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**AUGUST 2011**



## **Trails & Tribulations...**

Hi there enthusiasts,

The flowering season has started after good early rains and flowers are showing their pretty colours along the West Coast, and in the Karoo and Namaqualand. I spoke to the owners of Houthoop guest house / farm outside of Kleinzee and they say it is going to be a bumper year. Make sure you call on and stay over at Houthoop, and enjoy their seafood extravaganza dinner! It is a stunning West Coast stop over.

Well the Rhino scourge is continuing. If only we can stop the cultural demand, we may win. But it is now getting ridiculous. Too short notice for most, but I hope the Black Rhino 1 September Day message got to you. We must stop this poaching at all costs and encourage higher sentences. Some are getting the sentences they deserve...death by bullet. Such brutality, our poor conservationists that are trying their utmost.

By all accounts we had a superb trip to Swaziland and then on to Mozambique where it was feet up, a dive or two, some sand driving, good beers and R&R I believe. Hmmm. As long as there was no driving, it is all fine. Mozambique stays a contentious yet beautiful destination.

I personally led a group to Botswana over the same period and introduced many families to Khama Rhino Sanctuary and then Kubu Island. Awesome indeed. We had no hassles with road block, police or vet gates. We towed the line, and enjoyed what the beautiful Botswana has to offer. What a great outing. See all the comments in the members section.

Well did we rock at the AAWDC Fun Day. Our club was leading after 7 obstacles, but then ended 5<sup>th</sup> out of 13 teams. Definitely bettered all previous performances where we normally came LAST! And then to crown it all, we picked up first and second place in the individual vehicle category, with the only 2 vehicles scoring over 1000 points. Yes, so we don't always do these things, but at least we showed the big guns, that we can!! Well done to our club team. Positions in the club section.

The Driver Competency Certificate Training in accordance with the new Unit Standards are now in full swing. We cater for those with plenty of experience, and manage this group's training in 1 day. The newbies we deal with in a day and a half. So, if you want to get your 'licence', send me an email at [4x4offroad@mweb.co.za](mailto:4x4offroad@mweb.co.za) The courses are popular and fill up quickly, so ask for the next available options. We are also trying to keep it appropriately priced, so that it does not become a barrier to entry.



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We had another 10 year celebration function, this time in the format of an away weekend at the stunning Koro Koro venue outside of Bela Bela. We are proud to have the founder of the club movement up from Cape Town with his spouse, as well as another family in support from Cape Town. We had a stunning weekend with a 10 year old's party themes party on the Saturday night. What a hoot.

The team also took part in the pen ultimate Bridgestone 4x4 Fundi Challenge in Bronkhorstspuit and now eagerly await to see who made it into the final 30 positions for an invite into the final. This comes up in a week or two and the participants are vying for major prizes. Good luck to our front runners!.

It is unbelievable that this year is all but done. We are already planning our final few months, as well as our Christmas holidays. Life is too short to mess around, and next years long hauls are already well advanced. We live for the outdoors. Enjoy today, what you may not have tomorrow.

We have a rustige weekend at the Ezemvelo Nature Reserve outside of Bronkhorstspuit coming up, and some day trips including Rhino 4x4. I have started a NIGHT 5 challenge, whereby I will issue collectors badges to those who drive a series of 5 4x4 trails which I have secured permission for, to lead night driving excursions to. It is a total different experience, and I thank those trail owners who have entrusted their land to me after dark. It is quite an experience. Interested/ I am happy to offer slots to readers to gain this experience. Send me an email.

Well people. Let's get this Spring month into gear and get out there. Be safe and be careful. And whatever you do. Tread lightly. Make sure you pencil in the next open Enthusiast Meeting on 13 September in the Kya Sands district. Great speakers, great new products and great prizes! See the Montana 600/650 and the hot new HID rotating spotlight, to name a few. Invites to follow.

Thanks for being such loyal readers and supporters. We do this with passion for you, the 4x4 and outdoor enthusiast. Be safe!

*Yours in 4x4ing.*



**Alan Goodway (GP 1796)**  
*Editor (voluntary!)*

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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.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Venue</b>
September – FULL October – FULL November - enquire re dates	NEW DCC Driver Training against the Unit Standards	Gauteng – enquire via email
September 16- 17- 18 October 7- 8- 9	4x4 Assessor Training (See details below)	Gauteng – enquire via email
26-27 November	GPS Navigation & Mapping Course	Centurion

### **ASSESSOR COURSE FOR 4x4 TRAINERS / ASSESSORS – A MUST DO FOR YOU!!!!**

We offer a unique assessor training opportunity (in Gauteng), in that the facilitation of the programme is completely focused on incorporating the material of the 4x4 unit standard, into the processes looked at in the workshop. The 4x4 unit standard forms the basis of all explanations and examples, allowing for improved understanding as learners can mentally relate to the application of the material. Assistance is also provided with portfolio building, once again making use of the 4x4 unit standard as a guideline

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SAQA U/S ID: 115 753  
TITLE: Conduct outcomes based assessments  
NQF LEVEL: 5  
CREDITS: 15  
DURATION: 3 days (Friday, Saturday & Sunday – including Portfolio Completion)

### OUTCOMES:

Learners credited with this unit standard will be able to:

- \* demonstrate understanding of outcomes-based assessment
- \* prepare for assessments
- \* conduct assessments
- \* provide feedback on assessments
- \* review assessments

### COURSE CONTENT

Module 1: Understanding Outcomes –based Education and Training  
Module 2: Understanding the National Qualifications Framework  
Module 3: Assessment (from types of assessment to methods and instruments used)  
Module 4: The assessment process  
Module 5: Assessor Competence  
Module 6: Recognition of Prior Learning

### DATES:

September 16- 17- 18  
October 7- 8- 9

R3 850, Venue TBA, all inclusive.

**RSVP by:** email to [4x4offroad@mweb.co.za](mailto:4x4offroad@mweb.co.za)

## **Roads to Roam Adventure Holidays**

We are Roaming! As you read this we'll be travelling from Khwai to Savute for the last leg of our Botswana trip before heading for Namibia via the Caprivi Strip. If you are interested to follow our travels, please join our Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/roads.toroam>.

As usual in Africa cell phone reception is "few and far between" and we'll be out of touch for a while. We have recently acquired a satellite phone to use in case of an emergency on our tours; should you need you can contact us on +870776411391 between 7pm and 8pm (please keep in mind the cost to dial a satellite phone is approximately R30/minute!) Alternatively send a text message to our cell +27 83 22 631 22 and we'll return the call when we have cell phone reception.

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Our tours for 2011 are listed below:

9 – 18 Sept 2011:	Richtersveld and Namaqualand
30 Sept - 8 Oct 2011:	Botswana Okavango Delta
8-23 October 2011:	Zimbabwe National Parks
6 – 9 October 2011:	Kruger National Park Bush Camp (only 2 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

Happy Roaming!

Lizette Swart  
Roads to Roam Adventure Holidays  
Cell: +27 83 22 631 22  
FB: <http://www.facebook.com/roads.toroam>  
Web: [www.roadstoroom.co.za](http://www.roadstoroom.co.za)

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

**NEW GARMIN MONTANA 600 & 650 HAS ARRIVED. WHAT A SUPERB BEAST!!!**  
***IT IS HERE. THEY HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY ICASA. NOW IS THE TIME TO ORDER!!!!***  
***REPLACEMENT UNIT RECOMMENDED FOR THE OLD GPSMAP 276C. IT IS THE***  
***OUTDOOR ADVENTURERE / 4x4er's DREAM COME TRUE!!!!!!***

SHOP AROUND, BE MY GUEST. YOU WILL NOT GET THESE OPENING SPECIAL PRICES THAT EASILY!!!

**Garmin Montana 600** – R4 580 each. **Garmin Montana 650** (with camera) – R5 450 each.  
**NOTE:** The units come without mapping. The recommended mapping for the units are Garmap Southern Africa – Topo & Recreation @ R1300.

The following additional Accessories are available:

- Carrying Case (black Nylon with zipper) = R130
- Vehicle Power Cable = R250
- Auto suction cup mount with speaker (incl. CLA) = R470
- AMPS Rugged Mount with Audio/Power Cable = R320
- LI-ion Battery Pack = R325
- Auto Friction Mount Kit with Speaker (incl. CLA) = R750
- Anti-Glare Screen protectors = R95
- Marine Mount with Power Cable (bare wires) = R395

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Send me your CONFIRMED ORDER NOW. Or apply for the spec sheets. Payment prior to collection at these crazy prices!!! Be the envy of your 4x4 friends NEXT WEEKEND!!!! Email [4x4offroad@mweb.co.za](mailto:4x4offroad@mweb.co.za) - Isibonela Adventures cc – 4x4 Specialist Equipment Supplier

## **GATVOL OF RHINO POACHERS!!!**

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As you may know, I have now become personally involved in the fight against Rhino poaching. I cannot sit and complain with the rest of SA but do nothing from my side. Especially not after my personal experience with 6 of these magnificent animals during a week-end. To all of you who has signed the petition – thank you. This is not something I am driving but I will do everything in my power to help them to get as many names as possible.

Now, traditionally Spring is a happy day when companies and people wear bright, joyful colours. I have had an idea that SA should all wear black on Spring, 1<sup>st</sup> September and tie a black ribbon to the right hand mirror of their vehicles or motorbikes. The idea is that it should symbolise the following;

- a) *We are fed-up with poachers and the leniency showed in their prosecution and sentences including affording them bail.*
- b) *In memory of ABSA and all the other Rhino's that were killed so senseless for their horns.*
- c) *To symbolise that the future is black for our Rhino population because our government shows lack of interest in fighting this?*

**Please, please wear BLACK on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2011 and tie a BLACK ribbon around the right hand mirror of your vehicle. Spread the word. PLEASE join in this campaign!** If you have contacts in the media – please help us. I have received positive feedback from as far as the Cape – companies there are declaring the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2011 “Black Spring” and the media is already alerted to this.

Please post on your Face Book wall and declare 1<sup>st</sup> September 2011 “Black Spring” – tell people about the idea. if you can get your company and employees to support this – please do? We don't all have money to contribute but we can make a stand and a difference by something so simple, so symbolic. With the rate our Rhino's are poached – we do not have reason to celebrate on spring day.

Regards,  
Rentia

## **CROSS COUNTRY INSURANCE VALUE OF ITEMS REVIEW**

Dear Alan.

Your query regarding Cross Country's new underwriting policy, where “one will have to provide proof of purchase of specified items within a specified time” refers. I will address the matter from an Independent Broker point of view, dealing with a wide spectrum of Insurers in South Africa.

As a broker, and a client myself, I am very positive regarding the matter. Please allow me to explain.

- One of the most common problems during the claims procedure is, to proof your claim.



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- Each and every Insurer holds the right to ask proof that the item actually existed, and that you had an insurable interest in the item (for example, you are the owner of the item).
- Why, you ask.
  - To combat fraud. People actually get caught claiming for items that didn't even exist. And who pays the bill on the long run? Me and you with higher premiums on our insurance.
- But, you can imagine how frustrating it can be, when the Insurer asks you the proof of purchase of your GPS that's been stolen, a week before your departure to Angola, when you bought it 8 years ago, and for some reason you can't find the damn slip!
- Also, when it comes to the evaluation of your vehicle's fitted accessories
  - Let's say your vehicle gets stolen. You have fitted accessories on your vehicle, insured for R 80 000 on your policy, and paying a premium on it. At claims stage, any insurer only pays the 2nd hand market value, which at that stage may only be around R 50 000. With the new underwriting model, they request a valuation of these accessories, not only as proof that it is actually fitted to the vehicle, but also making sure it is not over insured.

Now some Insurers, like Cross Country, have taken the decision to rather proof your claim now, and not worry later. It basically boils down to doing all the underwriting now, instead of at claims stage.

It will assist in making the claims procedure for you as client much easier, and to speed up the process of finalizing your claim.

I hope and trust the above will put the whole thing in a positive light, even if it means a bit of additional homework, for us as clients. Please feel free to contact me regarding the matter should there be any further questions.

Kind regards.

Phillip Viljoen (Contact details under preferred suppliers section at end of newsletter)

*Here is the Cross Country response:*

*Yes, we will require proof of purchase for specified items and it is standard procedure in the market, all of which Phillip noted in his letter. However, Cross Country accepts that clients may no longer have the proof of purchase of a specific item. In that instance, all we ask is that the client submits a photograph and description of the item i.e. make, model, serial no, when and where purchased. Once this is noted on the clients file, there can be no discrepancy about what is being claimed for and what needs to be replaced.*

*In the 4x4 market, we accept that buddies sometimes barter and swap accessories. In this instance all we ask is that an estimated market value be obtained from a reputable company so that we can note the correct value for insurance and claims purposes.*

*I trust this will assist in clarifying the matter.*

Kind regards

Cal - CCIC





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### **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
- Handle Bar mount R185
- Suction mount R270 (Other mounts available on request)
- SD Card Lexar 16 Gig R499 (32Gig cards available on request...)

Contact: [4x4offroad@mweb.co.za](mailto:4x4offroad@mweb.co.za) for the best quote in GP!!!

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## HEKPOORT 4x4 DAY - 15 & 16 OCTOBER 2011

Hekpoort Primary is hosting their annual 4x4 family weekend.

**Saturday 15 October** drivers and their 4x4 vehicles will show their driving skills on our extreme 4x4 course. Tasty food will be available. We invite the whole family as there is ample to do and enjoy. Safe overnight campsites with ablution available @ only R100 per stand (max 4 persons) R50 per person extra!

**Sunday 16 October** This will be the last time we do the Sunday route in this format. Thus we are going to make it a special one and only 40 vehicles will be accommodated on Sunday. Advance booking essential to avoid disappointment. We will also serve a proper "boere breakfast" with lekker home made bread.

### *FREE COMPETITION/CHALLENGE to Clubs/Vehicles!!!!*

The score of 5 Vehicles from a club or team will be added together to get an average. This way a winning club/team will be determined. Clubs/teams (eg. TOYOTA vs LANDROVER or Brits Club vs Randfontein Club) can challenge each other! There's no entry fee!!!

### **COST:**

Competition: R250 entry fee per vehicle (Driver and navigator –gate entry included)

Spectators: Only R20 per adult  
Children R10

Sunday route: R200 per vehicle (2 food vouchers included)  
R30 pp extra

### **CONTACT:**

Alex 082 561 6300 / Jaco 082 854 5422

## FORD SOUTH AFRICA INITIATES 'THE GLOBAL RANGER CHALLENGE'

PRETORIA, South Africa — Ford Motor Company South Africa (FMCSA) announced the start of 'The Global Ranger Challenge', an online initiative to give drivers across South Africa a chance to test the All-New Ranger in the toughest conditions, on July 27.

The public can participate online by submitting a scenario they believe will be the ultimate challenge for the All-New Ranger. Three finalists will then be chosen to put the Ranger through its paces in these tough, real-world situations over a period of ten days. Each finalist will capture their nominated challenge in a two-minute video clip, which will then be uploaded to the official Ranger Challenge website for the general public to vote on through October and November 2011. The winner, with the maximum number of online votes will receive a new Ford Ranger 3.2 TDCi 4x2 Manual XLT Double Cab and will be announced in November 2011.

"The Ford Ranger Challenge gives us a unique opportunity to reach out to consumers around South Africa and ask them either to participate or simply to follow the contestants as they test the all-new Ranger in tough, real-life conditions even before it officially goes on sale," said Ben Pillay, marketing manager, FMCSA.

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"We believe the new Ranger is a smart and tough truck. We want consumers to see it in action as our challengers put it through its paces."

Please visit the official Ford Ranger Challenge website at <http://www.fordrangerchallenge.co.za> for more information.

