



ADVENTURE UPDATE

July 2009



GLOBAL GYPSIES PTY. LTD.

* *Outback Photo Course* * *Canning Craziness* * *Freebies!* * *Lake Eyre Tour* * *US Diplomacy* * *Green News & Views* *
* *Exquisite India* * *US & Oz Motorhome Tours* * *Indigenous Tour Guide Training* * *2010 Tours Calendar* * *and more!*

PICTURE PERFECT!

We're always looking for new products & services to help our clients enjoy their outback adventures even more. So when we met up with Dale Neill, Photographer Extraordinaire & experienced photo lecturer, a great idea developed (if you'll pardon the pun). We thought, 'Why not join forces & run WA's first *Outback Photography Course*?' So we did – and it was a huge success. Now we're 'enlarging' our idea!

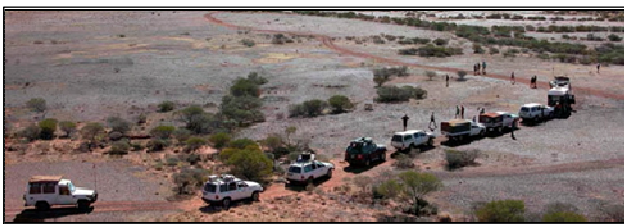
To put you in the picture (ewww!), we will soon be offering extended "*Outback Photography Courses*" as a joint project with Dale & Margaret Neill of Wildheart Adventures. The first 'cropped' version will take place on November 21-22 when we'll run a two-day weekend session in the York/Toodyay area. The second "panoramic" version will depart Perth on May 7 when we plan to take a small group of happy snappers up to spectacular Karijini National Park & Monkey Mia for 10 days, returning to Perth on May 16. Dale & Margaret will provide their photographic expertise through a combination of tutorials, workshops & practice sessions in spectacular destinations offering scenery & wildlife photo opportunities.

Participants will travel as passengers in a comfy safari vehicle with all meals & the services of a professional Tour Guide included. The short trip will be accommodated & the Karijini outback adventure will – naturally - be camping, with gear supplied. Details & prices to be advised. So SMILE & say cheese!!!



(Photo courtesy Dale Neill)

CANNING CRAZINESS!



As you read this, our Canning Stock Route guru & Senior Tour Guide, Charlie Gilbert, is leading a happy (if somewhat dusty!) band of intrepid gypsies along the Loneliest 4WD Track in the World. From his regular satellite phone calls, he tell us all is going extremely well, well, well, well... 51 wells, in fact!

This year's expedition had such a good response that we've decided to run two self-catered Canning tours in 2010 in July & August with Charlie in the lead. They will each be 20 days of outback fun & challenging four-wheel-driving with the first tour going from south to north (Wiluna to Halls Creek) & the second going from north to south. We'll only take a limited number of vehicles & price will be the same as this year - just \$3200 per vehicle. Great trip, great value. So if you're crazy about the Canning, go take your medication & sign up today!

A FISTFUL OF DOLLAR\$\$\$!

In the last issue we made a generous offer - recommend any of our Australian tours of 14 days or longer to your friends, tell them to mention your name when they book & when they finish their tour, we'll pay you **\$200 in cash!!!** Well, we're serious! We've had numerous bookings but we're not sure if they were referrals from you folks. So don't be shy, please tell us if you've referred a new client to us so that we can send you your cheque! It's our way of saying "thank you" for your loyalty & support!!

PSST!! WANNA SEE A FREE ADULTS-ONLY DVD?

Bet that got your attention! Truth is, we had a fabulous DVD put together by our good friend Marion O'Neil about our services & products which we send to corporate clients with business proposals. But it's such a littler ripper, that we thought all our other clients would love to see it, too! It features photos from many of our tours, a cruisy soundtrack & gives a good overview of who we are & what we do. If you'd like a copy to show family & friends or to add to your DVD library, just give us a call or send us an email & we'll send it to you absolutely free.

AND EVEN MORE FREEBIES!!



While on the subject of freebies & the O'Neils, last year Bill & Maz set a world record – they chalked up their tenth tour with Global Gypsies! So as a thank you, we gave them another trip absolutely free!

In April they joined us as our guests on a 3-day/2-night *Recession-Buster Weekend* & what a corker it was! Stephanie & Paul Allen from Norwich UK and Ric Page & Paula Ransome from Bunbury also joined in the fun which included a visit to the Gin

Gin Observatory to check out the stars, a tour of the Pinnacles, four-wheel-driving on the dunes at Lancelin (followed by sundowners, of course! – see photo), camping at rustic Willowbrook Farm, an eco-cruise on the Moore River & lashings of yummy home-cooked food!

