



# ADVENTURE UPDATE

May 2008



GLOBAL GYPSIES PTY. LTD.

*This issue: New RAC Partnership \* Oman Desert Adventure\* Back to China \* Brilliant Bight \* Kenya \* Greece \* Meet the Team & more!*

## RAC & GLOBAL GYPSIES TEAM UP FOR TRAVEL!



We are delighted to announce a new travel partnership with RAC Travel – what a dynamic duo! From now on, all the fares, ticketing, visas & travel arrangements for Global Gypsies' overseas tours will be organised by our new partners at RAC Travel.

This means that in future, clients joining us on our international expeditions will get the best possible travel advice, best prices and best service – and (if you live in WA) you can go to your local RAC travel office to get everything done! You can pay for your air-fares, discuss and book pre & post trips– or anywhere else you want to go for that matter! An RAC representative will also attend each of our Pre-Departure Workshops to answer your questions & provide up to the minute travel advice. The new partnership kicks off with Borneo and will apply to all our future tours to Greece, Kenya, China and who knows where else? Wonder if they'll send a little yellow van along, too?

## OH MAN! IT'S OMAN!!



When we established Global Gypsies 11 years ago, we knew we'd be visiting far flung destinations, but we never thought we'd make it to Oman! Now, through our close association with Middle East desert travel expert, Bernd Spreckels and his company GeoTours of Germany, we are able to offer a totally mind-blowing experience for aspiring Lawrence of Arabias! Bernd & Global Gypsies Director Jeremy Perks, will lead an exclusive desert adventure to Oman in January 2009 (remember it's cooler in the Northern Hemisphere at that time of year!).

Participants will hire 4WD Land Cruisers (or similar) & travel in convoy for two weeks through some of the wildest terrain imaginable. This trip is for serious adventurers ONLY. Catering & camping equipment will be provided but please, don't expect the Ritz, we're talking tough going out there. If you're up for it, we'd love to take you. Places will be limited to just SIX vehicles so get in early if you'd like to join us! Call us for more info today!

## BACK TO CHINA - CHOP CHOP!

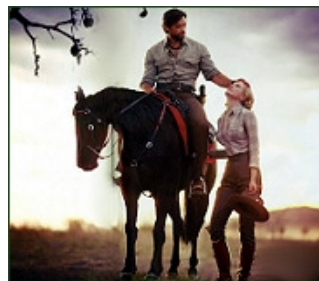
You all know that we were totally blown away by our wonderful trip to China last year. Well, the memories get even better now that we've returned, spoken to everyone who came with us and 'digested' everything we saw & did (including the great food!). In fact, it was SO good, that we've decided to go there again!!

We'll avoid the Olympic madness and run our second **"Secrets of China Tour"** in August 2010. It will be a similar itinerary to before, but slightly longer with some extra time spent in the picturesque and more traditional western provinces.

We're already excited about going back! When we watch the Olympics later this year on TV we'll be saying, "Hey, we've been there!", and even better, "And we're going back again!" To express your interest in this incomparable trip, please contact Jan, Jeremy or Pam in the Gypsies' office. As always, places will be limited so get in early. *Chop chop!!*

**ATTENTION! NEWBIE CARAVANNERS!  
NEXT CARAVAN CONFIDENCE CONVOY IS ON  
MAY 17 – 18 , 2008.  
BOOK NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!!**

## ART IN THE OUTBACK COMES TO PERTH!



Well, Aboriginal legend 'Jandamarra' may have hidden away successfully for several years in the Kimberley back in the 1880's, but he was pretty easy to spot when 30 observant gypsies turned out to see the play about him last month! Centre stage at the Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre was an

extremely talented young actor from the WA Academy of Performing Arts who did a fabulous job playing the lead role. It was such a great night & everyone enjoyed it so much that we're going to organise another group outing!

As you've probably read, Hugh Jackman & Nicole Kidman have just completed making an epic 'Gone with the Wind' style movie called "Australia" which was partly filmed in our magnificent Kimberley region and promises to be a real blockbuster.

When it comes out later this year (it's scheduled for a November release), we're going to rent out the Gold Class Cinema in Perth for a private Global Gypsies screening! The theatre only holds 34 movie buffs, so if you'd like to be a part of this top night out, get your name down early & we'll send you details as soon as they are available!

## CARAVAN & CAMPING SHOW SHOW-OFFS

Hands up those who visited us on our stand at the WA Caravan & Camping Show! We were delighted with how many of you popped in to say hello – it was great to see you all! The Show attracted over 30,000 visitors and it is obvious that the caravanning/motorhome lifestyle is becoming even more popular. We launched our 2008 caravan training calendar, again in conjunction with the Caravan Industry Association (WA), and sold heaps of towing training DVD's. These shows are so worthwhile and are a great opportunity to catch up with many of you face to face instead of just by email!

