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## Trails & Tribulations...

Hi there enthusiasts,

Sadly the end is in sight. The year has seen it proverbial back end, without us having any control. The schools close this week coming, the holiday season starts for most, and a well-deserved rest is anticipated by most. It has been a tough year for most. Suppliers have felt the pinch of industrial action, raising costs, spend thrifty consumers and staff troubles. Those who have survived have welcomed our business and have shared their hope for 2012 to be a better year. We all hope so too.

Albeit that our club year end also is fast coming to an end, as die-hards, we never go without a bang. Thus we still have a Wilderness Training Course next weekend, and a lovely year end dinner at the sociable Enzo's Italian Pizzeria on Monday. We then head off to a long weekend bush camp at Koro Koro Resort in the Bela Bela district with a few club families camping and enjoying a communal Christmas feast together, as well as for a final camp and equipment check before our long haul down to the coast.

Then the club closes...or does it not. Not really, as we have 16 vehicles driving the Secrets of the Knysna Forest's 4x4 trail on 26 and 27 December in 2 convoys. Some of us are camping down at Knysna close to the Knysna Heads over the festive season and will be enjoying what that beautiful part of our country has to offer.

Well, another jam packed newsletter, which grows its readership base month by month! I wish to inform you that feel that it is sometimes too much of a read. The problem is now solved!!! With the introduction and explosion of the Tablet technology, one of my trust guides showed me how he enjoys the newsletter at a camping weekend last week. Simply download the PDF to his book storage area, open it up and wallah, get the machine to read it to you! This is amazing (for us technology adverse types), as you can do the same with SA 4x4, and other popular magazines. My wife is ecstatic...Now she can get rid of my 10 year collection of 4x4 and camping magazines that currently form huge piles in my house, weigh a ton, but MAY NOT be thrown away...mmm, I have this funny feeling I may get a good present this year, aside from the usual wonderful family, good children, love and pleasure which abounds this time of year. Hint hint!!!

So, next year will see the launch of the new legislative... NOW is to be no more. I post a section in the newsletter from the current NOW Chairman enlightening us all in what the next steps are. So keep watching this space, I will keep you posted. In line with these changes, our unit standard 4x4 training was executed with precision and enthusiasm this year and will go from strength to strength next year. The legislative requirements as brought on by the Norma and Standards, the eco-sensitive areas and such like, will see this arena growing steadily. So, wanna be with the pack, send an email to [Isibonela@mweb.co.za](mailto:Isibonela@mweb.co.za) and we will send you all the details for 2012.



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Finally, we finished our commitment with the EWT Crane Counting Project. Next year I am going to support a project closer to home, and have indicated interest to the management of the Rietvlei Nature Reserve. We will see what it can bring up for us. It is our duty as 4x4 enthusiasts to get involved with any responsible outdoor initiative.

The new year will see us in GP being forced to start paying the e-Toll. With Diesel just becoming ridiculously priced, where will it all end. Well, maybe Low Range and a bush veld route to work can now definitely become reality, as driving on the N1 is gonna be stupid! Talking about fuel, check our FUEL SAVING tips for your holiday provided by from BPSA.

Next year, our club scene has a jam packed year again, with cross border jaunts to Namibia including Dune Trips x 2, Koakaland Safari, the stunning new Luvhuvu trail and many more. We also look forward to our annual sojourn with our good friends from the Bloemfontein Eko Klub down in the Free State (Moolmanshoek).

Finally, as the year ends, and we move on to our next birthday's, I would like to leave you with this wonderful story shared with me by one of my members recently:

*The older I get, the more I enjoy Saturday mornings. Perhaps it's the quiet solitude that comes with being the first to rise, or maybe it's the unbounded joy of not having to be at work. Either way, the first few hours of a Saturday morning are most enjoyable. A few weeks ago, I was shuffling toward the kitchen with a steaming cup of coffee in one hand and the morning paper in the other. What began as atypical Saturday morning turned into one of those lessons that life seems to hand you from time to time.*

*Let me tell you about it. I turned the volume up on my radio in order to listen to a Saturday morning talk show. I heard an older sounding chap with a golden voice. You know the kind, he sounded like he should be in the broadcasting business himself. He was talking about "a thousand marbles" to someone named "Tom". I was intrigued and sat down to listen to what he had to say.*

*"Well, Tom, it sure sounds like you're busy with your job. I'm sure they pay you well but it's a shame you have to be away from home and your family so much. Hard to believe a young fellow should have to work sixty or seventy hours a week to make ends meet. Too bad you missed your daughter's dance recital." He continued, "Let me tell you something Tom, something that has helped me keep a good perspective on my own priorities." And that's when he began to explain his theory of a "thousand marbles."*

*"You see, I sat down one day and did a little arithmetic. The average person lives about seventy-five years. know, some live more and some live less, but on average, folks live about seventy-five years."*

*"Now then, I multiplied 75 times 52 and I came up with 3900 which is the number of Saturdays that the average person has in their entire lifetime. Now stick with me Tom, I'm getting to the important part."*

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*"It took me until I was fifty-five years old to think about all this in any detail", he went on, "and by that time I had lived through over twenty-eight hundred Saturdays. I got to thinking that if I lived to be seventy-five, I only had about a thousand of them left to enjoy." "So I went to a toy store and bought every single marble they had. I ended up having to visit three toy stores to round-up 1000 marbles. I took them home and put them inside of a large, clear plastic container right here in my workshop next to the radio. Every Saturday since then, I have taken one marble out and thrown it away." "I found that by watching the marbles diminish, I focused more on the really important things in life. There is nothing like watching your time here on this earth run out to help get your priorities straight."*

*"Now let me tell you one last thing before I sign-off with you and take my lovely wife out for breakfast. This morning, I took the very last marble out of the container. I figure if I make it until next Saturday then I have been given a little extra time. And the one thing we can all use is a little more time."*

*"It was nice to talk to you Tom, I hope you spend more time with your loved ones, and I hope to meet you again someday. Have a good morning!" You could have heard a pin drop when he finished. Even the show's moderator didn't have anything to say for a few moments. I guess he gave us all a lot to think about. I had planned to do some work that morning, then go to the gym. Instead, I went upstairs and woke my wife up with a kiss.*

*"C'mon honey, I'm taking you and the kids to breakfast." "What brought this on?" she asked with a smile. "Oh, nothing special, it's just been a long time since we spent a Saturday together with the kids. Hey, can we stop at a toy store while we're out? I need to buy some marbles."*

Makes you think does it not!!!!

Wherever you go on holiday this season, be safe, stay sober, drive carefully and spend as much time with your loved ones! Our time on earth is precious!

Sadly, our family's trusted friend and companion for the past 8 years passed on to doggy-heaven this morning! RIP Huxtable the Basset, we will miss your friendly character around the house!!

Be safe!

***Yours in 4x4ing.***



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

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## *Calendar of Training / Events*

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

Date	Event	Venue
A new annual list will be provided in 2012		

### **ROADS TO ROAM**

The final tour for the year is a wonderful 3 week holiday to Mozambique, departing from the Komatipoort border post on 26 December 2012, heading for Vilanculos, Morrungulo, Tofo and Bilene, returning to Johannesburg on 15 January 2012. With the later departure we hope to miss the crazy holiday rush, the diving up there is superb and Tofo offers the most amazing "Swimming with Whale Sharks" excursions. We'll be staying in Morrungulo for 7 days to enable my Dutch guest to do his open water dive course before heading south and back to Johannesburg.

Keen to join us? We are camping and there is still space on the campsite, so give us a call.

Happy Roaming!

Lizette Swart

Roads to Roam Adventure Holidays

Cell: +27 83 22 631 22

Email: [info@roadstoroom.co.za](mailto:info@roadstoroom.co.za)

FB: <http://www.facebook.com/roads.toroam>

Web: [www.roadstoroom.co.za](http://www.roadstoroom.co.za)

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

### **WANT TO WORK FOR LA SPORT. VACANCY IN PRETORIA**

A leading 4WD fitment centre & shop is looking for experienced and dynamic sales staff to join their growing busy team in Pretoria. The right candidate will have a proven track record in sales in the 4WD industry along with sound computer skills and an excellent customer care attitude. Base salary and commission is based on your skills and what you can bring to our team.

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Interested? Please send us your CV and we will contact you for a confidential interview:  
[lasport@lantic.net](mailto:lasport@lantic.net)

## **NOW WILL DISSAPPEAR AND NEW STRUCTURES TO BE FORMED IN 2012**

***Significant changes to NOW to give effect to the draft Norms and Standards in so far as Co-Regulation is concerned.***

The final draft Norms and Standards have been submitted to DEA. Initial feedback is that the Public Consultation Phase will only happen in the first quarter next year, 2012. Our sincerest thanks for the constructive manner of your participation and your support during this process to set-up our own legal framework for co-regulation of the recreational off-road sector.

However, we did take note of several key questions that were raised during this process, and especially with regard to industry representation, better communication strategies and long-term funding for the NOW / Co-Regulatory Board processes. The NOW team took these inputs to heart, and through several internal processes, we revisited a number of areas. This communication is to inform you that NOW will:

- Continue with the momentum provided with the completed Norms and Standards and plan to initiate the establishment of the Co-Regulatory Board (provisionally named the South African Off-Road Industry Council) within the next 5 months, in anticipation of the legal mandate to implement registration and Norms and Standards;
- Instead of rectifying representation challenges for NOW, to address these changes as part of the establishment of the South African Off-Road Industry Council;
- Instead of pouring effort and time into NOW communication strategies and tools, to rather develop and implement proper and meaningful communication strategies and tools for the South African Off-Road Industry Council;
- Address the fundraising risks and future financial viability as part of the establishment of the South African Off-Road Industry Council;
- Prevent the scenario where the off-road sector have two Boards i.e. the current NOW or Representative Board AND a legally empowered Co-Regulatory Board (South African Off-Road Industry Council). This would have obvious duplication of effort, time, costs, as well as inherent risks regarding governance and mandates. Therefore the South African Off-Road Industry Council will be established to address both the representative and regulatory functions;
- Take the lessons learned over the past 6 years, combined with the National Off-Road Strategy from 2008, and develop the next 5 year Strategic Action Plan collaboratively for the South African Off-Road Industry Council to give effect to Norms and Standards (legal mandate) as well as Responsible Tourism, Socio-economic transformation, Partnerships / Networks and Co-Regulation.

In Practical Terms:

- The current NOW Board will be terminated and cease to be operational by the end of March 2012;
- The new South African Off-Road Industry Council will be established to be operational by the 01 April 2012;



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To give effect to the above, NOW will:

- Rationalise the current staff complement due to current funding challenges as well as to reflect these anticipated changes. The current NOW staff positions are:
  - o National Convener, that was responsible for the representative function of the NOW Board
  - o National Director, that was responsible for the regulatory functions (Norms and Standards)

These two staff positions will be "rationalised" into a single position that will be:

- o Managing Director / CEO, responsible for the conclusion of the NOW Board, the establishment of the South African Off-Road Industry Council and especially the implementation / piloting of the Norms and Standards.
- o Further appointments will reflect the need to implement the duties of the South African Off-Road Industry Council, including the Norms and Standards, and may include positions such as Trails and Track officers and Registration officers, etc.
- Host a series of workshops with the Executive committee's of the various Associations (AAWDC, OGATO, SANOTA, SAROOF) to discuss in more detail the above communication, the implications and roll-out plan (ASAP, or at least before the Geographical Workshops);
- Host three geographical workshops, open to the off-road sector, to discuss these changes in detail and to provide platforms to gather input from the off-road sector (by the mid of November 2011). **(DELAYED TO 2012. Ed)**
- Continuous communication throughout the process, NOW will establish a temporary website for information sharing purposes. The current website will be one communication point that will eventually direct people to the new website.

