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AMERICA'S MOST TRUSTED 4x4 TIRE  
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# 4WD FOR WHEELCHAIRS

TOUR OF THE SIMPSON DESERT

THURSDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> TO TUESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2009

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### Who or What is “DRIVE 4 LIFE”?

DRIVE 4 LIFE is a not-for-profit organization set up by a group of long-time four wheel drivers who also happen to be members of the Traction 4 Drive and Dive Club – based in Artarmon, a northern suburb Sydney. The aim of DRIVE 4 LIFE is to raise funds for charitable organizations that do not have a very high profile and therefore have difficulty raising enough funds to achieve their annual objectives. The publicity gained from these activities is intended to re-enforce with the general public that the majority of four wheel drivers are caring, responsible members of the community.

## **TOUR INFORMATION**

First of all, thank you for showing an interest in participating in this 4WD tour which has the objective of raising \$100,000 to help the Northcott Society (previously known as the NSW Society for Crippled Children).

These funds will be used to fund Northcott's Equipment Loan Pool.

For 75 years, Northcott has provided services to people with disabilities, their families and carers. Northcott currently offers 43 different services to over 4,000 individuals across NSW.

Northcott's Equipment Loan Pool increases independence and enhances the opportunities of individuals with a disability by supplying wheelchairs and other mobility equipment.

Every participant vehicle is asked to make a donation of \$1000 to Northcott – this includes the organisers' vehicles and group leaders'/other support vehicles. Every cent that you donate is going directly to Northcott and is TAX DEDUCTABLE. All organising and running costs of the event are being borne by sponsors and the tour organisers.

If you decide that you would like to participate, please complete and sign the Booking Form and Terms and Conditions and post or fax them to the address on the form.

Once your booking is confirmed, we will send you details of the accommodation available in Birdsville and more details about the trip itself. You will also receive a request to submit your deposit donation of \$200 which is due upon confirmation of your place on the Tour. This balance of your donation (\$800) is payable by the 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2009.

**THE ORGANISERS OF THE 4WD FOR WHEELCHAIRS TOUR RESERVE THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR REFUSE A BOOKING APPLICATION AT THEIR SOLE DISCRETION.**

## **HOW THE TOUR WILL WORK**

The tour will start and finish in Birdsville and will be six full days in length. The tour will start on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August and finish on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August. Registration and briefing from 2.30pm on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August in Birdsville. For those only wanting to be away from home two weeks this allows five full days to travel in each direction.

Camper Trailers will not be permitted on the tour however for those wishing to tow a camper trailer or caravan and leave it in Birdsville whilst the tour is on, arrangements can be made.

As has been the case with other Drive 4 Life tours, we will split into groups with experienced leaders and tail enders. Participants can nominate to travel in the same group as friends if desired.

Each day your group will leave camp by about 9.30 am and your group leader's should have you arrive at your next campsite by about 3.30 pm. A lunch break and plenty of photo opportunities during each day.

You will need to be self sufficient for all camping and cooking gear, food and drinks. We suggest that you take either gas or spirit stoves for cooking, please don't rely on fires for cooking.

Birdsville is the only fuel point during the tour and their General Stores carry a (very) basic supply of foodstuffs – don't rely on stocking up on food there, other than bread and milk.

Upon completion of the tour a BBQ dinner will be held at the Birdsville Hotel. 11/08/09

## **WHERE DOES THE TOUR TAKE US?**

Groups will travel via the “French, QAA (Big Red), K1, and WAA Lines”, We will also be using parts of the Rig Road, the Knolls Track and the Birdsville Track.

With six full days you will visit the best the Desert has to offer, as well as travelling on all the major tracks within. Camps will all be remote with no facilities.

Whatever you do.....

## **DON'T FORGET YOUR CAMERAS AND BINOCULARS**

## **WHAT SPECIAL THINGS DO I NEED?**

Let's deal with the “MUST HAVES” first:

- UHF 2 way radio for communication between vehicles so that you can be advised (and advise) of everything from potential hazards to items of interest that may not be immediately obvious. A 5 watt radio with external aerial is recommended.
- First Aid Kit: Suitable for remote area travel.
- Tyres – It is preferable to have “Light Truck” tyres for Outback Travel. Whilst the Simpson Desert doesn't often cause many tyre problems the roads and tracks that fringe the Desert are synonymous with tyre damage. Travel on these roads is advised to have tyre pressures reduced slightly and speed kept down to a sensible pace.
- 30 litres of water per person. This should allow enough for drinking, washing and cleaning. If your vehicle requires water (eg damaged radiator) we should still have enough within the group.
- Snatch Strap – used to extract a bogged vehicle.
- “D” or Bow shackles are used to attach the snatch strap to the vehicle. You will require 2, rated at a minimum 3.2t.
- Recovery points front and rear are the points where you attach the snatch strap or winch cable. Do not rely on the shipping “tie-down” loops fitted to most new 4WD's. Your local 4WD shop will advise on suitability of existing points.
- A full vehicle pre trip check (and service if necessary) – A 4WD Specialist will be able to carry this out for you. Tell them where you are heading so they will know the requirements.
- Fuel - Petrol approximately 240 litres, dependant on vehicle model.  
Diesel approximately 160 litres, dependant on vehicle model.
- Now for the “RECOMMENDED ITEMS”:
- Cargo Barrier – Recommended to be fitted to “station wagon” type vehicles as this prevents loose items in the back from flying forward under emergency braking situations.
- Fire Extinguisher - a minimum 1 Kg unit, securely mounted.
- Spare drive belts for fan/alternator/power steer/air-con etc.
- Spare radiator hoses (top and bottom).

- Tyre Pressure Gauge – you will be lowering your tyre pressures when you go off-road.
- 12 Volt Electric Tyre Pump (Compressor) – if you already have one, bring it along.
- If you must use a roof rack, keep the weight below 75 kilos. It is a good idea to put light items like clothes and bedding (inside truly dustproof containers) on the rack and heavy items like water containers as low as possible inside the vehicle. One exception - if you are carrying a gas bottle, it should be securely strapped inside the roof rack.

**ALL ITEMS, BOTH INSIDE THE VEHICLE AND ON THE ROOF RACK MUST BE SECURELY TIED DOWN.**

ARB Corporation have again agreed to be the PRINCIPAL SPONSOR and we would therefore ask that you utilise ARB outlets and licensed ARB stockists as you will find them most reputable and able to supply all the equipment and services listed above.

Cooper Tyres have also agreed to come back as a MAJOR SPONSOR. Cooper Tyres market a number of tyre designs that are suitable for a tour of this type. They are competitively priced and their longwearing characteristics are legendary.

## **RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST**

- Cargo Barrier.
- Fire Extinguisher, mounted in cab.
- Spares – Fan/Aircon belts, radiator hoses etc.
- Tools you can actually use.
- Tyre Pressure Gauge.
- If Roof Rack used, keep weight below 75kg.
- All items inside & outside to be ‘tied’ down.
- Vehicles must have one recovery point at Front and Rear
- Fuel as stated above.
- Tent/swags/sleeping bags/pillows
- Minimum 30 litres of water per person
- Car Fridge
- Gas/Fuel Stove & Utensils
- Shovel – if you have space, along handled shovel if preferable.
- Toilet Paper.
- Camp Light and Torch
- Suitable clothing for Desert conditions - all weather gear – temps will range between zero degrees at night to mid twenties during the day.
- All Food & Beverages for duration
- Sunscreen and Insect Repellent