

4x4 CULTURE

4x4 Adventure | Travel | Lifestyle

Issue 59



ARB
Slide Kitchen.
Camp complete.



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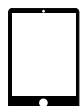
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Snapshot

Matthew Frost

Director of Sales & Marketing

Well, folks, despite the challenges we've all experienced this year, ARB will be finishing 2020 in a very similar manner to way the year started... with a whole bunch of new product launches.

2020 was always going to be an epic year for us and we kicked off in January with a sense of celebration and vibrancy as we commenced our 45th year of being in business.

We had some monumental product launches planned, the most significant of these being the ARB BASE Rack. As featured in the last issue of 4x4 Culture, roof racks were the very first accessory ARB ever built, and with only a handful of iterations over the years, there was a supercharged level of excitement within ARB about BASE Rack.

The start of this year also saw the opening of several new Flagship ARB stores and plans cemented for several more. We also had a massive inaugural customer engagement event planned for March, ARB 4X4 Culture LIVE, that was set to bring ARB customers, staff, suppliers and distributors together to celebrate all things off road.

This event falling over was a catalyst for a very major shift in tempo at ARB. With COVID-19 spreading around the globe, it became apparent that running any activity that brought a large group of people together was not the right thing to be doing. Whilst we were forced to cancel the event, we facilitated an arrangement where customers could still enjoy a long weekend's camping with plenty of ARB hospitality thrown in. A handful of ARB staff hosted a very enjoyable few days as we seemingly watched the world collapse around us. By the end of the weekend, Australian border closures and travel restrictions were announced and it became obvious that this was going to be our last bit of normality for a while.

Whilst things ground to a halt around the nation for a brief period, it soon became

apparent that all of the Rona craziness was going to make folks appreciate the simpler things in life. Camping, 4WDing, fishing, boating... Any outdoor recreational activity was going to become more treasured than ever.

Over the past several months, ARB has seen huge demand for 4x4 accessories resulting in many customers experiencing considerable delays with their orders. Manufacturing is the biggest division within ARB and given its reliance on manpower and equipment, it's a challenging one to ramp up quickly. Nevertheless, it is an area that has seen an intense amount of focus over the past few months. With a view to substantially boosting our capacity, we've employed nearly 300 additional staff across our factories since the start of June and are currently operating our head office plant in Melbourne 24-hours a day.

Another area we've had to ask our customers to be patient with is regard to new product development. Over the past few months, there have been many new vehicle releases including the Toyota HiLux, Isuzu D-MAX and Mazda BT-50.

Historically, ARB has not been the quickest at getting products for new vehicles to market and there is a very good reason for that. Using the new Isuzu D-MAX as an example, this 4x4 ute was released in select international markets some months before arriving in Australia. Whilst ARB conducted comprehensive preliminary bull bar design work on overseas models, we weren't prepared to put this bar into production until we had the opportunity to evaluate an Australian specification model.

ARB has purchased four local model variants of the D-MAX, which gives us the ability to test our products' compatibility across the range. In particular, we wanted to conduct a thorough evaluation of the vehicle's Intelligent Driver Assistance System. This uses state-of-the-art sensors and camera

system to constantly monitor the surrounding environment for danger. Our experience with other vehicles has indicated that these types of safety systems can vary across different markets.

As soon as our first D-MAX arrived in Melbourne, a team of ARB engineers set to work on a range of products, with particular attention paid to the vehicle's safety systems. Despite the complexity involved, we had a full understanding of these systems and were able to conduct comprehensive testing within four weeks.

However, the most time-consuming part of the project has been the structural development of the bull bar, in particular the evaluation of the vehicle's frontal crush characteristics. When designing an airbag-compatible bar, ARB replicates these crush characteristics into our bull bar mounting system to ensure the SRS airbags deploy in an identical manner as the vehicle manufacturer intended. We know for a fact that this is an area where our competitors cut corners. Whilst they may claim that their bars are airbag compatible, their validation techniques are very rudimentary.

The no-compromise position that ARB takes towards design does put us at a disadvantage to our competitors with regard to new product lead times. However, where we do have a big advantage is in the manufacturing process. Most of our competitors don't even make bull bars... They use third party overseas suppliers. Given ARB bar work is all made in house, we have complete control over every aspect of building the product. In the case of the D-MAX and the new HiLux bars, the initial production runs are going through our Melbourne factory right now to expedite getting bars to market. Of course, with a huge initial demand, there will still be a wait, but customers can have complete confidence that the product they are buying will offer their 4x4 an optimum level of protection and is fully compatible with every aspect of their vehicle.



What's New



Altitude Puffer Jacket

ARB's new Altitude Puffer Jacket is the perfect cold weather companion. Features include a matte finish polyester outer lining, mid-weight padding for extra warmth without too much bulkiness and a subtle heat-welded pattern all over.

The Altitude Puffer Jacket fabric makes it super comfortable to wear, providing you with extra protection against cool breezes.

The jacket has convenient deep twin lower pockets as well as an internal larger pocket for keeping extra items safe. The sleeve cuffs and hem have an elastic binding to ensure a snug fit.

Available in men's sizes S-4XL and 7XL and in women's sizes 8-18.

RRP: \$149.00





ARB Flip Flops

Kick back and enjoy the warmer weather with a pair of ARB Flip Flops. Featuring an updated design with our Adventure Awaits black-and-white stamp, ARB logo moulded onto the rubber strap and a contrast stripe mid-sole. Made from high-grade polyethylene for superior comfort and durability, these flip flops will keep you comfortable all day long.



Part Numbers:

217924 (M 9-10),
217925 (M 11-12),
217926 (W 7-8)

RRP: \$10.00

ARB Beach Towel

After seven years, the much-loved ARB beach towel has received a facelift!

Perfect for drying yourself off after testing the water depth ahead, taking a dip in an outback oasis or simply enjoying a day at the beach. Manufactured from 100% cotton, this extra large towel features a handy corner zip pocket for storing valuables. The modern black and white towel features our large Adventure Awaits logo blazoned across the left face and ARB 4x4 Accessories logo in a white double strip on the right edge. Packaged inside a handy mesh bag that can double as a laundry bag or travel bag for the towel.

Part Number: 217917

RRP: \$50.00



ARB Shield Singlet

This 100% cotton singlet will be your new summer favourite and is the perfect wardrobe staple for camping trips, adventures out on the tracks or sunny days at the beach. Featuring an ARB logo on the front and the modern ARB shield logo on the back, this singlet is a comfy and relaxed style, perfect for kicking back on warm summer days.

Part Numbers:

217918 (S) to
217923 (3XL)

RRP: \$29.00

What's New

Whether it's to keep your grooming essentials organised or your smoko safe, ARB has you covered with our updated Toiletries Bag and Cooler Bag.



ARB Toiletries Bag

No matter how rugged you camp, nobody wants their toothbrush rolling around in the bottom of their bag with their dirty boots or their toothpaste exploding and covering everything they own in minty white goop. ARB's updated Toiletries Bag keeps all your personal products in one place, with enough compartments to keep the messiest of adventurers organised.

The bag features ample space, in case you want to share, and includes mesh pockets to allow items to dry and to reduce dampness. The included mirror ensures you're looking your best on the trails or before popping down to the pub for some grub. Designed to hang open for quick and easy access, included is a hook for hanging items such as shampoo and conditioner in the shower.

The Toiletries Bag features:

- PVC outer shell
- Modern charcoal finish with ARB logo and red highlights
- Up to six mesh storage pockets
- Included mirror
- Storage loops
- Hanging hook

Part Number: ARB4209

RRP: \$49.00



Limited Stock

Limited Edition ARB Cargo Swag Bag – Single

ARB Swag Bags are the perfect way to store your ARB SkyDome Swag. This limited edition single Swag Bag features a modern grey PVC finish, moulded rubber carry handles on either end as well as a removable shoulder strap. Fully welded seams and an easy roll top for water/dust protection keep creepy crawlies out of the Swag Bag. It also features four adjustable tie-down straps integrated into the bag to allow it to be secured to a roof rack without the need for additional straps.

Swag Bag Features

- Suits ARB Single SkyDome Swags
- Hard-wearing and easy-clean PVC finish
- Weatherproof and insect proof roll top opening
- Shoulder strap and moulded rubber grab handles
- Multiple attachment points
- Welded seams for excellent resistance against water and dust
- Modern grey finish with ARB branding

Part Number: 10100387

RRP: \$145.00

Fact:

The ARB Cooler Bag can store up to **22 x 330ml-sized cans** at a time!



ARB Cooler Bag

Insulated to keep your food and drinks cold on warmer days, the ARB Cooler Bag is ready for the long haul – with the capability to keep items cool for up to 12-hours* with ice!

Whether it be on the job site, at a BBQ, a trip to the beach or an off road escape, the ARB Cooler Bag makes the list when it comes to handy on-the-go essentials. Constructed from sturdy PVC with an internal foil lining for added insulation, it features storage pockets to keep your keys, wallet and phone safe and all in one place, as well as convenient accessories including a bottle opener and plastic ice brick.

The space-saving design allows the bag to be folded flat for easy storage in your car, drawer or cupboard.

The Cooler Bag features:

- PVC outer shell
- Plastic ice brick
- Storage pockets
- Internal foil liner
- Compression hooks
- Gear loops
- Bottle opener

Dimensions:

- 36cm (L) x 27cm (W) x 22cm (H)

Part Number: 10100376

RRP: \$59.00

* Dependant on conditions.



ARB Chair Armrests

Take your ARB Touring or Air Locker chair to a new level of comfort with ARB's new neoprene armrests. These handy off road additions reduce the chill that can be transferred from the chair's aluminium arms whilst also providing padding for your elbows while throwing back frothies.

The armrests can be left on when packing the chairs up and only ever need to be removed if you wish to clean them. Very simple to set up, the armrests attach with touch tape to keep them in place. Made from 2.5-millimetre thick neoprene, these stylish covers come in a black finish to match your ARB Touring or Air Locker chair.

Part Number: 10500995

RRP: \$14.00

What's New



ARB Lanyard

Ideal for everyday use, ARB's new Adventure Awaits Lanyard is the perfect accessory to hang important items such as keys, tags or tickets. Featuring ARB's signature Adventure Awaits print and a 3D rubber ARB logo, the ARB Lanyard is made from a soft black webbed strap, making it extra comfortable around your neck.

Part Number: 217916
RRP: \$9.00



ARB Supergrip Sand Pegs

With a unique head design, the ARB Supergrip Sand Peg offers more grip in surfaces such as sand, soft soils and snow than traditional tent pegs. This updated version increases the size of the peg to 370 millimetres, giving you even better grip in extreme conditions. These bright orange sand pegs increase visibility, reduce tripping hazards and are easy to find when packing up. Available as a set of four and suitable for use with ARB touring awnings, guy ropes, tarps and tents.

Part Number: ARB4158A
RRP: \$19.00



Ratchet Spare Tyre Tie-Down Kit

Extending the range of ARB cargo gear, the ARB Ratchet Spare Tyre Tie-Down Kit is perfect for keeping your spare tyre secure on top of your ARB roof rack (or other branded rack). The large zinc-plated hooks are designed to suit the 35-millimetre tube on the ARB roof rack range. The kit includes three hooks with 25-millimetre by one-metre straps, boasting a combined 80-kilogram lashing capacity, which makes them suitable for strapping down up to 35-inch tyres. Also included is a nylon mesh storage bag to keep your straps tidy and together.

Part Number: RT12A
RRP: \$34.00



ARB Guy Rope Set

The perfect companion for ARB awnings, ARB Guy Ropes incorporate a spring-loaded tensioning system that absorbs shock to the peg in windy conditions, helping keep the rope taut and the peg firmly planted in the ground. The updated version includes a carabiner for simple and easy attachment to your ARB awning. Incorporating a heavy-duty spring to provide secure movement and improved tension and a bright orange anodised aluminium runner. Six-millimetre by three-millimetre reflective rope reduces tripping hazards and helps make ropes visible at night.

Part Number: ARB4159A
RRP: \$17.00



Patrol Solutions



Toyota LandCruiser 200 Series installation shown

Mounting air compressors in modern-day vehicles has become more and more of a challenge as engine bays become tighter and don't allow much room for added accessories. With large 4WDs becoming the vehicle of choice for many, utilising the limited space throughout the interior to include more gear without impacting the individual daily needs and uses of the vehicle is a challenge in its own right.

After developing an extremely popular air compressor mounting bracket for the LandCruiser 200 Series, the engineers set their sights on the Nissan Patrol. The result is another precision designed and locally fabricated bracket solution that safely houses all the essential ARB Air Systems gear a Nissan Patrol owner could ever want whilst retaining their OE 12-volt socket.

What's in the Kit?

- Bracket for an ARB air compressor
- Bracket for Air Systems hardware (suits optional four-litre air tank, manifold kit, solenoids for Air Lockers and LINX)
- Bracket for controlling hardware (suits optional switch, air hose coupling and OE 12-volt socket)
- Fit kit

Part Number: 3527070

RRP: \$170.00

Everything ~~AND~~ but the Kitchen Sink

You've all heard the line before: "It's got everything but the kitchen sink." Well, at ARB 4x4 Accessories, we like to consider ourselves a solutions-based business, so here it is, the fully on-board, integrated and perfectly practical ARB Slide Kitchen, complete with sink.

While contained within an ARB modular drawer frame, the Slide Kitchen is not a drawer but a complete, stainless steel, slide-out kitchen with bench space, a three-burner cooktop, kitchen sink and its very own utensils drawer.

While some 4WD accessories are downright practical, others are downright cool. This one, well, I guess you'd have to call it practi-cool. Ah, Dad jokes! But bad puns aside, what an awesome product to have in the back of your tourer.







Why an On-board Slide Kitchen?

Let's hope that most of our readers feel they can skip this section, given the most obvious response, "Why wouldn't you want an on-board, slide-out kitchen incorporated into your 4WD drawer set-up?"

But here it is for those who need a little more "selling" on the idea. As 4WDers, we love exploring but the setting up and packing up parts are inconveniences that get in the way of even more time for exploring and relaxing. Having a fully contained kitchen that you can quite literally slide out of the back of your 4WD (and in seconds) is a huge convenience.

From the campsite to the worksite, from roadside to trackside (and who could overlook the riverside), just imagine landing a nice fresh catch straight onto the pan out the back of your 4WD. The ARB Slide Kitchen will seriously transform your dual-cab ute.



Complete Vehicle Integration

The ARB Slide Kitchen has been designed specifically to be integrated with existing or future ARB drawer installations. The new modular unit is built to the same dimensions of our existing full height dual-cab modular drawer profile. The Slide Kitchen slots right in and can be accompanied by any of ARB's dual-cab roller, mid-height or full-height drawers, and finished off with existing vehicle-specific side panels.

Due to the length required, the Slide Kitchen is only available in our 1,355-millimetre deep dual-cab drawers, suitable for back-of-ute applications. That said, of course, the Slide Kitchen can be installed independent of any other drawer as a stand-alone unit for use in custom builds such as wagons, vans, camping canopies and camper trailers.

Operation

Accessing the kitchen is no different to opening any 4WD drawer: you simply pull the mechanical latch and roll the 1,250-millimetre stainless steel bench out. Once fully extended, the bench locks into place and you can operate the kitchen as a simple bench top with drawer or you can release the swing-away stove and sink by lifting the red locking tab.

The three-burner gas stove and sink holder swing out to the left and are locked into place with a red catch. From here you might start to notice a theme; all the locking and unlocking components are highlighted in red to help guide the user through the set-up and pack-up steps.

Once the stove is locked into place, you can fold down the sink holder and insert the 10-litre collapsible silicone sink.

The whole kitchen is easily set up or packed up in under 30 seconds.

First and foremost, the Slide Kitchen is designed for practicality and convenience. For the Australian market, it is configured to be installed on the left (passenger) side of the vehicle, making it suitable for use roadside with the cooktop component swinging away from the vehicle and the road.

The main stainless steel bench top has a 30-kilogram max limit, while the swing away stove and sink can handle 20-kilograms including water in the sink, cookware and food. The total capacity of weight added to the slide must not exceed 50-kilograms.



ARB Slide Kitchen





Where form meets function

Apart from being one of the most practical additions to any serious tourer, the ARB Slide Kitchen boasts some great design form, which really complements the user experience.



Two serious design aspects to marvel on this slide are:

Fully Retractable Over-extension Roller Design

While the stainless steel bench top is a whopping 1,250 millimetres long, the rollers carry and extend the kitchen over 210 millimetres past the end of the slide housing to provide complete clearance of the vehicle. Once fully extended, the bench locks into place.

Completely Freestanding

Despite the fact that this is a serious unit, with stainless steel bench top and shelving, carrying a three-burner stove and the provision for a 10-litre sink, the whole unit is completely freestanding. There is not a support leg to be seen and it is still rated to hold up to 50-kilograms on the kitchen's preparation surfaces, cooking surface and storage areas combined.



Component inspection

Let's take a deeper dive into this great contraption at a more granular level.



The Stove

The three-burner stove is designed and manufactured in England by the market-leading appliance manufacturer Thetford. The burners are housed within a recessed stainless steel dish, providing its own level of wind protection and easy clean-up.

Two smaller 1.75-kilowatt burners and one larger 2.5-kilowatt rapid burner are all controlled by individual adjusters on the right-hand side. The design of the stove provides a contemporary feel and finish similar to that of a home gas stove.

The stove is suitable for pans or pots up to 22 centimetres for the larger rapid burner and up to 11 centimetres for the two smaller burners.

The stove features a battery-powered (electric) igniter and a total of six kilowatts (20,472BTU) of cooking power.

Built into the toughened glass lid are some excellent safety features, including the automatic "flame-out" function that instantly cuts the gas and flame the moment that

either the lid is closed or the flame becomes extinguished.

Gas is delivered via a quick-connect bayonet gas connector, which can only be connected after set-up and has to be disconnected to store.

A 1.2-metre quick-connect bayonet POL fitting with regulator is also supplied.



The Bench Top

Measuring in at 1,250 millimetres long and 465 millimetres wide, the kitchen-grade stainless steel bench top is the perfect space for meal preparation. The hairline stainless pattern matches the stove finish and provides a timeless look.

With the gas cooker retracted in its operating configuration, the bench also offers a second, lower shelf that is suitable for storing small things while cooking. When the stove and bench top are in their operating configuration, access is still readily available to other ARB drawers and/or ARB fridge freezer, which would be positioned beside the kitchen on the driver's (right-hand) side of the vehicle.



Accessories not included

The Drawer

The utensils drawer is positioned at the end of the slide-out bench. This powder-coated aluminium drawer is lightweight and rolls out beautifully on its own set of bearing rollers. With its internal space measuring 345 millimetres wide, 450 millimetres deep and 140 millimetres high, the drawer offers ample space to store your favourite cooking utensils and kitchen essentials and/or a sensible place to store your gas hose and collapsible sink so they are never forgotten.



Accessories not included

The Sink

It's the little things that make all the difference. A place to quickly clean your utensils on the fly or finish up your efforts by washing your crockery in some hot, soapy water is a must in any kitchen. Space and weight were always at the forefront of the engineers' minds when putting this together and as such, they have opted for a drop-in collapsible silicone sink. The 10-litre sink incorporates a dish-drying base, cutlery hold and removable plug with strainer.

Measurements

- Bench dimensions: 1,250mm (L) x 485mm (W)
- Sink max limit: 10kg
- Combined sink & stove max limit: 20kg
- Bench max limit: 30kg
- Overall installed weight: 89kg



Sunrise in the Tatacoa, Columbia



STREET TRIP

Words and Photography by
Brett and Solene – Trepic

When I made the decision to drive around the world, I have to admit I was perhaps more excited about building the car than the trip itself. How often do you get an opportunity to build the ultimate camper?

All of my ideas on the build were based on my experiences of camping in Australia, with little thought beyond that. Even though part of the trip is to cross Siberia in winter, it was a bit hard to get my Australian brain to imagine temperatures of -40°C, so I didn't try.

ABOUT US

We've been camping and driving around South America for about eight months now, spending the first three of those months in the cold, windy and rainy Patagonia, which really tested out all the gear. We then headed north to New Australia (also known as Nueva Australia, established by Australians as an experimental socialist utopian settlement in 1893) in Paraguay where temperatures hit 40°C, before driving over 5,000 miles in altitude to cross the Andes into the driest desert on Earth.

We've driven through mud, sand and snow, up volcanoes, through jungles and across rivers. We've slept through winds of 130 kilometres per hour, hail and noisy Chileans. After all that, we have a pretty good feel for the car and with the benefit of hindsight now know what we would have done differently. Which, we are happy to say, is very little.



The Death Road, Bolivia



Mountains of seven colours, Puno, Peru

OUR PLANS

The plan was, and still is, to drive the longest points of every continent. We estimated this would take around three years; however, we are already behind schedule. Neither of us had ever done a trip this long so we didn't really know what to expect. But, from my previous experience backpacking, I knew that after a while, you really miss the comforts of home.

With that in mind, we went about designing and building our camper so that wherever we went, we always felt at home.

OUR RIG

The first and biggest decision was what vehicle to take, which prompted some questions. How did we want to travel? And

what kind of vehicle would we need for that? The answers were that we wanted a car that would take us anywhere we wanted to go and the best option would be a LandCruiser. For a moment, we flirted with the idea of somehow converting my 200 Series but in the end, we made a pretty easy decision to trade that in for a 79 Series (single cab).

LESSONS LEARNT

Once we had the car, we went about improving it. A couple of years ago, we were driving a hired 76 Series LandCruiser through the Gobi desert in Mongolia. One afternoon, we were trying to cross a muddy river to get to a town that was funnily enough called Bogd. As you may have guessed, we got horribly bogged. We would have gotten out easily if we had a high-lift jack or even sand tracks. But instead, we spent two days camping in

the car before someone finally found us and went to get help. On this trip, if we get stuck or break down in some of the places we are going, it could take weeks or even months to retrieve the vehicle. If it happens in Siberia in winter, we might not make it back at all.

This weighed pretty heavily on our minds and thus some significant 4WD and recovery gear was required. I was lucky enough to find a lot of extras already on the Cruiser I bought as it came with an ARB bull bar, a nine-tonne Warn winch and factory diff locks.

The next thing was swapping out the factory suspension for an OME set-up with a two-inch lift. We bought four TRED Pro sand tracks, an ARB heavy-duty high-lift jack, a new set of Cooper S/T Maxx tyres, an ARB dual compressor and to top it off some new Intensity AR32 LED driving lights.



Guatapé, Columbia



Driving up the volcano in Chile

UPGRADES

Once we had the ute finished, we took the tray off, giving us a big empty space in which to design and build our new home.

The biggest and most important part of that for us was the kitchen. Having a restaurant back in Perth, food is pretty important to us and cooking in our own kitchen goes a long way to feeling at home. It also saves us a lot of money over the length of the trip.

