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4WD FOR WHEELCHAIRS

TOUR OF THE FLINDERS RANGES & CORNER COUNTRY

Tuesday 19th – Tuesday 26th October 2010

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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 again raising \$100,000 to help the Northcott Society (previously known as the NSW Society for Crippled Children). We have raised over \$250,000 since 2006.

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

For over 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 participating 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 them to the address on the form.

Once your booking is confirmed, we will send you 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 1st of August 2010.

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

There will be 6 groups of 12 vehicles. Each group will have experienced four wheel drivers in lead and tail-end support vehicles.

The tour will start and finish in Broken Hill NSW.

The tour will commence with registration and introductions at 3.30pm on Wednesday 20th October 2010 and will finish on the evening of Tuesday 26th October 2010.

There will be registration, introductions and a pre-trip briefing on the Wednesday afternoon. On Thursday morning all groups will leave Broken Hill and drive to the first of their designated campsites. Generally, there will be two or three groups at each campsite. Each morning, groups will take a different route from their campsite to the next.

Most days you will leave camp by 8.30 am and as no one likes to have to set up camp in the dark, your group leader's objective is to have you arrive at your next campsite by about 4.00 pm.

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 as firewood is sometimes scarce.* There is tank water available in some places (take a bucket to fill your water containers). You must carry 20 litres of water per person.

You must have a car fridge as there is no ice available for “Esky” type coolers.

Fuel is available at several points during the week – don’t rely on stocking up on food at fuel stops, other than bread and milk.

WHERE DOES THE TOUR TAKE US?

Over the 6 days that we spend on the Tour, we will cover between 900 and 1100 kms. We will be touring on a series of tracks and roads joining Broken Hill, Flinders Ranges, Cameron’s Corner and Tibooburra,

Whatever you do.....

DON’T FORGET YOUR CAMERAS AND BINOCULARS

WHAT WILL IT BE LIKE?

Earlier we told you that you would cover about 800 to 1000 kms in 6 days. However, you will find that with time out for lunch, photo opportunities and the like, you will be driving for about 6 hours a day.

We have chosen tracks and campsites that provide a cross-section of the area we are visiting. Most of the tracks are rated “easy” in the scheme of four wheel driving.

Once or twice each day you will be challenged by some aspect of the track. This is why you will have 2 experienced Group Leaders – one in front and one at the rear. Their jobs are to provide any guidance and assistance you require.

IS MY VEHICLE SUITABLE AND DO I NEED ANY EXPERIENCE?

Provided that your vehicle has “all-wheel-drive” and has a minimum of “all-terrain” tyres it will be quite capable of handling the tracks you will encounter. You will not need to use low range. Original equipment tyres or tyres with less than “all-terrain” rating will not stand up to sharp rocks and branches on the tracks. Further, they will not provide the traction required on steep gravelly hills and on damp/wet dirt surfaces.

As far as experience is concerned, it is preferable that you have at least taken your vehicle off road even in mild track conditions. All the better if you have done even a basic 4WD course. Your Group Leaders are there to provide assistance and guidance – they will of course offer driving tips in various situations but with 12 vehicles in the convoy they cannot provide full on, beginner, 4WD training.

CAN I BRING MY TRAILER?

Provided it is a genuine off-road trailer – YES.

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. The radio must have 5 watts of power. We have found on previous VHC trips that small 1 or 2 watt radios do not have enough "grunt" to handle the hills and the forests.
- First Aid Kit: Again, you don't need something expensive. Most 4WD shops (see below) stock good, reasonably priced kits.
- "all terrain" or "mud terrain" type tyres. If you intend in the future, to do quite a bit of driving in rocky and/or slushy country then mud terrains would be better – bear in mind they are noisier on the bitumen. For general off-road and normal bitumen driving, all terrain type tyres are very good. They are a bit noisier than the original equipment but a lot quieter than the mud terrains and they will be quite suitable for this tour.
- 20 litres of water per person in a vehicle. You can either carry one 20 L can, two 10 L cans or four 5 L cans. The smaller containers are easier to pack – use plastic containers not metal.
- Snatch Strap – used to pull a vehicle out of or over a section of track where traction is difficult. The people at the 4WD store (see below) will explain the operating principle of a snatch strap.
- "D" or Bow shackles are used to attach the snatch strap to the vehicle. You need TWO and they must be rated at least 3.25 tonnes. You can tell if they are rated by the pins being painted and by the rating tonnage cast on the side of the shackle itself.
- 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 4WD shop will advise on suitability of existing points. After-market recovery points are not expensive and should be fitted by a reputable 4WD shop.
- A full vehicle check (and service if necessary) - having told the servicing company that you are going on an off-road trip.