## **BABOONS PASS DVD FOR SALE**

I recently did a DVD of the Baboons Pass it got lots of attention on the 4x4 community web site and was featured in the leisure wheels magazine. I would like to distribute the DVD and was wondering what your cost would be to place it in one of your monthly mails. **(FREE! Ed)**

The DVD is in 2 parts:

- 1- 26min Highlight with voice over
- 2- Full DVD 1hr and 40 min no voice

Cost is R150 – R50 for postage. To order send mail to [4x4video@telkomsa.net](mailto:4x4video@telkomsa.net). You tube link of short clip: <http://youtu.be/pZJnmTjNueY>

Paul Ruschenbaum - 4x4 Adventure Video  
Tel: 041 379 4848 / Cel: 082 56 99 225 / Fax: 086 6935984  
[www.4x4video.co.za](http://www.4x4video.co.za)

## **WHAT I LEARNT ON A BIRDS OF PREY COURSE**

July 27, 2011. By: Romi Boom

Her fascination with birds of prey has only intensified since attending a weekend course on raptor identification, writes *Wild* ed Romi Boom. They are notoriously difficult to identify, and from now on she's using a completely different system to the usual field guide approach.

Southern Africa has 71 species of diurnal and 12 species of nocturnal raptors. Many are confusingly similar and identifying them becomes even more difficult because of the variations within the species, and a range of colour forms: juveniles may differ from immature, sub-adult and adult birds, or males and females. Fortunately I am slightly less daunted after looking at thousands of slides, presented by Ulrich Oberprieler, co-author of *The Raptor Guide of Southern Africa* and *The Bird Guide of Southern Africa*.

Not that raptor identification has become a piece of cake with my new-found savvy. These birds are rare, often occurring in undisturbed areas like our national parks and reserves. Many are secretive, only seen at a distance and in flight. So how to familiarise yourself with something that you rarely encounter?

The foundation of Ulrich's method is to forget about colouring. Raptors are not kingfishers. First try to establish which group the bird belongs to. This is the most important step. (See his classification below.) Then you should note the distribution and the habitat. Most raptors are confined to a specific habitat.

Next you look at size and body shape. Once you can recognise the general body shape, you're on your way. Your choice will have been narrowed down to a few species only. So I learnt that Osprey have a longer tail than the African Fish-Eagle, that vultures have short tails because they

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don't need to steer much. Harriers don't have pointed wings, because they don't have to fly fast.

Subsequently you note the bird's behaviour. Is it perching, soaring overhead, hovering over an open habitat? For example, kites are very good fliers that hover frequently, dropping on small mammals or insects in the grass, and often perch on telephone poles.

Bearing in mind that colour variations occur, best to look instead for specific patterns: does it have a moustachial stripe, is the belly barred or streaked, is the rump white? The colour of the eyes is important, so too the cere and the legs. The Little Sparrowhawk has a yellow cere, not to be confused with the African Goshawk, which has a grey cere. While the Spotted Eagle-Owl has yellow eyes, the Cape Eagle-Owl has orange eyes.

Ulrich's classification is based on eleven raptor groups, notably the secretarybird; fish-eating raptors; vultures; eagles and hawk-eagles; snake-eagles; buzzards; sparrowhawks and goshawks; harriers; kites; falcons and kestrels; owls. For more information, contact Ulrich Ecoventures at [ulrich@ulrich.co.za](mailto:ulrich@ulrich.co.za).

### **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

### **MITSUBISHI DIVORCES MERCEDES IN SA**

The Mitsubishi brand has been distributed by Mercedes-Benz in South Africa for the last 16 years, but that's all set to change from 1 July, when Imperial Holdings will take over responsibility for the Japanese brand.

Not only does the agreement mean that the current range will continue to be imported, namely the Triton, Pajero, Pajero Sport, Outlander and Lancer but The parent company and Imperial are already evaluating other possible range additions for the future.

The most sensible of those to consider would, of course, be Mitsubishi's new global compact car, pictured here. The Thai-built hatchback, which will be powered by 1.0- and 1.2-litre engines, goes into production next year and it would certainly be a stylish addition to our entry level market. Of course, for the petrolheads among us, the one to pray for is something from the Evolution stable.

Mitsubishi's local distribution will take place under the chairmanship of Osman Arbee, who is also the chairman of the Automotive Retail Division of Imperial Holdings. On the changeover, Arbee stated: "Customers can rest assured that they will continue to enjoy superior products, and

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experience the level of service and customer support to which they have been accustomed in the past, as there will be a seamless transition of the required support processes.

"We are confident that prospective and existing customers will enjoy and benefit from the superb market focus for which Imperial Holdings is renowned."

## **BOSVELD RUMOER**

Die bosveld is in Rep en Roer! 30 September tot 2 Oktober gaan ons RUMOER! Ons noem dit Bosrumoer!

2011 sal altyd bekend staan as die jaar waarin Zeerust weer terug op die kaart geplaas is. Zeerust was vroeër die hart van die Groter Marico distrik. Ons gaan dit weer word. Bosrumoer is 'n projek wat fondse gaan insamel en geleentheid bied vir verskeie instansies in Zeerust en landswyd om hulself te reklameer. Die Hervormde Kerk Zeerust, Bybelgenootskap van SA, SA Nasionale Bloeddiens, DBV Zeerust en ander instansies is al betrokke. Enige instansie wat belangstel om deel te wees van die Bosrumoer word uitgenooi om ons te kontak. Ons wil graag ons dorp, Zeerust en die Bosveld as avontuur en natuur bestemming reklameer.

Om hierdie doel te bereik, bied ons 'n groot verskeidenheid adrenaliengevulde en rumoerige aktiwiteite aan. Dit begin met 'n Reuse Rumoerige Duitse fees op Vrydag 30 September 2011. Saterdag oggend spring ons weg met 'n Feestelike STAP/DRAF vir BYBELS. Ons doen dit om die Bybelgenootskap te help om in Bybelbehoefes te voorsien.

Daarna vind 'n klomp Adrenalien gevulde Items plaas. Die **Survivor Games** is eintlik die groot item van die dag. Hier word die **Taaiste Moer** van die **Bosrumoer** bepaal. Instansies skryf spanne van 4 deelnemers in om teen mekaar deel te neem. Die pryse vir die wenners is ter waarde van **R10 000** per kategorie. Daar is Perde Gymkana met groot pryse, Motorfiets en Quad wedrenne(**Vinnigste Moer**), 'n Mountain Bike Classic wedren(**Sterkste Moer**), .22 Kaliber Skyfskiet (**Skerpste Moer**) Met 'n .50 Swartkrytgeweer ter waarde van **R7 000** as prys, Pypkar Preritte, Paintball speletjies, die befaamde Waterballs. Een van hoogtepunte is 'n Diamand Stormloop(**Rykste Moer**) met 12 diamante ter waarde van oor die R40 000as pryse. (Sertifikate word voorsien.)

Saam met dit alles word daar ook aandag gegee aan die estetiese. Slimfit bied 'n Babakompetisie en 'n Mej Zeerust kompetisie aan. Vanaf 9 uur die oggend gaan Dennis die nar die kleuters en Laerskoolkinders besighou met narstreke, kulkunsies, avontuur aktiwiteite, gesigverf en alles wat narre gewoonlik doen.

Vanaf 3 uur die middag gaan kunstenaars soos Zandr , Joe F, Pieter Smith, David Fourie en Arno Jordaan die skares vermaak. U kan gerus gaan inloer op ons webwerf by: [www.bosrumoer.co.za](http://www.bosrumoer.co.za). Indien u daar 'n item sien waarin u belangstel nooi ons u uit om ons in die verband te skakel. U kan dit doen deur op een van die skakels op die webblad te klik.

Ons nooi almal uit om die naweek saam met ons te kom geniet in tipiese bosveld styl.

## **SEAL CULLING – STOP THIS ACTIVITY!!!!**

We firmly believe that seal culling is environmentally wrong and cruel. Like you, we want to see it end.





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BUT

We are also completely against the way that the call to boycott Namibia threatens and damages tourism, community based tourism, conservation and ecosystems, for the following reasons:

# AUGUST 2011

### Human development

Namibia's policy of community based natural resource management puts ownership and use of natural resources in the hands of communities. Over ten percent of Namibia's population live in areas with community based tourism.

If tourism and community based tourism fail, they cannot support the people who rely on them for employment, development of community infrastructure and human development aspects such as nutrition, primary health, education, child care, care for the elderly and family cohesion.

### Conservation and ecosystems

Community based tourism promotes management of vulnerable species. A live animal can now be valued for its tourism income. Travellers pay levies to communities. If fewer travellers arrive there will be less income for communities and an increase in poaching of species and populations that have rebounded from the brink of extinction, for instance black rhinos and desert elephants.

Community based tourism pays for damage to communities where animals destroy or damage agricultural land, property and livestock. If tourism declines it will not be able to pay communities for losses, and so killing of wild animals will increase.

If tourism is seen as a poor source of income, the ability of tourism to promote community based activities will be damaged in future.

### The impact of a boycott

The call to boycott threatens people and entire ecosystems, as well as decades of work on community conservation and tourism partnership. It is a huge, very damaging step backwards. It has not made any difference to the seals.

### The way forward 1: consultation

In Namibian culture, effective decisions are made by discussion with and agreement between all role players. The strides that have been made in conservation are a result of consultation between arms of the government, industry bodies, NGOs, environmentalists, researchers, communities, tourism companies and other stakeholders.

Consultation on seal culling is needed between

- The government
- The tourism industry
- The fishing industry
- Local conservationists
- Other local stakeholders

As the organisations spearheading the boycott call are not Namibian and are employing heated emotion instead of consultation, it is highly unlikely that they will have any impact other than causing damage to people and wildlife. The fact that they are knowingly trying to do damage



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Namibia's economy means they will not be accepted in dialogue by most stakeholders, and will not have a say.

### **The way forward 2: credible, independent research**

Independent research on the ecological and economic impact of Namibian seal culling is needed. As stated above, emotional arguments will not help. Verifiable, credible independent research must be collated and disseminated. Without accepted, trusted, independent research, the arguments will not end.

### **The way forward 3: job replacement**

The seal culling industry provides seasonal employment means income for impoverished local individuals and families. These jobs will have to be replaced with other types of employment.

### **In closing**

- We take the personal viewpoint that seal culling needs to end.
- Many Namibian organisations and companies have the same view.
- *Many organisations, businesses and conservationists will not state their views for fear of being associated with the boycott, and so cannot make a difference.*
- The organisations which have called for the boycott have not thought hard about what they are doing and are causing greater damage than they will admit.
- External pressure has not helped the seals.

By supporting the organisations which call for the boycott of Namibian tourism, or by participating in the boycott, you run the risk of adding to the damage.

Happy travels  
The Tour Brief Team - Namibia

### **THE LARGEST CONSERVATION AREA ON EARTH**

KAZA has been formally proclaimed by signing of the treaty by five nations. The conservation area, which encompasses parts of Angola, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana and north-eastern Namibia is almost the size of Sweden, and is the largest of its kind on earth.

Tourism is seen as an important part of creating benefits for socio-economic development in the park. It also provides exceptional route planning opportunities for the tourism industry, and a potential new product for the tourism industries of the five countries. Find more on this below.

### **The Purros elephant**

In the last few weeks, there have been several attacks by animals on people. One of these was on a tourist from Spain, and his son. The incident was carried in local news, and the elephant was subsequently shot.

Judging by the report, the traveller must have startled the creature and angered it while walking through a patch of bush. Wildlife is often hard to spot amongst vegetation, and this is particularly the case with elephants. Although they are huge, they are not immediately obvious if the bushes or trees are high. At night, they are even more difficult to see owing to their dusty skin.

There are three factors which contribute to wildlife attacks. Firstly, many travellers arrive without





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any experience in the wild, and try to get as close as possible to wildlife. Secondly, more destinations are opening, and although travellers are ready to visit them, the wildlife is not yet used to visits from humans. Thirdly, many travellers opt for 'self-drives' and do not have the benefit of an experienced guide.

It is most important that travellers must be told to be on the lookout for wild animals and must stay out of their way. Also tell your travellers to avoid paths where the bush is dense.

If there are questions on the incident, and the safety of Namibia as a wildlife destination, please answer by saying that safe behaviour around wildlife saves lives. The very best rule is to keep a distance from wildlife. Incidents with animals are relatively few, and accidents in vehicles are, in general, the bigger threat to travellers. Please drive safely as well.

Happy travels  
The Tour Brief Team

### **PEPERE ISLAND – COME AND VISIT!!!!**

At Pepere Island we offer mokoro rides, game walks and bird watching. There are wooden cabins, restaurant and bar. We can cater for you or you can camp and cater for yourself. Spend at least 2 nights at Pepere Island and listen to lion, elephant, buffalo, hyena and other game at night.

We also offer a 7 days special Swamp stop, Pepere Island, Tsodilo Hills, Kazan and Victoria Falls. Visit our website: [www.swampstop.com](http://www.swampstop.com) please note our correct contact no's and email address. Email: [carl@ngami.net](mailto:carl@ngami.net). Tel: +267 75670252 or 72610071 Theo or Sylvia

### **SHEM COMPION IS LAUNCHING A NEW BOOK!!!**

The last few months have seen me working hard on the follow up to Insiders Guide: Top wildlife photography spots in South Africa. The new book features Namibia and Botswana as the destinations covered. It follows the same easy to use layout and has excellent photo tips, information and images to compliment the stunning locations these countries have to offer.

All going well, you can expect it in November this year. I have a number of exciting projects in line, but those will have to wait for now...

### **CROSS THE ZAMBEZI TI LIUWA PLAIN NATIONAL PARK NOW...**

Dear All,

Just a short email to let everyone know access across the Zambezi River to Liuwa Plain National Park is now officially open. African Park's team crossed the floodplain last Monday and apart from 3 or 4 challenging spots, we travelled well.

I also take this opportunity to share with you a "hot off the press" article about Liuwa's wild dogs and hyenas, published on Africa Geographic in this month of August 2011. I hope this wets your appetite for an unforgettable in experience in Barotseland. As usual, please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have. And if you are ready to make a reservation then please, go straight to [liuwatourism@african-parks.org](mailto:liuwatourism@african-parks.org) and Charity will help you with it.

I look forward to see you here in the next few months!

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The banner features various plastic products including a white tray, a red cooler, a blue cooler, and a green cooler, along with a person using a tool on a mold.



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Best wishes,  
Raquel Filgueiras Seybert  
Park Manager  
Liuwa Plain National Park - African Parks Zambia  
Cell: +260 979611975  
Email. [liuwainfo@african-parks.org](mailto:liuwainfo@african-parks.org)  
[www.african-parks.org](http://www.african-parks.org)

## **REFRESHED TRITON BAKKIE NOW AN IMPORT**

It may seem like a small facelift at face value, but the new Mitsubishi Triton marks a new era for the bakkie range in South Africa. With the Mitsubishi brand now headed by Imperial Holdings, thus divorced from Daimler, this marks the first time in 16 years that Mitsubishi bakkies will no longer be assembled in South Africa.

Instead, the new Triton is fully imported from Thailand and this, according to the company, will allow more flexibility when it comes to specification and supply. Mitsubishi also plans to introduce a single cab version of the Triton for the first time. This will happen in the second quarter of next year and Mitsubishi is hoping this more workhorse-oriented model will regain the success enjoyed by the Colt single cabs of yore.

Subtly restyled, you can (just barely) tell the new Triton apart by its new grille, headlights and bumper up front, fresh alloy wheel designs and restyled step bumper at the back. For now, the range will consist of three double cab and two club cab models, each offering a choice between rear-wheel drive and four-wheel drive.

On the engine front, the choice is between two turbodiesels and one petrol. At entry level is a 2.4-litre petrol that pushes 94kW at 5250rpm and 194Nm at 4000rpm, while the diesel range comprises of a 2.5 that's good for 100kW at 4000rpm and 314Nm at 2000rpm and a 3.2 that produces 118kW at 3800rpm and 343Nm at 2000rpm.