We trust you will find the above communication in line with our efforts to optimally pave the way for the implementation of the new legal framework, the Norms and Standards, for the Off-Road sector. We will shortly contact you to set-up the workshop session with the Association Executive committee's as well as to provide dates and venues for the industry geographical workshops (Cape Town, Durban and Gauteng)

Yours faithfully  
Now Chairman - Maurice Britten

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE – KRUGER NATIONAL PARK**

From 1 December 2011 visitors who travel through the **Kruger National Park (KNP)** using its border gates as ports of entry or exit through to the neighbouring countries such as **Mozambique**, will be **required to produce a valid overnight booking in either Kruger or Limpopo National Park.**

The **restrictions will apply at all entrance gates in the KNP leading to the two border gates i.e. Pafuri and Giriyyondo** which are both found in the Nxanatseni (northern) region of the park. "**The intention of some travellers, who made use of these two border gates on a drive through basis, had a negative impact on the park visitors.** We had to introduce these control measure on those routes in order to eliminate the **undesired tendencies such as heavy laden, un-roadworthy vehicles, speeding, road kills** etc; all these which were against the National Road Safety Act and spoiling the experience for our park visitors" said the HOD Public Relations, William Mabasa.





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To allow visitors who have already planned their holiday schedule in Mozambique but have not secured accommodation booking yet, an additional fee of R150 per person will be charged to allow one to travel via the Park; however one should still provide valid proof that no accommodation is available in either of the two National Parks and possess the required travel documents. This option will only be available for a period of six months, effectively from December 1, 2011.

Essentially, without a confirmed booking and confirmation that all facilities are fully booked, such travellers will be refused admission and they would need to use other routes outside the Park leading to their destination.

"The Pafuri and Giriyondo border gates are meant to afford tourists to travel between the Greater Limpopo Transfrontier Parks without having to exit the parks. The routes for the border gates are classified as tourists roads and do not allow for commercial traffic therefore the idea is to encourage people to travel from one national park to another;" concluded Mabasa.

So, be sure to keep all the transaction details of your next booking in the Kruger and Limpopo national park close at hand when travelling in that part of the country. Kruger National Park accommodation can easily be organised with a travel agency.

### 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

### GOING ON HOLIDAY BY ROAD? 10 EASY WAYS TO SAVE ON FUEL

The holidays tend to be a time of spending not saving, but there are ways to save money at the fuel pump this festive season. Mbulelo Mthi, BP's technical fuels manager says by being aware of the aspects that increase fuel consumption, you can save substantially on your fuel bill.

He offers the following suggestions:

1. *Inflate to correct tyre pressure:* Under-inflated tyres are not only dangerous, but they also increase the rolling resistance between the vehicle's tyres and the road. To overcome the extra drag, the engine will have to work harder and therefore consume more fuel.
2. *Maintain your vehicle:* A badly-maintained vehicle is unlikely to perform as it is designed to. Problems such as partially-blocked filters, poor oil performance and emissions control systems





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under-performing may occur. These and other factors will prevent your engine from functioning as well as the manufacturer intended it to, which can result in increased fuel consumption and higher emissions.

3. *Remove roof box rails:* Any external fixings such as roof boxes, their rails and bike racks should be removed when not in use. They change the air flow over the vehicle and increase its aerodynamic draft. This means a greater force is needed to drive the vehicle through the air, requiring extra power from your engine, in turn increasing fuel consumption and emissions.

4. *Use high quality fuels:* Using high quality fuels, such as BP Ultimate, will allow the vehicle to run more efficiently, enabling improved combustion quality thus reducing fuel consumption and lowering emissions. Independent tests show that the fuel economy benefit of BP Ultimate Unleaded can be up to 25km more per tank and up to 36km extra when using BP Ultimate Diesel, compared to ordinary fuels.

5. *Reduce the use of air-conditioning:* The air-conditioning unit contains a compressor pump driven by your engine. When air conditioning is used the compressor uses power from the engine, increasing the work it has to do. This requires more fuel and produces increased emissions.

6. *Remove unnecessary weight:* Carrying unnecessary weight in the boot or cabin of the vehicle will make the engine work harder when accelerating - this particularly affects stop/start driving. Simply removing this load will reduce fuel consumption and lower emissions.

7. *Reduce stop/start driving:* The engine has to work hard when accelerating and every time the brakes are used this energy is lost as heat. By observing and predicting road and traffic conditions ahead, the effects of stop/start driving can be reduced. By simply lifting off the accelerator earlier and gently slowing down will improve fuel economy.

8. *Reduce excess idling:* Unnecessary idling will consume fuel and produce emissions even whilst stationary. During periods of several minutes or more, where it is safe to do so, switching off your engine will stop fuel consumption and emissions completely.

9. *Don't accelerate hard:* Accelerating hard and using high engine speeds will make the engine consume more fuel. This is because, under high loads and speeds, the engine is not operating very efficiently. Accelerating more steadily to the desired speed will reduce fuel consumption and emissions. Using the engine in its most efficient range can reduce consumption and emissions:

- For petrol, changing gear at 2500rpm is recommended
- For diesel, changing gear at 2000rpm is recommended

10. *Avoid short journeys:* On short journeys when an engine is cold it uses more fuel because some of the energy in the fuel is used to heat the engine. The catalytic converter in the exhaust of modern vehicles, which reduces harmful emissions, is also less efficient when cold. Cold-start journeys, therefore, lead to high emissions and high fuel consumption for several minutes after start up. It is best to avoid such journeys as much as possible.





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## **MALARIA VACCINE CUTS RISK BY HALF**

The risk for children in Africa of getting malaria is thought to be reduced by as much as 50 per cent as a result of a vaccine against the disease. According to the first results of an ongoing phase III trial released, the vaccine (known as RTS,S) is the first of its kind to attempt to block a parasite, rather than bacteria or viruses.

The trial is underway in seven sub-Saharan African regions, and preliminary findings from data from 6 000 children show that children, aged between 17 months and 5 years who received three doses of the vaccine, saw a 56 per cent lower risk of developing clinical malaria and a 47 per cent lower risk of developing severe malaria (the stage of the illness that can be fatal).

Malaria kills almost 780 000 people per year, most of them children under the age of five in rural or impoverished regions of sub-Saharan Africa, where clinics and commodities can be difficult to access. Together with long-lasting insecticide-treated nets, indoor residual spraying, rapid diagnostic tests, and artemisinin-based combination therapies, this new vaccine can make a major contribution to the global goal of "near-zero deaths by 2015".

Chairperson of the RTS,S Clinical Trials Partnership, Tsiri Agbenyega, stated that "This is remarkable when you consider that there has never been a successful vaccine against a human parasite," but warns that while the results are encouraging, "we still have a way to go." More than 15 000 children in seven African countries are enrolled in the trial, which is set to continue for two more years.

## **THEFT OF SOUTH AFRICAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

It has come to my attention that one of my designs, namely a roof carrier, (roof rack) has been copied by a Chinese company and is being imported into South Africa. (And elsewhere?) This rack is the result of many years of experience and has input from various users in the industry.

Designed on a CAD system and subject to finite analysis techniques, the rack has been subjected to many stringent practical tests both in the field and at various test institutions. The most recent test was a finite element and fatigue analysis by Meced Systems. (The direct result of a request from a customer.) Passed with flying colours!!

The result is a strong, FLEXIBLE, (very important) adaptable and practical rack. Its mounting systems are strong and adjustable in all directions. (This reduces the stress on the vehicle roof.) This rack has been chosen for various extreme expeditions including an overland trip to the South Pole. It is the number ONE choice Norwegian military, SAAB Grintech Germany and others.

A great deal of South African time, effort, expertise and MONEY has gone into this product and the Chinese, with the connivance of a South African retailer, have stolen it. This true of many other South African products.

Most SA manufacturers are too small to take the legal route against intellectual property theft. But, steps can be taken to limit this abuse of South African products.

Individuals:-

- Look for SA manufacturers names on the products, (In this case African Outback)
- Look closely at the quality. Welds, burrs, distortion etc







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Additional interior features aboard the TrailBlazer include an auxiliary power plug with USB and Bluetooth connectivity, numerous stowage compartments, dual-zone climate control and a newly-developed infotainment system.

According to GM's Middle East Operations president and managing director, John Stadwick, "Although this is a show vehicle, the overall design is faithful to the production version that will arrive in Chevrolet showrooms next year." So, lose some of the exterior brightwork and the glitzier interior elements, and what you'll see will be the product set to take on the likes of the Fortuner, Everest and Pajero Sport.

In concept guise, the TrailBlazer features an all-wheel-drive system and is powered by GM's new (and as yet unrated) 2,8-litre turbodiesel powerplant with variable-geometry turbocharger to serve up more flexible power delivery.

The Trailblazer will be launched in South Africa, with timing, model line-up, specifications and pricing to be advised at a later stage. It will be interesting to see whether GMSA decides to stick the bow-tie on the nose of locally-bound models or possibly resurrect the Isuzu Frontier moniker to tie in with the new **KB pick-up** upon which it is based.

### PETS – GOING ON HOLIDAY – NEED A SITTER?

Goeie middag, julle!

Vir die van julle wat so gelukkig is om die kus-gebiede op te soek of net lekker vir familie te gaan kuier oor hierdie Kers-seisoen en met n groot gewete al jou troeteldiere by die huis moet los.....ek het die oplossing !!!!

Ek kyk agter jou diertjies en siedaar...daar is jou gemoedsrus wat jy nodig het om die vakansie in te gaan.....

Van Hamster (jip!) tot by hond, kat , vis en as julle mooi vra die " bearded-dragon" ook, selfs opsionele diens vir die huis se gordyne, ligte en swembaddens, sodat jy met n geruste hart lekker kan vakansie hou !

Stuur gerus my advertensie aan vriende in die Wierda-Park (Centurion) omgewing, sodat ek n kwotasie vir elkeen se persoonlike behoeftes kan gee, onderhoud kan reel en die nodige reelings kan tref.

Vanaf R45 per dag...Byvoorbaat dankie,  
Heidi de Villiers – 079 681 7920

### NEW UPDATE FOR GARMIN MONTANA GPS

New software release published on [www.garmin.com](http://www.garmin.com): Montana Beta 3.63

To view the new software on the website, use this link:  
<[http://www.garmin.com/support/download\\_details.jsp?id=5680](http://www.garmin.com/support/download_details.jsp?id=5680)>

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## **TOLLING WON'T BE SCRAPPED - ANC**

Thousands of people thronged to the Johannesburg City Hall early this month in protest against the implementation of the Gauteng road tolling system. But it appears the battle was lost a long time ago. On Tuesday, the ANC in the Gauteng Legislature rejected any attempt by Cosatu and the various opposition parties to put on hold the implementation of phase 1 of the Gauteng Freeway Improvement Project.

Gauteng Premier Nomvula Mokonyane was not present when the decision was taken. She and other senior Gauteng leaders, such as provincial secretary David Makhura, have expressed their opposition to the tolls in public and accused the SA National Roads Agency Ltd (Sanral) of having failed to consult widely before announcing the early tariffs.

Gauteng DA caucus leader Jack Bloom pointed out that those leaders had been openly critical of the tolling system before the latest ANC decision to endorse phase 1 of the project. He quoted Mokonyane as saying: "Tolling will remain, but the issue is the implementation of the tolling strategy. We don't want to have a strategy that will impact negatively on our economy, where people (especially business) may just easily move away from our province and consider other options."

