



**Around Australia Challenge Update
- DAY 9: Fri 4-Jan-2002 -**

**Cloncurry (QLD) to
Camooweal (QLD)**

321 KM



The team woke to rain and cloudy skies with flat batteries from the previous day. They decided to attend to some repairs and to restocking the food supplies for the following 6 days.

The main repair required was to treat a frayed carbon fibre wheel rim which was damaged the day before when a tyre blew out. The last inoperative solar panel was working again as well.

Gradually the sky lost some of its gloom and by 3.00 PM AEST the Aurora-RMIT 101 solar car team left Cloncurry to at least reach Mount Isa. Road speed was a mere 60 KPH as the solar car used only the small amount of solar energy it was collecting in real time.

By time the convoy reached Mount Isa conditions had improved a bit more and it was decided to try for the next possible overnight stop at Camooweal. A bit of tail wind due to the tropical cyclone 'Bernie' which was further north, helped the team to make it to Camooweal by 7.45 AEST. Altogether a slow day but only about a half day behind schedule. The actual distance covered for Day 9 was 252 KM.

The weather map showed some clearing conditions as the Aurora team travelled westwards and hopes were high for a bit of sun



Day 9, Rim repairs. It is raining outside. (click for a larger image)



Day 9 Dennis Thoroughgood, electrical repairs. (click for a larger image)

on Day 10.



Day 9 Cruising through Mt Isa, Queensland. (click for a larger image)



Day 9 Unloved Camooweal. (click for a larger image)



Day 9 Damien as BBQ chef. (click for a larger image)