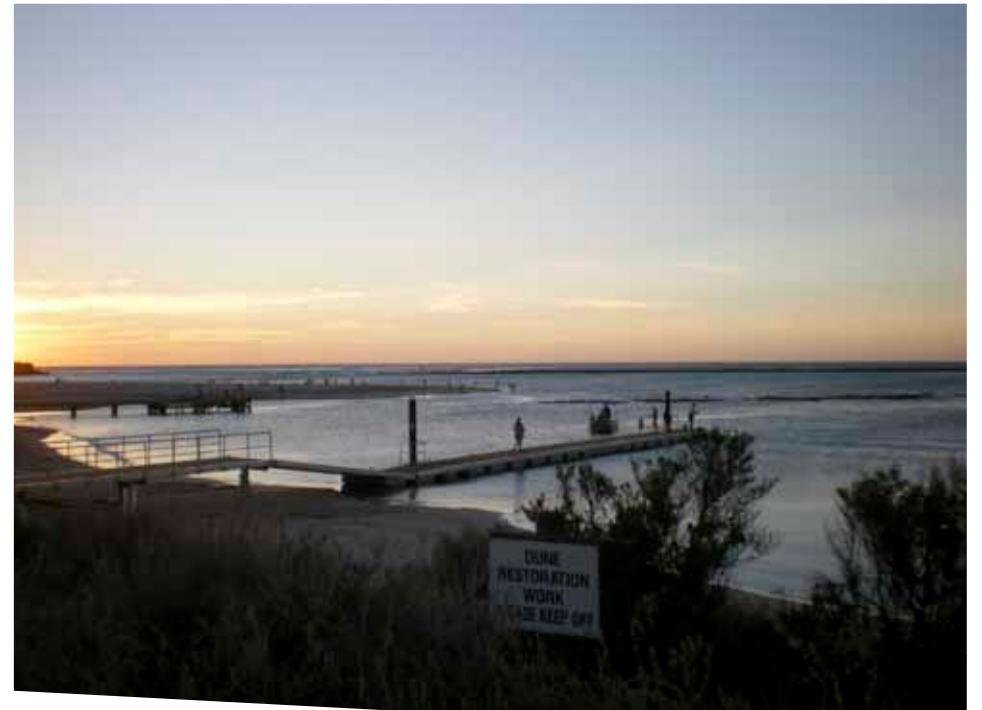
It is a place of commemoration, contemplation and peace.

Close by the Waiting Woman waits no more. Now she watches over her loved ones eternally at rest. Her gaze lingers along the exact compass bearing to the Ship as it has since she was placed here before the site of the Sydney was known.

The circle of life and death embodied in the design of the Memorial to HMAS Sydney II has now been closed.



