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APRIL 2011



Trails & Tribulations...

Hi there enthusiasts,

A late newsletter due to the stunning 11 day break we were afforded, to go and travel some distant roads in South Africa. Our associated club, 4x4 Offroad Adventure Club (Gauteng) rand 2 long haul trips over this period, while a third trip was enjoyed by those lucky enough to experience a private excursion and camp with the SANParks Honorary Rangers in the Kruger National Park.

My overland trip covering great places like Upington, Kakamas, Keimoes, Kathu, Pofadder, Hondeklipbaai, Koiingnaas, Groenriviermond, Kleinzee, Port Nolloth, Alexander Bay, Brandkaros, the Richtersveld National Park, Lichtenburg and more. It was glorious! Excellent weather made it a journey to remember. Bar 5 new tyre replacements on a vehicle (tyres just did not look right an a wise decision made on night 1 of the trip), two caravan's which lost their wheels due to bearing failure. Two flat tyres on a Land Rover Discovery (the same one, two different sides!), a plastic belly plate coming off a Land Cruiser, the rear window of the same said Cruiser being smashed out (by a fridge – forgot to lock the slide!), we had a whale of a time.

We had some people shuffling as well due to illness of a young one and the passing away of a loved one during the trip. But at all times, the group stood together, supported one another and everybody enjoyed the trip thoroughly. They say Africa is not for Sissies.

The beauty of this tour however was further the experience of meeting local people along the way. From the very helpful HI-Q owner in Upington (see story within), who really helped one of our members greatly over 2 days, the friendly staff at the Spitskop Monate Camp Site, the wonderful people of the Strandveld Conservation Club who now run the old De Beers Concession area in Kleinzee and the 2 4x4 routes there. Then Veronica and her team at the Houthoop Restaurant & Guesthouse for their exceptional seafood dinner we had. Another gem we met was Sam from the small, innovative restaurant in Hondeklipbaai, where we spent a lovely early evening with Fish AND Chips served, and doubled the turnover of the town and the bottle store on one evening. ☺ ☺

Further north, we explored Port Nolloth and Alexander Bay, and had the wonderful experience of hiring a local guide from Port Nolloth to show us the 'unseen' parts of the Richtersveld. Conrad Mouton was an exceptional experience and somebody we would recommend to anybody who wants to learn the inner secrets of the life within the Richtersveld, from the trees, the Half-Mens, the Kokerbome and the fauna and flora which most tourists simply drive past.

We stayed at Brandkaros, which we found adequate, but it has so much potential, if the Richtersveld Community who own it, just spend some money on the place. Another place that



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needs urgent attention is another local community initiative just outside of Pella, called Oasis in die Wilderness. I drove in, had a quick look around and decided that I could not let my tour group stay here, and promptly secured other another camp site at Klein Pella date farm. I am all for supporting local community campsites and initiatives, but when these people realise that they must invest before they receive, and offer tourists value for money, then it should go better.

Our tour ended in Lichtenburg where we stayed at the stunning Lichtenburg Vakansie Oord, which is in a stunning condition and well managed. Our treat was a lamb on the spit with the local members of the Lichtenburg 4x4 Club who again catered for a feast, which we struggled to finish after 11 hours on the road. But it was great indeed.

The Eastern Cape Tour was also a blast. Except for the cold weather and temperatures (down to -3 degrees I believe), the team had a great exploration of some of the most beautiful sites that can be seen in the Rhodes district of the Eastern Cape. Our next newsletter will carry more feedback from this event.

Rain in Namibia is causing chaos. We report on flooding, road closures and sadly there have been some deaths up north where the water traditionally floods the low lying areas. Speaking to my friend and owner of Uri Adventures, Eben Delpert, who had just spent two weeks in the desert, he stated that the dunes in Namibia was like driving on a tar highway. We have already booked our Dunes trip for 2012!

Well, back to reality. Locally we have a few exciting things coming up, especially next weekend. These include the ever popular and growing LA Sport Show in Gezina, Pretoria. The Bridgestone 4x4 Fundi Challenge moves down to the Amsterdam area of the Mpumalanga Province, where a GPS Regularity Raid will be held. Nobody has a clue what to expect, so we will wait and see how the 59 competitors deal with it. For their sake, I certainly hope the rain stops by then.

It is amazing that while you go away, and have no real comms with the outside world, all types of things happened. We emerged from the Richtersveld to learn that Gadaffi had lost a brother, Osama Bin Ladin's life had ended, and the Royal Wedding went off without a hitch. Oh yes, and the Stormers smashed the Sharks at Newlands. Well done boys!

We have an extremely busy month of May again, and once again apologise for making you wait for your favourite read (yes, I get emails asking whatsup!). Well I will just put this one to bed, and then it will be time to create the next edition. ENJOY!

Yours in 4x4ing.



Alan Goodway (GP 1796)
Editor (voluntary!)

A large, colorful advertisement for Pioneer Plastics. The background is yellow. At the top, the words "PIONEER PLASTICS" are written in large, bold, blue letters. Below this, the slogan "Anything's Possible" is written in a blue, cursive font. Underneath the slogan, it says "WE SPECIALISE IN CUSTOM MOULDINGS" in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the ad, the website "www.pioneerplastics.co.za" and the phone number "Tel: 012 541 6000" are listed. The ad also features several images of custom mouldings, including a white plastic tray, a red plastic box, a blue plastic container, and a green plastic bin. A person's hands are shown working on a moulding.

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Calendar of Training Events

Herewith find training opportunities with the 4x4 Offroad Adventure Club, and its professional associates, offered to the public. Courses only run if sufficient numbers subscribe. Errors and omissions reserved.

Date	Event	Venue
21-22 May 2011	GPS, Navigation and Software	Centurion
July 2011 (TBA)	First Aid Level 1	Centurion



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Roads to Roam Adventure Holidays

Easter has gone and everybody is safely back from their holidays. Time to start planning the next one! Did you know it is only 7 weeks (more or less) to the June/July school holidays?

Below are our tours for the rest of the year:

- 11 – 18 May 2011: Lesotho: Tsehlanyane National Park
- 3 – 8 June 2011: Heritage Park Walk, North West Province, South Africa (North West Parks & Tourism Board)
- 20 June – 20 July 2011: Botswana and Namibia (Full)
- 5 – 9 August 2011: Botswana Tuli Block
- 6 - 20 Aug 2011: Masai Mara, Serengeti and Zanzibar (fly-in with vehicle rental – minimum numbers apply)
- 26 Aug – 9 Sept 2011: Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park
- 9 – 18 Sept 2011: Richtersveld and Namaqualand
- 30 Sept - 9 Oct 2011: Botswana Okavango Delta
- 6 – 9 October 2011: Kruger National Park Bush Camp (only 4 places left)
- 19 – 23 Oct 2011: Wilderness Birding Weekend, Garden Route, South Africa (Sanparks Honary Rangers)
- 26 – 30 Oct 2011: Otter Trail, Garden Route, South Africa (guided hike – only 6 places left)
- 16 – 24 Dec 2011: Southern Mozambique
- 26 Dec to 8 Jan 2012: Transkei Wild Coast

Have you seen the write up on ***Roads to Roam*** on page 129 of the April issue of the SA 4x4 magazine? To stand a chance to win a weekend camping in one of South Africa's National Parks, email the title of the article to info@roadstoroom.co.za. The competition closes on 31 May 2011 (T&C apply). A copy of the article is below (how easy can it be?).

Africa Route Planning Service

Are you an experienced off-roader that wish to travel Africa, but don't have the time to do the research on a possible route with points of interests and activities at your destination?

Roads to Roam Adventure Holidays offers a route planning service that includes recommendations on which routes to follow, distances between overnight stops, travel time, advice on border crossings, paperwork required, monetary issues, country information, wildlife, etc. at an affordable cost of R750.00 per trip.

The information is based on personal travel experience in Africa, information gained from the web and input from recent travellers to the area. Countries include Namibia, Botswana, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Swaziland, Lesotho, Angola, Serengeti, Zanzibar, etc. as well as popular destinations in South Africa.



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Reservations for the trip can also be done through *Roads to Roam*, whom will find availability according to your route plan, make the reservations for accommodation and activities, complete the payments and provide confirmation vouchers from the service providers.

Should you prefer, *Roads to Roam* can also arrange a guided safari with professional tour operators in the area.

For further information contact *Roads to Roam Adventure Holidays* via email on info@roadstoroom.co.za or by phone on 083 22 631 22.

January 2011

Hit the Trail – NEWS, FEATURES and the REST...

NEED A MECHANICAL SERVICE IN CENTURION (MITSUBISHI & TOYOTA OWNERS!!!)

Many old Mitsubishi Customers from Centurion, and then of late from Midrand will remember the friendly service of Freek Blignaut, mechanic & service advisor. Well Freek and Freek Jnr have now started their own workshop for Mitsubishi's, Toyota's and any other makes of vehicles, right here in Centurion, just off Botha Avenue.

Pop in for friendly service, advise or just to say hi! The rates are good, and the service is great. *(I now have my Pajero serviced at MITSPRO! Ed.)*

MITSPRO SERVICING - Freek Blignaut - Tel: 012 644 2888 / Cell; 083 543 6406

MITSPRO FEEDBACK

Hi Alan,

Ek het toe my motor by Mitspro gehad en ek moet se die diens was uitstekend en die pryse net so goed. Sal enige iemand na hom verwys!!!

Groete,

Daan Lessing

I MUST THANK ALL CONCERNED!!!!!!

To:

Willie & Rochelle & Rick @ Echo 4x4

Connie – Skynet Couriers

Christo & Nick @ Hi-Q Upington

Alan – 4x4 Offroad Adventure Club

Luzanne – Outsurance

Not knowing quite where to start with our appreciation for your collective efforts to get us back on the road over the Easter Weekend, I am going to share with you our ordeal over this period. That



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way, you will have an appreciation of how your collective efforts ensured that we were able to continue our 4700km journey.

On Good Friday 22 April 2011 at 20h00 after setting up night camp on day 1 of our 11 day West Coast 4x4 trip we noticed that there was a 50mm x 50mm piece of rubber missing from the front left tyre. As part of our journey was through the Richtersveld, I did not want to take the chance of using our spare tyre without another replacement at hand. We took a quick drive into Upington to get the telephone numbers of the tyre dealers in town to enquire which of them would be open on Saturday 23 April 2011. We realised too that due to the fact that we were at the start of the Easter Weekend we would probably not find a dealer that could assist us. Of all the tyre dealers in town, only Hi-Q Upington had telephone numbers advertised on the front shop.

We immediately phoned Christo from Hi-Q Upington and before we could ask whether we could be assisted on Saturday he told me to give him 5 minutes to get down to the workshop so that he could assist us in person. On arrival Christo asked how he could assist us – I told him that we were in desperate need of 5 new off road tyres. He confirmed that he had three in stock and that he could get another two to make up the full order requirement. Without further delay Christo, single handily proceeded to fit and balance all 5 BF Goodrich MT's and by 22h30 on Good Friday evening we drove out of Hi-Q Upington with a full set of new tyres. Excitedly we returned to the camp site to share the good news with the other club members on the same trip as us. Our success in getting new tyres fitted meant that we did not have to leave the trip or delay the convoy of 10 vehicles while we get our replacement tyres sorted out.

Early Saturday morning we all set off at the crack of dawn to head Kleinsee on the West Coast. Very happy with our new BF Goodrich MT tyres we were ready to tackle anything that came our way...well, were we? 115km west of Upington on the N14 to Springbok "the wheels literally fell off". Without any warning, the left hand wheel of our caravan came off due to the fact that the bearing failed. With sparks flying in every direction and a wheel passing us on the right hand side we safely managed to bring the vehicle and caravan to a stop 235m down the road. With effective radio communication between all vehicles the rest of the convoy also stopped to await further instruction and offer assistance where necessary. Phew, were we shaken! The club members travelling behind us were probably more shaken than we were as they had front row seats to the extravaganza unfolding in front of them! The vehicle travelling at the back of our convoy managed to follow the path of the runaway wheel and recovered it more than 100m off the road in the bush.

Right away I got onto the phone with Outsurance and told them of my ordeal. Within 10 minutes of reporting the problem to them I received a call from Luzanne informing me that a flatbed recovery vehicle had been dispatched from Upington to come and recover the caravan. I received regular reassurance calls from Outsurance confirming our status. Within 2 hours of reporting the incident to Outsurance the recovery vehicle arrived and without any effort, the caravan was loaded onto the flatbed and headed back to Upington.

In the interim while we were waiting for the recovery vehicle some important calls were made...

First call went to Christo from Hi-Q in Upington – the only person that I knew in Upington that would be able to assist me based on his fantastic efforts the previous night with the tyres. My query with him was if he knew where we could get hold of a replacement axle in Upington as well



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as somebody to fit the replacement axle. His immediate response was an offer for us to bring the caravan directly to Hi-Q in Upington just for storage purposes until we could find a replacement axle and have it fitted. Approximately 30 minutes after my call to Christo, he called me back to confirm that he would be able to assist me with the fitting of the replacement axle. Boy, was I relieved!

Second call went to the Rochelle & Willie, the owners of Echo 4x4 in Pretoria by one of my good friends Wally (Bergmann) in the convoy asking them if there was any way that we could get a replacement Axle out of the factory that was closed for the Easter Weekend. Without hesitation they said that if there was somebody able to collect an axle they would arrange for the factory to be opened and axle prepared for collection. Within 30 minutes of this call, I received a call from Rick confirming that he would come and open up for me as soon as he had collected his wife from Hospital. At this stage I was really taken back by the fantastic service that I have been receiving from everybody.

Third call went to Connie from Skynet. I explained to her what my requirements were and asked her how she could assist in having the axle collected at Echo 4x4 in Centurion and delivered same day to Hi-Q Upington. Within 30 minutes Connie called me back to confirm the collection address as she had a driver lined up to collect the axle and drive it straight down to Upington.

Thanks goes to Rick from Echo 4x4 who made a special trip out to the Echo 4x4 factory in Pretoria to open up and prepare a complete replacement axle which was collected by Skynet at 13h00 on Saturday. At 00h30 on Easter Sunday Skynet delivered the replacement axle to me at Hi-Q in Upington.

At 07h00 on Easter Sunday, Christo and Spyker were at Hi-Q Upington to remove the damaged axle and replace it with the new one. By 11h00 on Easter Sunday we were driving out of Upington with 5 new BF Goodrich MT's and 1 new Echo 4x4 axle for our caravan.

The convoy of 8 cars continued on towards the West Coast while one 9th vehicle waited with us until we were loaded and on our way back to Upington. The 9th vehicle caught up with the convoy in Springbok where they then pushed on to Koiingnaas.

With the combined efforts of everybody involved we managed to catch up with the 4x4 Outdoor Adventure Group on Easter Sunday afternoon at 18h00. Wow, what a warm welcoming party we had on our arrival. Truly one of the nicest homecomings that we have experienced!

4700km later, the new BF Goodrich tyres did their bit keeping us on track and the Echo 4x4 axle is running good!

What I have come to realise is a fantastic reality.

1. **REMAIN POSITIVE** – This way, your mind remains focused on the problem at hand and how to best overcome the hurdles to achieve your goal.
2. **ALIGN YOURSELF WITH THE RIGHT PEOPLE AND SUPPLIERS** – dealing with reputable suppliers with staff that have the necessary commitment to customer service excellence gives us as consumers the peace of mind knowing that any misfortunes can be easily dealt with.



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- a. **4x4 Offroad Adventure Club:** Thank you for putting this fantastic trip together. While a delay like this affects everybody on the trip your professional conduct in dealing with the situation at hand puts ease on everybody while offering the necessary support structure to keep the focus in the correct direction.
 - b. **ECHO 4x4:** Thank you for going the extra mile for opening your facility on a long weekend so that the replacement axle could be supplied to Skynet.
 - c. **Skynet:** Thank you for arranging a long distance, same day delivery from Pretoria to Upington in record time.
 - d. **HI-Q Upington:** Thank you for opening up your facility on Good Friday late at night just to replace all our tyres.
Thank you for opening your facility on Easter Saturday to offer storage of our caravan.
Thank you for opening your facility on Easter Sunday to remove the damaged axle and replace it professionally with the new axle.
 - e. **OUTSURANCE:** Thank you for ensuring our safety and the protection of our asset during this time. Your prompt reaction got us safely back to Upington in time to get us back on our way in record time.
3. **SUPPORT THOSE INDIVIDUALS AND SUPPLIERS THAT SUPPORT YOU** – had it not been for the fantastic support that all of these companies and individuals gave us in our time of need far away from our own home our dream West Coast Easter holiday would have been ruined. Each one of these individuals were a special link in our chain of success for which I am truly grateful. You are ambassadors for your respective companies and it is for this reason that I will continue to support and promote your organisations without hesitation.
4. **BE POSITIVE** – No matter what life throws at you, remain agile enough to dodge what is coming. Focus on what lies past the darkness! We did and we saw some of the most spectacular parts of our country with friends very dear to us!
5. **YOU HAVE JUST GOT TO BELIEVE!**

Contact Details (Keep them handy!!! – Especially the helpful Upington vendors)

Willie – Echo 4x4 (012-345-3333)
Rick – Echo 4x4 (012-345-3333)
Connie – Skynet (011-586-1154)
Christo – Hi-Q Upington (054-332-4767)
Nick – Hi-Q Upington (054-332-4767)
Alan – 4x4 Offroad Adventure Club (082-603-8321)
Luzanne – Outsurance (012-749-5405)

In closing, we would like to thank each and every person for what they sacrificed to make our holiday a pleasure!

