

# ADVENTURE UPDATE

March 2010

Discover the outback – independent but not alone!



GLOBAL GYPSIES PTY. LTD.

Shanghai Surprise \* Brilliant Bight Report \* Tour Guide Training \* Armchair Travelers \* Karijini Rocks & more!

## SHANGHAI SURPRISE! LET'S GO TO EXPO!

Lucky us! The few fortunate gypsies joining us on our Secrets of China Tour will have the opportunity to stay on to enjoy the **Shanghai World Expo!** Because our fabulous 18-day tour from September 20 – October 7 finishes in Shanghai, it's the perfect opportunity to check out the Expo! There will be more than 20,000 activities at 35 different venues, with 200 countries and 50 international organisations taking part in this unique event.



What a great way to wind up our personally escorted journey through this fascinating country. We'll be taking in all the highlights - and then some - including Tiananmen Square, the Great Wall, Terracotta Warriors, Giant Pandas, the western province of Yunnan PLUS a luxurious three-day cruise on the Yangtze River & a bevy of live shows & cultural events – not to mention oodles of noodles! Yummy! We'll use local English-speaking guides with coach transport, and accommodation, activities & most meals are included. Once again RAC will be our travel partner organising our group air fares. There are still a few places left but get in quick! To miss out on this experience would be un-BEAR-able!



## VISIT US AT THE CARAVAN & CAMPING SHOW!

If you live in Western Australia and are a caravan junkie, you'll know that the annual Caravan & Camping Show is happening at Claremont Showgrounds from March 18 – 22.

We're sharing a stand called "Caravan Confidence Convoys" with the Caravan Industry Association of WA – **Stand 94** – so please stop by & say hello! You might even win a FREE Caravan Confidence Convoy weekend worth \$375 just by filling in the entry coupon!

Jeremy will be giving a lecture each afternoon at 2:00 p.m. about caravan training and towing safety. We'll also be offering our towing training DVD's at the special price of just \$25 during the Show – a saving of \$10! We hope to see you there!

## WESTERN 4WD DRIVER GOES CARAVANNING!

Hands up who reads WA's favourite 4WD magazine **Western 4WDriver?** The Editor, our mate Nick Underwood, was keen to expand the usual 4WD theme & wanted to run a three-part series on the joys of caravanning. So he asked us to write the articles for him! You can pick up a copy at your local newsstand – it's a great read – particularly pages 117-126! And if you love going bush, if this little gem isn't already on your 'must-read' list on a regular basis, it should be!

## ARMCHAIR TRAVELERS GET MOVING

Back in January we invited existing and new clients to join us for a whirlwind armchair tour of China, Kenya and India at Murdoch University. Thanks to everyone who attended – it was great to see you there & we hope you enjoyed the show! We've made copies of the three different audio-visual presentations & if you're thinking of joining us to visit one of these exotic destinations – or if you've already been there with us & would like to share a few memories – please give us a call & we'll post you a DVD free of charge!

## KARIJINI ROCKS!

We thought we'd offer something new this year – an escorted 10-day caravan, camper trailer & motorhome safari into 'gorge'ous Karijini National Park. We'd led lots of caravan safaris before, but usually for someone else – NRMA, Caravan Industry Association, Winnebago Club etc. They'd all been very successful so we decided to run one of our own to see if there was a demand. Demand? WELL! WHOA NELLIE! Within two weeks our *Karijini Rocks Caravan Safari* was fully booked! 'Should we run another one this year?' we asked ourselves? We'd like to, but it's really up to you! If we get enough takers, we'll run a second Karijini Rocks Caravan Safari later this year. If this idea tickles your towball, please give us a call & express your interest! By the way, you don't even need a 4WD for this one – it will all be on bitumen except for some optional 'unhitched' 4WD day trips. So no bruises or scratches on that precious baby of yours!

## SEA CHANGE/TREE CHANGE/ME CHANGE

Thinking of changing your career? Or when you retire, becoming a Camp Host, weekend ranger or volunteer Tour Guide? Our accredited weekend Tour Guide Training Course is just the thing to give you the basic knowledge you need!

The next course is happening on April 17-18 and there are still some places available. Designed for urban, regional or remote area Tour Guides who are either permanent employees, casuals, free-lancers or volunteers, the course comprises both theoretical and practical content with emphasis on hands-on activities, interaction & role plays.



Held at Murdoch University and a special 'outdoor classroom' at an overnight bush camp, it covers such generic guiding skills as interpretive presentation, duty of care, customer service, safety, risk management, dealing with emergencies, leadership, cultural awareness, environmental responsibility, conflict resolution and more.

The cost is just \$595 per person including the services of two tutors over two days, workbook, theoretical and practical training sessions, transport to the bush camp, overnight camp, meals, non-alcoholic beverages, attendance certificate, assessment and, on successful completion of the course, accreditation documents & bronze lapel pin. Great value, great course – and a great option for a 'me change'!

## FROM NOMAD TO 'KNOWMAD'

This is starting to sound like a caravanning supplement, but we have even more interesting news on this popular topic. And with more & more of our clients joining "Team Nomad", we thought you'd be keen to hear it.

Researchers at Queensland University of Technology recently completed a study to determine if grey nomads are adequately prepared for their caravan adventures. Respondents were questioned about their health and their preparation for, and knowledge of, safe driving when towing a large unit on rural roads.