Kalbarri



Monkey Mia



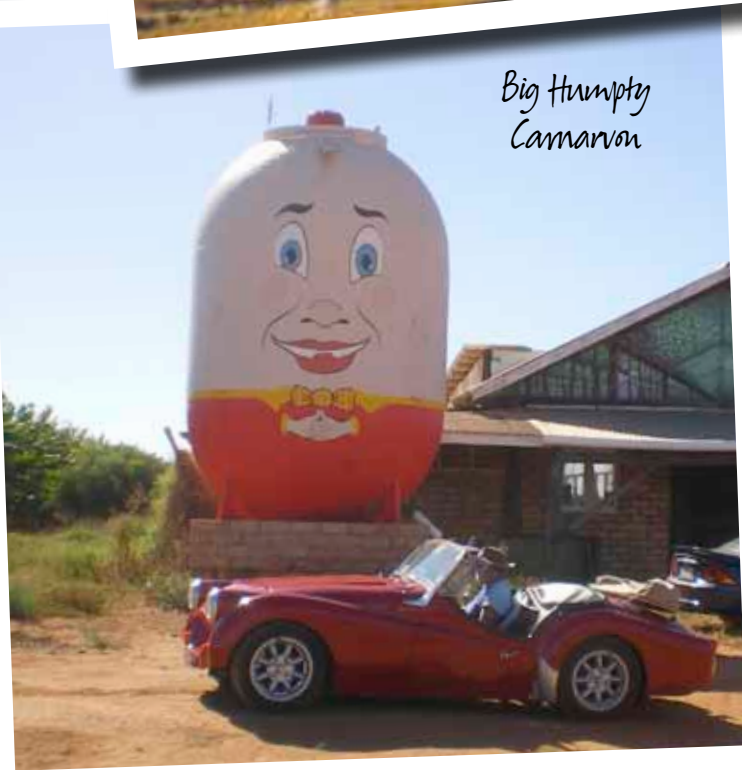
*Big Satellite Dish
Carnarvon*



Quobba Blowhole



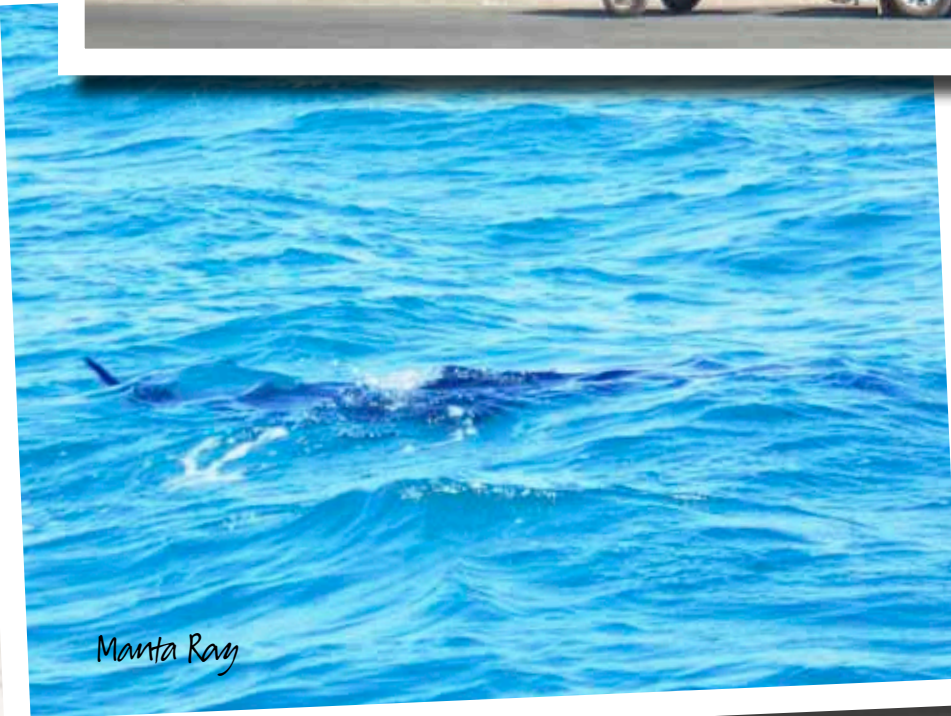
*Big Humpty
Carnarvon*



Coral Bay / Ningaloo Reef

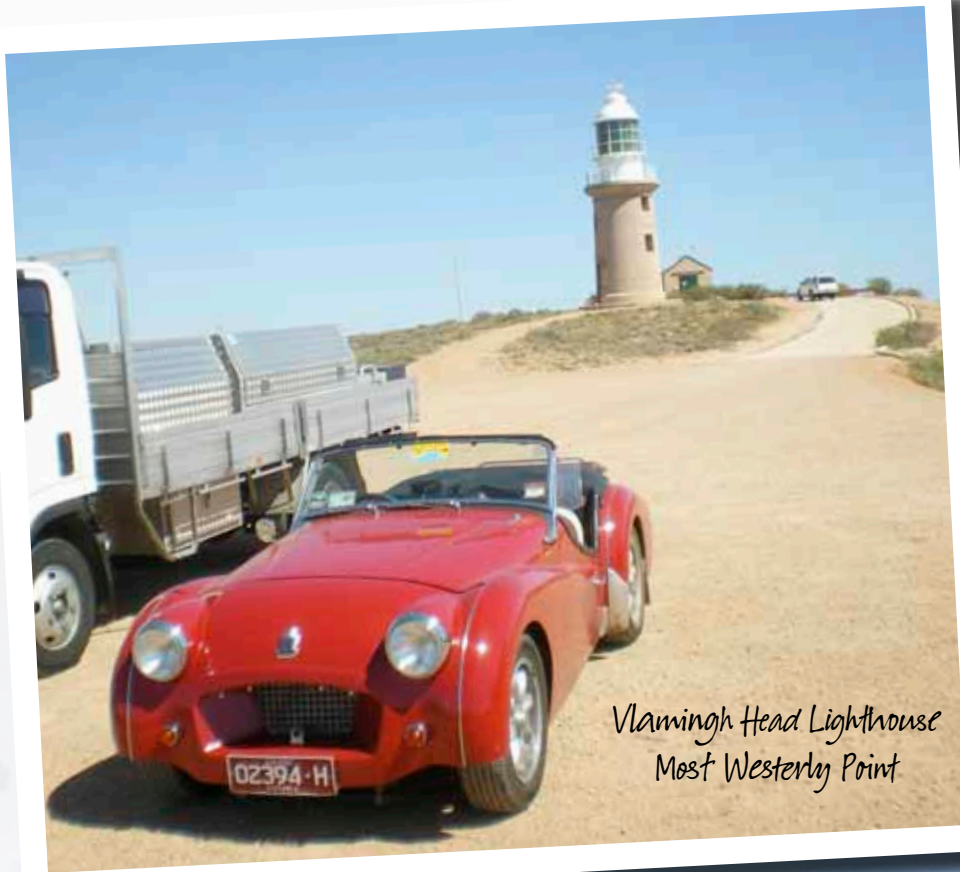


Manta Ray



Feeding fish





Vlamingh Head Lighthouse
Most Westerly Point



Exmouth



Yardie Gorge

Wednesday 1st May, and a very hot run to Dampier, where we stopped for the night, and visited the **RED DOG** statue.

Big Shark Exmouth



Big Ant Hill



*Big Train
Port Hedland*



Sunday 3rd May saw us on the move again, heading for Derby, stopping along the way at the Boab Prison Tree, then taking photo of "Trevor" in front of large Boab Tree outside Information centre in Derby. We stopped at Fitzroy Crossing at the Fitzroy Crossing River Park for the night; a great camping ground. Monday saw another hot day as we headed for Halls Creek and onto Wyndham for the night. Tuesday, and, up early and up to Bastian Point lookout for the sunrise, over where the 5 rivers ;- The Ord; Durack; King; Forrest and Pentecost flow into Cambridge Gulf. Looking out over the harbour, we could see 2 ships loading cattle, the first for the season and bound for Indonesia, also a photo of "Trevor" with the **Big Crocodile** and a photo of a 2000 year old Boab Tree. Which is in the grounds of the Caravan Park, very impressive.

Thursday 2nd May. Another very hot day for the run to Port Hedland, where we stopped for lunch and photos of **BIG Things!** Onto Pardoo Roadhouse for the night. The next morning on the road by 7.30a.m. (so as to beat the heat) and into Broome. We stayed 2 nights at the Roebuck Caravan Park situated at Town Beach in Broome. Swam at Cable Beach (lots of resorts) and enjoyed boutique beers and yummy curries and seafood at Matso's Brewery, need I say more, Life Is Good.