Until our paths meet again on a dusty road somewhere,
Grant, Karine, Natasha and Teagen Keenan



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4x4 INSURANCE

Insurance is a grudge purchase, However, when planning a 4x4 overland adventure, it is extremely important to ensure that your vehicle is adequately insured.

Detailed below are a few points to consider when selecting a specialized 4x4 insurance package:

- Is the policy specifically designed for 4x4 off road capable vehicles (for low, medium and high impact terrains), but also allows for on road use as well?
- Does the policy extend to cover all the territories in which I will be travelling?
- Does the policy cover repatriation of the vehicle, following accident or breakdown? If it does, what is the limit?
- If my vehicle is repatriated due to accident or breakdown, what happens to me and my passengers? Does the policy offer, vehicle hire, flights back to RSA or hotel accommodation?
- Can my vehicle be repaired (following an indemnifiable loss or damage) in the territory outside RSA, or do I have to bring it back to RSA?
- What happens if I am travelling in a territory and either myself or other vehicle occupants sustain injury as a result of an accident or contract any life threatening disease? Is there any evacuation or medical cover for myself and my passengers?
- Does the policy cover the vehicle whilst negotiating and crossing a river?
- What is the basis of settlement following a write off or theft of the vehicle?
- Will my fitted accessories to the vehicle be covered on the policy?
- Can my portable vehicle accessories and camping equipment be accommodated on the policy?
- Does the policy offer any Passenger Liability or Third Party Liability?
- Does the policy cover Electrical/Mechanical breakdown of winching equipment?

These are (but a few) important questions you should ask your Broker or Insurer, and they should be able to answer all these questions for you, and recommend a suitable insurance policy to adequately cover all your outdoor needs. A good 4x4 vehicle insurance policy should cover all the points mentioned above.

It is important to remember that not all Insurance policies cover ALL areas in Africa. There are specialist Insurers that do offer cover for most territories not covered by your niche 4x4 Insurer.

Remember, it is **COMPULSORY** to take out Third Party insurance at the border when travelling to other African countries.

So you need to re-assess your situation – Contact Wendy Richards at Cross Country Insurance Consultants - Wendy@ccic.co.za or your broker, and ask for a Cross Country quotation.

(I have been insured with Cross Country since about 1998, and have only always received exceptional service, assistance and coverage, both in South Africa and Cross Border. Ed)



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NO MEAT INTO BOTSWANA

With the recent outbreak of Foot & Mouth in KZN, one can no longer bring red meat into Botswana, vacuum packed or not. Fish & Chicken may be brought in.

If you need contact details on butcheries in Botswana feel free to contact me at kwanokeng@botsnet.bw
Kwa Nokeng Greetings
Clinton van Vuuren
Director

BOTSWANA BUTCHERS DETAILS

Contact details for butcheries in Botswana where one can buy good meat (info provided by Kwa Nokeng Lodge: kwanokeng@botsnet.bw or www.kwanokeng.bw)

Maun: Beef Boys:

- New Butchery opened in Nov 2010 - fresh imported fish from Walvis Bay, processed product as well as German cold meats and sausages
- Find them in the red painted building near the Markus complex on Tsheko Tsheko road.
- You can place your order in advance and they can shrink wrap
- Tel & Fax: 00267 6864 771 Cell: 00267 7213 6006 email schalkpretorius@gmail.com
- Read more on <http://www.4x4community.co.za/forum/showthread.php?t=71601>

Kasane: Marios Meat Market

- Superb quality meat - 00267 6251 222 or 00267 7148 7421 or mfourie@botsnet.bw
- Place your order before hand
- More info on <http://www.4x4community.co.za/forum/archive/index.php/t-55322.html>

Palapye: Sandy's Butchery

- Talk to Marius Vos +267 718 0784 or mail him on sandysp@butnet.co.bw
- Next to Bimbos take away in the Choppies supermarket complex
- They do most things, good wors, biltong, t-bone etc. They also vacuum pack and you can phone them with an order
- Info from <http://www.4x4community.co.za/forum/archive/index.php/t-55322.html>

For further information you can contact one of the **Botswana Veterinary Offices:**

- Gaborone 00267 3959 753
- Francistown 00267 2413 425
- Palapye 00267 4920 261
- Maun 00267 6860 237



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WANTED - ZIM 4X4 2011 CASTROL JAMBOREE DRIVERS

Have you got a 4x4? Why not enter the Zimbabwe HP LUBES CASTROL 4X4 JAMBOREE

Vehicle classes include : LWB Standard
 SWB Standard
 Standard Modified
 Specials

Dates : 28th & 29th May - 8am to 5pm at Donnybrook Park 4x4 Site Camping available at site.
Bring the whole family.

Rules, Regs and other details available from Mass KIRK on kirk@afriglobal.com Email Mass your intention to compete as soon as possible. Other accommodation available can also be arranged if you wish. Let us show you how we have good, dirty fun.

Other details available on our website www.4x4.co.zw and our facebook group 4x4 Club Zimbabwe.

Tim Thorburn
4x4 Club Chairman
+263 772 645518

LA SPORT SHOW

Ladies and Gents,

It's that time of the year again – time for the annual LA SPORT PRODUCTS IN ACTION SHOW 2011!

The LA Sport Products in Action Shows have become a fixture on the annual 4x4 calendar, and with the huge success achieved since our first show in 2000, we hereby take great pleasure in inviting all 4x4 enthusiasts to join us for an even BIGGER and BETTER 2011 Show!

Please send through attached invitation to all members, it would be much appreciated!

Please feel free to contact me with any queries.

marketing@lasport.co.za

4 X 4 FUN DAY AT RINO PARK 4/5 JUNE 2011

Please come and enjoy the day with the South African Defence Force Association!

We offer you a day of fun, excitement and so much more! We have on offer: Participation on the 4 X 4 course – the cost being R200. 00 per vehicle (including all passengers)

Participation of Quad bikes – cost R100, 00 per entry.

Participation of off road bikes at a cost of R100, 00 per entry.

Entry for visitors R20, 00 per person and children under the age of 12 free!

Friendly request for Companies or individuals to take this opportunity in advertising your products or booking a stall at the event! There will be no charge for your exhibition, we only expect a donation from you. (All tables, gazebo's, etc needed for your exhibition) must be supplies by yourself. Please furnish size needed, power points etc?

There will be a lot on offer:

- Beer garden/Artist/Karaoke



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Supported by:

- Braai packs and braai facilities available throughout the day
- Jumping castles
- Big Screen TV (Rugby)
- Lots and Lots of food stalls
- Cold drinks
- Entertainment galore
- Many prizes to be won!
- And much, much more!

Bring the family and have a wonderful day with us! For enquiries contact me at 082 4161642 Louise or email: tandetrading@worldonline.co.za

GARMIN INCLUDES TRACKS4AFRICA DATA IN NEW AUTOMOTIVE NAVIGATION PRODUCTS

On 13 April 2011 Garmin Distribution Africa has [announced](#) that their new range of automotive navigators will be pre-loaded with [Navteq data](#). This data set includes a subset of the Tracks4Africa data.

During the year 2009 Tracks4Africa entered into an agreement with Navteq which allows Navteq to include Tracks4Africa's unique outdoor content into a premium navigation data set for Africa. Tracks4Africa data brings recreational content such as hiking, biking and 4WD trails to the Navteq data set. It also includes many points of interest that enhances the user experience.

The Tracks4Africa Off-Road Guide was made available in South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Mozambique in the first quarter of 2010 and yesterday Garmin has released their new Nuvi range of products with this premium data set. The Navteq data includes a subset of the Tracks4Africa content that would give city navigators the best of both worlds, namely quality city navigation from Navteq and additional outdoor content from Tracks4Africa. This product would allow for a transition between city navigation and the fully fledged outdoor product, T4A GPS Maps.

The new Garmin product does however NOT include all the Tracks4Africa data and the more discerning traveller would still benefit from the full Tracks4Africa product which is updated and released twice a year. Tracks4Africa's GPS maps will still be available in stores and on the internet, offering the most comprehensive coverage of Africa possible. We shall also keep on developing printed maps.

T4A GPS Maps covers the entire Africa and is a truly unique traveller's map for serious overland travellers wishing to traverse the continent. It is the only GPS map that allows continuous navigation between Cape Town and Cairo, Timbuktu or even Casablanca in Morocco. We are very excited by the inclusion of our data in the newly released Garmin devices and believe that this is the beginning of a new era for Tracks4Africa and Garmin. We are looking forward to building on this relationship with Garmin while we continue to bring travellers fresh, up to date content which is as unique as Africa.

Contact for more information:

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WARNING TO FORTUNER OWNERS – BAD EXPERIENCE

Morning Alan,

We were in Pretoria early – to feed our student son ahead his last test before the Easter recess when we had a little mishap – something you may want to warn other Fortuner owners about – and it was the second time it happened to me.

We stopped briefly at the Hillcrest Boulevard shopping centre in Lynwood Drive and while I waited for Anita to get out of the car to lock it, I noticed a man not far from where I was; tying his shoe laces (I assume he was involved). I later noticed the same man constantly in my vicinity, watching my every move – still not giving it any thought. We bought Reder what he needed and returned to the car – not more than 10 minutes later. We dropped Reder off and proceeded to my mother-in-law for an early dinner before the Safari Centre function.

That's where we realised Anita's laptop was taken from my car – no forced entry! I first thought someone interfered with or intercepted the frequency of the remote locking device. It is after all the new way of gaining access to motor vehicles.

But this morning Santam – who's not settling the claim because the laptop was not specified – told me that they have had an increase in theft from Fortuner's without damage caused to the vehicle. Apparently they unclip the indicator's protective cover and do something with the wiring that opens and mobilises the car (just as you would with your remote). It apparently takes them no more than three minutes to open the car, get what they want and disappear.

And I can only assume that the character that was tying his shoe laces and stayed within eye contact all the time was the thieves' early warning system. It's a hell of a long story, just to say terribly sorry for missing last night's function which were looking forward to for weeks.

Best wishes
Anton Snyman

IT'S HAPPENING: THE NEW WILD CARD HAS ARRIVED!

March was a historic month for the *Wild Card* programme. Hein Grobler, the manager of the programme, personally visited the post office to ensure that your *Wild Cards* were sent off successfully. If you have already purchased a new *Wild Card* and your postal address is correct and updated, you can look forward to receiving yours any day now.

We would like to apologise for the delay, but due to insufficient and incomplete data the posting of new cards is taking longer than anticipated. If you have not received your new card yet, you can still use your confirmation letter with proof of identification to access parks. The next mailing will be for 'old' memberships that are still valid after 30 April 2011, so please make sure you have updated your membership and reconfirm your details when asked.

The Easter weekend is fast approaching. Check out our suggestions of great adventures for the long weekends in April and find out about the new choices of accommodation in Agulhas. You can also enjoy great discounts on hiking trails in the Kruger National Park.



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From now until November, Thursdays will be Table Mountain Thursdays, as all nature lovers are encouraged to vote for this landmark in the New7Wonders of Nature competition. People like Archbishop Tutu, Conrad Jantjes and Liezel van der Westhuizen have already shown their support.

We once again would like to thank every member of the *Wild Card* programme for your loyalty and patience. We are sure you will enjoy using your card and the benefits it will bring. Find out more about the new-look *Wild Card* at www.wildcard.co.za. Questions? Get in touch with the *Wild Card* call centre on 0861 GO WILD (0861-469-453) or email us at enews@wildcard.co.za.
Kate Colins – Wild Card News

MANAGE YOUR FUEL CONSUMPTION

Click here and register your vehicles to log their fuel consumption. Manage your fuel consumption averages via this site. You can track as many vehicles as you want, even keep track of your company fleet if it is fairly small (big fleets will be hard to manage), even track your motorbike
www.fuelly.com

You can log your fill-ups from your mobile phone by going here (while still at the filling station!!)
<http://m.fuelly.com/>

TOYOTA RUST DE WINTER JAMBOREE

If you're a 4X4 enthusiast why don't you and the family come celebrate **60 years of Land Cruiser** at **Rust de Winter** on **Saturday 30 April 2011**, where we will be giving out competition prizes for the Best Looking, Oldest and Most-Rigged Land Cruiser out there. And be sure to come and spectate at the Gymkhana obstacle course.

Visit www.toyota.co.za for an entry form.

NATIONAL BIRD WEEK

National Bird Week will take place in May 2011. Activities are themed round the Barn Swallow, but this migrant will not be present in our skies then. For this reason, BirdLife South Africa will also schedule activities starting from 4 September with the theme "Welcome back Barn Swallows". Details of these activities will be announced later and will also be found on the BirdLife South Africa website www.birdlife.org.za

KEEPING A LOGBOOK IS EASY!!!

Sitting quietly on your dash, this device tracks your mileage and automatically logs all trips. A new device called the Little LogBook claims to offer an innovative, easy-to-use and cost-effective way of logging mileage.

Marketed by Mbeleni Data Solutions, the small GPS gadget plugs into the vehicle's lighter socket and attaches to the dashboard with an adhesive strip. It also attracts no monthly charges. The Little LogBook tracks your mileage and automatically logs all trips. With the device you can also generate SARS-compliant mileage reports; manage staff with detailed trip reports; claim for business mileage from your employer; accurately bill clients for business mileage; view your trips on a map; and rename destinations for easier reporting.



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Trips are memorised automatically as you drive, requiring no user input. Afterwards, trips can be downloaded onto your PC via the USB port, with the software provided.

Little LogBook is available online at www.littlelogbook.co.za or available nationally from The AA, AA Travel Experience retail outlets, DionWired and Waltons.

NEWS FROM NAMIBIA

Cooperation should be tourism's strength

Events in the past two months have shown just how fragile Namibian tourism can be.

- Ongoing rain has cut off a number of destinations and brought a halt to some activities.
- The indefinite closing of Hobatere Lodge, and the impending mothballing of Lianshulu Lodge, reduce opportunities, particularly for birding, an important special interest market.
- Temporary closing of lodges and destinations due to heavy rain has also been a contributing factor.
- Water restrictions, have created some concern in the industry.

We are fortunate that most of the disruption is taking place in the low season. What this shows is that tourism is an interdependent network, not just establishments and businesses on the same route.

Here's an example. If a lodge closes and alternative bookings cannot be provided or are refused due to competition, the tour will be shortened or cancelled. As a result:

- Other lodges in the area lose potential income
- Activity operators and / or tourism support businesses lose income
- Lodges booked for the nights before and after may lose income
- Local and overseas operators lose commission

This situation is normally handled by the consultant, but what if the consultant has no alternative choice or is uncertain? If the network is in a good condition, tourism will be able to deal with problems. There are however certain conditions that need to be satisfied.

Accepting the traveller's priority: The traveller chooses to see a destination or region, or do an activity. If the traveller can't have the experience, then regional tourism experiences a loss. If this occurs regularly it puts all players in the region or around the destination in a difficult position.

Looking after the network: In the past, Namibia's smaller industry operated on close relationships. As the industry became larger it became more competitive. Some have begun to shut one another off or compete in a manner which is close to unethical. This weakens the destination or the region.

New choices and growing the network: In future, the number of tourism businesses, lodges and conservancies will grow. These should not be seen as threats. They will be opportunities to grow tourism in the country, regions and at destinations.

Community based conservancy tourism must be made to work: The range of destinations has been expanded with tourism operations on conservancies. If conservancies do not appreciate the long-term commercial reality and requirements of tourism, the number of operations on



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conservancies will decrease. The number of possible destinations will be reduced, and so will Namibia's ability to benefit from tourism.

How well we survive the coming years, and grow will depend on the spirit of professional cooperation.