We'll be running these weekend tours again next summer so why not join us? It's also a great way to entertain visiting friends & relatives. By then let's hope that everyone will be saying "*Recession? What recession? Let the good times roll!*"

HEADING FOR THE HOLLAND TRACK!

We'll be heading along the Holland Track for our annual eco-expedition from October 15 -19. If you fancy a few days away from mobile phones, traffic jams & deadlines, this gentle, mini-outback adventure steeped in history is for you. Escorted by Jeremy with delicious catering provided by Safari Hostess, Rebina Criddle, this 4WD tag-along tour will start in Hyden & end in Coolgardie. There are still a couple of places left but at just \$675 per person including meals they won't last long!

U.S. DIPLOMACY GETS IN-TENTS!



A happy group of gypsies helped strengthen international relations recently when they joined us on a specially designed, private *Luxury 4WD Bush Weekend*.

Perth-based US Consul General, Ken Chern, Ronni Chern & visiting colleague Dan Clune, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim for the US Embassy in Canberra, 'roughed it' in swags & tents, went 4WD'ing, checked out the koalas & kangaroos at Yanchep National Park, visited the Pinnacles & generally got back to nature. Rumour has it that colleagues are now calling Ken "*Crocodile Churn*" but he would neither confirm nor deny the alligator...

LAKE EYRE BY AIR

We keep getting calls from clients wanting us to take them to Lake Eyre – after all, it's the first time the world's largest salt lake has filled for over a decade! Located 700 kms from Adelaide & normally inhospitable to wildlife, when it fills, Lake Eyre is transformed into a massive oasis brimming with flora and fauna.

Local operators tell us that the best way to see this amazing spectacle is not from the ground, but from the air. So rather than organise a traditional Global Gypsies *terra firma* tour, we're offering our clients an aerial tour instead. We've made a special arrangement with an Adelaide-based travel agent who specialises in private tours to the area. They have 3, 4 & 5-day packages available, but take a deep breath cos they aren't cheap! But if you've always wanted to see Lake Eyre in all its glory this is a great way to do it, & could be the last time you'll see water in it for years! For more info on these exclusive "*Lake Eyre by Air Tours*" give us a call today.

GREEN NEWS & VIEWS

We receive so much news & information about environmental issues that it's sometimes hard to know what to pass on to you folks. But two things recently made us sit up & think & we figured you might find them of interest, too.

The first was a thought-provoking presentation called "*The Story of Stuff*". It raises questions about all the consumable 'things' we own, how much of it we really need and what happens to it once we throw it away. The production is very North American, very long and very biased, but if you can get past all that it's worth watching. Check it out on <http://www.storyofstuff.com>.

The other green issue that caught out attention is a major resource development project proposed for our precious Kimberley region in NW Australia. Woodside is in the advanced stages of planning a major liquefied natural gas processing plant near Broome which could have significant long-term environmental implications for this unique area. There is a lot of discussion as to whether the plant should be built there, or near the existing facilities at Karratha. *60 Minutes* covered this story a couple of weeks back & if you tend to 'lean green' you might have found it just a tad disturbing. To find out more or to have your say on this important issue, go to www.woodside.com.au; www.savethekimberley.com; or kimberleystrategy@dec.wa.gov.au.

EXQUISITE INDIA!



Think Taj Mahal, tigers, tumeric & tea...not to mention Bollywood, Slumdog, sitars & saris. What an amazing, exotic & colourful place India must be!

As we've always wanted to go there, we've arranged a brief 'famil' right after our Kenyan Safari - kind of a curry in a hurry! If we like what we see, we'll put an "*Exquisite India*" tour on our calendar in 2011 incorporating sightseeing, culture & the wonderful wildlife.

We're taking expressions of interest now, so please let us know if a tour to this magical destination personally escorted by Jeremy & Jan gets your head bobbing!

US MOTORHOME TOUR TEMPORARILY STALLED

The GFC & the dodgy dollar convinced us to temporarily put the brakes on our proposed Motorhome Safari through Southwest USA. However, we DO intend to put this great trip back on the schedule now that the economic situation is improving. We already have several keen takers so please let us know if you'd like to be added to the list. Stay tuned for more news on this top trans-Atlantic adventure!

HITCH UP FOR OUR AUSSIE CARAVAN SAFARI!

Meanwhile back in Oz, we frequently run motorhome safaris for the Winnebago Club, NRMA & the Caravan Industry Association. And next year we'll be running a caravan safari for Gypsy clients! Block off your diaries from May 14 – 23 cos we're heading for Karijini with a convoy of keen caravanners. Lots of special features will be included in this "Karijini Rocks" self-catering, self-drive adventure. Details TBA. Wagons ho!!!