The results showed that many grey nomads who take to the road are ill-prepared for their dream trip round Australia and have little experience in caravan-towing or driving in rural conditions.

Only about 50% said they had extensive towing experience and most had little experience in driving on unsealed or narrow, bitumen roads. *Yet only 36% said they felt a high need for further information on safe driving.* And, although a health scare had been the catalyst for many respondents to begin their caravan odysseys, *78% did not take first aid kits and most rated their first aid knowledge as 'adequate' or 'low'.* There are over 350,000 recreational vehicles currently registered in Australia and more than 20,000 new units are registered each year. If the survey responses are typical of all Aussie caravanners, then it could be a cause for concern.

Not surprisingly, the findings prompted the researchers to call for more driving and safety education for those who tow. If you'd like to be better prepared for your caravanning adventures & change from a nomad to a 'knowmad', why not take a towing course with Global Gypsies? We offer either group weekend Caravan Confidence Convoys or private half-day or full-day training sessions on days to suit.

And for a limited time, **Hire-a-Camper-Trailer** will provide a **FREE** camper trailer for you to use so you can try before you buy when you join one of our caravan training weekends! What are you waiting for? Book your place today!

**ATTENTION!! NEW CARAVANNERS! OUR NEXT CARAVAN CONFIDENCE CONVOY IS ON MAY 8 - 9. INCLUDES FREE USE OF CAMPER TRAILER FROM Hire-a-Camper-Trailer.com - TRY BEFORE YOU BUY!**  
(subject to availability)  
**BOOK NOW TO CONFIRM YOUR PLACE!**

## SHOULD YOU TRAVEL ALONE OR JOIN A TOUR?

There's a huge emphasis at the moment on DIY when it comes to outback travel. But many folks don't feel 100% confident heading off into the bush alone & think it would be safer & more fun to explore remote areas with a group of like-minded adventurers led by a professional escort.

On a Global Gypsies 4WD Tour, you'll discover the outback **independent but not alone.** You'll be in the safe hands of experts, benefit from the services of a professional Tour Guide with first-aid & remote area experience, practice your 4WD skills AND enjoy delicious meals prepared by our experienced Safari Hostess. Our clients come back to us again & again - some of them have taken 10 tours or more! - so we must be doing something right. We've got some tremendous 4WD outback adventures coming up over the next few months & places are filling quickly. Why not be part of the fun on these top tours:

- **Kimberley Explorer** : June 3- 18
- **Kennedy Ranges Discovery Tour**: July 1 - 12
- **Canning Stock Route Expedition** : July 1 - 20
- **Alice Springs Outback Safari** : August 30 - Sept 12
- **Holland Track Expedition** : October 21 - 24

## TAKE A BIGHT OF THIS!

An intrepid gypsy convoy has just returned from an exciting expedition along the Great Australian Bight, and yet again, it was magical! Our Brilliant Bight Tour led by Jeremy & Rebina visited some spectacular, rugged and remote destinations accessible only by 4WD including Bulbina Dunes, Toolina Cove, Baxter Cliffs, Mt Ragged, Cape Arid, Israelite Bay, Cape Le Grande, Quoin Head, Point Anne, and more. The tour commenced in Kalgoorlie and ended 14 days later in the Stirling Ranges stopping along the way at Fraser Range Station, Balladonia, Esperance, Hopetoun, Bremer Bay & a number of tranquil bush camps.

For the first time, we also arranged an overnight stay at Woody Island off the coast of Esperance. We left our vehicles back on the mainland & stayed in the tented safari huts. What a super spot to break the journey, change the pace & enjoy the amazing scenery & wildlife!



Thanks to the congenial gypsy travelers who joined us on this fantastic foray into one of Australia's most scenic and pristine areas...Eileen & Kingsley Bristow, Hans & Clementia Dames, Erin & Murray Hall, Norman Martin, Ric & Ailsa McDonald, not to mention honorary gypsies Jenny Rose & Charlie Gilbert who have been on so many tours with us they're like part of the family!

The weather was relatively mild - a welcome break from the heat wave that was happening in Perth! - and we have some great memories. Highlights included the Woody Island 'sleepover' which included some good 'game spotting' of dingoes, kangas, emus, goannas & birds; knockout wildflowers (First Prize goes to the Royal Hakea in Fitzgerald River National Park!); morning tea at Quoin Head, and, of course, exploring those breathtaking beaches!

## LOYAL CLIENTS SAVE \$100 ON 4WD TRAINING!

Joining us on tour? Here's a special offer for our special clients! You'll save \$100 if you book a 4WD training session when you book your tour! Our comprehensive, recreational full-day 4WD training courses are held on the last Saturday of each month. One of our experienced & accredited instructors will teach you basic 4WD techniques, safe driving practices & the capabilities of your vehicle, & you'll get to practice your new-found 4WD skills BEFORE you depart on your great outback adventure! The normal price for a recreational 4WD course is \$275 for the first person in the vehicle & \$75 for the second person, or a total of \$350. But if you book your 4WD training course when you book your tour, you'll pay just \$250 - a saving of \$100! Go on - drive yourself wild with Global Gypsies!

Until next time, happy travels from -

Jan + Jeremy



GLOBAL GYPSIES PTY. LTD.

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