Sharing the benefits of Namibia's scientific discoveries

Namibia has been the source of many important discoveries. For instance, some of the research done on the wax coating that preserves fruit was done in Namibia. It is hard to pin down where the discovery actually lies, but we know it involved a Namibian beetle that didn't lose large amounts of moisture in the desert. We would love to be able to say that it belongs to Namibia, but we can't. At the time of the research, there was no law to govern benefit sharing.

A conference on the issue of sharing the benefit of scientific discoveries made in Namibia, has just ended. It was held by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism. The conference looked at ways in which Namibia relates to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing. It also considered how Namibia's draft legislation can be improved.

Although there is not much clarity yet on the future of Namibian properties (particularly genetic material and traditional knowledge), the status of discoveries will change. For now though, it is a matter of ethics. Respect Namibia and its biodiversity. We are certain there are many more discoveries waiting to be made.

Need to know: Namibia's road border posts

Although the two main road border posts with South Africa are open 24 hours a day, many of the other border posts are only open for certain hours. If your traveller arrives at the right border post at the wrong time, it could mean a night in the car and a delay on the itinerary. Find a list of border posts, their winter and summer hours and their telephone numbers:

http://www.tourbrief.com/cms/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1014

Happy travels!

The Tour Brief Team

NEW WEB CAM AT TEMBE ELEPHANT PARK

The WebCam at Tembe Elephant Park has, over the last few months, been upgraded to a high quality digital camera, and the internet connection to the park has been improved, resulting in a much clearer picture.

The camera is still only visible during daylight hours (CAT). Lighting will, during the next month, be installed for 24 hour viewing.

The largest Tuskers in Southern Africa: "Isilo", "Induna" & "Mkadebona" are regular visitors to the waterhole along with rhino, lion, and many other species. To view them live go to :-

<http://www.tembe.co.za/webcam.htm>



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SA PASSPORTS TO COST MORE THAN DOUBLE

PASSPORT applicants in South Africa will get a shock as the fee for a new passport is hiked from R190 to R400 from April 1. The tariff, says the Department of Home Affairs, is renewed on an annual basis by the National Treasury. Further hikes include a 176% increase for a child passport (from R145 to R400), while the cost of a temporary passport and emergency travel certificate has doubled to R180 and R140 respectively.

GAUTENG TOLL ROADS 228% TOO COSTLY

Our improved freeways cost up to 228% more than similar projects overseas.

A research report regarding the Gauteng toll fees, compiled under the direction of Mike Schussler, for AfriForum and the Road Freight Association (RFA), determined that the proposed toll fees are exorbitantly high. The building cost (per kilometre) that was spent on this toll road project is between 106% and 228% more expensive than the building cost per kilometre of equivalent road improvement projects abroad.

The aforementioned parties today presented this report to the ministerial committee, which has to consider input regarding the proposed toll fees. The report requests an independent probe into the building costs and asserts that it would be "inappropriate" to hold consumers and road users responsible for these costs.

The report also finds that the monthly income of R300 million that, according to SANRAL's own conservative estimates, the organisation will receive from Gauteng toll fees is significantly higher than the monthly requirement of R193 million to finance the project's cost of R20-billion over 20 years.

The proposed toll fees would not only finance the project, but also become a source of income at road users' expense. Although national roads in Gauteng only represent 4.5% of the total length of the national road network, Gauteng toll fees would generate an estimated 58% to 62% of Sanral's income by 2012.

The financial burden that the new toll fees would put on Gauteng residents is equal to an increase of 2% in personal income tax. The poor would also be severely influenced by the increase in the cost of basic products. One example, according to the report, is that the price of bread will have to increase by 2% to cover the soaring transport expenses.

The report recommends that a regulating body be established to regulate the toll fees and to prevent road users and consumers from being exploited by exorbitant toll fees as currently proposed.

According to Kallie Kriel, CEO of AfriForum, the toll fees should be dramatically adjusted downwards in light of the report's findings.

Moreover, it must also be ensured that VAT is not charged on toll fees, and toll fees should be tax deductible for the public. "It would only be fair, since the new Gauteng freeway improvement project is financed through external loans. No money from the treasury will be used for this



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project, while motorists are being taxed fivefold through income tax, fuel levies, car licensing, toll fees and the VAT on toll fees," Kriel said.

NEWS FROM MAUN & BOTSWANA

March 2011 - A new ferry across the Boteti River to Khumaga, Makgadikgadi Pans N.P. The ferry can carry one 4x4 and trailer at a time. Operating 7 days a week with opening and closing hours the same as the park. Fare is P100 per vehicle. www.maunselfdrive4x4.com/khumagaferry.htm

Santawani Lodge and Sanyuku Bush Camp has closed. Their tourism license was not renewed. Kaziikini Community Campsite is open.

Mahube Express has introduced a luxury bus service between Johannesburg and Maun - Via Martins Drift and Francistown. www.maunselfdrive4x4.com/miscellaneous.htm

There is a rumour making the rounds that DWNP will close Moremi. Our opinion is that this is extremely doubtful. They will just divert the roads. Campsites in Moremi, Savute and Chobe are mostly full from May thru September. Cancellations and luck may get someone the campsite they want, when they want, but is extremely doubtful. Even campsites outside the park are booked. Checking today at Dizhaana for a campsite, finds they are fully booked in August.

Mankwe and Mogotlho are offering a May special to SA and Botswana residents. You can find their pdf download here: <http://www.maunselfdrive4x4.com/apps/documents/>

Maun Self Drive 4x4 is also a travel agent and can handle all your travel and safari bookings within Botswana. However, we do not handle International and Domestic flights . Charter/transfer and Delta flights can be booked.

Regards,
Robbie

Maun Self Drive 4x4 - <http://www.maunselfdrive4x4.com/>

SODWANA BAY UNDER THREAT?

Sodwana Bay and the surrounding communities derive a large part of their income from tourism. This tourism is based to a great extent on fishing and diving. The resources that these activities depend on are ecosystems that include the southern most coral reefs in the world. Climate change and global warming could adversely affect these resources and as a consequence Sodwana and its communities.

Small but prolonged rises in sea temperature force coral colonies to expel their symbiotic, food-producing algae, a process known as bleaching. While the dying reefs, which turn ghostly white, can recover from such events, many do not.

Allied to this is the increasing acidity of the oceans due to the higher levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. The warmer and more acidic oceans, caused by this rise of carbon dioxide from the burning of fossil fuels, threaten to destroy coral reef ecosystems, exposing people to flooding, coastal erosion and the loss of food and income from reef-based fisheries and tourism. In developing countries such as ours, tourism based on ecosystem services provided by natural resources, both terrestrial and marine, is a vital and rapidly expanding industry. Much of the



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protein consumed by poor coastal communities is supplied in one way or another by marine organisms. Less visible, but no less important, is the essential role played by coral reefs in providing habitat for a vast array of marine species which contribute to a complex food chain that extends across the oceans.

The threats to this natural capital from increased Carbon dioxide emissions are exacerbated by over-fishing, pollution and unsustainable coastal development.

A range of policy and management tools are readily available to meet some of these threats, providing both the government and the communities are ready and willing to implement them. These tools include coastal zone management, co-management arrangements between governments and local communities to foster effective stewardship, integrated catchment approaches to managing water quality and environmental flows, enforcement and compliance with fishing regulations, restoration of reefs and coastal vegetation and sustainable tourism.

NOW THEY'RE SMUGGLING PARROTS FROM MOZAMBIQUE!!

A new moratorium forbidding the import of African Grey parrots from the Democratic Republic of Congo could be fuelling the smuggling of the species into South Africa from Mozambique and Angola. Last week, a military patrol near the Lebombo border post discovered a group of Mozambicans travelling on foot, smuggling 161 African Greys, stuffed inside three small crates. Blackie Swart, a conservation official at the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA), said he expected more incidents. "We've had this kind of smuggling with other parrot species and reptiles, but not with (African) Greys. Make no mistake, this won't be the last."

A SANDF foot patrol picked up the smugglers because they heard "distressed squawking" in the nearby bush. The smugglers later ran back into Mozambique.

THE LOWVELD'S FAVOURITE 4X4 DAY

SUMMERHILL 4X4 OUTDOOR ADVENTURE AND FAMILY FUN DAY - HAZYVIEW - 4TH JUNE 2011.

Summerhill Prep School in Hazyview will be hosting its 12th Annual 4x4 Adventure and Family Fun Day on 4th June this year. Only 8 weeks away so book your entry now.

This year's event promises to be bigger and better than ever and the event has attracted more exciting and valuable prizes than before, including the opportunity for one lucky competitor to go home with a set of 4 new tyres, sponsored by Supa Quick. The winner will be drawn at the prize-giving, allowing everyone a chance to win, regardless of how they do in the competition!

The new course designer has all sorts of tricks up his sleeve to make the event more challenging than in previous years and to put the competitors through their paces. And all the usual events remain as well – the blindfold challenge, the show stopper, the ladies event and, of course, the Windhoek Beer Tent with Big Screen Rugby.

The day will be filled with family-friendly and 4x4 related events including lifestyle and auto trade exhibitors, a Miss 4x4 Pageant, a wide selection of food, game and toys stalls and



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demonstrations, face-painting, a jumping castle, boeresport, children's races and competitions. And, of course, a lot of tea and cake - plus those Carwash Babes again!

It's a great day out for the family. 8 till midnight on 4th June at Natie's Farm 3km from Hazyview on the Sabie road. Only R360/vehicle if entered before 25 May 2011. Cheap accommodation deals available for those travelling from afar.

To enter, to exhibit or for more information, call Billi Grey on 082 922 9626 or see www.summerhill.org.za. Hurry! Space for 60 competitors only and selling out fast!

CURCUMNAVIGATING SOUTH AFRICA

Hi

I am a 'sometime' mentally unstable, diabetic and, God willing, am working on circumnavigating South Africa (± 5 331km's) on foot for five reasons:

1. For all those that are diabetic - <http://www.outdooradventures.co.za/health-a-wellbeing/diabetes>
2. To raise money for sustainable living for the less fortunate - <http://www.outdooradventures.co.za/about-us>
3. Against Mother and Child Abuse, Domestic Abuse, Partner abuse - actually, all forms of abuse and violence.
4. Promote South Africa
5. And for myself and all those that suffer from mental illness of one sort or another.

In order to do this, I need sponsors. My plan is to walk a minimum of 15km's per day. It will therefore take me a year to circumnavigate South Africa. If all goes well, I will then be circumnavigating each province. What I would also like to do is have a concert every 3 months to raise public awareness as well as donations for the following:

1. Diabetis and Mental Illness sufferers.
2. Child, parental, domestic abuse
3. Basic conditions of living conditions in the rural settlements and communities.

As I have a problem just getting out of bed in the mornings (joke), any help would be greatly appreciated. And of course, your donations would be more so.

After this email is sent, all emails will be sent via mass mail from the website, so if anybody is interested in finding out what is going on, not only regarding the very, very looooooong distance walk, but with regards to anything related to outdoor adventures, indoor activities, our natural world, interested in listing their business's or want to make a contribution towards any of the webpages, you will need to register on site.

Hope to see you there. Until then, go well and God Bless and keep you.

Aileen

Live well, laugh hard and love dearly

<http://www.outdooradventures.co.za>



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JOIN US ON A TRIP

SHINGWEDZI 4X4 ECO-TRAIL - GREAT LIMPOPO TRANSFRONTEIR PARK

We are looking for 2 vehicles to join us on this trail. Trail commences on Sunday the 30th July 2011 at the Pafuri border post in KNP and ends 5 nights/6 days later at the Giryondo border post in KNP.

Cost: R4,900.00. This price has been discounted from R6,150.00.

Please let us know if you are interested and we will forward more info to you. There is a write up of the trail in the December 2010 edition of SA 4x4 magazine.

Kind regards,
Viv & Mary le Seur
0824111253

BOTSWANA BORDER FEES

Border Cost:

- **Single Entry:** P110 .00 per vehicle and P110.00 per trailer, this permit allows you to enter Botswana once.
- **Double Entry:** P160.00 per vehicle and 160.00 per trailer, this permit allows you to enter Botswana twice, for instance if you are going to Zambia and back to SA, you don't have to obtain a fresh permit when entering Botswana a second time when coming from Zambia.

EXCLUSIVE SELF-DRIVES WITH 'NAVIGATORS TOURS & SAFARIS'

Are you looking for a unique and exclusive self-drive adventure? An experience where the emphasis is on quiet enjoyment of the wilderness in the company of like-minded people? Then a Navigators tour is for you, because we specialise in personally-guided small-group tours and safaris to remote destinations in Southern Africa.

Each tour is taken by Chris Schlimper, the owner and founder of Navigators Tours and Safaris. This means that you benefit from having an experienced, knowledgeable and professional tour leader and guide who is dedicated to service and personal attention for all guests; someone who is passionate about offering quality tours to some of Africa's unique and special destinations.

Bring your equipped 4x4 vehicle, camping equipment, accessories, food, drinks, enthusiasm and sense of adventure! For those who don't have their own 4x4 vehicle, we also offer an all-inclusive booked-seat option on many of our tours – visit our website or contact us for details. Alternatively, contact us with your own plans and travel dates, and ask us to design a tailor-made package for you.

Choose from our scheduled departures:



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Kaokoveld : Desert Elephants & Himba (14 nights)
Tour Dates: 23 May – 6 June 2011

Zambia : Explorer Tour (19 nights)
Tour Dates: 11 - 30 July 2011

Khaudum & Caprivi : Remote Namibia (11 nights)
Tour Dates: 12 – 23 September 2011

For further details on these and other tours, e-mail us at info@navigator4wd.co.za. Alternatively, contact Karen at our office on **landline: +27 (0) 21 689 1825** or contact Chris on his **cell: +27 (0) 83 675 3484**.

March 2010

Hit the Trail ... / ... continues

AAWDC CHARITY RUN FOR SA RED CROSS – 5 JUNE 2011.

The AAWDC (Association of All Wheel Drive Clubs) of Southern Africa will hold its first national Charity Run on 5 June 2011, organized by the Nissan 4x4 Club of South Africa. The aim is for anyone wanting to donate new (or slightly used) blankets, clothes, bedding, as well as non perishable food stuffs, educational toys, to less fortunate people, are welcome to do so, near most main towns in South Africa.

We are requesting your help regards arranging donations of the following:

- 1) Regional collection centres, to ensure that donations can be easily dropped off,
- 2) Various fun activities sited at each venue, with a percentage of ticket prices being donated to the Red Cross (use the attached document to begin discussions with suppliers),
- 3) Parking for approx 500 vehicles, vehicle security by volunteers,
- 4) Parking and loading facilities for large trucks to receive the donations,
- 5) Email distribution, to your members and regional supporters, of the invitation, other information to be sent,
- 6) Printing facilities for 1000 x A4 flyers, 500 x A4 stickers for placement onto vehicles rear windows,
- 7) No alcohol allowed.

Donations will later be transported from the collection venues by sponsor's vehicles, to the nominated regional Red Cross charity points, where the donations will immediately be handed to recipients. 4x4, and other clubs, may be asked to help with transport and distribution of the donations, under the administration of the Red Cross, especially for those 'hard to reach' areas.

When: 5 June 2011.

Time: 10h00 to 15h00.

Where: Central venues (e.g. race tracks, stadiums) close to the following towns: Nelspruit, Polokwane, Pietermaritzburg, East London, Port Elizabeth, Mossel Bay, Cape Town, Bloemfontein, Kimberley, Upington. Venues around these towns will be advised soonest. Large,



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open spaces, with lots of parking for many vehicles, needs to be arranged. The Johannesburg and Pretoria areas to be organised by the Nissan 4x4 club.

What: Blankets, clothes, bedding, non perishable and tinned foods, educational toys, etc – anything that will help sustain people in the cold of winter, and bring some cheer to less fortunate people.

How: People wishing to donate, should bring their donations to the nearest central venue, where they can offload these, for loading into sponsor's trucks, or AAWDC affiliated club 4x4s for distribution.

Please help market the event, and the day, through your organisation, by including this, and future, letters / notices to your email distribution lists. Volunteers and sponsors, nationally and regionally, to assist with various aspects of the event, will be much appreciated, and should contact the Nissan 4x4 club on:

082-8022890 / 083-2765149 / 082-9235682 / 083-4190010 who will gladly use the help offered.

The AAWDC actively promotes the responsible use of 4x4 vehicles, and 4x4 driver training, as well as liaises with government to avoid further bannings of 4x4 driving. It is managing the introduction of the DCC (Driver Competency Certificate), required by 4x4 drivers from mid 2011 for visiting eco-sensitive areas.

