



GYPSY ADVENTURE UPDATE

June 2016



* Don't miss FREE '20 Years of Wild Adventures' show on Thursday, June 2! * Upcoming Tours *
 * Back to Botswana Report * Holland Track Report * Perup Sanctuary Science Safari Report *
 * Flower Power Caravan Safari * Critter Trivia Quiz * Silk Road Safari & more!

GLOBAL GYPSIES PTY. LTD.

20 YEARS OF WILD ADVENTURES!



Don't miss our big *Show & Tell* night! On Thursday, June 2, we're hosting a special words & pictures presentation entitled **"20 Years of Wild Adventures!"**. Next year will be our 20th birthday so we're getting into the party mood early! This free event (which is being held at & co-sponsored by Murdoch University will include light refreshments, tall tales but true, a book signing of our new publication *"How to Be an Award-Winning Tour Guide"*, prizes, surprises & some embarrassingly old photographs!

Laugh at the awful haircuts! Cry as you hear about our first few years waiting for the phone to ring! Reminisce about adventures you've shared with us! Check out the old vehicles & be amazed by the exciting new tours we have planned for the future! Don't miss this night of fun, friendship, fond memories & future forays! To book your place & get more details, please phone us ASAP on 9341 6727 or email us at admin@globalgypsies.com.au. We hope to see you there!

TRAVEL THE GREAT SILK ROAD IN 2016!

There are just four more places left on our wonderful **Silk Road Safari** in August 2016. This year we've asked our travel partner in Uzbekistan, Dilmurad Sabirov, who's helped us run the last two Silk Road safaris, to personally lead the next exotic tour for us! **Silk Road 2016** (Aug 19 – Sept 13) will begin in Xian, end in Tashkent & visit all the amazing destinations along the ancient trade route from western China through to Kyrgyzstan & Uzbekistan. Dilmurad is one of the best guides you could find for this remarkable journey – it's part of his heritage! He runs a successful tour company in Tashkent, speaks a number of languages & is a fascinating, well-educated & well-travelled companion. Anyone who joins him on this awesome eastern adventure will have an authentic Silk Road experience they will never forget! And because of the short notice, we're offering the tour at a very special price. There's still time to book – grab a tour flyer today!



FLOWER POWER! JOIN US AS WE SMELL THE ROSES!

Roses?? *Really?* Maybe we should say sniff the smokebush, eye the everlastings or wonder at the wattles! This September (dates TBA) we'll be leading a leisurely, fun & educational **"Flower Power Caravan Safari"** so you can admire the exquisite WA wildflowers in full bloom!



This fun and flowery adventure co-sponsored by RAC will be escorted by WA's top towing trainer and 'caravan guru' Jeremy Perks. Our small convoy will stay 'on-road' most of the time so this tour is ideal for 2WD or 4WD vehicles & almost any kind of caravan or camper trailer.

We'll stay mainly at caravan parks with powered sites & while the tour will be self-catering, special Welcome & Farewell Dinners are included. The safari starts in Jurien Bay & ends in Dalwallinu & for 10 colourful days we'll check out some of the State's best wildflower hotspots. We'll go exploring & bush-walking, visit local attractions, study the night skies, practice our caravanning & towing skills, go on optional 4WD outings (jump into the Gypsy escort vehicle or 'buddy up' with other participants) & most importantly, admire & learn about the fantastic floral display that our State turns on for us each spring from our travelling wildflower guru, the aptly named Jenny Rose!

Cost is \$1200 per van/vehicle (1 – 2 persons). As always, numbers are limited so please register your interest early!

WHERE CAN WE TAKE YOU NEXT?

To see what fabulous tours are coming up on the gypsy calendar, peek into our crystal ball! You'll learn more about these fabulous adventures at our presentation on June 2nd & details of all the tours will be up on our website soon. Places are limited on all these tours so be quick!