Most of my time went into designing the kitchen and we couldn't be happier with the outcome. We ended up with a big kitchen with lots of prep space and all the appliances we regularly used at home. These included a gas stove, pizza oven, fridge, freezer, coffee machine, coffee grinder, toaster, toasted sandwich press, blender, mixer and a sink with cold and hot water.



POWERING ALL THE EXTRAS

The kitchen and living space ended up taking up the entire left-hand side of the camper and is really practical for our lifestyle. We can open it up quickly and make a coffee or toasted sandwich without any set-up at all. If we are cooking a decent meal, we can slide out the kitchen drawer and set the whole kitchen up in less than 30 seconds. We even managed to squeeze in a nice little wine cellar to keep Solène happy.

To supply electricity to the kitchen, we installed a REDARC BM30 along with a 300-watt solar system (150 in a blanket)

that charges 315 amp hours of AGM batteries. We also added in a 2,000-watt sinewave inverter that easily runs all of our appliances and lights.

To eliminate the need for hotels, we installed a gas hot water shower that also supplies the kitchen sink with instant hot water. The bedroom is a pop-up roof tent that is not only comfortable enough to sleep in for three years, but it's also quick and easy to set up.

The whole right side of the canopy is storage. There's plenty of space for all of our clothes, camera equipment, tools, spare parts and a large area to safely store our bicycles. Now we can leave the camper all set up and ride our bikes to the pub... or other places.

ALL-WEATHER SET-UP

As we are pretty much living outside all of the time, we needed to come up with a solution for bad weather. We came up with the idea to slightly customise an ARB awning. When it's sunny or just a bit rainy, we roll out the awning as normal.

However, if it's windy or a storm is coming through, we can zip three heavy-duty PVC sides onto the edges of the awning. We can zip on just one wall if we want or we can attach all three, creating a three-square-metre weatherproof room that is big enough for us to cook and relax in.

If we are staying somewhere for a while, it's also nice to have a bit of privacy where we can watch a movie and even brush our teeth without someone walking up out of nowhere and taking our picture (yes, it happens).

When we get to the USA, we will be installing a diesel heater to warm the tent up for the really cold (-40°C) legs of the trip. It will also be able to heat the awning room when it's just a regular level of cold (0°C) so we can camp comfortably for almost all of the trip.

THE LIFE

One thing that is blaringly obvious after the eight months of meeting hundreds of other overlanders is that we are the only ones that have a set-up like ours. Everyone else is living inside their vans or trucks.

In Patagonia, where the average wind was around 80 kilometres per hour, we really started to doubt our choice of living outside. But as soon as we started heading north and it warmed up, we both agreed we love our design just the way it is. In choosing to live outside, we have a lot more space to be able to fit in everything we needed, especially some toys like our mountain bikes, kitesurfing gear and an inflatable kayak.

Living outside is also a great way to meet people as everyone seems to feel incredibly comfortable walking right into our kitchen and saying hello. We loved every minute of chapter one and are even more excited for chapter two of our Tropic, North America.



LIGHT ON THE



Whether it be the industry-leading Intensity driving light range, illumination under your awning or even lighting inside your canopy, ARB knows a thing or two about “daylight on demand”. Travelling to remote destinations, or even just working in your garage, correct lighting can be imperative to getting the job done. Our new range of Horizon lights has been engineered to meet all your dimly lit needs!

HORIZON AREA LIGHT

ARB's Horizon Area Light is the perfect floodlight solution. A handy addition if you're working in the shed 'til all hours of the night trying to get your rig ready for a trip or arriving late to a campsite and trying to set the tent up in the dark. The Horizon Area Light's high-powered COB LED provides up to 2,000 lumens and the Li-ion battery holds an impressive two- to four-hour run time.

The magnetic swivel base with rubber feet keeps it nice and steady on the ground or magnetised to any suitable surface, and the IP67 water- and dust-resistant rating plus high-pressure diecast aluminium body means it'll stand up to the elements.

The charger can run and charge the light or provide non-stop lighting even when the batteries are flat.

Horizon Area Light at a glance:

- 4,000mAh @ 5V power bank
- Li-ion battery
- Lumens: 1,000-2,000lm
- High-powered COB LED
- Floodlight beam
- High-pressure die cast aluminium body
- 2-4hr run time (high to low)
- 8.4V 2.4A fast charger
- AC charger and DC charger included
- IP67 water and dust resistant
- Magnetic swivel mounting base with rubber feet

Part Number: 10500085

RRP: \$139.00

HORIZON



HORIZON FLASHLIGHT

Not just any ordinary torch, the Horizon Flashlight has all sorts of added features. Not only does this nifty little flashlight pack a powerful lighting punch, it also doubles as a clever 4,000mAh @ 5V power bank, providing back-up power to charge your phone or other electronic devices in a pinch.

HORIZON WORKLIGHT

Versatile and super bright, the Horizon Worklight is your ultimate portable lighting companion. With a mounting choice of either magnetic or hook, you can set this light up under the hood of your car, hanging off your awning or anywhere else your heart desires.

The wireless charging base can charge not only the light itself, but also other electronic devices you need to give a boost. You can charge your light during the day and your phone while you sleep. The charger is Qi compatible and follows the standard, providing seamless wireless safe charging on over 160 compatible smart devices including the major brands. The Horizon Worklight is your little essential worker, always ready to light up the dark.

With up to 20 hours of running time, the three-colour charging indicator lets you know how much juice you have left. Providing up to 500 lumens, the Horizon Worklight features

digital smooth dimming control via the flush-mount, dual-control switch.

Horizon Worklight at a glance:

- 3,200mAh @ 5V
- Li-ion battery
- Large COB LED
- Lumens: 50-500lm
- Digital smooth dimming control
- Flush-mount, dual-control switch
- High-pressure die cast aluminium body
- Magnetic mounting and hook
- 2-20hr run time (high to low)
- Three-colour charging indicator
- IP54 water and dust resistant

Charging base at a glance:

- Qi standard wireless charging base
- Suitable for various wireless charging items
- Magnetic attachments for mounting and charging
- Type C charging cord

Part Number: 10500080
RRP: \$119.00

The li-ion battery provides up to 20 hours of running time, even though this little getter can pump out up to 600 lumens of light, 180 metres distance at one lux! The battery indicator lets you know how much juice you've got left and the IP54 dust- and water-resistant rating means it is at home on a muddy track just as much as in the kitchen drawer.

Horizon Flashlight at a glance:

- 4,000mAh @ 5V power bank
- Li-ion battery
- Lumens: 60-600lm
- Digital smooth dimming control
- Recessed dual-control switch
- Battery indicator
- High-pressure die cast aluminium body
- 180m distance @ 1 lux
- 2-20hr run time (high to low)
- Type C and Type A braided cord included
- IP54 water and dust resistant

Part Number: 10500073
RRP: \$69.00

Total

FRIDGE
FREEDOM



Designed to complement our existing fridge lineup, the recently released ZERO range – with its single-zone and dual-zone sizes – provides a level of fridge freedom like never before. Whilst having awesome features such as remote temperature control via the handy smartphone app, rapid cool-down mode, dual-zone options and four sizes to choose from, our product development team still wasn't happy. Enough arguments as to whose turn it was to walk back to the car to get another round of beers or snacks to abate hangry campers had taught them to strive for even more freedom and to make a truly portable fridge freezer. Introducing the ARB Portable Fridge Freezer Power Pack.

A NEW LEVEL OF FRIDGE FREEDOM

The new ARB Portable Power Pack has been specifically designed to keep your fridge powered when the vehicle or campsite is out of reach. Lightweight and packed with 15Ah of lithium punch, this hard-working little accessory will keep your food and drinks cold, no matter where your adventures take you. Fully charged in five to six hours (from complete discharge), the ARB Portable Power Pack can run your fridge for up to 18 hours*.

Weighing only 1.65 kilograms, the ARB Portable Power Pack is light enough to take on any adventure, plus it's IP66 waterproof/dustproof rated. The integrated and high-powered rubberised magnets keep the pack secured to the fridge and the clever design means it is compatible with any ARB fridge freezer.



NOT JUST FOR THE CAMPSITE

Whilst the ARB Portable Power Pack is your perfect off road and camping companion, it can be used in so many other ways. Heading to Costco for a huge meat haul in the SUV and want to keep your bargain-savvy purchases cold or frozen until you get home? Heading to a BBQ or a day at the beach and don't like the idea of warm beer or soggy sandwiches? Spending a day on the boat and want the fridge cold and ready for that monster catch you're sure to land this time? Or do you just want to avoid a fridge full of skunk beer when the outdoor temperature reaches 45°C and the whole street's air con shuts down the power? The ARB Portable Power Pack has your back.

EASY PEASY

Operation is quick and easy – after conveniently attaching the pack to your fridge via high-power rubberised magnets, connect the power cable to the DC outlet, press the ON/OFF button and you're good to go!

To charge the power pack, plug in the AC charge cable and the LEDs will flash to indicate the level of battery charge. When all four LEDs stop flashing and stay on, the power pack is now fully charged and ready to go.



TECH SPECS

Battery Type:	Lithium ion
Capacity:	15Ah
Built-in Protection:	Short circuit protection
	Over current protection
	Over charging protection
	Over discharge protection
	Thermal protection
Charge Input:	16.8V/3.0A
Battery Output Voltage:	14.4V
Battery Output Current:	8.0A
Weight:	1.65kg
Dimensions:	330mm x 140mm x 36.5mm
Optimum Operating Temperature:	0°C to 43°C*
Charge Time (from 0-100%):	5-6 hours (charging power 50W)

The ARB Portable Power Pack is covered by a 12-month warranty and the kit includes:

- *1 portable power pack
- *1 AC charge pack
- *1 AC charge power cable
- *1 DC fridge power cable
- *User manual

Part Number: 10900049

RRP: \$399.00

*Test conducted on 36L ZERO Fridge Freezer with ambient temperature of 25°C and fridge set to 4°C.

Little WONDER

We're pleased to announce a new addition to our wildly popular ZERO range, a 36L single-zone fridge freezer.

It's the smallest of the group but don't let its size fool you, with its durable steel outer casing and full height corner mouldings for added protection, it's plenty tough. Able to hold an impressive 47 cans, the 36L ZERO Fridge Freezer has a cooling capacity of -22°C to +10°C and features wireless monitoring and control via an easy-to-use iOS or Android app.

Like its larger siblings, the 36L ZERO Fridge Freezer features boost function for rapid cool down, anti-condensation technology and a highly efficient, variable speed compressor.

Dual DC power inlets at opposing ends mean easy access for plugging in and powering up, no matter how you choose to mount it in your vehicle or caravan. The handy USB 5V, 3,000mA outlet is another great feature that allows you to charge your mobile phone or other electronic devices wherever you are.

The 36L ZERO Fridge Freezer's recessed carry handles with integrated tie-down points make transporting around a breeze and the quick-release breakaway lid simply pops off and then can be fitted to the opposite side. An easy-view LED display, low-power draw LED interior light and versatile removable internal basket system with provision for tall items/bottles are all additional clever features that make this fridge your must-have off road accessory.



Capacity:	36L/38QT Single Zone
	47 x 375ml cans
Cooling Capacity:	-22°C to +10°C
	-8°F to +50°F
Weight:	22.2kg
	48.9lb
External Dimensions:	675mm (L) x 423mm (W) x 436mm (H)
Internal Dimensions:	26.6" (L) x 16.7" (W) x 17.2" (H)
	Upper Compartment
	482mm (L) x 292mm (W) x 143mm (H)
	19.0" (L) x 11.5" (W) x 5.6" (H)
	Lower Compartment
	316mm (L) x 292mm (W) x 180mm (H)
	12.4" (L) x 11.5" (W) x 7.1" (H)
Power:	12/24V DC/100-240V AC
	Integrated battery protection system

Spoilt for Choice

ARB's extensive fridge freezer line-up means you have the fridge freedom to choose an option that perfectly suits your needs.



ELEMENTS WEATHERPROOF FRIDGE FREEZER



ZERO FRIDGE FREEZER RANGE

The problem that faces all long-distance 4WDers has now been solved. The dual-zone, all-in-one fridge and freezer with independently controlled cooling zones (available in 69L and 96L), it's what you've been waiting for.



CLASSIC SERIES II RANGE

The ARB fridge freezer that 4WDers have relied upon for years for its durability and ease of access has been finessed and updated to include wireless control through LINX or your smart device.

THE LAT-LONG OF IT

Home State

Our ever-popular Lat-Long of It feature usually details an exciting location from somewhere around Australia to add to your 4WDing bucket list. At the time of preparing this issue of 4x4 Culture, most of the country's state borders were closed to each other.

Because of this, we thought you'd like a special edition look into the best places to go in your home state and some ideas for your next big lap once restrictions lift.

For a previous edition of 4x4 Culture, we surveyed over 9,000 4WDers about everything off road. We've used those results to compile this list of must-see destinations within your own state borders. There were so many fantastic destinations, pubs and outback stations voted for from this wonderful country. While we can't detail them all, we included a list of not-to-be-missed selections that you should seriously consider researching and adding to your adventure bucket list.



Known as the “Apple Isle” and home to the world’s cleanest air, Tasmania is a 4WDer’s paradise. At least one fifth of Tasmania is World Heritage area, its dense rainforests, oldest trees in the world and 18 national parks making it a must-see destination for any avid adventurer.

FAVOURITE
4X4 DESTINATION

TOP VOTED 

West Coast

Home to untamed rivers, ancient pine trees and giant sand dunes, the west coast is at the heart of Tasmania’s wilderness. Considered one of the country’s last wilderness frontiers, the region’s convict, logging and mining past has helped shape the social fabric of the state.

White water rafting on the Franklin River, cruising down the majestic Gordon River or hiking through the world’s last temperate rainforests past 1,000-year-old Huon pines, there is something for everyone in this truly wild area.

*For more info, check out:
4x4 Culture Issue 58:
Steve Fraser – Tasmania Travel*

RUNNER-UP:

Bronte Park

Located 154-kilometres north-west of Hobart via the Lyell Highway, Bronte Park is a one-time construction village converted to a popular fishing destination. It is made up of a general store, an area for camping, a lodge used primarily by anglers and a series of old timber cottages available for rent.

In the 1940s, the Tasmanian Hydro-Electric Commission created an artificial lake that they called the Bronte Lagoon; the Bronte Park name was then adopted for the neighbouring village. Comprising 4,200 acres of unique untamed wilderness, it boasts unsurpassed trout fishing and prolific native Tasmanian wildlife including the Tassie devil.

FAVOURITE
COUNTRY PUB

TOP VOTED 

Pub in the Paddock

Licensed since 1880 and one of Tasmania’s oldest pubs, Pub in the Paddock is a Tasmanian tourism icon, having looked after many a weary traveller. Aside from its very friendly owners, a standout attraction for visitors is Priscilla, the beer-drinking pig who draws crowds every weekend. Visitors come from all over to meet this local celebrity and watch her guzzling a (specially watered down) beer.

Offering lunch and dinner seven days a week plus a variety of accommodation options, Pub in the Paddock is a must for your Tassie travel bucket list.

RUNNER-UP:

Great Lake Hotel

Located in the heart of Tasmania, Great Lake Hotel is the perfect place for a hearty, modern, country pub meal, a relaxing getaway or simply to stock up on fuel and supplies.

A new Great Lake Hotel and Miena Village development will see the hotel relocated to a more elevated position to take in expansive views of the lake. To complement this hotel, the development will also be adding an independent grocery store, onsite bottle shop and fuel outlet.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

Lufra Hotel, Marawah Tavern, Railton Hotel, Rocky Cape Tavern, The Tarkine Hotel

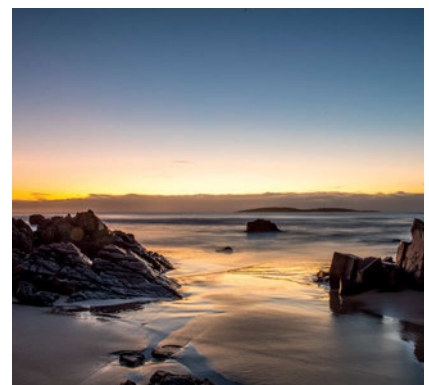




Photo: Steve Fraser

Home to Australia's sunniest capital city, Western Australia is as vast as it is diverse. With unbelievably clear ocean waters, sweeping green vineyards and larger-than-life landscapes, the locals to this giant state are well aware of how spoilt they truly are.

**FAVOURITE
4X4 DESTINATION**

TOP VOTED: ♥

The Kimberley

No surprise here, this ancient landscape is one of the world's most precious wilderness regions and one of the world's last wilderness frontiers. Twice the size of the state of Victoria, the Kimberley is made up of majestic canyons, freshwater swimming holes, countless wildlife species and several outback stations, as well as being home to the world's premier 4WD adventure along the renowned Gibb River Road, which passes through some of the most rugged country on earth. The region's major getaway, the outback beach town of Broome, is famous for its 22-kilometre white sandy Cable Beach and daily sunset camel trains.

*For more info, check out:
4x4 Culture Issue 54: Steve Fraser – The Kimberley Big Wet
4x4 Culture Issue 48: Emma George – My 8 Best of the Gibb*

RUNNER-UP:

Ningaloo Coast

This World Heritage-listed marine park harbours the world's largest fringing reef, stretching 260-kilometres, and the crystal clear water is teeming with turtles, tropical fish, humpback whales and manta rays. People travel from far and wide to swim with the elusive whale sharks that reliably congregate in large numbers along Ningaloo Reef.

*For more info, check out:
4x4 Culture Issue 56: No Fixed Address – Ningaloo Nirvana*

NOT TO BE MISSED:

- Karijini National Park
- Canning Stock Route
- Cape Leveque
- Steep Point
- The Pilbara
- Dirk Hartog Island
- Mitchell Falls
- Bungle Bungle Range
- The Coral Coast
- Esperance



Photo: Justin Coleman

FAVOURITE
COUNTRY PUB

TOP VOTED: 

Whim Creek Hotel

Located midway between Roebourne and Port Hedland and established in 1872, Whim Creek Hotel has long been renowned as an excellent refreshment rest stop.

The hotel's biggest foe is the cyclone and it has fought and lost against this formidable beast on a number of occasions. The original hotel was made of tin and blew down in a cyclone during the 1890s. After being rebuilt, it has blown down another two times since then.

The current building was erected in the early 20th century and the original steel materials were shipped into the Balla Balla Creek jetty, ready for transport inland, but a large cyclone prevented this effort. The building was erected on the banks of Whim Creek where it has stood ever since. The wooden facade, however, has been blown off twice. Whim Creek was also renowned for its alcoholic camel, which used to drink patrons' beers, before it was relocated to Wiluna suffering from cirrhosis of the liver.

Offering traditional good old outback hospitality, pub favourites, live entertainment and a range of accommodation options, the Whim Creek Hotel is a must-stop outback pub.

RUNNER-UP:

Iron Clad Hotel

Located in Marble Bar in the Pilbara region of Western Australia, the Iron Clad Hotel has a rich and colourful history. Built in the 1890s, it was notorious for being the only pub in the "hottest town in Australia", a claim made by unchallenged weather records of the 1940s and 1960s.

Constructed of corrugated iron, the American miners allegedly named it after the iron-clad ships from the US. The hotel was listed for sale in the 1970s and a staggering calculation of sales revealed that 1,350 litres of beer were sold per week in a population of only 500 people.

In the 2000s, Iron Clad Hotel made it into the news when a beer shortage caused an uproar in the town. The Iron Clad Hotel offers icy cold beers, food and accommodation.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

- Grand Hotel Kookynie
- Broad Arrow Tavern
- Roebuck Bay Hotel
- Matso's Broome Brewery
- Quindanning Hotel
- Sandstone National Hotel



Photo: El Questro Station

FAVOURITE
OUTBACK STATION

TOP VOTED 

El Questro Station

Described as the heart of the Kimberley, El Questro offers explorers over 700,000 acres of majestic mountains, deep gorges, thermal springs, rainforests and cascading waterfalls.

Accommodation options include rooms at the station, a resort at Emma Gorge with 60 tented cabins, allotted power sites, general camping, bush camping and station tents.

The beautiful wilderness can be explored by both land and air, discovering waterholes, hot springs and waterfalls. El Questro offers many dining options for hungry travellers from casual dining at their bar and grill to breathtaking cliffside table settings.

RUNNER-UP:

Home Valley Station

Located close to the Pentecost River at the foot of the majestic Cockburn Range, Home Valley Station provides travellers with an unforgettable Australian outback experience.

Accommodation options on offer include Grass Castles, guesthouse rooms, eco tents and campground facilities. The station features towering gorges, sparkling waterfalls, billabongs and ancient landforms and ranges.

Hiking, horse trekking, helicopter rides and sunset tours are just some of the options on offer at Home Valley Station.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

- Mornington Wilderness Camp, Mount Elizabeth Station, Barn Hill Beach Side Station Stay, Charnley River Station, Hamelin Station Stay, Ningaloo Station, Gnaraloo Station, Drysdale River Station, Ellenbrae Station, Murchison House Station, Quobba Station



Often referred to as the “Festival State”, South Australia is made up of such diverse destinations, it’s no wonder it is such a popular place to visit. Home to the Coober Pedy mines, the world’s largest producer of opals, Hahndorf, the oldest surviving German settlement in Oz and Kangaroo Island, the “zoo without fences”.



FAVOURITE 4X4 DESTINATION

TOP VOTED 

Flinders Ranges

Home to some of the most dramatic and beautiful landscapes in the country, the Flinders Ranges are made up of towering ancient cliffs and deep craters bordering dusty red roads. A real land of adventure, a must-visit destination is Wilpena Pound, a natural amphitheatre of mountains almost 100-kilometres wide. Best seen from the air, Wilpena Pound can only be accessed through a gorge 11-kilometres long and eight kilometres wide.

A visit to the Flinders Ranges is never complete without a visit to Parachilna and the famous Prairie Hotel. Our recommendation will always be the feral mixed grill, a platter of emu, kangaroo, goat and camel. If you’re not feeling quite that adventurous, make sure to order the delicious quandong pie, made from wild native peach.

*For more info, check out:
4x4 Culture Issue 57: Drive 4 Life – Flinders Ranges*

RUNNER-UP:

Eyre Peninsula


Named after explorer Edward John Eyre, the Eyre Peninsula boasts fantastic food, wine and abundant wildlife but is best known for its world-famous aquatic activities. Brave a shark cage dive, swim and play with sea lions off the coast of Port Lincoln and marvel at majestic whales frolicking with their calves under wave-ravaged cliffs.

*For more info, check out:
4x4 Action Issue 40: Carlisle Rogers – Paradise Reef*

NOT TO BE MISSED:

Arkaroola
Coober Pedy
Gawler Ranges
Innamincka
Kangaroo Island
Dalhousie Springs
Oodnadatta Track
Simpson Desert

FAVOURITE
COUNTRY PUB

TOP VOTED 

Innamincka Hotel

At the gateway to the vast Innamincka Regional Reserve and on the edge of the Cooper Creek sits the tiny outback town of Innamincka near the South Australia and Queensland border. Innamincka Hotel provides outback travellers with contemporary dining, friendly service and comfortable accommodation.

