

Ocean Roads' Kimberley Dreaming

Part Three of Three Instalments, produced by Clint & Tracey Earnshaw

This is a story of an adventure by three families through one of the most remote, and certainly one of the oldest, and most rugged parts of the planet earth. Three families, three trailerboats, thousands of miles on the road, hundreds of miles at sea, for what can surely be described as the adventure of a lifetime. Join us now, as you have in the months of October and November, as we explore the waters from west around to the south, from Wyndham WA in the north, to Broome WA in the nor'east. The story is recounted by the team leader, Clint Earnshaw, with pics from just about everyone.

Sunday 13th April, 2008

Woke up to an almost eerily quiet morning on our anchorage, with the reflection of the trees in the water all around us. *Still not missing work!*

Left Rothsay waters for Sheep Island, where there is a grave and plaques telling about the ill-fated Government camp which was set up to be the North's first sheep station. Quite a few people and babies died from things like spear wounds, heatstroke and drowning.

We had a bit of a look at the ruins of the Government camp, which was set up around 1860, but there is not much left now. What a desolate place to bring up a family. I think it only lasted about 6 months or so, which is not really all that surprising when you see the environment the poor souls were trying to tame.

Awesome drive through Port George IV waters. It was flat calm, heaps of islands and pearl farms.

We went on past Kuri Bay, which I believe was the first cultured pearl farm in the Kimberleys, started by a Japanese man, Mr Kuribayoshi.

Continued on to Montgomery Reef and got up on top on high tide. This reef is about 20 square kilometres of exposed islands on high tide, and about 200 square kilometres of reef and islands exposed on low tide. During



Above & Right: Two views of the refueling situation in Dog Leg Creek . . . needless to say, fuel supplies are scarce, and the cost is high, but as author Clint Earnshaw points out, so is a trip overseas - with a family!

