

# Road book checked

The last of the survey/road book checks have been completed including an added stage, count now 33 special stages.

Apart from an unscheduled extra day in Cobar due to 40 mil of rain overnight the stages look even better than when we first found them. We checked the road book on all the stages with the exception of two - one because it was too dark and the other at the request of the property owner. Every stage will have been driven and checked at least three times prior to the first competitor. We will be placing arrows and using tape at any road junction that

may create doubt as to the correct route. However in taking of all these precautions we cannot make up for any lapse in concentration of the navigator or the driver!

The owner of Berangabah Station, the 200,000 acre goat farm, has gone out of his way and graded many of the tracks for us and boy are they great! No more spinifex to drive over, no more shrubs rubbing against the side of the car, all too civilised!! Thanks Bob - we owe you another bottle of Angove red.



Goats



Fabulous graded tracks



More goats

We gained an extra 35km stage that runs through a 300,000 acre property west of Ivanhoe. We now have two stages through this vast landscape, the last one cuts off 34km of transport and adds 35km of competitive. With a river flowing into the Darling basin system still a problem through Viewmont Station we again found an alternative stage north of the Ivanhoe/Menindee road prior to the day's lunch break. We may have to place a 4WD towards the end of the stage due to some nice sand dunes. The Nissan Pathfinder handled the track with little effort, however after 15-20 cars cutting it up it may create some concerns.



Sandy Track



Clay pans

## AUGUST 2012

FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25

## EVENT CALENDAR

### Friday August 17

- Documentation / Scrutiny, Overnight Forbes

### Saturday August 18

- Documentation / Scrutiny / Prologue / Welcome function, Overnight Forbes

### Sunday August 19

- 1st Day Competition, Overnight Condobolin

### Monday August 20

- 2nd Day Competition, Overnight Cobar

### Tuesday August 21

- 3rd Day Competition, Overnight Ivanhoe

### Wednesday August 22

- 4th Day Competition, Overnight Broken Hill

### Thursday August 23

- 5th Day Competition, Overnight Broken Hill

### Friday August 24

- 6th Day Competition, Overnight Renmark

### Saturday August 25

- 7th Day Competition / Presentation, Overnight Renmark

# 2012 CLASSIC OUTBACK TRIAL

NEWSLETTER #18

CLASSIC OUTBACK TRIAL

JULY 2012

One of the highlights of our visit to Broken Hill was finally meeting up with the "Flying Padre". From our first trip back in November station owners from Ivanhoe to Renmark mentioned this Flying Padre. After a few phone calls we finally tracked down the man behind the mantle – Rev Jorge Rebolledo.

Like the other patrol minister from Cobar, Ian Tucker, Jorge is not your average minister, as you will find out during the event. Phil and I spent an entertaining night with him and his wife enjoying perfectly cooked kangaroo and a sip or two of our sponsor's wine.

Bob Watson mentioned in the last newsletter the 2 tonne V8 Monster truck owned by Brad Gallard. We caught up with Brad on our last trip. Brad had just returned from the Fink Desert Rally with an outright win. Congratulations Brad great effort. We use some of Brad's orange grove and his "test track". Providing the truck is OK we will witness a demonstration of this Monster truck over his track. It will be well worth watching. The wash up of the event is this: Total distance 2,205km with 1,307km transport and 898km competitive Special Stages  
**= 37.72% competitive!!**



Some months back I was lying in bed one Sunday morning listening to Australia All Over and heard an interview with a chap who was

purchasing and making very fine wool for clothing. Nothing too great about that until I heard that the chap lives and operates his business in Forbes. My ears pricked up when I heard his location.

The following day I contacted the owner, Warwick Rolfe, and discussed how we could be of mutual assistance. Since that initial conversation Phil and I have visited Woolerina on two occasions and the following is the outcome.

Woolerina is a superior range of pure Australian Merino garments, which are conveniently machine washable, creating luxury without hassle.

Whether you are at work, travelling, biking, sailing, or out partying, you can be sure you are wearing an all-natural, sustainable, fully recyclable, breathable and trans-seasonal product. Woolerina can be worn as an under or outer garment, making it practical

yet fashionable – wear it under or over, for work or play – Woolerina is the ideal choice for everybody, everyday!

Based at Forbes, Woolerina is an all-Australian business manufacturing 100% pure Australian Merino clothing for men, women, children and babies. The Merino fibre used in Woolerina's garments had been specifically selected for its longer length and evenness to ensure all Woolerina products are of the highest quality, durability and softness. From the farm to the customer, Woolerina closely monitors each stage of production – from raw wool processing through spinning, knitting, dyeing to garments construction – ensuring Woolerina is bringing you only the highest quality Australian Merino clothing.

Woolerina is especially practical in extreme wet & cold conditions – Woolerina provides maximum heat retention and dispersion, making you feel comfortable across a much wider range of temperatures. As wool is an anti-microbial fibre, it won't absorb body odours creating less washing and more wear!