*Big Salt Pile
Port Hedland*



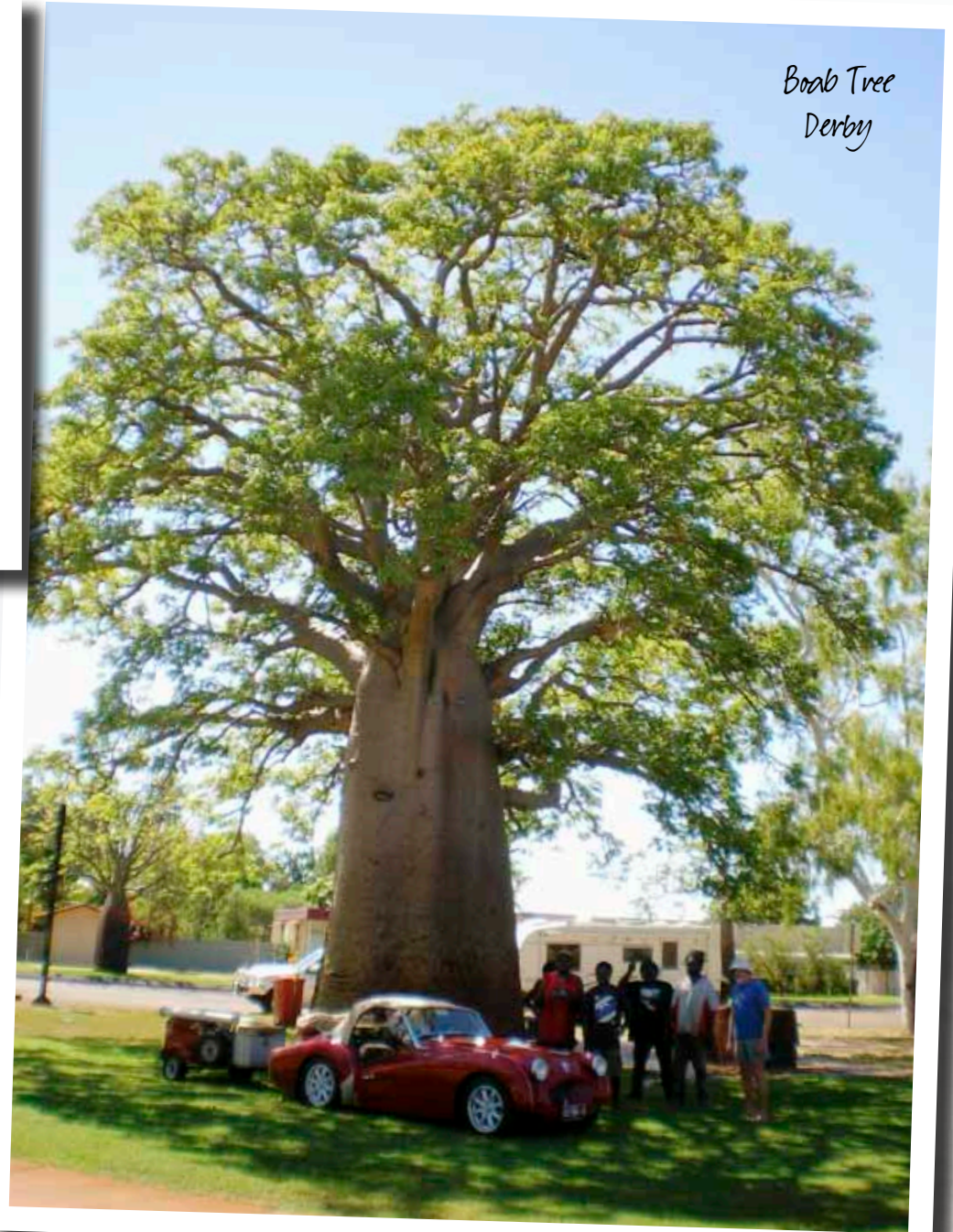
*Big Wheelbarrow
Port Hedland*



Boab Prison Tree - Derby



Boab Tree
Derby





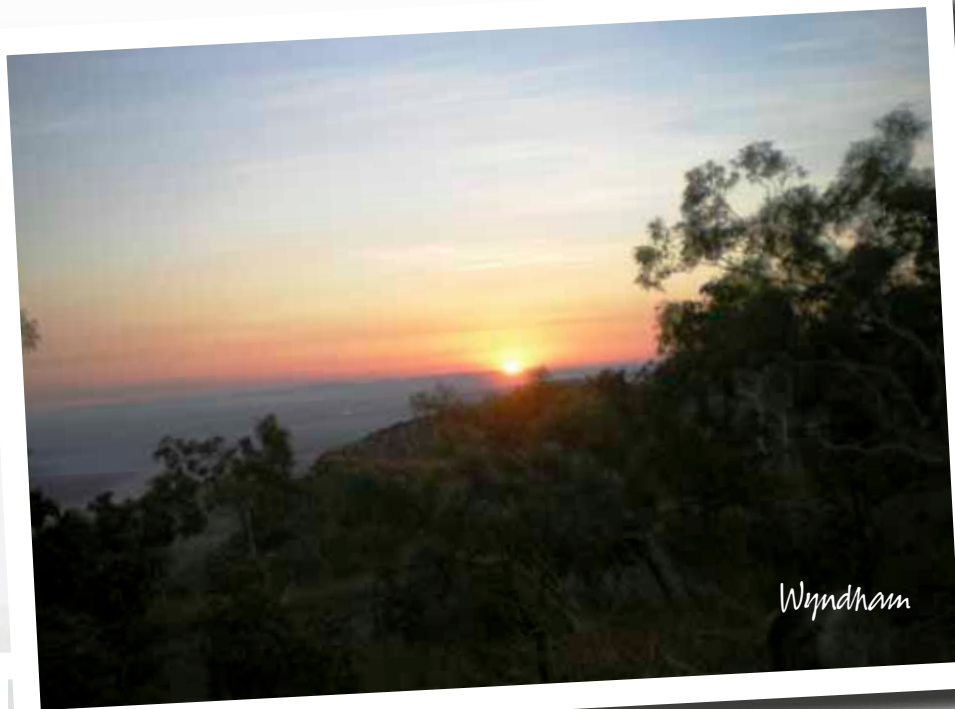
THE BOAB TREE

THE BOAB TREE GROWS ON SANDY PLAINS, CREEK BEDS AND STONY RIDGES THROUGHOUT THE KIMBERLEYS. IT CAN HAVE A GIRTH OF 20m AND CANOPIES OVER 25m HIGH. THE WOOD IS SOFT AND SPONGY.

THE FRUIT (OR NUT) CAN BE UP TO 25cm LONG AND 15cm IN DIAMETER. MANY OF THE OLDER TREES ACCUMULATE A SMALL RESERVOIR AROUND THEIR ROOT SYSTEM THAT CAN BE TAPPED FOR WATER. THIS TREE IS OVER 2000 YRS. OLD.



WYNDHAM
SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT



Wyndham was our most North Westerly point, another turning point as from here we were now heading east to Kunanurra, then Lake Argyle for 2 nights, a truly great place. The camping ground swimming pool, indescribable!, stunning! comes to mind. We did a sunset cruise, spotting Johnson River Crocodiles and Rock Wallabies on the shore line, good drinks, good food and a great cruise.

Life is Good.