Bloom said Makhura had also been against the tolls. "In the absence of an affordable, reliable and efficient public transport system, the proposed tolling system will have disastrous consequences for the people of Gauteng," he was quoted as having said.

But ANC members in the legislature on Tuesday were inflexible, despite a call by Cosatu and other civil rights organisations on November 11 to all Gauteng Legislature members to campaign for a total ban on tolling. The trade union federation also indicated it would launch civil disobedience campaigns if the tolls went ahead.

Gauteng Roads and Transport MEC Ismail Vadi said the tolling of Gauteng roads was a "done deal", accepted by the cabinet, and would be implemented early next year. Vadi launched a veiled attack on Cosatu, saying "striking a partnership with the private sector to develop our road and public infrastructure is not tantamount to privatising our roads, as was alleged in some quarters.

"On the contrary, it is inviting private sector- funding for investment in public infrastructure, based on the principle of a fair rate of return to the investors." Vadi was outright in his support for Gauteng e-tolling, unlike his other ANC colleagues, who were evasive in their responses. He also rejected the opposition's views that the poor were more likely to suffer if the system went ahead. "The department has noted with appreciation that the cabinet-approved tariffs are considerably less than the initial tariffs proposed by Sanral.

"The discounted tariffs have been reduced from 49.5 cents a km to 40 cents – a reduction of almost 20 percent. "We are also pleased that the minister (of roads and transport) has exempted minibus taxis and bus operators from paying toll fees.

"This is a significant concession to ordinary working people, the poor and the unemployed, who are hard hit by the rising costs of transport in our province. At the same time, it underpins our policy of promoting the use of public transport." Vadi said he supported the position of the

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minister, S'bu Ndebele, that Sanral should not proceed with the implementation of the proposed future phases of the freeway project.

Reacting to the decision, Cosatu spokesman Patrick Craven said the labour federation would go ahead with its campaigns. Sanral CEO Nazir Alli said Ndebele and the provincial government had never opposed phase 1 of the project. - The Star

### **SANPARKS HONORARY RANGER RHINO INITIATIVE**

The [SANParks Honorary Rangers](#) have launched a fundraising initiative that will lend ongoing support to combat poaching. Unitrans Volkswagen and Audi Division have pledged to donate R500 for every vehicle they sell. Thirteen Unitrans dealerships will participate.

The initiative was launched on 21 September 2011 and the first donation of R500 000 was handed over. Kevin Gillmer, divisional chief executive of Unitrans VW and Audi, said: "The Big Four is just not an option... this war has got to be won."

Initial estimates are that the average monthly sponsorship should amount to between R400 000 and R450 000. In year one the aim is to raise more than R5 million for counter poaching, which will make this the single largest such donation ever received in the history of SANParks.

As part of the sponsorship, Unitrans Volkswagen will make two Amarok 4x4 vehicles available for the counter poaching teams. Hopefully these powerful vehicles will give rangers the edge when tracking poachers.

One of the 4x4s will be used by the soon-to-be-established Dog Unit, which Unitrans VW and Audi will also be sponsoring. The poachers had better watch out - soon there will be keen sniffer dogs hot on their heels!

### **Did you know?**

This year 68 poachers have been caught in Kruger National Park alone.

### **MONROE LAUNCHES THEIR NEW RANGE OF REPLACEMENT SPRINGS**

Monroe has just officially launched their new range of quality replacement Coil Springs, with their first local stocks having been unloaded in November. Designed as an OE spec replacement spring, rather than an up-rated, extended or dropped spring, and being an economical alternative that of the car manufactures product.

The majority of these OE spec springs are made in their custom-built springs plant in Australia, which has the technology to produce the most modern hot and cold process springs, as well as *banana*, *taper wire* and *mini-block*.

The initial local range is limited, but will be rapidly expanded.

With over 3,000 items covering 97% of all cars currently circulating on European roads, Monroe South Africa has a large range to choose from.

**Banana springs** apply radial force due to their special shape and ensure optimal control of the vehicle at all speeds. Unlike conventional coil spring types, in taper wire springs, the wire





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diameter varies in size to achieve progressive spring rate. As a result, the spring rate increases in proportion to the spring compression rate.

**Monroe taper wire springs** are fitted with protective sleeves used to avoid wear due to coils touching each other when the spring is compressed.

**Mini-block springs** are an advanced development of the taper-wire type. They have a rugby ball shape, offer a longer life, make less noise and have compact dimensions. In addition, mini-block spring coils compress perfectly without touching. These increasingly popular springs are fitted only on rear axles, therefore they also improve boot space. Mini-block springs are included in the original equipment of popular car models such as the Audi A3, BMW 3-series and VW Golf IV.

Monroe Springs may be ordered through Midas, AutoZone, Hi-Q, Supa Quick, Autoquip, Kwik-Fit and Speedy outlets.

Contact 011 574 5603 for more information

### **NEW RHINOS FOR RIETVLEI RESERVE**

Two new female rhino calves for Rietvlei Nature Reserve was delivered and released on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November 2011. These will replace the animals that were poached on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2010. We call them India and Kilo as we go down the alphabet. Their ear notches are 20 and 22.

They were born in Hluhluwe Umfolozi Game Reserve in KwaZulu Natal we think 2007 and 2008 respectively. We hope they will be safe and happy on Rietvlei and have lots of calves in a few years.

Thanks for everybody that is keeping their eyes open for poachers and phone us regularly if they spot anything suspicious. We literally have thousands of eyes on Rietvlei and its rhinos.

A Special thanks to the guys at Waterkloof AFB Tower that monitor air traffic over Rietvlei NR.

Thanks for the donations the Friends received we will make good use of it and protect Rietvlei Rhinos as best we can!

Riaan Marais – Functional Head, RNR

### **LA SPORT PRETORIA EAST MOVES**

LA Sport Menlyn / Pretoria East has relocated to new premises. We are now located in the Hazeldean Shopping Centre (second entrance) by Virgin active gym, in Silver Lakes Drive.

We are extremely proud to be operating from these premises, as it is truly is a flag ship store, we have a huge showroom with everything on display from campers, suspension, canopies, draw systems, tyres and rims and roof racks in fact anything and everything 4x4 and camping related. Our workshop is also state of the art with a 12 bay work space, lift, pit and wash bay area.

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We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your patience and understanding during the move, and to invite you to come see us at our awesome new shop! We as always look forward to be of service to you!

Kindest Regards  
The LA Sport Pta East team.  
Tel: 012 809 0090 \ Fax: 012 809 1087

## **BUFFALO HILLS SPECIALS**

Outdoor Exhibitions has teamed up with [Buffalo Hills Lodges & Safaris](#), to offer you an incredible December Holiday Special in the Garden Route!

Stay for one or two nights at Buffalo Hills: dinner, bed and breakfast, guided morning game walks, and a [Nyati jji Distillery tour & mampoer tasting](#) AND enjoy one extra activity per day at no extra charge!

Choose activities from:

- Bungy jump with **Face Adrenalin** at Bloukrans Bridge - the highest bungy bridge in the world;
- A **Tree Top Canopy Tour** at Tsitsikamma;
- A tour of the **Knysna Elephant Park**;
- A kayaking trip with **Ocean Blue Adventures** in Plettenberg Bay.
- A relaxing **Keurbooms River Ferry Cruise**.

### **1 Night Special**

R 950.00 per adult sharing per night / Includes one activity from above.

### **2 Nights Special**

R 1,700.00 per adult sharing / Includes two activities from above.

- These offers are valid from 21 October to 20 December 2011 & from 5 January to 29 February 2012;
- Children under 12 stay at R 475.00 for one night;
- If two adults are staying for 2 nights, we'll host two children sharing for free (and we charge R 385.00 per night for additional children);
- Children do not qualify for free additional activities;
- Subject to availability.

### **Our Standard Rack Rates for accommodation:**

1 Night - R 950.00 per adult, R 475.00 per child below 12.

2 Nights - R 850.00 per adult per night - for every two adults, 2 children below 12 years of age stay free. Additional children below 12 stay at R 385.00 per night.

All Standard Rates includes dinner, bed and breakfast, guided morning game walks, and a Nyati jji Distillery tour & mampoer tasting

Buffalo Hills Day Visitor Activities:





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- Game Drives & Game Walks - R250.00 per adult; children below 12 years - less 50%. Trips about 2 ½ hours;
- ½ Day Programme - R650.00 per adult; children below 12 - less 50%. Includes tea or coffee, a guided walk, farm style breakfast, a safari game drive, a Nyati Distillery tour and mampoer tasting, and traditional lunch;
- Mountain Bike Trails - Self Guided rides at R 100.00 per person; Guided rides at R 250.00 per person. 1 to 3 hours; minimum 2 riders per trail. Mountain bike hire additional and by arrangement.

### [Buffalo Hills Game Reserve & Lodges / AA Superior Grading](#)

Call Tony to book your December Breakaway: + 27(0)82 771 9370 or click [here](#) for us to contact you.

Warm Regards

**Tony and Maria**

**Buffalo Hills**

### **NAMIBIAN OUTLOOK FOR 2012**

#### **The outlook for 2012 – by Tour Brief – Namibia**

At Tour Brief we have a policy that aims to be constructive. Unfortunately current circumstances are grim, so what follows is an alert to the local industry.

2012 will be a difficult year for the Namibian industry. The signs are clear: Europe will not be productive, the new markets of the USA and China are unlikely to deliver the breakthroughs that Namibia wants, and regional tourism is likely to begin declining as retail operations begin to open in Angola. In addition to this, the 2012 Olympics will attract a fair portion of travel budgets to the United Kingdom. The situation with Thomas Cook also points to Namibia's vulnerability with major wholesalers.

In Namibia, the industry is rationalising. Some lodges have closed or are being mothballed. Some lodges are reportedly for sale. Others are reported to have received financial support from abroad. A number of operators are reorganising their operations for better economies of scale.

None of this is new, but there are a number of factors that have to be highlighted:

#### **Relationships are important**

Local and overseas operators, as well as lodges, should preserve relationships with an eye on a return to normal business, once the situation improves. The cost of establishing a business relationship is an expense to all. If the flow of information is disrupted, that investment has to be made once again.

#### **Employment opportunities will be reduced**

There has been considerable hope for an increase in employment from the Namibian tourism industry. Under the current conditions, expansion is too risky, and accommodation establishments will be hard pressed to maintain current employment levels.

#### **Conservation and communities need attention**

As tourism revenue declines, communities will be hard pressed to maintain conservation efforts. Hunting for the pot may become more common, poaching will become more common and if

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community lodges cannot afford to replace livestock lost to predators, predators will be killed, creating a loss of biodiversity for the future.

### **Cut throat pricing is bad for business**

Cut throat pricing approaches will not improve matters, and will not serve the destination. Starting price wars will reduce the value of the lodge in the long term and will weaken other lodges in the vicinity. This will also affect the long term commissions of local and overseas operators. Cuts may be necessary but it is prudent to keep them to the minimum and limit their duration.

The process of dealing with a recession is difficult. As noted above, the Namibian industry is changing. What will emerge at the other side is a more mature industry, with a better view of what its baseline is.

### **Brand shift for Namibia**

Namibia is taking a first step towards a brand shift in the form of a bid to host the Adventure Travel Trade Association's (ATTA) 2013 Adventure Travel World Summit. As noted in previous newsletters and comments, the current brand is focuses on a set of descriptive words but does not give a strong call to action. Positioning Namibia as an adventure destination makes sense on several levels.