While on things caravanning, we are also pleased to announce that NRMA and the Winnebago Club will again be subcontracting us to lead some of their convoys in 2008/09. Wagons ho!

## INCREDIBLE KENYA



Plans for our Kenya tour temporarily got put on hold while the country was going through a few difficulties – no doubt all of you read about the post-election problems there. Well, our contacts on the ground tell us that things are getting back to normal so we're all fired up & ready to go. A number of the offices closed in Nairobi for several weeks (including that of our local tour operator) so itinerary details were delayed somewhat, but we're almost ready now to give you patient folks some definite information! The dates will be August 14-24 followed by an optional 4-day stopover in Zanzibar (highly recommended!). We've timed our visit to coincide with the annual migration and highlights will include the Masai Mara, Lake Nakuru National Park & Samburu National Reserve. Transport will be in a combination of safari vehicles & aircraft to avoid the terrible (really!) roads & give us more time to view game, while accommodation will be in a combination of lodges, hotels & tented camps. All catering will be included & our travel partner, RAC, will arrange a group flight via Mauritius. We've already had more than 20 expressions of interest and we'll only take a maximum of 18 wildlife lovers (plus Jan & Jeremy, of course!), so please get your name down early if you're even *thinking* of coming along!

## BIG FAT GREEK GYPSIES!!

Look out Greece, 'cos here come the Gypsies! We've slightly rescheduled our fabulous *Mediterranean Magic Tour* – the new dates will be *April 19 - May 4, 2009*. This fabulous 16-day adventure will be our first visit to Greece in almost 30 years and will combine a week on the fascinating mainland with a week on the glorious islands of Mykonos and Santorini.

In addition to tour escorts Jan & Jeremy, we'll have a local tour guide to tell us all the facts and show us the sights, will stay in 4-star accommodation and travel by A/C coach and ferry. As usual, we'll only be taking a small group of fortunate travelers, so please let us know well in advance if you intend drinking ouzo, dancing like Zorba and eating moussaka and baklava with us! We can't wait!

## PHONE HOME, E.T.!

Now here's a handy hint! If you lose or damage your vehicle's immobilizer and don't carry a spare on you but DO have a spare at home, try this. Phone home & ask someone to call you back mobile to mobile. When they do, get them to activate the spare home immobilizer while holding it up to their phone. Hold your mobile phone up to your car door, and presto! The signal will travel through the phones and deactivate your car's immobilizer!

## OFF TO ESPERANCE!



By the time you read this we'll be on our way to the Great Australian Bight! Our 12-day *"Brilliant Bight Tour"* exploring WA's pristine southern coast was fully booked and right now our happy group will be getting sand between our collective toes somewhere between Perth and Esperance. Eat your hearts out folks! Imagine us swimming, snorkeling & fishing in the turquoise water, 4WD'ing on the sand, camping in the bush and enjoying dinner under the stars. The only thing wrong with this perfect picture is that our good friends, Ken & Pattie Barber, couldn't join us as they'd hoped. We'll be thinking of you guys & look forward to enjoying your company the next time!

## 150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF KENNEDY DISCOVERY!

Our *Kennedy Ranges Discovery Tour* from July 10-21 is commemorating quite a special occasion - the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the area's discovery by Europeans! In 1858, an expedition into the Gascoyne region led by explorer Francis Thomas Gregory first sighted the spectacular Kennedy's in northwestern WA & named them after the then-Governor of WA, Arthur Edward Kennedy. The expedition continued on to Mount Augustus before returning to Perth via Mount Gould, the Murchison and Irwin Rivers, Dandaragan and Toodyay. Now, a century and a half later, we will be retracing their steps! There are just two vehicle places left at a special 'discovery' price of \$1350 per person with optional participatory catering for \$40 per person per day. Don't wait another 150 years to discover the Kennedy's!! Book today!

## MEET THE GYPSIES TEAM!

We'd like to officially welcome our new Office Manager, Pam Vassi, to the Global Gypsies team. Pam, originally from Canada but now a 'dinky-di' Aussie, is a long term friend who loves camping & the outback. If you hear her cheery voice answering the phone, please give her a big 'hello'! Other welcomes go to our new Senior 4WD Trainer, Chris Wirrell, (who replaces Ken George who has moved to Newman to manage the caravan park there). Also congratulations to our recently appointed Principle Tour Guide at Karijini Eco Retreat, Robyn Pampling, and Relief Tour Guides Terry Brewin, Derek Bilney, Chris Curtin, Cherie Toovey, Chris Wirrell (who's multi-skilling!), & Phil Witt. Great to have you aboard, everyone!

Until next time, happy travels from -



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