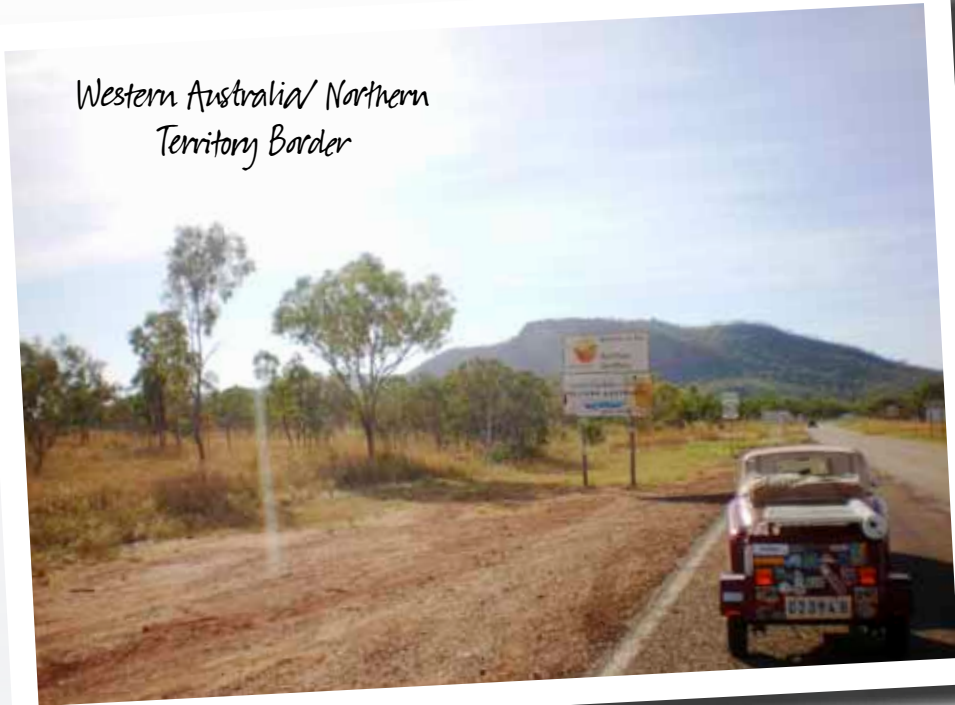
Lake Argyle





Lake Argyle

Western Australia/ Northern
Territory Border

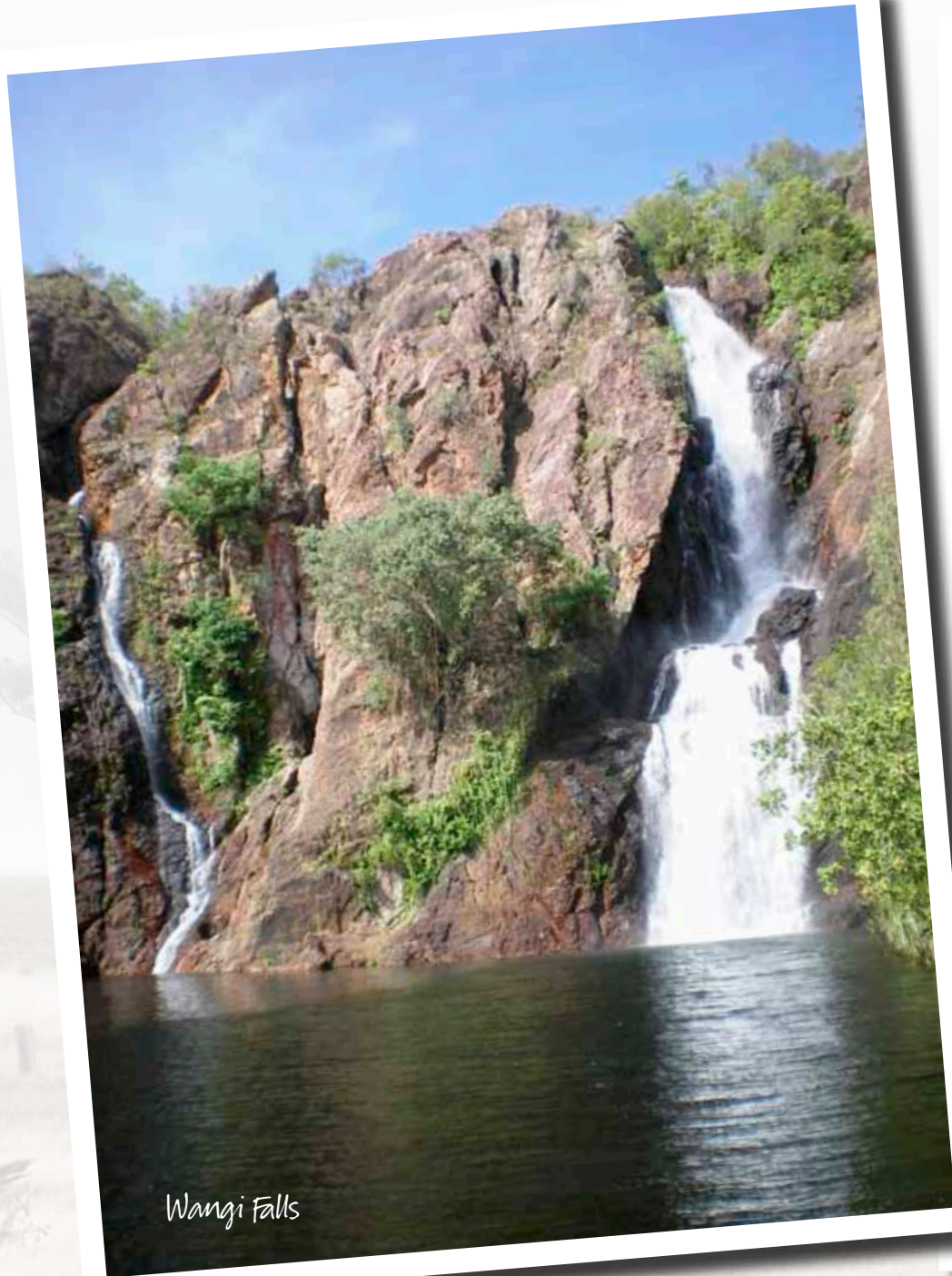


Litchfield National Park

Magnetic Termite Mounds



Termite Mount



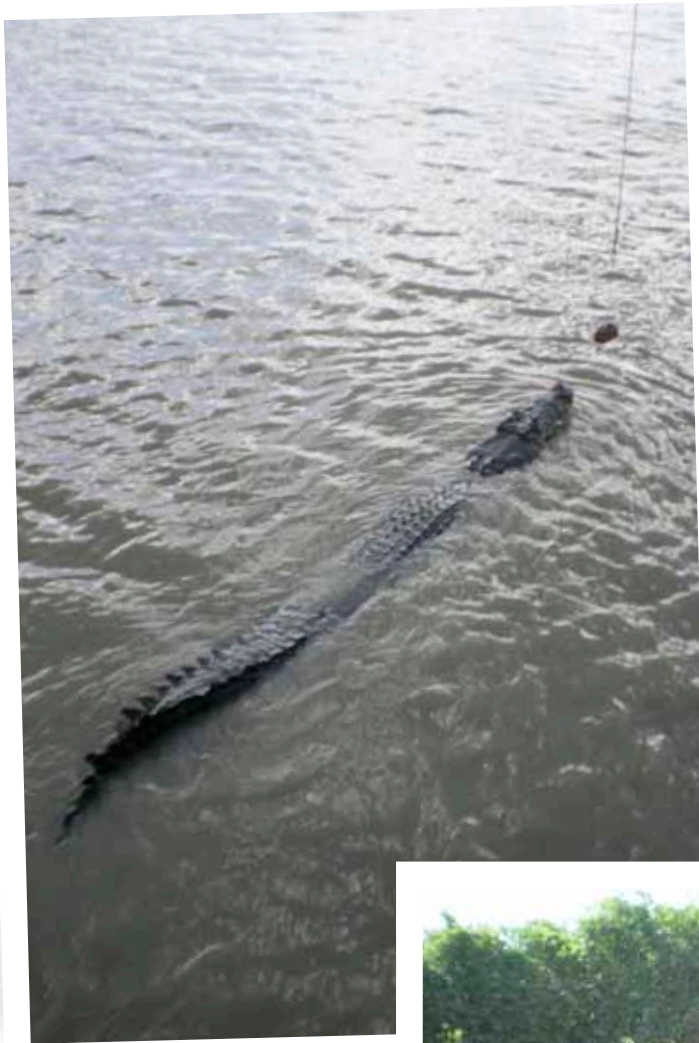
Wangi Falls



Florence Falls



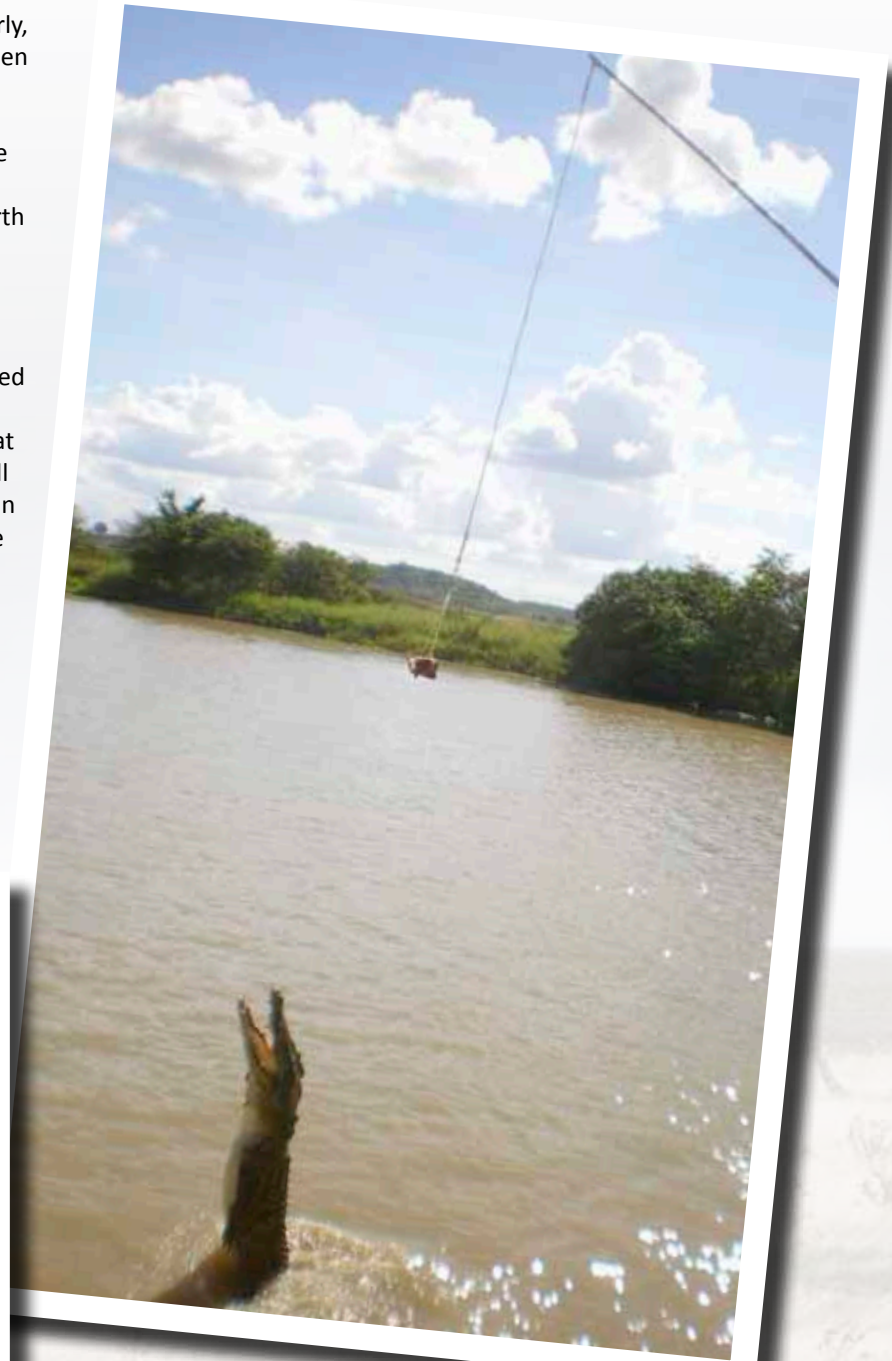
Darwin

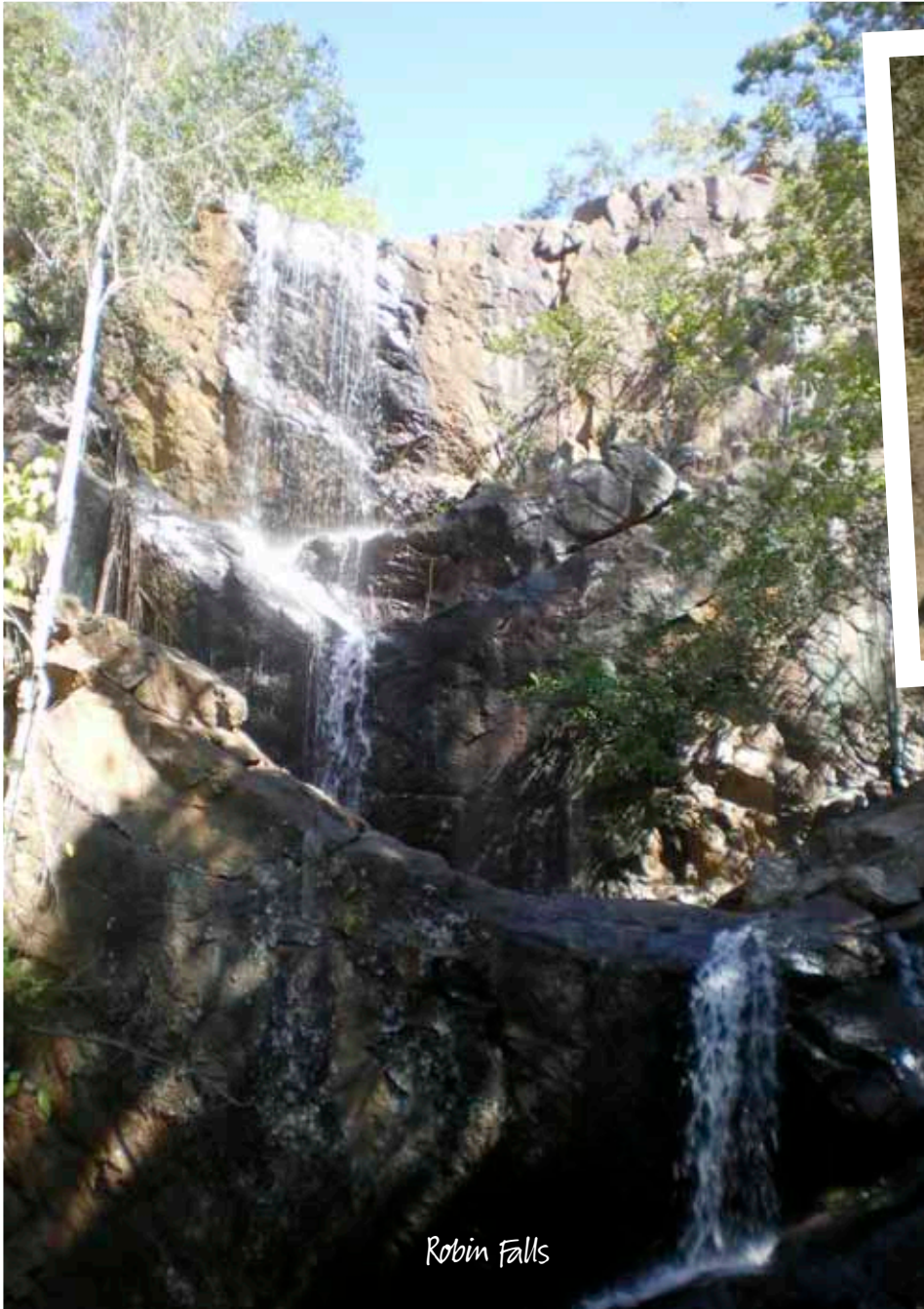


Thursday 9th May:- on the road early, and another milestone reached when we crossed the Western Australia Northern Territory Border. Stopped at Katherine for the night where we swam in the natural thermal pool, near the campground. Heading north again from Katherine our next stop was Litchfield National Park, where we saw Magnetic Termite mounds, and, Florence Waterfall and had a swim at Wangi Waterfall and camped at Rum Jungle for the night. On the road very early, arriving in Darwin at the Hidden Valley Caravan Park well before lunch. Driving around Darwin in "Trevor" was indeed fun, and we drew a lot of attention. We visited the Museum and Underground Fuel Storage Tanks. Went to Mindil Beach Market and did a Jumping Crocodile tour on the Adelaide River, and, so after four days of the good life we left Darwin (our most northerly point) and headed south.



Jumping Crocodile Tour