The 2.4 petrol engine is only offered in double cab guise, while both body styles offer the 2.5 in 4x2 form and the 3.2 as a 4x4. 4x4 models offer the EasySelect 4WD system that allows the selection of 4H on-the-fly at speeds up to 100km/h and, of course, low range gear ratios are also in place as is a rear diff lock. The Tritons boast a ground clearance of 205mm, with approach and departure angles of 33.4 and 23.8 degrees respectively.

This bakkie also offers comprehensive instrumentation, with the restyled 'RV' metre on the dashboard hosting a compass, barometer, altimeter and outside temperature reading. You'll also find all the expected luxury kit in the cabin, including fully automatic climate control, a six-speaker MP3/CD sound system and electric windows and mirrors.

The Triton is also among the safest ladder-frame bakkies on the block, having attained a four-star EuroNCAP rating, and safety features include the usual two airbags and ABS brakes.

THE BILL:  
CLUB CAB:  
2.5 Di-DC 4x2 - R269 900

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3.2 Di-DC 4x4 - R339 400

DOUBLE CAB:

2.4 MPi 4x2 - R285 100

2.5 Di-DC 4x2 - R314 300

3.2 Di-DC 4x4 - R380 300

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Prices include a three-year/100 000km warranty and five-year/100 000km service plan. Service intervals are pegged at 15 000km for the 2.4 petrol and 10 000km for the diesel versions.

## MALEALEA LODGE WORTH A DEFINITE VISIT

Malealea offers 'Lesotho in a nutshell' and is perfect for a 2 or 3 night stay en route from Johannesburg to Cape Town, East London or Port Elizabeth. Lesotho is a world without fences. Breath taking scenery abounds and every season has unique attractions. Malealea Lodge and Pony Trek Centre is situated in a remote part of Western Lesotho, breath taking in its beauty with a chance to experience traditional Basotho life. Various Basotho Children's choirs and a Basotho Band, using their homemade instruments, entertain the guests in the evenings.

Malealea Lodge was started by the Jones family. Both Mick & Di, born in Lesotho are accredited with more local knowledge than anyone. Jacqui, Glenn and Debbie, Mick and Di's children who grew up in Lesotho and Michael Deutschmann have since joined the team.

We offer pony trekking and hiking trails ranging from 1 hour to 6 days and there are excellent 4x4 and mountain biking routes. Malealea has a wide variety of accommodation catering for various needs and budgets.

For the more adventurous traveller, please visit [www.malealeatours.com](http://www.malealeatours.com) for our add-on itinerary to Moorosi chalets. Malealea tours can also advise on trout fishing areas and excellent 4 x4, motorbiking and mountain biking routes throughout Lesotho.

No Telephones At Malealea Lodge. South African Contact Numbers

Cell: 082-552-4215/ Fax: +27 (0) 866 481 815

E-Mail: [malealea@mweb.co.za](mailto:malealea@mweb.co.za)

Web: [www.malealea.co.ls](http://www.malealea.co.ls) / [www.Malealea.com](http://www.Malealea.com)

GPS Co-Ordinates: Lat=-29.8281708192, Lon=27.6001111873

## RESERVE BEEFS UP SECURITY AFTER ATTACK ON RHINOS

JANIS KINNEAR - Staff Reporter

SECURITY at Aquila Private Game Reserve near Touws River is being beefed up after a brutal attack by poachers at the weekend left one rhino dead and one battling for survival. Two male rhinos and a female were attacked on Saturday morning by poachers who reserve owner Searl Derman believes were armed with chainsaws, machetes and pangas.

They were first shot with tranquilliser darts, which Derman said could cause fatal muscle and organ damage. Aquila's anti-poaching team found the first male rhino with his front horn removed. Derman believed the team had startled the poachers – the animal's second horn was only sawn halfway off when he was found. "They wouldn't just leave a R1 million horn behind," he said. The rhino, one of the first to be homed at Aquila, is now battling to stay alive. "It's been a very

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traumatic day. We've been trying, struggling, to get water to him and give injections," said Derman.

The rhino suffered huge blood loss and a bad leg injury, he said. The young female rhino was found with a dart in her shoulder, but had not been dehorned. She was given an antidote and was recovering well, Derman said. Aquila's anti-poaching team set out to find the third rhino, which was unaccounted for. Helicopters and a light aircraft scoured the reserve and eventually found the animal.

"It was a massacre," said a shattered Derman. "He must have had his face hacked off with a chainsaw and the horns axed off with machetes, from the cut marks we saw. "It was the hardest moment of my life." The incident – the third attack on rhinos at the reserve this year – has prompted Derman to further bulk up security measures at the reserve.

Before Saturday's attack, there were six rhino on the reserve. Derman said he planned to buy additional "firepower", and 24 guards had been placed at strategic points along the reserve's boundaries. Vehicles would patrol the veld 24 hours a day, he said. Derman is offering a reward of R100 000 to anyone with information about the attack.

Provincial police spokesman Captain FC van Wyk confirmed yesterday that no arrests had been made. A case of rhino poaching had been opened for investigation, Van Wyk said.

## **DABERAS ECO FARM ALERTS US TO MORE MINING CARNAGE**

Hallo almal

'n Maatskappy genaamd TTK Investments (Pty) Ltd doen aansoek om te prospekter in die Augrabiesvalle Nasionale Park. Ons het 'n beperkte tyd om te reageer. Doen ons asb 'n guns en stuur 'n e-pos aan jou vriende met die versoek om die "Department of Mineral Resources" (DMR) in Springbok te versoek om dit goed te keur of af te keur.

Gebruik maar die link : Jasper Nieuwoudt [jasper.nieuwoudt@dmr.gov.za](mailto:jasper.nieuwoudt@dmr.gov.za) en die verwysing is **11782. Moet asb nie tyd verspil nie.**

TTK Investments is applying for prospecting rights in the Augrabies Falls National Park. We have a limited period to object or approve of it. This is public land which is earmarked for the re-introduction of desert black rhino in future. Please send an e-mail response to the Department of Mineral Resources in Springbok, the official who can receive an e-mail is Mr Jasper Nieuwoudt : [jasper.nieuwoudt@dmr.gov.za](mailto:jasper.nieuwoudt@dmr.gov.za) and forward the information to people who might have an interest in the preservation of our National Parks. The reference no is **11782. Please dont delay.**

Greetings

Kobus van Copenhagen - Daberas

## **FURORE OVER MINING AT SUDWALA CAVES**

Environmentalists are furious about the reopening of a gold mine next to the Sudwala Caves, regarded as the oldest known caves in the world and a popular tourist draw card in Mpumalanga.

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Omaruru Minerals, a local mining company with Dutch investors, plans to mine the Mankele mountain that houses the caves and extract 1.2-million tons of ore over the next 10 years. It has already started processing old mine dumps on the site. Members of the local community-based Houtbosloop Environmental Action Link (Heal) said this week that mining could destroy the caves, formed over a period of about 3000-million years in an ancient inland seabed.

## **4 X 4 ROUTES INTO FISH RIVER CANYON**

Test your driving skills by experiencing the ragged vastness of the second largest canyon of the world – the Fish River Canyon! This canyon trip is guaranteed to be the most amazing experience of your life!

These sheer rock formations will thrill you into an adrenaline rush of adventure and action. Tackle the sharp descent to the bottom of this magnificent canyon on clearly indicated 4x4 routes. After a refreshing swim or a relaxing walk at the bottom of the canyon you can start your way back to the Lodge where our competent team awaits your arrival with refreshments. To avoid the afternoon heat of Africa be sure to start your journey at sunrise! Both half day and full day excursions are available – in the company of our trained guides or on your own.

Be a true adventurer and spend a night or two under the clear African night sky. Overnight facilities at one of our campsites:

- Camp Sabie pits: in the shade of old trees we offer you fresh water, toilet and shower facilities, braai area
- Camp Louwen River: offers you shade, wind protection, a refreshing natural water pool, toilets and braai facilities

GPS routes and coordinates are available on request. Arrangements could be made on your behalf for water, refreshments and snacks to be taken along.

Make sure to sign your indemnity forms. Vogelstrasskluft lodge will not be held responsible for any injury or loss of life and / or property. All Activities on own risk!!

Joseph Snyman

Adventure Centre Manager - Vogelstrasskluft Lodge

[joseph.snyman@vogelstrasskluft.com](mailto:joseph.snyman@vogelstrasskluft.com)

[adventure@vogelstrasskluft.com](mailto:adventure@vogelstrasskluft.com)

[www.vogelstrasskluft.com](http://www.vogelstrasskluft.com) - Keetmanshoop, Namibia

Tel : +264 (0) 63 683086 / Sel : +264 (0) 81 335 1149 / Fax : +264 (0) 63 683087

## **DIGGERS HOLE 4x4 DAY**

Ons beplan 'n lekker 4x4 dag vir die hele familie (sien aangeheg). Dit vind plaas op die 3de September 2011 by Diggers Hole 4x4 baan. Alle fondse wat ingesamel word, is ten bate van Laerskool Kameelfontein.

Kontak my gerus of stuur 'n epos indien u belangstel. Dankie en groete,

Herman

DIGGERS HOLE 4X4 TRACK & VENUE

MINNAARSPLAAS

Tel: 079 855 9196 / Fax: 086 274 2866

Email: [herman@vmstech.co.za](mailto:herman@vmstech.co.za)





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## RANGER ARRESTED FOR RHINO POACHING IN KNP

Officials say a game ranger at South Africa's flagship Kruger National Park has been arrested in connection with rhino poaching. The ranger, who has yet to appear in court and therefore cannot be named, was arrested after he was linked to previous rhino poaching incidents that took place in the Park.

South Africa has deployed soldiers in Kruger to help rangers confront an upsurge in poaching supported by international syndicates that killed 333 rhino last year. This year 227 rhino and 15 alleged poachers have been killed, and 131 suspects have been arrested as the price of rhino horn surpasses gold.

## 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:

**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](mailto: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

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## *Hit the Trail ... / ... continues*

### CRIMINALS USE 'MAGIC' STARTER TO TAKE CARS

2011-08-29 10:50 - Thamsanqa Magubane, The Witness – Pietermaritzburg

Police say an electronic device used by auto manufacturers to jump-start a vehicle when the owners have lost the ignition key, is increasingly being used by criminals to steal cars.

Dubbed “magic start”, Pietermaritzburg police say especially Toyotas are being targeted - including Hiluxes and Fortunas. Detective Sergeant Amith Budhram explained how thieves steal vehicles using “magic start”, which he described as a computer-like box with three wires coming from the sides.

“The box is used by car manufacturers to start cars when the owner has lost the key, but now the criminals have got their hands on them. “Every car key that was manufactured after 2000 has a microchip that is unique to that car and carries the information of that car.”

“When the driver inserts the key in the ignition the microchip is quickly read and if the information is correct a signal is sent to the car’s computer, which is the brain of the car that enables all the controls to function.”

The criminals are using the “magic start” device to bypass this process. “What they do is plug the ‘magic start’ into the car’s electronics and the battery and start the car, bypassing the computer.”

Budhram said the police suspect that criminals are using the remotes for gates to jam vehicle remotes to prevent the doors from locking and then open the hood, wire up the “magic start” and drive off with the vehicle.

### IS YOUR CHILD SEAT POISONOUS?

More than half the children’s car seats sold in the United States contain hazardous chemicals. Sixty percent of 150 car seats tested by the Michigan-based Ecology Centre were found to contain chemicals such as bromine and chlorine, which points to the presence of polyvinyl chlorate (PVC).

Studies have shown flame retardants containing bromine can permanently affect children’s brains, while PVC has been classified by the US Environmental Protection Administration as a known human carcinogen. When PVC is burned or dumped in landfills, dioxins - highly toxic chemicals that build up in the food chain and can cause cancer, as well as harm the immune and reproductive systems - are released into the air and water.

The Ecology Centre report said: “Heat and UV exposure in cars can accelerate the breakdown of these chemicals and possibly increase their toxicity. “Babies are the most vulnerable because their immune systems are still developing and they spend many hours in their car seats.”

Researchers compiled a list of the best and worst car seats in terms of the chemicals found in them, and posted it on the HealthyStuff.org website. Team leader Jeff Gearhart said levels of





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bromine varied between different models of the same make, with the source usually being a flame retardant used in the upholstery or cushioning.

The least toxic infant seats were Italian brand Chicco's KeyFit 30 in the Limonata color scheme, Graco Snugride 35 in Laguna Bay and Combi Shuttle 33 in Cranberry Noche. Two Graco infant seats with different upholstery - the Snugride 35 in red and black and Snugride 30 in Asprey - were meanwhile among the most toxic.

The Ecology Centre has conducted more than 20 000 tests for toxic chemicals on about 7000 consumer products since 1997, using an x-ray fluorescence machine that identifies their chemical constituents in less than 60 seconds. - AFP

### KARIBA: DID YOU KNOW.....

- The water temperature of Lake Kariba varies between 20°C and 30° C
- Lake Kariba was built on the confluence of Zambezi and Sanyati Rivers.
- The top of the dam wall is lit by 35 flood lights at night bathing the wall into a spectacular sight.
- Inside the dam wall are 214 stress-testers that measure stress in 3D.
- Kariba Dam wall is designed to overflow.
- Kariba Dam wall is designed to withstand an earthquake.
- The Mythical Lake Kariba and the Mighty Zambezi form the 7th wonder of Zimbabwe's new tourism brand "**A World of Wonders**".

This information is provided in the latest issue of *Only in Kariba*, a tourism e-newsletter published by the Zimbabwe Tourism Authority in Kariba.

To subscribe to this e-newsletter e-mail the ZTA in Kariba via this link: [Zimbabwe Tourism Authority](http://www.zimbabwe-tourism-authority.com) - (extracted from [www.wildzambezi.com](http://www.wildzambezi.com))

### HUNTED LEOPARD ATTACKS COUPLE

A husband and wife guiding team were attacked by a leopard at a game farm near Polokwane on Sunday morning, paramedics said. A foreign trophy hunter had shot and injured a leopard late on Saturday afternoon, and a tracking party set out to find the animal, said ER24 spokesperson Andre Visser. Instead, the injured leopard stalked and attacked the group, at around 9am on Sunday.

The leopard went for the trophy hunter, but the male guide, believed to be in his mid-thirties, reportedly stepped in front of his client. The leopard mauled the man's left shoulder, arm, and abdomen, while his wife received multiple lacerations to her arm.

### NEW LASER SYSTEM MAY LEAD TO REDUCED AUTO EMISSIONS, ENHANCED FUEL EFFICIENCY

For more than 150 years, spark plugs have powered internal combustion engines. Automakers are now one step closer to being able to replace this long-standing technology with laser igniters, which will enable cleaner, more efficient, and more economical vehicles.

In the past, lasers strong enough to ignite an engine's air-fuel mixtures were too large to fit under an automobile's hood. At this year's Conference on Lasers and Electro Optics (CLEO: 2011), held





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in Baltimore May 1 - 6, researchers from Japan described the first multibeam laser system small enough to screw into an engine's cylinder head.

Equally significant, the new laser system is made from ceramics, and could be produced inexpensively in large volumes, according to one of the presentation's authors, Takunori Taira of Japan's National Institutes of Natural Sciences. According to Taira, conventional spark plugs pose a barrier to improving fuel economy and reducing emissions of nitrogen oxides (NOx), a key component of smog.

Spark plugs work by sending small, high-voltage electrical sparks across a gap between two metal electrodes. The spark ignites the air-fuel mixture in the engine's cylinder — producing a controlled explosion that forces the piston down to the bottom of the cylinder, generating the horsepower needed to move the vehicle.

Engines make NOx as a byproduct of combustion. If engines ran leaner – burnt more air and less fuel – they would produce significantly smaller NOx emissions.