Named by the traditional owners of the area, the Yandruwandha people, the name Innamincka comes from Yandruwandha words “yini” and “mingka” meaning “your waterhole”. The area’s most famous link is with Australian pioneering history and the ill-fated Burke and Wills expedition.

The Innamincka Hotel was built in 1885 and was a refuge for drovers, pastoral workers and shearers in the area. In 1952, the entire town virtually closed and it was declared a ghost town in 1956 when a massive flood swept through and demolished the remaining buildings. The pub’s revival came in the 1970s with the surge in 4WDers exploring the outback.

RUNNER-UP:

William Creek Hotel

The remote William Creek is the nearest town to the iconic Kati Thanda-Lake Eyre in outback South Australia on the famous Oodnadatta Track between Marree and Oodnadatta, two hours east of Coober Pedy.

The William Creek Hotel, built in 1887 originally as a boarding house, is set in a quirky outback town and offers hotel rooms, self-contained accommodation, camping grounds, restaurant, pub and fuel facilities. A visit to William Creek is not complete without a spectacular scenic flight over the expansive Lake Eyre and the colourful Anna Creek Painted Hills.

*For more info, check out:
4x4 Action Issue 40: Carlisle Rogers – Paradise Reef*

NOT TO BE MISSED:

- Pink Roadhouse
- Prairie Hotel
- Mount Dare Hotel
- Mungerannie Hotel
- The Marree Hotel
- Blinman Hotel

FAVOURITE
OUTBACK STATION

TOP VOTED 

Arckaringa Station

Located 150-kilometres north of Coober Pedy, Arckaringa Station covers 2,745 square kilometres and is made up of gibber plains, flood out creek systems and breakaway country. Its history dates back to the early 1940s with the McLeod family.

A perfect vantage point and all-day view, the Arckaringa homestead is situated just 11-kilometres from the beautiful Painted Desert, an ancient inland sea bed of spectacularly colourful hills. It’s best viewed in bright sunlight, which brings out vivid colours such as ochre yellow, oxide red and deep, rich brown, contrasting with crisp whites and jet blacks.

Arckaringa Homestead offers basic accommodation including cabins and unpowered camping sites with access to toilets, showers and a BBQ area.

RUNNER-UP:

Mt Ive Station

A family-owned sheep station located 200 kilometres west of Port Augusta, Mt Ive features scenic views, historical sites, driving tracks and a variety of flora and fauna.

Mt Ive Station offers a basic kiosk and bar, fuel, accommodation, camping sites, shared kitchen, recreation and BBQ rooms. With many station tracks leading to interesting and diverse scenery, including “Organ Pipe” rocks and private access to Lake Gairdner, there is plenty to keep guests busy for several days, even a “dirty greens” golf course.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

- Merna Mora Station, Bendleby Ranges
- Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary, Anna Creek Station, Rawnsley Park Station, Argadells Station, Beltana Station, Alpana Station, Cordillo Down




Photo: Steve Fraser



Hugging the tip of Australia's east coast, Victoria is Australia's second smallest state but boasts a wealth of diverse regions and attractions. Sweeping coastlines, pristine beaches and national parks teeming with wildlife, plus wineries, lakes and mountains offering skiing, climbing and hiking. 4WD fans value the ruggedly diverse parks for their extensive track network and spectacular scenery.



FAVOURITE
4X4 DESTINATION

TOP VOTED 

Victorian High Country

Made up of thousands of kilometres of constantly changing 4WDing tracks, the Victorian High Country is not for the faint-hearted or inexperienced. Steep climbs, large rock ledges and deep water crossings are combined with breathtaking scenery and rich historical heritage. Noteworthy destinations include Blue Rag, Billy Goat Bluff, Tom Groggin, Sheepyard Flat and Mount Terrible.

For more info, check out:

4x4 Culture Issue 52:

Mark Berger – Lat-Long of It

4x4 Culture Issue 50:

Emma George – High Country Hut

Hopping

4x4 Culture Issue 49:

Mark Berger – Drive 4 Life

4x4 Culture Issue 46:

Jess Vigar – Talbotville Trekking

RUNNER-UP:

Wombat State Forest

Located just 50-kilometres from Melbourne between Woodend and Daylesford, Wombat State Forest is 70,000 hectares of virgin bushland. A moss-covered wonderland, every sleek rock and fern frond drips with fresh water, encouraging a plethora of wildlife like grey kangaroos, wombats, wallabies, echidnas, koalas and 150 species of birds. The variety of off road options including mud hills, creek crossings, hairy climbs and unmarked tracks make it a 4WDer's dream destination.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

Avoca

Buffalo River

Wilsons Promontory


Wonnangatta



Photo: Casey Gray



FAVOURITE
OUTBACK STATION

TOP VOTED 

Wonnangatta Station

Located in the remote valley of the Victorian Alps, Wonnangatta Station has been described whilst still in operation as “the most isolated homestead in Victoria”. Established in the 1860s by Oliver Smith, it was accidentally burnt down by bushwalkers in 1957. Some stockyards and the old cemetery still survive. It remains a popular off road destination and has numerous facilities for campers including septic toilets and concrete fire pits.

In late 1917 and 1918, Wonnangatta Station Manager, Jim Barclay and John Bamford, a cook and general hand, were murdered. Whilst Bamford was the prime suspect for Barclay’s murder, the mystery surrounding both deaths has never been solved.

RUNNER-UP:

Tom Groggin Station

Tom Groggin Station is a beautiful 2,000-acre working cattle property located in a spectacular valley on the slopes of the Snowy Mountains. Operating since before 1860, Jack Riley, the manager in 1890 when Banjo Patterson visited the property, is widely thought to be the inspiration behind Banjo’s poem “The Man from Snowy River”.

Offering self-contained accommodation, bar facilities and BBQs, Tom Groggin Station is the perfect place to relax in front of the big open fire after a day of adventure.

FAVOURITE
COUNTRY PUB

TOP VOTED 

Dargo Hotel

Established in 1898, the Dargo Hotel is nestled in the foothills of the Dargo High Plains and at the entry point for the Alpine National Park, Avon Wilderness Park and the Mitchell River National Park.

Open seven days a week, the hotel offers indoor and outdoor dining, cold beer, wine and Bundaberg Rum on tap. A very popular overnight spot, the Dargo Hotel provides log cabins, bunkrooms and even a historical experience at “Grandma’s House” across the road.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

Woods Point Commercial Hotel, Dargo River Inn, Blue Duck Inn, The Pub in the Scrub, Jamieson Pub, McAdams Gap, Mitta Pub, Noojee Pub, Patchewollock Hotel

RUNNER-UP:

Kevington Hotel

In the gold rush era, John and Mary Garrett settled in Mac’s Creek and in 1862, they opened Garretts Beerhouse on the banks of the Goulburn River. Now named the Kevington Hotel, it stands as the last remaining example of a hotel built in the gold rush in the Upper Goulburn region.

Located 250-kilometres north-east of Melbourne, the refurbished hotel is an ideal jumping off point to explore Lake Eildon, the Goulburn River Inlet and the lush bushland of Jamieson. Open all week for meals and hotel or bush camping accommodation.



New South Wales

Home to Australia's most populous city, New South Wales has more than 780 national parks and reserves. Ranging from rainforests, waterfalls and rugged bush to marine wonderlands and outback deserts. Diverse and exciting locations for 4WD enthusiasts include Kosciusko National Park, the Blue Mountains, the Macquarie Marshes and Stockton Beach.



FAVOURITE 4X4 DESTINATION

TOP VOTED 

Coffs Coast

A hidden destination that is slowly becoming a 4WD and camping mecca, the Coffs Coast is located where the Great Dividing Range meets the Pacific Ocean and leaves a small pocket of paradise settling between the mountains and the sea.

Boasting a vast array of mountainous hinterland areas, pristine rainforest pockets and heavily timbered old growth sections, Coffs Coast has tonnes of 4WDing options from mild to wild. Track conditions can change rapidly – several inches of rain can fall within a matter of hours – but the variety of track options make it perfect for both tourers and hardcore off roaders.

RUNNER-UP:

Snowy Mountains

Affectionately called "The Snowies", the Snowy Mountains feature dramatic summits, breathtaking ravines, challenging adventure and tranquil solitude.

Once the snow melts, the Snowy Mountains transform into an outdoor adventure playground. 4WD hotspots include Paddys River Dam, Port Phillip Trail, Broken Cart Trail and Major Clews Hut Trail.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

New England Tablelands
Turon River
Watagan Mountains
Barrington Tops National Park
Bendethera
Blue Mountains



FAVOURITE
COUNTRY PUB

TOP VOTED 

Silverton Hotel

Sitting in the centre of Silverton, just 26-kilometres north-west of Broken Hill, the iconic Silverton Hotel is one of the most filmed and photographed hotels in Australia. The hotel is full of film memorabilia and offers a great range of souvenirs.

The movie *Wake in Fright* was filmed on the premises in 1970 and since then countless films have used this iconic pub in their productions. Publicans Peter and Patsy Price are always happy to share local knowledge with visitors as well as a range of cold beers and wines and the famous Silverton Hotel hot dogs.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

Tilpa Hotel, Ettamogah Pub, The Pub With No Beer, Shindy's Inn, Royal Hotel Hill End, Mulga Creek Hotel, Rabbit Trap Hotel, Albert Hotel Milparinka, Araluen Valley Hotel, Grawin Club in the Scrub

RUNNER-UP:

The Family Hotel

Located in the Corner Country town of Tibooburra in outback New South Wales, the Family Hotel is at the gateway to the Sturt National Park, Cameron Corner and the vast outback interior. Cold drinks, meals and accommodation are on offer along with a warm welcome and great outback hospitality.

Built in 1882 and originally known as the Tattersall's Hotel, the Family Hotel is constructed of locally quarried sandstone with a veranda along the front and has famously become known as the outback pub with murals on the walls. During the 1960s, Australian artists Clifton Pugh, Russell Drysdale and others spent several weeks painting the outback. Using the Family Hotel as a base and the outback as inspiration, they added their own style of art to walls within the hotel.

FAVOURITE
OUTBACK STATION

TOP VOTED 

Eldee Station

With over 100-kilometres of 4WD tracks, Eldee Station is an eco-friendly outback escape. Currently in the hands of a fourth generation station family, the Schmidts, who have held the lease since the 1930s, the Eldee Station owners have always been passionate about the natural history and heritage of the landscape.

The station offers eco-friendly accommodation, camping and caravan sites, a licensed restaurant, scenic flights and sunset tours. The famous ARB Eldee Easter Event is held at the station every year and involves 4WD challenges, kids' activities, an Easter egg hunt and plenty of family camping fun.

For more info, check out:

4x4 Culture Issue 55: Eldee Easter Weekend

RUNNER-UP:

Trilby Station

Situated near the village of Louth, 125-kilometres south-west of Bourke on the Darling River Run, Trilby Station is a 320,000-acre working sheep/goat station. Offering cottages, bunkhouses, plus powered and unpowered campsites, there are plenty of activities to keep visitors entertained.

From mud map drives, seasonal station activities, canoeing, fishing, bushwalking and birdwatching, Trilby Station taps into the very essence of the Australian heritage.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

Mount Gipps Station
Bindara Station
Nelia Gaari Station
Yancannia Station
Broken Hill Station
Carinya Station
Coolamon Station
Dunlop Station



The second largest state in Australia, Queensland has five of Australia's eleven World Natural Heritage Areas. These include the Scenic Rim national parks, Fraser Island, Riversleigh Fossil Fields, the Wet Tropics and one of the seven natural wonders of the world, the Great Barrier Reef. Famous for its pristine beaches and tropical islands, it is nicknamed the Sunshine State for its fantastic climate – “beautiful one day, perfect the next”.



FAVOURITE
4X4 DESTINATION

TOP VOTED 

Cape York Peninsula

Cape York, also known as “The Tip”, is the largest unspoilt wilderness in northern Australia and is on almost every 4WDer's bucket list. There are two main roads passing north to south through the Cape York Peninsula, the Peninsular Development Road and Telegraph Road, yet most keen 4WDers are only interested in the Old Telegraph Track.

From the Gulf of Carpentaria to the Coral Sea and Great Barrier Reef, this remote part of Australia offer visitors amazing wildlife, cultural experiences and adventure. No 4WD enthusiast's off road portfolio is complete without a photo standing in front of the famed Cape York Tip sign, indicating the northernmost point of the Australian continent.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

Moreton Island, Birdsville, Cameron Corner, Lawn Hill, Byfield National Park, North Stradbroke Island, Adele's Grove Lawn Hill, Teewah Beach

RUNNER-UP:

Fraser Island

Located along the south-east coast of Queensland, Fraser Island is the largest sand island in the world, stretching 120-kilometres in length and 24-kilometres in width.

Made up of rainforests, woodlands, mangrove forests and sand dunes, Fraser Island offers 4WDers soft sandy highways and the famous 75 Mile Beach. Beach camping, whale watching, fishing and swimming will keep you busy while visiting this World Heritage-listed wilderness.

For more info, check out:

4x4 Culture Issue 51: Mark Harman – Go Our Own Way

4x4 Culture Issue 47: Kelly Fuller – Castaway



Photo: Kristen Lecht



Photo: Kelly Marr

FAVOURITE COUNTRY PUB

TOP VOTED 

Birdsville Hotel

The Birdsville Hotel is on many keen 4WDer's "must-visit" list. Accessed by the often unpredictable Birdsville Track, this iconic Australian pub is a great jumping off point for adventures to the Three Corners, the Outback Loop, the Big Red Bash and the Simpson Desert Racing Carnival.

Built in 1884, its weathered sandstone walls have been welcome refuge to weary travellers for over 130 years. The hotel offers air-conditioned accommodation units, pub grub and a bar overflowing with memorabilia including the famous Hat Wall.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

Walkabout Creek Hotel, Nindigully Pub, The Blue Heeler Hotel, Middleton Hotel, Noccundra Hotel, Hungerford Royal Mail Hotel, Cameron Corner Hotel, Toompine Hotel, Gregory Downs Hotel, Hebel Hotel, Orchid Beach Trading Post and Driftwood Bar

RUNNER-UP:

Lion's Den Hotel

Just 28-kilometres south of Cooktown, near the Black Mountains National Park, the Lion's Den Hotel is a historic Queensland watering hole. Named after the Lion's Den Tin Mine on the nearby tableland, the hotel was opened in 1875 by Jack and Annie Ross.

Access is available all year round via the Mulligan Highway but keen 4WDers prefer to approach via the Coast Road through the Daintree. This route involves river crossings and steep hill climbs. The Lion's Den Hotel offers camping and caravan sites, safari tents and onsite cabins, and one of the few safe swimming holes in the area.

FAVOURITE OUTBACK STATION

TOP VOTED 

Bramwell Station

Bramwell Station is the most northerly cattle station in Australia and offers a wide variety of services to the Cape York Peninsula. Just a few kilometres off Bamaga Road is the main homestead, home of Bramwell's Tourist Park and featuring live entertainment as well as a popular fresh food buffet within an open air and spacious bar area.

Opened in 2003 and located at the road junction of Bamaga and the Old Telegraph Line, Bramwell Junction Roadhouse offers spacious campgrounds, great takeaway, cold drinks, light beers and fuel. The famous numberplate tree grows every year and across the road stand the giant anthills.

RUNNER-UP:

Kilcowera Station

Kilcowera Station is a large organically run cattle property 1,200-kilometres west of Brisbane on the Dowling Track, offering guided tours around the property as well as self-drive tours with mud maps, directions and information on wildlife, land types and vegetation communities.

Kilcowera Station offer a variety of accommodation options from Shearers Quarters to powered and unpowered sites as well as bush camping at Cardenyabba Lagoon.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

Moreton Telegraph Station, Karma Waters Station, Lara Station Wetlands, Carisbrooke Station, Escott Station, Central Station, Gregory Downs Station, Lawn Hill Station, Victoria Downs Station




Whilst the Northern Territory is the third largest administrative region in Australia, it has half the number of people in Tasmania. Vast and incredible, it boasts mesmerising natural wonders and landscapes and thriving Aboriginal cultures offering ancient storytelling and spiritual traditions. A truly unforgettable travel experience and a 4WD enthusiast's paradise.



Photo: Dean Lawtie

FAVOURITE 4X4 DESTINATION

TOP VOTED 

Kakadu National Park

Australia's biggest national park, Kakadu is made up of rugged escarpments, lush rainforests and rock art galleries up to 20,000 years old. With six dramatically different seasons, Kakadu is a magical place of thundering waterfalls and millions of migratory birds among the wetlands. There is so much to learn about Aboriginal culture from the traditional owners, the Bininj/Mungguy people.

Our favourite sign, "Only accessible by 4WD", can be found in such places as West Alligator Head in the north of the park as well as Twin Falls, Jim Jim Falls, Maguk and Jarrangbarnmi in the south.

RUNNER-UP:

The Red Centre

The Red Centre is an extraordinary landscape of desert plains, weathered mountain ranges, rocky gorges and some of Aboriginal Australia's most sacred sites, including Uluru and Kata Tjuta.

Floating in an outback waterhole, dining under a starry sky while being serenaded by didgeridoo and watching the world's most famous rock change colours at dawn and dusk are just some of the Red Centre's only-in-Australia experiences.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

Litchfield National Park
Arnhem Land
Coburg Peninsula
East Arnhem Land
Lorella Springs



Photo: Kings Creek Station

FAVOURITE
OUTBACK STATION

TOP VOTED 

Kings Creek Station

Established in 1891, Kings Creek Station lies 36-kilometres from the magnificent Kings Creek (Watarra) and is the largest exporter of wild camels in Australia. Accommodation options include camping, safari cabins, luxury glamping and an old drovers' camp.

Kings Creek offers quad safaris, helicopter flights and swimming, a station shop that sells basic supplies and a cafe serving up their famous Kings Creek camel burgers.

RUNNER-UP:

Bullo River Station

Situated close to the Western Australia border in East Kimberley, Bullo River Station is a Top End ranch sprawled across half a million acres. Endless adventures are on offer for visitors including barramundi fishing, 4WDing, cattle mustering, helicopter flights, Aboriginal art and a plethora of outback flora and fauna.

Despite Bullo River Station's extreme isolation, they are at the forefront of green change and as of 2009 had embarked on a "going green" project, installing a solar system that reduced their fossil fuel emissions by 70%. Accommodation options at Bullo include the homestead and a pair of huts by a lake, accessible by helicopter or 4WD.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

Curtin Springs Station, Lorella Springs Station, Old Andado Station, Hamilton Downs Station, Tobermorey Station, Seven Emu Station, Banka Banka Station, Hale River Homestead, Henbury Station, Ross River Resort, Tipperary Station, Annaburroo Station, Elsey Station Homestead, Jervois Station Roadhouse, Mataranka Homestead, Nathan River Station

FAVOURITE
COUNTRY PUB

TOP VOTED 

The Daly Waters Pub

Built in 1930, the Daly Waters Pub has witnessed murders, street shoot-outs, cattle stampedes and drunken brawls. One of the Northern Territory's most well-known watering holes, the pub is famous for its ceiling of bras, a tradition started in the 1980s as a drinking bet between a coach driver and his female passengers.

Accommodation options include camping and caravan sites, budget rooms, cabins and motel rooms. Located off the Stuart Highway, the Daly Waters Pub sits 600-kilometres south of Darwin and 900-kilometres north of Alice Springs.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

Humpty Doo Hotel, Adelaide River Inn, Grove Hill, Heartbreak Hotel, Bark Hut Barkly Homestead, Curtin Springs Station, Kulgera Roadhouse, Larrimah Pink Panther Hotel

RUNNER-UP:

Tennant Creek Hotel

Local legend has it that the town of Tennant Creek grew around a spot where a beer wagon, destined for the nearby Overland Telegraph Station, broke down in 1934 and pioneer Joe Kilgariff built a store at the breakdown site. The Tennant Creek Hotel went up and the rest is history.

Supporting the local community with regular events, Tennant Creek Hotel offers a bottleshop, full bar, beer garden and kitchen for a delicious feed.

To The Max

The Isuzu D-MAX has come a long way since its inaugural launch in 2002, in styling, capabilities, features and popularity. In the last financial year, Isuzu sold nearly 5,000 of their commercial and recreational ute offering across Australia. The outgoing model, which has earned a strong following in the 4x4 fraternity, served a considerable eight years in the market and its departure marks the end of a long relationship with General Motors/Holden.

On the back of its small truck heritage, the Isuzu ute platform has become widely respected for its durability, towing capacity and all-round value for money. With the

departure of Holden from the scene, a great opportunity lies ahead for the Isuzu team with their new D-MAX platform and we have heard much hype and anticipation from ARB customers.

The new Isuzu D-MAX is a ground-up design and will share its future platform with Mazda's BT-50 (who also recently parted ways with long-term platform partner, Ford).

At ARB, we appreciate how important this model is to our customers and as such, no corners have been cut in ensuring the perfect range of 4x4 accessories are available to complement the vehicle for future owners.



Bars, Steps & Rails

ARB has recently launched a range of protective equipment to get our Isuzu customers on the tracks including the ARB Summit bar, Summit side rails and Summit side steps.

Did you know? The ARB Summit side rails for the D-MAX are tested to hold at least half the vehicle's weight.

Additionally, an ARB Commercial bull bar is available and while development is ongoing for an ARB Rear Step Tow Bar offering (due in early 2021), ARB can offer customers a range of Hayman Reese options in the meantime.

SAFETY FIRST

When it comes to developing a bull bar, there are two key elements: style and safety.

When choosing a new 4WD, safety features are amongst the most critically evaluated aspects of a vehicle, and so they should be; in the case of a major accident, they could well save you and your family's life.

At ARB, our engineers take the same level of critical evaluation in the design of a bull bar to ensure that while performing its myriad of practical jobs, it also allows the vehicle to perform its highly engineered safety features. And one of the key components to maintaining the D-MAX's safety standards is to ensure that the vehicle's safety mechanisms react identically with an ARB bull bar as they would with a standard bumper. This is achieved by scientifically measuring the effects of a simulated real-world impact or collision on key areas of the vehicle. Every ARB bull bar includes a set of engineered and tested impact absorbers, which replicates the characteristics of the vehicle's impact mechanics.

So first things first, you can rest assured that not only will your ARB Summit bull bar help protect key engine components from an animal strike (that otherwise might have left you stranded), in a more instantly traumatic experience, the ARB bull bar will not impede the vehicle's accredited safety features.