Robin Falls



Wednesday 15th May

Heading South on the Stuart Highway we deviated at Adelaide River and headed for Robin falls, and although the road was sealed it was very bumpy and the going was slow. Our overnight stop was at Mataranka, where we did more soaking in a thermal pool. Next day we continued southward on the Stuart Highway to Three Ways for our overnight stop at the roadhouse, stopping along the way in Larrimah at Fran's Pie Shop, for a pie and an experience never to be forgotten! Also a visit to the Daily Waters Pub.

Friday 17th May, off to Mount Isa and another milestone reached with crossing the border, now we are in Queensland. We had our own on-suite campsite at the caravan park, a first, very interesting. Next day, eastward again to Cloncurry, (great bakery there), then northward to Normanton, and onto Karumba for a welcome 3 night stop after 4 big mile days. We dined on local prawns and green eyed/sand shark (which we caught on a fishing charter), all washed down with a lovely white wine. Life is good.!

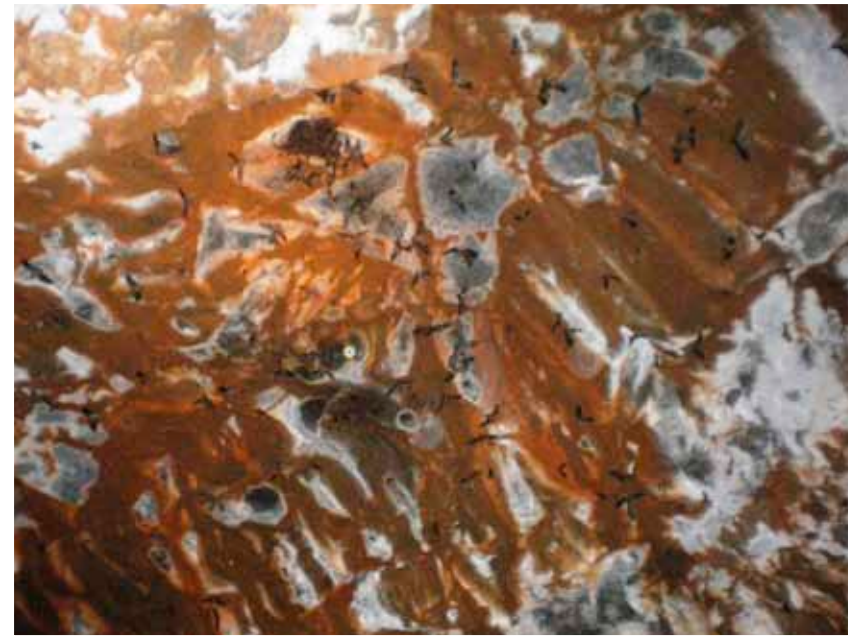
Back in Normanton we took a photo of a replica of "**Krys**" the Crocodile, a 28ft, 2 ton crocodile caught /shot on a sandbar in the Norman River in 1957, "Trevor" could fit inside no trouble!