- ♥ *Canning Stock Route Expedition*: July 6 – 26, 2016 (two places still available!) AND July 5 - 25, 2017
- ♥ *Kimberley Explorer 4WD Tour*: Aug 8 – 24, 2016 (three places still available)
- ♥ *Silk Road Safari*: Aug 19 – Sept 13, 2016
- ♥ *Caravan Wildflower Safari*: Sept. 2016 with RAC (dates TBA)
- ♥ *Dog-Along-Tours*: one to Fonty's Pool near Manjimup & a new one to Kulin to explore the Tin Horse Highway (dates TBA)
- ♥ *Research, Conservation & Science Safari*: October 2 - 9, 2016, at Perup Sanctuary:
- ♥ *Holland Track Expedition*: Nov. 17 – 23, 2016, with RAC
- ♥ *Tour Guide Training Course*: Dec 2 – 4, 2016
- ♥ *India by Enfield Motorcycle Tour*: Jan 22 – Feb 1, 2017
- ♥ *Exotic Marigold India Tour*: Feb 5 – 28, 2017 (escorted, catered, travel by coach - 4 places left!)
- ♥ *Gold Prospecting 4WD Adventure*: June 24-29, 2017
- ♥ *Kennedy Range Expedition*: June 2017 (dates TBA)
- ♥ *Drive Yourself Wild in Namibia Expedition*: September 6- 22, 2017 (self-drive, escorted, self-catering 4WD safari package - only TWO vehicle places + TWO passenger seats in escort vehicle still available)
- ♥ *Back to Botswana Safari*: 2018 (dates TBA)
- ♥ *Alaskan Wilderness Safari*: 2018 (dates TBA)



CRITTER TRIVIA QUIZ!

You probably know that a group of dolphin is called a 'pod', that a family of kangaroos is called a 'mob' & that a gathering of crows is called a 'murder'. But did you know the following collective nouns for various groups of critters?

Camels: caravan, train
Hippos: bloat
Hyena: clan, cackle
Giraffe: tower
Rhinos: crash
Apes: troop
Cobras: quiver
Wombats: wisdom
Caterpillars: army

Frogs: colony, knot, army
Cockroaches: intrusion
Lizards: lounge (really!)
Butterflies: flight, flutter
Pigs/warhogs: sounder
Tigers: streak, ambush
Flamingoes: flamboyance
Snails: escargatoire, walk
Zebras: dazzle, crossing

PERUP SANCTUARY SCIENCE SAFARI REPORT

Speaking of critters, we recently completed another fantastic Research, Conservation & Science Safari with the Department of Parks & Wildlife in Manjimup. The setting at Perup Sanctuary in WA's southwest was stunning, the weather was perfect, the wildlife was very cooperative & our group was great! Joining us on this terrific 'voluntour' were Pattie Barber, Suzanne Gallagher, Sally Pleece, Margaret & Huxley Prickett, Jenny Rose & Diane Schudmak.



The purpose of our fun & furry science safaris is to assist DPAW with their important research, conservation & rehabilitation work. Our 'voluntourists' help trained staff to 'capture' endangered species, 'process' the animals (that sounds scary but it just means collecting data like weight, sex, condition, etc), release them back into the wild (or large, fenced, predator-free enclosures) & then monitor their progress. We also make a generous donation to ongoing DPAW projects from tour proceeds.



Our enthusiastic band of gypsies (hah! another collective noun!) captured & processed a record number of animals including 84 woylies, 16 brushtail possums, 9 quendas & a partridge in pear tree (only kidding about the partridge). We were particularly pleased to find several rare ringtail possums outside the enclosure which we promptly relocated to safe new homes INSIDE the fence. This was cause for celebration as the increased numbers of sexually mature animals all in one place will hopefully means lots of little baby possums! A passel of possums, in fact!

In addition to the work itself & the positive outcomes, highlights included the yummy meals prepared by our talented & capable Safari Hostess Jo Clews, spotlighting for animals at night, taking bush walks around the Sanctuary & enjoying our 'day off' at the nearby tourist attractions. Thanks everyone from us & from DPAW for your valuable input!