Contact the AAWDC on www.aawdc.co.za for more information.

Sincerely

Vaughn Ashford - Cell: 082 8022 890

Email: vaughn.ashford@khs.co.za

Nissan 4x4 Club – Events Co-Ordinator

Nico Pienaar

Email: nico@aspasa.co.za

Nissan 4x4 Club – Chairperson

WINDPOMP FEES

NABOOM WINDPOMPFEES – 16 TOT 18 JUNIE 2011 – AANGEBIED DEUR EUPHORBIA CHRISTELIKE ONAFGHANKLIKE SKOOL

Die Windpompfees het in 2008 ontstaan en word vanjaar vir die vierde jaar aangebied. Die fees is 'n buitelig, eko-toerisme skou waar daar ook aktiwiteite en vermaak vir oud en jonk aangebied word.

Hierdie jaar is daar 'n **nuwe** toevoeging in die vorm van 'n **4x4 Safari**. Die 4x4 roetes self is uniek, aangesien dit oor 'n tydperk van 2 dae deur ou historiese plekke, 'n tin myn en verskeie plase met obstrukties, moddergate en bergpaaie strek. Asook die bekende en natuurskone Entabeni Wildreservaat met sy groot 5.

Inskrywingsgeld beloop R1 750.00 en 'n kombes, dit sluit die volgende in:

Inskrywing vir 1 4x4 voertuig (4 persone ingesluit) vir die 2 dae se roetes
Toegangskartjies vir 4 persone vir 3 dae op die fees, donderdag, vrydag en



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saterdag.

Ontbyt / Brunch vir 4 persone vir donderdag en vrydag
Toegang tot die 4 roetes en hindernisse, met 'n geleentheid om aan die
hindernisse en padblokkades deel te neem en dan natuurlik die kans om van die
pryse te wen.

Die prysuitdeling is saterdagoggend by die Windpompfees.

Inskrywingsgeld vir Enkelkajuit 4x4's met 2 persone is R1390 en 'n kombers.

Die hindernisse op die roete word gegradeer deur Mnr. Andre de Villiers van Safari Centre. Safari Centre is ook die 4x4 Safari se hoof borg. Die hindernisse word geborg deur Hi-Lift, Conquerer Trailers, om net 'n paar te noem.

Vir die van julle wat wonder oor die kombers as inskrywingsgeld, dit is deel van die "Winter warmer" veldtog wat deur Jakaranda geloots word. Die komberse word saterdag oggend op die feesterrein, waar die laaste hindernis van die safari plaasvind, ingegee.

Van die kunstenaars wat op die fees gaan wees is Juanita du Plessis, Thys die bosveldklong, Jay, Bobby van Jaarsveld, Amor, Alan Ladd, Jennifer en Robbie Wessels. Daar gaan 'n fees van stalletjies wees met baie om te sien.

Instansies wat deel in die winste van die fees is Naboom Tuiste vir Bejaardes, Magrietjies kankerhulpvereniging, Susan Strijdom skool en Abraham Kriel kindershuis.

So, skryf in, laai vir Pappa, Mamma, Boetie en Sussie in die 4x4 en kom geniet julle gate uit in die bosveld. Daar is 'n beperkte hoeveelheid inskrywings, so skryf in by

http://www.naboomwindpompfees.co.za/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=83&Itemid=98

of kontak ons gerus by onderstaande nommers. Ons hoop om binnekort van u te hoor.

Vriendelike Groete

Veronica van Vuuren

Tel: 082 788 0690

of

Koördineerder – 4x4: Lukas Rautenbach

Sel: 083 254 7127

of

Gwen van Emmenes

Windpompfees Kantoor

Tel: 014 743 3137

Faks: 086 695 1806

Sel: 076 533 4513

windpompfees@gmail.com



FLOODING IN THE NORTH OF NAMIBIA

The annual efundja, the flow of water into the oshonas of central northern Namibia, has been particularly strong this year. At the same time, water levels in rivers along Namibia's borders have risen to high levels.

Main roads in the affected areas are still drivable, however in rural communal areas:

- Many people have had to be relocated.
- Some people have drowned.
- Schools have been closed.
- Cattle have been relocated.
- The crop growing season has come to a stop before it began.

As usual, Namibians are rallying round with donations and assistance in the form of clothing and food, however the needs are great.

Relief effort and how you can help...

Photographer, guide and regular contributor to Tour Brief, Paolo Schneider, has been instrumental in launching an organisation, **Namibia Cares**, to channel relief to those affected. There are very practical measures for operators, and these will make a difference rapidly. Find the information in the link below.

Winter ahead

The first sign of winter has arrived in the form of a noticeable chill on the air. The rains are late to depart though. In our long experience of Namibia, late rains mean extra cold. They also mean that autumn should begin sometime at the beginning of next summer. What we can say for sure is that the camp and boma fires at Namibian lodges and camps will feel that much warmer.

In this edition of the newsletter, we welcome Wilderness' Andersson's Camp, a few minutes drive from the Andersson (Okaukuejo) Gate to Etosha. There is one very noticeable feature, the waterhole, located just a few meters from the couches and benches of the Camp's central facility. Imagine relaxing on one of those couches as a black or white rhino comes to drink. Take a look at the gallery to see how close the wildlife comes.

Happy travels!
The Tour Brief Team

THE DISCOVERY OF THE COELACANTHS

The fossil record of coelacanths, comprising some 120 species arrayed in about 47 genera and three or four families, extends from the Middle Devonian (380 million years ago) to the end of the Cretaceous (70 million years ago), when the coelacanths were thought to have died out, along with the dinosaurs and many other fossil groups.

Consequently, the zoological world was astounded when a living coelacanth (*Latimeria chalumnae* Smith, 1939) was discovered off the Chalumna River near East London in December



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Since 1952, when the "home" of the coelacanth was discovered in the Comoros, more than 180 coelacanths have been caught with hook and line in depths of 35–600 m on the steep volcanic slopes of Grand Comoro and Anjouan Island. A gravid coelacanth was trawled off the central coast of Mozambique and a specimen was also caught in a shark net near Toliara on the southwest coast of Madagascar. The recently discovered coelacanths near Manado at the northern end of Sulawesi, Indonesia seem to be a separate species.

On October 28th 2000, Pieter Venter, Peter Timm and Etienne le Roux were near the end of an eight-minute initial exploratory dive to 104 m in the Jesser Canyon at Sodwana Bay, in the St Lucia Marine Reserve on the north coast of South Africa. As they were about to ascend, Pieter Venter saw a large, pinkish eye reflecting the beam of his underwater light. He approached, and underneath an overhang he saw a fish about two metres long. After a few seconds he realised, much to his surprise, that the pale blue fish with its unusual lobed fins was a coelacanth. He summoned Peter Timm, and they saw two more coelacanths. The divers decided to arrange an expedition to do additional dives with a video camera to record the presence of this species. A subsequent dive in November with video cameras recorded three coelacanths ranging in size between 1m and 1.8m.

In March-April 2002, the Jago Submersible and Fricke Dive Team descended into the depths off Sodwana and observed 15 coelacanths, one pregnant. Coelacanths have distinctive white spots on their sides that enable them to be identified individually. Some of the fish seen had been recorded in the video footage in previous dives. In all, 18 individuals were identified. In May 2005 a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) replaced the submersible Jago in the investigation of the South African coelacanths. Eight coelacanths were sighted at 110m on one dive, and one on a previous dive the day before. Some were the same individuals identified by Jago and some were new.

The coelacanth habitat is - perhaps fortunately - far too deep for regular SCUBA diving, as at those depths, the oxygen in the air becomes deadly. Dives by experienced divers on special air mixes continue to sight coelacanths on a regular basis pointing to a large viable population in the canyons off Sodwana. Speculation is that populations of coelacanths exist wherever there are suitable canyons up the east coast of Africa as far as the Comores.

VISIT THE LION PARK

The Lion Park is neither a game reserve nor a zoo. The park is divided into two areas – one area for the herbivores such as zebra, giraffe, and various plains antelope and other grass-eating animals, and the other area for the carnivores.

Add a touch of the wild side to your next function. Enjoy a remarkably different day out complete with fresh air, casual gear and the chance to meet Africa's wildlife. The Park has facilities for small informal conferences, team building and corporate functions including facilities for an overnight stay with a difference.

Take an all-inclusive guided tour of the Lion Park, including Cub World where you will have the chance to interact with the lion cubs. Then, as the sun sets, enjoy a traditional dinner in the boma braai before heading out under the dark African sky to watch the lions feed.



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The Lion Park's restaurant is comfortable and affordable and seating is available indoors, on the veranda or out under the trees. Breakfast, lunch and tea are offered. The Park has a lapa complete with a large braai and a bar area with refrigeration, which is available for hire for self-catering or catered functions, both for corporate or private use. There is also a large picnic area with braais, toilets, and playground equipment for young children.

The Lion Park also offers a unique venue which allows children to get back to nature in a safe and secure environment. Enjoy a fun filled morning or afternoon where the children can play with the lion cubs, feed the tame resident giraffe and go on an exciting game drive through the main park.

A rare opportunity exists in the enclosed "Cub Edu Safari" area to interact with young lion cubs and to walk around and view other indigenous young animals, such as cheetah, hyena, black leopard and caracal, as well as the ever-popular and rare white lions.

Visitors can also meet Shitana and company for a never to be forgotten "Walk with a full grown cheetah". The walk is an exciting experience on its own; however the main focus is always on education. Many facts can be learned about the lifestyles and behavioural structures of these animals.

Directions: Cnr Malibongwe & R114 Lanseria Johannesburg South Africa – lionpark@cknet.co.za

KNP BOOZE BAN A GREAT SUCCESS

The recently introduced alcohol ban for day visitors in the Kruger National Park which became effective this past long weekend (March 18-21, 2011), is hailed by management as a great success. Very few day visitors who brought alcohol with them were advised to either store or leave it somewhere else outside the park but the majority of visitors did not bring liquor at all, something which management appreciates and would like to thank people for the support in this matter.

Furthermore, KNP traffic officers were issued with six new vehicles on Friday, March 18, 2011 in order to increase their visibility on the roads. Visitors, who witness any incident of rules and regulations infringement in the KNP, are requested to report same to the Emergency Call Centre at 013 735 4325.

BREAKING NEWS : OUTDOOR EXPO FINDS NEW HOME

After 18 years at Kyalami Race Track, the GAUTENG OUTDOOR ADVENTURE and TRAVEL EXPO moves to a new and exciting venue in the Kyalami area.

Inanda Country Base, Kyalami, Midrand Environ
GPS Coordinates: S25' 57.19' E28' 02.53

FRIDAY 10 TO SUNDAY 12 JUNE 2011

Coming soon in forthcoming news

- Welcoming Cape Union Mart, Jurgens Caravans, Mega Manufacturers/Conqueror Trailers, LA Sport, Front Runner 4x4, Sanparks Honorary Rangers, and more



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- NEW: GOOD FOOD with Karoo Braai, Slow Food, Wine Tastings, Pancake King, Weekend Market and more
- Entertainment and tons of activities for kids: Pony rides, Hunting Hound/SPCA and SA Guide Dog Demos, Pony vaulting, Black Stallions, Paintball, Water Balls, Balloon Rides and Helicopter Flips - and more
- Free secure parking for all and a special Disabled and Pram section close to entrance

THE true and original OUTDOOR EXPO in GAUTENG –in a TRUE OUTDOOR environment for the WHOLE FAMILY to enjoy. Visit www.outdoorexpo.co.za for more details, including Dates : Entry Fees : Time : Directions and follow us on Facebook!

AND WATCH DETAILS FOR REFERRAL COMPETITION AND WIN AN ADVENTURE TRIP OF A LIFETIME! Look out for our new competition coming up soon, in which you can introduce other "Outdoor Enthusiasts" to our OUTDOOR NEWS and win an exciting weekend away for you and 3 friends of your choice!

Contact us direct should you wish more information or wish to book a stand. shirley@outdoorexpo.co.za

WHEN OUTDOORS, LOOK AFTER YOUR EYES!!!

Be aware of your risk for eye disease – knowing your family health history, for example diabetes and high blood pressure, will help to pick up problems before they worsen.

Have regular health checks, both for your eyes and your general health. Thorough eye examinations often reveal other health problems, like diabetes, before you experience symptoms.

Be aware of changes in your vision, and see your optometrist as soon as possible. These changes include double vision, hazy vision, pain or swelling.

Eat smart – vitamins A, E and C, found in fresh fruit and leafy green vegetables, are thought to be good for the eyes. Flaxseed oil may help with dry eyes.

Don't smoke – we are all aware of the dangers of smoking to general health; one of the effects of smoking is to slow down blood flow which may lead to problems with the eyes.

Protect your eyes from the harmful effects of UV rays from the sun by wearing sunglasses, and wear protective eyewear when involved in activities in which foreign objects could cause eye damage.

Keep your hands clean and try to refrain from rubbing the eyes – eye infections are highly contagious, reduce the risk of spreading these by observing basic rules of hygiene.



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Exercise your eyes – we are aware of exercising our bodies, but eye muscles need exercise, too. At frequent intervals, look away from the computer or book, and focus on an object further away in the room.

Blink often – we don't think about blinking which is a reflex action; be aware that, as well as protecting eyes from dust and foreign objects, blinking keeps the eyes moist and clear.

Work in proper lighting – although the eyes do adjust for different lighting levels, some eye strain can occur in harsh or dim light. Use filters to reduce glare from computers and take frequent breaks.

Sunglasses 101(or how to be ready for the Paparazzi)

I'm dizzy with the wide array of sun protection products available today. Is it for my face or my toes; over make-up or under make-up; to be worn winter or summer? And your skin should not be the only part of you that has you confused about sun protection nowadays. Sunglasses too, can leave you dizzy with choices.

Apart from the battle of the frame choices, the major problem is that little CORRECT information is available to consumers regarding what exact type of lens they should be wearing (even if you are just trying to look fabulous and chic).

Not only that, but if you notice what the sun does to your skin, just imagine what it is doing to your eyes!!!!

Vanity aside, you can do something about preserving your eyesight by choosing the right sunglasses. That's right...by selecting the right sunglasses, you might delay the onset of cataracts, or worse, AMD (adult onset macular degeneration, to be discussed at a later date), and still manage to look cool.

Just because sunglass lenses are dark doesn't mean they are doing anything for your eyes other than tinting the background. You've got to know WHAT type of lens you have in those glasses of yours. And don't make any assumptions because they are from a high-end designer and carried a price tag that equals a round-trip ticket to Paris (out of season of course).

I know, I know....., all the buzz words that keep floating around are confusing...Transitions®, UVA/UVB protected, Drivewear®, polarized lenses, gradient tints, grey versus brown lenses and endless other variations. What works and what doesn't? And most of all, what do YOU need?

The bottom line is that your Optometrist is the person to ask. After all, this is what he/she studied for!

Contact Spilken Optometrists for further details - Email: spilcent@mweb.co.za



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NAMIBIAN TIME CHANGE

On Sunday, 3 April, Namibian (excluding Caprivi) time changes from UTC +2 to UTC +1 for winter. For practical purposes, set clocks back 1 hour (ie. from 02h00 to 01h00). Please ensure that clients understand this. Consultants are advised to check flight arrival and departure times as well as activity times and itineraries.

VW AMAROK 'WORKHORSE' IN SA SOON

The Amarok single-cab will extend the range into the most competitive segment of the bakkie market. The Volkswagen Amarok single cab will make its South African debut at the 2011 Nampo Harvest Day in Bothaville, North West on May 17.

Nearly 2500 Amarok double-cabs have been sold in South Africa since its launch here in 2010, and now the single cab versions will complete the model range when retail starts early in July. They will offer the same pair of 2-litre oil-burning engines as the double-cab, namely a 90kW TDI and 120kW biTDI. Buyers will also be able to choose between rear-wheel drive and four-wheel drive configurations.

The basic "workhorse" model will have a lower trim specification than the current double-cab models, but the Comfortline trim level will also be offered for those seeking more comfort. There's no indication on pricing as yet - that'll be revealed closer to the on-sale date.

VWSA's commercial vehicle boss, Jaco Steenkamp, said: "We have been overwhelmed by the response the double cab has received in the past six months. Now the single cab will extend the Amarok range to the most competitive segment of the bakkie market - and we believe the success of the double cab has laid a strong foundation for the Amarok to be major player in this segment."

Visitors to VW's Nampo stand will get to meet the legendary Sarel "Supervan" van der Merwe, brand ambassador for the Amarok, who will take lucky visitors on to the off-road course to experience the South American truck's capabilities first-hand.