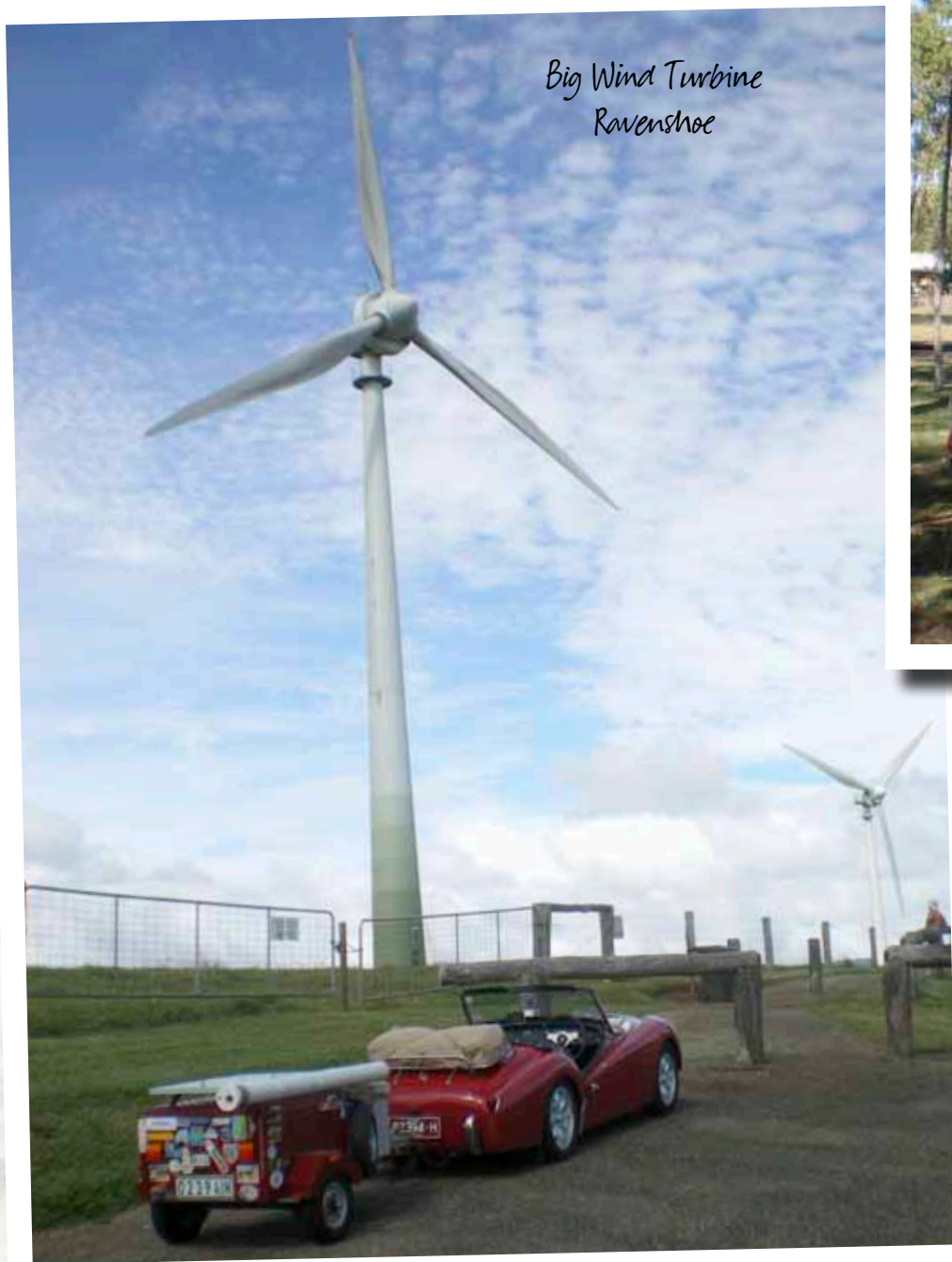


A visit to the Information Centre in Croydon, is a must, great displays and history of area. Just out of Croydon (another very hot day) the electric fuel pump gave up the ghost, (just as well we bought a spare). Onto Mt. Surprise for a 2 night stay at the Bedrock Caravan park, one of the best we have stayed in. From here we took a tour to Undera National Park and the Lava Tubes, another worth while tour.



Lava Tubes
Undera National Park





*Big Wind Turbine
Ravenshoe*



*Big Braham
Mareeba*



*Big Morning Tea
Mt Carbine*

On Development Road near Cooktown



Cooktown



Big Propeller



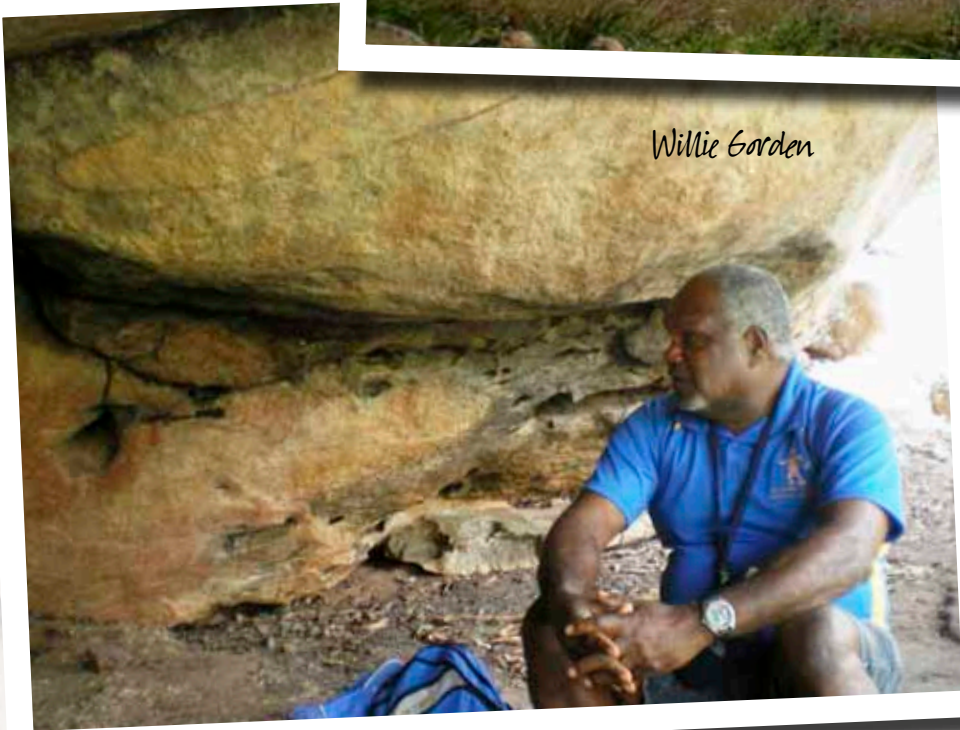
Cooktown



Cooktown



Willie Garden



End of Bitumen - Turn Around Point



Thursday 23rd May, on the road earlyish, visiting Ravenshoe (photo of **BIG WIND TURBINE**) and Atherton, shopping for bits and pieces, raining on and off all day. We decided to take a caravan/cabin in Mareeba at Riverview C.P. we booked in and out again within half an hour, definitely wouldn't recommend it!, so we booked into a motel and ended up staying 2 nights as Rob had gastro. Bob repaired nut on rear wheel axle while Rob recuperated. Whilst there we met Keff Johnson who inherited a nice TR3A from his dad.

Saturday 25th, Rob well enough to travel again so after photo of **BIG BRAHMAN**, we headed north stopping at Mt Carbine for **BIG MORNING TEA** and onto Cooktown, a simply stunningly beautiful place, but very windy, and our most North Easterly point. We did a 6 hour tour of Aboriginal Tribal Sites with Willie Gordon, a very interesting and intimate feel good, must do tour.. Bob rang "Macca" on the ABC's Australia all over and was heard Australia All Over.

Tuesday 28th May, Leaving Cooktown, its all south bound to home now, our first overnight was at Port Douglas, a great road and a yummy Mocka's Pie for lunch. We stayed there for 2 nights at the Pandanus Caravan Park, where we met TR Register members Warren and Minnie Trueman, who are assistant managers for the season. They are ex Sydneysiders now living in Brisbane, and are restoring a TR3A, small world! We did a trip to the end of the bitumen at Cape Tribulation and to Daintree, where we did a croc spotting River Cruise, very entertaining tour guide, and took photo of **BIG BARRAMUNDI**.