SENSIBLE STYLING

The ARB Summit bull bar isn't just a bull bar, it's a brand within itself that reflects strength, durability and great levels of practicality. To fit the new Isuzu D-MAX, a level of styling changes are made to accommodate the vehicle's headlights and flares while great consideration is always given to chassis mounting and the aforementioned safety features.

The overall design of the ARB Summit bull bar, with its large radius pan and slightly upswept outer wings, provides great strength. Importantly, the bull bar's depth not only increases its overall strength but also puts some valuable distance between

your pride and joy and any animal or object that you may unfortunately hit. The 2021 Isuzu D-MAX Summit bull bar is also compatible with up to a 10,000-pound winch.

The large diameter 60.3-millimetre tubes provide maximum coverage to protect your headlights as well as the upper components at the front of your engine bay.

A Summit bar is under development to suit the Terrain-X model.

All Summit bull bars are conditioned with an anti-rust primer and are available in either ARB matte black powder coat or can be colour-coded to your vehicle.





Rated Recovery Points

There is much more work than what meets the eye when it comes to creating a recovery point for the new D-MAX. With a busy engine bay and not a great deal of chassis real estate, the ARB engineers were determined not to perform any additional drilling or create any additional holes in the vehicle's chassis. As such, the Isuzu D-MAX recovery point is a unique long design, yet provides the level of assurance you would expect from an ARB recovery point.

ARB has released left and right variants of the Isuzu D-MAX recovery point. Made from 20-millimetre 350MPa grade steel, these recovery points can be used independently, each rated to eight tonnes, up to the maximum turn angle of the front wheels.

BASE Rack

The new ARB BASE Rack has received overwhelming support by 4WDers around the world and as such, it was a top priority to have a rack ready as soon as possible to suit the Isuzu D-MAX.

CAB RACK

The vehicle-specific BASE Cab Rack is supported on perfectly sculptured blade mounts running down the side of the vehicle. Height is key and the new BASE Rack will sit just 23-millimetres off the roof of the vehicle, with an overall added height of just 58-millimetres. Owners will be able to choose between running a wind deflector or the new ARB Roof Rack Light Bar, nicely underslung and tucked away.

CANOPY RACK

Of course, those customers fitting out their D-MAX with an ARB canopy will also have the option to fit one of our BASE Canopy Racks.

Cover Up – Canopies and Sportlids

A completely new vehicle means a tub with all new dimensions. ARB has released a range of canopies and Sportlids to suit the Isuzu D-MAX.

First cabs off the rank are the Classic and Classic Plus canopies, which will soon be followed by the Ascent canopy. All variants are available for order immediately, while the Ascent canopy is due to be available by January 2021.

Alongside the Ascent canopy will also come the new ARB Sportlid.

Did you know? All ARB Sportlids and canopies are manufactured in New Zealand in an ARB-owned plant. The shells are transported and then built to customer order from major cities including Melbourne, Brisbane, Sydney, Adelaide and Perth.

Tub Accessories

In addition to the ARB canopy range, D-MAX owners can look to complete their tub with the ARB Sportguard, a best-in-class fitted internal tub protector with unmatched elements of anti-slip characteristics to keep your load where you left it!

And as tailgates get bigger, they get heavier. ARB's Tailgate Assist to suit the Isuzu D-MAX takes the weight out of the heavy falling tailgate and with its twin strut design will more than halve the effort of closing it.

Lift & Load – Suspension

The previous iteration of the D-MAX was well renowned as a great towing vehicle and anybody who knows anything about towing knows that extra weight on your tow ball can really disrupt the handling of your vehicle.

ARB has gone to great lengths to ensure that a full gamut of suspension options is available to set your D-MAX up perfectly for your towing, touring or trade requirements. Lift options of up to 40 millimetres front and rear are available as well as a range of additional components including extra leaves and greaseable pins and shackles.



BP-51

The previous D-MAX was one of the last vehicles of its allies to receive the option of BP-51 suspension and new customers will be excited to hear that the rebound and compression adjustable Old Man Emu BP-51 internal bypass shock absorbers are available for order immediately on the new model.

NITROCHARGER SPORT

A solid performer and stalwart of the industry, ARB's Old Man Emu Nitrocharger Sport twin-tube shock absorbers have been retuned and revalved to complement the new characteristics of the 2021 D-MAX.

Drawers

Looking to make better use of all that tub space with some compartmentalisation? ARB's range of Outback Solutions roller drawers – with and without roller floors – comes in a variety of heights with form-fitting side floor kits. It's the perfect location to install a dual battery or an on-board compressor or both!

Under Development

While a lot of work has gone into the starting line-up of accessories for the Isuzu D-MAX, ARB continues to work on a range of accessories due early in 2021, which include:

- ARB Summit Rear Step Tow Bar
- ARB Under Vehicle Protection
- ARB Frontier Fuel Tank
- Safari Snorkel



GLADIATOR



GLADIATOR

Every year, the team at ARB Seattle builds their fleet Jeeps to be used as both display and trail vehicles at the Easter Jeep Safari in Moab, Utah. On 18 March 2020, an emergency ordinance by the Grand County Council and Moab City limiting attendance at special events was extended to encompass motels and campgrounds around Moab. In the best interests of everyone concerned, for the first time in 53 years, the Easter Jeep Safari was cancelled.

This year, amongst the fleet Jeeps built for the event was a 2020 Jeep Gladiator named "Russell". Even though he couldn't strut his stuff at the Easter Jeep Safari, we wanted to give you a little taste of this formidable beast and the products now available for Jeep Gladiator owners.

Russell's Build Sheet:

- ARB Classic Deluxe Winch Bumper
- ARB AR21 Intensity LED Lights
- Warn Winch
- ARB Air Lockers – Front and Rear
- ARB Differential Covers – Front and Rear
- ARB Twin Air Compressor
- ARB LINX Vehicle Accessory Interface
- Safari Snorkel
- Prototype 3.5-inch BP-51 Adjustable Internal Bypass Suspension
- 37-inch BFG Mud-Terrains mounted on SCS Wheels
- ARB Rock Sliders
- ARB Elements Fridge Freezer mounted to ARB Slide
- TRED Pro Recovery Boards
- ARB Rear Bumper

IDYLLIC CURTIS ISLAND





Words and Photography

BY: TRIP IN A VAN

If someone asked me a few years back if I had heard of Curtis Island, do you know what my answer would have been?

“Um, yeah, it’s that joint off Gladstone with a gas plant on it, yeah?” Well, I wouldn’t have been totally wrong but there is so much more there than just a gas plant.

After driving past Gladstone six times over the last five years, we finally managed to get a trip planned and take our caravan over to Curtis Island for a week of camping, fishing and exploring.

Would I now recommend it to others for their next camping trip? Absolutely!



Curtis Island is located in the Gladstone region off the Queensland coast. It is accessible by private boat or ferry through the Curtis Ferry Services, which leave from Gladstone Marina twice a day, five days a week. The ferry also services Facing Island and takes about an hour to get you from the Gladstone Marina to Curtis Island. For us to take over our car and caravan, it is \$480 return. Costing is by the metre and by the number of persons going over to the island, so every ferry fee will be different.

Our trip begins at Tannum Sands, which is a short 30-minute drive south of Gladstone. We stay at the caravan park for a few days, which gives us the chance to load up on supplies and get organised before we head over. Although there is a small general store in the township of Southend on Curtis, I recommend you load up on everything you need plus more while you’re on the mainland.

Our barge is departing at 9.00am, so we arrive 20 minutes prior and are guided on in reverse to make it an easy departure once we arrive at Curtis. It’s then a relaxing hour across relatively flat water to Facing Island and Curtis Island. There are permanent residents on both these islands, so the Curtis Ferry Services run multiple times a week to service them.

The ferry will have you disembark on Curtis Island at Southend. Here is a very small township and also a campground that is council run. It’s a big open campground that’s grassy and shady with toilets and bins available. There is also a small store in Southend where you can grab things such as bread, milk and ice. We will return here later in our stay for a few days but first, we make our way over the island to the Joey Lees Campground.

Apart from the roads in Southend, which are all bitumen, the rest of the island tracks are all dirt, gravel and sand. There are a few soft sections at the beach accesses but even a newcomer to the 4WD and camping scene would find it easy to tackle. It is a very scenic drive with clifftop views overlooking the ocean and some tight bush tracks. If you have a big set-up like ours, there will most definitely be some scratches to your car and caravan, but nothing that won’t buff out though. It takes us about an hour and a half to get over to the Joey Lees Campground. There are a few tight corners and some overhead branches but you will get through no worries. It’s all part of the adventure!





As we emerge from the bush into the empty campground clearing, spectacular ocean views and private beach access greet us. How good's that excited feeling when you know you're going to be the only one camped in an epic spot? No reception, the beach at our doorstep and sunrises to die for! The sunsets are unbelievable, too, making for those fairy floss skies! Joey Lees is a National Park campground so you'll need to book through the park's website. The cost was \$26.20 per night for our family and there are no facilities here. One important thing to note as well is that campfires here are not allowed. Our first night is spent having a few quiet beers and a BBQ while we watch the sunset.

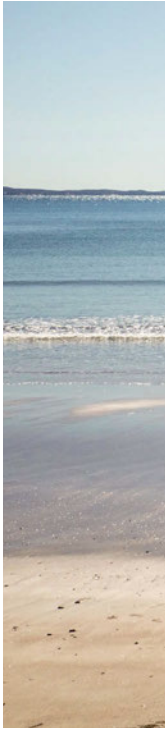
Next day comes with an early start as we are super keen to get the tinny off the roof and get some fishing done. With beach launching the tinny comes a few conditions that need to be in your favour. You need calm surf, light winds and also a nice hard-packed beach so you can reverse your car down to the

water's edge. We get all three and after a quick set-up, we are trolling lures around the headlands hoping for a good mackerel or tuna. Of course, with me likely being one of Australia's most unlucky fishos, we only manage to catch a small benito, which we use for bait and to drag for beach worms on the beach in front of camp.

Lucky for us, there is a juicy rump roast in the fridge that cops the Weber treatment and with a few baked veggies on the side, it is delicious. One thing you learn when you're useless at catching fish is to always have a back-up meal plan!

If you do make it over to camp here, then you need to make the effort to do an early wake-up (with or without the kids). Our kids love a good sunrise and hot choccy and get super excited when we plan an early rise. At 6.15am, we line the chairs up, throw on some trackies and enjoy a pretty special morning.





EXPLORING

There are caves to find at the left-hand end of Joey Lees and the kids will spend hours jumping off the rocks and exploring. There are also plenty of rock pools to investigate as the tide drops each day.

If you get to Curtis Island at the right time of the year, you may be able to witness turtle nesting and hatching. The best months for this are from October to March on Turtle Street Beach.

If you're into bushwalking, there is plenty of that around the island as well. For us, it was relax mode, fishing, the sunrises and sunsets and the kids exploring around the rocks and doing some swimming. There is a great little reef just a few metres out from Joey Lees Campground that is awesome for snorkelling.

About 20 minutes from our camp, there is also another National Park beach camp called

Turtle Street but you cannot get a caravan in here. If you're just taking your tent and car over, this spot is definitely worth a look for a few nights. For us, it is a good day trip to go for a swim and have some lunch on the beach. We spend hours here with the awning out and catch plenty of small bream and flathead off the beach with the kids.

After four nights here, the weather takes a windy turn for the worst and starts to blow directly onshore so we decide to hitch up and head back to the council-run campground in Southend. This camp is more protected and only a short drive to the boat ramp to access some different fishing grounds. It even has toilets, bins and a rainwater tank for water. It is \$32 a night for our family to stay.

The tinny gets whipped off the roof again and drifting over the rubble grounds off the front produces a few small reef fish and a nice flathead that turns into beer battered fillets for dinner. Our favourite beer batter recipe is so simple. It is just self-raising flour and a nice

beer. Whisk it to pancake batter consistency and keep in the fridge until you're ready to cook. We use canola oil to shallow fry for a few minutes either side and it always turns out amazing! Serve it up with some chips or a salad and it's a winner!

The fishing here would only get better with experience; there is bound to be a whole lot of local honey holes where good stuff like coral trout and blue tuskfish hang out... there's always next time, I suppose.

With plenty of memories and a few extra pinstripes on the gear, we pack up and prepare to head back to the mainland to continue north.

Returning home is as easy as driving back to the boat ramp to wait for the Curtis Ferry Services to take you back to the Gladstone Marina.





4WDING

If you're after tough 4x4 tracks, then Curtis Island probably isn't your destination of choice. Unless you're in Southend where all the roads are bitumen, the tracks around Curtis Island are dirt roads; we didn't even need to air down as the tracks are well maintained by the National Park people and the local council. Even the beaches are hard packed and gently sloping, making them safe as houses to park up on and enjoy.

We reckon Curtis Island is the Gladstone region's best kept secret and we definitely recommend getting over there. If you love remote beach camping, fishing, epic sunrises and sunsets, no phone service and relaxing days, then this is your spot. Try to make a week of it!

Cheers, Justin.

FISHING

There are no fishing permits needed on Curtis Island and fishing off the beach is permitted.

There is a boat ramp at Southend where the ferry drops you off and you can beach launch from Joey Lees and Turtle Street. They hold a fishing competition here every year called the Boyne/Tannum Hookup, which brings in anglers from all over the state.

For all your information on rates and camping areas, you should check out the Curtis Ferry Services website.

www.curtisferryservices.com.au

Light Touch

In 4x4 Culture Issue 58, we released the highly anticipated ARB Intensity Solis driving lights. Since then, the ARB engineering and development team has been hard at work ensuring a new software version for LINX owners is available to accommodate these lights.



LINX Version 1.8

The latest LINX update has been carefully developed to ensure users get the most out of these uniquely designed, feature-packed and highly capable driving lights. For those of you who are yet to experience the amazing benefits of having a LINX system within your vehicle, check out our interactive microsite at linx.arb.com.au.



SOLIS

In case you missed it, ARB's Intensity Solis driving lights represent not only a feature-packed new intensity of driving lights, they also offer a value proposition that is seriously worth considering if you're looking to add some driving lights to your vehicle.

Available in spot and flood beams that come with interchangeable die-cast side bezels, the really exciting addition to the Intensity range is the Solis's five-stage dimmable function. Along with this comes a highly tuned single-piece reflector and 165 watts of OSRAM LED performance, bringing it to the top of the class in light output.

SETTING UP

Whilst we always recommend leaving it up to our expert fitters to do the hard work for you, we know that most of our customers are extremely mechanically capable and love nothing more than spending some time in the shed working on their pride and joy. If you've installed your Intensity Solis lights yourself, you'll need to enable functionality within your device. Follow these simple steps to begin:

1. After you have wired up your Intensity Solis driving lights, you will need to ensure they are connected to LINX using the Intensity Solis LINX patch loom (Part No. SJBLINX).
2. Open the "Switchboard" module and press and hold on the accessory icon that you have connected your Intensity Solis driving lights to.
3. Scroll down until you see the "Enable ARB Intensity Solis Functions" button and select it.
4. Pat yourself on the back in pure amazement at not only how simple that was but also how much of a LINX aficionado you are!

FULL CONTROL

Now that you have the LINX and Solis systems seamlessly connected, you'll want to familiarise yourself with the features now at your fingertips.

FADE RATE

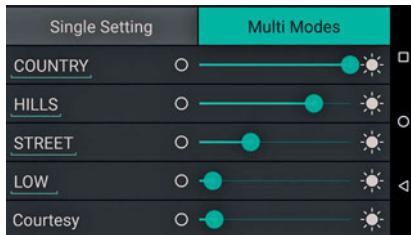
The new ARB Intensity Solis driving lights feature dimmable control and LINX allows many ways of customising how these lights operate specific to your requirements. "Fade Rate" functionality lets you choose how fast or slow the lights turn on and off. This means that a fast fade rate (chosen by sliding the selector closer to the rabbit) will ensure the lights switch on and reach the selected brightness quicker. To program a soft fade on and off selection, slide the selector closer to the turtle. This functionality is particularly helpful when driving in areas where there is likely to be high populations of wildlife near the roads as a soft fade rate will be less startling to animals (people too).



SINGLE SETTING

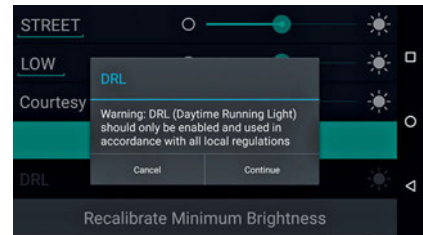
Single setting is the default mode when first setting up the Intensity Solis functionality on LINX and it means that one fixed brightness for the driving lights is selected and will be produced whenever the lights are activated.

In addition to this, you can also choose the single setting brightness of the driving lights for when they are used with the “Courtesy Light” feature. (The “Courtesy Light” feature turns on your driving lights for a specified period of time when the vehicle turns off, which is ideal for providing temporary lighting when walking to the front door in the dark for instance.) To use the driving lights as your courtesy lights, scroll up in this same menu and choose the number of seconds you wish them to come on for once the vehicle has been turned off.



MULTI MODES

“Multi Modes” allows you to program up to four different lighting modes and customise them with individual names, such as the places you might use them and how bright you would like them to be. To utilise “Multi Modes”, when activating the Solis icon in LINX, you are given a choice of your four pre-set modes. If you don't select a specific mode on start-up, the driving lights will turn on using your most recently selected mode; if the driving light was already on and you don't choose a mode within two seconds, it will automatically turn off.



DAYTIME RUNNING LIGHTS

To use your Intensity Solis driving lights as daytime running lights (DRL), scroll down to the bottom of the menu and select “Enable DRL”. You must choose to continue or not by accepting the warning. We recommend that you choose the lowest possible dimming setting as a courtesy to other road users. The DRLs will automatically turn off when low or high beam headlights are activated.



RECALIBRATION

Due to the nature of digital dimming control and each vehicle being different to the next, there may be a need to calibrate how dim the minimum brightness setting actually is for your vehicle. To do so, select “Recalibrate Minimum Brightness” and while monitoring your driving lights and their light output, calibrate this further by selecting the moon on the left for a lower light output or the sun on the right to increase the brightness.

RAM Suspension



4 **WD suspension is not a simple affair and there's no one-size-fits-all solution.** Determining the right options for your vehicle and requirements demands special attention and your choices should ensure the right suspension suits how your vehicle is outfitted and the conditions it will encounter.

OME suspension development for the RAM 1500DS took many factors into consideration. Sean Spencer, the OME Engineer who headed up the project, explains the options now available to all RAM owners: "In regards to lifting the RAM, we settled on a 40- to 45-millimetre lift. The front is nice and simple with three coil options, which will be selected dependent on your front set-up, so that's an OE set-up, a bar or a bar and winch combo.

In development, we also found that a single strut was quite suitable to be utilised across all three load ranges."

When it came to the rear, Sean said things were kept simple like the front with just a coil and shock. "In the rear, we're catering for three load ranges, which is OE, 300 kilograms constant and 600 kilograms constant. For the rear tuning of the shocks, we have two options, one for our medium load to give you a nice plush ride whilst maintaining plenty of control. And then a little more control in our heavier tuned shock for those extra heavy loads."

Whilst the word on the street is that extended sway bar links are required when lifting the RAM, Sean says that with the

OME suspension, this is not the case. "We found that the sway bar angle was more than acceptable. In full droop, there is no chance of inverting and we also found no heavy movements in testing during cornering or manoeuvring, which is likely to occur if this is going to be an issue. As we are only lifting the RAM by 45 millimetres, there is no lateral shift when going over bumps so no geometry issues with the Panhard rods either."

OME Nitrocharger suspension is now available for all RAM 1500DS models.

Contact your local ARB store or stockist for more information.





**ARB's new mobile Pressure Control puts
you back in the driver's seat, literally!**

CONTROL

Remember the good old days when you used to get off the couch to change the channel? Wouldn't you just love to have one of those TVs back in your lounge? No? We didn't think so.

It won't be too long and you'll be saying to your children, "Kids, back in my day, I used to have to actually kneel down next to each tyre with a manual gauge. You'd have to hold your thumb down on a trigger and periodically check the gauge until you got it to the right pressure. And if you went too far, well, then you'd have to let some air out."

Your kids will look back at you like a crazy person. "You idiot," they'll think.



Introducing Mobile Pressure Control

ARB's Pressure Control allows you to control your compressor and set target inflation and deflation tyre pressures from your mobile phone.

Pressure Control eliminates the requirement for an inflator, deflator or pressure gauge and means you no longer need to kneel by your tyres as you are inflating or deflating them; it's a real time (and a back) saver!

Remote Tyre Inflation

Pumping up your tyres has never been easier or quicker than with the addition of ARB's Pressure Control system. This system brings the convenience of the air pumps at your local petrol station directly into your 4WD.

To use ARB Pressure Control, you simply set your "target pressure" via the mobile app and then connect an air hose from your compressor to your tyre valve with a standard chuck (no inflator gauge required). The compressor, in conjunction with the Pressure Control unit, will read the current pressures and then start inflating to reach your pre-set target pressure. Once the target pressure is achieved, the compressor will hold line pressure and send your mobile phone both a vibration and audio alert. Disconnect from one tyre and move onto the next.

Remote Deflating

Not only can you pump your tyres up remotely but you can also use Pressure Control to let your tyres down before hitting the tracks. Let's take the example that you are getting off the black top and onto a 4WD track. You're looking to reduce your pressures from 36psi to 22psi.

To deflate your tyres, you can run an air hose from your compressor to your tyre and then via the ARB Pressure Control app on your mobile phone, you can enter your target pressure.

The compressor, with the help of the ARB Pressure Control hardware, will manage the release of the air down to your target pressure (22psi in this case) and then send you a vibration and audio alert via your phone. You simply take the hose off the tyre valve and move it to the next tyre.

Mobile Pressure Control

With the omission of gauges and removing valve cores, auto-deflating will be about as fast as using an E-Z Deflator, as well as much kinder on your knees, and you'll have more time to get your maps sorted, grab a snack out of the fridge or take the obligatory loo stop before hitting the tracks.

Balls, Bikes and Bits

With one psi increments and accuracy down to 0.5 psi, Pressure Control also makes all those other little jobs that much easier. You can now use your 4WD compressor without fear that you are going to blow the bike's tyres right off the rim or blow the bladder through the stitching of your kid's favourite footy.

App Features

Pressure Control is not a completely new product to ARB and has been incorporated within the LINX systems since its launch in late 2017. The app is what has really brought this product into its own, making the solution more mobile.

Within the ARB Pressure Control app, users will be able to not only manually set their tyre pressures but also have up to four pre-set pressures with custom names.