Although Woolerina operates a busy online store, the main sales method has always been to "take it to the people", attending numerous markets, shows, festivals and field days, by doing this, consumers can touch and feel the softness of the fabrics and easily try the numerous styles available. This year, in a first for Woolerina, we'll be heading out on the rough roads with the Classic Outback Trial, ensuring that if you haven't packed adequate clothing, you can get yourself into some Woolerina!

In support of the incredible work of Frontier Services, Woolerina is offering all participants (and anyone you share this with!) 10% off all purchases made both in the lead up to the Trial, and along the way – Woolerina will also donate another 10% to Frontier Services. To redeem this offer, please visit [www.woolerina.com.au](http://www.woolerina.com.au) & enter DCCOT12 at the checkout. This offer will run until 31st August.

We are delighted that Warwick will be accompanying us on the event setting up shop at each overnight stop.

## Website

The day maps are now posted on the website.

The CAMS approved final Supplementary Regulations have also been posted along with the official entry form.

## Gates

Although we have been very fortunate in obtaining permission from many owners to leave gates open we will not know until a few weeks prior to the event how many will need to be kept shut due to cattle movements. The owners are going out of their way to relocate stock but it may not always be possible. Several properties we traverse have over 15 gates in one stage. Where possible we have car club members and friends manning gates but again due to the remoteness of some of the stages it is not possible. Remember it is your responsibility to buckle up and ensure your safety.



Just hope this one is open

# 2012 CLASSIC OUTBACK TRIAL

NEWSLETTER #18

CLASSIC OUTBACK TRIAL

JULY 2012

## Overview from Survey 11th-22nd June 2012 - Phil Rainer

The Classic Outback Trial 2012 has something for everyone; especially the Co-driver/Navigator. Having spent countless days on surveys there are many variables to cope with; from tight twisty sections within stages to long straights (up to 4kms) that could put you to sleep!!

Seriously the Classic Outback Trial is a real challenge and requires the skills of all participants (drivers, co-drivers and service crews) to ensure a finish. It is essential that you 'read' the road and take nothing for granted.

A few words of advice: CAUTION!! boards and EXTREME CAUTION!!! boards are being placed 50 metres prior to the actual HAZARD as noted in the ROAD BOOK. The set-up officials will also use arrows and tape where deemed necessary. The Co-driver/Navigator can assist the driver greatly

by calling road conditions – rocky, rough, ruts and keeping focussed despite the long stages. These vary in length from 72 kms (on Day 2) to 4 kms (The Fat Lady Sings).

As Bob Watson noted in his comments in the last newsletter, the 'bush' is a great attraction for many and to the characters that have assisted us in putting the event together a very big 'thank you'.

Property owners and Forest NSW management have provided exceptional support; many have spent time actually taking us around their properties, grading roads and removing obstacles (this doesn't mean there aren't plenty left to catch you out). There are many hazards in the outback so be wary in all circumstances. The weather in recent months has been both kind and brutal; water damage to roads has caused washaways, ruts and gutters BE AWARE and BEWARE. Our aim is to get everyone to the finish; you will not win it on the first stage but you

could certainly lose it through carelessness or over enthusiasm!

Although every effort has been made to minimise gates there will be some to be OPENED and CLOSED. Make sure you do up your harness after getting back in the car; it is your responsibility.

The Classic Outback Trial is a 'special stage event' for timing purposes but this does not translate to the road book instructions and tulips, which are trial based; Co-drivers must manage the crew, they are the key to survival.

You will have a chance to see country you may not have been through before and to visit places like Broken Hill and Silverton. The latter is our lunch stop and end of day, at the Silverton Hotel, on Day 5; a fascinating town which is being redeveloped as a tourist attraction. (Thursday is a half-day of competition with a chance to do some sightseeing, rest or rebuild if necessary!)



## Interesting entry received

The duo partnership of Portman & Runnells has been a very successful pairing both in Australia and New Zealand. Well the names on the 1981 Holden Commodore, 3.3L 6-cylinder, pedigree performer – winner of the 2009 Alpine Rally; class winner (3rd O/R) 2010 Silver Fern Marathon Rally in New Zealand, will be the same but not the positions you normally expect or the genders!

**Driver:** Age 56; Ross Runnalls retired forester, pedigree performer (as navigator) – Australian Rally Champion 1981 & 1982; 9 times winner of the prestigious Alpine Rally. Aspiring driver who knows no fear. This is Ross's first fully sponsored drive.....

**Navigator:** Age 30; Jamie Portman, Geomatic Engineer, pedigree performer – State Champion Eventer (equine eventing). Jamie learned to drive by taking a Datsun Skyline across the Simpson Desert while on L plates. Genetically linked to Geoff Portman.

**Service Crew:** Geoff & Lisa Portman (Jamie's Mum & Dad)

Geoff and Lisa have a long history with Frontier Services and will be assisting with various duties during the event.



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