Spark plugs can ignite leaner fuel mixtures, but only by increasing spark energy. Unfortunately, these high voltages erode spark plug electrodes so fast, the solution is not economical. By contrast, lasers, which ignite the air-fuel mixture with concentrated optical energy, have no electrodes and are not affected.

Lasers also improve efficiency. Conventional spark plugs sit on top of the cylinder and only ignite the air-fuel mixture close to them. The relatively cold metal of nearby electrodes and cylinder walls absorbs heat from the explosion, quenching the flame front just as it starts to expand.

Lasers can focus their beams directly into the center of the mixture. Without quenching, the flame front expands more symmetrically and up to three times faster than those produced by spark plugs. Equally important, lasers inject their energy within nanoseconds, compared with milliseconds for spark plugs.

Lasers promise less pollution and greater fuel efficiency, but making small, powerful lasers has, until now, proven hard. To ignite combustion, a laser must focus light to approximately 100 gigawatts per square centimeter with short pulses of more than 10 millijoules each.

Taira's research team overcame this problem by making composite lasers from ceramic powders. The team heats the powders to fuse them into optically transparent solids and embeds metal ions in them to tune their properties.

Ceramics are easier to tune optically than conventional crystals. They are also much stronger, more durable, and thermally conductive, so they can dissipate the heat from an engine without breaking down.

Taira's team built its laser from two yttrium-aluminum-gallium (YAG) segments, one doped with neodymium, the other with chromium. They bonded the two sections together to form a powerful laser only 9 millimeters in diameter and 11 millimeters long (a bit less than half an inch).



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The composite generates two laser beams that can ignite fuel in two separate locations at the same time. This would produce a flame wall that grows faster and more uniformly than one lit by a single laser. The laser is not strong enough to light the leanest fuel mixtures with a single pulse. By using several 800-picosecond-long pulses, however, they can inject enough energy to ignite the mixture completely.

A commercial automotive engine will require 60 Hz (or pulse trains per second), Taira says. He has already tested the new dual-beam laser at 100 Hz. The team is also at work on a three-beam laser that will enable even faster and more uniform combustion.

The laser-ignition system, although highly promising, is not yet being installed into actual automobiles made in a factory. Taira's team is, however, working with a large spark-plug company and with DENSO Corporation, a member of the Toyota Group. This work is supported by the Japan Science and Technical Agency (JST).

<http://www.elektor.com/news/laser-sparks-revolution-in-internal-combustion.1912070.lynkx>  
<http://www.cleoconference.org/>

## **TOYOTA'S RETRO FJ CRUISER**

Six decades ago the world was recovering from a devastating war, and everybody was building four-wheel drive vehicles, from the American Jeep to the British Land Rover and Mercedes' extraordinary Unimog - and Toyota built the FJ40.

Fast-forward 60 years and Toyota has climbed on to the retro bandwagon with the FJ Cruiser, an unashamed tribute to that first off-roader, but with enough 21st-century attitude to give it some character of its own.

The FJ Cruiser, released in South Africa this week, borrows its straight mesh grille, single round headlights and straight cut, high-mounted bumper from its forebear. The white roof pays tribute to the early FJs, as do the high-mounted air intake and upright windscreen - but the latter has no less than three short-throw windscreen wipers for when the going gets muddy.

Access, however, is unashamedly new-century, with large front doors concealing the handles for two rear-opening 'suicide doors' creating a huge opening in the side of the FJ for loading family and their playtoys, complete with integrated side steps and lots of grab handles.

Motivation is provided by a four-litre V6 petrol engine with variable valve timing, for which Toyota quotes 200kW at 5600rpm and 380Nm at 4400rpm, while burning 11.4 litres per 100km and emitting 267g/km of CO<sub>2</sub>.

That's delivered to the rear wheels - or all four - via a five-speed 'intelligent' autobox with flexible lock-up, which measures road conditions, power requirements and driver inputs to adjust gear selection and gear changes, and a transfer case offering 4x2, 4x4 high and 4x4 low ranges.

Suspension is by double wishbones in front and a four-link set-up with lateral rods at the back, with anti-roll bars at both ends and 17-inch rims, providing 245mm of ground clearance - which Toyota says is the best in the Land Cruiser range.

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Short overhangs allow for an approach angle of 34 degrees, a break-over angle of 29 degrees and a departure angle of 30 degrees, and there are two heavy-duty hooks on the front bumper and one at the rear.

Our launch correspondent, Jesse Adams, was generally impressed with its off-road ability: "I tackled some seriously rocky climbs at the FJ's Gauteng launch this week, and couldn't manage to scrape its undercarriage as I passed over buttock clinching-sized boulders no matter how hard I tried.

"The turning circle is also remarkably good for those tight winding trails, but from the driver's seat it feels wide for some of SA's narrow gauge 4x4 paths." As for its on-road ability: "It's a comfortable vehicle for the road but, like the Hummer it's a little floaty at high speed so no sudden lane changes please," says Jesse.

The FJ's utilitarian theme continues in the cabin, which intends to combine 'functional and funky', with a traditional, squared-off Land Cruiser dashboard, body-colour trim elements, round grab handles and old-fashioned side defrosters.

But 'functional' also means thick rubber flooring, breathable water-repellent upholstery with a urethane undercoat for easy cleaning and an anti-rattle mat in the front console. Spec levels, however, are right up to date with eight-way adjustable front seats, CD/USB sound system, aircon, rear video camera and cruise control among other niceties.

The FJ Cruiser even has a special roof-mounted speaker that uses the roof lining as a membrane for real surround sound. Safety equipment includes six airbags, active front headrests and traction control.

Toyota is offering four variants starting at R435 500 for the 'Base Model' with black grille, fabric upholstery and silver front bumper section. The limited-edition Sport Cruiser (R457 300) has special black paint and badges, extra chrome detailing throughout the exterior, as well as FJ-styled door scuff plates, full wheel cover on the back door and leather seats.

The Trail Cruiser will be available only in metallic grey for R451 700, which gets you a roof rack with integrated driving lamps, blacked hard spare wheel cover, tow bar, all weather carpet sets and Trail badges. The Desert Cruiser at R450 000, in tan only, comes with driving lamps on a front nudge bar, all-weather carpets, rock rails, tow bar and special badges.

Each version comes a three-year or 100 000km warranty and a five-year or 90 000km service plan.

### **NAMIBIAN TIME CHANGE: SUNDAY, 4 SEPT**

On Sunday, 4 September 2011, Namibian time changes from UTC +1 to UTC +2. The time will change at 02h00 (AM). For practical purposes, **set clocks forward 1 hour** (ie. from 01h00 to 02h00). Please ensure that clients understand this, and are ready to wake an hour earlier.

Consultants are advised to check flight arrival and departure times as well as activity times and itineraries. Overseas consultants should note that all **calls from outside of Namibia should be**

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The banner features a yellow background with the company name in large blue letters. Below the name, there are images of various custom-molded plastic products, including a white tray, a red container, a blue container, and a green container. A person is shown using a tool to work on a mold. The text 'Anything's Possible' is written in a cursive font, and 'WE SPECIALISE IN CUSTOM MOULDINGS' is in a bold, sans-serif font. The website URL and phone number are also included.



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**made 1 hour earlier** and the Namibian lunch break will take place 1 hour earlier. The time will not change in the Caprivi, as this area is not subject to summer and winter time changes

The time will change back to summer time on the first Sunday in April 2012 (1 April 2012). For itinerary purposes, note the following:

Day	Sunrise	Sunset
Saturday, 3 September	06h00 (AM)	17h42 (PM)
Sunday, 4 September	06h59 (AM)	18h42 (PM)

Sunrise and sunset times may vary from place to place depending on latitude and longitude.

## THE ENDANGERED WILDLIFE TRUST WOULD BE DELIGHTED IF YOU WOULD JOIN US FOR:

The EWT's Birds of Prey Programme Awards Ceremony, Talk and Dinner at Country Club Johannesburg (Auckland Park) - 13 September 2011. The Private Life of Peregrines on the Cape Peninsula, Presented by Dr Andrew Jenkins

Please join the EWT's Birds of Prey Programme for an Awards Ceremony, Talk and Dinner, where we have the privilege to introduce Dr Andrew Jenkins to present to us on the private life of Peregrines on the Cape Peninsula. The Peregrine Falcon is one of the most widely distributed bird species on earth with more than 20 putative subspecies spread over every major land mass except for Antarctica. Join us for an in-depth conservation discussion on how the demographic consequences of urbanisation and climate change are affecting these elusive birds of prey.

As a young boy with a passing interest in natural history and a developing passion for birds of prey, Andrew Jenkins immigrated from the UK to South Africa in the late 1970's and spent his school years watching Verreaux's Eagles in the nearby Magaliesberg Mountains. After receiving his BSc(honours) degree at the University of Natal, he began an MSc study, based at the Percy Fitzpatrick Institute of African Ornithology on the factors limiting the Peregrine Falcon population in South Africa. This project was later upgraded to PhD research and was finally completed as a comparison of the behavioural ecology of Peregrines and Lanner Falcons in 1998. Andrew has also established and managed the Western Cape Raptor Research Program, and has been involved in bird impact assessment work in South Africa and Lesotho since the early 1990's. He briefly spent some time with the EWT's Wildlife and Energy programme before going full time as an ornithological consultant and founded AVISENSE Consulting cc in 2009. Andrew was the primary author of the "Best practice guidelines for avian monitoring and impact mitigation at proposed wind energy development sites in southern Africa", released by BAWESG in March/April 2011.

The EWT looks forward to seeing you all for a very special evening at the Country Club Johannesburg

Please join us after the talk for a short awards ceremony, where Andre Botha, Manager of the EWT's Birds of Prey Programme will be presenting the "Steven Piper Lifetime Achievement Award" to Dr Alan Kemp and the "Raptor Conservationist of the Year Award" to Dr Andrew Jenkins.





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Non-members – R75 per talk / Members – R50 for talk / Dinner – R115  
Non-members - Talk only R75 or Talk + Dinner R190  
EWT/CCJ members – Talk only R50 or Talk and Dinner R165

*Please note: Dinner reservations need to be booked and paid for by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September*

Country Club Johannesburg, 1 Napier Road, Auckland Park  
Tuesday 13 September 2011  
18h30 for 19h00

RSVP to [nicolav@ewt.org.za](mailto:nicolav@ewt.org.za) or Nicola Vogel on 011 486 1102  
CCJ Members to please RSVP to Cathy Robertson on 011 710 6462 or [cathyr@ccj.co.za](mailto:cathyr@ccj.co.za)

### **SURVIVE THE MUCHINGA 4X4 CHALLENGE**

I would like to introduce the Mpika Tourism Association to your Club. The Association was established in 2009. The Association promotes pro poor community based tourism as part of poverty reduction and promotion of sustainable environmental management.

The Association is involved in promoting Mpika as an emerging Tourism with the Warthog – Munjili as the Route Brand. The Munjili Wilderness Experience Route is made up of unique wildlife species, including the endemic black lechwe; shoebill and the Black Rhino; pristine environment; heritage and historical sites. The Destination is surrounded by four National Parks with great wildlife and landscapes.

The Association will be holding the 1<sup>st</sup> Ever Survive the Muchinga 4X4 Drive Challenge from 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> September 2011. The event will be an exciting experience as participants will go through the Muchinga Escarpment and the amazing untamed wilderness environment down to the Great Luangwa Valley.

The event will draw a number of 4X4 Motor Drivers; Motor Sport men and women in support of the Munjili Conservation. The funds realised will go towards supporting local tourism initiatives and the conservation of the Munjili which is currently highly threatened and poached because of its high market value.

We would like to invite your club to be part of this historical event.

Visit us on [www.openafrica.org/munjiliwilderness](http://www.openafrica.org/munjiliwilderness)

Wesley Litaba Wakunuma  
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### **BATTLE OF THE ACACIA – CAN YOU SAY VACHELLIA?**

Every six years, when the International Botanical Congress meets, it tackles a backlog of problems related to the naming of plants. At the congress in Melbourne, Australia in July 2011, one longstanding debate finally got closure. Who gets the Acacia?

To two different continents, the acacia is more than just a tree – it's an icon. The flat-topped thorn trees silhouetted against a red African sky. The golden wattle of Australia, whose green and gold



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colours inspire the garb of the country's Olympic athletes. For hundreds of years, since Swedish botanist Carl Linnaeus first described the type species of the genus *Acacia* in Africa in 1773, both continents could lay claim to acacia trees. But in the past 30 years, anatomical and genetic analyses demonstrated that Australian and African acacias do not belong in the same genus at all.

So which trees – Australian or African – should be known as actual *Acacia*? Africa has prior claim since the first type species, *Acacia nilotica*, was found there, but Australia has the overwhelming majority of species: more than 1 000, compared with Africa's 80. The issue was seemingly resolved at the 2005 botanical congress in Vienna, when the delegates decided that the acacia would belong to Australia. But another 6 years of debate ensued.

The debate drew to a close when delegates at the 2011 botanical congress voted to uphold the 2005 decision. Australia's acacias will retain the genus name, and the new type species will be the Australian *Acacia penninervis*. African species would be assigned to the genus *Vachellia*. "This closes a difficult chapter in international botany," Keven Thiele, a botanist from the Western Australian Herbarium in Kensington said. "The vote was very clear and supported by a cross-section of the intentional community, not just Australians", Thiele said.  
(sourced from sciencemag.org)

## **THE DREADED BILHARZIA**

Bilharzia, correctly called Schistosomiasis, is a parasitic disease caused by several species of trematodes or flukes, a parasitic worm of the genus *Schistosoma*. Although it has a low mortality rate, schistosomiasis is often a chronic illness that can damage internal organs and, in children, impair growth and cognitive development. The urinary form of schistosomiasis is associated with increased risks for bladder cancer in adults. Schistosomiasis is the second most socioeconomically devastating parasitic disease after malaria. This disease is most commonly found in Asia, Africa, and South America, especially in areas where the water contains numerous freshwater snails, which may carry the parasite. Various species of *Schistosoma* also infect a whole variety of other animals.

In South Africa, cattle, sheep and goats as well as wildlife species such as antelope, buffalo and waterbuck, rodents and carnivores. The survival strategy of this worm involves a life cycle that requires two hosts and fresh water. Parasite eggs are released into the environment from infected individuals, hatching on contact with fresh water to release the free-swimming larvae called miracidium. These larvae infect fresh-water snails by penetrating the snail's foot. These larvae transform into sporocysts which then reproduce asexually, producing thousands of new parasites, known as cercariae, which are the larvae capable of infecting mammals.

There is a belief that you have to have some wound or break in your skin for the bilharzia parasites to enter your system. In fact the cercarial larvae secrete enzymes that break down the skin's protein to enable penetration of the head through the skin. As the larvae penetrates the skin it transforms into a migrating stage. It makes its way through the blood vessels to the lungs where it undergoes further changes before moving to the liver where it feeds, matures and sexually reproduces. The eggs then move into the intestine or bladder and are excreted to begin the cycle again.

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## DEFENDER GETS QUIETER, CLEANER DIESEL

Land Rover's indestructible Defender has been substantially revised for 2012 with a new turbo diesel engine and two new option packs, depending on just how rugged your favourite playground is. But first, a new 2.2-litre diesel will replace the current 2.4-litre engine in mid-November - just a few weeks after it goes on sale in the UK. Despite its smaller capacity and reduced emissions, Land Rover is quoting the same power (90kW at 3500rpm) and torque (360Nm at 2000rpm).

Fuel-injection and combustion chamber design have been updated, says Land Rover, as has the engine management system, to deliver a higher top speed (145km/h versus 130km/h), while CO2 emissions on the combined cycle are down to 266g/km for the 90 and 295g/km for the 110 and 130 models.

Euro-spec models also have a diesel particulate filter, making them the cleanest diesel Defenders yet, and the first to meet EU5 emissions standards. A new, full acoustic engine cover also replaces the previous splash cover, reducing audible engine clatter and improving driving refinement. The GFT MT 82 six-speed gearbox has been retained for 2012, with a slightly lower first gear for easier towing on and off-road, and a longer top gear for smoother cruising and lower open-road fuel consumption - hence the higher top speed.

