



AussieWideHealth



The Heart Beat of our Nation

KERRY'S KORNER

From Townsville to Kingaroy during Flood Devastation

The Inland Route

G'Day! Today our thoughts are with those people currently devastated by the flood crisis in south east Queensland, and wouldn't you know it were have just sold our house in Kingaroy and need to get there and out of our house by end of month. In this edition I will take you across the inland route from Townsville to Kingaroy showing the country side and areas where we needed to detour to get to Kingaroy in time. I do not recommend anyone travel under these conditions except in exceptional circumstances.



We kept in close contact with the local police, listened to ABC one to keep updated on road conditions and alerts, a well stocked pantry, lots of water both in the (2) tanks and bottle water, and of course the generator.

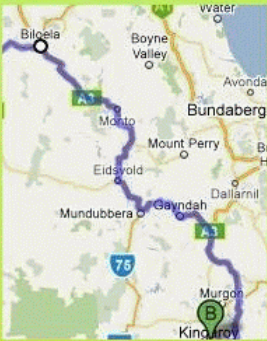
We left Townsville on Monday 10th January 2011 deciding to take the inland route for Charters Towers. The weather is fine, fuel costs \$129.7/L (diesel).

We turned onto the Gregory Development Road just outside Charters Towers. The road report indicator shows all green lights which mean the road is open to Clermont. Friends have just gone through to Emerald, without difficulty however, it is a good idea to phone the Bellyando Crossing Service Station to make sure the signs are up-to-date.

We decided to stay roadside that night and chose a high, safe, truck stop site. We had the generator which enabled us to spend a cool and comfortable night, in comparison to the hot, uncomfortable, mosquito biting discomfort of some camping sites



Townsville to Kingaroy Via Charters Towers/Emerald



Townsville to Emerald no rain however evidence of some road damage, Still better that the main highway in normal times

Emerald via the Fitzroy Highway to Bauhma Downs

Next day we found we would get through to Emerald however there is doubt about the Capricorn Highway **due to flooding at Duaringa**. This saw us take the Fitzroy Highway from just east of Blackwater to Bauhma Downs on the Dawson Highway. Our new route is Biloela, Monto, Eidsvold, Gundaha, Murgon, Kingaroy.



Monto to Gandra The first signs of rain



Gandra is our first stop site for flooding. The police advise this morning that Kingaroy is inaccessible, and they advise not to leave this area as although Murgon is not accessible, they have no fresh water. Calls today from Kingaroy advise there is no food and no fuel available there until at least next week. Still we are very lucky and ask you all to pray and dig deep for our fellow Queenslanders who are at the centre of the flood devastation. Our thanks too for the helpful police and community members of Gandra for their spirit, and dedication to their roles.

From the 'Korner': Kerry

**Till next time stay happy and safe on the road
Keep the fire burning and plan your next adventure**