



Captain Joey (front right) on her first trip



JT (in red) driving an ATV with guests

Sigatoka River Safari Reveals Fiji's First Official Female Jet Boat Captain & ATV Driver!

No doubt the letter "J" is a special letter in the Sigatoka River Safari family. Firstly, there's Jay Whyte, Managing Director or "Boso" (Boss), then there's Josh Ratukuna, Jet Boat Captain or Captain Jack or Fiji's own Johnny Depp (he wishes) but hey there is that letter "J" again.

In the past year, an additional, make that two "J's" joined the Safari team. Much better looking than the first two "J's", Jordana "Captain Joey" Whippy" and Josephine "JT" Traill have taken a "whipping trail" (no pun intended) in achieving a feat that most would not even think possible in Fiji.

Jordana is a Jet Boat Captain and Josephine an ATV (All Terrain Vehicle) driver. The two young women do jobs that most people would think impossible in Fiji, let alone for females to do.

Both Jordana and Josephine admitted they never imagined doing what they are doing now and feel blessed that their jobs allow them to meet different kinds of people from all over the world without leaving Fiji.

When they both stumbled onto an opportunity and a chance of a lifetime to do jobs "we only see in the movies" they did not hesitate one bit. According to Jordana "I heard that there was a need of a Jet Boat Captain and I thought why not?" She added, "My family, Jay and the team had faith in me so I just took the opportunity and I've been enjoying this experience so much".

Jordana undertook 6 weeks of vigorous training in Jet Boating in New Zealand under the watchful eye of Neil Ross, a pioneer of Jet Boating with over 20 years experience.

It didn't take long for Jordana to drive all the Jet Boats available on Sigatoka River Safari. The girl from Savusavu, Fiji knows nothing is impossible if you have an open mind.

On the other hand, Josephine, fresh out of hospitality school was looking to gain some work experience and was ready to take on anything the "big bad world" was going to dish out to her.

When the opportunity came for an ATV driver/guide for the new and original Off-Road Cave Safari, Josephine was only too happy to “try out one set job”. Born and bred in Kulukulu, Sigatoka, Fiji, Josephine undertook ATV driving training with Josh Ratukuna.

“I love driving the ATV, it’s just like driving a normal car, except its a lot bigger and more powerful. I enjoy being a guide and driving the guests to a place where even locals hardly go to,” Josephine said.

So be sure to check out Joey as Captain for your Sigatoka River Safari experience or request JT as your ATV driver/guide for your Off-Road Cave Safari experience.

Captain Joey In Action...



Captain Joey (front right)

...Off-Road Guests With JT!



JT (in red) with guests



JT with guests in the heart of the Sigatoka Valley



Leps (far right) with the winning team of KeelowCraft/Sigatoka River Safari Jet Boat team

Captain Hijack Does Safari Proud in NZ!

Sigatoka River Safari's Captain Lepani "Hijack" Sulua recently returned from New Zealand after helping out with the KeelowCraft/Sigatoka River Safari Jet Boat crew in the 2011 New Zealand Jet Boat Marathon.

The marathon saw the world's best Jet Boat captains race against each on different rivers in New Zealand each day.

Leps as he is commonly known, was in awe of the experience and vowed to participate as a Jet Boat Marathon Captain or Navigator if he gets another chance to participate in the next tournament.

"I was a happy to be at the marathon and helping out Dwayne Terry who was the main Jet Boat Captain for the crew I assisted with," said Lepani. He added, "Dwayne finished first and won the FX class in the marathon and he finished fourth in all classes so it was nice to be a part of that".

Sigatoka River Safari sends a Jet Boat Captain every year to participate in the marathon with Captain Josh "Jack" Ratukuna participating as a race navigator once.

KeelowCraft based in New Zealand are the team behind the Sigatoka River Safari Custom Jet Boats. The crew that Leps was a part of were sponsored by KeelowCraft and Sigatoka River Safari.



Anne and Miri on their graduation with Jay

Hard Work Pays Off For Miri and Anne!

Sigatoka River Safari Operations Manager, Miriama Kunavula and Bookings Coordinator, Anne Mateyawa both graduated with a Trade Diploma in Front Line Management from the Fiji National University (FNU), Lautoka Campus on Friday, 9 December, 2011.

Miri and Anne can finally breathe a sigh of relief after six months of balancing their busy work schedule, families and their studies.

“This is a great moment for us and would like to thank our families, for their support and we are also thankful to Jay for supporting Anne and I financially to achieve our goals,” said Miri.

Anne added, “The path to achieving this was quite challenging and we’re glad that we’ve made it “.

Sigatoka River Safari, Managing Director, Jay Whyte attended the graduation and was very proud of Miri and Anne’s achievements.

“I’m pleased to see Miri and Anne graduate and it’s always satisfying for me as an employer to see members of my team achieve their goals,” Jay said.

Sigatoka River Safari supported Miri and Anne by enrolling them in the course and sponsored their tuition as part of the company’s commitment to staff development. Miri has worked with Sigatoka River Safari since the company started in 2006 and Anne has been with the company for 2 years.

Fiji TV's Talk Business On Safari

Sigatoka River Safari recently hosted Talk Business Journalist and Producer, Rachna Nath and Cameraman Jese Tuisinu to an ultimate Safari experience.

Rachna and Jese both experienced Sigatoka River Safari and the new Off-Road Cave Safari. The feature will be part of Talk Business quest in finding out more about Adventure Tourism in Fiji.

Catch the Safari team on Talk Business at 8pm Tuesday, December 13, 2011. If you miss it, you can view it online a day after on www.fijitv.info.

Lights! Camera! Action!



Miri being interviewed by Rachna



Tubairata Village Guide , Kini ready to talk on camera



Rachna at the Sigatoka River



Rachna at the Naihehe Cave Entrance

New Bus For Safari!



Sigatoka River Safari's New Bus

Sigatoka River Safari has included a full air-conditioned 22 seater Mini-Bus to it's fleet. Spotting the traditional and striking Safari artwork the bus was accorded a traditional Fijian welcome by the villagers of Mavua.

Did you know... Off-Road Cave Safari is now on Facebook! Learn more about it or read about others experience or simply join the family [Click Here!](#)

You can now access previous On-Safari News issues online [Click Here!](#)

Inaugural **Coral Coast Fiji Market**. **When:** 8am—5pm, Saturday, Dec 17, 2011. **Where:** Koko's Bar & Restaurant, Beachfront, Sunset Strip, Sigatoka **What:** Local live bands, Art & Craft on sale, Jewellery and much more. **Contact:** Tessa Miller, Namana Fiji Arts, 9944004 or e-mail namana@connect.com.fj

Name: Lepani "Captain Hijack" Sulua
From: Nalawa Village, Ra, Fiji.
Position: Jet Boat Captain - Sigatoka River Safari (since 2007)
Drink: Fiji Bitter
Food: Roast Chicken and Dalo (Taro)
Sport: Rugby
Best Memory at Work: Participating in the New Zealand Jet Boat Marathon 2011.
Best Work Tip: Work hard always.



Lepani "Captain Hijack" Sulua

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AON Tourism Fiji Award

2008: Sigatoka River Safari Winner - Best Fiji Experience
AON Tourism Fiji Awards