The gears in most gearboxes are cut and then hardened; those in the Defender's gearbox and transfer case are hardened first and then precision ground for greater durability and smoother, quieter running.

The Defender can trace its roots back to the original Land Rover of 1948 and it has earned an enviable reputation for ruggedness and versatility. As old-fashioned as it is, since the current model's introduction in 2007, the Defender has averaged of 25 000 sales a year worldwide to armed forces, NGO's, utility and retail customers who value capability above fashion.

Land Rover brand director John Edwards said: "The substantial improvements to the Defender in 2007 transformed its on-road comfort whilst retaining its traditional off-road capability. With the introduction of the new 2.2-litre diesel engine and two option packs, the Defender for 2012 now offers still more customer choice."

The COMFORT PACK is for customers who use their defenders mainly on-road, and includes aircon, a CD player with auxiliary input, electric windows and remote central locking. The OFF-ROAD PACK is for serious bundu bashers, with ABS, heavy-duty rims shod with MTR tyres, a tow ball and under-ride protection bar.

All 2012 Defenders will come with tinted glass all round, and a one-piece dashboard moulding, supported on a robust steel rail, to reduce squeaks and rattles. Two styles of dashboard stowage are available for driver and passenger: a practical open-tray design, or a seven-litre lidded compartment on either side.

The short-wheelbase Defender 90 Station Wagon's individually folding rear seats now face forwards instead of inwards and they're now big enough for most adults. The same seats are also available as a third-row option on the 110 station wagon, accessible either through the rear door or by folding the second-row seats

A banner for Pioneer Plastics with a yellow background. The text 'PIONEER PLASTICS' is in large blue letters at the top. Below it, 'Anything's Possible' is written in a blue script font. Underneath that, 'WE SPECIALISE IN CUSTOM MOULDINGS' is in a smaller blue font, followed by the website 'www.pioneerplastics.co.za' and the phone number 'Tel: 012 541 6000'. The banner also features images of various custom moulded plastic parts, including a red toolbox, a blue toolbox, and a white tray.

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That's possible, says the maker, because of the Defender's unique, ladder-frame/aluminium body, modular architecture, which allows three different wheelbases and a total of 14 body styles - bakkies, double-cabs and stations wagons - to be built on the same production line.

## **TOURISM DRAFT BILL OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

The National Department of Tourism has released the Tourism Draft Bill for public comment. The Bill provides for the continued existence of the South African Tourism Board and the establishment and publication of the National Tourism Sector Strategy.

The bill further provides for:

- The establishment of a national information and monitoring system for gathering and disseminating information for the management and development of the industry, including the monitoring and evaluation of the industry for decision making
- The establishment and maintenance of a comprehensive database of information on tourism businesses for purposes of planning and development
- The gazetting of norms and standards and to establish a Code of Conduct for different sectors within the industry
- The development and implementation of a national quality assurance and grading system
- The continued existence of the Tourism Grading Council of South Africa (TGCSA) as a juristic person to implement the grading system

The Bill is open for public comments for a period of sixty (60) days and can be found on NDT's website [www.tourism.gov.za](http://www.tourism.gov.za). Inputs and comments can be forwarded to Mmaditlonki Setwaba, Private Bag X424, Pretoria, 0001; or hand delivered to Tourism House, 17 Trevenna Street, Sunnyside, Pretoria, or Fax to: (012) 444-7101 or by email to [msetwaba@tourism.gov.za](mailto:msetwaba@tourism.gov.za) on or before October 5, 2011

Michael Tatalias

CEO - SATSA - "SATSA means Business"

Southern Africa Tourism Services Association

011-886-9996 (tel) : 011-886-7557 (fax) : satsa-ceo (Skype ID)

## **JOTAM MANAGEMENT SERVICES (Managers of Sectional Title Schemes, Home Owners Association and Rentals)**

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Do not settle for second best. If you are frustrated and feel that you are not receiving the service required for your scheme, contact Retha Malherbe at Jotam Management Services (012 664 4801/ 083 276 7724) for advice and a quotation. Please visit our website [www.jotam.com](http://www.jotam.com) for information on various matters with regard to property management.



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Johan and Retha Malherbe  
Jotam Management Services  
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## **KILLER SHARK CAUSES MAYHEM!!!**

A KILLER shark leapt from the ocean and landed on a boat full of scientists studying the beasts.

The six crew members looked on in horror as the 500kg great white crashed on to the vessel and began to thrash around in a violent rage, severing vital fuel lines. The boffins from Ocean Research — who had been studying the sea creatures off the coast of South Africa — wrapped a rope around the maneater and attempted to pull it back into the water.

But the beast was too big and they were forced to return to the harbour at Mossel Bay, pouring cold water over the shark's gills to keep it alive. The conservation group's co-director Enrico Gennari said it was the first time he had heard of a great white jumping on to a boat. He said the fish could have mistaken the vessel's shadow for prey or been disturbed by another shark.

Team leader Dorien Schroder said: "I heard a splash and saw a great white breach out of the water from one side of the boat hovering, literally, over a crew member on the port side." The shark was eventually lifted back into the water with a crane.

## **GONEREZHOU NATIONAL PARK FEEDBACK**

Wow what a gem of a place, overall we had a **magnificent time** and our passion for Zimbabwe is more intensified than ever before. I brought along a respected journalist on this trip to cover the park, Mark Samuel is the editor of Caravan and Outdoor Life magazine and he has promised us/Zimbabwe the **front cover** of the September edition and approx 11 pages of positive editorial!!

### **1) BEIT BRIDGE**

**OK some bullet points to consider:**

- 1) One of our party was sent back to SA at Beit Bridge as the car he was driving is registered to his own company and he did not have a letter stating that he could take his own vehicle into Zimbabwe. This was a disappointment for him and he was too angry to go back to Mussina and make a letter to appease the officials, sadly he did not join us. The bottom line is that the average tourist needs to do some serious homework to avoid such pitfalls; we will ensure that we cover this point in our notes to our self drive clients.
- 2) Beit Bridge – The border was quiet but it still took us approx one and a half hours to get through, I would hate to see it in busy times. They have erected outside immigration tents on the SA side to deal with I presume an expected outflow of Zimbabweans in the next few weeks? SA side was reasonably quick and painless. On the Zimside I see that ZIMRA have done a "three in one" payment:

- **Carbon Foreign Tax R100**
- **Road Access Fee R70**



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- **Third Party Insurance R210** (has this ZIMRA payment now excluded the AA third party payment that can be done here in SA?)
- **Total R380**
- **Plus Toll Fee R70**
- **Grand Total for my Land Rover 130 Defender with three passengers: R450**

The three in one payment is a great start but there is still a huge amount of confusion at the border, it is just not clear where one must go for the police clearance, TIP's ZIMRA etc etc. This is what takes the time and I see that the border area still has a large amount of undesirable people trying to take advantage of the average tourist. The border area must be contained and become a secure and safe environment. We did encounter a private security company who briefed us on arrival, not to accept any help and to be aware of the criminal element that exists. My argument is that there should be no criminal elements in this kind of environment period, imagine similar persons in the immigration/custom areas of an airport...

OK on to the park!

## 2) GONEREZHOU NATIONAL PARK

Watch out Hwange, this is going to be my next favourite ZimPark! The park is spectacular, we were greeted at the main gate with an efficient ZimNatParks person, receipts were given and all in order. The facilities are fantastic, well positioned campsites along the river, first class ablutions with solar heated water and toilet seats! We did a similar trip to Kenya last year and they can learn a lot from Zimbabwe. Our booking experience from Harare was world class, SANParks take note of your northern neighbours, Zimbabwe.

On the game viewing side, the park is a bit of a challenge, we saw game but not in huge numbers. There is an opportunity for this park to be secured and stocked with many more animals/species than current. We did not see any predators and only heard hyena once during our 7 day stay. This is a park that is **BIG** on scenery and boy is it spectacular, the rivers, waterfalls, and of course the Chilojo Cliffs will remain etched in our memories for many years to come.

On the day before our departure we were greeted by a lady from ZimParks called Chipo, she introduced herself as a marketing person and informed us about other offerings in Zimbabwe. I was completely blown away by her enthusiasm and passion for her portfolio, SANParks watch out!

Anyway as I sit back here in my Johannesburg office I have only wonderful memories of Gonerezhou and Zimbabwe, it was good to get out of the Gauteng winter for a while and I look forward to my BIG Zimbabwe trip planned for December.

Warm regards from Maplanga Africa - [www.maplanga.co.za](http://www.maplanga.co.za) / [www.vicfallsconnection.com](http://www.vicfallsconnection.com)  
Chris Wood





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# AUGUST 2011

## PLEASE SIGN THIS PETITION

Please sign the petition

- Target: Coal of Africa Limited and the South African Government
- Sponsored by: Concerned citizens

A proposed new opencast and underground coal mine is threatening the Mapungubwe National Park and the Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape World Heritage Site on South Africa's border with Zimbabwe and Botswana.

<http://www.thepetitionsite.com/2/no-coal-mining-at-mapungubwe/?z00m=19980937>

## WE PROUDLY BRING YOU CAMP LA SPORT 2011!

This family orientated event has become a fixture on the annual 4x4 calendar, and with the huge success achieved since 2008, we hereby take great pleasure in inviting YOU to participate in an even better Camp LA 2011!

Camp LA Sport will be taking place the last weekend in September, and as you know, our goal is to supply our 4x4 community with a fun 4x4 weekend away for the whole family! Our venue, MABALINGWE Nature Reserve, situated just outside Bela Bela (Warmbaths) in the Limpopo Province, is spread over more than 12 500 hectares of soft rolling hills. This malaria-free reserve is host to the big 5, and also hippo, giraffe, hyena and sable to name but a few of the 36 species of wildlife.

The weekend will consist of: 2 EXCLUSIVE LA SPORT MOUNTAIN ROUTES, only to be attempted with a LA Sport guide at hand to help navigate the tricky sections - sure to get the ADRENALINE pumping! To add even more adventure to the weekend, we introduce in conjunction with the KykNET Buite-Ekspo, a fun GYMKHANA TREASURE HUNT, which has various obstacles that the whole family can take part in.

As a CAMP LA Sport participant, you are also welcome to go on various GAME DRIVE routes to see if you can spot the BIG 5, or watch the LIONS being fed on Sunday morning, which is an experience not to be missed (Book at Mabalingwe)! A variety of entertainment for the kids is also available, including putt-putt, tennis, warm & cold water swimming pools etc.

Accommodation options: Camping (Caravan Park, Buffel Camp) also Lodge, Chalets and Private Houses.

ENTRY FEE = R650.00 (per vehicle) - which includes the following:

- All admin & registration fees
- Access to the Mabalingwe Mountain Route
- Access to the EXCLUSIVE LA Sport 4x4 Routes
- Gymkhana 4x4 Track (fun 4x4 obstacles for the whole family)
- NEW!!! LA SPORT Treasure HUNT!!
- Access to Mabalingwe Game Viewing routes.

GOODY BAG! 1 per entry (2x T-Shirts, Magazines, small gifts, etc.)

\* **EXCLUDES accommodation which can be booked at a special rate directly at Mabalingwe**

- Tel: (014) 736 9000 email: [info@mabalingwe.co.za](mailto:info@mabalingwe.co.za)

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BOOKINGS OPEN NOW!

**Booking form available from our website - [www.lasport.co.za](http://www.lasport.co.za)**

**Limited spaces available - book early to avoid disappointment!**

Should you have any further queries, please feel free to contact Cathy on

(012) 751-0877/8/9 / mail : [marketing@lasport.co.za](mailto:marketing@lasport.co.za)

Trouble viewing this email? [View it as a webpage](#)

## **DC100 PREVIEWS NEXT LANDIE DEFENDER**

Earlier this month we brought you news that Land Rover is set to replace its iconic Defender in 2015, but not before showing off a concept vehicle at they year's Frankfurt Motor Show. Now Land Rover has released pictures of that concept vehicle (called the DC100) but it's not an exact indication of what the next Defender will look like. In Land Rover's words, it "investigates the potential future direction of the Defender."

Although the company has since confirmed its intention to launch the next Defender in 2015, it also plans to seek feedback on the concept from potential customers before finalising the design details of the new vehicle.

Clearly, replacing the Defender is not something that Land Rover takes lightly, design director Gerry McGovern explaining it like this: "Replacing the iconic Defender is one of the biggest challenges in the automotive design world; it is a car that inspires people worldwide. This isn't a production-ready concept but the beginning of a four-year journey to design a relevant Defender for the 21st century."

Global Brand Director John Edwards added that the company is determined to keep the new Defender "true to its heritage" while also meeting the requirements of changing global markets. To get this right, they're going to have to make it every bit as strong and capable off-road as the current model, while also meeting modern comfort and safety demands.

No other details on the concept have been released at this stage, Land Rover clearly keeping a few surprises for the actual unveiling of the vehicle, which takes place on 13 September.

## **4x4 TRAILS & OVERLAND GUIDE COURSE**

Over the last year or so you made an inquiry regarding our *Trails and Overland Tourist Guide Course*. This is just a friendly reminder that we have courses running in September 2011 so please contact Jacqui urgently if you would like to book on one (1) of these courses, especially the Cape area as venue bookings still need to be acted upon.

CAPE AREA COURSE: FROM SATURDAY, 17 (07:30) SEPTEMBER TO TUESDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2011

LOUIS TRICHARDT COURSE: FROM WEDNESDAY, 21 (19:00) SEPTEMBER TO SUNDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2011

If you would like to receive the standard e-mail again, please contact Jacqui urgently so that she may send said information to you.

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We look forward to hearing from you.

# AUGUST 2011

4x4 Africa Greetings

Jacqui

MASAZANE EXPEDITIONS / CAMP AFRICA

[www.masazane.co.za](http://www.masazane.co.za) / [info@masazane.co.za](mailto:info@masazane.co.za) / [lanie@masazane.co.za](mailto:lanie@masazane.co.za)

Telephone +27 15 516 5717 / Facsimile +27 15 516 5717

## **ALTERNATIVE ROUTE, HARARE TO BEIT BRIDGE**

Andrew Ashton, who toured with us in August, returned to South Africa from Harare via Chinhoyi, Chegutu, Kadoma, Kwe Kwe, Mvuma and Masvingo, which showed up on his GPS as being a suitable alternative route to avoid much of the notorious A4 from Beit Bridge to Harare.

His comments are: "Timewise, much the same (as the direct route). The Kwekwe-Mvuma stretch starts out as tar, rapidly diminishing to poor single-lane tar for about 15-20km and then dirt – gradually getting quite tatty, with some low level bridges. It could be challenging in the wet, but no real problem in the dry – just corrugations. There was no cell phone reception, and we saw about four vehicles over the whole route. Probably not to be recommended for single vehicles."

Our thanks to Andrew for this information. We have also noted that many visitors are now avoiding the Beit Bridge-Harare route altogether, preferring to enter Zimbabwe via Plumtree or other border posts.

[info@zim4x4.co.zw](mailto:info@zim4x4.co.zw)

## **RADIOS – THEY MUST BE LICENSED IN ZIMBABWE**

We continue to get enquiries from self-drive visitors, usually from South Africa, asking us about the implications of using their mobile radios in Zimbabwe.

As I had to visit the regulating agency - POTRAZ - recently to renew ZIM4x4's own radio and frequency licences, I took the opportunity to ask their technical staff about the possible issue of temporary licences to visitors.

It sounded simple enough, on the surface. Just apply for a temporary licence. he said; it'll cost US\$12 per set per annum, or pro rata for three or six months. However, a little more enquiry revealed that it's not as easy as that, by a long way. Firstly, you need to download a four-megabyte form from the POTRAZ website at [http://www.potraz.gov.zw/files/PMR\\_APPLICATION\\_FORMS.pdf](http://www.potraz.gov.zw/files/PMR_APPLICATION_FORMS.pdf). This is four pages long, and you may well need your friendly local radio fundi to help you complete it.