THABA MONATE 4x4 DAG – 7 MEI 2011

NG Kerk Dinwiddie bied aan 'n 4x4 pretdag/naweek by Thaba Monate, Warmbad. Inskrywingsgeld R200-00 per voertuig. Datum 7 Mei 2011

Akkommodasie: Kampering in pragtige Nyala kamp @ R120-00 per nag (max 6 persone). (Chalets ook beskikbaar, kontak Nadia vir tariewe)

Roete: Graad 2-4, geskik vir enige 4x4 voertuig met ontsnap roetes by erger dele. Daar is ook 'n paar hardebaarde wat goeie grondvryhoogte en dubbel ewenaarslotte vereis

Verskeie wildsoorte oa. Eland, koedoe, zebra, kameelperd, impala te sien op roete. Daar is ook warm en koue swembaddens, tennisbaan, staproetes, restourant, fietsry en vele meer. Kom geniet 'n heerlike naweek of ry Saterdag die roete saammet ons (3-4 ure). (Slegs 2 ure se ry vanaf Jhb)



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Kontak: Koos 083 419 6289 of kverm@vodamail.co.za, Nadia: 072 135 7559 of reservations@thaba-monate.co.za. http://www.thabamonate.co.za/reservation_enquiry.html

VIC FALLS: ZIM, ZAMBIA IN TUG OF WAR....

Victoria Falls - "Tourists are back!" said Knowledge, all smiles at the Victoria Falls tourism office.....

His sentiment is shared widely in this resort town on the edge of the mile-wide waterfall, where it's hard to remember that three years ago Zimbabwe was trapped in a seemingly endless spiral of hyperinflation, hunger and political violence. Victoria Falls had become a ghost town as tourists opted for the comforts and safety of resorts on the Zambian side of the Zambezi River, where the once sleepy town of Livingstone enjoyed a tourism boom as Zimbabwe collapsed.

"The Zambian side has definitively profited from all the problems in Zimbabwe," said Sarah, at the Zambezi Sun, part of a South African hotel chain that opened on the Zambian side in 2001. Hotels, lodges and other tourist attractions have mushroomed over the past decade around Livingstone, which became so popular that it now boasts several daily direct flights to South Africa.

But a brand new curio market on the main road lies empty as tourists fly in and hop across the border. "We are not happy, the situation is bad," said the Livingstone Tourism Association. "They come here for activities and they go to Zimbabwe for accommodation."

Peace and stability

Livingstone still runs a brisk trade in business travel by hosting conferences and corporate team-building workshops, but now faces stiff competition with Victoria Falls for leisure travellers.

Zimbabwe's tourism earnings jumped 47% last year to \$770m, as the number of visitors rose

15% to 2.3 million nationally, with Victoria Falls the country's biggest attraction, according to the tourism ministry.

Tourism minister Walter Mzembi hopes to grow that number to \$5bn by 2015. "However, this is on condition that the current peace and stability in the country prevails and the country is able to spin a more positive image of itself," he told reporters last month.

Since Zimbabwe adopted the US dollar two years ago, prices are lower in Victoria Falls than in Livingstone, where entrance to the derelict Railway Museum costs \$15 for foreigners. "It is cheaper here, and people can walk to the falls. They don't have to take a taxi or whatever," said Duni, a Victoria Falls hawker offering sunset cruises, helicopter rides, rafting, bungee jumps and safaris to passers-by on the sidewalk.

Opinion divided

While Victoria Falls sits at the river edge, Livingstone is 10km away, with a fleet of blue taxis shuttling visitors around for \$10 a pop. Opinion is divided on which side offers the better view of the 108m high falls, though the Zimbabwean side has a greater variety of viewpoints.



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Confident in its renaissance, Victoria Falls has asked for Chinese aid to expand its airport to accommodate bigger planes. But the throngs of street vendors trailing tourists are a constant reminder that it's still not business as usual.

Among the souvenirs on offer, a 100-trillion-dollar note from the old Zimbabwe currency, a worthless amount during the age of hyperinflation. Its relegation to the trinket shelves is what allowed to Victoria Falls to welcome visitors again...

MASAZANE EXPEDITIONS

Masazane Expeditions specialize in Trans Africa expeditions. During 2010 we guided a trip along West Africa, Europe, Middle East and then south on the east side of Africa but due to the unrest in North Africa and the Middle East we can not do a Trans Africa expedition this year. Luckily Africa is a big place with many options.

The first expedition is to Ethiopia (2 months) where we will travel through Zimbabwe, Zambia, Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia, and then back on a different route that will take us through Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. We believe that we are the only company in South Africa that offers a trip like this. **Masazane Expeditions** have visited these many times before. Our first trip to this area was done in 1995 and since then we completed 8 tours to this stunning area. It is a very interesting tour that includes many tourist sites en route and the best on the historical sites in Ethiopia. Some of the places that will be visited include Lake Turkana, Bale Mountains National Park (home of the Simien wolf) Lake Tana with its stunning monasteries, Blue Nile Falls, Axum, Gondar, and the world renowned Lalibela where we will visit some of the monolithic churches.

The great African Rift valley and a few of the Rift valley lakes will also be visited of which Lake Bogoria with its thousands of Flamingos and hot water geysers are some of the highlights. We will also visit Lake Victoria and Murchison Falls National Park where we should see the Patas monkeys, hopefully a few Chimpanzees and obviously the stunning falls. For those that enjoy

fishing can try their hand at Nile Perch fishing. The area around the falls is well known for the big Nile Perch and anglers from all over the world come here in the hope to catch the next world record. Birders will really enjoy all the endemics especially in Ethiopia where birds such as Rouget's Rail and the Blue-winged Goose are some examples. Menelik Bushbuck and Mountain Nyala are some of the mammals that are also endemic to Ethiopia and easy to find in Bale Mountains National Park. During this tour we will do a few bush camps somewhere in the wild, but also camp in formal camps and stay in hotels where necessary.

We will travel through Uganda and then turn south along Lake Tanganyika where we will visit Kalambo Falls, which is the second highest falls in Africa after the Tugela Falls in Kwazulu Natal. The idea is to leave South Africa on the 2nd of July 2011 for a trip of a life time.

Our second tour is in December to the world famous Serengeti National Park. We will visit the Ngorongoro Crater that resembles an open air zoo. Apart from other interesting places along the way we will visit Zanzibar Island for a few days, where we will do a slave trade tour as well as a spice tour. We can even visit the house where the late Freddy Mercury the lead singer of Queen was born. This tour is a 28 days expedition and definitely one of those must do once in a lifetime tours.



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Other places we will visit en route will be Kapishya Hot springs, Zimbabwe Ruins, Chinhoyi Caves, a coffee estate, Lake Malawi, to name a few. Children are most welcome on this tour. For those that wish can also tow their trailers on this tour. We will leave South Africa around middle of December 2011.

For those interested may join us for a guide course called 4x4 Trails and Overland Guide course. After students participated in the course and complied with all the rules and regulations we will register guides with the Dept of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, (DEAT). Once registered, guides may take people on tour legally. Currently nobody may guide tourists without being a legal guide.

Contact info@masazane.co.za for further details on any of the above.

I CAN HELP YOU IN TANZANIA / KENIA

Dear Alan,

This is to introduce Kili- World Born Safaris, a travel company which arranges mountain climbing, safaris, trekking, culture tours, beach holidays in Tanzania & Kenya, Fares, my husband, is the owner of the company, which is based in Moshi, and run by himself and a dedicated team of qualified professionals to provide an excellent service for our customers.

Fares has been a mountain guide for 20 years on all the East African Mountains, having climbed Kilimanjaro more than 800 times, not counting guiding on Mount Meru, Mount Kenya, Mount Elgon, and trekking in the Udzungwa and Usambara Ranges and on East Africa's only active volcano Oldonyo Lengai.

Our trips are tailor-made to your requirements and we can fit ourselves to your itinerary and personal requirements with any combination of mountain climbing, safari, beach, or activity holiday. We guide on all routes on Kilimanjaro (see price list), On safari in Tanzania, in our specially customized safari vehicles, we can take you on the Northern Circuit ,the Tarangire

National Park and Lake Manyara, the Serengeti, and the legendary N'gorongoro Crater. On the Southern Circuit we can go to the Selous Game Reserve, Mikumi , Ruaha National Park, Sadani and the Mkomazi National Park. In Kenya we can take you to the Masai Mara, Amboseli, Tsavo, Lake Nakuru National Park & Naivasha.

Of course, if you want to relax we can then arrange beach holidays in Zanzibar .If sun, sea and sand are not enough there are trips to the Jozani Forest, Stone Town, the Spice Tour and diving in the warm Indian Ocean.

We work with a number of tour operators in France, the UK , South Africa and the States, and for operators' groups we have a number of special offers. For a group of 6 to 9 the "Leader" pays Park Fees only on Kilimanjaro and safari .For 10 and above the "Leader" is free on both Kili and on safari.

Our equipment is renewed every season, and we use our own private toilets on Kilimanjaro, and have oxygen and a decompression bag on each climb. If you need any more detailed information,



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please don't hesitate to contact us at any time on info@kili-worldbornsafaris.com or call 0033 555 64 98 87 in France or +255 789 186 744 in Tanzania.

With Our Very Best Regards,
Fares Moshy (Bongo)

SPECIAL - CHURA BUSH CAMP

\$20 per person per night - For the period from 18th March 2011 - 3rd May 2011, Chura Bush camp is offering a special of \$20 per person per night.

Chura comprises of 6 double en suite tents under thatch rooms along the Ume river, right next door to Tiger Bay. The above rate is on a self-catering, fully serviced basis.(excludes activities and boat hire) Dining/lounge & bar area incorporating a viewing platform & entertainment area with swimming pool.

Hot water showers/generated power (fuel inclusive) wood/braai/ice/freezer & fridge facilities available. Activities(such as game drives and bush walks) can be arranged if booked in advance. Boat hire available.

*Please note the above rate does not include boat transfers to the camp. Boat transfer from Kariba to Chura Bush camp is USD\$60 per person (minimum of 6 people).

For bookings please contact:

Emma Bromley @ Conquest Tours (Pvt) Ltd
Harare

Phone: (+263) 4 308960 / Cell: (+263) 772 239 134

email: conquesttours@zol.co.zw

BARGAIN ACCOMODATION AT ITHALA GAME RESERVE

50% DISCOUNT 50% DISCOUNT 50% DISCOUNT - ACCOMMODATION AT NTSHONDWE RESORT IN ITHALA GAME RESERVE NEAR VRYHEID, IN CHALETS, THE LODGE, AND BUSHCAMPS!!!!!! (ask about our terms and conditions. Please note: Dependent on AVAILABILITY).

BOOK TODAY or TONIGHT - Simply contact us on tel 033 8451008/09 (b/h) or fax 033 8451015 or rhinoclub@kznwildlife.com

Valid from 12 April 2011 to 30 September 2011 - BOOK YOUR WINTER GETAWAY at Ntshondwe, before we sell out!!!

Extras: Rhino club members can enjoy:-

* Game Drive for R100.00 per adult /R50.00 for children under 13yrs...regret no children 3 years or under!

* Breakfast for R75.00 per person

* Dinner at R130.00 per person.

Gate times: strictly 06h00 to 18h00



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We really look forward to your visit!

Visitors to All Parks are also reminded that while wildlife is often seen amongst the chalets and campsites in the protected areas, these animals are not tame and members of the public should not try to touch them or feed them.

Bhejane 4X4 Adventures

www.bhejane.com / 044 535 9257 / info@bhejane.com

Bhejane 4X4 Adventures conducts guided self drive 4X4 trails into the remote areas of Southern Africa. Our objective is to involve everyone in the ecological, historical, cultural, and ornithological components of the areas we visit.

Depending on the destination, adventure tourism activities are integrated into the tour and include walking trails, photography, game tracking, bird watching, fishing, diving and boating excursions.

The tour dynamics allow you and your family to enjoy the trip from the privacy of your own vehicle, while ensuring your safety and comfort in the camaraderie of group participation.

All vehicles are issued with hand-held radios to facilitate communication between participants and expeditions are fully catered by a professional chef. The team's language skills enable us to share our knowledge in English, Afrikaans, Zulu or Tswana.

The team

Our tour guides are highly skilled with extensive experience in tour guiding, 4x4 driving, biological interpretation and a vast knowledge of the history and culture of all the areas we visit.

Three meals a day are prepared by our experienced chef with fresh salads, potjiekos, braais and many other surprises appearing on the menu. We provide all the tents, tables, cutlery and crockery and our logistics crew will pitch and take down the camps at all the overnight stops we visit.

Though our bush-camps may be rustic, you will at all times be safe; the crew will spare no effort to make you comfortable, provide you with good wholesome food and, most importantly, see that you have a good time.

All the prices quoted include

- All hotel and lodge accommodation
- All camp fees
- Three meals a day
- All park entrance fees
- All advertised activities
- Bhejane Adventures provides tents, cutlery and crockery
- Coffee & tea – all day every day whilst in camp



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Children

Children under the age of ten years @ 50%

What you need to bring

- You and your family
- Your passport
- Your vehicle & fuel
- Your own mattresses and sleeping bags
- Your own fold-up chairs
- Your own drinks and in-between snacks

Private tours

Private and corporate tours, at dates of your choice and to destinations of your choice, can be arranged.

March 2010

From the Tracks – Reader Feedback

NEWSLETTER / MEETING FEEDBACK

Thank you for a lovely and comprehensive newsletter

Kind regards
Pieter

Dear Alan

Thank you for all the effort that goes into the E-Zine, keep up then good work! I can't believe that people objected to receiving this information....

*Best regards
Niel Crafford*

Dear Alan,

Many thanks for your super news letter and the practical way in which it enriches our lives. You are bringing a wonderful facet of Africa to our living rooms.

Best regards
Eben du Plessis

NEWSLETTER READER EXPERIENCE!!!!

I've been looking for a Pajero and getting really irritated with people that wants to sell my anything but a Pajero. To vent my frustrations I started writing this last week – feel a lot better now... Would it be of interest to place in the newsletter, maybe under the papwiel section, it's a bit tongue in the cheek...

The new Consumer Protection Act and my rights - ja right...

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Buying a pre-owned vehicle is not for sissies. And if you're a lady, it's important to remember that you are not a sissy when you want to buy a pre-owned vehicle.

Firstly, you take the safe route and try all the dealers, but they are intent in selling you demo models: only 1000km's on the clock mam, a bargain.... For you a special price, R490,000. Fantastic. Only 150% more than the budget I mentioned to the salesman.... Where is the CPA, the man is trying to sell me a vehicle I don't want....

It looks like dealers only have expensive demo models in stock, so I decide I will have to buy privately. I hear the adverts on the radio.... Let the car you want come looking for you... great idea.... A Saturday morning surfing the web and there was a few possibilities, but not THE vehicle, so I kept looking. I had 10 websites listed under "favourites" to check daily for new listings. Then I discovered you can put your specifications into the website and you will get email updates when vehicles that meet your specifications are listed on the website. Great idea! Ja right...

Phone call 1:

- Mam, you are looking for a Pajero, can I interest you in a Daihatsu Terios. A WHAT??? I would list the differences in the vehicles here, but it's just too much trouble to go look it all up... I again realized how ridiculous this was when I saw a Terios on the road the other day. Really...

Phone call 2:

- Mam, just the vehicle you want, Pajero demo model, R450,000 – I nearly told the sales man where to get off the bus (or the Pajero then)

Phone call 3:

- How about a BMW mam? *My geduld raak min...*

I received several emails as well:

- Here is a list of all our pre-owned vehicles, maybe there is something you like. Fair enough, I suppose I do need to do a bit of work. Mmmm... City Golf, Toyota Corolla, Mini Cooper... Words escape me.

Email:

- Just the vehicle you want mam, R295,000... We're getting closer to my budget but I am losing patience

Phone call 100 million:

- It's a Pajero mam, only R400,000....

Phone call 100 million and 1:

- Mam, did my salesman help you with a vehicle, (referring to phone call 100 million). Why not mam? Oh so he did not have the vehicle you wanted? Oh it was not the right price you say? Can we interest you in something else? An Outlander maybe? I tried to be nice



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but was incapable of getting nice words to come out of my mouth, so it was safer to just hang up.

Phone call 100 million and 2:

- Mam, are you still coming today to come and look at the Suzuki. The what?? The Suzuki mam. I'm looking for a Pajero – not a Suzuki. OK mam, maybe I have the wrong person here. He sounded genuinely apologetic, so yes, maybe he did, I'll give him the benefit of the doubt. Wonder how he got my number?