Firstly, adventure travel encourages activities. To date the activity market has focused primarily on the coastal region. A focus on development of activities elsewhere will lead to strengthening of attractions at other destinations.

Secondly, adventure travel attracts a younger segment of travellers. This segment is known to spend more. Exposure of Namibia to a younger segment will also help Namibia to break its reliance on traditional markets, which now appear to be producing less travel.

Thirdly, positioning Namibia as an adventure destination will fill a niche that is currently not occupied by its neighbours, Botswana and South Africa. This will assist Namibia to differentiate itself and compete better.

Fourth, Namibia has a large number of activities, however these are rarely seen as a package. By packaging activities across a spectrum of local destinations not just destinations, there is the potential for novel products in the brochures of local and overseas operators.

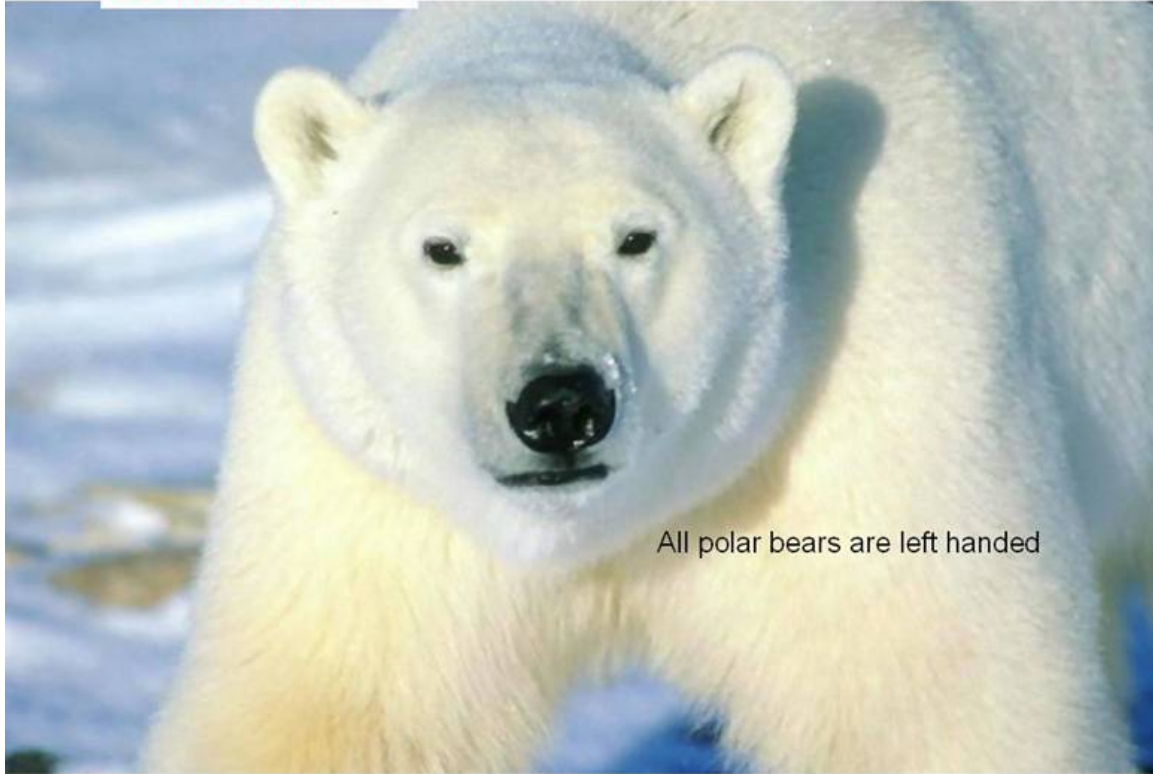
The summit takes place in 2013, however in order to win the bid, Namibia will have to market itself in 2012. This will create opportunities for those operators and establishments who are able to move fast. In fact, if the bid is successful, operators who want to make use of the opportunity will need to begin planning their products now.

Happy (budget) travels  
The Tour Brief Team

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## *Did You Know...*

DID YOU KNOW .....



All polar bears are left handed

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

### **TRADITIONAL TRAVEL AGENCY GROUPS TAKE SOUTH AFRICANS FOR A RIDE, SURVEY REVEALS**

Synovate was appointed by Travelstart.co.za to conduct research into the South African travel agency industry. The results are disturbing... they indicate that many travellers are receiving a raw deal... A very raw deal.

#### **In brief:**

- Traditional South African travel agencies overcharge customers for international flights
- Flight prices, for the same dates, vary by as much as 87% between agencies
- Traditional travel agents sell the flights that earn them the highest margin - even if it's not the cheapest deal for the customer



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- Nearly 40% of the surveyed traditional travel agents either refused to offer quotes over the phone or did not bother to get back with a quote at all
- Flight prices to Amsterdam, Frankfurt and London were the most inconsistently quoted

South Africans are being ripped off by traditional travel agencies who do not provide the best available flight prices for customers, even though that's what they are being paid and trusted to do, according to research commissioned by Online Travel Agency, Travelstart.

Synovate, a respected multi-national consumer research company appointed by Travelstart, contacted 50 different branches of six traditional travel agency groups to explore flight pricing, pricing consistency and the level of service offered. The researchers asked for the cheapest available prices for return economy class flights from Cape Town and Johannesburg to 10 international destinations that are popular with South African travellers.

### **Vast difference in prices**

The vast difference in prices quoted means that a family of four flying to London could be overcharged by as much as R30 000!

Of the 10 destinations surveyed, the prices for flights to Amsterdam, on the same dates, were the most alarming, with the quotes ranging from R6000 up to R14 300 from Cape Town, and from R7429 up to R12 426 from Johannesburg.

Even more alarming was the fact that six different outlets of one particular traditional travel agency group offered quotes that varied by up to R5300 on the Cape Town to Amsterdam route.

The prices quoted to London from Johannesburg on the same dates ranged from R8628 up to R16 155 - a massive variance of R7527, which equates to a variance of 87% for a family of four travelling to London. This would mean an overcharge of more than R30 000.

Flights to Frankfurt on the same dates were no better, with one agency quoting R6115 from Johannesburg and R6369 from Cape Town. This is great if you were lucky enough to call that particular agency to book those flights. However, if you were unlucky enough to call a different agency, you could have been hit with a fare of R11 400 from Johannesburg and R8213 from Cape Town - a whopping 86% more expensive in the case of the Johannesburg price!

### **There's a pattern here**

In addition, proving a pattern in the research, one traditional travel agency group offered five different quotes, varying by as much as R4577 from five of its Gauteng branches, for the exact same Amsterdam flights from Johannesburg.

"We were expecting different prices when we commissioned this research to compare our online service with traditional offerings, but we were shocked at the huge price variations from the traditional travel agency groups," says Stephan Ekbergh, CEO of Travelstart. "We were even more surprised at how different branches of the same travel agency group were quoting such different fares. This research shows that South African travellers simply cannot trust that the traditional travel agencies will get them the best available flight deal first time round."

Ekbergh explains that every travel agency (whether online or traditional) has access to the same





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fares distributed by the airlines, worldwide. "So pricing discrepancies, like we have seen in these results, occur when travel agencies load fares with exorbitant and inconsistent service fees.

### **Good customer service practices often sadly lacking**

"Clever marketing and advertising campaigns, like 'price beat' guarantees and promising unbeatable prices lead customers to believe that they can trust the big buying power of the traditional travel agency groups. This research proves exactly the opposite."

Ekbergh also says that this could be due to modest salaries within the travel industry. Many agents are compensated with a small base salary and a commission structure based on the service fees that they charge, so it's hard for agents to always have the customer's best interest at heart.

What's worse is that nearly 40% of the traditional travel agencies surveyed did not offer the very basics of good customer service - some did not bother to respond with a quote when they promised to do so, and others refused to offer a quote over the phone.

"Many traditional travel agents prefer to deal with a customer face-to-face. If they can see that a customer is a novice to the world of travel, or is just too busy to do their own homework, they will simply suggest the flight on which they can make the highest margin," Ekbergh comments.

### **Online is a better way!**

"In the US, up to 50% of all flight bookings are made online," says Ekbergh. "This trend is slowly catching on in South Africa, with 5% of flight bookings currently being made online.

Consumers are realising that online travel agencies offer them the advantages of lower prices, greater transparency, more flexibility, convenience, a wider choice, and more control over their flight booking experience."

Booking flights online allows consumers to take control of their own travel arrangements, with all the relevant options visible on one screen - enabling them to compare routes, airlines, times, stops and to choose which flights they want. They can also choose how much they want to spend on potential add-ons like insurance.

"The beauty of online travel shopping is that you can do it whenever you want to, even if you're sitting in bed, in your pyjamas, late at night. Every step is transparent, you are in charge" says Ekbergh.

### **Asata discounts Travelstart's findings**

Reacting to the survey's findings, the Association of South African Travel Agents (Asata) has discounted the findings of a Travelstart survey that found South African travellers are in danger of being ripped off because the prices from different travel agencies differ so widely.

### **SAD NEWS FROM RIETVLEI NATURE RESERVE**

It is with great sadness that I want to tell you that one of the cheetahs on Rietvlei (Juba) died of old age this weekend. We found him on Friday and took him to a holding area but by Saturday evening (15 October 2011) he died.



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With help from Deon Cilliers of the National Cheetah Management Program 2 cheetah males arrived at Rietvlei Nature Reserve on 6 March 2002 and were released in Rietvlei on 8 August 2002. These two males come from Karongwe Game Reserve in Mpumalanga where they were born ( $\pm$  1995) and were brothers that formed a coalition. They hunted together and were constant companions. They were born in the wild and fended for themselves. They were fitted with radio telemetry collars so that they could be followed when released.

The reasons for the reintroduction of two cheetah male on Rietvlei Nature Reserve were:

- To increase the bio-diversity on the reserve by reintroducing an animal that historically occurred on the reserve.
- To introduce a predator on the reserve that will leave carrion in the veld for the brown hyenas and black-backed jackals.
- To give the visitors to the reserve the opportunity to find wild cheetah on Rietvlei Nature Reserve in their natural environment.
- Only two males are reintroduced to determine how many cheetah the reserve can carry.

Some of the research result: There was a significant trend for the cheetahs to move less widely from the release site after the first two months. Activity of cheetahs was regulated by daylight length. Nocturnal activity was observed. Home range size varied from 0.8km<sup>2</sup> to 11.7 km<sup>2</sup> (Rietvlei is 38 km<sup>2</sup>). Wetland and dry grassland communities were utilised above availability. The mean number of days between kills was 5.1 days ( $\pm$  2,3 days). Blesbok were killed at the highest mean frequency of all prey species at once every 19,6 days. {Muller & Louwry, 2005.}

They normally get 14 years old in captivity but in the wild, they may live only eight to ten years. Juba was more than 16 years old when he died. Ace is still alive and well and we hope he will still be with us for some time. We are trying very hard to convince the officials at the City of Tshwane to allow us to get new cheetahs for Rietvlei Nature Reserve

### **STUNNING CONFERENCE VENUE IN IDYLIC SETTING**

I would like to introduce you to a conference centre which is cradled in the beautiful valley of the Great Olifants River Gorge, between Middelburg and Witbank (R555). This ideal Malaria Free location for Management Conferences, team building and training is centrally situated in a 200 km radius of Johannesburg, Pretoria, Polo wane, Hazyview, Nelspruit and KNP.

Venues consist of 2 large Conference, and 3 breakaway rooms set under thatch roofs, all with standard equipment creating the perfect environment for learning, development, goal setting and company strategizing.