*Big Barramundi
Daintree*

*Big Cassowary Crossing/
Speed Hump*

Cape Tribulation



Cairns to Kuranda Train



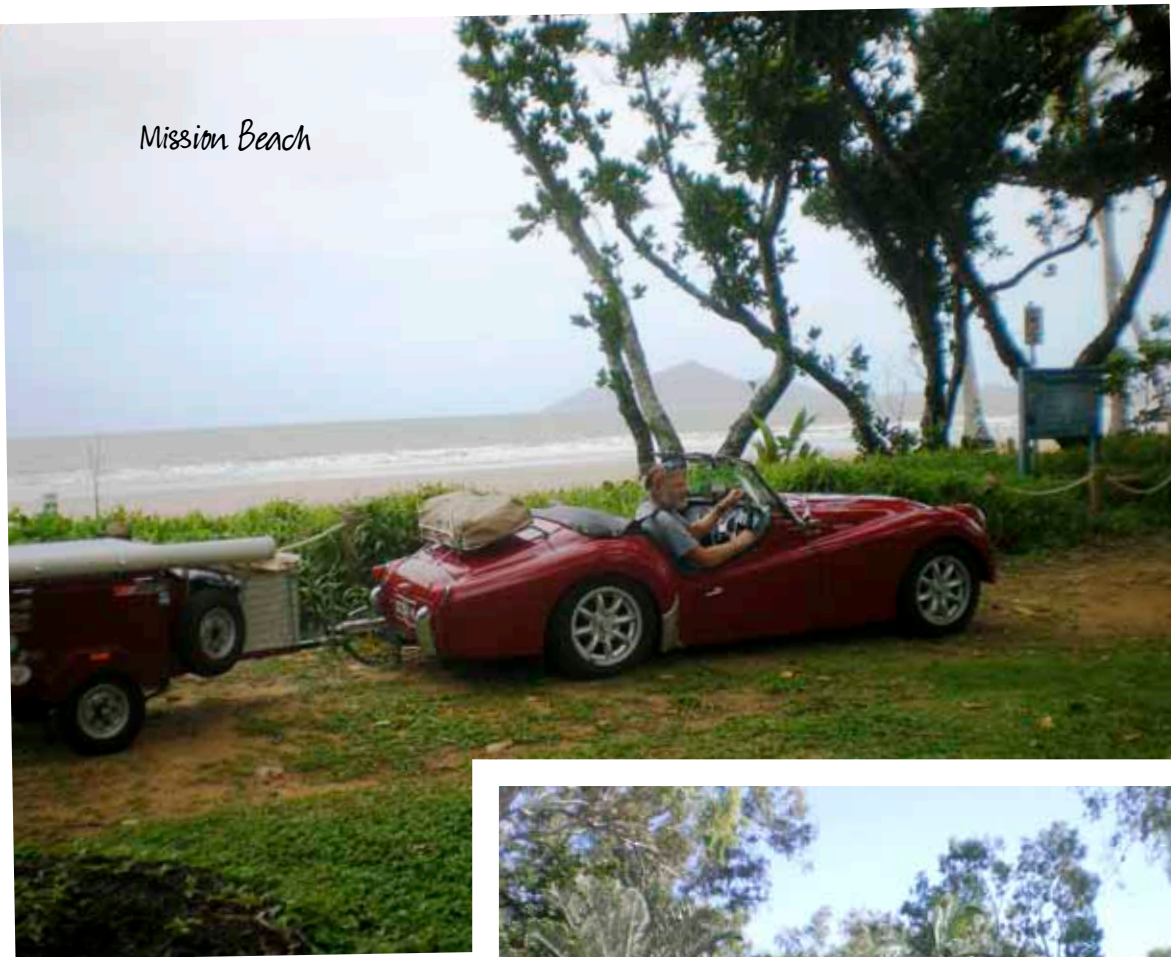


We set out for Cairns on the 30th, just 80 kilometres away, a great scenic coastal road, but TRing in the rain is not fun!. Whilst in Cairns we took the scenic railway up to Kuranda, truly magnificent, and the Sky Rail back down. Took photo of **BIG JAMES COOK**.

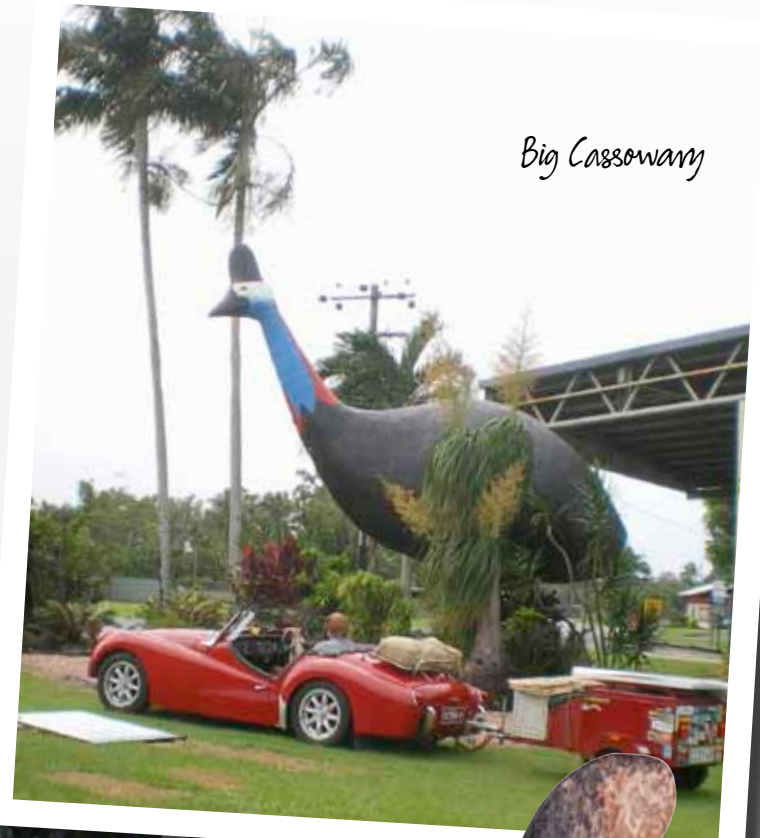
First day of winter and we were heading south again, down to Mission Beach, lunch and photo of **BIG CASSOWARY**. Rainy and windy so continued on through Caldwell and to the outskirts of Townsville for the night. A quick tour around Townsville and a photo of the **BIG BROLGA**, and onwards to Bowen for photo of **BIG MANGO**, then Airlie Beach and to Mackay for the night.



Mission Beach



Big Cassowary



Big Brolga - Townsville



Bowen



Big Mango



June 3rd and with side screens on (very windy) we headed for Yeppoon and our overnight stop at Emu Park, a lovely little place, and on the, to return list. Photo of **SINGING SHIP**, then onto Rockhampton, to Miriam Vale and Bundaberg. Roads in a terrible state due to the floods earlier in the year, and the stretch of road between Miriam Vale and Bundaberg was the worst stretch of road for the trip, a real bone shaker. We bought some rum to find solace and forget the horror stretch, and then down to Hervey Bay for 2 nights.

Singing Ship - Emu Park





*Big Sharks
Hervey Bay*

Back into fishing in Hervey Bay, but no luck. Took photo of **BIG SHARKS**, and generally soaked up the atmosphere.

6th June back on the road to Maryborough, then Tin Can Bay and Gympie, to Yandina stopping at The Ginger Factory, "yummy" and then the Macadamia Nut Factory more "yums", photos of the **BIG COW** and the **BIG PINEAPPLE** in the Nambour area, and onto Maroochydore for our overnight stop right on the canals, at a mate of Bobs place (Laurie Peters and partner Dianne) .

Next day in lovely Queensland weather saw us head for Coolangatta, to stay with school mate (brother of Laurie) (Rod and Pam Peters). "Trevor" had another service and we spent many hours at The Coolie Rocks Festival.





Big Pineapple

Nambour



We left the trailer with Rod and Pam and with Rob and Judy Bradford, in the lead we headed to Nerang where Bob and Cheryl Watters joined us, now we had 3 Bobs worth which has to be better than 'not the full 2 Bob', I suppose! On the Mt Tamborine road to Canungra, then Beaudesert and onto Boonah for lunch in a great café. After lunch our Queenslanders travelled with us to the Cunningham Highway where we turned left towards Toowoomba and they right back towards Brisbane, and home.

We stayed with our friend Kerry for 2 nights in Toowoomba. We had a good look around the area and had lunch at "Rudd's" Pub named after Steele Rudd (not Kevin!) in Nobby. Our third night in the area was a farm stay at Pilton. Pilton Park owned and run by Kerry's husband Peter. They are separated, so instead of one place to stay in Toowoomba we have 2! From here it was back to Brisbane, where we caught up with Trailer manufacturer Malcolm and previous owner of "Trevor" Joel Palmer before heading to our friends Ken & Mary's place in Windsor, where we stayed the next 2 nights. We also caught up with John and Judy Buck; Carroll and Howard Prior and George Row, on a very chilly, but great run to Wivenhoe and Fernvale, via some lovely mountain roads. We had afternoon tea in Fernvale with lots of goodies Judy Buck had bought plus some we bought from the Bakery over the road that boasted "THE GREATEST RANGE OF PIES" In Australia. Which fitted in with our trip theme of BIG THINGS. That night John and Judy Buck joined us and our friends Ken and Mary at Joel Palmers Thai restaurant, he and his wife Yumi, own and run it very well, it's called Temple Thai, excellent cuisine and service. Life is Good!

Leaving Brisbane on the 16th it was back to Coolangatta to pick up the Trailer, then to Fingal Head to see the Bradfords; wow factor plus and a good garage. Rob pays a lot of attention to detail. From there via coast road to Byron Bay (our most Easterly Point) for 3 nights with friends Martin and Pam Brook. They own a Macadamia Farm and Business (Brook Farm) producing Muesli; Trail Mix, Macadamia Oils and much more. We walked around the Lighthouse early one morning to see if we could spot a whale or two, and we were not disappointed. We drove out to Nimbin, like 'wow man' its like Hipsville - ah where am I?





