

## Reflections on a journey...

Ah! Have you wondered  
What became of me?  
When you didn't get  
A weekly report?

I've travelled...  
Across western QLD  
Across eastern NT  
Then headed north  
To Katherine  
And the humid heat!!  
While you've been shivering  
I've been sweating  
And swimming, ahhhh!  
And sometimes  
Swimming in the sweat!

Nearly 2500 kilometres  
Of country since Trinidad...  
Not many photos  
Are possible when driving!  
Not much remarkable enough  
To stop, if it were possible  
On a highway with no shoulders  
And a 130 km/hr speed limit.



Full moon at Fountain Springs  
Rest Area between Cloncurry  
and Mt Isa.



Sinking sun at 41 mile bore  
campground – 70kms from Stuart  
Hwy on Barkly Hwy

Road trains are frequent  
But do not bother us  
As they head the opposite way  
None have been encountered  
Going the same way  
on the highway.

The thing that surprises  
Is the WATER...  
No shortage here  
"Wash your car, wash your van,  
Fill your tanks,  
Use as much as you like.."  
Was the order at Banka Banka.  
The sprinklers were busy  
Night and day  
Green grass all around!  
At the end of the 'dry' season.

I've enjoyed the variety  
Of anthills as I drive  
Blobby "Budda" ones  
beside tall, sculptured ones  
Red mud ones,  
some of grey mud.



Banka Banka Station waterhole  
just after sunrise.

White trunked eucalypts  
Smooth barked  
Next to rough, dark bark  
Then pinkish red bark  
Contrasts strikingly with the green  
Of the leaves.

Lots of dry grass  
Which I learned is 'spear' grass  
That Gouldian finches live on.

The Barra at Daly Waters pub  
Was yum!  
Tossing for a drink  
Was fun!

Free wine or beer  
If you call the right one,  
"Heads" and my wine  
Was free.  
But no grass in their campground!

The cliffs of Katherine Gorge  
are majestic,  
it's waters clear,  
the vegetation striking  
especially where waters  
have rushed during the 'wet'.



It rains today  
A steady, soaking rain  
But no one minds  
Cos it washes the sweat  
That has made us wet already.



Walking from Gorge 1 to  
Gorge 2 (there are 13 gorges)



From here to Kakadu  
Then on to Darwin  
To meet 2 of you  
From there to travel  
South to Alice Springs.