Somehow, you then need to get the completed form, plus such items as certified copies of your national ID, to POTRAZ, along with the necessary fee. Then, it seems. they will post the licence to you (if approved) but - having had experience of the postal service between Zimbabwe and South Africa - I wouldn't hold my breath while waiting for the thing to actually arrive.

However, they were unable to give any guidance in respect of frequencies, so it seems there is no guarantee that they will approve the particular frequency you operate on.

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So it isn't just a matter of pitching up at the border and filling in a form. Maybe we need a 'willing volunteer' to try the process out, and applications are invited for this honour. I'll be happy to deliver the completed form to POTRAZ, plus the required US\$3 for a quarter's licensing for one set. Meanwhile, remember our earlier advice: using unlicensed radios in Zimbabwe is an offence, and although quite a few visitors do it, there is some risk involved.

[info@zim4x4.co.zw](mailto:info@zim4x4.co.zw)

## **THE ESSENTIALS FOR ZIM**

The essential thing you probably need to know at the moment is that provisions and fuel continue to be widely available within Zimbabwe, with the proviso that local shortages can occur, so it's always best to top up with these essentials in good time and not to leave it until the last available opportunity before disappearing into the wilds.

Also, the vehicle regulations concerning fire extinguishers and emergency triangles are now reputedly in force (although we haven't yet been asked to show these items at a roadblock).

Road conditions: best to assume poor to moderate for many gravel roads, including the Binga-Karoi marathon; and downright awful on the Tashinga (Matusadona) access road (but no gain without pain, as they say - Matusadona is worth it when you get there!).

And - newsflash! - it appears that the notorious 31km trailer-breaker to the Mana Pools Nyakasikana Gate from the main Harare-Chirundu tar has been graded in the last few days and is currently in excellent condition We'll believe it when we see it, which will be next week sometime.

[info@zim4x4.co.zw](mailto:info@zim4x4.co.zw)

## **TRAVEL THE GRAVEL**

### **SPRITE RELEASE THE NEW SPRITE TOURER SP AND SC**

Ever ready to give customers what they want, Sprite is proud to launch the new Sprite Tourer SP and SC caravan which will be available from Campworld dealers nationally, during August 2011.

"We always listen," says Nico Pretorius at Jurgens Ci, "and always like to hear new ways in which to serve our market. Until now, we've been giving caravanners two choices. First, there is the traditional caravan, which allows South Africans to holiday economically but in comfort and style. Secondly, there is the much newer idea of the off-roader, which is perfect for getting off the beaten track and into 4x4 territory. But what about those people whose goal is at the end of gravel roads? Not good for the traditional on-road caravan yet not ideal for the off-roader. Hence our launch of the Sprite Tourer SP and SC, designed to fit neatly between the other two classes."

The three-berth Sprite Tourer SP and four-berth Sprite Tourer SC, does not have the stiff suspension or heavy construction of the off-roader, but both have a suspension that is perfectly suited to more uneven surfaces and feature a larger tyre - is 245/75/15. The vehicles are much better insulated from dust than the on-road caravan is, and there are front skid bars too. Interior finishes are tasteful and inspired by the bush, and there is a mass of cupboard space and packing space. In true outdoor fashion, the kitchen and the 60l fridge/freezer slide out, and it's easy to open the fridge from the inside and the outside of the caravan. The new models have a

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built-in awning and a front stowage compartment designed to keep those gas bottles and spare wheel out of harm's way.

Finishes include heavy-duty vinyl cushion flooring and washable Renolit covering for walls and furniture, and there is colour coordination in both upholstery and window blinds. Naturally, there are soft corners to the work surfaces. Sprite have included interior lights, an exterior patio light and an exterior 220 V multiplug.

There are overhead lockers and cupboards aplenty including a storage cupboard for a Porta Pottie. Kitchen includes sink and running water (submersible pump and 25 litre water bottle), and 220V power pack and battery charger. Plus there is a 60 litre fridge (12 and 220 V), and a two-burner gas stove and gas bottle are included too.

The Sprite Tourer SP and SC are welcome additions to the Sprite range, slotting perfectly between the traditional tar-bound caravan and the go-anywhere true off-road units. They are sure to prove themselves on southern Africa's endless stretches of unpaved roads, allowing caravanners to enjoy true caravan comfort in more out-of-the-way places.

## Bhejane 4X4 Adventures

[www.bhejane.com](http://www.bhejane.com) / 044 535 9257 / [info@bhejane.com](mailto: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.

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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

### 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

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## *From the Tracks – Reader Feedback*

### READER FEEDBACK

Naand Alan

Net om baie dankie te sê vir jou vrywillige werk as redakteur om ons van sulke lekker leesstof te voorsien! Ek is ook baie dankbaar dat jy die advertensie van my 2009 Jurgens Xplorer geplaas het. Ek wil hê jy moet weet dat ek dit baie waardeer.

Lekker slaap / mooi dag  
Theuns Kriek



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Dear Alan,

Thanks for the good news letter. Should your club members travel our way to Mozambique please give them our details. We are a 4 star B/B.

2 kms from the border and a good stop over before proceeding into the unknown. We do specials for group bookings. Web – site [www.komatiriverchalets.co.za](http://www.komatiriverchalets.co.za)

Regards Duncan McEwan M.D.

## READER FEEDBACK – KEMPTON CARAVANS

Hi Alan

I want to let you know what awesome service we received from one of the Club partners/suppliers - Kempton Caravans.

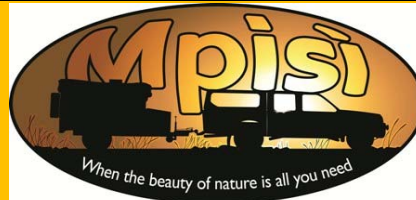
We were reminded at the Club Cheese and Wine that Kempton are a partner and, at a late stage in the process of changing our caravan, I called Larry to see if he was interested in selling us a new caravan (to be ready a week later for the Captain's weekend to Botswana). We try to use Club partners wherever we can.

Larry and his sales person Bee were amazing. We signed the quote on Friday (same day as my phone call to Larry), paid, took delivery on Tuesday and Larry delivered the plates and registration papers personally on Wednesday night.

It's not often that service is delivered as efficiently as this - Kempton are to be commended. Thanks for partnering with such wonderful people.

PS - The Captain's Weekend was amazing - we are very happy with our choice of caravan.

Regards  
Di



## MPISI BUSH SAFARIS

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.



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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 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)  
082 600 7177

Karen Chiole (GP3500)  
082 657 1252

[info@mpisibushsafaris.co.za](mailto:info@mpisibushsafaris.co.za)

[www.mpisibushsafaris.co.za](http://www.mpisibushsafaris.co.za)

**UPCOMING TRIPS:**

10-11 September 2011 4x4 Offroad Basic Driver Training (US254135) accredited

March 2011

## ***Fresh from the Bush – New Products***

### **GPS MOUNTS FOR YOUR FAVOURITE DEVICE**

- Are you tired of your GPS falling off your windscreen?
- Do you want a motorcycle mount that works?
- Do you want to mount your SmartPhone or iPad into your vehicle?
- How about a lifetime warranty on the product?

RAM has a solution for you. RAM stands for Round-A-Mount and got its start in 1995. Most of the product line is based on a patented design revolving around a rubber ball and socket system. Far and away the most innovative product line of its kind, RAM continues to evolve into one of the most sought after accessories for electronics. RAM products have quickly become an essential mounting component for a wide variety of applications including rugged vehicle, industrial, military and defense, material handling as well as any application requiring a robust mounting solution. Incorporating a non-slip feature as well as shock and vibration dampening, our often imitated but never duplicated mounting solutions are truly one of a kind and enhance every application they are used in.

Unwilling to compromise durability and versatility, many RAM products are available to support devices from less than a pound up to 185 pounds. Utilizing the finest assembly hardware, durable

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composites, steel, stainless steel, rubber, and aluminum, our mounting bases and complete kits are manufactured to perform above expectations and remain cost effective.

For over a decade RAM Mounting Systems has been synonymous with quality and performance. For your next mounting application, choose wisely. Choose RAM. Visit [www.ram-mount.co.za](http://www.ram-mount.co.za) for your mounting solution.

## **HID ROTATING / SEARCH LIGHT**

Details & Features:

- Power: HID-Xenon 55W.
- Voltage: 12V or 24V DC
- Amps: 4.1amps
- Wireless Remote Control(75m from Light): On and Off, 360' rotation and 120' vertical.
- HID Colour Temperature: 3500K-12000K
- Life Time: over 3 000Hours
- Luminosity: 4400 Lumens
- Working Temperature: -40 - 150°C
- Light Resource: Super power auto HID.
- Range: more than 1km
- 2 Remotes included (extra remote available on request R 50)
- **Very Strong Magnet**



- 1 year warrantee
- Spare globes available (R 150 extra )
- Transformer available if want to use on normal 220/230V home power. (R 350 )
- Dual use Car/Home (Don't need to change the plug)

Excellent for:

- Home security, Farm & field protection, Rescue actions, Recreation activities, Emergency lighting
- Easy to install on:
  - Ordinary vehicles, Boats, Trains, Houses, Buildings, Any place where electricity is available
  - Remote control & mobilized
  - To avoid carrying lighting equipment
  - To prevent unknown threats in the dark
  - To avoid cold hands
  - Suitable for critical environments.

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## **STUNNING KOAKOLAND 4x4 BOOK – Discovering the secrets of Namibia – Johan Snyman**

I have recently purchased one of these books to check it out. It is absolutely stunning, concentrated on geology, fauna and flora, people, and then lots of detail and tracks. It has plenty of tracks, roads, routes and other stunning information, and is a must as a reference book. This is where we are going on our tour next year, so makes good prepping and reading. See cover picture attached. Softback. A5 size

Details:

The Kaokoland is situated in the top left-hand corner of Namibia and is a barren mountain desert region that is alluring, yet utterly inhospitable, to all but the local population and extremely well-prepared travelers. This 190 page full-colour guide to the Kaokoland is the most complete and comprehensive available at present, and contains all the information a prospective visitor needs to make informed choices when planning a tour through the area. It also contains useful information on the local population, the fauna and flora likely to be encountered in the area, the geology, places of interest, etc.

The author has personally driven, logged and described every road and track found in the area (3800km of them). Approximately 400 colour photographs have been used to illustrate the above. The intention is that this will be the first book in a series, covering all the regions of Namibia.

The recommended retail price of the book is R299-00 and it is distributed by T4A and myself (author)

R299 retail. For e-Zine readers only R255 each.– contact [4x4offroad@mweb.co.za](mailto:4x4offroad@mweb.co.za). Excludes postage & insurance.

## **THE ARID PARKS – STEVE NEWBOULD**

This book is produced by one of our Cape Town club members. The book normally retails at R280.00 and is available at the 6 Arid Parks it represents, selected bookshops and online at [www.capturedexperiences.com/book.php](http://www.capturedexperiences.com/book.php) for this price. However I am happy to offer it directly to readers at the discounted price of R230.00. Excludes postage. Feel free to offer it to friends and family at this price too, or buy some for your customers / office, as it makes a stunning coffee table book or gift!!

## ***Kgalagadi / Richtersveld / Augrabies / Namaqua / TankwaKaroo / Mokala 10 000 desert photographs lead to the publishing of a spectacular coffee table book on the arid South African National Parks***

From majestic black-manned lions, cheeky suricates (meerkat) and delicate desert flowers to the roaring Augrabies Falls, the spectrum of images displayed in this photographic compilation would quite likely take a single photographer a lifetime to gather.

*The Arid Parks Captured Experiences* book relates the experiences of visitors to the parks (many



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of whom happen to be extraordinary photographers), through the telling of their own stories by way of photographs and accompanying prose. Besides the portraits of the fauna; the plant life in the book, such as the delicate Namaqua daisies and majestic Richtersveld quiver trees, is inspiring in its beauty - and the macro photography of reptiles and insects draws you in to a world so often forgotten.

It features six arid parks, namely: Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park; /Ai /Ais-Richtersveld Transfrontier Park; Augrabies Falls National Park; Mokala National Park; Namaqua National Park and Tankwa Karoo National Park and includes ' highlights and accommodation' in the introductory section to each park. A map orientates the reader, with regards to the parks' locations in South Africa (with the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park straddled across South Africa and Botswana and the /Ai /Ais-Richtersveld Transfrontier Park spilling across the Namibian border.)

*The Arid Parks Captured Experiences* book is the product of the Captured Experiences photographic competition, a SANParks initiative to promote the arid South African National Parks. The competition, which ran in four rounds from January 2010 to January 2011, saw a panel of five judges carefully sift through nearly 10 000 entries. All of the winning photos have been published in this book, along with other select images from the competition.

Specifications:

- Width: 285mm
- Height: 245mm
- Pages: 176
- Hard-Cover
- Over 300 unique images

Contact [4x4offroad@mweb.co.za](mailto:4x4offroad@mweb.co.za). Excludes postage & insurance.

## MASAZANE EXPEDITIONS

Please contact us ([dream@masazane.co.za](mailto:dream@masazane.co.za)) if you want us to tailor-design an expedition for you and your close family/friends. We design the expedition according to your needs; provide expert advice on various aspects of such expedition; provide assistance with all required documents; can provide meals; and of course provide a superb guiding service that will make your expedition ever so memorable...

Want to leave your 4x4 vehicle at home? Or you do not have a 4x4 vehicle? Why not join us in our vehicle on one (1) of our planned expeditions or charter us for an itinerary of your choice with your family/friends. Contact us ([jacqui@masazane.co.za](mailto:jacqui@masazane.co.za)) Jacqui for more detailed information.

**PLEASE BEAR IN MIND THAT ALL DATES AND ITINERARIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**

*Masazane Expeditions* prefers family orientated expeditions. However very "rough" conditions for extended periods makes some of the expeditions difficult even for adults and we therefore are forced to exclude children under fifteen (15) years of age.

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## **TOURS/TRIPS IN THE LIMPOPO PROVINCE OF RSA**

These tours/trips explore the Soutpansberg and **Komatiland Forestry** areas and are run regularly, as and when booked by a group... so please do not hesitate to contact Jacqui ([limpopo@masazane.co.za](mailto:limpopo@masazane.co.za)) as soon as possible so that we can set out an itinerary especially for you and your family/friends. The tour may include some travelling in the Mpumalanga Province, e.g. the southern parts of the Kruger National Park.

One (1) day tours are usually run from our base, **Camp Africa**, in Louis Trichardt. All the evenings on an extended tour, e.g. a long weekend, may be spent at **Camp Africa**; or at other accommodation en route; or a combination, depending on the chosen itinerary.

Places of interest that are visited (itinerary dependant) include: Bergpan Salt pans; Thathe Vondo Sacred Forest; Lake Fundudzi; Tshatsingo Potholes; Dzata Ruins; the Big Tree (Baobab); Tshirovha Waterfall; ... and so much more...

Planned dates:

23 – 25 September 2011

07 – 09 October 2011

18 – 20 November 2011

15 – 18 December 2011 (long weekend)

Contact ([limpopo@masazane.co.za](mailto:limpopo@masazane.co.za)) Jacqui now for more detailed information.

## **STUNNING ETHIOPIA**

The Stunning Ethiopia Expedition 2011 runs from **Camp Africa** (Louis Trichardt, RSA) through Zimbabwe, Zambia, Tanzania, Kenya into Ethiopia and then back to RSA through Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. In Ethiopia, visit Lake Turkana; Lake Tana with its amazing monasteries; the impressive Blue Nile Falls; Axum for places like Queen of Sheba; the castles at Gondar; feel the history embedded in the rock monolithic churches at Lalibela; find the Simien Wolf in the Bale Mountains National Park; experience millions of flamingos and hot water geysers at Lake Bogoria. En route, visit Lake Victoria; Murchison Falls National Park; catch Nile Perch from the White Nile River; visit Kalambo Falls, the second highest falls in Africa; and so much more... Birders will be able to tick off a few megaticks, e.g. Rouget's Rail and the Blue-winged Goose. Menelik Bushbuck and Mountain Nyala are some of the endemic mammals to Ethiopia.