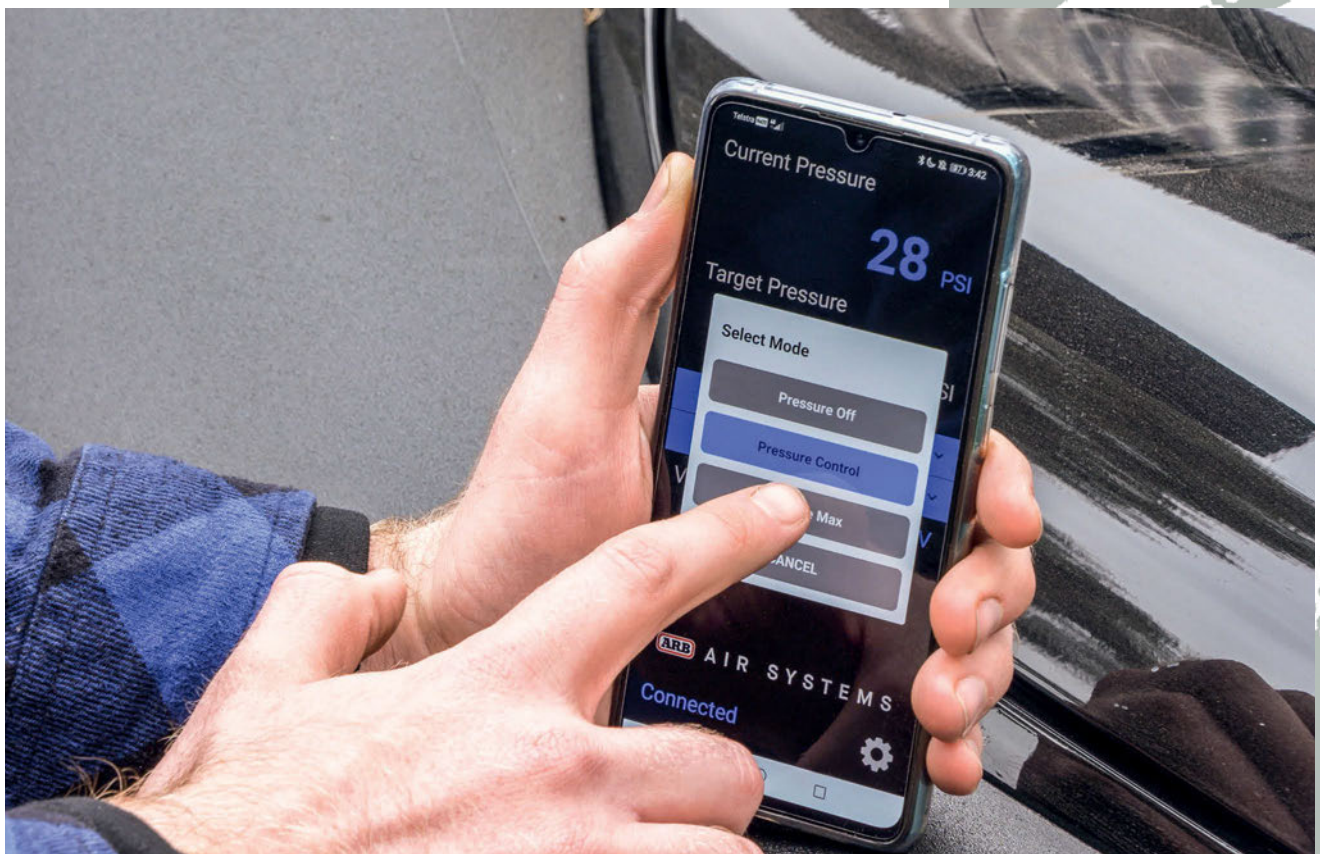
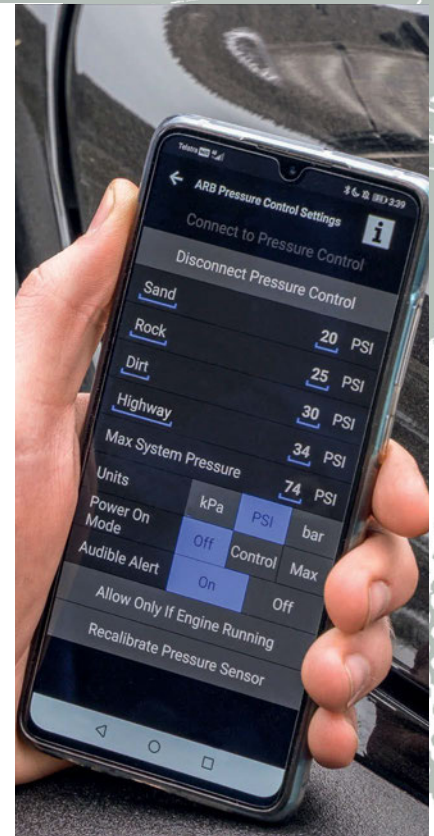
Hardware Components

The hardware components of the mobile ARB Pressure Control includes:

- Pressure regulating valve
- Pressure transducer
- Pressure Control module
- Mounting bracket
- Wiring harness
- Detailed installation instructions

Compatibility

Pressure Control can be added to any existing or new ARB on-board single or twin air compressor. The ARB Pressure Control app will be available for Android and iOS devices. Due to the restrictions within their casing, the pressure valve is not compatible with portable compressors at this time.





AIRBAGS



ARB INFLATION CASE

Housing your Air Systems gear in a safe and convenient location within your vehicle is not always an easy task. The extreme conditions we put our vehicles through demand a solution that is fit for purpose and of the highest quality. Always striving to further improve our products, ARB's product development team has updated the ever-popular and extremely useful ARB inflation case.

With space for all ARB inflation, deflation, gauges, hoses and general air accessories, the ARB Inflation Case incorporates abrasion-resistant canvas, durable rubber handle and high vis reflective taping for safety.

Features:

- Seven pockets capable of holding two air hoses, one inflator, one deflator, one compressor blow gun and more
- Waterproof and abrasion-resistant PVC material
- Reflective strips for high visibility and safety
- Holds an ARB Speedy Seal Puncture Repair Kit SII
- Updated Air Systems branding and colours
- Ergonomic pull ring zippers and rubber handle

Part Number: ARB4297

RRP: \$65.00

Fill Her Up

The new ARB Inflation Case can hold a tonne of Air Systems accessories. Have you got everything you need for your next trip? Check out what's available from the ARB Air Systems accessory range:

SPEEDY SEAL PUNCTURE REPAIR KIT SII

Coming in a compact, high-visibility carry case, the Speedy Seal Puncture Repair Kit Series II includes all the components necessary to repair tubeless radial or cross-ply tyres without removing the tyre from the vehicle or rim. A pencil-type tyre gauge with dual chuck makes setting pressures a snap, while a spring steel insertion needle and hardened reamer tool allow fast tyre repairs.

Part Number: 100000011

RRP: \$49.00



E-Z DEFLATOR DIGITAL GAUGE

The ARB E-Z Deflator Digital Gauge makes tyre deflation even easier thanks to accuracy of up to plus or minus one pound per square inch at 15 to 75 pounds per square inch, a large digital read out with blue backlight display as well as multiple pressure readouts including psi, bar, kPa and kgf/cm.

Features

- Large LCD digital readout
- Easy-to-read blue backlight display
- Brass components and crimps
- Up to 200 hours of battery life

Part Number: ARB510

RRP: \$79.00

E-Z TYRE DEFLATOR

The unique and patented design of the E-Z Tyre Deflator allows for removal of the valve core for rapid tyre deflation, while also providing accurate pressure reading via the simple movement of a sliding valve. Provided in a protective canvas pouch, the quality bronze Bourdon tube gauge design ensures accuracy is not affected by fluctuations in temperature, humidity or altitude.

Features

- Corrosion-resistant brass/stainless deflator tool
- Fully geared, solid brass precision movement
- Protective rubber gauge guard
- Easy-to-read dial with increments of one pound per square inch

Part Number: ARB505

RRP: \$69.00



DIGITAL TYRE INFLATOR

Most 4WDers understand the importance of running the correct tyre pressures for different situations and load variances. This is why it's so important to carry an accurate air pressure gauge and tyre inflation equipment in your vehicle, especially when driving off road. The ARB Digital Tyre Inflator makes checking and adjusting your vehicle's tyre pressures a fast and simple operation thanks to its large and easy-to-read blue backlight digital display, big thumb-operated inflator button and easy-to-access deflator bleed button.

Features

- Inflate, deflate and measure
- 600-millimetre dual-swivel PVC-coated braided hose
- Accuracy to plus or minus one pound per square inch at 25 to 75 pounds per square inch
- Up to 200 hours of runtime on set of batteries
- Easy-to-read blue backlight display

Part Number: ARB601

RRP: \$79.00

AIR PRESSURE GAUGE

An ARB Air Pressure Gauge is the ideal way to accurately measure your tyres' pressure when you're making adjustments for off road conditions. A fully geared, solid brass, precision movement Bourdon tube gauge with flexible hose means easy access for rims with intricate styling.

Features

- Protective rubber gauge guard
- Easy-to-read dual pressure scales – pounds per square inch and bar
- Flexible hose with dual chuck for all rim and valve types
- Gauge reset button

Part Number: ARB506

RRP: \$39.00



PUMP UP KIT

Standard with the ARB portable compressor kits, the Pump Up Kit is also an optional accessory for the mounted range. It includes quick-connect couplings for fast and easy mounting to ARB air compressors and accessories, a six-metre air hose, an air accessory kit and a T-piece for in-line connection of an air chuck and pressure switch to the compressor.

Part Number: 171302

RRP: \$70.00



LOW AIR PRESSURE GAUGE

Specifically designed for off road use, this gauge incorporates a lower scale for improved accuracy at lower pressures. Simple to use with a large 3.5-inch diameter gauge and three pressure scales (psi, kPa and bar).

Features

- Quality bronze Bourdon tube gauge ensures accuracy is not affected by changes in temperature, humidity or altitude
- Fully geared, solid brass precision movement
- Protective rubber gauge guard
- Flexible hose with dual chuck for all rim and valve types

Part Number: ARB508

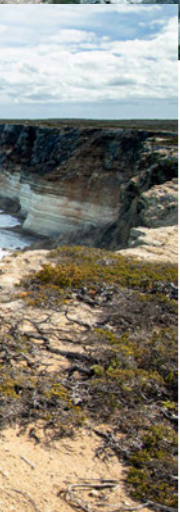
RRP: \$55.00



ESCARPMENT EXPLORERS

WORDS AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARK BUTTERS
- NO FIXED ADDRESS





It's 2.00pm and we are sitting in the dusty carpark of the Balladonia Roadhouse eating a late lunch. I'm listening to one half of the phone conversation Christie is having with the Norseman police.

“No, they will not make it... Because we drive a HiLux 4WD and they were in a Honda Jazz and it's a 4WD track?! Apparently, Google told them...”





Two hours earlier, we were travelling the Balladonia Track and we came across a Honda Jazz with two quite frazzled women slowly navigating their tiny wheels through endless potholes and rocks. They were 120-kilometres into a 170-kilometre track that runs from Cape Arid in south-west Western Australia up to the Balladonia Roadhouse on the Eyre Highway. They were the only other car we saw on the whole track, that is, apart from a recently rolled Pajero, which had seen better days.

They had passed at least four signs indicating that they were on a 4WD-only track but Google was telling them this was the way. We stopped, checked they had water and supplies, then told them we would wait for them at the roadhouse and if they didn't appear, send help. It was only 50 kilometres away. 20-kilometres later, the track really took a turn for the worse. Long stretches of soft sand, bull dust pits that would drown the little Honda Jazz and ruts that would swallow it all together. There was no way they would make it.

A while later, it is confirmed they are bogged in the sand 25-kilometres from the end of the track. I check my watch. It's 3.30 in the afternoon and we still have a few kilometres to travel. Our destination tonight is the Bilbunya Dunes on Western Australia's south coast. Once we see the rescue crew heading down the track to get them out, we leave them to it and hit the road.





HEADING TO THE DUNES

The turnoff to the Bilbunya Dunes is approximately 65-kilometres from the Balladonia Roadhouse. When we arrive, it is an unmarked dirt track but its position is clearly and accurately marked on our Hema GPS. After dropping tyre pressures on our car and trailer, we head off down the dirt track.

It's approximately 71-kilometres from the Eyre Highway to the Bilbunya Dunes bush camp. The first 40-kilometres are very dusty but easy going and we cover them quickly. Then the track becomes very narrow with scratchy trees on both sides. The track condition varies from soft sand patches to very rocky limestone. Our average speed drops to about 12-kilometres per hour. About seven-kilometres from camp, the track drops straight down a big escarpment. It's extremely steep and rutted, but conveyor belt rubber has been laid on the track so traction is not an issue.

We slowly make our way down without issue and pull into camp half an hour later. It's after dark and we can't really see but we seem to have the place to ourselves. The 71-kilometres took us just over four hours towing a camper. It's been a big day so we set up and fall into bed.

CLAY PANS AND CLEANING UP

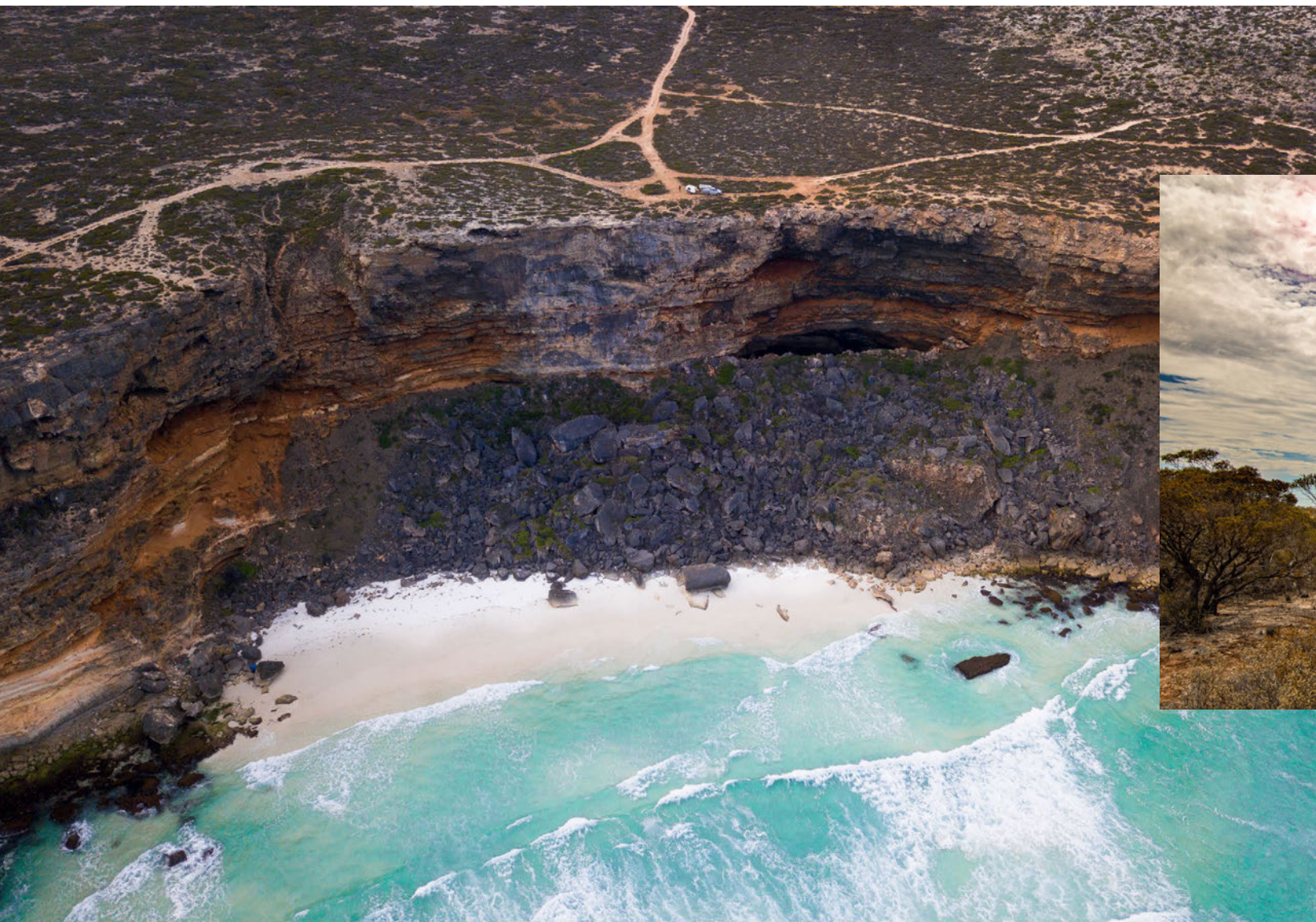
We wake to an awesome sunrise and see that we do in fact have the whole camp to ourselves. From camp, we can see the enormous white dunes off in the distance and we also have a view over the ocean. Apart from the rubbish that has been left by previous campers, it's a fantastic spot.

After a big breakfast, we spend half an hour picking up rubbish. We pack two big garbage bags full into the back of our ute and stuff the rest into a 44-gallon drum that has been dumped in the bushes. It's not ideal but we can't fit any more into the ute and at least the rubbish is no longer blowing around camp. Hopefully, the next people to come along take some out, too.

Next, we jump in the car and drive down to the beach. If the tide is low, you can do the beach run to the base of the Bilbunya Dunes but today the tide is coming in and there's already limited hard sand to drive on so we decide to try and get to the dunes via an inland track we saw earlier. This track is not on the Hema but it winds its way just behind the beach through small sand dunes and scrub before opening out onto huge clay pans.

The clay pans are hard and we cruise over them with no problems, arriving at the base of the first dune. It's enormous and bright white. Make sure you have sunglasses as the glare is crazy! We scabble to the top of the first dune, following a ridge. Our footprints in the sand are the only footprints we can see. Once at the top, looking west is just an incredible sight of massive dune after dune. We can see for miles in every direction and we can't see another car. It's amazing. We spend the next few hours running down and scrambling up dunes until we are exhausted.

"It's enormous and bright white. Make sure you have sunglasses as the glare is crazy!"



BAXTER CLIFFS

We stay at the Bilbunya Dunes bush camp for another two nights, filling our days with swimming, fishing for salmon off the beach and exploring the dunes. The campsite is about 10-kilometres from the Bilbunya Dunes and about two-kilometres from the beach. It is fairly sheltered from WA's notorious winds and it has plenty of trees for a bit of shade.

After two days relaxing, we pack up camp early and hit the road. Our plan is to travel the Telegraph Track along the top of the Baxter Cliffs with our first night to be at Toolinna Cove. Our first challenge is climbing up onto Wylie Scarp. Wylie Scarp is an escarpment that runs for kilometres from the west but just a few kilometres to the east, it turns into the Baxter Cliffs so this is the last point you can climb it. The track up is extremely steep and has a large jump up at the bottom,

but there is plenty of traction thanks to the rubber matting. With a few big wheel lifts and chirping of tyres, we manage to pull our trailer up it without issue.

CLIFF EDGE CAMPING

The Telegraph Track winds its way through scrubby bushland alternating from thick bull dust to rocky limestone. We average about 20-kilometres per hour. Remnants of the old telegraph line litter the track with wire, old poles and bits of broken ceramic insulators scattered everywhere.

We take a detour about 11-kilometres from Toolinna Cove, which takes us down to the edge of the Baxter Cliffs. This track is extremely rough and slow but it's a must-do. It runs right along the edge of the cliff, sometimes only metres from the huge drop.

The spectacular views of the cliffs are as good as you will find anywhere.

Toolinna Cove is an awesome sandy white beach at the bottom of sheer cliffs. The old ladder has unfortunately been removed and now there is no access down so you need to make do with just a careful peek over the edge. We also have a scout around trying to find the ruins of the old telegraph station without success. There is a very exposed bush camp on the cliff edge and another one back on the main track at the Toolinna Cove intersection. As it's only mid-afternoon, we decide to push on a bit further.

About 30-kilometres past, we find a nice bush camp on the side of the track sheltered from the wind. After we set up camp, the wind drops off and the stars come out. The sky is super clear and it's eerily silent. The perfect outback night.



"We then settle in for an awesome night, listening to the roaring ocean and a spectacular night sky."

TIGHT TRACKS AND STEEP DROPS

We wake up early to an awesome sunrise. Christie whips up some banana pancakes for breakfast, then we are on the road. The track slowly gets rockier and tighter. The sound of the harsh shrubs scratching down the sides of our car is like fingernails on a chalkboard. It's getting trickier to navigate the trailer. At this point, I'm glad our Track Tvan is so small. I'm watching the trailer inch past a tree in my right-hand mirror when I hear Christie yell and a huge bang fills our cabin. I hit the brakes and look up. A broken tree branch on the left has "jumped out" while I was not looking and smashed the lower corner of our windscreen.

Damn it!

We push on for another few kilometres before the track opens up again and becomes sandy. We pick up a bit of speed and cover a few kilometres. The landscape is harsh and we haven't seen a single bit of wildlife for days when four emus suddenly run out onto the track in front of us. They run down the track for a few hundred metres looking ridiculous before peeling off into the scrub.

Then the track just disappears over the edge of an escarpment! A sign warns us of the steep descent ahead. It's rocky and rutted but we keep our bonnet pointed down and get to the bottom without a hitch. After a huge day, we have finally arrived at Twilight Cove. There is a maze of tracks here with lots of small bush camps scattered around. The main camping area is on a large flat plain in between the escarpment and the dunes. It's protected from the wind and totally spectacular. The tracks to the beach are all extremely soft and we get bogged multiple times. We give up trying to get the car there and do the trip on foot. The beach here is very rough with lots of rips so we carefully have a quick dip to refresh after a long and dusty day of driving. We then settle in for an awesome night, listening to the roaring ocean and a spectacular night sky. Definitely no light pollution here!

MUDDY MORNING

The following morning, we wake to the sound of rain on the roof of our camper. I poke my head out and have a look around. It must have been raining for a while because everything is soaked. Yesterday's bull dust-

covered track is now a greasy mess. Not yet full blown mud holes but well on its way. The rain is slowing but there is more coming on the horizon. Not knowing how much more rain is on its way or what the track is like ahead of us, we decide to pack up and leave while we still can.

The beauty of our trailer is we can go from full set-up to ready to drive in less than 15 minutes so in no time, we are facing the steep rocky hill back up onto the escarpment. We take it steady and pick our lines, making it up unscathed. From there, the 35-kilometre drive out to Cocklebiddy Roadhouse is surprisingly easy, with only a few greasy spots. We make it out to the roadhouse just as the rain hits.

The drive from Toolinna Cove to Twilight Bay is very long and slow and, in hindsight, could have been broken up into two more reasonable days. This area is surprisingly remote. We did not see a single other vehicle or person for the entire five days. The tracks and coastline are rugged and hard on vehicle suspension, tyres and paintwork, but if it sounds like your sort of adventure, we couldn't recommend this trip enough!

RIDING HIGH



In showrooms now, Toyota's new HiLux is a bolder, tougher-looking addition to its range. Launched with an expanded line-up and significant improvements to performance, fuel economy, ride comfort and towing, the updated HiLux offers beefier output from its biggest-selling 2.8-litre turbo-diesel engine due to multiple new components and enhanced cooling.