Extensive teambuilding activities are also available. Groups up to 200 can be accommodated depending on the seating arrangements.

Olifants River Lodge is committed to creating tailor-made tariffs for your specific individual budget I would like to invite you to schedule a site inspection. Look forward to meeting you soon. Visit us on our webpage or find us on facebook

Kind regards,  
Charlene Kriek - Marketing  
Cell: 082 307 5560 / [orlmarketing@mweb.co.za](mailto:orlmarketing@mweb.co.za)



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### **RECYCLE FOR SURVIVAL**

South Africa's waste disposal systems lag far behind many other countries. Municipal landfill sites rarely have the facilities to separate waste, so recycling is virtually nonexistent except for scavenging by the very poor. Some municipalities hand out colour coded plastic bags for the collection of tins but often these bags get dumped with other waste. There is much talk about harmful chemicals in discarded batteries and the new energy efficient light bulbs. Finding safe places to discard these items is almost impossible so in desperation they go into the general garbage.

Approximately 60% of the rubbish thrown away today could be recycled. By recycling plastic bottles it not only saves anywhere from 100 to 1000 years in the landfill, but also saves the environment from the emissions in producing new bottles, as well as the oil used to produce the bottles.

Odd as it seems, there are many people who do not realize that plastic is made out of oil. This is the same oil that is used to make gasoline. It's the same oil that is in such high demand and is not an unlimited resource.

For every 1 ton of plastic that is recycled, we save the equivalent of 2 people's energy use for 1 year, the amount of water used by 1 person in 2 month's time and 6.5 barrels of Brent Crude oil. A survey was done and 9 out of 10 people surveyed said they would recycle more if it was easier. That, I am afraid, is a cop out. We know that most of our municipalities do not have the capacity or will to recycle. It is up to each concerned individual to separate their waste at home and dispose of it at bottle and tin banks and at recycling centres. These are found in most towns and cities in South Africa.

Christmas is a time of extreme consumerism with enormous amounts of paper, plastic, glass and tin, produced and discarded. In Southern Africa, over 2 billion steel beverage cans - beer, soft drinks, cider, fruit juices and others - are consumed every year. They are 100% recyclable. Glass is 100% recyclable. Approximately 2000 thousand metric tons of paper is consumed annually in South Africa. Approximately 16% of paper consumed is not suitable for recovery. According to the e-Waste Association of SA, only 10% of the waste electronic and electrical equipment (WEEE) waste stream is currently being recovered. Instead, used computer and Television components are being dumped in other parts of Africa.

The World's population has now exceeded 7 billion. Many of the natural resources to maintain this number of humans are finite and running out. If we do not manage our waste we will poison our environment and ourselves. If we do not recycle our resources, competition for survival will result in a much diminished quality of life and most probably extinction!

### **WINDPOMP FEES 4x4 SAFARI 2012 – DIARISE THE DATE!!!**

AGTERGROND

Die Naboomspruit Windpompfees het in 2008 ontstaan as 'n Eco-Toerisme fees en groei jaarliks van krag tot krag. Die fees word aangebied deur Euphorbia Christelike Onafhanklike Skool as 'n fondsinsamelingsprojek, maar verskeie liefdadigheidsorganisasies baat jaarliks finansiële by die projek, onder andere die Magrietjie Kankerhulpgroep, Sonstraal Skool vir kinders met spesiale behoeftes en die Abraham Kriel Kinderhuis.



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## 2011 4X4 SAFARI

In 2011 is die 4x4 Safari toegevoeg tot die Naboomspruit Windpompfees. Die unieke aard van 'n 2 dae roete is dat eiendomme in die skouspelagtige Waterberge oorkruis is, waartoe die algemene publiek nie normaalweg toegang het nie. Danksy die goedgunstige samewerking van verskeie boere en borgskappe van televisie persoonlikhede soos André De Villiers Safari Centre, het die eerste 4x4 Safari suksesvol afgeleef.

Die doelstellings van die organiseerders van die 4x4 Safari, was om weg te breek van die kompetisie-gebaseerde formaat en om meer te fokus op die gebruik van 'n 4x4 voertuig terwyl die familie die asemrowende natuurskoon geniet en weer vir 'n slag saam met die familie te kan lag en geniet.

Tussen die vermaak in die vorm van versperrings wat deur borge op die roete aangebring is, het die moddergate, steil afdraandes en leekamp van Entabeni gesorg dat daar genoeg aksiefoto's geneem kon word deur deelnemers vir die foto kompetisie, waaraan almal kon deelneem.

Die afsluiting van die 4x4 Safari by 'n spesiaal-geboude moddergat hindernis op die Feesterrein het as fokuspunt vir toeskouers gedien. Die paviljoene was styf gepak terwyl die onderskeie voertuie teen mekaar gekompeteer het om as "King of the Hill" met 'n spesiale prys weg te ry.

**TEN SPYTE VAN DIE MINDER KOMPETERENDE FORMAAT, IS PRYSE TER WAARDE VAN R 80,000.00 SE PRYSE AAN DEELNEMERS OORHANDIG.**

## 2012 4X4 SAFARI

Vanaf 27 April 2012 tot 28ste April 2012 word die 4x4 Safari weer aangebied. 2 Nuwe roetes is tans in beplanning met meer hindernisse op korter afstande.

Die roetes sal van so aard wees dat beide hardebaard 4x4 bestuurders, asook minder gevorderde 4x4 bestuurders, die roetes kan onderneem. Die keuse van moeilikheidsgraad van sekere hindernisse sal aan die bestuurders oorgelaat word deur middel van ompaaie en deurpaaie na hindernisse.

Die organiseerders beplan ook 'n verrassing by die Feesterrein as finale afsluiting van die 4x4 Safari, maar sal deelnemers geduldig moet wag tot dan om uit te vind wat dit gaan wees. Ons is dankbaar om aan te kondig dat André de Villiers, Safari Centre en Control Instruments (Warn Winches) reeds aan boord is as borge vir 2012 .

## KOSTES

Vanweë die aanvraag, sal die kostes hierdie jaar slegs **R 900.00** per voertuig (maksimum 4 persone) bedra, wat insluit die toegang tot die roetes, 'n peuselpakkie, 2 kaartjies vir die prysuitdeling te die Windpompfees op Saterdag 28 April 2012, 'n 4x4 Safari inligtingsgids, gereserveerde 4x4 parkering op die feesterrein en toegang tot die verrassing as afsluiting by die feesterrein.

## AANSOEK- EN INSKRYWINGS-VORMS

Die aansoekvorms is reeds vanaf 13 November 2011 beskikbaar op ons webwerf [www.windpompfees.co.za](http://www.windpompfees.co.za) onder die hoof "DOKUMENTASIE"





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Inskrywings kan:

- per e pos aangestuur word [4x4entries@windpompfees.co.za](mailto:4x4entries@windpompfees.co.za)
- gefaks word na 086 720 1523
- verkry word deur ons te skakel op:
- 083 254 7127 of 082 788 0690

Ons sien uit om julle op 27/4/2012 te ontvang, so oefen solank u kruitwa stoot, bokdrol spoeg en vorentoe ploeg.

**Windpompfees Groete**

### HELP THE BORDIE COLLIE RESCUE THIS CHRISTMAS

Dear Friends,

With Christmas just around the corner you may be thinking of gifts to buy your loved ones, clients, and friends. Worry no more, just read on and we can help you solve that problem. Please take a moment to read the attachments and you could enjoy a wonderful night at the theatre and support our worthy cause.

If you purchase tickets as a gift we will give you a letter of acknowledgement for your contribution to Border Collie Rescue. To raise some much needed funds we have decided to 'raise' our voices and take ourselves to the opera. Border Collie Rescue [BCR] has bought out the Teatro Theatre at Montecasino on Valentines night Feb 14th 2012 the most romantic night of the year.

To celebrate the undying, unconditional, and truly undeniable LOVE that our 4 legged friends give us. However we have 1600 seats to fill and that's where BCR needs you to join us. To BOOK your seats please call Irene 082 412 9969 or email [tailsup@mweb.co.za](mailto:tailsup@mweb.co.za) or Dian 011 615 1525 / 082 770 4733. Ticket prices from R125, R175, R275 and R375

All proceeds go to the dogs !

BCR Background.

Border Collie Rescue Gauteng was founded 15 years ago, during this time a handful of dedicated volunteers have worked intensively to find forever homes for over 6000 unwanted Border Collies. Our main objectives being.

- To educate the public about the Border Collie.
- Find adoptive homes for unwanted Border Collies.
- Provide rehabilitation for abused Border Collies.
- Provide foster homes for abandoned Border Collies.
- Raise funds to cover the operating costs of Border Collie Rescue. I.E. Veterinary care, every dog we re home we sterilize, vaccinate and micro chip. Kenneling fees, we often have over 20 dogs in our kennel facility. Transport, telephone, advertising, other veterinary care, the list goes on.....

Our monthly costs are approx R 25 000. Border Collie Rescue is a non profit organization NPO no 006 620. Visit our web site [www.bordercollierescue.co.za](http://www.bordercollierescue.co.za) to find out more about us.

Huge woofs, barks and hundreds of happy tail wags and the ever grateful thanks from the Border





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Collie Rescue Team in anticipation of seeing you on February 14th 2012.

SAVING THE LIFE OF ONE DOG WON'T CHANGE THE WORLD, BUT IT WILL CHANGE THE WORLD FOR THAT ONE DOG.

## **LANDROVER CHALLENGE 2012**

Hi Everyone,

Land Rover Centurion is proud to announce that the Defender Trophy 2012 to the Drakensburg is happening..... The Kamberg Valley will be a test of both man and machine. This year's Trophy is sure to entail lots of mud as the luscious green lands of the Drakensburg are kept wet by the magnificent Maluti Mountains trapping the rain. The Defender Trophy will take place in some of the most breathtaking scenery Southern Africa has to offer.

Do you feel like a challenge? Well come and join us and conquer this part of world!!

**Dates:** 21 – 26 February 2012 (Tuesday to the Sunday)

**Entrance Fee:** Driver, co-driver & vehicle R9 000-00 Vat Included - Extra passengers R3 500-00 Vat Included (Please note: if you decide to bring extra passengers along, they will be classed as spectators and will not be able to compete in the challenge). This only makes it fair for the competitors that have two people in a vehicle.

We will need to know at the start of the challenge who the two competitors will be in each vehicle...

**Team Name:** Please decide on a Team Name, a Mascot and Team Flag as we will need these details and you will have to show off your mascot and team flag during the challenge.

**Entrance Booking Form:** I have enclosed the Entrance Booking Form above. Please may you complete it and fax or e/mail it back to me. You are welcome to scan it also. Please fill out each section of the form as I need most of the information for different reasons, thanks.

**BOOKINGS CLOSE - MONDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2011**

**Competitors:** Only x21 competitors for next year's challenge so send in your booking and payment to reserve your spot. Ladies are welcome to join us on the challenge, show the guys what you can do!!!

**Base Camp:** We will be camping at one spot next year and not moving around, a 1st for Defender Trophy....

**Requirements:** You will need to do your Land Rover Experience 4x4 Recovery Course. If you have done previous Defender Trophy's or did the 4X4 Recovery Course on a previous occasion, please send me the certificate or let me know which Trophy you were on. To do this Course you can contact Cora Van Loggerenberg at Land Rover Experience, Gerotek on 012/3712027 or [cora@landroverexperience.co.za](mailto:cora@landroverexperience.co.za)



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*There will be no pre-inspection on your Defenders before the event, as we did last year at Land Rover Experience. But we would appreciate that your vehicle is in good working condition. I will be sending you a few companies that you can visit for pre-inspection check-ups before the Defender Trophy.*

**Limited Edition Defender Trophy Products & Merchandise:** As always there will be Defender Trophy merchandise such as Limited Edition Defender Trophy Shirts for ladies and gents, Defender Trophy Roof Rack Plaques, Dome Stickers, Rear Side Window Decals. I will be sending you the pricing for these products so you can place your order. They will also appear on the Defender Trophy website soon.