Phone call 100 million and 3:

- Mam, you are looking for a Pajero. Can I offer you a Hyundai Terracan Mam. A what? A Terracan. No I am looking for a Mitsubishi Pajero. But I have a Terracan for you Mam. No, I am looking for a Pajero. You spell it P A J E R O – PAJERO, REPEAT AFTER ME... PAJERO.... I made no effort to hide the irritation in my voice, but the man would not give up.... Mam, why would you not be interested in a Terracan? The man is on dangerous ground here, if only I could climb down this telephone line and throttle him.... Because sir, the Terracan does not have a diff lock, I need a diff lock. I WANT a diff lock. By now the man should realize he's not talking to the average Sandton Poppie, but he keeps trying... Where do you go mam? Why am I still talking to this man???? Africa my friend, Africa. And off-road in Africa.... Mozambique, Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho, Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Angola, South Africa – I want a vehicle that I can rely on. I want a vehicle with DIFF LOCK.... Mam, have you looked at our website to see what the Terracan can do?? I am losing it.... But for some or other reason I still try to be nice... No I have not looked at your website because I am not interested in a Terracan. And I am not interested because I know the vehicle, two of my friends have a Terracan. I do not want a Terracan. Yes but Mam, I have this Terracan... I lost it but still managed to calmly disconnect the call...

Then I get home and the same dealer that just argued with me about the Terracan, had sent me an email...

- Please don't forget we also sell 9 seater petrol and diesel buses... I threatened him with the Consumer Protection Act and opened the next email...

Email number 600....

- This vehicle meet your requirements: 2007 LWB Pajero diesel, 120,000km on the clock, within my price range... that's more like it. I followed the link to the website – beautiful vehicle... but a short wheel base. False advertising I said... I told them I would buy the vehicle at that price, but when I discover it is a SWB and not a LWB like they are advertising, they will pay in the difference to buy a 2007 LWB with 120,000 km's on the clock. Else I will ask the CPA to sort it out with them. I'm still waiting for a reply.

Sigh...

Lizette Swart

Roads to Roam Adventure Holidays



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WANTED TO PURCHASE, CAN YOU HELP?

Hi

I am planning a 3-4 month trip with my family into East Africa and am looking for a used Toyota Landcruiser double cab pick up either equipped or un-equipped. I would be most grateful if you could pass on my request to your club members. Also if anybody has specific experience of the availability of petrol vs diesel in East Africa this would inform my decision enormously.

Many thanks

Terry Dower - terrydower@intermail.co.za

NEWSLETTER READERS ZIMBABWE EXPERIENCE – TRIP REPORT

Zimbabwe trip: 26 March – 16 April 2011

One hour from start to finish at Beit Bridge border post – no matter how much you hate red tape, surely anyone can survive one hour of being treated in a friendly and helpful manner? We did not use the gomma gommias but asked at every window where we should go next. Just make sure you are leaving with a temporary import permit (TIP) – the receipt for carbon tax is handy if you leave Zim and re-enter as you do not have to pay again.

We also bought a starter pack for Econet from a guy knocking on the window, and air time inside the shop at the first petrol station 3km's from the border. Call prices were very reasonable but at Mana Pools did we find that only the other provider has coverage. I could not get the required reflective white (front) and red (back) stickers for the Jeep in SA but found it at the same filling station – R10 for the set. Peace of mind was a bit harder to come by as the Jeep developed a knocking sound close to the left front wheel which became more and more difficult to ignore. One tollgate (1 USD) and one speedfine (USD20) later found us about 200km from Beit Bridge on the Masvingo road. This is where the knocking sound escalated into a bang, crash and total loss of power. Friend of mine told me before the trip that you get two kinds of Jeeps, one where the gearbox has already broken and one where the gearbox still needs to break. Seems my Jeep just digressed to the former. Although subsequent investigations show that it was just the front prop shaft broken out of its cv joint at the transfer case. Note to 2005/2006 Grand Cherokee owners, Jeep fixed this weak point from 2007 onwards, replacing the cv joint with a universal joint – I would recommend doing the same.

We are going off the beaten track for adventure, in order to meet new and interesting people – right? What better opportunity to do the above next to a broken vehicle in the middle of nowhere in Zimbabwe? We were not disappointed. Paul, in the bright red ballroom shirt and blue Kia truck towed us to a small and dilapidated “hotel” we saw 3 kilometers back. The hotel owner asked if we first wanted to see the rooms – through the window I spotted the orange tow strap hanging limply from the Jeep and said no, it will be fine . . .

We paid R450 for two thatched chalets. No water and no electricity, but very clean and with helpful staff. They brought us wood and a half drum braai – they would have loved to bring us anything else that we needed, but that was the extent of their resources. We were self sufficient so no issues and, most importantly, we had mobile phone reception. Obviously I phoned my mother. At 78 years of age is she still the one that I run to with all my problems and she did not disappoint. An hour later we received a call from Musina tow trucks - they have arranged with Zimbabwean Thunder Run recovery services to pick us up the next morning and exchange us on the bridge at noon the next day. Thunder Run quoted us \$500 to take us to Beit Bridge, and then



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another \$150 for the border procedures and final run to the meeting point. We managed to knock the last bit down to \$100.

We received excellent service from both tow truck companies and actually had a very nice experience in a difficult situation. The same can unfortunately not be said from the Jeep dealership in Polokwane which first refused to even look at my vehicle for 2 days because they were too busy, and then told me that they do not have a prop shaft in stock and it will take 6 to 8 weeks to arrive.

My trust in humankind was 100% restored by Victor Thomson of Fast Fix Panel Beaters in Polokwane. He fetched the Jeep from the stealership, removed the offending shaft and offered to lend me one from a Jeep he has for sale on his floor. His Jeep is a 2008 model though, and the shaft did not fit. He then directed me to Specialist Propshaft Services who promptly modified a Land Rover prop shaft and had me on my way in two ticks (hope the Jeep does not develop an oil leak now). Victor refused to take a cent for all the help he offered.

Going through Beit Bridge the 3rd time in as many days was not something we looked forward to, but we did survive. We originally planned to do the ruins and the eastern highlands before driving to Mana pools. Having lost 3 days, we were now shooting straight for the Zambesi valley. Stopped for the same excellent beef pies at Bumbi River, being introduced to them by the tow truck driver 3 days previously. Started to look for a bed at Gwera and ended up staying for two days at Antelope Park – could not get the kids or Henriette out of the tented camp with a deck over the river watching the elephants cross and listening to the lion's umph-umph at night. The game drive on the Scots car is good fun although the children chose horseback. Great place to stay with a wide variety of options, from luxury to camp.

We left after a hearty breakfast for Mana Pools. Full day driving but with very little to report. Roads were fair and we found petrol, bottled water and cold drinks at every stop. We saw a Parks building left side of the road at Makuti and stopped – just as well as you need to get your permit there to enter the parks. It did not cost us anything and the official gave us the permit even though we were 15 minutes after the 15H30 cutoff time. The friendliness and willing to help attitude impressed me again. Trucks and winding roads around Makuti reduce your travel time and we entered the dirt road to Mana Pools later than anticipated – but the permit received worked like sesame.

The dirt road is in fair condition, washed away at some places – but it was very bushy and we could only see the road snaking ahead through the green lush. A couple of elephants slowed us down further and we arrived at the office after six pm. A kind lady called Precious lives just down the road from the office and gave us our chalet (called a lodge) keys and sold us some wood. She asked for bread as they do not have any shops around for 100 km's.

The lodges are what we would have called chalets, and are about 500 meters apart. Ours has just been renovated (painted) and they did not return the furniture yet – so we “camped” in an empty shell. The first night in Mana Pools was a very interesting and unique experience. While driving to and fro the office in the pitch dark (Precious gave us the wrong key the first time) – we met our neighbors, Pete and friends from the Cape. They were prancing about with spotlights and machetes, talking about hyenas and lions around their lodge.



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Arriving at our home from home – we estimated the braai area about 50 meters from the chalet and this suddenly became an overwhelming distance to travel with a plate of lamb chops. We promptly claimed an open spot of sand, only 3 meters from the thatched roof, as alternative braai spot. The staff gave us some lip the next morning about it, but every time I turned the food, basking in that braaivleis aroma, did it feel mighty good to have a solid door right behind my butt. We sat later that night on the porch and listened to a lion roaring close by. Unlike Antelope Park was this one not canned and the lack of any fences let us realize our lowly position on the food chain in this environment. The nightly serenade was joined by quite a few hippos very close by as well as some hyena laughter. Henriette startled one of these hyenas about 5 meters from us when she swept the area in front of us with the torch. Man, I always thought I do not scare easily

...
Come bed time we encountered a new eco system – not entirely mankind friendly. The lack of furniture was acceptable as we had camping chairs and a table, the lack of netting in front of the windows created an issue though. The staff left us some mattresses on the floor and I was encouraged to see a toad crossing mine without pause, settling on Henriette's. Let her sort out that particular domestic issue. Janke shrieked like the girl she is every time a grasshopper or moth flew onto her. But the bats really freaked her out, as their favorite trajectory turned them 20 centimeters from her face every time they crossed the room. Some spiders, fire ants, crickets and the odd praying mantis completed the list of houseguests. It was hot and humid, everyone tired, sweaty and maybe a tiny bit irritated. I would suggest bringing a light nylon tent and set it up inside the lodge on the mattresses, at least you can choose your bedmates that way.

Next morning we woke to the most awesome view of the Zambezi right in front of us, with hippos snorting, buffalo grazing on the opposite bank in Zambia and an elephant sniffing at the Jeep. We saw impala, zebra, a honey badger, baboons and some more impala on our game drive. April is still very green and wet and the animals are difficult to spot, but just being there was absolutely awesome. Back at the lodge did we consume much more water than normal due to the heat and ended up boiling some tap water before bottling it. Precious said it is water from the Zambezi that is treated, but if you filled the tub it looked like you prepared a cold mud bath. The second night played out pretty much like the first and we chose the wrath of officialdom above that of a hungry lion when we made fire at the same spot.

The return journey was uneventful up to Karoi where we stocked up at the well appointed Spar. I did not fill the 3rd jerry can that we used in Mana and it came back to haunt me later when we found no fuel at Binga. The infamous dirt road from Karoi to Binga tested our endurance, our faith and, at times, even our marriage. About 80 kilometers into the dirt road the Jeep burst the front left tire. As we got out, Bertus heard the right back one hissing out air at an alarming rate. Two flat tires in the middle of nowhere. We had the normal spare wheel and a empty tire on the roof – the theory being that although stock might be limited, will it be easy to find someone to change tires if you brought your own. That does not hold valid for the Karoi Binga road.

The ever present locals that materialize as soon as you reduce speed replaced the front tire with the spare for us. We then pumped the back wheel full of tire weld out of a can and continued onwards with no spare. Because of the 40 km rocky off-road track to Tiger Bay did we decide not to risk it with no spare, and to push through to Binga. We had to stop every hour or so to pump the right rear when it dropped below 2 bar on the dashboard display - very handy information from the Jeep. The road was much worse than we thought, and going was slow. We encountered a small truck that was stuck and towed them out. Before we could pass them they



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got stuck again so we towed them some more. I have read on other trip reports that you can average 60km per hour, maybe with the knowledge that we had no spare was I more careful but we only managed an average of 30 km/h. While daylight lasted did we enjoy inspiring scenery but with nightfall came loneliness and a strong feeling of vulnerability.

We only saw 4 vehicles in 7.5 hours, one of them stuck and one of them broken down. There is no night darker than between Karoi and Binga. When pumping the right rear you are constantly aware that you are in the wilderness, reflecting on the elephant signs along the road just travelled. It started raining and the road turned into a mudslide, fun at other times but in this case just the last straw for Henriette and she mentioned the next African road trip and divorce in the same sentence. She then backtracked a bit and limited the moratorium on 4 wheel drive travel to this year only – but watch this space. We eventually arrived at Binga and booked in at the aptly named Journey's End Lodge.

Henriette estimated recovery time at 3 nights and there was no better place than Journey's End. The view was absolute spectacular over the Kariba lake from our room and at \$50 per night for all four of us was it not dear either. Binga Rest camp for meals, accommodation and tire repairs sorted out all our pneumatic problems – but no relief for our lack of fuel. The pump attendant at CMED insisted they had no fuel and it was only at the third visit, when I finally met the manager that he offered me 20 liters to get me to crossroads. When he saw the Jeep had a 5.7l V8 did he kindly increase the help to 30 liters.

We turned off towards Mbilizi, it is one of those places that you can just drive past, safe in the knowledge that you do not miss anything. Crossroads had fuel and again I made the mistake of not filling the jerry cans as Vic Falls was the next dry town as far as petrol is concerned. People that visit the falls should not consider Victoria as representative for Zimbabwe, it was the first time we encountered aggressive marketing and that we found ourselves in a tourist trap. The wind was blowing from the falls when we entered, spraying us already at the car park. This made for a very wet and virtually invisible experience – went the next day again with no wind and it was a much more pleasant experience.

We have booked tickets for Henriette and the kids from Vic falls to Johannesburg on Air Zimbabwe, while my mom, dad and brother were flying up to start their holiday. They worked me in shifts as driver and tour guide! The nice lady at the Air Zim counter explained to me that they do not fly anymore and suggested I buy new tickets from another airline – cash only. I contemplated my options while staring at two of their core values displayed: Integrity: We do what we say; Creativity: We are created in God's image, as with him, all is possible. We ended up R280 short on cash at British Airways for the 3 tickets, no banking facilities at the airport. SAA takes credit cards, but is double the price. I convinced the guy at BA that my mother lands on the same plane my family is taking, and she will settle my debt. He believes me and issues the tickets.

On Wednesday we went for a daytrip from Vic Falls to Hwange National park. Plan was to enter at Sinamatella camp and then loop back to Robin's camp and take the shortcut back to Victoria. Two reasons why this was not the best of options: The shortcut back to the main road is 60km of tweespoor track on which you average 40 km/h and, secondly, the animals around Robin's are very wild due to the hunting concession in that area. I would suggest to do an eastern loop in the park and leave via Sinamatella camp again. Not that we did not have an interesting trip. At 11



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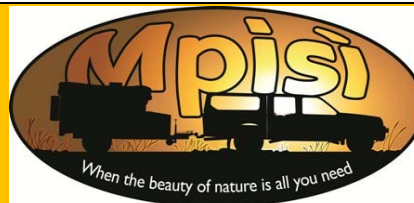
am we had a flat tire (3rd for the trip – Bridgestone All Terrains (D694) for those asking) and again we operate without spare far from civilization.

Mandavu dam picnic spot is like candy for the eye and one can camp there as well – well worth a visit. Totally different from the picnic spot at Deteema which is run down and overgrown, which provides its own charm of course. The roads are not as good as the book says and you definitely need something with some ground clearance. That was until we took the Crocodile loop between Deteema and Robin's – then you may need low range. The road disappeared from time to time and we had to put our trust in God and Garmin to make sure we do not get lost. We had to negotiate around fallen trees and over rocky slides that made us acutely aware of the flat spare. I can swear there were vultures that circled us the whole way – took us about 2 hours to complete the loop.

You cannot pass Buluwayo without visiting the Matopos. On our way back did we take the 60km detour (there and back) to pay respects to old Cecil J and to see why he insisted to be laid to rest in this area. Excellent choice, I think those rock formations is on par with Vic Falls for spectacular views. Quite expensive with \$15 pp, \$10 for the car and then another \$10 pp to see the actual grave and "view of the world".

Easy drive to Beitbridge and the end of a wonderful vacation.

Cobus van Zyl & Crew – 2011



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We offer 4x4 Offroad Day and Weekend Trips for the offroad enthusiast who cannot get away for long periods but would like to spend time relaxing in Mother Nature and going to destinations which can only be reached with a 4x4. Come share the experience of 4x4 trails so that enthusiasts can constantly hone their skills in a truly natural 4x4 environment and not only experience man-made 4x4 tracks. We design trips on request to accommodate birders, fauna and flora lovers as well as plan trips to any destination in Southern Africa thus enabling you to gain access into eco sensitive environments and areas with fully qualified guides.

We also offer 4x4 & Offroad Driver Training. We are Accredited Offroad Driver Instructors accredited in accordance with the Unit Standards 254135 & 254154 in association with African Off-Road Academy. Training covers the handling and use of your vehicle offroad and in eco sensitive areas in order to keep yourself and your vehicle safe with the minimum impact on the environment.

For those who can get away for longer trips, we offer offroad trips to all corners of South Africa, discovering parts of our beautiful country, off the beaten track. To travel the gravel and off the



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beaten track avoiding all highways and national routes, stopping at each little town on the way, explore our country's history, its people and places as well as adventure into the surrounding bush.

