



A J MACLEOD PROPERTY PTY LTD



“Lifestyle, Recreation, Farming, Investment & Residential Pursuits.

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Journey Through Nepal

Two years ago I travelled across the top of India from Delhi to the Nepal border, a solo trip carrying my back pack and travelling by any means available, mostly Indian trains. Once I crossed the border into Nepal, I visited Lumbini, according to Buddhist tradition this is the place where Queen Mayadevi gave birth to Siddharta Gautama [Buddha]. It was here I decided to hire a car and a driver as the journey to Kathmandu was extremely dangerous winding wet mountain road's with many a bus load of people being killed, as the transport is very primitive to say the least, and the buses are overloaded with goods and people riding on the top of buses. Extremely over balanced resulting in many deaths with the buses slipping off the road and plunging hundreds of metres into the gorges sometimes over a kilometre deep. The night I was at Lumbini a police van was reported to have slipped off the road resulting in every person in the van being killed. So I hired a small car along with a driver for a modest amount of money. He drove me to Chitwan national park, renown for

the tiger hunts during the Victorian era. My driver was a Nepalese Tibetan Buddhist and introduced me to his friends who operated a lodge next to the park. I arranged two rooms for my driver and myself, after I won the argument of him trying to insist to sleeping in the car?? I bought him meals with him continuing trying not to receive a meal for what he regarded as free. We took a dugout canoe across a river to a breeding area of Elephants. These elephants are in danger from being poached for the hair of their hides as good luck bracelets to some cultures, no so much luck for the elephants. After three day's in Chitwan were I attended a Hindu festival, of traditional music, song and dance, we drove through the dangerous winding roads up into the mountains to the city of Kathmandu.

My driver spent 4 days driving, and showing me his beautiful country and meeting the most friendly of people you could imagine, renown as the poorest country in South East Asia but all the people I met where extremely happy and friendly, proud people. My driver was being paid equivalent of \$4.50 a day Australian. After dropping me off at a hotel in Kathmandu he was then to drive back to Lumbini that night, through the dangerous roads a total of 800 kilometres return for the payment of \$4.50 a day. I insisted in giving him a tip, and again the argument started NO SIR, NO SIR his pride again refusing something for nothing. I then handed him several thousand dollars insisting he take it. He became very emotional as I handed him note after note counting it out, saying it was for his child to school for the year, and to be honest I became a bit emotional too.

So this Christmas, when I sit down with my family to eat & drink in abundance my thoughts are with the people I have meet over the last several years through out the world. Those of a different culture & religion where by a daily chore is just survival to feed you and your family. The Tibetan Buddhist's of Nepal. The Sikh & Hindus of India. The Muslims of Brunei, the villages and tribes of Papua New Guinea.

New on the market 5 Acres Ballarat Region & Shipping container



New on the market is a 5 Acre property west of Ballarat 4 km south of the Hamlet known as Snake Valley. The property is predominantly forest type [Stringybark eucalyptus] with a

level cleared site for a dwelling. It has a large 40 foot approximately, P & O lockable shipping container. This property is in a quite location with power just opposite the property, zoned rural living zone would suit either permanent living or a weekender, or ideal to land bank for an investment as minimal costs in maintenance. Selling for Cash or terms, Only **\$98,000**

\$1,500 secures the property 10% down take possession **\$9,800**, offering a 6 month interest free period, terms over three years, Request the information memorandum at info@ajmacleod.com I have not advertised this property on my web site, available at present to anyone on my data base.

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and all the best for the New Year

The things we get in life can make us a living, the things we give to other people can make a life, Never look down on anybody unless your helping them up"

Elephant & Calf [Chitwan National Park



Smiling faces of Nepal



My driver & me dugout canoe trip



Happy hard working people near Kathmandu

Never Die Wondering



Kind regards

Alistair Macleod

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