An increase of its maximum power sees 150 kilowatts (up 15.3%) while peak torque on automatic models has been ramped up to 500 newton metres (up 11.1%). Fuel consumption has also been improved by up to 11.1%.

Toyota Australia Vice President of Sales and Marketing Sean Hanley boasts of the 2020 HiLux reaching new heights in blending performance, toughness, comfort and quality.

"More than ever, Australia's favourite ute will inspire go-anywhere confidence for customers who rely on it as a load-carrying

and trailer-towing workhorse for doing their jobs," Mr Hanley said.

"Equally, the latest changes will advance HiLux's credentials among customers who demand the handling, ride comfort and convenience of an SUV."

In preparation for this formidable off road machine, ARB engineers have been hard at work, designing and developing an arsenal of accessories to make your new HiLux even more capable.



SUMMIT BULL BAR

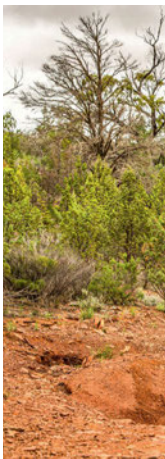
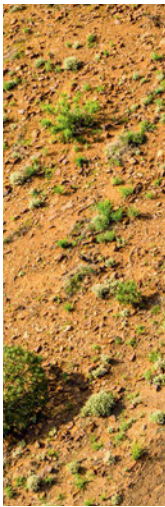
Whilst the 2020 HiLux is visually similar to the 2018 model, the front end of the vehicle has received a new treatment, including parking sensors. Because of this, ARB engineers have designed and developed a whole new Summit bull bar to suit.

ARB Product Manager for Fabricated Products Steve Sampson explains, "Whilst inner and outer chassis mount brackets and some of the trim pieces were maintained, a whole list of new elements of the Summit bar have needed to be designed. This includes new wings, upper and lower pans, cover straps and uprights, outer frames and under panels." The HiLux Summit bar features the

latest styling from ARB, including press-form cover straps, larger ARB fog lights and surrounds, three-piece split pan grille with access door and a recessed winch control box mount for a sleek appearance.

HILUX SUMMIT BAR FEATURES AND BENEFITS

- Vehicle-specific design for Toyota HiLux SR/SR5 wide body from 08/20 (06/20 build)
- Wing design provides greater strength and maintains an optimum offset approach angle
- 30-millimetre wing and centre section edge radius offers increased strength while complementing the modern HiLux design
- Off road jacking points for effective recovery
- Winch compatibility for Warn, Magnum, Bushranger and Smittybilt low-mount models up to 10,000 pounds
- Steel uprights attached to the mounting system provide maximum support and strike protection
- Larger 60.3-millimetre mandrel steel tubing provides increased frontal protection and greater visual styling
- Aerial brackets and driving light provision
- Tested and confirmed compatible with OE safety systems



SUMMIT SIDE RAILS AND STEPS

Toyota HiLux owners can greatly benefit from a set of side rails and steps for outstanding protection and easier access to your vehicle. Manufactured for fitting to the already released Summit bull bar, the Summit side rails and steps have a 60.3-millimetre tube and plastic single-bolt clamp system.

HiLux Summit Side Rails and Steps

Features:

- Vehicle-specific design suits dual-cab and extra-cab wide body variants of the Toyota HiLux
- Durable steel construction for maximum protection
- Compatible with side curtain airbags
- Anodised step extrusion featuring ridges for additional grip

COMMERCIAL BAR

Much like the ARB Summit bull bar, many elements of the Commercial bar required redesigning from our engineering team. "The changes to the vehicle have required the development of a new upper pan, wings and uprights of the bar assembly," Steve Sampson explains. "As the surface area of the top pan has reduced whilst retaining the necessary access points for winch access, the material used has been increased to three millimetres thick."

HiLux Commercial Bar Features

- Vehicle-specific design for Toyota HiLux SR/SR5 wide body from 08/20 (06/20 build)
- 76.1-millimetre steel centre frame tube and 60.3-millimetre outer frame tube for added strength
- Recessed indicators for protection against branches and road debris
- Engineered, airbag-compatible mounting system secures to the chassis
- Two aerial brackets located on the top of

the centre tube

- Secure driving light mounting points
- Twin off road jacking points
- Winch compatibility for Warn, Magnum, Bushranger and Smittybilt low-mount models up to 10,000 pounds (Supplementary winch installation kit required to install winch control box.)

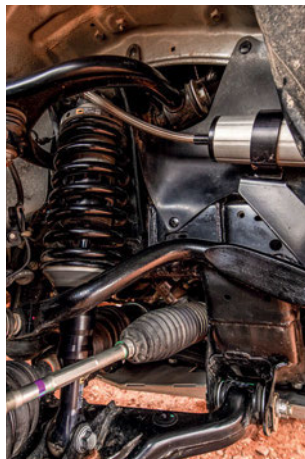
SPARTANBAR

After extensive testing, fitment for the 2020 facelifted WorkMate and SR HiLux models has been confirmed for the SmartBar SpartanBar. Offering superior protection for your HiLux, the SpartanBar is engineered to be lightweight and incredibly safe.

Maintaining all of the Toyota HiLux safety systems, the SpartanBar is compatible with Lane Departure Assist and Lane Tracing, Pre-Collision Systems, Road Sign Assist and Dynamic Radar Cruise Control.

HiLux SpartanBar Features

- Constructed from hollow polyethylene



plastic, providing users with excellent vehicle protection without a significant increase in weight

- Meets Australian Standards for user and pedestrian safety, as per testing conducted at the Centre for Automotive Safety Research (CASR)
- Airbag compatible to ensure maximum possible vehicle and passenger protection
- Available in winch and non-winch compatibility versions
- Provides a secure mounting point for a range of spotlights, UVP and recovery points

OLD MAN EMU SUSPENSION SYSTEMS

Being a medium-sized utility vehicle, the Toyota HiLux is suited to both commercial and recreational uses. During development, OME engineers focused on increasing ride height and load-carrying capability whilst improving comfort, control and ride quality on all surfaces.

A range of front springs, with matching shocks, were developed to cater for differing vehicle set-ups and front ride height increases of approximately 40 millimetres were achieved without the need for costly modification. A front trim packer was developed to further fine-tune front ride heights.

Rear ride height increases of approximately 40 millimetres were also achieved to maintain the factory vehicle rake, with greaseable shackles, providing multiple options depending on the intended loads to be carried. An XL leaf has also been developed to assist with fine-tuning the weight-carrying capacity. Available in both OME Nitrocharger Sport and BP-51 suspension systems.

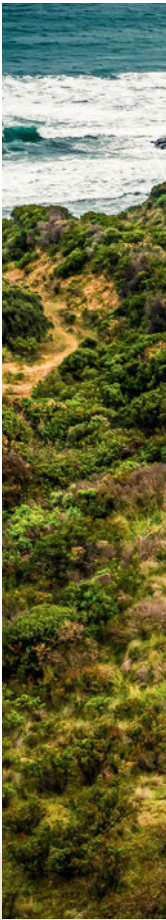
For new unregistered Toyota HiLux models, GVM upgrades are available through ARB and increase the GVM from 3,050 kilograms and 3,100 kilograms to 3,465 kilograms. Contact your local ARB store or stockist for more information.

FRONTIER LONG-RANGE DIESEL TANK

For Toyota HiLux owners who plan on driving long distances, are concerned about the quality and price of fuel in remote areas or are sick and tired of filling up jerry cans that take up much needed storage space, the ARB Frontier long-range tank is the perfect solution.

Manufactured from resilient cross-linked polymer, each Frontier tank provides strength, rigidity and reliability, whilst also providing a significant weight reduction over steel long-range tanks. The UV-stable plastic ensures these tanks will survive in the most hostile environments.

For pricing and availability to fit out your new Toyota HiLux contact your local ARB store or stockist.



BASE EXPANSION

In Issue 58 of 4x4 Culture, we introduced the game-changing BASE Rack. ARB's new sleek roof rack, boasting a super low mounting profile, is extremely light and provides an unmatched level of simplicity, flexibility and personalisation to your roof rack set-up.

The BASE Rack also sets a new benchmark in strength and integration with both your vehicle and across a growing number of complementary accessories. The BASE Rack was available immediately in four sizes to suit a huge range of vehicle applications and the 1,835-millimetre rack exclusively fits our full range of ARB canopies.

BASE Rack Applications



ARB BASE RACK NEW APPLICATIONS LIST

Since its initial release, ARB engineers have been working tirelessly on extending the range and we are happy to release the following applications:

Toyota

LandCruiser 100 Series
LandCruiser Prado 120 Series
FJ Cruiser
4Runner

Nissan

Patrol Y62

CURRENT APPLICATIONS LIST

Initially released to be available for a huge range of new and old 4WDs, the BASE Rack has options available for the following vehicles:

Ford

Maverick
Ranger Raptor
PXIII cab & canopy BASE Rack
(08/2018 on)*

PXII cab & canopy BASE Rack (2015 to 07/2018)*

PXI cab & canopy BASE Rack (2011 to 2015)*

*Wildtrak model only available in canopy BASE Rack

Holden

Colorado canopy BASE Rack (07/2016 on and 2012 to 2016)

Jeep

Cherokee
Wrangler JL Unlimited Hardtop

Land Rover

Range Rover

Mazda

BT-50 cab & canopy BASE Rack (04/2018 on and 2011 to 03/2018)

Mercedes

X-Class canopy BASE Rack (12/2017 on)

Mitsubishi

Pajero (mid-1991 to 2000)
Triton MR canopy BASE Rack (2019 on)
Triton MQ canopy BASE Rack
Triton MJ gutter mount cab BASE Rack (10/96)

Nissan

GU Patrol
GQ Patrol
MQ Patrol
Navara NP300 canopy BASE rack (2015 on)

Suzuki

Jimny (MY19)

Toyota

HiLux cab BASE Rack (1997 to 2015)
HiLux cab & canopy BASE Rack (2015 on)
LandCruiser 200 Series (09/2015 on)
LandCruiser 80 Series
LandCruiser 70 Series
LandCruiser 60 Series
LandCruiser Prado 150 Series (10/2009 on LWB)
LandCruiser Prado 90 Series (02/2003 on LWB)

Volkswagen

Amarok 4x4 canopy BASE Rack (2011 on)

Contact your local ARB store or stockist to find out exactly which BASE Rack is available for your vehicle as well as more information on part numbers, pricing and availability.

Heading North

PART I

Words and Photography by Steve Fraser

I am not much of a homebody and after months of being in lockdown, I was getting a little stir crazy. After cancelling trips to Europe, Alaska and Canada this year and having the regional boundaries shut in Western Australia, I was way overdue for an adventure. As soon as the regional boundaries opened, I loaded up the LandCruiser for a trip north to the Pilbara.

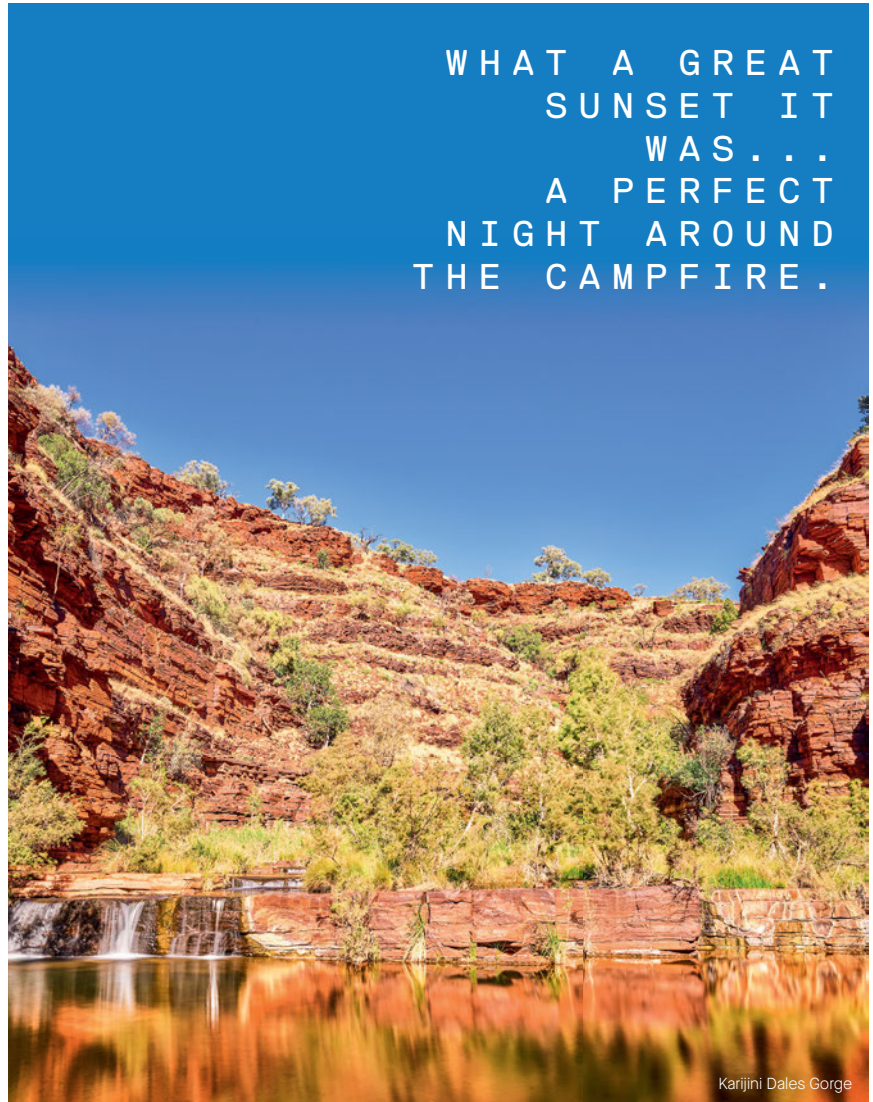
There is no better feeling than when all the planning and anticipation come together, the 4WD is packed and you are heading out for a few weeks in the bush. Forget emails, schedules, meetings and social media, the biggest issue of the day is where to camp and what to have for dinner.

Finally Back on the Road

This trip started in the Perth Hills and we headed north from there. A few good friends joined me, which makes it even more special. Glen and Barbie in their well-sorted 200 Series LandCruiser with a pretty special off road camper; Ron and Sharon in their Prado; Phil and Julie in their new 90 Series Land Rover; and Elaine and me in my trusty Troopie. With all the COVID-19 stuff happening, it felt especially great to be back on the road. Back in my happy place.

Every good road trip needs to start with a great bakery stop. Our first stop is at Bindoon Bakery, which is famous for its incredible pastries. It's only about an hour north of Perth and just long enough to be ready for a chat and a cuppa. (Did I mention the pastries?)

It wasn't too long before the fridge was full of treats for the next few days and we were back on the road. The first day was mainly on the bitumen heading for Coalseam Conservation Park about 400 kilometres north of Perth.



Rich History

Coalseam is a small reserve north of Mingenew. It's rich in history and geology and is the site of the first mined coal deposit in Western Australia. Exposed bands of coal seams can still be seen. It is well known as a great spot to experience the wildflowers, although our trip is in winter so we are a bit early to see them. It's a basic campsite with no power or water but does have toilets.

We soon set up camp and there was just enough time to head to the lookout for sunset. What a great sunset it was and all that was left to do was settle in, enjoy dinner and a perfect night around the campfire. The night sky is spectacular in the bush. I don't know if there is much better in life than sitting around the campfire with your mates looking up at thousands of stars.

First Taste of Dirt

The next morning, we were back on the road and it was time to leave the bitumen. Our plan was to cover as many of the less used back tracks as we could all the way into the Pilbara. This was the last we'd see bitumen for a couple of thousand kilometres. Yes!

We turned off the bitumen at the very small town of Pindar and headed north on Beringarra-Pindar Road. It's red dirt and blue skies all the way to Wooleen Station, our next stop. The roads were in pretty good condition and we made good progress. There was a bit of water around, so after a few water crossings, five hours and a few pastries later, we arrived at Wooleen Station.



Wooleen Station

Wooleen Station is one of my favourite station stays in Western Australia. The owners of the station are David and Frances Pollack, two of the nicest people you could hope to meet. They have done an incredible job returning the station to a pristine natural state. The station is home to some incredible rock formations and a lake, and the Murchison River runs through the station not far from the homestead.

In spring, the land comes to life with a multitude of wildflowers. The vegetation and the quality of the land make the property one of the finest stations in Australia. If you are interested in ecology and the culture of the Australian bush, then Wooleen is the place for you.

There are several great camping spots on the station. If you are more the glamping type, then you can get a room in the homestead. We arranged to camp on the edge of the Murchison River and quickly set up camp and got the fire blazing. It was a pretty cold and windy evening but after a few cold drinks around the fire, you soon warm up.



THE VEGETATION
AND THE QUALITY
OF THE LAND
MAKE THE
PROPERTY ONE
OF THE FINEST
STATIONS IN
AUSTRALIA.



Newman to Kalgans Creek



Gascoyne bushcamp at sunset

My Type of Isolation

The next morning, it was an early start and we were back on the road. We had a quick stop at Murchison Oasis for a cuppa and some fuel.

This is where the trip starts to get really remote as we headed out on some of the more obscure tracks towards Gascoyne Junction. We headed east for a while on Carey Downs Road before turning north on the Pimbee Track. Like all 4WD trips, if you're taking the road less travelled, make sure you are well prepared. I never travel without my sat phone and EPIRB just in case.

We covered over 400 kilometres and didn't see another car. Out here, if something goes wrong, you need to be able to cope with it yourself.

We got into Gascoyne Junction around 4.00pm after the daily stop along the way to collect firewood and stretch the legs. Fuel is a priority as Phil and Julie in their 90 Series Land Rover only have a standard range tank,

so 450 kilometres is about it. They carried some jerry cans but it's a long way short of the 180 litres on board the Troopie.

Rather than stay in Gascoyne Junction, we decided to try our luck and find a bush camping spot. After trying a few side tracks, we came across a perfect clearing. I love these sorts of spots because they often turn out to be better than the campsites I plan. There's something great about the way we can still pull up in the Australian bush, set up camp, light a fire and create lasting memories with great friends. It helps when the steaks and sausages on the BBQ also taste amazing. We all pitched in with the cooking and everyone kicked a goal.

As I lay in my tent looking at the stars, it was a perfectly calm night, hardly a sound to be heard, just the occasional noise of cattle off in the distance. Just for a moment, all the cancelled plans and lockdowns of 2020 seemed like a bad nightmare – and just for a moment, I even forgot that COVID-19 is actually still a thing.

Majestic Mount Augustus

It was a beautiful sunrise the next morning and we had a slower start so we could enjoy a good breakfast. Then it was back on the track and onward to Mount Augustus. We headed along the Cobra Dairy Creek Road. It was a nice run and a lot more interesting than the main dirt road. I really enjoy getting off the main tracks and discovering new spots.

Mount Augustus is the largest monolith rock in the world. It's not as impressive as Uluru but it's pretty incredible as you approach from the south and watch it rise out of the flat landscape.

We stayed at the campsite at Mount Augustus. It's pretty basic and seems to be undergoing renovations (which have been going on for at least a year) so the bar and restaurant are currently closed. If you are travelling that direction, make sure you are well stocked up. You can get the basics and, as always, fuel for the Land Rover's tiny tank.



Bush camping spot near Gascoyne Junction

If you stay at Mount Augustus, there is a drive you can do around the rock that is pretty interesting and gives you an idea of just how big it is. One of the special things you can do at Mount Augustus is to get up early and watch the morning sun light up the mountain. There is something about those outback red colours at sunrise. Once they get in your blood, they never leave you.

Hooley Dooley

Leaving Mount Augustus, we take one of my favourite tracks in the region, the Dooley Downs Road. The track actually starts at the back of the campsite. You head out past the stockyards and between a few sheds. If you're not sure, just ask the locals to point you in the right direction.

Dooley Downs Road is a windy, twisty and undulating track that you need to take your time on. Any high-clearance 4WD will have no problem and if you have a properly set-up 4WD camper or caravan, you will get through if you take your time. It's a beautiful drive

and one of the reasons I love the Pilbara is the multitude of off-the-beaten-road tracks. Parts of this track remind me of the Flinders Ranges with lots of blind crests followed by gorgeous vistas.

Dooley Downs Road is about 155 kilometres long and heads north-east. At the end of the track, you come to the Ashburton-Murchison Road. This is a pretty decent dirt road.

A word of caution, I have been through here before after a lot of rain and the crossing at the Murchison River can get flooded. If it's flooded, you need to do a couple of kilometres along the very soft sandy riverbed to be able to cross downstream. Most of the year, it's not a problem. We eventually met up with the bitumen road (only for about 40 kilometres before it's dirt again) and headed towards Tom Price on the Nanutarra Road. In total, this was about 450 kilometres. By the time we arrived, it had taken the better part of nine hours but, boy, was it worth it.

Karijini Memories

We stayed at the caravan park in Tom Price so it was a chance to catch up on a good shower, wash our clothes and give the cars a clean-up. If you have some time, there are some incredible gorges around Tom Price including, of course, the world famous Karijini National Park.

I've covered this amazing part of Australia in a previous issue so I won't rave on too much, except to say that Karijini should be on every Aussie's bucket list. We spent three days at the Eco Retreat and experienced some of the best gorges on the planet. We hiked, climbed and swam our way through most of the gorges.

I've been coming to Karijini since I was a kid and it never disappoints. If you don't have to come in the school holidays, then it's best to avoid it as it gets too busy for my liking. Winter is by far the best time to visit.

KARIJINI
SHOULD
BE ON
EVERY
AUSSIE'S
BUCKET
LIST.



Gascoyne bushcamp at sunset

River Run

Our next destination on the journey north is the Kalgan River, just north of Newman. This is a really great spot and a bit of an oasis. It's a bit tricky to find the track that leads west off the main road towards Kalgan Pool.

It's about 30 kilometres into Kalgan Pool and a lot of this is in the loose shale and river rock-lined riverbed. At some points, you will come across billabongs that you need to drive through. The depth is just below bonnet height in a couple of the crossings so don't attempt this without a snorkel and a high-clearance 4WD.

There are a number of side tracks that lead off to deeper water holes in the river. These spots are perfect for camping and swimming. Sometimes these can be better than the main pool and you get them all to yourself. We explored a few really fun tracks before coming across the perfect spot on the banks of the Kalgan River to set up camp.

This is where this leg of our journey ended – sitting by the side of a perfect north-west river, the campfire going, breakfast cooking, enjoying a swim as the birds and kangaroos enjoyed the bush nearby. I love the Aussie bush.

In the next edition, we continue our trip north and head to Nullagine, Marble Bar and east into the most remote part of the Pilbara.