Trips are also made to Namibia, Botswana, Mozambique and other countries within the SADEC region.

Contact us & visit our website for further information:

Duncan Kenney (GP3499)

Karen Chiole (GP3500)

082 600 7177

082 657 1252

info@mpisibushsafaris.co.za

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UPCOMING TRIPS:

21 May 2011

Kungwine 4x4 Trail

4-5 June 2011

4x4 Offroad Basic Driver Training (US254135) accredited

March 2011



Emergency Break!

Hi to all our 4x4 Off-road Adventure Club & Isibonela Adventure friends. May this never happen to you or your family!

• **MYTH STORY CIRCULATING THE INTERNET!!!!:**

Sounds like useful information. I'm passing this on, don't know how/ if it works.

Once I was cooking some corn and stuck my fork in the boiling water to see if the corn was ready. I missed and my hand went into the boiling water.... A friend of mine, who was a Vietnam vet, came into the house, just as I was screaming, and asked me if I had some plain old flour...I pulled out a bag and he stuck my hand in it. He said to keep my hand in the flour for 10 mins. which I did. He said that in Vietnam, this guy was on fire and in their panic, they threw a bag of flour all over him to put the fire out...well, it not only put the flour out, but he never even had a blister!!!!

*SOOOO, long story short, I put my hand in the bag of flour for 10 mins, pulled it out and had not even a red mark or a blister and absolutely NO PAIN. Now, I keep a bag of flour in the fridge and every time I burn myself, I use the flour and never ONCE have I had a red spot, a burn or a blister! *cold flour feels even better than room temperature flour.*

Miracle, if you ask me. Keep a bag of white flour in your fridge and you will be happy you did. I even burnt my tongue and put the flour on it for about 10 mins. and the pain was gone and no burn. Try it!

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BUT, don't run your burn area under cold water first, just put it right into the flour for 10 mins and experience a miracle!

- **THEN THIS ONE FOLLOWED!!!!!!:**

Treating burns with Egg White

One hopes never to be needing it, but just in case... A simple but effective way to treat burns with the help of egg white. This method is used in the training of firemen. When sustaining a burn, regardless the degree, the first aid is always placing the injured part under running cold water till the heat subsides. Next spread the egg white over the injury.

Someone burned a large part of her hand with boiling water. Despite the pain she held her hand under running water, then took two eggs, parted the yolk from the egg white and slightly beat the egg white and put her hand in it. Her hand was so badly burned that the egg white dried and formed a white film. Later she heard that the egg is a natural collagen.

And during the next hour layer upon layer, she administered a white layer on her hand. That afternoon she didn't feel any more pain and the next day there hardly was a red mark to see. She thought she would have an awful scar but to her astonishment after ten days there was no sign of the burn, the skin had it's normal colour again!

The burned area had been totally regenerated thanks to the collagen, in reality a placenta full of vitamins. This advice can be useful for everyone. Circulate it!

NEVER DO ANY OF THE ABOVE PEOPLE, PLEASE!!!!

I consulted with our regular contributor, Joke Wandrag and her initial reaction was:

Hi. Alan

Herewith another one, if we keep on going we can start baking with all the ingredients people reckon we should use for burns. The time wasted to even start separating the eggs is crucial for treating burns! Same thing, treat burns with substances especially formulated to treat burns and use the flour, eggs, butter, shoe polish, toothpaste, sunlight liquid etc. for which they are meant to be used!

Regards

Joke

USE A GOOD BURN SHIELD. DO NOT APPLY ANY OF THESE EXTERNAL SUBSTANCES ON A BURN. GET THE PERSON TO A DOCTOR!!! ATTEND A FIRST AID COURSE.

Safe & Healthy 4x4ing

Joke Wandrag

Head of Training / Accredited Assessor and Moderator

SA First Aid League - Accredited with DOL & HWSETA

rwandrag@mweb.co.za / www.firstaidleague.co.za



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Fresh from the Bush – New Products

NEW ACTION HD VIDEO CAMERA (WITH STILL CAPABILITY) AND WATERPROOF

The Adventure Camera that can be mounted ANYWHERE. Full HD Video and 5 Megapixel stills. THESE CAMERAS OUTPUT CAN BE SEEN ON THE BRIDGESTONE 4x4 FUNDI CHALLENGE's FOOTAGE ON DSTV – They are using them as extras on the filming side (in car, through windscreen, on back windows etc.).

I just bought myself a GoPro camera - these little adventure/sports/underwater HD video <http://gopro.com/videos/> and stills cameras are amazing! Mount onto your 4x4 or bike with a suction mount and drive through water <http://gopro.com/videos/tv-commercials/kayak-chutes/>, mud, sand or anything else and wash the camera off. Use on a helmet, mount on your surfboard <http://gopro.com/videos/tv-commercials/surfing-with-daize/> or boat/aeroplane <http://gopro.com/videos/tv-commercials/base-jumping-in-norway/>, fit to you handle bar on your bicycle, fit to a motorcycle or quad.

The camera writes straight onto an SD card and can be read immediately by your PC/Notebook, no need to download video tapes!!!! The camera does 5 megapixel stills <http://gopro.com/photos/>, fixed 170 degree wide angle lens can do auto still shots at designated intervals. Housing is waterproof to 60 meters..ideal for some water crossing shots.

Check out the sample videos shot with the GoPro <http://gopro.com/videos/moto/>

We are now agents for GoPro and therefore can offer some better pricing.



The GoPro 960 comes with accessories and all cables.....

EXTRA PRICED ACCESSORIES: (FOR OPENING SPECIAL ONLY).

Additional Battery packs R599



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Handle Bar mount R185
Suction mount R270
SD Card Lexar 16 Gig R499

Contact: 4x4offroad@mweb.co.za for the best quote in GP!!!

The Dusty Way – Club Trips, Reports & Feedbacks

GROOTWATER 4x4 WEEKEND

It was with great anticipation that 6 + 1 families gathered at the Total on the N1 just North of Pretoria on 8 April for a weekend at Grootwater. The Grootwater farm is 50km from Ellisras (Lephalale) and 250 km from Pretoria nestled in the Waterberg Mountains. The Poer se Loop River runs through the farm.

Kim and Sanett van der Merwe were our guides for the weekend. We left the Total at half past two (due to a late arrival – obviously missed Alan's stern warning of the PTA traffic!) and arrived

at Grootwater just before six. It was tar road most of the way except for the last few kilometers – and Kimberly-hole sized potholes and lots of stop-start road works around Vaalwater. We were not sure about the tar though . . . Kort-kort blêr die radio's: "Big pot hole left" and "Groot gat regs". The dusty gravel road started out in fair condition but soon turned out to be a bit more challenging the closer we got to Grootwater. The dirt road took us through a steep decline and huge speed bumps. Someone was interested in the Afrikaans for speed hump. "Spoed boggel" crackled over the radio. Steve commented that it should not be called as speed bump as you can not drive over it with speed . . .?! We all arrived safely at the camp site and everybody quickly started to set up camp before dark. Grant and Karine set about pitching their new Chobe – and what a mission it proved to be! During Mission Impossible Grant desperately needed a hammer. When André passed him the rubber hammer he replied: "No I need a hammer, not a mallet." The ke-tieng-ke-tieng broke the bush silence as Grant and Karine sorted their Chobe out. Our resident Chobe expert Nigel lent a helping hand.

Om nege uur Saterdagoggend was almal gesteweld en gespoor en het met groot opwagting en geesdrif die 4x4 roete aangepak. Die roete was aanvanklik baie maklik en Wally het skepties en effe terleurgesteld kommentaar gelewer: "We need to compliment the Herman (die eienaar) on the good condition of his roads." Wat dadelik die volgende reaksie uitgelok het: "Ja, it is far better than that piece of half tarred road after Vaalwater with all the pot holes!". Die woorde was nie eers koud nie toe Kim die konfooi stop om die eerste taai rotserige opdraande uit te loop. Die roete het toe vinnig baie uitdagend geraak en Kim moes bont staan om almal deur die hindernisse te lei. Grant het ook ingespring en gehelp beduie en los rotse weg te rol. Meeste van die mans het later hand moes bysit met klippe wegrol, rotse skuif en foto's neem. Die gevolg was dat vier van die sewe voetue toe deur vroue bestuur is. Wys net – die vroue in ons klub "rock"!



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We stopped to admire some buck which was branded by our club expert as "any buck"! The mysterious animal was however later identified by Herman as a Reedbuck (or Ribbok). Leopard- and buck tracks on the road briefly immobilized our trek with lots of oe's and ah's and everybody carefully treading not to spoil the fresh spoor.

Die middag het almal luilekker gekuier terwyl die seniors in die klub op hul kant gaan staan het vir 'n middagslapie. O ja, Grant het ook 'n uiltjie gaan knip . . Die kinders het met kano's op die dam gaan roei. Die seuns dit eerste op die water gewaag en gou verveeld geraak om net te roei. Hulle het gekyk op hoeveel maniere hulle die kano's kon sink en hoe ver hulle kon roei met die kano's onder die water. Vet prê! Toe die dogters die water aandurf kon hul gille myle vêr gehoor word. Nigel en Julian wou laat die middag nog visvang. Of hul veel gevang het is te betwyfel want al wat vis is sou gaan skulling soek na al die bloedstollende krete van die dogters.

Die gekuier het van die damwal verskuif na die braaivleisvure. Die aand het Steve se Discovery se agterdeur probleme gegee en ons het weer 'n gekap-kap gehoor. Natuurlik was Nigel weer byderhand. Die goeie gees van die Toyota Land Rover gespot weer van voor af . . .

Sadly all good things come to an end and Sunday was pack-up-and-go. Grant left very early as he had to fly to Europe Sunday afternoon. The rest of us departed at around 10 except for the Jarvis family – they looked for a good fishing spot in the area. The Van Der Merwes and Versters went home via Thabazimbi and Nigel and Steve via Vaalwater. We all HAD to make a pit stop at the biltong shop. This shop sells all kinds of biltong and droë wors – from giraffe and red hartebeest to hippo or crocodile – whatever you like! Wally's trailer developed a puncture en-route to the biltong shop. He skillfully plugged the gaatjie and went shopping for biltong.

Late Sunday afternoon it was home sweet home. But not for long, adventure is calling . . . Special thanks Kim and Sanett for all your hard work. It was a lot of fun!

Andre Verster

Dear Alan,

Nigel and I would like to extend our congratulations to Sannette and Kim Van Der Merwe for the excellent trip enjoyed to Grootwater. They were spot on with their mix. Travelling to Grootwater, was quite comfortable. There was only one section of road from Vaalwater where the road had bad potholes under repair.

On Saturday morning, we enjoyed the trail. The farm is well maintained and the trails, though not too taxing were interesting and a good training for drivers. Denise enjoyed the flora and made the comment that it might be a great spot to visit in the spring. The bird life was also plentiful while we were on the trail.

In the afternoon, we tried fishing at the nearby dam with no success, whilst the boys used the canoes provided. It looked fun. Some had a dip in the small pool. Some chose to have a restful siesta. That evening, the campfire gathering was most enjoyable. The company was superb and the venue was most comfortable.

Listening to the sounds of the night with calls from wild dogs, hyena and jackal were stunning. The caravan stands were nicely grassed and level. The fact that there was power, made it even



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more comfortable. The owner visited us a couple of times and gave us a nice insight to the history and amenities on the farm.

*The only criticism from us, was that we needed an extra day to enjoy some more. We have another memorable trip to add to our happy memory bank. **The 4x4 Off Road Adventure Club ranks high on the ratings of good decisions made in our lifetime.***

Blessings to you all!

Nigel & Denise Wilshire

WEST COAST / RICHTERSVELD LONG HAUL

Thanks to YOU and Charmaine for a fantastic TRIP.

Regards,

Nigel & Denise

Dear Alan and Charmaine

Gee whiz, I was surprised to get the email yesterday – BEFORE we got home! We (and Grant and Julian) stayed with Nigel until his Chobe was loaded onto his trailer, so only got home at 4.00pm.

Thank you for arranging the most wonderful trip – with a great bunch of people! As you say, Africa is not for sissies – and everyone stood together and friendships solidified. It was an honour to be included!

A bit of an anticlimax this morning – going through the emails at work – and thinking about the trip. Cannot wait for the next opportunity.

Best Regards

Wally and Shelley Bergmann

Thanx vir die GREATE trip ons het dit BAIE geniet.

Koekemoer Familie

Hi Alan

Baie dankie vir die toer en die geleentheid om saam te gaan. Ons sal dit vir die res van ons lewens onthou!!

Die Verster Familie

EASTERN CAPE PASSES LONG HAUL

Hi Alan, I am glad to hear that you guys had a good time to the West Coast.

Our Passes trip to the Eastern Cape was great and the scenery stunning. It was only surpassed by the experience of driving up or down some of the passes. The Lapa Munnik pass was exceptional and I will definitely do it again sometime in the future. The same goes for the Lundean's Neck Pass.

We all had a great (if not a bit cold) time and we really enjoy the trip put together by Johann Ungerer. Thanks, Johann!



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Kind regards
Malcolm, Lynda and Sven van Coller

SONDELA GAME RESERVE WEEKEND

Hi Alan,
Just a short version "of how it was" .

Absolutely a great weekend we had, the company was great the "BOS TV" (conca) was very pleasant and it was not that cold yet. Very relaxed and all seemed to enjoyed the venue. Lost entertainment for the kids - horse riding they enjoyed and some of them went and play klei lat and swimming at night with a video next to the pool " On a big screen nogals" and on Sunday morning we arranged a game drive for all at 10h00 and thereafter everybody left at their own time.

Once again another pleasant weekend and we are well relaxed, just to short as usual.

PS: A very well organized venue - I will send Sondela a thank you note as they did go out of their way to make us feel at home.

The van der Merwe Family (Guides)

Hey Al,

Trip feedback: The Sondela weekend was great – Sean had a blast with all the activities and facilities on offer. He went on an outride on a horse on both Saturday and Sunday and seems like I need to buy a ranch now! Dunno where these cowboy genes come from – he loved it! Huge thanks to the vd Merwe's and the Malans for their hosting, arrangements and co-ordination of the weekend – it was hugely chill and just the break I needed. Would like to go back later this year or next.

Jono and Sean Owen.

SAND RIVER EXPERIENCE WITH SANPARKS HONORARY RANGERS

The four couples all met on time at Skukuza, where Louis and Erika Lemmer, our hosts for the next few days , together with second guide Sumarie, were waiting. After introductions, our goods were transferred to the San Parks vehicle/trailer and we were on our way. The drive to The Sand River Bush Camp took about 30/40 minutes and we did some game spotting on the way.

On arriving at the Bush Camp we were introduced to the catering personnel who were to look after our meal requirements, under the leadership of Erika. Then an introduction to the facilities at the camp. Hot and cold running water as well as flush toilets. Tent accommodation was allocated to each couple. Each tent faced onto the Sand River!

After moving into our accommodation, details of what we could expect over the next few days were explained to us. Early morning wake up calls, drive to the locations for our morning bush walks and boskos would be provided. Bush walks were to be three to four hours long, but were to be done at a leisurely pace to suit all participants. The bush was thick and the grass tall. Silence was required on the walks but there was always time for interesting explanations and interpretations of spore we came across. All male participants carried backpacks with their own water and part of the boskos packs.



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We returned to camp for a brunch and time to rest before the afternoon programme began, which consisted of a drive before alighting from the vehicle for a short bush walk. Again Louis and Sumarie made sure of our safety, taking no chances. We would return to camp after dark when we had the Park roads to ourselves. Spotted two male lions, other game and even an African Wild Cat!

Nothing was too much trouble for our hosts. Questions were patiently dealt with and their knowledge and expertise was superb. Catering was excellent.

Unfortunately our time at Sand River Bush Camp came to an end all too quickly. We can highly recommend The Sand River Bush Camp.

Derrick & Ruth-Ann Nicoll

Dear Brian and Janet, Willie and Magda, Derrick and Ruth, Michael and Maritza.

We really enjoyed your company at Sand River Bush Camp. You were great fun! Hope to see you all on one of our camps again... perhaps you too might be stormed and growled at by a lioness with cubs, as happened to Louis 3 days ago while they were out in the veldt. Fortunately they were 3 rifled guides with a group of 9 students. All went well, the lioness just had to let them know they were coming a bit too close.

Best regards.

Erika Lemmer

SANparks Honorary Rangers & Host

Hi Alan.

I hope I'm saying the same as anyone else who responds to your request.

