

Episode 249

Saturday 20 September 2008

Old Highways

Chris Parsons & Buddha Handy



The invention of the car transformed the way we holiday. After World War II, cars and petrol became accessible to all which meant families could head further a field in their spare time. In those halcyon days, holidaymakers made a more leisurely journey between Brisbane and Gympie along the old Bruce Highway which wove its way through town and countryside.

Chris and Buddha retraced the steps of the original holidaymakers to the Sunshine Coast before heading west on the D'Aguiar Highway to Kilcoy, Crows Nest and Toowoomba.

Sunshine Coast

Kicking off the journey was Roadside Relics, a store that sells petrol and garage memorabilia. Owner



Mike Munday has collected literally thousands of original and replica pieces.

Nearby you can also step back in time at the Majestic Theatre at Pomona. Built in 1920, it was Noosa Shire's only cinema until 1984. The theatre exclusively screens silent films.

Anyone who has embarked on a Sunshine Coast trip would be familiar with the Glasshouse Mountains. One way to experience them is by joining one of the many activities on offer at Adventure Café. The café offers walks, rock climbing and abseiling outings to the nearby mountains. For the not so adventurous, it offers breakfast and lunch seven days a week.

One of the first beachside towns to take off as a holiday destination was Caloundra. Today it still has plenty of accommodation options including Shearwater Resort. It offers modern self-contained apartments just 50 metres from Kings Beach.



Contact Roadside Relics

www.roadsiderelics.com.au

07 5482 1400

Contact The Majestic Theatre

3 Factory St, Pomona

www.themajestictheatre.com.au

07 5485 2330

Contact Adventure Café

412 Steve Irwin Way

Beerburrum

07 5496 0255

Contact Shearwater Resort

The Esplanade, Caloundra

www.staymint.com

07 5491 5355

Sunshine Coast to Crows Nest

While the old Bruce Highway was the link between north and south, for those travelling from the west the highway of choice was the D'Aguilar. It weaves its way through an area, known as Sommerset Valley, that's making a name for itself as a wine region. Nirvana Estate opens its cellar door to the public from Wednesday to Sunday.



Another fine drop can be sampled in Crows Nest at the local soft drink factory. It produces 18 flavours of soft drink and 30 flavours of syrup or cordial.

Contact Nirvana Estate
339 Sandy Creek Road, Kilcoy
5498 1055
www.nirvanaestate.com.au

Crows Nest Soft Drink
22 Toowoomba Rd, Crows Nest
www.cnsd.com.au
07 4698 1783

Crows Nest to Toowoomba

The road from Crows Nest to Toowoomba passes through the town of Cabarlah which is home to an array of shops of an international flavour. The Black Forest Hill Cuckoo Clock Shop stocks 1,500 wall clocks and 75 grandfather clocks, making it the largest shop of its kind in Australia.

Toowoomba is home to the Darling Downs Veteran & Vintage Motor Club. Its members have an impressive array of old vehicles which they show off at regular events. Their next get together will be the Toowoomba Swap Meet at the Toowoomba Showgrounds on 5 – 6 February 2009.

No heritage trail of Toowoomba would be complete without calling in to Picnic Point. It has been a favourite destination among tourists for many years. The Picnic Point Restaurant is still a splendid spot to enjoy sensational views and a bite to eat.

Contact 'Cyrano' Maison De France
Cnr New England Hwy & Evans Rd, Cabarlah
07 4696 6141

Contact Black Forest Hill Cuckoo Shop
New England Hwy, Cabarlah
07 4696 6288

Contact Darling Downs Veteran & Vintage Motor Club
www.toowoombaswap.com

Contact Picnic Point Restaurant
164 Tourist Rd, Toowoomba
www.picnic-point.com.au
07 4631 5100

Contact Colours of San Cris
Cnr New England Hwy & Shostaki Rd, Cabarlah
07 4696 9955

Contact Danish Flower Art
10347 New England Hwy, Highfields
07 4630 8211

Motorama Prize Give-Away

We're giving you the opportunity on Queensland Weekender to win a vehicle of your choice from The Motorama Group to the value of \$50,000. All you had to do was listen to the show to hear the weekly keyword and then log onto the Motorama website.



Click on the used cars icon, then on the special Motorama Giveaway logo for an entry form. All the terms and conditions are on Motorama's website... cool bananas!

Contact Motorama

www.motorama.com.au