Departure Date: Apply for dates

Contact ([jacqui@masazane.co.za](mailto:jacqui@masazane.co.za)) Jacqui now for more detailed information.

## **CHRISTMAS SERENGETI EXPEDITION 2011**

The Christmas Serengeti Expedition 2011 runs from **Camp Africa** (Louis Trichardt, RSA) through Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi to Tanzania and then back to RSA via Zambia and Zimbabwe. Enjoy the soft, warm waters and beaches of Lake Malawi; spend Christmas wiggling your toes in the sands of Lake Malawi; relive the slave trade and old spice routes on Zanzibar; see Mt. Kilimanjaro (cloud cover willing); see the New Year 2012 in under the starry African skies; experience one of the biggest animal migrations in the world; experience the smells and textures on a coffee farm; visit 'Africa House'; do a moonwalk at the **Kapishya Hot Springs**; and so much more... This expedition is specifically designed so that you may take your school children with so that they may also enjoy the wonders of nature...

We have been doing this particular expedition since Christmas 1999 – the Serengeti Millennium Expedition – and have been able to see the magnificent wildebeest herds every time. During

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December, the wildebeest, and the accompanying predators, are in the southern most parts of the Serengeti... far from the Mara River...

Departure Date: 14 December 2011

Expected End Date 09 January 2012

Contact ([serengeti@masazane.co.za](mailto:serengeti@masazane.co.za)) Jacqui now for more detailed information.

### **TRANS AFRICA NORTHBOUND EXPEDITION 2012 (LEG I)**

Our ninth Trans-Africa Expedition starts at **Camp Africa** (Louis Trichardt, RSA). The general route for this intrepid expedition is RSA; Botswana; Namibia; Angola; DRC; Congo; Gabon; Cameroon; Nigeria; Niger; Mali; Mauritania; Morocco (including the region called Western Sahara); and ends in Spain at Algeciras. Cross the biggest river in Africa; see the rain forests; stopover in Timbuktu; cross the Sahara Desert; enjoy the music and vibe of African cities; and much, much more...

Departure Date: 04 June 2012 (tbc)

Contact ([transafrica@masazane.co.za](mailto:transafrica@masazane.co.za)) Jacqui now for more detailed information.

### **EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST EXPEDITION 2012 (LEG II – LINKING ROUTE)**

This is a linking route between the Trans-Africa Northbound and Southbound Expeditions for those expeditionists that wish to join us on the entire once-in-a-lifetime circular route. Drive through Spain; France, Italy; Greece; Turkey; Syria; and Jordan into Egypt. Visit Monte Carlo; Pisa; Rome; Pompei; Acropolis; Olympus; Meteora; Blue Mosque; Topkapi Palace; Basilika Cistern; Cappadocia; *Crac des Chevaliers*; the Dead Sea; Petra; Wadi Rum; and so much more...

'Departure' Date: when Leg I ends

Contact ([transafrica@masazane.co.za](mailto:transafrica@masazane.co.za)) Jacqui now for more detailed information.

### **TRANS AFRICA SOUTHBOUND EXPEDITION 2012 (LEG III)**

Our tenth Trans-Africa Expedition follows directly on from the linking route through Europe and the Middle East and starts from Cairo (Egypt). Let the secrets of Egypt and its pharaohs overwhelm you; experience the Sahara Desert and live to tell the tale (again); survive the heat and desolation through Egypt and Sudan while driving along the mysterious Nile River; experience the striking White Desert; feel the history embedded in the rock churches at Lalibela; experience millions of flamingos; visit the source of the White Nile; meet people from various cultures; and so much more...

Why not fly into Cairo and join Dave in our vehicle back to RSA...

'Departure' Date: when Leg II ends

Contact ([transafrica@masazane.co.za](mailto:transafrica@masazane.co.za)) Jacqui now for more detailed information.

June 2012

## ***The Dusty Way – Club Trips, Reports & Feedbacks***

### **10 YEAR EXISTENCE CELEBRATION – 4x4 OFFROAD ADVENTURE CLUB GAUTENG – CAMP WEEKEND AT KORO KORO**



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# AUGUST 2011

Hi Alan

It was great to see you and all the other friends on Saturday. It looked like we missed ANOTHER great weekend. But don't worry – we will be back! Thank you for the invite.

Wally Bergmann

*Hi the Goodway family,*

*Man this was a lekker weekend. We have just arrived home after an awesome geocache find. We ended up in a private nature reserve (with the vans in tow) on top of a small koppie. As we were looking for the stash I noticed something dangling in the trees and thought it was a large snake. Meters away from us was a giraffe casually walking around.*

*We spent a while checking out the scenery, 5 giraffes - warthogs - zebra - Nyala (?) And believe me lots more. Jvlian is going to find out if we can. Camp there. The Waller family and 1 archibald would like to say a big thank you to all concerned for a really really awesome weekend.*

Regards

Steve Waller

Hi

Thanks to you and your family as well for all the effort you've put in to make it a success

We enjoyed it thoroughly. Elma and Micayla say so too

Regards

Corrie

*Thank you and the whole Goodway clan.*

*This was a truly great chill-out weekend, .....so chilled out that the enregy we needed for a Saturday party was not even there, however hard you wanted to try, Alan. We REALLY appreciate what you and your support (family and guides), do for us, and we cannot thank you enough for adding memorable occasions in our lives. It is each one of ours own choice what we do with that, and in the majority I believe we all experience this club as a enjoyable ,God given experience. May God BLESS you and your family for that!*

*CARPE DIEM!*

*Die Booyens (na nog n lekka middag slapie)*

Hi Alan

Thanks for an amazing chilled weekend. It was great to just sit around with good friends. Also good to see some friends we haven't seen for a while.

Kind regards

Jvlian, Di and Josh

*Evening Alan*

*If the first 10 years are anything to go by then what awesome experiences and destinations await us for the next decade. Thanks for unforgettable weekend and the great companionship shared by all who went to this unique park.*

*Kind regards*





Supported by:

*Frans & Denise*

# AUGUST 2011

Thanks for a lekker weekend, both Andri and I arrived Friday evening already pooped from a very hectic couple of weeks. Arrived home last night feeling well rested and recharged thanks! The sponsored beers on Friday night was also really great!!

Gareth Vermaak

## **DCC TRAINING COURSE**

Evening Alan

Thanks for the opportunity to attend the DCC accreditation course.

One only realises how quickly we become out of touch with basics when having to demonstrate driving skills. The introduction of technology spoils a person and this allows the gremlins to creep in, like forgetting to engage manual hubs. This reinforces the argument that trail driving is a necessity and a revision of skills even if it is self-initiated and can be taken a step further by testing other equipment such as winches, wheel changing etc.

Many thanks for the day I found it informative and personally certainly served as a revision of theory and practical. Thanks also to Grant for the assistance and Charmaine for the light lunch.

Regards

Frans

## **BOTSWANA CAPTAINS WEEKEND**

Dear Alan and Charmaine,

A few years ago when we joined the 4x4 Offroad Adventure Club, we thought that we had made a good decision. Little did we know just how fantastic our decision would be. Thank you for yet another wonderful experience.

I suppose that you could label us as late developers, but since camping with you we cannot wait for the next available trip. This time, we were spoiled rotten again. You put such care and effort into the fine details of each trip.

Our border crossing was so slick, our time to destination was so fine tuned and your knowledge of the area was excellent. You scored full marks for our fireside entertainment and for this we must also thank Corrie giving so freely of his amazing talents.

The Khama Rhino Sanctuary is something which we can highly recommend to any other campers. Our trip to Kubu Island was on our bucket list and perhaps we could spend a little longer there on another occasion, but as part of your mystery weekend, it was an awesome highlight. The whole weekend was an unforgettable experience.

Thank you for the super gifts. These finishing touches go straight to the heart. This made womens day and your moving speech so memorable. We understand that you are both highly pressurized at this time and we want you to know that your efforts on our behalf do not go unnoticed.



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Thank you once again. With kind regards,  
Nigel & Denise Wilshire

# AUGUST 2011

*Hi Alan*

*Thanks for a superb weekend of chilling and relaxing. It was great to just spent time with members of the club we have grown to know over the years and meet a few we don't know, spending time playing guitar with Cory on Saturday and watching the children having fun. Sorry we turned out to be wet blankets on Saturday night and having to leave early on Sunday. I managed to get back an see the doctor and ended up with a barrow load of medicine, hopefully will get completely over it this time.*

*Once again thanks for all the hard work you put into the club to make it such a joy to come on outings.*

*Neville and Helen Black*

Mr Goodway,

The van der Merwe family just want to say thank you for a great Captains weekend it was the most fabulous time that we had and thanks to you and Charmaine for all. We seriously appreciated the trip and it was just too short as the bush fires & Corrie's music was very soothing to all our aches and pains and worries.

Thanks once again for all much appreciated!!  
Sanette & Kim van der Merwe

*Hi Alan*

*Thanks for a fantastic weekend in Botswana. It's always a pleasure to go to Khama Rhino Sanctuary and it was a special treat to go to Kubu for a day. As usual the friendship and fellowship was great. Special thanks to Corrie for creating such a wonderful atmosphere on Sunday night.*

*Thanks also for the Woman's Day gift - very thoughtful as always.*

*Congratulations to you, Charmaine, Tamsyn and Keenan for running such an awesome club for 10 years - we look forward to celebrating your 20th!*

*Best regards*

*Di, Jvlian and Josh*

Alan and Charmaine, what you guys have done for so many people is quite unique! You have changed lives, you have showed people another way of life, you have made a positive impact on our youth, you have done so much for our industry...so the list goes on.

Most importantly, our paths have crossed at just the right time. We have found a very special friendship with you and your family for which we are truly grateful!

Here is to the next 10 years of your club life! May it be filled with dusty roads and meandering mountain passes being explored with club members, great friends and family.





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We have never ever been to a 10 year birthday bash as memorable as this one. We have been to many many places in Botswana but never to Khubu. What a special place that is. Again, thanks to your's and Charmaine's combined efforts, you have broadened our horizons just a little further.

A weekend of note spent with a fantastic bunch of like minded people doing what we enjoy most! Thanks again Boet! You did us proud!

Take care,  
Grant, Karine and the kids.

### AAWDC FAMILY FUN INTER CLUB DAY

Wow, what a blast it was!

10 seriously passionate drivers, 10 equally passionate navigators all set to conquer 10 challenging obstacles! This was our team contribution going up against 12 other teams at the AAWDC Family Fun Day held on Saturday 13 August 2011 at Rust de Winter.

What started off as a very cold Saturday morning turned out to be a warm day out in the sun! For those of us that chose to sleep over on Friday night, wow – did we freeze! For those that opted to driver through early on Saturday morning, wow - did they wake early to get to the start by 05h30.

Adrenalin pumped at every obstacle ranging from serious side slopes to deep axel twisters to drivers having to ride blind folded through obstacles being guided by some very competent navigators! None of these obstacles could deter our team confidence though...

In true OAC style we remained focussed while enjoying the “chair leading entertainment” of the other clubs that reminded me of my school days. By the end of the first 3 obstacles we heard over the intercom that we were not lying in the top three positions. We thought little of this and continued our fun in the sun, encouraging each other through the particular challenges. By now, we had already demonstrated to the marshals that we do know how to properly do water crossings with navigators walking the water in front of the vehicles!

Further challenging our skill levels we were to drive obstacles and while in motion and at precarious angles throw balls into buckets! Wow, some navigators did show remarkable ball control . Then, onto obstacles that challenged the navigators some what! Drive axel twisters over very large tyres and even larger tree trunks, balance 300ml of water in an upside down Frisbee and hope like crazy that no water was spilled. Just goes to show that when driving a Discovery or G-Wagen, and with good driver and navigator co-ordination, little water can be spilled.

By now, we were just past the half way mark and it was time for the organisers to give us an update on the overall standings amongst the teams. This is where the fun started...the voice over the intercom shouted out “and in first place, coming out of nowhere in the 4x4 Offroad Adventure Club!” You had to be there to experience the absolute shock from everybody – except our team of course! This was our moment of glory at the top, holding onto first place - until the next announcement when we were back below the top 3 ranking. It was all good!



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We wrapped up the day with a 5th place overall (out of 13 team entrants) which was all good. Even better though was the announcement of the grant individual prize going to the Fuller family for coming first overall.

As a club, our aim is always to go out there and enjoy! That is what we achieved with flying colours! To the team that competed, well done! To our fan club that joined us on the day, brilliant, thank you!

Next time there is an opportunity for the club to take part in a Gymkhana event like this, make sure you book your spot real quick! An opportunity to learn your vehicle's true capabilities while living it up with like minded fellow club members.

Take care all!  
Grant Keenan

**PS. Congrats to the Fuller family for winning the individual first place, and to the Manley family for second overall. Then the Jarvis and Waller family for outstanding positions too. You did us all proud.**

**Out of 130 teams / vehicles:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Fuller
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Manley
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Waller
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Jarvis
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Fuller (K)
- 33<sup>rd</sup> – Keenan
- 44<sup>th</sup> - Kader
- 47<sup>th</sup> – Vermaak
- 64<sup>th</sup> – Black
- 67<sup>th</sup> - Kenney

*Unbelievable, what a awesome day. Helen and I had a wonderful day and a lot of fun too boot. I would like to thank Grant for his captaincy, patience, understanding and encouragement. I would also like to thank all the team members for their wonderful team spirit, team work and support. Neville and Helen Black*

We had a fantabilistic weekend and family fun day at Rust de Winter. Thanks so much to the rest of the team - what a great bunch of people.  
Anthony Manley

Hi Alan,

*Thank you for inviting us to participate in the event. We had loads and loads of fun and met a bunch of great people... regardless of our finishing position; the event was a win for the entire 4X4 OFFROAD ADVENTURE CLUB team.*





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*Please extend our appreciation to the rest of the team, esp. to Grant the captain and even more esp. to Natasha who is super cool under pressure!! Ha ha !!*

*Thanks to you all !!*

*Regards,*

*John Des Kelvin and Ryan Fuller*

## **SWAZILAND / MOZAMBIQUE LONG WEEKEND TRIP**

'I see you are packing again for a trip", my neighbour comment when I went over to her to say goodbye on Thursday. "Yes", I replied. "Ons gaan alweer skuur!"

All eight families in the group that gathered Friday morning 5<sup>th</sup> August at the Shell Ultra City on the N4 were looking forward to our "skuur" to Swaziland and Mozambique over the long weekend. After an initial confusion about a ninth family that we thought would join us, we hit the road.

Die konvooi het gou in gelid geval en als het klop disselboom verloop tot ons (nog in Suid-Afrika) die eerste slegte slaggate getref het. Johan het 'n slagat hard getref wat sy kar se wielspring heel deurmekaar gegooi het. Vir veiligheidshalwe het Eddie sy karavaan verder gesleep tot op Mlilwane – dankie Eddie.

Alles het voorspoedig by Oshoek afgeloop. Die grenspos was gelukkig stil en binne 'n drie kwart uur was ons weer in die pad. Ons eerste stop was Ngwenya Glass net 'n paar kilometer anderkant die grenspos. Die glasfabriek was besig en ons het staan en kyk hoe die glasblasers met behendigheid groot potte en klein visse maak. Die wintersonnetjie het heerlijk gebak en ons het in die son gesit en ons kele nat gemaak met warm koffie en tee. En daai lekker sjokolade . . . behalwe die chilli!