STORM CHASERS TACKLE SOGGY HOLLAND TRACK!



We've had some wild & woolly adventures over the past 20 years but our Holland Track Expedition in May really takes the cake! As loyal gypsies will know, this formerly tame little track from Hyden to Coolgardie has given us more weather challenges over the past few years than Clive Palmer has had hot dinners!

This time, our enthusiastic, fearless & determined group battled winds of up to 100 kph; nighttime temperatures of 3°C; challenging, muddy & extremely deep pot-holes left by previous travelers; numerous vehicle boggings & recoveries (including Gypsy 1!), several detours, two 'sick' vehicles & an RAC tow-truck rescue! What more could have happened? Fire? Famine? Flood? Pestilence? Holy climate change, Batman!



We'd like to say a big 'thank you' to our wonderful group for their enthusiasm, patience, endurance & good humour. Well done Angie & Brian Brocklehurst; Denise Delpero & Leanne Lusk; Bryan Faulkner & Soulla Semple; Anne Gilkes; Suzanne Gallagher & Libby Kirk; Pam & Brian Hoare; Gabbe Walsh & Meg Officer;

Owen Moralee & Tina Dimitriou & David & Liz Young. It was a real pleasure to have you all along! We'd also like to give everyone a pat on their collective backs for a great team effort (would that be a 'pack' of backs?). For many it was their first 4WD bush adventure & this trip was certainly a baptism by fire (or maybe mud?). But hey, it wasn't all hardship! We had some great 4x4 experience; a lively "Girl-speak 4WD Seminar"; lovely walks to Thursday Rock & to the top of Mt Holland & a magical Farewell Dinner after the storm with crystal clear skies & a full moon. It doesn't get much better than that!

We're running another Holland Track Expedition with the RAC from November 17 – 23 so get your bookings in early! We're already saying our fair weather prayers so conditions should be magnificent!

BACK TO BOTSWANA REPORT

It's no secret that we love Africa having lived there, worked there & met there! For the past few years we've been focusing on safe & sensational Botswana, which is sandwiched between Namibia, Zimbabwe & South Africa. We've run three tours there now, all of which have been just incredible & our recent safari in March was no exception. Again we had an absolutely marvellous group who bonded brilliantly, laughed a lot, learned a lot & came home with heaps of photos & hundreds of wonderful memories. Thanks for joining us Richard & Christine Curry; Grahame & Connie Edgar; Lynne & Denis McLeod; Barbara Moore; Nancy Verco; John & Heather Richardson; Win & Ernie Walker & Max Williams & Lynn Fisher.



From Day 1 at our lovely bush lodge in Maun, to the heart of the Okavango Delta where we slept in safari tents perched on stilts above the water; to 'roughing it' in our mobile tented camp in Savute National Park; to relaxing at memorable Muchenje Lodge near Chobe National Park; & on to Victoria Falls where we stayed at the famous Vic Falls Hotel, it was just one long happy party jam-packed with spectacular wildlife sightings & unforgettable shared experiences.



Highlights included walking in the bush in search of elephant in the Delta; being paddled down winding streams in mokoros (canoes) & viewing wildlife just metres away; watching a pride of lions drinking from the Chobe River; sip-



ping on sundowners beneath majestic pink & purple skies; dodging elephants, lions & warthogs outside our lodges; drifting past crocs & hippos on river cruises; seeing more wildlife than we have room to list here

ranging from lechwe to lilac-breasted rollers, buffalo to baboons, giraffe to jackals; getting drenched by cascades of roaring water at Victoria Falls & celebrating a birthday in the bush with a beautifully decorated but very dodgy elephant dung cake! Other special memories include a fascinating presentation about David Livingstone by a local historian; a private visit to an Eco Research Centre run by two dedicated conservationists; the warmth & generosity of our knowledgeable Botswana tour guides & a silver service Farewell Dinner at Vic Falls Hotel when we traded in our safari gear for silk & sequins! Yep, it was a trip to remember!

Until next time, happy travels from –

Jan & Jeremy



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