



Around Australia Challenge Update
DAY 21: Wed 16-Jan-2002

Caiguna (WA) to Nullarbor (SA)

549 KM



At 7.50 AM WST the Aurora-RMIT 101 team departed the busy outback post of Caiguna with an objective of reaching Yatala roadhouse in South Australia by the end of the day.

The persistent high pressure system south in the Great Australian Bight provided a cloudy morning and more head wind. Overnight another speed control 'pot' was fitted but otherwise the solar car appeared to be operating perfectly.

The cloud cleared after the first hour and the journey settled into a steady pattern holding speeds of about 70 KPH into the headwind.

Lead driver Tony Vriens reported that the public response on the road was increasing. Many motorists flashed their lights, waved or gathered around the car on driver change stops. The media inquiries received at the Aurora office within the Minter Ellison premises in Melbourne were frequent. The local newspaper at Nhill, a town in western Victoria through which the team will pass on Saturday are wondering how they can force an un-scheduled stop there. We will be looking for road blocks or something!

Minter Ellison is one of the largest group of lawyers in Australia and have strong representation in the automotive industry as well as in environmental law. They have supported the 2001-02 Aurora project 'Beyond



Day 21, Stopped at last lookout along the Great Australian Bight (SA, just past the border) for the final driver change. (click for a larger image)



Day 21, Just past the WA-SA border - driver change stop. (click for a larger image)

Dreaming' for the past 15 months as a Foundation Sponsor allowing the Association to maintain a professional level of activity and communications with the media and the other 55 supporter companies that back the Aurora-RMIT 101 program.

John Modra from the Victorian Government Department of Manufacturing has organised the finish line for Saturday to be the Parliament House steps. We encourage all friends of Aurora to be there at about 4.30 PM to welcome the team home as they arrive at about 5.00-5.30 PM.

The team broke up the day with a brief stop to sight-see the Great Australian Bight, an awesome enough sight with the water looking very rough because of the high prevailing wind. Finally the wind caused the team to stop at Nullarbor for the night about 60 KM short of the intended destination of Yatala Roadhouse. 549 KM was achieved on Day 21 just slightly behind schedule.



Day 21, Nullarbor (SA) - There are no trees here, but plenty of wind. (click for a larger image)



Day 21, 5:50PM. Along the Nullarbor (SA), near dusk. (click for a larger image)



Day 21, Eucla on the Great Australian Bight.(click for a larger image)