



GYPSY ADVENTURE UPDATE

September 2016



GLOBAL GYPSIES PTY. LTD.

* **NEW! Tin Horse Highway Dog-Along-Tour** * **Canning Stock Route Report** * **Silk Road 2017** *
 * **Hit the Holland Track** * **20 Year Celebrations** * **Gold Prospecting Adventure** *
 * **Kennedy Ranges** * **Aussies on the Move** * **Perfect Packing** * **Botswana, Wild Alaska & more!**

OUR TOUR GUIDE BOOK TAKES OFF!

Our new book, "How to Be an Award-Winning Tour Guide", has received a fantastic reception – especially from our friends at the WA Department of Parks & Wildlife Services. To demonstrate their commitment to the importance of tour guide training, the Department will be providing complimentary copies of the book to over 450 tour operators around the State when they renew their licenses! How exciting is that?!

FULL HOUSE AT BIRTHDAY BASH!

Over 100 clients, potential clients & travel tragiics turned out for our '20 Years of Wild Adventures' show in June. It was a top night & the Murdoch lecture theatre was bursting at the seams! Thanks so much everyone for joining us & we hope you enjoyed it. Stay tuned for more news about our ongoing 20th birthday celebrations next year. We'll be turning on a huge outdoor party & anyone who's ever been on a tour or training course with us will be invited! Holy party hats, Batman! All of Gotham City might be there!



AUSSIES ON THE MOVE

And talking about bursting at the seams, it looks as if gypsy clients can't enough of overseas travel. Both our *Exotic Marigold India Tour* & our *Drive Yourself Wild in Namibia Safari* are fully booked with a wait list. In spite of a few crazies out there who try to cause chaos & discourage everyone from traveling, it's good to see that so many people are symbolically displaying the rigid digit by still globe-trotting! We choose & research our overseas destinations with great care & work with reputable local operators so couldn't be happier with the results. And as for the Aussies who decide to stay at home & see Australia instead, we say 'thank you' - it's terrific news for the domestic tourism market! Then there are also the thousands of grey nomads who are hitting the road in caravans & camper trailers on self-drive odysseys around the Big Island. Good on you, folks! Keep it up!

HIT THE HOLLAND TRACK WITH US IN NOVEMBER!



Our next *Holland Track Expedition* is happening from November 17 -21 & we'd love to have you along! It's the perfect introduction to four-wheel-driving & tag-along-tours PLUS you get to travel on a historic track steeped in more than a century of outback history!

Run in conjunction with RAC (WA), this fun, five-day, escorted & catered mini-escape is designed to help you practice your off-road skills & get back to nature. Our small convoy will meet up in Hyden then travel slowly north along this famous bush track to Coolgardie. The tour is fully catered & you'll camp out under the stars, visit all the historical spots, go for bush walks, check out the night sky & relive the experiences of the prospectors who headed for the Goldfields back in the 1800's in search of their fortune. For more info check out our website! And P.S. - RAC members save \$100!

NEW! TIN HORSE HWY DOG-ALONG-TOUR!



For all you dog-lovers who keep asking us to design another itinerary for our unique Dog-Along-Tours, well, woof-woof! Your wish is our command! From October 27 – 30 we're inviting you & your pooch pals to join us on a brand new Dog-Along-Tour exploring the famous *Tin Horse Highway*! This madcap attraction in the central Wheatbelt of WA (think Kulin, Hyden & Kondinin) is the perfect dog-friendly place to enjoy bush walks, wildflower trails, lakeside picnics, rock walks, rustic museums, pioneer cemeteries & to just generally soak up the atmosphere of the quaint country towns.



And, of course, there's the Tin Horse Highway itself – a crazy concoction of hilarious horsy sculptures created by the locals which adorn a 15km stretch of country road. They're guaranteed to give you a chuckle if not a full-on belly laugh with their imaginative designs & awful puns!! On this whacky self-catered tour you can bring a 2WD, 4WD, caravan, motorhome, camper-trailer, tent, or stay in an (optional) donga style cabin. We'll have just one base at dog-friendly Tressie's Caravan Park & Museum (all facilities) in the teeny town of Karlgarin. Included in the package is a powered caravan site for three nights, Welcome Dinner, various entry fees & heaps of well-planned fun activities for fur-children & their parents. Cost is just \$495 per vehicle/van (1-2 people + doggies). Get on the dog & bone now & reserve your place!

DISCOVER THE GREAT SILK ROAD IN 2017!



Hooray! It's on again! We're running our sensational *Silk Road Safari* once again in August 2017! Our experienced travel partner in Uzbekistan, Dilmurad Sabirov, of Miramax Travel, who has helped us run the last two Silk Road safaris, will personally lead the tour accompanied by professional Uzbeki guide Asnar Nasirov, & local English-speaking guides in each destination.

Traveling along the ancient trade route from western China through to Kyrgyzstan & Uzbekistan over 26 days, you'll visit such exotic destinations as Xian, Dunhuang, Turpan, Kashgar, Samarkand, Bukhara, Tashkent & more. You'll visit mosques, museums & minarets; travel on planes, trains, coaches, camels & rickshaws & stay in quality 4-star accommodation - & a 1000-star mountain yurt! Airport transfers, entry fees, most meals & lots of fun activities are included & group size is strictly limited. Visit: <http://www.globalgypsies.com.au/tours/International/Silk-Road-Safari-2017> for more details!

KENNEDY RANGES HERE WE COME!

Dates are now finalized for our 2017 *Kennedy Ranges Expedition!* They are May 31 – June 12 & we can't wait! Join us on this exciting, scenic, self-catering adventure & enjoy 4WD challenges, gorgeous landscape, outback peace & the opportunity to share the adventure with kindred spirits. Remote, seldom-visited outback areas that you can enjoy in your 4WD are getting harder & harder to find. Book your place on this authentic bush experience before somebody tarmacs the track or builds a mall up there!