Kalgans River Track

SmartBar Under Vehicle Armour

ARMOUR



ADVENTURE



Is SmartBar's new Under Vehicle Armour up for the challenge?

We all know that feeling of instant concern as we hear a blunt thud coupled by a short sharp shock through the vehicle. You didn't see anything on the track that posed an obvious threat but that sound was very clearly more than just a small stone flicking up onto the underside of the vehicle.

Any off road venture comes with an element of risk, which is why vehicle protection equipment such as bull bars, side rails and rear bars are so often the first products we fit to our pride and joy. Arguably, though, the most susceptible area to damage on your 4WD is its undercarriage

Whether you're navigating rocky terrain, straddling ruts or simply passing through a river, it's a fact of 4WDing that you're inevitably, at some point, going to come across an obstacle that exceeds the limits of your vehicle's ground clearance.

While these under-vehicle impacts may not leave the cosmetic scarring of heavy pin-stripping, the potential damage to the mechanics of your trusty 4WD can be devastating. Nothing says dollars like a hole in your sump or transfer case, especially when you don't realise until it's too late.



Protecting Your Undercarriage

Bash plates, skid plates, under-vehicle protection, under-vehicle armour; whatever you want to call them, they are a solid investment to protect your vehicle and your hip pocket from unnecessary damage.

Mounting to existing points along the vehicle's chassis, an under-vehicle protection panel provides a first line of defence in shielding critical components of your 4WD from impact damage.

Plastic Protection

For a long time, steel was considered the only material strong enough to protect our 4WD vehicles. Then with some advancement in design, some aluminium options came along providing weight-saving benefits while not compromising on strength. More recently, we are seeing the incredible properties of cross-link polymer.

Polymer is proving a very viable material to a number of 4WD accessories. ARB offers a range of polymer SmartBar bull bars and its cross-link polymer Frontier long-range fuel tank has amply proven itself as a tough



product capable of withstanding anything a track can throw at it from the ground up.

ARB now has available through its network of stores the new cross-link polymer SmartBar Under Vehicle Armour to suit the Ford Ranger and Ford Everest.

Weighing Up Your Options

ARB has long offered steel UVP panels for Ford Ranger and Ford Everest (amongst a myriad of other vehicles). With the addition of SmartBar's new polymer UVA, owners of these vehicles now have the choice of either steel or polymer protection options.

You always need to remember that with many 4WD accessories, you are commonly taking weight off the car at the same time as you are potentially putting weight on. The weight of what you are removing should be subtracted from the weight of the accessory you are adding. At just 23 kilograms, the SmartBar UVA is a lightweight option.

Corrosion-Free

The whole purpose of an under-vehicle protection panel is to sustain impact, which means to do their job, they are going to get bumped and scratched along the way. While many products on the market like ARB's UVP offer a high-tensile and scratch-resistant finish, the undeniable fact is that a polymer panel will forever remain completely rust-free.

Cross-Compatibility

When choosing any brand of under-vehicle protection, it is worth considering its compatibility with other core accessories such as your bull bar, recovery points, fuel tanks, etc.

The SmartBar UVA is compatible with ARB's recovery points for the Ford Ranger and Everest and also works seamlessly with both SmartBar and ARB bull bars and ARB Frontier long-range tanks.

Strength

In addition to the innate strength provided by the manufacturing process of the cross-link polymer, SmartBar has incorporated a ribbed design for further structural integrity. Each section of the UVA is a considerable eight to ten millimetres in thickness. The compound of the polyethylene blend is not susceptible to breaks or cracks and is virtually incapable of melting! There are no risks to operating DPF burns with a SmartBar UVA installed.

Serviceability

Made up of three individual parts, the UVA is designed for serviceability. Each piece can be removed easily to allow individual access to different parts of the vehicle for servicing.

Price

The SmartBar UVA retails for \$980 (fitting additional).



SMARTBAR UVA QUICK FACTS

- Complete replacement of OE skid pan
- Lightweight at just 23 kilograms, the total weight added to the vehicle is minimal after removing the original skid pan
- Easy disassembly for service
- Ribbed design offers great strength
- Increased protection for inner CV joints and transfer cases
- Heat resistant to run alongside vehicle exhaust
- Pliable to absorb impacts with less shunt transfer
- Compatible with ARB recovery points
- Manufactured in South Australia

Tough Triton



Designed with the perfect combination of styling and practicality, the ARB Sportlid keeps your Triton looking tough while still providing you with a secure and weatherproof solution for your gear.

Packed with features and offering an array of options to suit the modern-day ute owner's needs, the ARB Sportlid uses an extremely durable combination of aluminium and ABS plastic. The ABS outer skin is thermoformed using precision moulding tools to offer integrated vehicle styling and is affixed to an aluminium chassis, forming an extremely robust platform.

The Sportlid comes standard with an ergonomically designed and key lockable

manual entry handle with optional remote locking upgrade available (premium locking upgrade also includes interior light).

With its clever hinge design, the single-piece Sportlid also allows function as normal when accessories are mounted on top. The accessory channels boast a 75-kilogram dynamic payload, meaning you can carry additional tools and equipment to the worksite or adventure gear on the weekend. An optional gas strut upgrade kit is available, which has been designed to maintain the opening and holding force of the Sportlid with up to 25 kilograms of constant load on top.

Easy to remove with just a few basic tools and the assistance of a friend, the Sportlid can be taken off in under five minutes. Installation is

also simple with a complete non-drill clamp system. All Sportlids are offered in a smooth finish and include colour-coded paint to match your vehicle.

A premium upgrade kit is available and can be purchased during first installation or at a later date. It includes a complete "plug-and-play" wiring loom, central locking kit and interior light. The interior light is battery operated to simplify installation.

With its unique hinge design, the Sportlid allows fitment of OE sports bars whilst maintaining sufficient clearance to the vehicle cabin when opening. Optional kits are vehicle specific and include all required hardware to install the OE sports bar to the Sportlid.



LIGHT DUTIES

When looking for a roof-mounted carrying solution, customers are usually presented with options centred around “ultimate load bearing” and “maximum storage capacity”. But what if you don’t plan on packing your entire life on top of your roof? Or you aren’t really keen on paying a premium for a range of options you won’t actually use? For those recreation, trade or fleet customers who simply want a lightweight and cost-efficient solution for storage on the top of their canopy or Sportlid, ARB is excited to release the new ARB Cross Bar range.





ARB CROSS BARS

ARB's range of Cross Bars is available in three sizes: 1,250 millimetres, 1,350 millimetres and 1,500 millimetres, dependent on your individual requirements. Allowing easy installation of a range of accessories, the ARB Cross Bars utilise a t-slot channel that is a popular mounting choice for many accessories.

Manufactured from black powder-coated aluminium, the ARB Cross Bars are ideal for all conditions, from a trade site to an outback track. Available in single purchase, which is perfect for fleet customers requiring a rear cross bar whilst using the front to mount a safety beacon bar.

ARB CANOPY CROSS BAR MOUNTING KIT

The ARB Product Management team found that typical fleet customers and many in the trade industry who owned dual-cab utes kept their tools stored in their canopy and required roof-mounted carrying options for light accessories such as aluminium ladders. Traditionally, when fitting roof bars to your canopy, full internal frame set-ups are installed that can carry up to 100 kilograms

worth of gear. Not only can these frames take up precious canopy cargo space, they can end up being quite costly, and nobody likes paying for something they don't need!

ARB Product Manager, Rhys Brown, explains the benefits of the new Canopy Cross Bar Mounting Kit. "We've created a simplified internal frame support system. For customers that only require up to 50 kilograms of load-carrying capacity, our new Canopy Cross Bar Mounting Kit is all very straightforward in the way it has been designed. There are no cumbersome internal bars that are robbing the canopy of space and because fitting time is reduced, as well as a simpler manufacturing process, this range results in an easy and economical option for our customers." Whilst many canopy roof bars only offer on road load limit, our ARB Canopy Cross Bars are made to hold up to 50 kilograms under any on or off road situation.

Not just for trade or fleet customers, the Canopy Cross Bar range is perfect for recreational 4WDers who want to mount a bike, kayak or surfboard to the roof of their canopy. The mounting kit components are made from steel and finished in a sleek black powder coat. Available to purchase

as a single item, the mounting kit comes in front or rear options. A vehicle-specific design, the ARB Canopy Cross Bar Mounting Kit suits all late model Classic and Classic Plus canopies.

ARB SPORTLID CROSS BAR MOUNTING KIT

The ARB Sportlid provides safety, security and protection for all your tools and equipment. For those who want to utilise the Sportlid for even more storage opportunities, every Sportlid comes standard with two track channels, ready to fit accessories to the top of the lid.

Designed for use with the 1,500-millimetre ARB Cross Bars, the ARB Sportlid Cross Bar Mounting Kit is comprised of a foot pack that connects the ARB Cross Bars to the Sportlid track channels, allowing you to mount your ARB Cross Bars anywhere along the length of the Sportlid. Offering a 75-kilogram dynamic load limit, the clever Sportlid design also allows up to 25 kilograms mounted on the lid whilst still being able to open and stay open. The ARB Sportlid Cross Bar Mounting Kit components are made from a combination of steel, aluminium and UV stable plastic and finished in a black powder coat.

OFF ROAD COOKING

Beef Rib Campfire Chilli



Ingredients:

8 beef ribs (2 racks of 4)
3 jalapeño peppers
3 teaspoons of ground cumin
3 teaspoons of smoked paprika
2 teaspoons of Italian herbs
2 teaspoons of cinnamon
2 onions
2 capsicums
5 cloves of garlic
2 x 400g tins of kidney beans
2 x 400g tins of chopped tomatoes
Salt
Pepper
Rice

Optional:
Meat rub (a coffee-based rub works well)
Sour cream to serve
Coriander to serve

Method:

Remove the silver skin from the underside of the ribs and trim excess fat. Cover the ribs in salt and pepper or a meat rub.

Char the ribs and the jalapeños. You can do this using a grill basket, on a grill over the fire or straight on the

coals. The ribs don't need to cook through, just get some nice char on them.

While the ribs are cooking, chop and brown the onions in a large camp oven. Add the garlic and spices to the camp oven and cook until aromatic. Once the ribs are charred, cut the racks into individual ribs and put in the camp oven.

Roughly chop the jalapeños and add to the camp oven. Remove the seeds if you don't like too much heat. Chop the capsicum and add to the camp oven. Add the rest of the ingredients and stir. If more liquid is required, add a cup of water, dark beer or coffee.

Put the lid on the camp oven and simmer over the fire for four hours or until the meat falls off the bone and is tender.

Serve over rice with sour cream and coriander.

Serves four

OFF ROAD COOKING

Fun Camping Caramel Pods



FUN CAMPING CARAMEL PODS

Ingredients:

Butternut Snap biscuits
Can of caramel
Chocolate

Method:

Heat a camp oven over the coals. Put biscuits into the camp oven on a trivet for five minutes.

Remove biscuits from the camp oven once soft and mould them into little cups. Allow to cool.

Spoon caramel into the biscuit cups. Melt chocolate over the fire and spread on top of the caramel.

Put in fridge to cool.

Retail





Have you visited one of ARB's new-look Flagship Stores? 5 years ago, ARB embarked on a monumental worldwide project to introduce a new look and feel for our branded stores and create the ultimate in-store experience for our valued customers.

The improved retail design offers customers an unprecedented 4x4 shopping experience with more product interaction, educational displays and state-of-the-art fitting bays. Together with our friendly team, the fresh new look brings with it expert advice and specialised service, making it the perfect place for customers to personalise their 4WD.

During 2020 and amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, major development plans continued all around the country because we knew that we needed to make sure we were ready for our customers when things started getting back to normal.

Whilst online shopping has proven invaluable during lockdown, we know how imperative it is to be able to shop in a physical retail scene. This is why we continued to develop new stores and upgrade existing ARB locations, including the following Flagship stores:

- ARB Dandenong, Victoria*
- ARB Edwardstown, South Australia*
- ARB St Peters, New South Wales*
- ARB Coopers Plains, Queensland*
- ARB Gosford, New South Wales*
- ARB Darwin, Northern Territory*
- ARB Windsor, New South Wales*
- ARB Seven Hills, New South Wales*

This makes a total of 26 Flagship stores around Australia. Check out page 113 to find your local.

Behind the Shot

We spend a lot of time chasing colours to suit the vehicles we are photographing. In the outback of Australia, there are so many colours... through good times and bad times, the landscape provides for the photographer a huge variety of hues.

But we have also seen just how hard a time property owners and their families are having whilst dealing with the extensive droughts going on around this country.

On a recent photoshoot and after a fair bit of rain in the southern Flinders, we knew that there would be good opportunity to chase the green landscape, but we made a decision to first shoot the vehicle in the northern Flinders where there were patches of rain but still a very arid landscape.

We had great success shooting in this harsh environment so we headed to the Bendleby Ranges hoping for more green landscape there. The Bendleby Ranges had recently received 65 millimetres of rain and I had been told how stunning it was right now.

We definitely weren't disappointed. I couldn't stop talking about the warm earthy colours and the stunning greens before us.

Then suddenly, in came a massive flock of budgerigars. Wow! It was an absolutely amazing sight to behold. Like a wave, they flew so close together that all you could see was green. An inland sea of green.

With a massive smile on my face, I grabbed the camera with the 400-millimetre f2.8 and 1.4 extender on a 1Dx MkII and smashed out a bunch of shots.

I still cannot understand how they fly so close, so fast or what they are following... I hope you enjoy this shot of what's greener than the landscape itself.

Camera: Canon EOS-1D X Mark III
Lens: EF400mm f2.8L IS USM + 1.4x III = 560mm
Shutter speed: 1/400
Aperture: f 4.0
ISO: 100

Michael Ellem
Offroad Images



ARB JACK

JACK

Words by John Rogers



Ever since man first attempted to lift objects by mechanical means, he or she has been up against a constant force called gravity. The heavier the object, the greater the force needed to move or lift it. First was probably a simple tree branch or handy log, then the discovery of using another log or rock as a fulcrum that multiplied the force exerted on an object to be lifted, enabling heavier objects such as buildings made of heavy logs, then stone, to rise above the landscape.



The Beginnings of the Jack

Even with the invention of the wheel, things didn't progress all that much other than the use of pulley blocks for a millennia or two until the industrial age. With the invention of cast iron, products of all descriptions could be made relatively cheaply and thanks to clever moulding techniques, hundreds – if not thousands – of the same product could be produced, enabling the industrial revolution to change the world.

First, steam power began to revolutionise the way products were made en masse. Then, as technology progressed even more and the internal combustion engine was invented, the first attempts at motorised transport were made in the mid to late 1800s.

As time progressed, the pneumatic tyre was invented and inevitably punctures would occur, so the need for a portable means to lift the vehicle was needed. In 1905, the Automatic Combination Tool, also known as the Handyman or Shepherd's Jack was invented, a predecessor of what just about every off roader knows today as a hi-lift jack.

Hi-Lift to JACK

My history with the hi-lift goes back to 1978. I purchased one not long after buying my first 4WD and it has been with me ever since and has served me well... up until now. One of my gripes with the hi-lift style jack was the amount of physical effort needed to lift a heavy modern-day vehicle loaded down with all the necessities of camping and/or touring. Getting under the vehicle with a bottle jack or hydraulic jack in the middle of a boggy track doesn't appeal to a lot of off roaders, me included, so there had to be a better way to get the wheels off the ground.

A little over a year ago, my wife and I purchased a full off road capable caravan and quickly discovered the jacking points were far too high for a bottle jack and the trusty hi-lift took quite an effort to lift the van. On one of my visits to my local ARB store, I spied what would turn out to be my new best mate.

JACK the Jack

Yes, that's its name, plain and simple, JACK. Being a hydraulic jack, lifting effort was relatively light when pumping the hydraulic arm, even when the full weight of either the 4WD or caravan was taken up. I found I could



easily lift the vehicle or van using just one hand to push JACK to its required height.

With a working load limit of 2,000 kilograms, JACK will easily lift your vehicle off the ground with minimum effort, so let's have a closer look.

The first thing you notice is the protective carry bag that is supplied. As JACK is a piece of precision hydraulic engineering and not a lump of cast iron, the bag is designed to protect JACK from the ravages of the often abusive four wheel environment. When out of the bag, I strongly suggest you acquaint yourself with the owner's instruction manual as there are a few things to remember to safely lift your vehicle.

JACK out of the Box

Now that you've read the manual, let's do a test run before you go bush, just to acquaint yourself with JACK's operation and, quite importantly, to bed in the hydraulic seals.

When I first tested JACK at home, I easily lifted the caravan but then could barely get JACK to retract all the way to its base. After much cursing and frustration, I contacted the engineers at ARB who suggested I cycle JACK six to ten times by lifting my vehicle then lowering it, then lifting it and lowering it again and again. This did the trick and the seals were now much more free and by depressing the red pressure release valve and using some body weight on the hook, the piston fully retracted into the body when I needed to put it back into its protective bag after use.

So let's have a good look at JACK's features. At its fully raised height, JACK's hook tops out at 122 centimetres off the ground, so no problems here for those with modified vehicle sporting lift kits. JACK weighs in at a healthy 10.6 kilograms according to my scales, which is fairly comparable to that of a hi-lift jack.

On the jack body is a large clamp with the lifting hook attached. This can be moved up and down the jack body to the desired height, then fixed in place by closing the integral quick-release lever. The very sturdy alloy base is 160 millimetres in diameter and quite good for firm ground, but the large plastic base plate accessory is a necessity for sandy and loose soils and from experience I can thoroughly recommend that you also purchase one. Something I really like is the rubber body bumper, which can be slid up or down the jack body to protect the vehicle and the jack from any contact between the two.

The very sturdy alloy foot of the jack has a pivot that will allow you to use JACK on uneven and slightly sloping surfaces by rotating the angle between the base and the jack body to suit the terrain.





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How to JACK

Once you have found the correct lifting point on your vehicle, undo the quick-release lever and slide the hook up the jack body to the height required, then firmly close the quick-release lever, ensuring that the base of the hook is in one of the grooves, and you are ready to start using the handle to raise your vehicle to the desired height.

Remember that all lifting devices have an element of danger so before lifting ensure that all safety precautions are taken such as engine off, hand brake firmly on, vehicle in park or in gear if a manual and wheels firmly chocked. If on severe slopes, I have often attached my winch cable to a tree to prevent

the possibility of the vehicle moving during the lift. Using the handle to raise the vehicle is a piece of cake as the benefit of hydraulics means only minimum effort is required to lift heavy loads, so you don't have to be a champion weightlifter to operate the JACK.

To lower the vehicle is pure joy compared to the effort of using a hi-lift style or mechanical jack, which still requires strength to lower the vehicle. With JACK, all one has to do is gently depress the red lowering lever and the weight of the vehicle will depress the jack until the wheels are back on the ground. This truly is a one-finger operation! Be careful not to press the lowering lever all the way to the black pressure relief button as the vehicle will drop very rapidly if this is done.

Back in the Box

Once you are ready to pack JACK back into his protective bag, I suggest you depress the lowering lever all the way to the black pressure relief button and simply put some body weight onto the hook and the jack body will go to its retracted length. All in all I'm very happy to have JACK riding in the back of my vehicle as I have found him to be far more user friendly than a host of other jacks I have used and often verbally abused over the years.

GME

Comms Covered

WHEREVER LIFE TAKES YOU, TAKE GME!

For more than 60 years, GME has been an industry leader in the communication and technology space. Family owned and operated, GME is proudly 100% Australian owned and continues an ongoing commitment to Australian design and manufacturing.

During this tough year, GME has continued developing new products and is proud to release a plethora of 4WD must-haves. Plus, their trade and upgrade promo ensures you will have the best technology for your travels.

TX6160 & ACCESSORY CAR KIT

GME has an extensive range of UHF CB handheld radios to meet a variety of needs. From 4WDing to construction sites, GME has a handheld to suit. The TX6160 range is ideal for users who demand the ultimate in handheld UHF CB communication for both work and play.

Features include class-leading five-watt transmission power, an IP67 ingress protection rating for outstanding performance and years of reliable use in the harshest Australian environments, up to 30 hours of battery life, VOX hands-free mode and a built-in LED torch.

The ACC6160CK accessory car kit provides flexible and unique options such as in-car charging through a mounting cradle, magnetic holder and mounting bollard for quick access. A magnetic base antenna mounts externally on the vehicle.

AE4700 LIMITED EDITION ANTENNAS

The AE4700 series is an adaptable antenna system with the coaxial termination embedded within the spring assembly with an easy screw-down fitment of the whip. This allows for interchangeability of whips depending on the operating conditions and application, shorter lengths with lower gain for hilly terrain and longer lengths with higher gain for travelling on open roads with flat terrain.

The most popular models, the AE4704 and AE4705, are available for a limited time in three new colour combinations. The tan-and-black combination is the perfect addition to any sandy taupe 4WD while the white-and-black combination looks great on white vehicles with black bar work. To continue their support of the McGrath foundation, 10% of all sales of the McGrath pink-and-black combination goes directly to help fund McGrath Breast Care Nurses in communities across Australia.

All three colour combinations are available as either a complete antenna, whip or a twin pack for the ultimate package option.



BLAZE ORANGE TX6160XO

The highly successful Blaze Orange TX6160XO five-watt CB handheld radio is now available as a kit packed with three all-new accessories. The kit includes a charging cradle, magnetic handheld mount and a magnetic base antenna to create a unique in-car solution for general 4WDing, rugged outback touring or the casual UHF CB user.

The blaze orange colour of the handheld ensures that your radio will stand out in any environment and the range of accessories included in the kit provides plenty of user options and flexibility for mounting, charging and communicating.



GME TRADE AND UPGRADE



Purchase an XRS-330C or XRS-370C from an authorised GME dealer by 31 December 2020, send your old UHF CB radio to GME and they will provide you with \$50 cashback.

You may have an old UHF CB radio gathering dust in the shed, the radio in your vehicle may have seen better days or you may have recently purchased a cheaper radio and wish to upgrade to an Australian-made XRS™ Connect radio, and now is the perfect time!



