



**Around Australia Challenge Update
- DAY 13: Tues 8-Jan-2002 -**

Turkey Creek (WA) to Willare Bridge (WA)	697 KM
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Improving weather greeted the AURORA-RMIT 101 solar car team as they planned an early start towards Broome on Day 13. The 7.00 AM departure from Turkey Creek pointed to a determinedly long day.

One water crossing was encountered before Fitzroy Crossing but again care in slowly passing through this hazard ensured no further water damage. Fitzroy Crossing was reached by 2.00 PM WA time with a small medical concern. Theresa Dolman, driver of the lead car was suffering from a reaction to insect bites which required a stop at the Fitzroy Crossing Hospital; her condition improved as the day progressed.

Ambient temperatures were near 40 degrees centigrade and during one driver change stop the temperature inside the stationary solar car reached 65 degrees centigrade. That's hot!

Some places are known for their scenery and the Kimberleys are no exception. However the outstanding tourist report from the team was about the space age public toilet at the tourist information center in Hall's Creek. Everything was electronically controlled by push buttons and of unexpected modernity.

The evening stopover at 6.00 PM was at Willare Bridge Roadhouse over the Fitzroy River and at the head of King Sound. The distance covered for the day was 697 KM and was the longest



Day 13, Floodway just out of Warmun. (click for a larger image)



Day 13 Floodway crossing #2. (click for a larger image)



Day 13 Skirting unfriendly weather. (click for a larger image)

day achievement since the Around Australia Challenge commenced. Jack McArthur and others of the team were invited by local fisherman Ted to go and see the fresh water crocodiles lining the river bank. They were certainly evident. The Barramundi were also abundant but the catch of fish over one metre were thrown back in. Evidently Barramundi change sex as they grow beyond .9 Metre in length and before breeders. The local practice is to ensure that the breeders survive.

Spirits were much improved as the team anticipated becoming world record holders on Day 14 as they reached Broome.



Day 13 Monument at Hall's Creek.

[\(click for a larger image\)](#)



Day 13 Turkey Creek - helicopter bungee. [\(click for a larger image\)](#)