**Defender Trophy Website and Facebook Site:** We will be updating the Defender Trophy Website and Facebook site soon. The Defender Trophy website address: [www.defendertrophy.co.za](http://www.defendertrophy.co.za) connect to the Defender Trophy Facebook Site as a friend to get more details...

**Prizes:** I am in the process of going out to companies for sponsorship to get some amazing prizes and great goody bags. Please note: the prize category has changed for next year. There will be big prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place & The Team Spirit Award. For the rest of the competitors we will make sure you have substantial goody bags.

***If you, your company or you have a contact that would like to get involved in Defender Trophy 2012 as a sponsor next year. Please let me know. I am always looking for new sponsorship for prizes and items for the goody bags.***

If you have any questions or queries please feel free to contact me and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Kind Regards  
Jessica

### **SA HUNTERS AND GAME CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION AWARD FOR RIETVLEI NATURE RESERVE**

During the annual dinner of the SA Hunters and Game Conservation Associations Congress on the 11th of November 2011 Rietvlei Nature Reserve was awarded the “**Orde van die Kameeldoring**” (Order of the Camel Thorn Tree).

This award for merit is awarded to non members (organisations or individuals) that served the association with distinction. The certificate and mounted plaque is awarded by the President after deliberation with the executive council.

The following was said about the Rietvlei Nature Reserve and its personnel:

“Throughout the last 5 years the Pretoria East Branch developed a special working relationship with the Rietvlei Nature Reserve that culminated in the building of game capture and keeping bomas on the reserve in 2011.”

“The dedication of this reserves management and personnel in the execution of their duties and towards selfless conservation work was proven during this time.”





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"The result of their actions, given the limited yearly budget, was of outstanding quality and made a marked contribution to conservation and the continued existence of our natural habitat, biodiversity and wildlife."

"The personnel of the reserve is an example of dedicated people conserving our natural resources and they serve as inspirational examples for all the members of this association."

Riaan Marais and the personnel of Rietvlei Nature Reserve accepted the award with thanks. Many of the delegates expressed their wonder at a small reserve such as Rietvlei housing viable populations of hippo, buffalo, white rhino and free roaming predators such as cheetah and leopard without damaging or overgrazing the natural vegetation.

## **NEWSFLASH..... ENTRIES FOR THE 2012 KALAHARI AUGRABIES EXTREME MARATHON OPEN ON 01 DECEMBER 2011.**

*Hi Alan*

*Linda and I had the privilege to do support for the Kalahari Augrabies Extreme Marathon that took place in October. The marathon takes place at the Augrabies Falls National Park and some adjacent farms.*

*We met a nice bunch of environmentally conscious people that also love the outdoors. Most of us would however consider them crazy as they do it on foot. Luckily we used our 4x4 to get to the checkpoints where we provided support for the athletes. Information and TV schedule attached.*  
*Ian Goss Ross*

### **Dirk Cloete makes it a hat-trick at the 2011 KAEM.....by Laura Forster**

In a thrilling conclusion to the 2011 Kalahari Augrabies Extreme Marathon, Dirk Cloete became the Big Daddy of the Big Daddy by clinching his third successive KAEM win, run over a course described by old hands as perhaps the toughest ever.

"He really outdid himself this time" said Dirk, reflecting on the week of running devised by Race Director Estienne Arndt. The route led the athletes through 250km of the best (and worst) that the Kalahari could offer: Starting at Southern Farms near Augrabies on 8<sup>th</sup> October, runners tackled terrain that varied from hectically technical jeep-track switchbacks to long-slog deadly sandy river beds, mostly in 40-degree heat, but also by the light of the moon on the fabled 75km Long Day.

Their journey took them through lush vineyards, across dry, grassy plains, along the banks of the Orange River, and up and down rocky gorges, before leading them, via stunning sections of the Augrabies Falls National Park normally off-limits to visitors, to the finish line, close to the Falls themselves, on October 14<sup>th</sup>.

First female Maretha Combrinck echoed Dirk's sentiments. "It was really, *really* tough! But so beautiful. I'm really grateful to be able to have done it, and to have seen those amazing places that most people never get chance to experience!!"

Times were slower this year as the varied and challenging course together with the heat saw runners battling the harsh conditions with dogged determination. On the Long Day, in particular, many took advantage of the regular checkpoints to wait and rest through the heat of the day, rehydrate thoroughly with Aquelle water, and continue once cooler temperatures prevailed.

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Although five runners made the difficult decision to withdraw during the first half of the race, members of the Mediclinic team were nevertheless impressed with the care the athletes were taking of themselves. "This year we really saw that people have done their homework, and are looking after themselves properly" said Race Doctor Charl Malherbe.

The KAEM is not all about hardship, though – it's a complete experience. With all the finishers safely across the line, and after a day spent at leisure at the Augrabies Falls Lodge, the athletes re-appeared clean, well-dressed, and rested to spend some of that legendary endurance energy at the awards dinner. Relaxing over a glass of the sparkling Namaqua wine which he himself had produced "back at the day-job", 2<sup>nd</sup> place Alwyn Maass commented "One makes so many new friends on this race, and it's lekker to come back and meet the old ones again!!"

When every crew member had been acknowledged, every sponsor thanked, every athlete presented with their trophy, and everybody had danced themselves to a standstill, it was time for the runners and crew of the KAEM family to take their leave of Nadia, Estienne and Simon, and head back to the Lodge before departing next day for England, Austria, Taiwan, Singapore, France, Belgium and Italy, as well as every corner of South Africa, to dream about the Kalahari sunsets, rivers, rocks, sand and space, and contemplate their triumph over the rigours of the Kalahari Augrabies Extreme Marathon.

## RESULTS:

### Men

1 Dirk Cloete	27:16:00
2 Alwyn Maass	27:36:00
3 Tommy Chen	36:16:00

### Women (with overall position)

1 (5) Maretha Combrinck	37:27:00
2 (7) Ingrid Qualizza	41:55:00
3 (14) Anne Wade	46:38:00

### GAS GEYSERS THE ANSWER!!

I am sending you this mail to ask from you to help me grow a new company on the web. We need visitors to the page as you know to up the search rate. We also need facebook users to subscribe to this page, like and share.

This is a company offering on LPG gas water geysers and services. We recently demonstrated to your enthusiasts at a meeting in the Randburg Area. Could you be so kind to pass this to your circle of friends and facebook users to grow the exposure?

We need your help with this, just click on the URL; forget it , or for your own benefit have a read.  
[www.g1gas.co.za](http://www.g1gas.co.za) / facebook page = [www.facebook.com/pages/G1-GAS/228682780531733](https://www.facebook.com/pages/G1-GAS/228682780531733)

### THE GETAWAY SHOW 2012 BROUGHT TO YOU BY MERCEDES-BENZ VANS

We are delighted to announce that Mercedes-Benz Vans is joining us as headline sponsor for the 2012 Cape and Gauteng Getaway Shows. We are so pleased to be working together with this

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top-quality, well-loved and dynamic brand and look forward to a successful partnership. Welcome on board!

## **SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFER – INFO MAPS**

Dear 4x4 enthusiast.

Maybe you already know of our maps or you even use them. We have bought InfoMap from Andrew White two years ago. Since then we have done a lot of work in updating and editing our maps.

We would like to make your club aware of a Special Christmas Discount (up to 44%) of our products which is available on our website [www.infomap.co.za](http://www.infomap.co.za).

Valid until 15. December 2011

You buy any 2 maps – you get any 1 extra for free  
(You pay 2x R 115.00 = R 230.00 for 3 maps / normal price for 3 maps R 345.00)

You buy any 3 maps – you get any 2 extra for free  
(You pay 3x R 115.00 = R 345.00 for 5 maps / normal price for 5 maps R 575.00)

You buy any 4 maps – you get any 3 extra for free  
(You pay 4x R 115.00 = R 460.00 for 7 maps / normal price for 7 maps R 805.00)

You buy any 5 maps – you get any 4 extra for free  
(You pay 5x R 115.00 = R 575.00 for 9 maps / normal price for 9 maps R 1035.00)

One can order for oneself or as a present for friends or family, we will gift wrap your maps and send them to any address in South Africa at no extra cost. We will appreciate if you could make this offer available to your members via your newsletter.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards  
Florian Thieme  
InfoMap

## **RHINO POACHERS BEWARE**

Dr Richard Emslie

Breakthrough in Rhino DNA profiling and its uses. First attempts to individually profile rhino using mitochondrial DNA were unsuccessful as there was insufficient variation to be able to distinguish between different individuals. This was because mitochondrial DNA only contains genetic information from the mother and due to bottlenecks African rhino genetic diversity is lower than some other species.

Pretoria University's Veterinary Genetic Laboratory (VGL) at Onderstepoort working in collaboration with TRACE (a wildlife forensic network based in the UK) then attempted to analyse microsatellite nuclear DNA using STR markers. It was not expected that this method would work



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on horn, but it did. This has proved to be a major breakthrough in the science of wildlife forensics. The VGL team led by Dr Cindy Harper has refined the methodology and full DNA profiles can now be obtained from as little as 40mg of horn.

Special sample kits with tamper proof evidence bags have been developed and distributed to facilitate collection of rhino horn, blood, hair or tissues samples. The kits include specific forms to ensure all the necessary associated information related to each sample is always collected. Many people around the country have also been trained in how to collect rhino samples. The result is that a chain of evidence can now be maintained all the way from the field to the lab, and data obtained from rhino horn and tissue samples is now admissible as evidence in court.

The VGL has for many years done the DNA analyses to assist with the control of the South African horse race industry; and is set up as a highly professional routine service forensic laboratory able to process many samples. DNA analyses by the VGL have also formed part of stock theft investigations.

Cindy Harper and her team have developed a database called RhODIS(modelled on the CODIS database used for humans) which contains all the different rhino DNA profiles. Although the technique is relatively new, over 5,000 different horn, blood and tissue samples are already on the database. The database is used to assess the probability of matches of samples to other samples. The probabilities of getting such close DNA matches between two samples taken from the same animal (e.g. blood and horn) by chance are now in excess of 1 million to 1 and can thus be discounted.

Changes to national Norms and Standards for rhino management are in the pipeline that will make taking horn samples for DNA compulsory every time a rhino is immobilised. Other countries are now also providing rhino samples for RhODIS. DNA profiling will assist in tracking movements of live animals and hunting trophies as well as in managing horn stockpiles. While a transponder can grow out of a rhino's horn over time, or can stop working, or be dug out, the DNA in the rhino horn cannot be removed even if horns are cut into small pieces.

The primary aim of the rhino DNA work is to use the RhODIS database as a forensic tool to investigate poaching and horn dealing cases. It provides a reliable method to link blood in vehicles, on pangas and clothes to seized horns as well as to poached carcasses. If a rhino is on the database and its horns are recovered they can now be tracked back to having come from that specific animal.. The method also allows one to determine how many different rhinos contributed to a group of seized horns, and to identifying the species of rhino and its sex. The DNA information collected could also potentially be used to do pedigree analysis of animals in small populations to help inform biological management decision-making.