While we were admiring the glass works and other crafts at Ngwenya, Johan and Retha went through to Mbabane to sort their wheel alignment out. They rejoined us at Mlilwane our first over night stop.

Ons het omtrent middagete se kant by Mlilwane aangekom en almal het gou kamp opgeslaan. Die middag het die groot kuier begin wat eers Dinsdag laat opgehou het! Nuwe vriende is gemaak en bande met ou vriende is verstewig onder die groot bome van die kampterrein. Laat die middag het ons vir "sundowners" dam toe gery. Die seekoeie het ons vermaak en die verjaardagmeisie, Karen, het ons verras met heerlike koek. Met die sak van die son in die Weste is ons terug kamp toe om braaivleisvure aan te steek en verder te kuier.

As always the resident Nyalas were at the campsite patrolling the area making sure they do not miss a single tasty morsel.

Our first stop the next morning was at the fresh vegetable market near Swazi Candles. Everybody was surprised by the high quality of ripe fruits and vegetable. At Swazi Candles some of us dug deep into our pockets to buy presents for loved ones at home.

The trip to Hlane Royal National Park was short and sweet. We were there by lunch time. The game drive in the park later the afternoon was a big disappointment as the park is totally





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overgrown by "sekelbos". The waterhole near the reception however was a delight since white rhino came to entertain the visitors late afternoon. They lazily strolled by not fazed in the least by all the spectators.

During the night a light drizzle started and the next morning we broke up camp in the rain. Very unseasonal for Swaziland, but every drop out of the skies are much appreciated.

Sondag het ons die tog Parque de Malongane toe aangepak. Gelukkig het dit gou ophou reën. By Namaacha grenspos was ons nogal op ons hoede, aan die Mosambiëkant, want van ons lede het daar al slegte ondervinde gehad met minder eerlike beamptes. Gelukkig was daar hierdie keer nie enige onaangenaamhede nie en die eerste deel van die pad in Mosambië het ook alles glad verloop.

Volgens al ons bronne was die brug by Boane, wat ons moes oorsteek, nog stukkend en wou ons kortpad oor die Habibi damwal vat. Voor die damwal is ons gestop. Die hekwag by die valboom wou ons eers nie laat oor ry nie. Na lang onderhandelinge is daar ooreengekom dat ons voertuie een-een oor die damwal mag ry. Die eerste twee voertuie is een-een oor. Daarna is almal met een slag deurgelaat! Die hekwag het seker moeg geraak vir die lang wag.

Round about eleven o'clock the easy riding for the day was over as we hit the gravel road. The tar road later on was described as potholes and "a thin layer on grey paint on it." The roads were recently graded and the going was good.

Then all of a sudden Malcolms' car engine died. The convoy stopped, bonnet open and six men were standing round one engine. Luckily the problem was sorted out very promptly and we were on the road again after a roadside picnic – thanx Frans for you expertise to identify the problem. We arrived at Malongane at about three o'clock.

Malongane is 'n juweel net 7 km noord van Ponto d'Ouro. Die kampeerplekke is skaduryk met inheemse bome wat oor elke staanplek troon. Die oord is op die strand met 'n strandkroeg wat borrel van die lewe. Eddie het die aand om die kampvuur begin speletjies speel en almal vermaak met sy skokmasjien – lekker gelag en goed gekuier!

When in Rome do as the Romans do, and when in Mozambique you drink R&R (rum and raspberry) or 2M and you eat peri-peri chicken or prawns as the Mozambicans do. This is exactly what we did on Monday "pub crawling" through the local village on our way to Ponto d'Ouro where we had lunch. Well done Elmari devouring 1,5kg prawns!

Low tide was unfortunately at half past five in the afternoon which made snorkelling impossible. André and Shaun did brave the water late afternoon with their goggles and flippers but the tide was still too high and the sea too rough to snorkel.

The troubles with Malcolm's car were unfortunately not over. When we left on Tuesday morning, he left his car at the dive centre in Malongane. His caravan was first owed by Jan and Elmari and later by Rodney and Megan. It was a long drive home. We left Malongane at eight in the morning and most arrived home after eight at night.

Thanx all, it was GREAT!





Supported by:

Andre Verster

# AUGUST 2011

*Hi Allan,*

*What a blast Swaziland and Mozambique was. The two game reserves in Swaziland were fantastic. They are rustic, small and intimate, we plan to return there soon. I had the misfortune of my car pinking and overheating on the sand track on the last leg to our campsite into Ponta Malongane, which caused a blown head gasket.*

*We had to leave the car there and alerted Cross Country Insurance who arranged for it to be collected and brought back. I was informed by the operator, that they will leave today (Friday) to go and collect it.*

*I also want to thank everybody who helped us get ourselves, most of our luggage and our trailer back home.*

*Thank you to Frans who diagnosed the problem, Jan & Elmarie for towing the trailer part of the way, Rodney & Megan who got the trailer to our house and last but not least, Andre and Jean for giving Lynda and I a ride home.*

*Kind regards,  
Malcolm and Lynda van Coller.*

By the way, we had a great trip to Swaziland/Mozambique. Of course, it always feels too short and it was a blue "Monday" yesterday because we got home after 9 pm on Tuesday. Andre did a good job and everyone was very complimentary.

Will speak soon!  
Regards  
Elmarie Swanepoel

*Hi Alan,*

*Just a wee bit of feedback and thanks for the great trip you organised for us to Moz, via Swaziland.*

*Once again just about everything was great: André as tour guide, scenery, events, travelling companionship, "cross-member" support (i.e. between group members!) especially with my caravan when the suspension of both the van and the Pajero seemed 'odd', and then when Malcolm's newly fitted V8 seemed to have blown a head gasket. It seemed strange to see their trailer behind a vehicle other than the green Patrol, and then to chat to the Van Collers via André's radio!*

*The way back home was quite a distance, but that was due to the Piet Retief road being under construction, for how many years now? Even so, it was good to travel along a route 'less travelled' and seeing new scenery, as we normally don't travel in that direction.*

*With just that little said, thanks again to you and André for an excellent trip.  
Johan and Retha.*





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Howzit Alan,

# AUGUST 2011

Just a quick note with some feedback to our recent Swazi/Moz Trip. We rained soaking wet in Swazi whilst packing up on our second day, who would of thought about packing in a dry Mack for a winter trip in Swazi ?? Not the Diggeden's....haha

Malcolm and Linda had some Car trouble "Blown Head Gasket" as we arrived in Moz, but a quick call to Cross Country Insurance and it seems they will sort this problem out and get the car back to RSA.

Moz was stunning, the riding in thick sand was a lot of fun and the resort and weather was splendid, so was the food, the 2M Beers and the R&R's. Bought a bottle or 15 to take back home.....my mates love Rum and Raspberry....lol

This was a super dooper trip, met great people and made new friends....exactly what it's all about. Andre Verster our guide was fantastic, handled the group well and planned the trip to perfection. Will do another trip with him any day.

That's all for now, see you at Koro Koro  
Cheers  
Shaun Diggeden

**CORRIE FEATURES ON THE WEB – MALIBA LODGE PRIZE WINNER..**  
<http://www.africa.co.ls/newsletter/2011-08-newsletterWeb.html#03>

**PATS BACK!!**  
Hi Alan

Yvonne and I returned last night from our East African safari. "Safari ngena" means good trip in Swahili. Highlight was summiting Kilimanjaro at 14h00 CAT on the 1/8/11. Lowlight was losing my fuel tank in the middle of the Serengeti. It just fell out and was being dragged down the road. Not easy to put back with 120 litres of diesel on board but we managed. Thank goodness for ratchet straps. We crossed the equator and went as far north as Mt Kenya.

Malawi is a no go area at the moment with rioting and no fuel. We had to get 80 litres of diesel on the black market at R22 per litre to get out.

Found some really cool places in both Tanzania and Kenya if the club is interested in doing some long haul trips in that direction.

Regards to all,

Patrick "adventure prevents dementia" Dillon.

There are those that say " anyone who tries to climb Kili at 66 years and 8 months. is already demented". A statement with which I am in full agreement



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## ***The Trading Post – Swop, Sell or Buy***

### **PAJERO LWB FOR SALE (GOOD BUY, THE VEHICLE IS KNOWN TO THE EDITOR)**

Vehicle details: Metallic Dark Blue 3.2D GLX 4x4 Auto, LWB, late 2005 model.

Extras: 150 000km, full service history  
Pirelli Scorpion ATR 265/70R16 tyres on Mag rims  
Tow Bar  
Roof top tent  
2 way radio  
Spot lights  
Aux batt box & connections & monitor  
12v fridge  
Inflatable jack  
Rear Coil Suspension: Inflatable in-coil airbags (Sorry, don't know what they are really called?)

Asking Price: R 140 000 + VAT

If there is anyone in the club who is interested, they can call me on 083 950 0401.

Even though I haven't been able to attend any club functions, I would like to congratulate you on the interesting e-mails that you put together for club members! It always makes for good reading, and leaves me feeling often quite jealous that I don't have the time to participate.

Regards,  
Brett Gordon

### **TYRES FOR SALE:**

4 x Maxis Big Horn Mud-Terrain Tyres.

They have covered approximately 10 to 15 000 km's and are in great condition.

Price R 6 000-00 for the set.

Contact: Frans Glanvill  
[glanvill@icon.co.za](mailto:glanvill@icon.co.za)

### **GPS FOR SALE:**

Garmin 276C in perfect condition, complete with 256Mb data card, ram suction mount, "sand bag" mount, dash mount, speaker incorporating cigarette plug, 220 volt power adapter, USB data cable, users guides & booklets all in original packaging.

Price R 5 500-00

Contact Frans Glanvill at [glanvill@icon.co.za](mailto:glanvill@icon.co.za)

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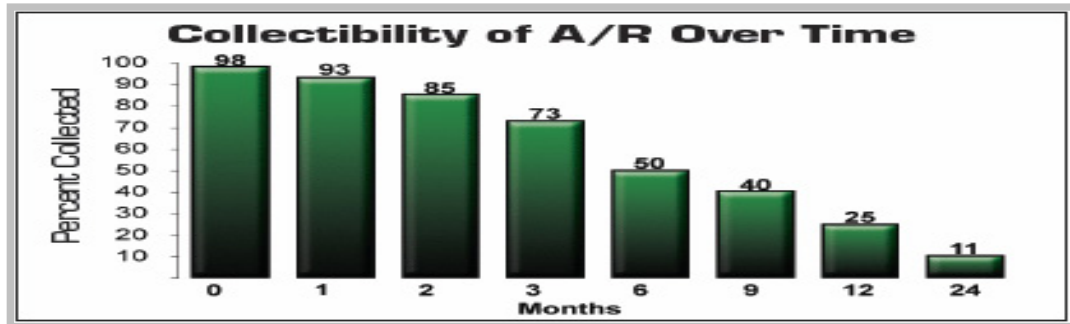
The banner features a yellow background with various plastic mouldings and products, including a red cooler, a blue cooler, a white cooler, and a black cooler. A person is shown using a red cooler. The text is in blue and black, with the slogan 'Anything's Possible' in a cursive font.



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## Legally Speaking....



### DEBT COLLECTING PHILOSOPHY

Many companies which faces the dilemma of collecting book debt/s are constantly looking for suitable mechanisms.

One should bear the following in mind in deciding upon an effective and suitable mechanism to collect your companies' debt:

1. *It should be proactive:* There is a reason a debtor is not making payment of its debt, act immediately when a deadline is reached. Take the next step without delay.
2. *Look for indicators:* Indicators will assist you in ensuring that the next step is made when and if required.
3. *Abide by your own rules:* Debtors should know that if the rules are not followed, that it will have consequences for them.
4. *Be consistent:* Debtors should know that there are no exceptions to your rules. If not followed, steps will be taken. **At every step the message is reinforced: every time the debtor ignores the indebtedness there is a consequence**
5. *It should be ethical:* Responsible companies take the appropriate steps and does not resort to ill contrived debt collection procedures. They follow the law.
6. *Take initiative:* In the collection of debt, or the handling of any dispute, one should take initiative and a creative result finding approach.
7. *It must be effective:* The become priority to a debtor, the chosen mechanism should have teeth. Without any dire consequences the goal of achieving priority and at the end a full recovery will not be achieved.

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8. It should be customised: Ensure that your debt is collected by a firm that understands your needs, your environment and most importantly your customers. Every company is unique, your solutions should be as well.

The most important rule for collecting debt is not to delay. Act immediately, your chances of recovery will improve significantly.

**Johan van Greunen**  
**Director**  
**Van Greunen & Associates Inc.**



*Van Greunen & Associates Inc.*

106 Panorama Avenue, Rooihuiskraal, Centurion 0157 • PO Box 68492, Highveld, 0169  
Tel: +27 (0)12 661-2065 • Fax: +27 (0)12 661-5494 • Email: [info@vga.co.za](mailto:info@vga.co.za) • Website: [www.vga.co.za](http://www.vga.co.za)  
Directors: J. Van Greunen • I.R. Steenekamp  
VAT No.: 4230227680 • REG No.: 2007/015007/21

## ***Flat Wheel – Light Relief***

At a world brewing convention in the States, the CEOs of various brewing organizations retire to the bar at the end of the day.

Bruce, CEO of Fosters, shouts to the barman: "In Australia , we make the best bloody beer in the world, so pour me a Fosters, mate."

Bob, CEO of Budweiser, calls out next: "In the States, we brew the king of them all - gimme a Bud."

Hans steps up next: "In Germany ve invented beer. Give me un Helles, ze REAL King of beers."

Jan, chief executive of Grolsch, follows by stating that Grolsch is the ultimate beer and asks for one with two fingers of foam on top.

Norman, chairman of SAB, is next: "Barman, give me a diet Coke with ice and lemon please."

The other four stare at him in stunned silence, then Bruce asks: "Aren't you going to have a Castle, Norm?"

Norman replies "Well, if you guys aren't drinking beer, then neither am I."

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## ***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) 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 now.1 Forssman Close, Dytchley Road, Barbeque Downs, Kyalami - 011 466 0155 – [www.frontrunner.co.za](http://www.frontrunner.co.za)

#### **2) 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](mailto:phillip@leisuresure.co.za) or on 083 306 5657 / Fax (012) 542 3564. Speak to Phillip (club member)

#### **3) 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](mailto:4x4offroad@mweb.co.za)

#### **4) 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

#### **5) 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.

#### **6) 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%**

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**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](http://www.pbeproducts.co.za)

Contact: Pieter Barnard / Tel/Fax: 012 658 5538

Mobile: 083 749 0445 / E-mail: [info@pbeproducts.co.za](mailto:info@pbeproducts.co.za)

## 7) 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](http://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!

Contact Richard on contact number is 011-795-9700 or [info@bigcountry4x4.com](mailto:info@bigcountry4x4.com)

## 8) TENT PURCHASES, REPAIRS AND CANVAS PRODUCTS

Tent repairs and custom made canvas accessories. Please check out our site at [www.caconcepts.co.za](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:echoacc@mweb.co.za).

Web: [www.echo4x4.co.za](http://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](mailto:kevin@gpsconsultants.co.za) / [marietjie@gpsconsultants.co.za](mailto:marietjie@gpsconsultants.co.za) / [www.gpsconsultants.co.za](http://www.gpsconsultants.co.za)

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

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### 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](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)

Owner - 4x4 Offroad Adventure Club (Gauteng)  
Partner - Isibonela Adventures cc  
Registered DEAT Cultural Tourist Guide - National  
Professional 4x4 Trail & Overland Guide - National  
Registered Assessor (TETA US)  
Member - SA National Offroad Training Association  
Member - 4 Wheel Drive Guides Association SA  
Bridgestone Ambassador 2008, 2009, 2010  
CAPESTORM Ambassador 2010, 2011

Regular Contributor – Offroad & Outdoor E-Zine / SA 4x4 / Bridgestone's Going Places Magazine / Cross Country Insurance X-Club Web Site

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