Howard Prior taking great interest in how the tow bar is attached with Bob, John Buck and George Row looking on.



Byron Bay





Big Prawn - Ballina



Big Banana
Coffs Harbour

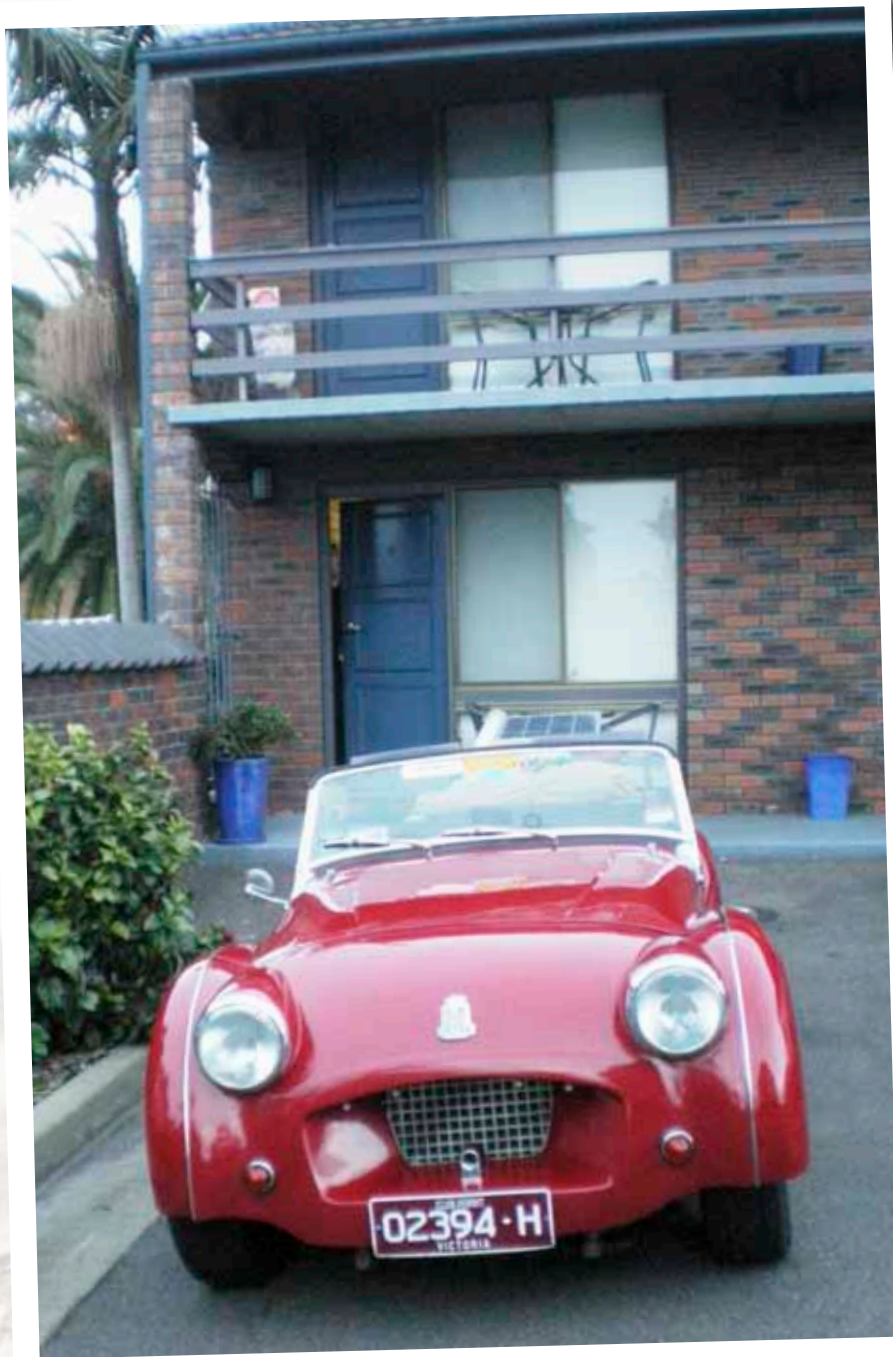


Big Oyster - Taree





19th June, first stop Ballina for photo of the **BIG PRAWN**, then Coffs Harbour for photo of **BIG BANANA**, and onto Nambucca Heads for overnight stop in motel. On road before 7.30 and a breakfast stop at Port Macquarie, down to Taree for photo of **BIG OYSTER**, then good ol' Sydney Town and Traffic ugh! Out to Oatley to Terry and Jenny Hicks, arriving about 4.30 p.m. Friday 21st we followed Terry and Jenny to Bi-Centennial Park to meet up with NSW members; Geoff James; Gary Johns; Gavin Rea; Bob Slender; John McCormack; Gary & Sandy Chappell; Alan & Gay Stehr; Jenny & Terry Hicks; Mal Munro; Neville Turbit; a truly great turn out, we were blown away. We said farewell to the Hick's and Sydney with gathering storm clouds, not a lot of rain, but, it was cold all the way to Merimbula, where a motel was the go for our last night.



Sunday 23rd . All packed up and on road by 8.30. Bought lovely fresh oysters for \$7 dozen in Pambula, a cold and wet morning with the temperature dropping to 4 degrees on some of the higher sections of road. Another milestone reached when we crossed the border back into Victoria. A hot drink and warm up in Cann River, leaving there with the expectation of more cold weather, but to our surprise out came the sun and stayed that way all the way home -yes home at about 2.30 p.m.



Back In Victoria

Last Night - Merimbula



*Trip Over
Trevor' Back Home*

JUST A MOMENT

One great moment happened when we stopped in Larrimah at Fran's Famous Pie Shop, (also famous for scones with jam and cream and coffee). Fran is very entertaining, a real wag in Aussie parlance. The pies and pasties are large, we should of shared one, and the coffee instant, but all the better for the entertainment, finally after 30—40 minutes I asked for the bill, Fran said "I only have 2 limbs" indicating how busy she was, when I said "that's funny most people have 4" well if looks could kill, it was priceless!. We still qualified for a free stuffed toy (a red Teddy Bear) now called Fran. Several photos later and we were on the road again.

At one camping site, we had just set up our tent and were relaxing with a cool one, when a women came up and said "wow that's doing it in style", we were even more proud when she went back to the biggest and most impressive Motor Home with everything, I marvelled she had the lot and envied us amazing.

At another campsite, another women came up and said" oh its so cute". I thought she meant Trevor, but it was the trailer she was admiring.

One event that still makes my pulse race, was in heavy traffic in Freemantle. We were stopped at Traffic lights when a woman grabbed my arm and shoulder, and in an excited manner said" I've got a TR4", we were lucky the roof was off, otherwise my head would have destroyed it! The lights changed and off we went, the lady caught up at the next lights and yelled out "I was only trying to be friendly" at this point we turned into a shopping centre and never saw her again.

Whilst in Mareeba at the Jacaranda Motel I checked out rear wheel hub and found the slotted nut quite loose, upon investigation I discovered that the thread on the nut was stripped, so I set out (on foot). to find a new nut After a bit of wandering around, I found a spare parts shop that had everything, including the said nut, no Tatts lotto wins for us after this win.

A great moment was just before Mt Surprise. We had stopped for lunch at a roadside rest spot, and two police cars were parked there, the obvious reason being a change of shift. When the change was over P.C Andy Pratt and his offsider came over to check out our rig. Andy was a policeman in the U.K before transferring here and had owned a TR6. One hour later and a posed photo of him booking us we escaped!

We met a carnival worker in Derby, he was dismantling the carnival in the reserve near THE BIG BOAB TREE. He knew a lot about TR's and said that they are the only car mentioned in the Bible, and I quote. "After Moses saved the Palestine's by parting the Red Sea he celebrated and rode through the desert in his Triumph" a very knowledgeable chap indeed!





*We would like to dedicate this trip to John Buck,
who planted the seed about five years ago*