DNA analyses have been used in over 50 different criminal investigations to date. In one of the first cases to come to court in South Africa, a Vietnamese courier caught trying to smuggle 16kg of rhino horn was jailed for 10 years. In this case DNA evidence was able to link two of the recovered horns back to a carcass that had been poached a few days earlier. The method has also been successfully used in a UK court case where it was possible to prove that horns being illegally smuggled from Manchester airport came from a rhino that died naturally at Colchester Zoo.



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Dr Harper and her team must be congratulated for developing the techniques to profile individual animals and for setting up the RhODIS database which is proving to be such a useful forensic tool.

Dr Richard Emslie (From KZN Wildlife Newsletter)

### **LESOTHO / MALELEA TOP 10 LISTING**

Lesotho, Malealea & Pony Trekking has been listed in Top 10 value destinations in the world and published in the the latest Lonely Planet 2012 book. Go to the following link to see this credible reference: <http://www.lonelyplanet.com/usa/travel-tips-and-articles/76857>

Best Wishes

Di

Malealea Lodge, Adventure & Pony Trek Centre - Lesotho

SA Cell: [+27\(0\)82 552 4215](tel:+270825524215)

### **EXCITING NEWS FOR 2012 FROM LYNX 4x4 ACCESSORIES**

Our plans for 2012? Exciting new products and developments are planned for 2012. Firstly we plan to expand our automotive product range to include products for vehicles other than only 4x4. These will not necessarily be products that are new in concept but certainly products that we believe could be manufactured of higher quality. By example, many people have asked us for vehicle safes especially customers that use their vehicles as a daily part of their business activities and sometime handle cash money. The "soft roader" market is developing faster than any other 4x4 market segment and most certainly will get some of our attention.

Uniquely designed canopies is another area that we are excited about. After much R & D we finalised the design of our steel canopy that almost equal the weight of an aluminium canopy, yet is much stronger. This allowed us to design a real roof rack as an integral part of our canopy that not only has low wind drag but can also carry real weight such as rooftop tents, spare wheels, jerry cans etc. Best of all – we can flat pack the canopy and send to you if you wish to DIY.

Secondly we have already produced industrial products and plan to expand this in 2012. Please have a look at our EASYFIT SAFE DOOR. Other product will follow and we will inform you as we go along – if you have any need for industrial design and product, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Outdoor & Lifestyle products that will compliment your choice available from us, will also follow in 2012. Not only will you be able to buy our vehicle protection products but also a range of accessories that we can fit at the same time.

We have also not forgotten the fact that most of us have to work for the better part of the year and cannot be on the road all the time – to this end we have on the drawing board patio furniture and braai equipment (built in and loose standing) that will be manufactured to a quality to last a lifetime. Watch this space....

Our new website has been up and running since October 2011 and is continually being upgraded and improved. Please feel free to visit [www.lynx4x4.co.za](http://www.lynx4x4.co.za). We wish all our customers a peaceful and safe festive season.

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## **NAAMSA MEDIA RELEASE: COMMENT ON THE NOVEMBER, 2011 NEW VEHICLE SALES STATISTICS**

In amplification of the new vehicle sales statistics for the month of November 2011 – released today by the National Association of Automobile Manufacturers of South Africa (NAAMSA) – the Association commented that sales in all segments had registered modest gains on the corresponding month last year. November 2011 aggregate industry domestic sales had improved by 5 181 units or 11.7% to reach 49 499 vehicles from 44 318 vehicles sold during November last year. Total year to date domestic aggregate new vehicle sales remained 16.0% ahead of the corresponding eleven months in 2010, whilst year to date export sales reflected an improvement of 17% in volume terms.

Overall, out of total November 2011 industry reported sales of 49 499 vehicles, 85.7% or 42 411 units represented dealer sales, 5.8% sales to government, 4.9% represented sales to the car rental industry and 3.6% represented industry corporate fleet sales.

Total new car sales during November 2011 at 33 074 units reflected an improvement of 3 555 new cars or an increase of 12.0% compared to the 29 519 new cars sold during November 2010. The latest sales figures reflected a decline in the growth momentum in the new car sales cycle. A major contributing factor to the decline in sales was the lower contribution by the car rental industry which at 6.8% of total new car sales during November was substantially lower, due to seasonal factors, than the above-average contribution over the past four months during which car rental sales accounted for between 16.6% and 20.0% of sales.

Sales of industry new light commercial vehicles, bakkies and minibuses at 14 125 units during November, 2011 reflected an increase of 1 534 units or a gain of 12.2% compared to the 12 591 units sold in the corresponding month last year. For the first eleven months of 2011, new light commercial vehicle sales were ahead by 11.5% compared to the corresponding period last year.

Sales of vehicles in the medium and heavy truck segments of the industry at 844 units and 1 456 units, respectively, had recorded an increase of 55 units or 7.0%, in the case of medium commercial vehicles, and a gain of 37 units or 2.6%, in the case of heavy trucks and buses, compared to the corresponding month last year. Total year to date sales of medium, heavy commercials and buses remained 22.2% ahead of the corresponding eleven months of last year.

Exports of South African produced motor vehicles during November 2011 at 20 480 units reflected a decline of 8 084 vehicles or 28.3% compared to the 28 564 units exported during November last year. The latest export sales figures suggested a moderation in demand in various international markets.

The slow down in the rate of growth in the new vehicle sales cycle was consistent with the slower economic growth recorded in the general economy. The low interest rate environment and corresponding lower debt servicing costs, declining new vehicle prices in real terms, the competitive trading environment and new model introductions should support domestic sales over the medium term. Growth was anticipated however to be at a more subdued rate in line with the overall performance of the South African economy.

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The direction of the global economy remained uncertain and international financial markets continued to be characterised by extreme volatility and turbulence. Prospects of slower global growth, particularly in developed economies, could impact on industry export sales going forward.

**NAAMSA OFFICES: PRETORIA**

**2nd December, 2011**

## **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.

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**

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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 2011

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## *From the Tracks – Reader Feedback*

### READER OFFER

Good day Alan,

I write to you to enquire about an ad in your E-Zine, regarding a service we offer, of course at a discount to paid up members.

Battery World Wynberg offers all automotive, and more importantly for your members, Deep & High Cycle batteries at an amazing price.

We also support the "SAVE THE RHINO" campaign and will consider contributing R 10-00 for each battery sold to your club members.

Regards  
Emile Barnard  
+2782 9202955  
+2786 697 0985

### FEEDBACK - LAST ENTHUSIAST MEETING - 2011

Hello Alan

Thank you for a wonderful evening. Once again evidence of your superb organisational and leadership skills. The event was informative, fun and relaxing all at the same time. The number of people present are testimony to the consistency of your enthusiasts meetings.

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We also want to thank the hosts of the evening, Kempton Caravans. The food was excellent, the drinks were plentiful, and the atmosphere of the evening was stunning.

We wish you and your family a Merry Christmas, and thank you for all the efforts during the year.

Kind regards

Ariane - **The Training Connection**

*Hi Alan,*

*I am the guy who won the Howling Moon Rooftop Tent last night. Besides winning a lovely prize I would like to thank you for a very enjoyable & interesting evening. Well done to you & all those who made it a successful event.*

*Hedley Segall*

Hi Alan

Thank you for your hosting last night's meeting and also to the sponsors for the evening. The presentations were informative and we can't wait for our next outing.

Winning the tyres was a big surprise! A great thank you to Bridgestone for their sponsorship. Kind regards and best wishes for the festive season.

Jan Helberg

*Thank you for a great evening!!*

*Regards,*

*Jan van Gerve*

Thank you Alan, Tuesday was great!

Regards,

Tello Kekana

*Hallo Alan*

*Thank you for a very special and enjoyable evening last night and for great leadership!*

*Pieter Heslinga*

Just want to thank you for a well organized and informative evening last night. Please thank Charmaine for giving me the bundle with the winning ticket, it is awesome!!!

With kind regards,

Nigel & Denise Wilshire (National Luna Fridge Winners)

### **READER FEEDBACK**

Hi Alan,

Thanks for including us with your correspondence. We are still awed by our visit to Africa, the African hospitality and the kindness of the de Vries, yourself and everyone we met from the club. We are homesick for Africa and hope for an opportunity to return.

Dave & Gail Overberg

P.O. Box 74





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Prides Crossing, MA  
01965  
USA

*Good afternoon Alan.*

*Although still a few weeks away till this year's end, I just want to take the opportunity to say thank you for all your informative news letters throughout the year.*

*May you and your family have a blessed Xmas and a joyous and safe 2012. Have a safe trip where you drive and return refreshed.*

*Kind regards  
Eugene de Villiers*

Hi Alan,  
What a nice Invite ! Looks like a lot of fun and an interesting meeting. Such a pity we are so far in Cape Town and distance makes it prohibitive. Wish you all the best and a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year .  
Happy 4x4ing. Best Regards  
Louis J Botha snr  
Bantam Trailers

*Hi Alan*

*I am not sure how I got on to your mailing list but am very happy that I did!! Thank you very much for your informative and interesting magazine.*

*Many thanks  
Regards  
Trevor Hulley*

Hi  
I love receiving this E-Zine.  
Please can I request that you change my email address to xxxxx  
Regards  
Doug Reid

#### **UNIT STANDARD DRIVER TRAINING COURSE – FEEDBACK FROM LEARNERS**

Hi Alan  
Thanks for a brilliant course.  
Regards  
Henry Louw

Hi Alan and Grant,  
Thank you once again for the patience and time in doing our DCC qualification. I came across this picture and it reminded me of the one obstacle at Kungwini. I wonder how this vehicle

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managed this and if he did eventually fall over trying this route with that rooftop tent on the vehicle.



Regards

Malcolm van Coller

***(Anybody who can shed more light on this? You can in a Nissan!! Eish!!! Editor)***

Hi Alan,

*I really enjoyed the outing and the training. As Alain & myself found, going out for a day or weekend with 'the boys' - be it model glider slope flying or whatever - the camaradie is great!*

*I will definitely practise my stall starts! I hope to make the level 2 training, but early year is NOT good for contract workers :)*

*Thanks again for the professional approach - I learned a lot. Also thanks to your wife for the great lunch.*

Regards

Kobus Smit

Alan,

Thank you for your professional training techniques and I look forward to gaining more knowledge through many of your other courses to come. I will send some photo's tomorrow and the rest at our next meeting.

Lyle Venske

*Hi Alan, Just a note to say thanks for the evening on theory. Appreciated your thoroughness and dedication and look forward to making time to participate in some get together's if my application is successful.*

*Kind regards,*

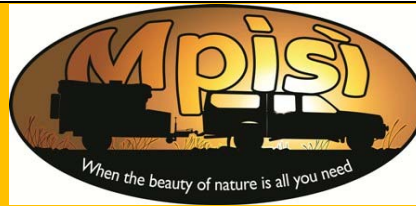
*Neil Whitehead*

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### **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.

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)

Karen Chiole (GP3500)

082 600 7177

082 657 1252

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

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

#### **UPCOMING TRIPS:**

16-18 December 2011 4x4 Offroad Basic Driver Training (US254135) accredited

March 2011



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

### **NEW PROTECTIVE GPS CASES** **BE THE FIRST!!!**

NEW "WOW" AND PRACTICAL GPS COVERS – Rugged, floats, drop resistant, made to get dirty and just the thing for your *Montana 600/650, Oregon 1, GPSTMap 62 series, GPSTMap 78 and new eTrex GPS Devices.*

Just launched in SA.... So order yours now!!!! Immediate availability while stocks last.