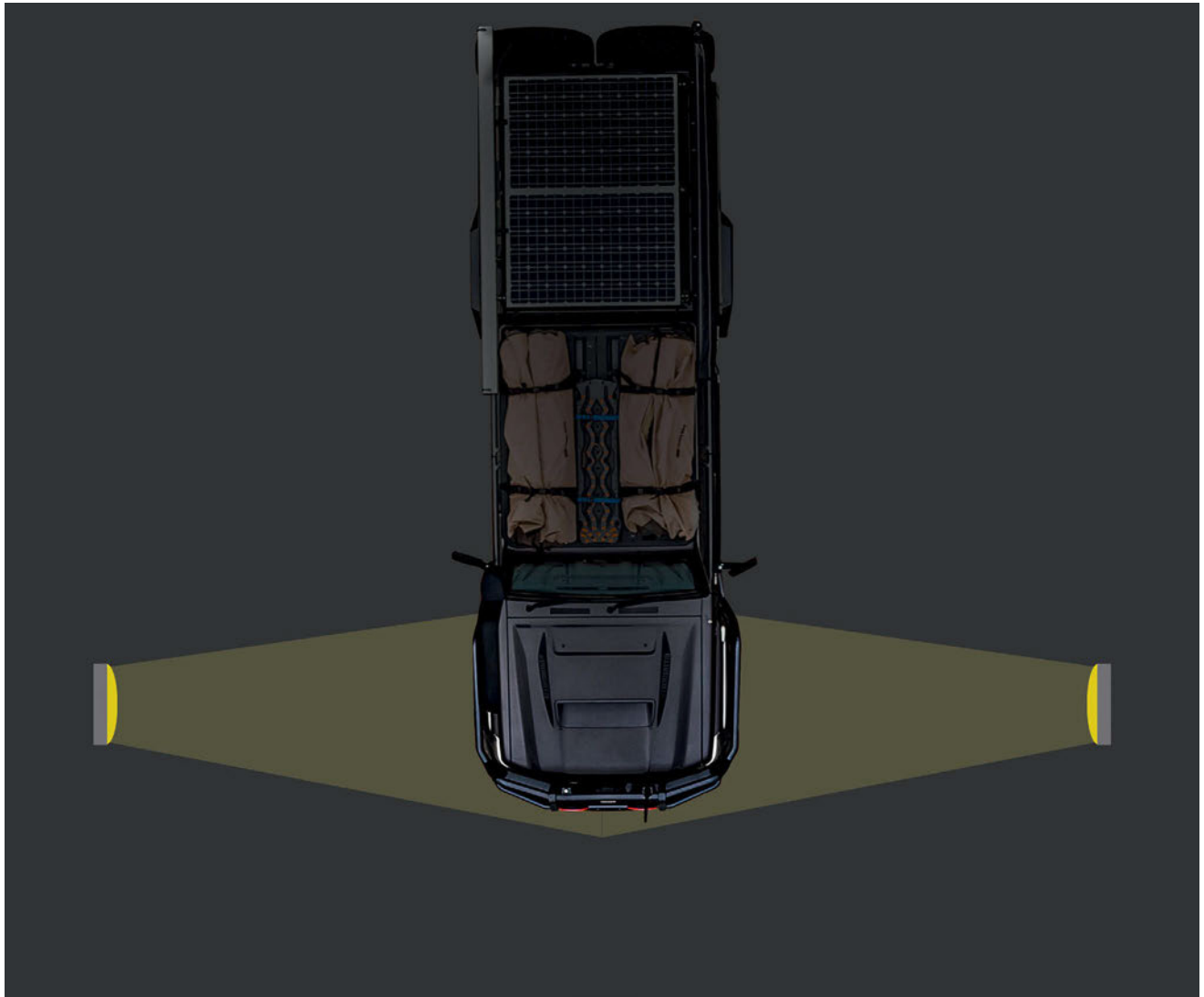
XRS CONNECT

XRS™ Connect is a new Australian-made radio platform designed to be smart, adaptable and rugged. Featuring a professional grade speaker microphone complete with a class-leading two-watt speaker, customisable buttons and a high-contrast OLED screen guaranteeing a crystal clear, anti-glare display.

Enabled by Bluetooth® wireless technology, XRS™ Connect is the first of a new generation

of connected UHF CB radios with unique features never seen before. They are the first ever UHF CB radio with app control, introducing new features such as creating and sharing scan lists and instant access to the entire Australian and New Zealand registered analogue frequency database. As with many other smart devices, XRS™ Connect products are software upgradeable via the apps, keeping users up to date with the latest features and technology.





Creating Edgy Lighting Effects in Your Imagery... Even on Your Smartphone

Photography is a part of everyday life. Photography is also based on light... without light, we have nothing.

This light is transmitted or reflected in everyday life and captured on smartphones to be published instantly on social feeds for many to enjoy.

If you are looking at capturing a scene on a DSLR or your smartphone, why not consider a few options to make things look a little different?

Whilst the subject here has been lit by professional studio lighting, a similar effect

can be created by utilising a couple of LED work lights. This is similar to a technique called rim lighting; however, I decided to light a little more around the front of the vehicle.

The idea is to highlight the edges of the subject so that the light bounces off the corners and creates catchlights to give you this high contrast look, which can be extremely interesting to the viewer.

In this particular image, we brought the light in just slightly forward of the sides to ensure that the plate and logos were still highlighted. But if you brought the lighting in front from say in line with or directly out

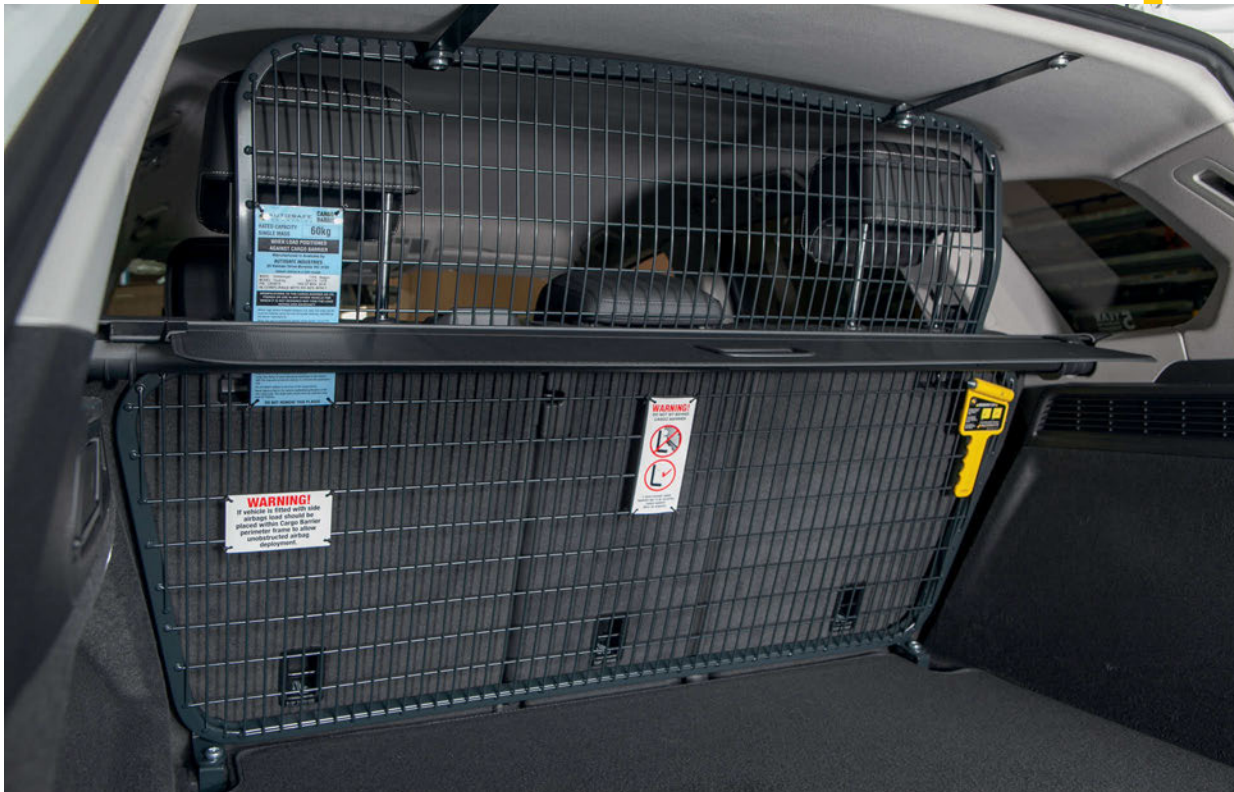
from the front wheels, the effect would be even more contrasting.

And yes, this can be captured on your smartphone and with basic lighting.

So give it a go and when you do, please send me your pics as I would love to see the results and maybe even offer some suggestions.

Mike
Instagram @offroadimages

AUTOSAFE CARGO BARRIERS



Anyone with a cargo barrier knows it is an invaluable 4WD accessory. ARB realises that there has been an increasing demand outside the 4x4 sector and especially for fleet vehicle applications so to fill this gap in our existing cargo barrier offering, we have teamed up with Autosafe Industries.

Autosafe has been manufacturing cargo barriers since the 1970s and do this to the highest standards with testing and certification to meet Australian Standards as well as carrying a four-year warranty.

Autosafe has an extensive range of cargo barriers and can accommodate different

wheel bases and roof heights. Contact your local ARB store or stockist to order an Autosafe cargo barrier for your vehicle.

Some popular Autosafe cargo barrier applications include:

- Toyota (HiAce, Rav 4, Prado and LandCruiser)
- Mitsubishi (ASX, Outlander and Pajero)
- Volkswagen (Caddy, Golf, Passat and Transporter)
- Kia (Sorento, Rio, Sportage and Carnival)
- Mercedes (Vito and Sprinter)
- Hyundai (iLoad, i30, i40 and Santa Fe)



MAX AIR III COMPRESSOR

The engineers designed the Bushranger Max Air III Compressor for efficient and quick use. The compact unit utilises a powerful 12-volt motor and cast alloy air pump with a flow rate of 72 litres per minute, allowing a short inflation time for most common tyre sizes.

Portable in design, the compressor allows for easy passing between vehicles with the two alligator clamps on a 2.5-metre fused lead for quick connection to the vehicle's battery. There is an option for a permanent fixture with the compressor's featured oil-free design and pressure switch. The oil-free design allows you to fit the compressor on multiple angles and the in-built on/off pressure switch enables you to connect to an auxiliary air tank. Once 12-volt power is connected, pull the trigger-style gun to start inflation; release the trigger and the compressor stops.

Knowing that not everyone is in a rush to air up, the trigger-style gun with locking lever and an accurate digital display does allow you to move around the vehicle easily. Lock on the trigger for quiet operation and come back in a few moments. If you've managed to inflate the tyre too far, the built-in deflator valve allows you to drop the pressure down to the desired level at the push of a button.

Operating quietly with a low current draw, inside the supplied robust carry bag is a coiled reinforced air hose. Connecting via quick-release couplings, the air hose takes up minimal space and extends for a combined 11.5-metre reach.

As with all Bushranger products, the Max Air III Compressor is manufactured to the highest quality, tried and tested for our Australian conditions. Backed with a five-year warranty, it is available from all ARB stores and stockists.

TECH SPECS

Flow rate: 72 LPM

Working pressure (max): 150 psi

Duty cycle (max): 33% @ 100 psi

Amp draw (max): 30A (40A fuse)

Voltage (max): 13.8V

Ambient temp (max): 70°C

Materials:

Cast alloy air pump casing with cooling fins, cast alloy air filter housing and diamond plate base tray with rubber base

Dimensions:

290mm (L) x 190mm (H) x 150mm (W)

Weight:

Compressor only 4.9kg, kit 6.5kg

Warranty:

5 years

THE ADVENTURES OF FOURBY AND FRIENDS



FOURBY AND ARIEL ARE SO EXCITED TO BE GOING ON THEIR FIRST ABORIGINAL CULTURE TOUR.

THEY MEET THEIR GUIDE, JIEMBA. AFTER LEARNING ABOUT JIEMBA'S ANCESTORS AND THEIR HISTORY ON THE LAND, THEY HEAD OUT ON THE TOUR.



JIEMBA SHOWS FOURBY AND ARIEL SO MANY WONDERFUL THINGS.



FROM ANCIENT ROCK ART THAT TELLS AMAZING DREAMTIME STORIES...



...TO TRADITIONAL HUNTING AND SPEAR FISHING.

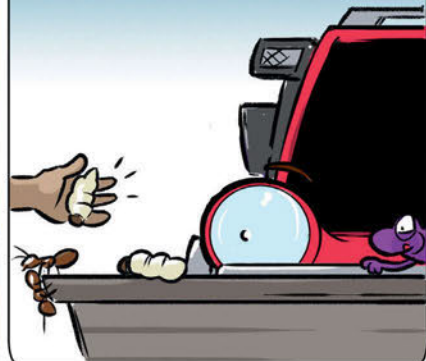
JIEMBA ALSO TEACHES THEM ABOUT NATIVE USEFUL PLANTS



LIKE A TREE WITH LEAVES THAT CAN BE USED AS SOAP...



...AND WRIGGLY BUSH TUCKER LIKE WITCHETTY GRUBS AND GREEN ANTS!



JIEMBA EVEN SHOWS THEM THE BEAUTIFUL NEST OF THE BOWERBIRD. THEY WATCH HIM COLLECT COLOURFUL BLUE OBJECTS TO DECORATE HIS HOME WITH.

FOURBY AND ARIEL LEARN SO MUCH FROM JIEMBA AND HAVE SUCH A WONDERFUL DAY!



FOURBY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Hey, kids! Can you figure out each word in Fourby's crossword puzzle? Use the pictures as clues.

The crossword puzzle grid contains the following letters:

- Row 1: Z
- Row 2: B
- Row 3: Y
- Row 4: D
- Row 5: S, O, R
- Row 6: H
- Row 7: G, L

The illustrations around the grid include:

- A red monster truck.
- A blue and yellow bird.
- A purple dinosaur.
- A koala.
- A kangaroo on a pink toy horse.
- A purple truck.
- Two seagulls eating.
- A boat with people and animals.

Thule

THULE MEETS



ARB SPORTLID

TRANSFORM YOUR WEEKDAY COMMUTER TO A WEEKEND ADVENTURE MOBILE.

We all know the feeling. You want to get away from the big smoke for the weekend, hit the coast or the mountains and enjoy all the fun stuff, but you're not sure how to bring all your gear.



WHERE DESIGN MEETS FUNCTION

Thule's track integration systems are designed and tested for ARB's range of Sportlids to best suit individual requirements and offer another great way to carry all your gear easily, safely and in style.

ENDURED THULE TESTING, A SAFE AND SECURE USER EXPERIENCE

As with all Thule products, the track systems are tested for safety that exceeds international requirements.

Safety is a matter of necessity, but it doesn't mean that you have to give up

good design. Thule always keeps a close eye on the latest trends and designs in the car industry because we want your accessories to perfectly integrate with the ARB Sportlid for a smooth and seamless look.

DIFFERENT COMBINATIONS OF ACCESSORIES

Thule offers an extensive range of lifestyle accessories for your ARB Sportlid to fit any occasion or build no matter how big or small the adventure.

Bike racks: Whether it's a road bike, mountain bike or kids' bikes, Thule has a solution to suit your needs. Our range of roof-mounted bike carriers offers secure, quick and convenient mounting for your bikes.

Surfboard and kayak carriers: With a Thule watersport carrier, you're ready to chase the waves. Simply load your board or kayak and head out.

Roof boxes and cargo carriers: With the most complete range of roof boxes on the market, a Thule roof box gives you the extra space you need to carry any load in style. The contemporary and aerodynamic roof boxes are available in a wide range of sizes to suit all requirements.

Contact your local ARB store or stockist for more information and availability.



NAVIGATOR™



Find your Bearings this Christmas with Navigator

Calling all experienced off roaders and first time fourbies; Navigator Buddies are the ideal products to have on your road trip, in your campsite and even at your socially distanced celebrations!



Shovel Buddy

Hey, Buddy, I dig you! Made from lightweight anodised aluminium, the Shovel Buddy has two adjustable handle lengths and comes in a quality zippered soft bag for convenient storage and protection. Perfect for getting out of sandy situations in the 4WD!



Product Specs

- Handle length options: 82cm & 65cm
- When stored in bag: 44cm x 23cm x 6cm

Available in store now.

Part Number: NAV040

RRP: \$49.00



Rake Head Attachment

Rake it till you make it! The new Rake Head Attachment is made to fit onto the Navigator Shovel Buddy and includes an extension shaft to lengthen the rake (or shovel). Clean up around your campfire with ease using the Rake Head Attachment and if you leave your back scratcher at home, this buddy has got your back... literally!

Product Specs

- Rake Head Attachment: 28cm x 9cm
- Combined weight of the Shovel Buddy and Rake Head Attachment: 1.1kg
- Will fit perfectly into the original Shovel Buddy Bag (pictured above)
- Must be used in conjunction with the Shovel Buddy
- Shovel Buddy sold separately

Available in store mid-December.

Part Number: NAV048

RRP: \$29.99

Nowhere Flip Stool

Get your feet on the table! Wait, what? That's right! Put your feet up and rest, and when it's time for dinner, simply flip your Nowhere Flip Stool to create a sturdy tabletop. Having Christmas outdoors? The Nowhere Flip Stool is the ideal chair and table for outdoor gatherings, folding flat when not in use and easy to carry by its rigid bracing.



Product Specs

- Nowhere Flip Stool: 35cm x 35cm x 45cm
- Weight rating: 125kg
- Removable pivot feet
- Storage pocket for phones, keys and iPad

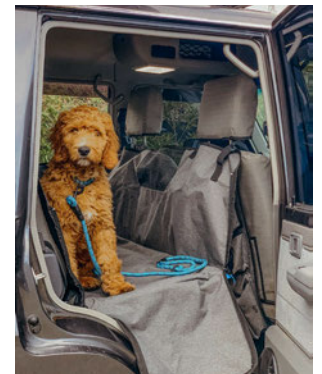
Available in store now.

Part Number: NAV043

RRP: \$47.99

Dog Seat Buddy

The PAWfect buddy for your next Trip! There will be no more dirty paws on your seat with the Navigator Dog Seat Buddy. Finally, a stylish solution for keeping your car clean & seats protected while you travel with your four-legged friends. Featuring a front mesh panel, giving your pooch the perfect view, as well as storage pockets, your dog will be delighted with their new Seat Buddy.



Product Specs:

- Fits most 4WDs & SUVs
- Adjustable webbing straps
- Front mesh panel
- Two front pockets
- Strong coated fabric
- Soft underside lining for seat protection
- Zipped sides to allow access & protect door trims

Available in store now.

Part Number: NAV050

RRP: \$99.99

Competition Winners



"At Mathers on the north coast of Tassie, doing a lap of the map!" Peter Holloway and Jac Hope, TAS



"Breakfast of champions before a big day off roading." Alison Thai, NSW



"Our little one roughing it while waiting for Mum and Dad to get ready!" Margaret Pumpa, SA

ROUGHING IT COMPETITION WINNERS



"My family and I love a good camping and 4WD trip!" Rachel Morrissey, NSW



We asked for pics of our 4x4 Culture champions roughing it out on the tracks and we loved the photos of off road set-ups we received. Here is a selection of our favourites. Each published entry wins a Weekender Recovery Kit worth over \$160! Check out page 113 to enter this edition's competition.

"Our set-up near De Grey River, off the Great Northern Highway in WA." Drew Garnaut, WA



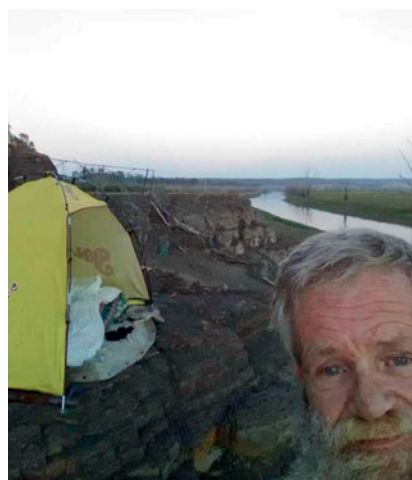
"This is my partner on our recent camping trip. I think it's roughing it at its best." Kitty Steel, QLD



"First trip for our nearly two-year-old downgrading to the simplicity of swags – not sure you can call it roughing it with that view though!" Stephanie Murphy, QLD



"My wife and I camping on the Wonnangatta River." Geoff Hamence, VIC



"My dad likes an unobstructed view of a morning so prefers to camp out in a beach shelter. Ha ha ha." Emily Brosnan, NSW

Camping Therapy

COMPETITION

2020 has been a tough year and there's nothing better than a bit of camping therapy to cure those COVID-19 blues.

Send us a pic of your most relaxing camping moments for your chance to win a Horizon Light pack worth over \$200

Send your photo to promotions@arb.com.au and make sure to include your name and address.

Competition closes 31 January 2021.



ARB STORES

VICTORIA

Bairnsdale (03) 5152 1226
 Ballarat (03) 5336 4605
 Bendigo (03) 5445 7100
 Brighton (03) 9557 1888
 Dandenong (03) 9793 0002
 Echuca (03) 5480 2600
 Geelong (03) 5272 2611
 Hoppers Crossing (03) 9749 5905
 Keilor Park (03) 9331 7333
 Kilsyth (03) 9761 6622
 Pakenham (03) 5940 5500
 Shepparton (03) 5822 1877
 Somerton (03) 9460 9988
 Traralgon (03) 5174 9190
 Warragul (03) 5623 5599

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Elizabeth (08) 8252 1599
 Morphett Vale (08) 8186 6101
 Regency Park (08) 8244 5001

ACT

Fyshwick (02) 6280 7475

QUEENSLAND

Biggera Waters (07) 5537 8800
 Bundaberg (07) 4153 2929
 Burleigh Heads (07) 5535 9223
 Caboolture (07) 5499 1955
 Capalaba (07) 3823 5900
 Cairns (07) 4035 3350
 Caloundra (07) 5491 4500
 Coopers Plains (07) 3277 2020
 Jindalee (07) 3715 6400
 Nundah (07) 3266 3255
 Mackay (07) 4998 6888
 Maroochydore (07) 5475 4011
 North Lakes (07) 3491 9600
 Rockhampton (07) 4922 7788
 Springwood (07) 3493 3030
 Toowoomba (07) 4632 1122
 Townsville (07) 4728 0900

TASMANIA

Burnie (03) 6431 4494
 Hobart (03) 6228 6822
 Launceston (03) 6331 4190

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Alice Springs (08) 8953 0572
 Darwin (08) 8947 2262

NEW SOUTH WALES

Albury (02) 6021 2477
 Artarmon (02) 9438 4484
 Broken Hill (08) 8087 9250
 Brookvale (02) 8507 3073
 Dubbo (02) 6885 5777
 Gosford (02) 4324 0489
 Moorebank (02) 9821 3633
 Narellan (02) 4648 1900
 Newcastle (02) 4953 9555
 Orange (02) 6369 0700
 Penrith (02) 4731 1266
 Port Macquarie (02) 6581 2500
 St Peters (02) 9565 2455
 Tamworth (02) 6762 0541
 Thornleigh (02) 9980 8855
 Wagga Wagga (02) 6925 8777
 Wentworthville (02) 9631 7889
 Windsor (02) 4587 7114
 Wollongong (02) 4225 2050

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Canning Vale (02) 9455 4366
 Geraldton (08) 9921 8077
 Mandurah (08) 9583 3200
 Osborne Park (08) 9244 3553
 South Hedland (08) 9160 4900
 Wangara (08) 9409 5764
 Welshpool (08) 9358 3688

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