PERFECT PACKING TIPS

Want to be a perfect packer? Here are a few tips to help you out!

- Make a packing list & tape it to the inside of your closet door – refer to it every time you travel & amend it as needed
- Use a 'flat pack' gadget for perfect creases - or roll your clothes rather than folding them
- Carry small notes in local currency
- Ladies - take a scarf/sarong/pashmina for warmth, an evening accessory & a cultural cover-up
- Bring zip-lock bags for dirty or damp clothes, washing powder or to hold containers that might leak
- Take one international adapter & an Aussie power board rather than a heap of separate ones (should have USB outlets)
- Take a water bottle with a filter & a shoulder carrier or 'harness'
- Take a fold-up cloth carry bag – great for overnighters, groceries or hand-carrying fragile souvenirs on the flight home
- Use mini-bottles of shampoo, body lotion etc rather than big ones
- Plan your wardrobe to dress in 'layers'
- Pack a lightweight plastic poncho instead of a heavy raincoat
- Always carry a few small Aussie souvenirs
- Pack one 'nice' outfit & a pair of shoes for special occasions
- Use a lightweight suitcase with wheels
- Pack as light as you can – too much gear, no idea!

YUM!! GREAT NEW HOME COOKING SERVICE!



Those of you who joined us on our Research, Conservation & Science Safari to Perup Sanctuary in September (see next issue of this newsletter for a full report) will have sampled the excellent catering provided by Safari Hostess, Angela Bunyan. Well, it turns out that not

only is Angela a top Gypsy hostie - she also runs a fantastic & unique catering business! Called "*I Cook in Your Home*", it's the ideal service for busy gypsies & their friends or rellies who love wholesome & delicious home-cooked meals but don't have time to make them, or maybe need a bit of help if they're ill, indisposed or just want a break from domestic goddess duties! The food prep happens right in your own home so Angela can make several meals if you like & freeze them for you to enjoy later! Or she can cook up a storm for a special occasion. This is no meals-on-wheels mass-produced fare. It's all home-made & prepared with tender loving care. The menu choice is varied & interesting & the service is very affordable! For more info visit: www.icookinyourkitchen.com.au

THE BOLD & THE BEAUTIFUL : BIG CRITTER ALERT!

If you're hanging out to see bears, moose, elephants, giraffe or lions in the wild, raise your hand! Now put a pen in that hand & block off **2018** in your diary 'cos we've got two awesome big critter tours planned – a *Back to Botswana Safari* in March 2018 & an *Alaskan Wilderness Safari* in July 2018! And if that puts a strain on your bucket list, well, like they say in the "Jaws" movie – you need to get a bigger bucket!

GOLD! GOLD! GOLD!

With all the hype about Olympic gold medals, it's timely to remind you of our catered & escorted gold prospecting tour next June! Visit <http://www.globalgypsies.com.au/tours/Australian/Go-For-Gold-Expedition/> to dig out priceless nuggets of information about it!

CANNING STOCK ROUTE REPORT

In spite of experiencing more physical challenges than 'Survivor' & more mechanical problems than a Samsung Galaxy, our Canning Stock Route Expedition in July was incredibly exciting & fortunately had a happy ending! Unseasonal rain pelted down for the first few days closing most of the roads out of Wiluna & threatening to delay our departure, but Jeremy managed to find an alternative route & rejoined the CSR at Well 2. By then the rain was slowing & the track was drying out but it was tough going & our new winch got an outing on several occasions. The difficult conditions resulted in extra stress on brakes, under-carriages, shock absorbers & humans! Even 'Gypsy 1' had her fair share of dummy-spits! Undaunted, our determined & gritty group of 13 clients & seven vehicles persevered & were glad they did! Once the sun came out, the sky returned to its usual brilliant blue, the track dried out & the landscape was lush, green & dotted with wildflowers!

Thanks to Norm & Marie Blackburn, Bob & Michael Hotinski, Mario Lewis & Stewart Barrett (from WA); Darryl & Jenny Fuller, Barbara McQuilty & Robyn Gilmour (NSW), Jeffrey Perks & Jan Geary (Qld) & Christiane Schreiber (Germany) for joining us on this gutsy adventure. We always say that the Canning is one of the toughest 4WD challenges you'll ever tackle & this year's expedition certainly proved us right! Riding 'shotgun' with Jeremy was our friend & frequent client, Diane Schudmak, from Melbourne. She was a tough & reliable 'right hand woman' & a great Safari Hostess who whipped up some excellent meals for the 'trail boss' in challenging conditions Well done, Diane, & a huge thanks from us to you!



Highlights of the tour included a wonderful two-night stay at Durba Springs with near perfect weather, camping amongst the whispering desert oaks near Well 37, reading Canning's diary around the campfire, tucking into fresh warm damper from the camp oven, overcoming all the challenges & sharing all these experiences with a great group of people. Our next Canning expedition is happening from July 5 – 25, 2017, & we've already got several takers. Don't miss out on traveling the "mother of all 4WD tracks" with one of WA's best tour guides! Hope to see you out there next year! Check out the next thrilling, nail-biting issue of this newsletter for reports on our recent Kimberley Expedition & our Science Safari to Perup Sanctuary with DPAWS. There's never a dull moment in the Gypsy camp!

Until next time, happy travels from –

Jan & Jeremy



GLOBAL GYPSIES PTY. LTD.

GLOBAL GYPSIES TOURS & TRAINING
PO Box 123, Scarborough, WA, 6922
Phone: (08) 9341 6727
admin@globalgypsies.com.au
www.globalgypsies.com.au
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/globalgypsies>