

ALONG THE KIDMAN WAY

(Neil Murray)

Named after the cattle king Sir Sidney Kidman, the Kidman Way starts at Jerilderie and runs nearly 800 ks through outback New South Wales and on into western Queensland and all the way to the Gulf if you are game. For a while I found myself on that road a lot, chasing spurious gigs along the way.

Road like a gun barrel pointed at my head
I gotta drive so far just to make some bread
Feeling like a fugitive on the run

Trucks think they own the road at night
I'm not about to argue I'll dip my lights
Then a night bird swoops and dies on my grill

I pull up and step on the dusty ground
Let my mind catch up, my motor cool down
and the stars sweep my soul
Along the Kidman way

500 miles from the city and coast
I'm countin the hours, I'm countin the posts
Hoping to get somewhere, down the road

Stop at a river to quench my thirst
Grooves on a stone told me I wasn't the first
Well the Tribes were smashed and scattered to the wind

Eons of lives played on these banks
The spirit still flows in a woman's flanks
And the babies keep getting born
Along the Kidman way

A town built on copper dug from a mine
Shift work makes for an ordered life
Well here was a prospect to make a square meal

I'm having a coffee in the single main street
happy to take the weight off my feet
But they're closing the doors, n taking my chair

I took my show to a western town
A stranger said "how come I haven't made it by now?"
I said I made it here or didn't you look
Along the Kidman way.

You get people at both ends
those that hate you and wanna do you in
And those that love you and their life's changed forever

Feel like a species endangered on the brink
In an alien land my songs all stink
Dunno if there's a future or Armageddon

Brave can be the same as stubborn
all depends on the situation coming P
lenty of places I haven't covered
Along the Kidman way

I hear talk it could get worse
And my names been mentioned in Nymagee and Bourke
Might as well keep looking for work
Along the Kidman Way
Might as well keep going that way
Might as well keep going today