Material does not hinder GPS signal. Zippered case, hard textured rubber/plastic, hard density form with brushed interior. On lanyard as well. Can fit on bicycle. Your Montana will float if it is in this case and dropped in water. Still easy to operate when in casing.

PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT WHILE OUTDOORS!!! Prices listed below:

1	Garmin Montana	<b>R 320.00 each</b>
2	Garmin GPSTMAP 62	<b>R 300.00 each</b>
3	Garmin GPSTMAP 78	<b>R 320.00 each</b>
4	Oregon	<b>R 300.00 each</b>
5	eTrex (new)	<b>R 280.00 each</b>

Pricing excludes any shipping costs. Enquire from [4x4offroad@mweb.co.za](mailto:4x4offroad@mweb.co.za)

### **CANVAS AND ALUMINIUM CONCEPTS GOES ONLINE SHOPPING!!**

The Canvas and Aluminium website ([www.caconcepts.co.za](http://www.caconcepts.co.za)) has gone live with **on-line shopping...**

Visit the site to view or purchase a large variety of nylon or canvas camping tents, sleeping bags, backpacks, camping furniture, caravan covers and more. With new products being added daily, we highly recommend you visit us online regularly.

Why not **share your camping experiences** with us... Visit the link on our home page for more details. If you enjoy the website experience please forward this to like-minded friends.

### **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

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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 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



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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

**Masazane Expeditions** specialises in trans-Africa expeditions. Our expeditions are family orientated, 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. Contact Jacqui on [info@masazane.co.za](mailto:info@masazane.co.za) for more details or questions on any of our exciting adventures. You may also visit [www.masazane.co.za](http://www.masazane.co.za).

### **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 on [info@masazane.co.za](mailto:info@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:

15 – 18 December 2011 (long weekend)

### **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

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

Please contact us at [info@masazane.co.za](mailto:info@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 expeditions; 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...





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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 on [info@masazane.co.za](mailto:info@masazane.co.za) and ask Jacqui for more detailed information.

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

June 2012

## ***The Trading Post – Swop, Sell or Buy (Rent too...)***

### **MADNESS – CLEARANCE SALE!!!!**

The following "platkar" towbars are For Sale at R1750.00 incl. vat. The prices includes fitting and wiring so hitch up and go

- VW Polo Classic 1.4 to 1.8 Sept 96 to September 2002
- Kia Rio 1.4 Sedan Oct 05 – onwards
- Citroen C5 2.0 or 3.0 June 2001 to June 2005
- Opel Astra 1.6 to 20 Classic Oct 99 –onwards
- Ford Focus Sedan 1.6 or 2.0 April 2005 – onwards
- Hi Ace 2.2 GLX or Inyati
- Hyundai Elantra for All Models
- Mazda Rustler 1.3 or 1.6 Feb 94 to September 2002
- Mitsubishi Colt, All models, Oct 98 – onwards

Kindly contact us on **011 362 6658 / 9** to check on stock. Many more items in stock so kindly contact us with your enquiry.

Best regards,  
Johan Mostert

### **SAFARI TRAILER TO RENT**

Are you considering doing a 4x4 camping safari? I have a READY TO HOOK, fully equipped for 6 people 4x4 trailer to rent. Rent this trailer at R680.00 per day.

For more info, please email to [annieb@remax.net](mailto:annieb@remax.net) or phone 082 577 4531.

### **NUDGE BAR FOR SALE – PAJERO**

Mitsubishi Pajero Nudge Bar - MAXE Steel Nudge Bar

Fits Pajero Gen 3 Models from 2002-2006

Very good condition. All brackets/bolts included.

R 850

Contact: Hannes - Cell: 083 655 7406

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**BRAND NEW HOWLING MOON ROOF TOP TENT FOR SALE**

An unwanted prize won at the Enthusiasts Meeting is now for sale. 1.4m Howling Moon Roof Top Tent. Still at the dealer. R7000 onco will do the deal. To be collected at the dealer post transaction.

Contact Hedley on Cell 0834478754

**PACKING SYSTEM FOR FORD RANGER FOR SALE**

Alan, We have a load system for sale for a Ford Ranger:

- \* Slider that takes 9 ammo boxes ( ammo boxes not included)
- \* Bracket for table
- \* Fridge slide - 60 litre Engel
- \* Top with several adjustable fastener points
- \* Place to mount water tank
- \* Price - R6000 negotiable

Contact Jan Swanepoel @ [jans@efekto.co.za](mailto:jans@efekto.co.za)

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***The Dusty Way – Club Trips, Reports & Feedback...***

**OLIFANTS RIVER LODGE CAMP & KRUISRIVIER NR 4x4 WEEKEND**

What an awesome weekend shared with awesome people including our Newby family Du Preez and older Newby family Du Toit (BTW, your kids are awesome, their manners are definitely a chip off them parents!)

Friday late afternoon saw 10 families descend into an oasis in the Olifants River valley between Witbank and Middleburg. A little treasure indeed has been discovered under the name of the Olifants River Lodge...

Setting up camp on the grassed banks of the Olifants River was indeed the perfect setting.

Early on Saturday morning the convoy of 10 cars set off to Kruisrivier Nature Reserve, not too far from Loskop dam. Here we spent the good part of the day driving some light off-road trails through the reserve observing many species of game including but not limited to Rhino, Eland, Kudu, Impala, Wildebeest, Baboons, Reedbuck as well as a handful of different bird species. A spectacular lunch stop and by far one of the nicest viewing points was held high up on a ridge overlooking the nature reserve. In the valley below numerous animal species were observed. Well worth the 45 minutes spent indulging in Africa!

En route back to Olifants River Lodge, the call of a freezy cold ice cream was the order of the day. The ice cream machine at Middleburg Wimpy really took a beating! Initiative was also shown by some in purchasing some good juicy worms (fish food kindly donated by the avid fishermen amongst us later in the day).





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Making a return to camp early enough gave the kids amongst us to try their skill at Paint Ball! Judging by the stories being told later, fun was definitely number one for them. Then of course there was the fishing...wow, mielie bombs and worms – those fish had a party! All good though, satisfied by their time spent casting and preparing rods and reels, prompted a cool off in the pool!

Celebrations were the call to order as camp snacks and Champaign were passed around in celebration of Alan and Charmaine's 23<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary! Congrats guys – you are an on-going inspiration to us all in so many different ways!

Potjie and braai atmosphere was the theme for the night. Potjies (starter ideas) included in no particular order; Liver Pate Potjie (yip, seeing is believing...), Garlic and Apricot Mussels (individual ingredients prepared Potjie style), Creamy Mushroom and Spring Onion on toasted bread, Creamy Mussels and then lastly Red Curry (Thai Style) Prawn and Mussel pot. What a treat indeed.

Sunday morning saw a leisurely rise with Keenan Coffee served to all at 08h00! Brunch by most was on the cards with the kids only in and around the camp when refuelling was required. Horse riding, quad biking, fishing and swimming keeping those bodies going all day long!

A super fine way to close off the year with a weekend trip to a super fine venue! For those of us that were fortunate enough to attend, luck and enjoyment was on our side. For those of you that would like to taste this adventure next year, be sure to keep those email notifications close at hand. Be sure to respond to Alan's trip invite to Olifants River Lodge the minute it is sent out – this is one you don't want to miss!

Wishes of happy and safe miles on dusty roads to all of you!  
Take care from the Keenan Team!

*Hi Alan*

*Thanks for a great weekend. It was a good place - big enough that the day visitors weren't too close. The kids had a brilliant time with loads to do. Thanks to Grant for organising and being host for the weekend.*

*Regards  
The Jarviii*

Hi Alan

A special thanks to the Keenan's for guiding and looking after the group this Weekend. What an awesome group in a stunning venue with a nice 4x4 route. The family all agreed we would love to spend a long weekend their but I guess it would be too commercialised over a long weekend?

So for the Waller's our first full year has come to an end. Thanks to the Goodway's for a fun and educational year and specially for introducing us to so many new friends. Looking forward to winding down in Knysna.

Regards  
Steve Waller



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## ***Flat Wheel – Light Relief...***

### **DRINKING AND DRIVING!!!**

A pilot said: " I would like to share an experience with you about drinking and driving. As you well know, some of us have been known to have had brushes with the cops on our way home from the odd social session over the years.

Well, I have done something about it: a couple of nights ago I was out for a few drinks with some fellow pilots and had a few too many whiskeys as well as beers and some rather nice wine; but knowing full well I may have been slightly over the limit, I did something I've never done before - I took a bus home.

I arrived back safely and without incident which was a real surprise, since I had never driven a bus before and am not sure where I found this one."

---

## ***Medically Speaking...***

The boom in outdoor sports activities like mountain biking, rock climbing, kayaking, golfing and in-line skating has created a demand for sports- and performance-oriented sunglasses. These special-purpose sunglasses are designed to be exceptionally light and comfortable, able to withstand extreme conditions and stay comfortably in place during any activity.

### **Lenses**

Perhaps the most important aspect of effective sports sunwear is the optical quality and visual enhancement properties of the lenses. In particular, sports and performance lenses are available in a wide variety of tints to modify light in certain ways to enhance contrast. This allows you to see certain objects (a tennis ball, for example) with greater clarity to enhance your reaction time.

Polycarbonate lenses are the lens of choice for most sport sunglasses because they are lightweight, super strong and more impact-resistant than lenses made of other materials.

Polarized lenses are also in demand, because they reduce glare from light reflecting off flat surfaces such as water.

### **Frames**

The frames for performance and sport sunglasses are made of lightweight and durable materials such as polyamide, which keeps its shape even under stress. Styles are typically aerodynamic, with sleek lines, and this styling helps keep the eyewear in place despite wearer perspiration during the heat of competition.

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### **What's your sport?**

Each sport has its own unique visual requirements, which has led to the development of sport-specific sunglasses. Frames and lenses are now available that are targeted specifically to the golfer, the cyclist, the boater, the rock climber and so on.

For example, a certain lens tint might help a golfer notice subtle changes in the direction of the blades of grass on a green that could affect the line of their putt, while a completely different tint might be better to help a hunter see the contrast of a flying bird against an overcast sky.

If you prefer to be a Jack (or Jill) of all sports, there are also multipurpose sports sunglasses that feature interchangeable lenses with different tints for different sports and lighting conditions.

### **Maximum Protection**

It has recently been reported that the American Food and Drug Administration "recommends selecting sunglasses that are labeled with a UVA/UVB rating of 100 percent to get the most protection" from the sun's harmful rays. The agency said consumers should also "try to find a wraparound style" that covers the eye socket completely.

Children also need sunglasses; and parents should "check the label, remembering that toy sunglasses may not have any UV protection," according to the FDA.

Contact:

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## ***Legally Speaking.....***

### ***SEASON GREETINGS FROM ALL MANAGEMENT AND STAFF***

*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

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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.fronrunner.co.za](http://www.fronrunner.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
- HID Spotlights
- 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.

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





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

### 3) HONEYDEW TOYOTA & RV CENTRE

Contact Johan Kruger (club member) for all your Toyota and other accessories at their RV Centre. New Honeydew Toyota Showroom (opposite THE COCA COLA DOME) - refer [http://www.honeydewtoyota.ix.co.za/lmg\\_upload\\_departments/3674\\_441636.gif](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.

## Editor:

Alan Goodway (GP 1796)

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Professional 4x4 Trail & Overland Guide - National  
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GOOD HEALTH, SAMSUNG TABLET & TOYOTA FJ KITTED  
THANKS SANTA!!!!

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