Arrangements; Flawless
Camp Tents; adequate although without elect lights.
Toilets / Showers; Clean and ample hot water.
Camp Manager (Erica) Very professional and friendly
Food Excellent with a super choice of bottled wines!!
Guides (Louis and Su Marie)- Very knowledgeable, professional and friendly. Great company!!

Weather; Perfect. Partly cloudy and cool. No rain.

Insects/Pests Conspicuous by their absence.

Game; Scarce when on foot. The highlight was on day 2 when we followed large heard of Buffalo and ended up between 2 groups facing a BIG BULL who was on the fringe of the heard as a scout. We had to reverse from his angry stare and extricate ourselves from between the 2 groups. **Exciting.**



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From the vehicle we spotted both Lion and Elephant plus a Black Rhino, Nyala and Giraffe all at close quarters. Lots of eyes during night drives with 1 pair belonging to an African Wild Cat. (Rare)

All in all an experience well worth repeating!!
Brian n Janet Magner

Hi Erika.

Janet and I just wish to thank you, Louis and the Team for an absolutely super weekend. What a fabulous experience!!

Thanx so MUCH.

Brian n Janet Magner.

PRACTICAL CAMP COOKING

Beste Johan en Anne-Marie,

Ek en Natassja wil net baie dankie se vir die waardevolle inligting wat julle aan ons deurgegee het laas Sondag. Ons het nooit gedink dit kan so maklik wees om n absolute "feast" in die bos te he nie, en daarby kan ons by die huis dit ook gebruik. Moet se, die berg van beplanning vir die Weskus toer het bietjie makliker geword. Baie dankie vir julle gasvryheid, weereens n fantastiese dag uit saam met die klub.

Hoop om julle gou weer te sien.
Groete,
Die Lessings

MONTHLY CRANE MONITORING PROJECT

Hi Alan.

The above is now done and dusted. Just to let you know that Janet, I and my brother Peter managed to spot 97 Blue Cranes as well as a lone Wattled Crane which is apparently on the Endangered List. Watch this space. We're back in September.

Chio,
Brian Magner

The Trading Post – Swop, Sell or Buy

FOR SALE - PRADO

2008 (New Spec) 4.0 VX Auto Petrol
Pearl White, Grey Interior, Sat/nav
Nudegebar, Towbar
87 500km
R420 000 neg
Thank you



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Susan - Gravetts@out.co.za

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ROOF TOP TENT IN EXCELLENT CONDITION

My rooftop tent that I want to sell, folded out the size is: 2.4m x 1.6m

I would say it can be described as in good condition, excellent being almost brand new.

Cost:R3 600

Cheers

Chris @ advertising@maplanga.co.za

PAJERO SWB AVAILABLE

Hi Alan

Due to the nature of my tours, I often have to transport guests in my vehicle and the Pajero SWB lacks space for the extra luggage. Unfortunately it is time to say goodbye to my trusty partner of just over 6 years (I will surely miss her) and acquire something with more space – a long wheel base Pajero of course! I hope that one of your club members has a good home for her:

Vehicle: Mitsubishi Pajero Short Wheel Base, Diesel 3.2 GLS
Year: 2005
Colour: Metallic Beige (gold)
Kilometres: 229,000 (more or less)
FSH: Yes – service book and names of dealers will be supplied to check
Extras: Front Runner Wind Cheetah roof rack, dual battery system, 29MHz aerial built into vehicle
Asking price: R160,000
Other: One lady owner, vehicle well trained in how to behave off road, just add driver

Kind regards

Lizette Swart

Roads to Roam Adventure Holidays

Cell: +27 83 22 631 22

ECHO KAVANGO FOR SALE:

Regrettably I need to sell this gem – too large for my son and I. I'll miss her – but now offered to a good home:

Mid 2009 Echo Kavango as standard – with approx 5000km on the clock. I have the following extra's. Replacement value as new would be around R210k.

- o 2 x 70Ah batteries
- o Solar panel (75W) to charge batteries
- o Tent extension and sides (approx 1.5 meters additional), all poles, pegs, guy ropes etc.
- o Shower tent and external shower modification – like Alan, I find that the slide out shower "bak" takes up way too much space inside the caravan when not used.
- o Second gas bottle holder
- o Mud guards
- o Caravan nose "blanket" protector
- o Stove wind shield



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- Fitted sheets for both beds
- Stainless steel double door Nat Luna fridge / freezer – stainless steel – 74 lit
- Ground sheets for front tent and shower tent
- OAC 4x4 spare wheel cover

She is in good nick and has always been housed in a garage. I'm asking R176K, negotiable within reason.

Thanks and regards, Jono Owen, 082 924 1756

ANOTHER GREAT 4x4 TRAILER FOR SALE

Echo 3 Off Road trailer-

- Echo 4 spec wrt run in brake system & shocks fitted (in addition to leaves)
- Standard rooftop tent
- 100mm hi-density foam mattress fitted in addition to standard one
- 2x L-shape shade awnings; plus 3x extra add on awnings to secure privacy
- 3x groundsheets
- Fully equipped kitchen(6 of everything)
- Fully carpeted load bin
- Customised 3 drawer system fitted in load bin for extra packing space
- 220v Power supply
- 2x outside Hella plugs for 12v appliances, plus 1 in load bay to run fridge etc
- 100 lit belly water tank on board plus 2x 20 lit fuel jerry-cans (2x water jerry cans included)
- Spade with brackets fitted
- 2x Gas bottle holders fitted onto A-frame (in addition to standard gas bottle for stove)
- 12v wiring with Brad Harrison coupling to charge on-board deep cycle battery from vehicle or external solar power
- 3x tyres almost new
- OE recovery kit from Echo – never used (wheel bearings, leave shackles, etc)

Extras included:

- Various braai grids
- 22lit Porta Potti (used twice)

First owner trailer – which is permanently stored under carport since new...

Price: R55 000

Contact Johan at 082 8814547 or (011)768-5400 to view...

CONQUERER COMMANDER CARAVAN FOR SALE

2007 Model

Rally Tent extended, Full Tent, Bathroom Tent

Gas stove

Fold out Double Bed, 2 Single beds or Double bed



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Mags 16 inch
Lights inside cupboards
Jerry Can holders x 2, Gas Bottle
Cutlery
2 x Deep Cycle Batteries, Charging system
Tables x 2

R155 000 o.n.c.o.
Phone Callie 082 4747 355
BLOEMFONTEIN

TOYOTA FORTUNER FOR SALE

Late 2009 Fortuner 3.0 D4D raised body auto Full service history Balance of service plan
85000kms Colour White
R310 000.00 onco

Mark on bron@mweb.co.za

TRAILER FOR SALE

Dear Alan,
Can I request the following be added to your next newsletter under the 'For Sale' Section? (We are looking at upgrading to an Xplorer)

2005 Echo 3 Offroad Trailer
16" Rims and Continental Tyres
Fully Loaded Specification
Tent has four side awnings.
Engel 60l Fridge.
Very good condition (Spent its "downtime" in our Spare Garage)

R54 500
Brett - 0824580741 or brett.orwin@gmail.com

ANOTHER TRAILER FOR SALE

Licensed 6ft Venter with nosecone
Rubber mat in box and nosecone
Strengthened chassis
1.6 ton axle
14" Pro White rims (PCD 5x120 - same as L/Rover)
Cover included
Price of above - **R15,995.00**
Electrified with DB board, battery charger and 105 A/H deep cycle battery
Price incl above - **R18,995.00**

Contact Anthony - 083 445 9044



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The banner features a yellow background with various custom-moulded plastic products, including a red cooler, a blue cooler, a white cooler, and a white cooler with a handle. A person is shown using a red cooler. The text is in blue and black, with the slogan 'Anything's Possible' in a cursive font.

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Legally Speaking.....

PROTECTING YOUR BUSINESS: THE BASIC RESTRAINT OF TRADE CLAUSE

Have you ever thought of what would happen if that employee who has access to your entire data base, trade secrets or intellectual property resigns? Restraint of trade provisions can be vital for the protection of your business.

As the owner of a business, you spend years building up relationships with your clients and establishing your business and brand in the marketplace. Should one of your key employees set up a competing business on the back of your business and, virtually overnight, solicits your clients across to his/her competing business, it can be devastating for your business.

In summary, restraint of trade provisions are mostly found in employment agreements, which restrict an employee to compete against a company from which he or she has left. Another important consideration is whether other employees will be encouraged by your failure to enforce restraint of trade provisions against an errant employee and take a similar path and set up their competing businesses.

These clauses therefore prohibit an employee using the know-how, skill or expertise obtained while in the employ of an employer, in competition with that employer.

One should be aware that even if a restraint of trade provision does not exist, the former employee will still have a duty of good faith towards the company and that he/she shall still not be permitted to compete unlawfully with the company.

By placing certain limitations on your freedom of employment, an employee may or may not be able to trade within the same industry he or she currently works in should he or she resign. This secures the safety and confidentiality of trade secrets and sensitive business information relating to the company.

However, each person has the freedom to negotiate or enter into an agreement containing almost any clause thinkable, as long as it remains within the ambit of the law. The second factor to bear in mind is the "right to earn a living". The court will not enforce a restraint of trade if it has found that such a restraint is not reasonable. This would be the case if the geographical area is too wide or the duration of the restraint is too long.

If you want to enforce a restraint against an employee or ex-employee, you as employer would have to prove that a valid interest worthy of protection exists. A more recent approach followed by the courts is to interpret the purpose of a restraint clause as not merely to prevent an employee to accept employment with a competitor, but rather to prevent the transfer of skills and information proprietary to an existing employer. In a recent judgment the court decided in determining the legality of a restraint clause, the clause has to be viewed in its entirety and the right which the employer wishes to protect should be clearly apparent from the wording of the clause.

Protect your business over the long run and ensure that your employment agreements are drafted in such a manner to afford you the maximum protection, whether the employee is still in your employ or not.

Van Greunen & Associates Inc.



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&
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I.R. Steenekamp

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PIONEER PLASTICS
Anything's Possible
WE SPECIALISE IN CUSTOM MOULDINGS
www.pioneerplastics.co.za
Tel: 012 541 6000

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Flat Wheel – Light Relief

PUZZLED:

A little silver-haired lady calls her neighbour and says, "Please come over here and help me. I have a killer jigsaw puzzle, and I can't figure out how to get started." Her neighbour asks, "What is it supposed to be when it's finished?"

The little silver haired lady says, "According to the picture on the box, it's a rooster." Her neighbour decides to go over and help with the puzzle. She lets him in and shows him where she has the puzzle spread all over the table.

He studies the pieces for a moment, then looks at the box, then turns to her and says,

"First of all, no matter what we do, we're not going to be able to assemble these pieces into anything resembling a rooster."

He takes her hand and says, "Secondly, I want you to relax. Let's have a nice cup of tea, and then," he said with a deep sigh

"Let's put all the Corn Flakes back in the box."



Preferred Suppliers - Gauteng

If anyone has any good things to say about suppliers I would like to include them here. Lets support those who do a good job for the club. Similarly if anyone has had a bad experience lets share it and vote with our wallets by avoiding them.

DISCOUNTS:

1) CAPESTORM

Club members get a 10% at CAPESTORM owned shops, on production of there active club members card, on CAPESTORM clothing. All other apparel and items sold get a 5% discount. This excludes LEATHERMAN & SUUNTO equipment. No discounts on these 2.



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2) FRONT RUNNER

Front Runner will offer any club member, on production of their club card, a **5% discount** on the purchase of any Front Runner produced product. Call Wayne Coombe- Heath (club member) now. 1 Forssman Close, Dytchley Road, Barbeque Downs, Kyalami - 011 466 0155 – www.frontrunner.co.za

3) 4x4 INSURANCE

Phillip Viljoen Insurance Brokers has a special deal for all 4x4 enthusiasts, if you tell him you saw this advert. Qualify for great discount. Contact phillip@leisuresure.co.za or on 083 306 5657 / Fax (012) 542 3564. Speak to Phillip (club member)

4) ISIBONELA ADVENTURES cc

Discount on ALL Garmin GPS Products, 29 Mhz & VHF Radios, Windbags, FRONT RUNNER products and other 4x4 services & training. Send enquiry to 4x4offroad@mweb.co.za

5) SAFARI CENTRE - NEW MEMBERSHIP CARD DEAL

5% discount when paying with a credit card & 10% discount for cash.

Products excluded for discount:

- * GPS's
- * Leatherman products
- * Any specials currently running
- * Magazines, books, maps

6) KEMPTON CARAVANS - KEMPTON PARK - CLUB MEMBER BENEFITS

The discount to the 4x4 community and members of our club is **10% off their listed prices**. This will be on presentation of the club membership card. This shop has EVERYTHING. Customisation of tents etc. on site! Speak to Larry, Brian, Isobelle (club members) or any of the staff in the shop.

7) PB ENTERPRISES – HIGHEST QUALITY POWER SYSTEMS & INSTALLATIONS

Manufacturer of high quality Power Systems, Dual Battery Systems, Fully Equipped Battery Boxes, Power Converters & Battery Chargers for Trailers & Caravans, Solar- and Generator Amplification Chargers! They can definitely help you with the right electrical power products for ANY 4x4 vehicle, Off-road Trailer or Caravan/Camper.

Talk to the expert, Pieter Barnard, and **receive 5% discount on any of their products by supplying a copy of this page, PLUS the 4x4 Offroad Adventure Club receive a 3% donation.** Just **print out THIS PAGE**, and give them a call. Let them do everything right, the first time. Have a look at their website! www.pbeproducts.co.za

Contact: Pieter Barnard / Tel/Fax: 012 658 5538
Mobile: 083 749 0445 / E-mail: info@pbeproducts.co.za

8) BIG COUNTRY 4x4 – CUSTOMISED 4x4 FITMENTS AND PRODUCTION

10% discount for members on all manufactured products from our factory. Excludes labour costs. Please visit our website at www.bigcountry.co.za for more information, or even better come and discuss your requirements over a cup of tea. The factory is situated in Northriding right next door to Décor Park..... Big Country really can be your 1-stop shop for all your 4x4 equipment!



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Contact Richard on contact number is 011-795-9700 or info@bigcountry4x4.com

9) TENT PURCHASES, REPAIRS AND CANVAS PRODUCTS

Tent repairs and custom made canvas accessories. Please check out our site at www.caconcepts.co.za, we have heaps of info including Camping and Hiking checklists, Camping etiquette, Tips and gear maintenance to name a view.

We will gladly offer all club members 10% on all repairs and modifications as well as 10% on all products we distribute. Regret discount can be offered on products that are on promotion.

Contact Clive van der Vyver on clive@caconcepts.co.za - Cell: 082 8225969

<http://www.caconcepts.co.za>

<http://www.canvasandtent.co.za>

NO DISCOUNTS ARE APPLICABLE BELOW – BUT THESE ARE VALUED SUPPORTERS OF OUR CLUB!

1) ECHO ACCESSORIES 4x4 CENTRE!

Visit Willie, Rochelle, Neil, Jacques or any one of the other professional representatives at the new Echo 4x4 Centre situated in the Route 21 Corporate Park, 9 Regency Avenue, Irene (off Nelmapius Drive (off the R21)).

Echo can supply you with all your 4x4 requirements from offroad trailers, quad bike trailers, Echo Chobe Campers, roof top and trailer top tents, full 4x4 fitment centre, custom products, 4x4 accessory shop, trailer rental and even more. Be sure to visit the new instore refreshment café.

NO DISCOUNT OFFERED!

Call 012 – 345 3333, Fax 012 345 3343 or email: echoacc@mweb.co.za.

Web: www.echo4x4.co.za

2) BOLTONS GPS WAREHOUSE / KEVIN BOLTON CONSULTANTS

For top deals, training and advice on GPS equipment contact Kevin (club member).

KJ BOLTON CONSULTANT cc

Contact Kevin @ 082 564 3639 or Marietjie 012-6549813

kevin@gpsconsultants.co.za / marietjie@gpsconsultants.co.za / www.gpsconsultants.co.za

NO DISCOUNT OFFERED! - DISCOUNTED PRICES AVAILABLE FROM ISIBONELA ADVENTURES cc (see first section)

3) HONEYDEW TOYOTA & RV CENTRE

Contact Johan Kruger (club member) for all your Toyota and other accessories at their RV Centre. New Honeydew Toyota Showroom (opposite THE COCA COLA DOME) - refer http://www.honeydewtoyota.ix.co.za/lmg_upload_departments/3674_441636.gif for map. Address is Olievenhout Street, off Northumberland, which runs parallel with the N1 & the R28.



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Editor:

Alan

Alan Goodway (GP 1796)

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Professional 4x4 Trail & Overland Guide - National

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Owner - 4x4 Offroad Adventure Club (Gauteng)

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