TOP MARKS FOR FIRST INDIGENOUS TOUR GUIDE TRAINING!



We recently celebrated another first by successfully running Australia's first, short, nationally recognised *Indigenous Tour Guide Training Course*.

Commissioned by Tourism Western Australia for aspiring Pilbara guides, the 3-day course took place in Karratha & Millstream National Park in early June. There was a 100% pass rate & inaugural graduates Aaron Hubert, Deborah Lewis, Wayne Stevens, Alec Tucker and Jill Tucker will now receive a Certificate of Completion from Pilbara TAFE in the Unit of Competency *Lead Tour Groups* under the Certificate III in Tourism.

Course facilitators Cherie Toovey, Jeff Bayldon & Jeremy & Jan enjoyed the course as much as the students did and absorbed an abundance of new information about indigenous culture, the flora and fauna of Millstream and local Yindjibarndi stories.

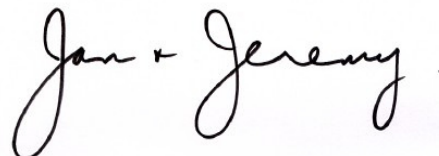
We were so impressed with their guiding skills that we've offered to assist participants with ongoing product development & hope to include their bushwalks in future gypsy tours.

KENYA HERE WE COME!!

We're packing our bags now for Kenya and are really looking forward to returning to one of our favourite places. By all reports the animal sightings this year are excellent and we can't wait! We have a fabulous group joining us – many have been with us before either on Aussie tag-alongs, or to China or Borneo. We'll be going to China again in 2010 so if you missed out the first time round, start practising with your chopsticks now!

And speaking of 2010, we've just worked out our draft Tours Calendar for next year which appears below – more details to come. We'll get it up on the website in a few weeks – this is just a sneak preview. After a year in which lots of people were nervous about going on holiday, some clients cancelled their bookings & we even had to pull the pin on a couple of tours, 2010 looks like it's going to be extremely busy. As we only take a limited number of clients on our wonderful adventures, we recommend that you book early so that we can pencil you in.

Until next time, happy travels from -



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PROPOSED 2010 CALENDAR

Month	Activity
January	
15 – 17	4WD Bush Weekend (catered)
30 – 31	Caravan Confidence Convoy
30	4WD Training
February	
13 – 14	Tour Guide Training
26/2 - 11/3	Brilliant Bight (Catered 4WD Tag-along Tour)
27	4WD Training
March	
To 11/3	Brilliant Bight Tour
18 – 22	Caravan & Camping Show
20 – 21	4WD Bush Weekend (catered)
27/3	4WD Training
April 2010	
8 – 30	Private tag-a-long tour for Five Senses
17 – 18	Tour Guide Training
24	4WD Training
May	
7 – 16	Karijini Outback Photo Safari with Dale Neill (travel as passengers in coach, catered, camping)
8 – 9	Caravan Confidence Convoy
14 – 23	'Karijini Rocks' Caravan Safari (self-catered)
29	4WD Training
June	
3 - 16	Perth – Alice Outback Safari (Catered 4WD Tag-along Tour)
26	4WD Training
July	
1 – 14	Kennedy Discovery Stage II (Catered, 4WD Tag-along Tour)
1 – 20	Canning Stock Route Expedition #1 (4WD Tag-along Tour, self catered) Wiluna to Halls Creek
22 – 31	Winnebago Club Safari to Karijini (self-catered)
31	4WD Training

August	
2 - 17	Winnebago Club Safari through Kimberley
10 – 31	Canning Stock Route Expedition #2 (4WD Tag-along-tour – self-catered) Halls Creek to Wiluna
24/8 - 8/9	Kimberley Explorer (Catered 4WD Tag-a-long Tour)
TBA	Private Kenya Tour for Aviators Club
28	4WD Training
September	
To 8/9	Kimberley Explorer
20/9 – 7/10	Secrets of China Tour (catered, accommodated, escorted by Jan & Jeremy, travel as passengers in coach)
25	4WD Training
October	
To 7/10	Secrets of China Tour
21 – 24	Holland Track Expedition (Catered, 4WD Tag-a-long Tour)
30 – 31	Tour Guide Training
30	4WD Training
November	
5 – 7	4WD Bush Weekend (catered)
???	4WD Show
27 – 28	Caravan Confidence Convoy
December	
3 – 5	4WD Bush Weekend (catered)
11 – 12	Tour Guide Training
25	Merry Christmas!