

TOUR AUSTRALIA OR BUST!



A COFFEE BREAK BOOK

**by
JOHN**

Meals From The Boot— Showers From Radiator



After 8000 miles of touring Australia, these two Wellington men came home this morning with their gadget-filled car. Cliff and John, both of Miramar, managed to spend three months in Australia for only 75 pounds - and they did not buy one meal. They both claim they now know how to cook. Neither was washing a problem - the radiator supplied endless hot water.
Extract from the Evening Post, May 1956

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Let me share my experiences with you, I have owned thirteen cars in thirty-five years. The first car I owned did not use petrol, that sounds good doesn't it, not that I didn't put petrol in, its just that it never came out. Most of the rides in that car were behind a toe-rope so that vehicle soon came to rest in the wreckers yard.

The following car was a Morris Minor, then I progressed to a Morris Eight Sports of which I was very proud. I suitably dressed for the outings in this sports car mainly travelling with the hood down, I really felt fantastic.



Leaving home

I then graduated to a Humber Ten 1949 model which was my pride and joy costing me 500 pounds (todays value NZ\$1500.00), and after my brother & I reconditioned the motor its performance was excellent. However it was not long before a friend and myself decided to 'stretch our wings' & we were aboard the Monowai on our way to Australia. At that time the freight cost for the car was 33 pounds or (todays value NZ\$ 100.00). We travelled 8,000 miles in Australia in 3 months, covering Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, back to Sydney and on to Queensland, Cairns and also to Green Island. Travelling along during one night we came to a halt as we bumped into a



Lunch time again

kangaroo. That damaged our water bag attached to the front of the car squirting water everywhere and, of course, over the windscreen. Fortunately the small hose from the water bag to the drivers seat was not damaged. This gave us clear water throughout the day, making the driving position very much in demand throughout the trip. We were also self-contained carrying our 'box-like' table for meals which fitted well in the boot. A tank attached to the radiator gave us instant hot water for cooking and a four gallon tin was adapted for showers enclosed by a plastic curtain. We travelled for miles across dusty red earth roads. Bridge crossings during times of flooding became very dangerous and we were thankful not always to experience the flood water over our floor boards. We thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of driving in a different country seeing new sites with exciting experiences. This type of life really excited me and in 1966 we again decided to travel even further afield. We bought a Bedford Van, fitted it out as a camper, and away we went. Again with a friend we travelled around England, Scotland and Wales. We were based in Newcastle for some time staying with very hospitable friends. Our journey then took us across to Bergen in Norway where we had to master the art of 'right hand'



One of the main highways in Queensland

driving, and from there we travelled on through the Scandinavian countries. After journeying over mountainous country we realized the brakes were not working, we smartly visited a motor mechanic, finding out that he knew very little English, but with speaking plus sign language it was clear to us that the reason was because of heating. With a break from the travelling the brakes cooled down and worked perfectly. We were so thankful.

On both trips we prayed daily to God, read our Bibles and asked for His protection as we journeyed. We often slept on the side of the road, perhaps in Vienna or London or Paris or Germany, and always felt Gods presence with us.

It was certainly a great experience to travel independently by car rather than using public transport. Unfortunately with vehicles, when they connect with air and water, a reaction sets in and rust begins to show. Our bodies are similar, when a baby is born it is perfectly made, but there is something inside that makes it do funny things - such as 'get moody' 'throw a temper' or 'get very possessive' and that is something that really shouldn't be there. We find it very hard to cope with, don't we ? When our cars not performing satisfactorily we take them to the motor mechanic. If he cannot remedy the fault, we can call upon the manufacturer's special agent for his specialist knowledge.



Crossing the Border

Our bodies need a doctors attention now and again to remedy aches and pains and to the specialist if the doctor fails. If there is something in us that is foreign to our bodies which upsets the system and it is something really a doctor cannot rectify, what's the sensible thing to do ? Take it to the Maker who is God. God has made a way back to Him through the Lord Jesus Christ who died at Easter. He was accepted by God because He had no sin. If we accept what Jesus has done for us, first of all saying to Him that we are sorry for the way our life has been and we accept what He has done for us, God will accept us to be with Him in Heaven.



Stuck in the mud

God said "FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, THAT WHOSOEVER BELIEVED IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE". John 3:16. Now the car after about twenty years is just about worn out and on the junk heap, the body rusts through, the engine wears out and that's where it usually ends. Your body could last for 80 years depending on how you look after yourself, by keeping fit and eating the right food. The car spends half of its life in the garage with a roof over its head and the motor gets a good rest. In our body the heart beats on and on for 80 years or more, it never gets a rest, it is a living miracle.



Being passed again

A new car usually is provided with a guarantee, and if we accept Jesus Christ as our Saviour, that is our guarantee for eternal life.

We are going to live with God in His eternal family where there will be no stealing, no murdering, no sin at all. It will be life in it's perfection, contentment bringing everlasting satisfaction which is eternal.

If we took all the sand in the world and put it through an hourglass, we would not have a fraction of an idea of what eternal life is like, so let us be prepared.



Being towed again



Comforts of home



Camping on the side of the road



River in flood, water above the bridge

This world I know is not too good at the moment and it certainly does not look like much improvement, so look to God for life in the next world.

Amen

Thank you for reading my book and until we meet again - Good motoring.

John.



Shower time



Shower time



Cool clear water

All photos from trip in Australia

All photos from trip in Australia



Bogged again



Nearly home



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Getting the best out of life? You can do what I have done, and even better! Life is for living, so trust in the Lord and **Go, Go, Go!**

Phil. Ch.4, v13:

I can do all things through Christ that can strengthen me.

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