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 small 1 Kg unit– available from good 4WD shops.
- 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. But don't go out and buy one – especially not a cheap one.
- 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 waterproof 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.

FOUR WHEEL DRIVE AND RADIO EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS

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.

We have listed below, some suppliers who have contributed in some way to ensure the success of this **4 WHEEL DRIVE FOR WHEELCHAIRS TOUR**. They are able to supply all the equipment and services listed above and have offered keener than normal pricing to people who identify themselves as participants on this Tour.

Mannell Motors
5 Pioneer Avenue
Thornleigh NSW 2120
Ask for Nic Mannell
Phone: 02 9980 8855

Total Care 4WD
1/13 Bearing Road
Seven Hills NSW 2147
Ask for Jason Dymock
Phone: 029838 9779

Macquarie 4 X 4 Centre
18 Park Road
Vineyard NSW 2765
Ask for Duncan Scott
Phone: 02 4587 7114

Listed below are the ARB Company stores – some of them do have vehicle servicing facilities. Ring and check.

VICTORIA Melbourne Head Office

42-44 Garden Street
Kilsyth VIC 3137
Tel: (03) 9761 6622

Melbourne

793 Nepean Highway
Brighton VIC 3186
Tel: (03) 9557 1888

Melbourne

4A-6 Lonsdale Street
Dandenong VIC 3175
Tel: (03) 9793 0002

Melbourne

609 Victoria Street
Richmond VIC 3121
Tel: (03) 9427 8666

Melbourne

188 Mahoneys Road
Thomastown VIC 3074
Tel: (03) 9460 9988

Bendigo

251 High Street
Kangaroo Flat VIC 3555
Tel: (03) 5445 7100

ACT

Canberra
188-190 Gladstone Street
Fyshwick ACT 2609

NEW SOUTH WALES Sydney

State Office
103 Newbridge Road
Moorebank NSW 2170
Tel: (02) 9821 3633

Sydney

3 McLachlan Avenue
Artarmon NSW 2064
Tel: (02) 9438 4484

Penrith

1/57 Regentville Road
Penrith NSW 2750
Tel: (02) 4731 1266

Sydney

1/500 Princes Highway
St Peters NSW 2044
Tel: (02) 9565 2455

Albury

476 Hume St
Albury NSW 2640
Tel: (02) 6021 2477

Newcastle

89 Griffith's Road
Lambton NSW 2299
Tel: (02) 4953 9555

Tamworth

30 Bridge Street
Tamworth NSW 2340
Tel: (02) 6762 0541

QUEENSLAND Brisbane

State Office
615 Nudgee Rd
Nundah QLD 4012
Tel: (07) 3266 3255

Brisbane

1/168 Redland Bay Rd
Capalaba QLD 4157
Tel: (07) 3823 5900

Brisbane

988 Beaudesert Road
Coopers Plains QLD 4108
Tel: (07) 3277 2020

Mackay

26 Gregory Street
Mackay QLD 4740
Tel: (07) 4944 0011

Rockhampton

1/111 Gladstone Road
Rockhampton QLD 4700
Tel: (07) 4922 7788

Toowoomba

14 Laurel Street
Toowoomba QLD 4350
Tel: (07) 4632 1122

Townsville

311 Ingham Road
Garbutt QLD 4814
Tel: (07) 4728 0900

SOUTH AUSTRALIA Adelaide

State Office
606-608 South Road
Regency Park SA 5010
Tel: (08) 8244 5001

Adelaide

181-183 Main South Road
Morphett Vale SA 5162
Tel: (08) 8186 6101

Gawler

76 Adelaide Road
Gawler SA 5118
Tel: (08) 8523 2411

WESTERN AUSTRALIA Perth

66 Collingwood Street
Osborne Park WA 6017
Tel: (08) 9244 3553

NORTHERN TERRITORY Darwin

64 Raphael Road
Winnellie NT 0820
Tel: (08) 8947 2262

TASMANIA Launceston

48 Holbrook Street
Invermay TAS 7248
Tel: (03) 6331 4190

RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST

GENERAL

- **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**

CAMPING GEAR

- **Tent/swags/sleeping bags/pillows**
- **Minimum 20 litres of water per person**
- **Bucket (to fill water containers)**
- **Wash-up dish**
- **Car Fridge or Ice Cooler**
- **Gas/Fuel Stove & Utensils**
- **Small Shovel.**
- **Toilet Paper.**
- **Camp Light**
- **Torch**
- **Suitable clothing for October weather conditions - all weather gear – temps will range between eight degrees at night and low thirties during the day and there is a possibility of rain.**
- **All Food & Beverages for duration – there will be at least two opportunities to top up fuel, bread & milk and several opportunities to top up water during the week**
- **Sunscreen**
- **Insect Repellent**